

1950 HEADLINER

Opening Of New Power Station

"Opening of the new South Fremantle power station will be one of the highlights of 1950.

"Not only will it benefit industry, but it will contribute materially to the welfare of the people "

Premier Ross McLarty said this yesterday.

"1949 has been a year of achievement; 1950 will be a year of achievement. There is every reason why the new

year should see the continuation of the progress made in 1949," said the Premier.

"Strong demand for our primary products continues.

"More land is being developed. Improved scientific methods and the increased availability of machinery must help to step-up production.

"Railway rehabilitation program is moving along and new locomotives are being received.

"Secondary industries are progressing and the influx of migrants is assisting in overcoming shortage of labor.

"Goldmining industry is responding to the rise in price and coal production has substantially improved," said the Premier.

"We will have many difficult problems, but, given a good season throughout the State and the co-operative effort of all our people, we can look forward with confidence to a successful year.

"I feel Western Australia is on the threshold of a great era."

Power From Fremantle Goes Into Use

WORKS Minister Brand, Chairman R. J. Dumas and General Manager and Chief Engineer F. C. Edmondson of the State Electricity Commission today visited South Fremantle power station to see the first of the 25,000 kilowatt machines running.

The new turbo-alternator was generating electricity which was being transmitted to East Perth for use in the metropolitan system.

Last month Mr. Brand said that he expected the new station to start operating to assist East Perth power station within four weeks from April 16.

The station, he said last week, was not likely to be officially opened for some time, probably not before June, because some time would be needed for cleaning up and final tests.

● The first 25,000 kilowatt generator at the new South Fremantle power station is one of four which will be installed, two each in the station's A and B sections. A transformer has been erected at East Perth power station to convert the new station's 50-cycle current into 40-cycle current for use in the metropolitan area. South Fremantle power is transmitted to East Perth by land-line.

New Power Station

**OFFICIAL OPENING ON
JUNE 27**

Perth, June 7.—The official opening of the new South Fremantle power station would take place at 3 p.m. on June 27, the Minister for Electricity, Mr. Brand announced today. During the fortnight after the opening the general public would have an opportunity of looking over the station, he said.

The opening ceremony would be held outside the main building because of the noise caused by running machinery. As a result the number of persons invited would be limited to the capacity of the marquee available.

After the formal proceedings the State Electricity Commission would have a number of its officers in attendance to conduct the guests over "A" station. They would be shown the station's nerve centre, the control room, the No. 1 turbo-alternator of 25,000 kilowatt capacity, which was now supplying electricity to Perth, the No. 2 turbo-alternator of the same capacity which was nearing completion, and the large boilers with their coal handling and pulverising equipment. They would also see the huge condensers, with their pumps circulating 1,250,000 gallons of cooling sea water every 24 hours, the coal trolley and yard in which Collie coal was stored, the transformer yard and the high tension main supported on steel towers along which the 50 cycle electricity was transmitted to the East Perth power house and there converted back to 40 cycle frequency for distribution throughout the metropolitan system.

The visitors would be shown the progress being attained with "B" station.

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Inspection Parties

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It was intended to conduct a

series of guided parties for the general public between the hours of 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 2.30 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Mondays to Fridays, inclusive, between July 1 and July 12, and on Sunday afternoons, July 1 and 8, between 2.30 p.m. and 5 p.m.

Mr. Brand said that it would be necessary for those desiring to inspect the station to write to the general manager of the State Electricity Commission, 321 Murray-street, Perth, indicating the days and times when they would like to make an inspection. Two alternative times should be stated in case of an over-application for any particular period. Entry cards would be posted to applicants who would have to present them at the gate to gain entrance to the main building.

IN POWER AFTER SIX YEARS

IN September, 1945, the State Government let tenders for erection of the first section of the new South Fremantle power station.

On Wednesday, with the first of its two 25,000 kilowatt generators working since last month, it will be officially opened by Works Minister Brand.

The second 25,000 kw. generator in No. 1 section is nearly installed and it is thought it will be running with the first generator by the end of the year, perhaps by September.

Then the metropolitan area will be able to draw more than 100,000 kw. from East Perth and South Fremantle.

The next development for South Fremantle—building of the No. 2 section of 50,000kw.—is well under way.

The State Government approved of the duplication of the No. 1 station at South Fremantle in February, 1948, when tenders amounting to more than £2,000,000 were let.

