

ECONOMIC AND TRADE NOTES

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Prospects of Electrical Industry in China.

The Kuo Min News Agency of November 29 contains the following item of news on the above mentioned subject:

"The National Association of Chinese Public Utility Corporations, upon the conclusion of its third annual conference held in the Capital, has issued a report reviewing its activities and setting forth the various plans of expansion and developments decided upon. A summary of the report states:

Origin of Association.

"Three years have now elapsed since the formation of the Association.

"While the plan for the formation of a national association of private electrical enterprises was first mooted by the Planning Committee at Changchow, Kiangsu, it was not until July of the 18th Year (1929) that this plan matured and was eventually realized. That year marked the first joint and organized effort of private electrical corporations in the country to promote their common interests.

"It will be recalled that in view of the various limitations imposed by the local authorities which constituted a serious impediment to the development of the infant electrical industry in the country, to promote their common interests.

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imposed by the local authorities which constituted a serious impediment to the development of the infant electrical industry in the country, a deputation of 37, representing private-owned electrical companies throughout the country, was sent to the Capital in 1929 at the suggestion of the Kiangsu and Chekiang electrical associations. This deputation submitted to the National Government a number of petitions urging the provision of safeguards for private electrical enterprises and the promotion of the electrical industry in the country.

"As a result of such repeated petitions, the Central Government promulgated a series of laws and regulations designed for the safeguarding of private electrical interests. These include: Regulations governing Government supervision of Private Electrical Utilities, Provisional measures for the Encouragement of Private Electrical Enterprises, Regulations governing the Theft of Electric current, etc. By virtue of such laws and regulations, private electrical enterprises in the country were given thirty years' legal protection.

"The success of this first organized effort of private electrical companies emphasized the necessity and advantages of forming themselves into a permanent and compact organization. The present Association was accordingly formed to meet this keenly felt need.

"While our electrical industry lags far behind the various European and American countries, the Association has however striven to establish contacts with the electrical industry in other parts of the world.

"Thus, in the summer of 1930, Messrs. Li Yi-sae, Shen Sze-fong, Fei Fu-tao, Chou Mei-peh and Yee Ke-wen were sent to Berlin to attend the Second World Power Conference. Later, Mr. Fei Fu-tao was appointed

to represent the Association at the 3rd annual conference of International Electrical Union held at Brussels last year. In the summer of the current year, Mr. Chen Chang-hai was sent to America to attend the 54th annual conference of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers.

The National Association has also become a member of the International Electrical Union and has also established close contacts with electrical federations in Great Britain, Germany, France and Switzerland in order that the latest inventions and designs may be introduced into China.

China's Total Generating Capacity.

According to the latest investigation made by the Association the number of private electrical companies in this country is nearly 500, of which 345 are represented on the Association. The total generating capacity of private electrical enterprises in this country is approximately 206,000 kilo-watts, the Association members representing about 140,000 kilo-watts. New extensions are also in process of construction in Soochow, Shanghai, Chinkiang, Changchow, Yangchow, Wuhsing, Ningpo and Shaohsing. It is estimated that these extensions will have a total generating capacity of about 20,000 kilo-watts. Thus the National Association members control nearly 80 per cent of the total generating capacity of private electrical plants in China.

As regards territorial representation, a total of 18 provinces,-- extending north to Jenol, south to Fukien and Kwangung, west to Szechuen and Yunnan, east to Kiangsu and Chekiang and North-

east to Kirin and Heilungkiang -- is represented by the Association.

"Apart from the Headquarters at Hanking, a number of branch Associations are established in various important cities and provinces including Shanghai, Kiangsu, Chekiang, Hupeh, Kiangsi, Kwangtung, Fukien, Shantung, Kirin and Heilungkiang. Special committees, such as Mechanical, Accounting and Legislation committees, were also organized to carry out research and study of various questions affecting the interests of private electrical enterprises.

Important Schemes Adopted.

Realizing that electricity is the motivating power of all modern industries, the Association is keenly alive to its important responsibility in the development of home industries. It is however to be greatly deplored that at present, the total generating capacity of Chinese private electrical enterprises is even less than that of foreign plants in China.

"In view of this deplorable state of affairs, the Association at its 3rd annual conference, has decided upon a number of plans and programs for the expansion and development of the country's electrical industry. In addition to these, three important measures designed to extend the scope and the usefulness of this Association were also adopted. They are, briefly, as follows:-

"1. The membership of the Association to be extended so that both Chinese and foreign owned electrical factories and experts will be eligible for membership.

"2. A Statistics Committee to be formed as soon as possible in order that an accurate survey of present conditions may be conducted

so as to serve as the basis for the formulation of plans for further expansion.

"3. An Education Committee to be formed to carry out plans for the education of employees of the various member-companies of the Association. It is planned to open first a correspondence school for the benefit of such employees.

"Of the various plans for development, that which is most worthy of mention is a scheme providing for the opening of a large scale factory for the manufacture of electrical machines and materials so that with the opening of such a factory, a part of the necessary machinery may be manufactured in China.

"The above is merely a brief survey of the past activities of the Association and the hopes it entertains for the future. The cooperation and whole-hearted assistance on the part of the public will be necessary and welcomed in order that the various plans may be achieved and the development of the country's electrical industry accelerated.--~~Estimated~~"

1924-25	120,000
1925-26	200,000
1926-27	300,000
1927-28	400,000
1928-29	500,000
1929-30	600,000
1930-31	700,000
1931-32	800,000
1932-33	900,000
1933-34	1,000,000

Julian Arnold
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