DISTRICT HEATING
IN OTHER COUNTRIES

ENGLAND

District Heating Association

In September 1965 an article appeared in THE JOURNAL OF THE INSTITUTION OF HEATING AND VENTILATING ENGINEERS (a publication in London, England) by Mr. A. E. Haseler entitled "District Heating in New Cities" in which the author advocated the formation of a District Heating Association under the auspices of the Institution. Subsequent JOURNALS contained correspondence on the topic, with the following results:

1. A meeting was held on July 25th, 1966 and attended by nearly 100 persons from all parts of the heating and ventilating industry — consulting engineers, contractors, manufacturers of all types of equipment, and fuel suppliers — together with some representing "user" interests. It was generally agreed that a District Heating Association should be formed, with the object of promoting the more widespread adoption of group and district-heating schemes wherever they could be shown to be justified. The meeting had before it a long list of aims of the proposed Association, and these seemed to indicate that the functions of the Association would be that of a professional society, trade association, and information and advisory service.

A working group was set up under the chairmanship of Mr. Haseler to make recommendations for a constitution, and to examine ways and means of furthering the aims, preparatory to the formal inauguration of an Association.

2. The inaugural meeting of the Association took place on November 7, 1966 at which a draft constitution was adopted. Membership in various categories is open to all organizations and individuals with a genuine interest in district heating.

District Heating Symposium

All the arrangements for The Institution of Heating and Ventilating Engineers two-day Symposium on District Heating, March 21 and 22, 1967 at Church House, Westminster are now complete. In addition to the presentation of ten papers, with ample time provided for discussion of each one, the Institution is arranging for a small exhibition of illustrations and data to be on view.

District heating and the arguments for and against it have aroused a great deal of controversy in the past and are being discussed extensively at high level at the present moment. There appears to be no doubt that the potential, judging from the picture given from countries such as Sweden, France, Germany and Russia, seems to be markedly in favor of district heating in certain circumstances. In Britain however, there still seems to be doubt.

The Symposium will therefore present an objective and impartial view of the pros and cons of district heating with particular application to England, where the legal and administrative set up, the extensive development of vast areas, and high populations, have perhaps produced a somewhat different situation. For this reason, the papers deal, in the main, with the situation that faces any developer, or public or private authority, who is considering the possibility of district heating. All the arguments must be carefully assessed at an early stage and factors such as general convenience and comfort, air pollution, hypothermia, national fuel policy, long and short-term economics, difficulties arising as a result of legal and parliamentary legislation, etc., must be considered.

Financial aspects such as sources of money, types of loans, interest rates, rating metering, and charging for heat, etc., are also of the highest importance. A session will be devoted entirely to a comparison of approach in France, Scandinavia and Great Britain.

Only one short paper will deal with technical aspects, and will review the sources and use of centralized heat generation. This does not mean that the Institution is not interested in the purely mechanical and technical aspects of district heating. It is, however, possible to assume that any technical difficulties that arise are capable of solution as has been demonstrated in other countries.

The Minister of Power, the Right Honorable Richard Marsh, will open the Symposium, and the opening address will be given by Sir Donald Gibson, Director-General of Research and Development, Ministry of Public Building and Works. Other papers will be presented on the following subjects:

1. Urban Air Pollution and District Heating as an Aid to its Prevention.
2. Hyperthermia — Low Body Temperature.
3. Legal and Parliamentary Aspects.
5. The Sources and Use of Centralized Heat Generation.

New Company Formed

A new company, to be named Associated Heat Services, Ltd., was recently organized by the National Coal Board in conjunction with Solar Industries, Ltd., of Glasgow, Scotland, and the Compagnie Generale de Chauffe de Lille, which is the largest heating service operation in France. The new organization will promote and operate district heating installations using solid fuel in England.

The Company will offer heat service to local authorities, new town corporations, industrial estate developers, universities, hospitals, schools, etc. The service will include designing, financing, installation, operation and maintenance of plants, plus additional services such as meter reading and billing, if the customers wish to have them.

Compagnie Generale de Chauffe was established 30 years ago, and employs approximately 2,500 people in Belgium and France, and services some 70 hospitals, 80 public buildings, 50 universities and colleges, 230 schools, and 230 group heating schemes. Annual coal consumption averages 250,000 tons.

SWEDEN

In the three years since the Agesta nuclear power station near Stockholm "went critical," it is reported that more than 6,000 foreign visitors have been there. Agesta is not only Sweden's first nuclear power station, but a "world first."

Agesta's reactors heat the water which heats the houses, apartments, and stores at Farsta, a five-year-old Stockholm suburb of 40,000, which was constructed specifically to consume Agesta's energy.

The tiny Agesta station, with a power rating of only 65 megawatts (65 million watts), is a pilot rather than a commercial plant. It meets its operating costs, but the capital cost of $40 million has been subsidized by the state.

Sweden's second nuclear station is already under construction, and a third is planned by a group of private utilities.
It is reported that it might be a long time before another complex is heated by a nuclear plant, however, because Angesta has taught the Swedes that a nuclear plant must produce about 400 M.W. to be efficient, and there are no communities able to consume that much energy.

(In 1964 a delegation of six NDHA members visited Angesta and Farsta during an NDHA-sponsored, U. S. State Department exchange-program inspection trip. Please see Official Announcements, Pg. 84, for further information.)

CANADA

The steam lines of Winnipeg Hydro in Winnipeg, Manitoba will provide heating and air conditioning to the now-being-constructed Centennial Centre complex. In fact, by the Fall of 1966, the construction of the Concert Hall had reached a point where heating would be required during the winter months to allow this work to continue. Therefore, during October 1966, the four-in. steam main to the hall was put in place.

The size of the Concert Hall is reported to be such that, with air conditioning, it will require an estimated maximum of 20,000 lb of steam per hour. To provide the steam demands, two service lines will be run into the building. The first line, the four-in. one now installed, is tapped from an eight-in. steam main. A second line, which will be six in. in size, will be connected to the building from a near-by 14-in. main. Installation of the two service lines will permit the designers to lay out the building piping to the best advantage, and will provide an adequate supply of steam for heating of the other buildings which are to be included in the Centre and which will be immediately adjacent to the Concert Hall.

The use of central steam for heating during construction will provide the contractor with a safe and flexible source of heat during the winter months.

ICELAND

Iceland, a tiny land in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, which owes its affinity with the Scandinavian peoples to Viking migrations from Norway in the ninth century, which has a population of just under 200,000 and still speaks the Norse language in its purest form, will present a national exhibit within the five-nation Scandinavian Pavilion at "EXPO 67" in Montreal.

One of the exhibit's features will show the use of natural steam and hot water, graphically and realistically illustrated by cut-away views of underground formations and above-ground installations, such as municipal piping systems which provide central heating for nearly all of the homes in the capital city of Reykjavik, and the extensive hot-house cultivation of vegetables and tropical fruit and flowers.

Call HEATH . . .
for Leakage Detection Service

Heath Survey Consultants is a nationwide organization with over thirty years of leakage detection experience. Using modern techniques and sensitive instruments, the Heath specialist can locate, classify, and pinpoint leaks in underground pipes without costly excavation.

If leakage control is your problem, why not call Heath today. Call Collect. 617-235-6660

HEATH SURVEY CONSULTANTS, INC.
Zero Laurel Avenue, Wellesley Hills, Mass. 02181