

**EDISON PLANNING GROWTH IN GRAND RIVER DISTRICT**

Electric Company To Spend Thirty Million On New Construction In '29

About thirty million dollars will be spent by The Detroit Edison Company on new construction during 1929, according to tentative plans recently announced.

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During 1929 the Company expects to add about 1400 new customers in the Grand River and Livingston districts. These districts include the territory along Grand River avenue from Clarenceville to Williamston and north to North Farmington, Comstock, Rose Center and Hartland and south to Plymouth, Brookville, South Lyon, Hamburg and Pinckney.

The cost of extending service to these new customers and installing the meters, etc., will amount to about \$110,000. In addition to this, it is expected that \$45,000 will be spent for farm line extensions, but some of this will be paid for by the farmers themselves.

New substations to cost \$202,400 are to be built at Howell and Walled, Lake to insure better service to present customers and to provide for an expected increase in business. For similar reasons an additional \$197,000 will be spent to remodel or make additions to present substations at Northville, Plymouth, New Hudson, South Lyon, Milford and Farmington.

Additional ornamental street lights are planned at a total cost of \$16,000 and highway lighting in various parts of these districts will amount to \$18,000 more. \$85,000 will be spent to improve overhead transmission and distribution lines in and around Northville, Plymouth, Milford and Pinckney.

At Northville a new branch office is to be finished in January. This is the headquarters for the Company's Grand River and Livingston districts.

Plans are sufficiently flexible so that the construction program may be expanded or reduced to keep in step with general business conditions, and there will be revisions of this budget as the year advances.

This budget covers construction work only, and is entirely separate and distinct from the Company's operating and maintenance expenses.

As detailed below, about two thirds of the complete program is to finish construction work already under way, and the balance will be spent for projects to be begun during the coming year.

A large portion of the 1929 construction program is necessary to keep ahead of the rapidly growing consumption of electricity in homes, stores, offices, and factories in the 4,400 square miles served by The Detroit Edison Company in Detroit and Southwestern Michigan. More than two million people live in the area served by the Company, and the expected growth of population during the next twelve months will alone exceed the entire population of Detroit during 1881, when electricity was first used for lighting.

The largest single item in the budget calls for \$6,100,000 for completing the construction of the first two turbine-generators of a new steam-electric plant at Delray in the West Side of Detroit. This new generating plant, the third such plant on the Delray site, was begun in 1927 and will not be completed until mid-summer of 1930. It will be sufficiently advanced, however, for two 67,000 horse power turbine-generators to begin service in the early fall of 1929.

At the Company's Corners Creek steam-electric plant, in the East Side of Detroit, a new building will be begun to house very large, modern type electrical switches. The cost of this building and its equipment will ultimately amount to about \$2,500,000, but it is expected that only the sub-structure, possibly also the steel frame work, will be finished before the close of 1929.

at a cost of approximately \$300,000.

Numerous other, though smaller, projects at the four steam-electric plants will amount to \$750,000.

To provide for the expected normal increase in consumption of current, it is planned to spend about \$5,000,000 for new substations in Detroit and throughout the suburban territory, and \$2,000,000 more will be required to rebuild and modernize many of the older substations.

Underground lines for the transmission of electricity from the power house to new substations, underground tie lines between substations, and underground distribution lines in Detroit will cost \$4,500,000 during 1929. Overhead lines will require \$2,000,000 more for miscellaneous additions, betterments and replacements throughout the Company's territory.

The cost of extending lines to many new homes, new stores, and new factories, and to many of the farms which do not yet have the convenience of electric service, will amount in all to more than \$3,000,000. This figure covers the cost of installing meters for measuring the consumption of electricity, and the cost of line transmission for reducing the voltage to the level of supply to residential and commercial customers. It is expected that about 35,000 new customers will be added to the Company's lines during the year.

Extensions to these new customers and replacements of poles for existing lines will require the setting of more than 50,000 poles during 1929.

The Company's Central Heating System, which furnishes steam for heating in the downtown business district of Detroit and as far north as the Grand boulevard, will be supplemented by an additional 4745 horse power boiler at the Beacon street plant at a cost of \$365,000. Also, the first unit of a new cooling station, to cost \$321,000 will be built on Dequindre street during 1929 as a third coal supply base for the Company's heating plants.

Other expenditures by the heating department will total about \$300,000.

The Port Huron gas division of The Detroit Edison Company, which already supplies gas to Port Huron, Marysville, St. Clair, Marine City and Algonac, will spend \$675,000 to further extend

its service. The gas plant at Marysville will be increased in output, and the gas transmission mains extended to New Baltimore, Ancharville, Smith's Creek, Memphis, Richmond, Armada, Romeo and New Haven. An additional \$100,000 will be spent for betterments to present gas equipment and mains in territory already served.

A great variety of other items, individually rather small and uninteresting but together amounting to a very large sum, makes up the balance of the construction budget. There are projects such as branch offices and warehouses, land purchases for new substations, new warehouses, offices etc. in various communities in the territory served. Also, there are allowances for the purchase of new trucks, tractors, automobiles, furniture and fixtures and all kinds of construction equipment. The cost of planning, engineering, drafting, and other general expenses necessary to carry out a large construction program completes the Company's budget.

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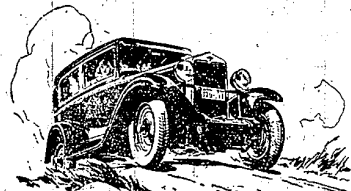
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