Announcing the Government's decision to double South Fremantle's power output the then Works Minister Doney said that the rate of increase in electricity consumption was so great that the State Electricity Commission would have to install an additional 25,000 kw. unit every three

POWER SUPPLIES

W.A. Ahead of Eastern States

HOPE FOR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Perth, June 25.—The establishment of the South Fremantle power station has put Western Australia ahead of the Eastern States for supplies of electricity.

This was said by the general manager and chief engineer of the South Australian Electricity Trust, Mr. R. H. M. Lea, on his arrival by air from Adelaide to-night.

Mr. Lea, who is visiting this State to attend the opening of the new power station and a conference of the executive of the Electricity Supply Association of Australia, said that the continuity of power supplies in South Australia since the war had led to great industrial development in that State. He hoped that similar development would follow the opening of the South Fremantle station.

Industrialists had been attracted to South Australia because it was the only State that had been free of major mechanical breakdowns in its power supply since the war, said Mr. Lea. Power consumption there was doubling every six years. Work had started on a new power station at Port Augusta, and it was hoped to have the station in operation by 1954.

The use of Leigh Creek coal had greatly aided the progress that had been made with power supply in South Australia, said Mr. Lea. Three thousand tons of Leigh Creek coal, which was inferior in quality to Collie coal, was used to every 6000 tons of New South Wales coal. All expansion plans for South Australian power supplies were based on the use of Leigh Creek coal.

This State "Ahead" Of Others In Electricity

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NEW POWER STATION

Ceremonial Opening This Afternoon

The South Fremantle power station will be officially opened at 3 p.m. today by the Minister for Electricity (Mr. Brand). The formal declaration of its opening will be symbolised by the opening of the main doors of the station. Invited guests will be issued with a souvenir brochure describing the station.

Two electricity supply executives from Brisbane and Melbourne and a former manager of the State Electricity Commission of Victoria arrived by air last night to attend the opening of the station and a conference of the executive of the Electricity Supply Association of Australia.

They were the managing-director and chief engineer of the City Electric Light Co. Ltd., Brisbane (Mr. E. S. Cornwall), the manager and chief engineer of the Melbourne City Council Electricity Supply (Mr. B. Woodfull), and Mr. R. Liddelow, a former manager of the State Electricity Commission of Victoria. Mr. Woodfull is a brother of the former Australian Test cricket captain, W. M. Woodfull.

The visitors were met at the airport by the general manager and chief engineer of the State Electricity Commission (Mr. F. C. Edmondson).

Power House Opened At South Fremantle

"I believe that the people of Western Australia feel very satisfied that at least just around the corner lies security as far as power is concerned," the Minister for Electricity (Mr. Brand) said at the official opening of the South Fremantle power station yesterday.

Before 400 guests, who included the Acting-Premier (Mr. Watts), other members of the Cabinet and the State Parliament and representatives of professional, business and industrial concerns in the State, Mr. Brand pushed a button to open the main doors to the station.

Some of the other States, Mr. Brand said, were not so well placed with electricity undertakings but Perth had experienced blackouts, restrictions and staggered hours and even now there were a few "sticky patches" to be crossed. The East Perth power station could "turn up its toes" at any time and, if that happened, restrictions would again be necessary.

However, within a few months the second turbo-alternator with a capacity of 25,000 kilowatts would be operating at South Fremantle and 103,000 kilowatts would be available for consumers in the metropolitan area, 50,000 being supplied from South Fremantle.

electrically-operated pumps. The commission was pushing ahead with the South-West power scheme.

The chairman of the State Electricity Commission (Mr. R. J. Dumas) said that the long-range plans of the commission would ensure that in future there always would be ample electricity for consumers. Western Australia owed a great debt to Mr. Taylor, who had recommended the present site and directed the plans and specifications for the station. Broken Hill Pty. Ltd. had given the steel requirements No. 1 priority and the work had been carried out without strikes or hold-ups. The behind-the-scenes figure driving the work along was Mr. Edmondson.

Mr. Edmondson said that in two years of erecting the structure and installing machines the commission had spent £2,500,000.

YOUNGEST GUEST SEES HOW IT WORKS



Clyde Selby (2½), of Belmont Park, who was the only child among about 400 guests at the opening of the South Fremantle power station yesterday, being shown a soot-blower control panel by Mr. H. G. Bishop, a boiler-house engineer, during the inspection after the official opening.