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Amazing Growth of Electrical Industry Is Recalled

J. Paul Lucas, of Southern Public Utilities Company, Delivers Interesting Address on Various Uses of Electricity; Mr. Duke's Vision in Development of Southern Power Company Emphasized.

Winston Sentinel, Jan. 13.

A notably interesting and instructive address on various phases of the electrical industry by John Paul Lucas, of Charlotte, publicity director of the Southern Public Utilities Company, featured the regular weekly meeting of the Rotary Club Tuesday. The session was held at luncheon at Hotel Robert E. Lee with a large attendance of members and several visitors present.

Mr. Lucas after being presented by Manager Robert H. Woods, of the local office of the Southern Public Utilities Company, spoke first in a very entertaining way of the variety of uses of electricity, remarking that in electro-chemistry and other related lines the possibilities of electricity had barely been touched. He spoke of its application in general science, referring to the X-Ray and the radio.

Mr. Lucas said the extent of the electric power industry has been doubled since 1920. Seven and a half billion dollars are invested and two million individuals own stock and other securities. There are 6,000 electric light and power systems with 18,000,000 customers. Sixty per cent of the people in this country live in electrically lighted homes. The annual income of the industry is one and a half billion dollars, the lowest ratio of income to investment in any leading industry.

The number of electrical customers has increased five and a half million in the past three years. Every day 6,000 new electrical customers are added. The high productivity of the American working man was attributed in part to the use of electricity. Seventy-two per cent of the industries in this country use electric power. Comment was made on the fact that the wage scale in the United States was double that in England, which surpasses all other countries in that respect with the exception of America.

Mr. Lucas spoke of the Idol's power plant, on the Yadkin river, as one of the first three in the world in which the power was to be used at a considerable distance from the point of generation. He referred to the extent of the business of the Southern Power Company, which has 2,700 miles of line covering the Piedmont section of the Carolinas. He referred to the Southern Power Company engineers as the pioneers in the distance transmission of electricity and at high voltage.

The generating capacity of the hydro-electric plants of the Southern Power system at the present time is 565,000 horsepower, while one additional plant with a generating capacity of 60,000 horsepower is under construction. In addition to the hydro-electric plants there are five steam-electric plants with a total generating capacity of 140,000 horsepower. Work has just been started and is being pushed on an additional steam-electric plant with the capacity of 100,000 horsepower, this plant being located just outside of Salisbury.

In 1905 13 cotton mills with a total of 150,000 spindles were driven by power secured from the Southern Power system. Today more than 300 cotton mills with a total of more than 3,500,000 spindles secure their motive power from this system. This, of course, is in addition to the power supplied by the system to hundreds of other miscellaneous industries and to more than 100 cities and towns throughout Piedmont Carolina.

The statement was made that an estimate two or three years ago was made to the effect that \$5,000,000 to \$6,000,000 would be required annually in investment in power enterprises in order to supply the state's needs. Mr. Lucas remarked that the Southern Power company alone had probably been spending that much.

People often seem to feel that the use of the electric light is the largest part of electricity as it concerns the home. As a matter of fact, the American home has been electrified to such an extent in recent years that this is a small part of the total. For instance, 50,000 electric refrigerating machines were installed in this country during the past year and it is expected that over 250,000 will be dis-

tributed within the coming year.

In conclusion, Mr. Lucas spoke very effectively of the vision of the late James B. Duke with reference to the electric power industry in this section, both in its economic and social aspects. He read an extract from Mr. Duke's statement in creating the Duke Foundation in which he expressed the desire that the money derived from the Southern Power Company enterprises be devoted to the work of development in the Carolinas along educational and social lines. To that end the profits derived from the Southern Power company enterprises are being diverted to the uses of the Duke Endowment. In speaking of this phase of the matter Mr. Lucas quoted the following from Mr. Duke's statement:

"My ambition is that the revenues of such developments shall minister to the social welfare, as the operation of such developments is ministering to the economic welfare, of the communities in which they serve."

