

ELECTRICITY SPREADS IN CHINA

British Machinery Installed at Yangchow and Now Every- body Can Get Light

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

Yangchow, Ku., May 3.

The new 300 K.W. electric lighting unit installed at the Yangchow Power Station has now been in operation for some time and it is now possible to find one's way about the city without the aid of lanterns. The plant first started with an 80 K.W. steam engine but the demand was so large that the company was soon compelled to add a 180 K.W. Belliss & Morcom steam engine. Soon followed a 50 K.W. Muncie Oil engine and about three years ago the installation of a 100 K.W. Crossley gas engine. In 1923 the demand was again greater than the supply and eventually the lights got so bad that the majority of the consumers refused to pay for current used, others reverting back to the oil lamp for illumination. Instead of the 200 volt lamps being used it was necessary to change to a 60 volt lamp to get a fairly decent light, whilst the street lights were so dim they could hardly be discerned at the top of the poles.

The order for the new equipment was eventually placed with the Jardine Engineering Corporation and consists of a 450 B.H.P. "National" gas engine fed by a 500 H.P. "National" suction gas plant. The alternator is by Mather & Platt and is direct coupled to the engine. The engine is of the vertical-tandem type and has six cylinders fitted with dual ignition. Starting up is accomplished by means of admitting compressed air at a pressure of 300 lb. per square inch. The engine is supposed to be one of the largest suction gas engines of its kind imported into China and a great deal of interest is being taken in the unit by reason of its being so economical to run.