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Second International District Heating Convention

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SECOND INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT HEATING CONVENTION
BUDAPEST, HUNGARY, MAY 8-10, 1973

Background

In April 1970, the First International District Heating Convention was held in London, England. Due to its success, the President of the District Heating Association of Great Britain, Mr. J. D. Ezra, proposed that an international body be set up to ensure the continuity of the series, to collate information, and to coordinate the work of national organizations.

A small committee was formed and held its first meeting in Malmo, Sweden on September 14, 1970. Agreement was reached (1) to hold the Second Convention in Budapest in 1973 (2) that the host country should make arrangements for any intermediate meetings, and provide the Chairman (3) that the International Committee be put on a more formal basis — that it be composed of official representatives from each of the member countries. The Committee met each spring in Budapest to prepare for the Convention: procedures, papers, translations, etc.

Budapest Convention

There were over 1,100 registrants. There were 107 papers presented, from 24 countries, and they were divided into six subject groups. In order to handle the large volume of papers within a three-day time period: two concurrent sessions were held; papers could not be read; and only 15 minutes were allowed for the summary and discussion. There were simultaneous translations from the Convention official languages: English, Hungarian, Russian, German and Polish.

A study tour by bus was conducted on Friday, May 11, after the conference sessions had been concluded on the 10th. The tour group visited the (1) Municipal District Heating Works (2) Heating Power Plant Undertaking of Budapest and (3) Thermal Power Plant Kelenfold. These three companies are the main sources for district heating service in Budapest.

Although district heating dates back to 1896 in Budapest, the Municipal District Heating Company was organized in 1960 for the purpose of handling customer relations, and to operate the present heating plant and those to be built in new residential areas. At the same time, the Hungarian Trust of Electricity Works grouped the City power plants under its supervision into two companies: the Heating Power Plant Undertaking of Budapest, and the Thermal Power Plant of Kelenfold.

(Continued on Page 48)
The Municipal District Heating Works supplies heat and domestic hot water from four plants in widely separated parts of the City, through 99.42 miles of pipe.

Committee Meeting
The International Committee met during the Budapest Convention, on May 7. Due to lack of sufficient time, only the following business was accomplished: (1) Poland was selected to be the host country for the next International Convention, in three years, and (2) the next meeting of the Committee was called for Fall 1973, in Warsaw.

The Committee, at some future meeting, will select a proper name for itself (several have been considered), and devise a constitution for its functioning.

(Editor's Note: Our appreciation to Mr. Allan Toole of the Canadian Government in Ottawa, Ontario, for supplying the material used in this article. Mr. Toole is a member of the International Committee, and also an IDHA Delegate to overseas meetings concerned with district heating.)

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