Mr. Lucas' presentation of the vitally important subject assigned him at the meeting today was greatly appreciated by members of the club and visitors, who manifested deep interest in his discussion of the various phases of the electrical industry.

KANSANS KEPT BUSY FILLING RABBIT ORDERS

Carloads of Them Being Shipped to New York and Chicago—Bring 40 Cents Each

Hutchinson, Kan., Jan. 16.—Carloads of rabbit meat are being shipped East from Hutchinson and elsewhere in this district. Local buyers are shipping in the rabbits by express lots and loading out cars by express for the New York and Chicago markets. One buyer estimated that no less than 100,000 rabbits will go to the markets from this locality this winter.

The Relief Committee looking after provisions for families of striking coal miners in Pennsylvania have shipped large numbers of rabbits from here to the anthracite district for needy families.

A drive in Finney County on New Year's Day resulted in the killing of several thousand rabbits. More than 5,000 were killed in a roundup near Liberal, and several hundred fell in a hunt in Stafford County.

One concern at Lard had shipped five cars of rabbits to New York, 21,000 in all. The rabbits ring 40 cents each laid down in New York City, and are bought locally at 12 cents each. The freight, however amounts to \$1,000 on each car.

Co-ops May Start Suits Against Two of Their Officials

Raleigh, Jan. 14.—Suits against T. C. Watkins and R. B. Patterson, officials of the Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association, to recover the \$100,000 made by them in wages of their \$48,000 salaries, proposed to have been taken for recovery of the tobacco members in the case will most likely result from aington conference of the co-op this week.

These suits will be brought, if recovery is thus sought, on advice of Aaron Spiro, of California, Dr. Clarence Poe, editor of the Progressive Farmer, made the statement this evening on his return from Washington. The editor of this great farm paper discussed the development in this case, disclosures made by the federal trade commission. It was in that report that the Patterson and Watkins huge profits were found. Apropos of their conduct, Dr. Poe tells how he fought this issue out a year ago and set himself everlastingly against the conduct of Messrs. Watkins and Patterson, but in that attack he encountered Oliver J. Sands who stood back the alleged profiteering co-operatives.

The word "tariff" comes from the town of Tarifa at the entrance of the Strait of Gibraltar where passing ships were stopped for tribute in days of old.

LOVE AND POLITICS CAUSE FATAL DUEL

North Carolina Mountaineer to Face Murder Charge When Able to Leave Hospital

Charlotte, Jan. 16.—Love for the same woman and rivalry in politics are said to be at the bottom of the duel to the death between Dr. C. V. Burnett, Mars Mill physician, and Wallace Ray, alleged blockader of the Carolina mountains, at Shelton Laurel Madison County in which the physician was slain and his antagonist so badly wounded his life was despaired of.

Mountain folk are awaiting with interest the trial of Ray, who was taken desperately wounded, to a Greenville (Tenn.) hospital, around which heavy guards were placed to prevent his rescue by friends as he slowly recovers his strength. No date for the trial has been set, but it will take place just as soon as Ray is found able to undergo the ordeal.

Reports of the duel reaching here describe a scene which recalls the days of feudalism. There were two eyewitnesses. Their description of the duel pictures Ray as staggering to his feet after having been struck down by the bullets from the physician's revolver, and Dr. Burnett, standing with head up and apparently the victor, only to topple over the next instant dead from the single bullet from a revolver in the hands of Ray.

Met on Mountain Road

According to Tom Porter and Moody Shelton, the witnesses, who were passengers in Ray's car, the latter's machine passed up the mountain highway, met Dr. Burnett, went beyond him, and then returned, the Burnett car having in the meantime stopped. Ray is then said to have walked up to Dr. Burnett and engaged him in conversation regarding a quarrel between the two in a mountain cabin the night before.

Ray is said to have remarked to the doctor, "You had your crowd with you last night but we are on even terms today," and then began firing. Three shots were fired at the physician before the latter could get his revolver into action. Dr. Burnett's first shot struck, also his second and his third sent Ray reeling toward his automobile, into which he was helped, only to stagger to his feet and fire a single shot, the one which took the life of the physician.

Just before firing the final shot Ray is said to have cried, "You have finished me," and then using what is described as almost superhuman strength, he raised up in his seat, turned his revolver toward Burnett, and fired again. Up to that time Dr. Burnett had been untouched. After the shot he stood for a moment, facing his antagonist, with his lowered revolver in his hand, and then fell forward. He was dead when assistance reached him.

Ray Called Aggressor

Ray is said to have been the aggressor throughout. Dr. Burnett is said to have adopted a conciliatory attitude and to have endeavored to smooth over the trouble. Moody Shelton knocked up the muzzle of Ray's gun as he fired the first shot. The bullet went wild and Ray and one of the boys scuffled over possession of the weapon. Ray then wrenched free and returned to his attitude of combat.

Dr. Burnett had by that time his own revolver, and the two paced apart and began the shooting. After the duel Ray drove to his home from where he was taken to the White Rock Hospital, and later to a hospital in Greenville, Tenn., where he has been waging another desperate battle for his life. Ray has been ordered held without bond on a charge of murder.

Reports that the quarrel started over a woman at a party at the home of "Gum" Shelton the night before the shooting have been verified, but the name of the girl could not be ascertained. It was a quarrel over a woman named Ray that led to the death of a man named Face at the hands of Burnett in 1920, according to reports of Madison County citizens who attended the trial, when Burnett was acquitted, having proved it was self defense.

Doctor Able Shot

Dr. Burnett was known in mountains as a dangerous man with a gun. Ray is also known as a mountain character of the feudist type. He also is facing a charge in the United States Court at Asheville. He served a term in the State Penitentiary for killing a man several years ago.

Dr. Burnett left the mountain vil-

Dr. Poe Thinks Two Officials Should Get Out

Dr. Poe's statement on the findings of the federal trade commission with reference to the redrying operations of Patterson and Watkins follows:

"Of course the most outstanding finding of the federal trade commission is that on the 1922 and 1923 crops while the members of the Tobacco Growers' Co-operative Association were paying R. B. Patterson \$30,000 a year and T. C. Watkins \$18,000 a year to look after the members' interests these men also made personal profits on redrying the members tobacco as follows:

	1922 crop	1923 crop
Watkins	\$16,981.50	\$53,580.85
Patterson	16,981.49	52,586.86

"There is no use pussyfooting about a situation like this. In our opinion such action will never be excused by the tobacco farmers of North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia, and ought not to be. Even if the plan of Messrs. Watkins and Patterson had been properly put before the board of directors they would not even then have been justified in charging the association \$1.75 per hundred for work costing \$1.05. It is all right to say that the federal trade commission on the whole has made a biased and unfair report and we think it has; we think it has gone unjustifiably far in excusing the big tobacco companies and the vicious tactics of warehouse interests. But 'it is well to learn even from an enemy,' and no quantity of abuse of the federal trade commission is going to explain or excuse the distressing and depressing facts thus ferreted out about redrying activities.

"It was bad enough for the association to be stabbed by its open enemies; but in this case it has been stabbed in the house of its friends, and the case of the Edmondson Tobacco company will hurt the co-operative marketing of tobacco a thousand times more than all the warehousemen in Wilson or Danville could have done. If the friends of cooperative marketing refuse to recognize this plain fact and instead try to defend Messrs. Watkins and Patterson, to make \$100,000 profits in a single year, in addition to their combined salaries aggregating \$48,000 which they are receiving for supposedly protecting the farmers' interest from all extortion or unfair charges.

"We want to see the co-operative marketing of tobacco in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia made a great success. We want to see a renewal sign-up which will reach the 65 per cent which growers in various belts desire. And it is because we wish to see this result that we repeat that right now definite provision should be made in the new marketing contracts which will permanently enforce and insure the new policy wisely adopted by the Tobacco Growers' Co-operative Marketing Association directors last year—namely, that no director or official shall hereafter redry tobacco for the association. We are equally confident that the continued employment of officials who have lost the confidence of the membership will seriously retard if not fatally endanger a sign-up which needs to be made as easy as it is humanly possible to make it rather than overloaded with further difficulties.

"Of one thing we are sure. The triumph of cooperative marketing of tobacco is only a question of time. That cooperative marketing is the soundest system for selling farm crops is now admitted by practically all authorities. Its practicability is no longer a matter of question. The farmer will naturally continue suspicious but he will gradually learn the truth and act on it. The warehousemen and supply merchants who are fighting cooperative marketing may triumph for awhile, but sooner or later they will have to surrender to the all-conquering, nation-wide, yes world-wide movement, for co-operative marketing of farm crops. Our cooperative associations themselves, too, may delay the triumph of their own cause for a time by making mistakes and refusing to correct them, but sooner or later, too, they must recognize and repudiate such errors.

"Victory is somewhere ahead. The only question is as to how fast we shall move toward it."

Large several years ago and went to Florida. Upon his return to this section he entered politics. At the last primary election in Madison County, both men sought the nomination for Sheriff. Both lost, but it caused a feud between the physician and Ray.

Russian Jewels Dazzling Thousands in \$250,000,000 Display

Soviet Exhibition Includes Romanoff Crown Worth \$52,000,000—Sceptres, Coronets and Tiaras From Ten Royal Families Shown.

Moscow, Jan. 16.—Russian workers and peasants are flocking by the scores of thousands to enjoy the dazzling splendor of the crown jewels of the Romanoffs, now the property of every poor citizen of this Communist republic. This collection of gems, the estimated value of which is \$250,000,000, has been turned into a source of revenue by the Soviet Government, which has placed it on exhibition at the Soviet Trade Union house, in Moscow, formerly the Club of the Nobles.

The regal collection represents the accumulated treasure of ten different Russian royal families, and includes crowns, sceptres, coronets, emblems, tiaras, diadems, necklaces, bracelets, rings and gems of many other kinds. The public is charged an admission fee of \$1, but members of the Trade Unions and Communist organizations pay only 25 cents.

The collection has proved a strong drawing card to the workers and peasants, who manifest the deepest wonder and admiration as they stand spellbound before the sealed glass cases. Extraordinary precautions are taken against theft. Armed soldiers are stationed throughout the building.

The object of greatest curiosity among the gems is the huge Imperial Crown of All the Russias, a magnificent dome-like patriarchal mitre, containing more than 4,000 carats of diamonds of the first water and carrying on its summit a cross of diamonds and rubies of exquisite beauty, the whole valued at \$52,000,000.

Next in interest comes the coronet worn by the murdered Empress Alexandra, perhaps the most beautiful mass of diamonds ever brought together in a single ornament.

Another object of great attention is the famous Imperial Sceptre of Power used by the last Czar, which is surmounted by the world-famed Orloff diamond, as large as a bisected egg and containing 189 carats. This slender, graceful emblem is valued by the Bolsheviks at \$30,000,000.

The "Emblem of the Imperial Realm," a globular object of gold surmounted by a cross of diamonds, sapphires and rubies and valued at \$24,000,000, comes next in interest. Among the single unmounted gems, the so-called "Shah" diamond, of eighty-nine carats and appraised by the Soviet authorities at \$14,500,000, is probably the most striking.

It is a unique memorial of the respect entertained for Imperial Russia by her Mohammedan neighbors in the days before the Bolsheviks took power, the great stone being a gift to the Emperor of Russia by the Shah of Persia.

The regal costumes which clothed the central figure of the magnificent imperial court of the last of the Romanoffs are being used in the production of motion pictures under the direction of the Soviet State.

The imperial robes of Nicholas II and many other rich articles of his wardrobe form a part of the "properties" used in "The Ninth of January," an anti-monarchist film which takes its name from the date in 1905 on which the revolution of that year opened.

Five thousand elaborate imperial, military and dress uniforms belonging to the late Czar and several thousand rich gowns, wedding dresses, coronation robes, Chinese coats and other articles of apparel worn by the former Czarina Alexandra have been bought by the state motion picture monopoly.

This sumptuous wardrobe originally cost a fortune, but it went to the state movie trust for less than \$15,000. Among the articles from the Czarina's wardrobe were 200 Chinese robes of the richest silk, presented to her many years ago by the Emperor of China. They sold for \$20 each.

Beautiful wedding dresses, embroidered in gold and lace, brought \$25 each. Hats and helmets, adorned with costly plumes and aigrettes, which belonged to the late Czar went for less than \$1 each.

The average wage in America is \$5.00 a day in comparison with \$2.25 in England; \$1.35 in Germany; \$1.24 in France; \$1.14 in Belgium; and \$0.98 in Italy.

RUBBER PRICES BEGIN DROPPING IN BRITAIN

Fear of Americans or Timidity of Speculators Factors in the Decline

London, Jan. 17.—Whether by reason of Herbert Hoover's campaign or because of timidity among the speculators is not quite clear, but raw rubber has had a setback to three shillings 4 1-4 pence per pound here. This is three pence down on the week and 14 pence below the highest touched recently. The weekly record in share quotations on the stock exchange has been consistently downward.

Experts attribute the weakness to the sensitiveness of the market to bear selling on the Americans' evident determination to protect themselves with regard to future requirements and the publication in the United States of statistics for December, which together with the larger stocks at London, caused a drop in the quotations. Because of this, operators sold other securities to find increased margins for the loss on rubber, which the banks were demanding.

In their annual review the Figgs Company, produce merchants, expect a production of plantation rubber in 1926 of around 646,000 tons and estimate arrivals here of 620,000 tons, which they say, is required for the consumption if it continues on the same scale as in 1925, but they point out it must not be forgotten that reclaimed rubber will be increasingly used and that America has erected plants for an increased output.

TWO NEW BILLS ON FARM RELIEF

Senate Measure Would Create Government Agricultural Marketing Board.

Washington, Jan. 16.—Farm relief legislation continued to claim considerable attention today in congress.

Direct government control of grain and other products was proposed in a bill introduced in the senate by Senator Franzier, republican, North Dakota, and one presented in the house by Representative Little, democrat, Kansas. Though dissimilar, the measures both are intended to relieve the farmer of violent price fluctuations and to insure sale of surplus crops.

Marketing Board

Senator Franzier's bill would appropriate \$200,000,000 to create a federal agricultural marketing board to handle corn, wheat and cotton. Representative Little's proposal seems to set aside \$100,000,000 for a revolving fund to be used by the government to establish bonded elevators, store wheat in them, and sell it, at home and abroad, at prices calculated to bring the growers fair returns.

The house agriculture committee continued hearings. John P. Wallace and Harvey Ingham, publishers of Des Moines, endorsed the Dickinson bill, which would form a federal expert board and levy an equalization tax for disposition of surplus crops. They declared the food supply of the nation was being menaced by agricultural depression.

Negro Gets \$1,000 For Finding Pearls

Warrentown, Va., Jan. 15.—A string of pearls, lost here recently by Mrs. Mitchell Harrison, of Philadelphia, who valued them at \$100,000 were turned over to the Fauquier National bank today by George Freeman, negro newspaper carrier. He received a reward of \$1,000.

Freeman picked up the pearls from the frozen snow while making his rounds several days ago. Thinking they were a "string of beads" he gave them to his little daughter, who had just fallen on the slippery pavement and was crying. Their subtle glow promptly pacified her.

Mrs. Harrison, meanwhile, had advertised her loss, offering the reward. Freeman read it, and while others hunted in the snow throughout the town for the jewels he examined his little girl's new trinket and decided to take it to the bank. His first purchase out of the \$1,000 was another "string of beads" for his daughter, who would pacify again.