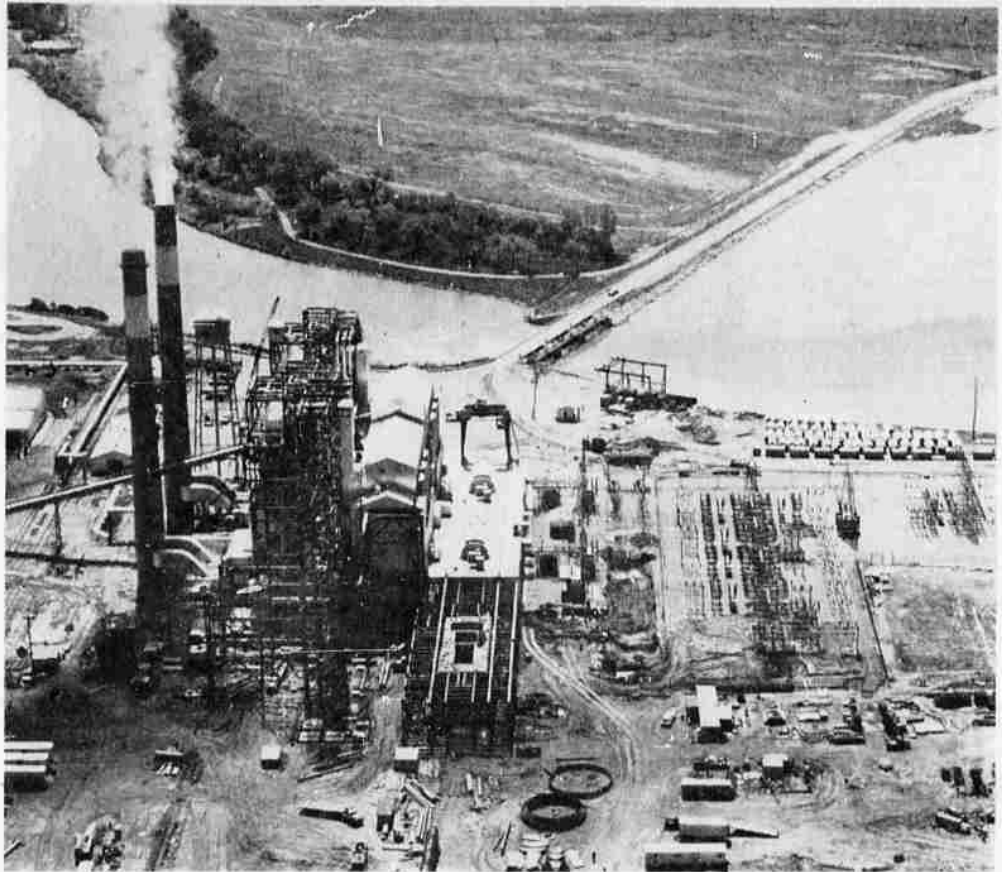


PPL Expands Johnston Steam Generating Plant In Wyoming



A RISING GIANT ON THE HORIZON — About 20 miles east of Casper, Wyo., stands this amazing giant of steel, rising almost 18 stories high out of the Wyoming plains and sprawling along the banks of the North Platte River. It is the Dave Johnston steam generating plant of the Pacific Power and Light Company. Two steam generating units, powered by coal, already provide 200,000 kilowatts of energy for Wyoming's rapidly expanding in-

dustries, and the addition of another unit next year will add another 200,000 kilowatts. This view shows the plant, and also the grove of trees across the river which once was the favorite stopping point for travelers of the overland trail to the West. At the right is the substation area. Coal to feed this giant comes from a rich field about 14 miles south of the plant site.

News Media Tour Covers Wide-Awake Wyoming

By FLOYD L. WYNNE

Wyoming is big—but it is also busy and building!

We were privileged to take our first extensive look at the new Wyoming several weeks ago, and found more than we expected.

Oh, the wide, wide plains, rolling hills and rugged country were still there, and cattle and sheep still shared the grazing lands, but a new vista of oil, coal, sulphur and numerous other mineral wealth has been tapped in this big state.

Main purpose of our visit was two-fold, to see the new Dave Johnston steam generating plant at Glenrock, just a short distance from Casper, and to attend the dedication of a new 230,000 kilowatt substation just out of Rock Springs, Wyo.

After an air jaunt from Portland to Denver that crossed portions of Wyoming, a group of representatives from newspapers as widespread as New York and San Francisco, television and radio and public officials, gathered at Denver for the Wyoming tour.

From this Colorado city which is rising straight up with huge towering structures where only a few short years ago buildings did not exceed six or seven stories, the group left by air for Casper and the first stop of our tour.

At Casper, we disassembled into automobiles for the trip to the Dave Johnston steam gener-

ating plant about 30 miles East. The man for whom the plant was named, Dave Johnston, was our driver, and took intense pride in telling us about his state of Wyoming.

He came to Wyoming in the early 20s and has been associated with the power industry in that state ever since. He is to Wyoming's power industry what John Boyle has been to the Copco coal, sulphur and numerous other division development in this area.

As we rolled down the highway toward Glenrock the story of the steam plant unfolded.

Our route took us through the "Big Muddy" oil field areas and oil pumps were busy along both sides of the highway. Oil is being pumped from two levels, about 2,600 feet and over 5,000 feet in this one field.

Oil storage tank farms abounded in the area.

Our short trip took us along a portion of the old Overland Trail that pioneers took on their way West. At one point, a lonely grave stands like a sentinel reminder just off to the right of the highway, carefully protected by a small fence. Here lies one of the pioneers who did not complete the trek West.

We rolled through Glenrock. A big oil refinery structure is visible, empty, going to ruin. It developed that a new method of cracking the crude oil made this plant obsolete. When it died, the

town of Glenrock almost succumbed, also.

It was at this point that Pacific Power and Light Company stepped into the breach and began explorations which led to the construction of the Dave Johnston steam generating plant at a bend in the North Platte River.

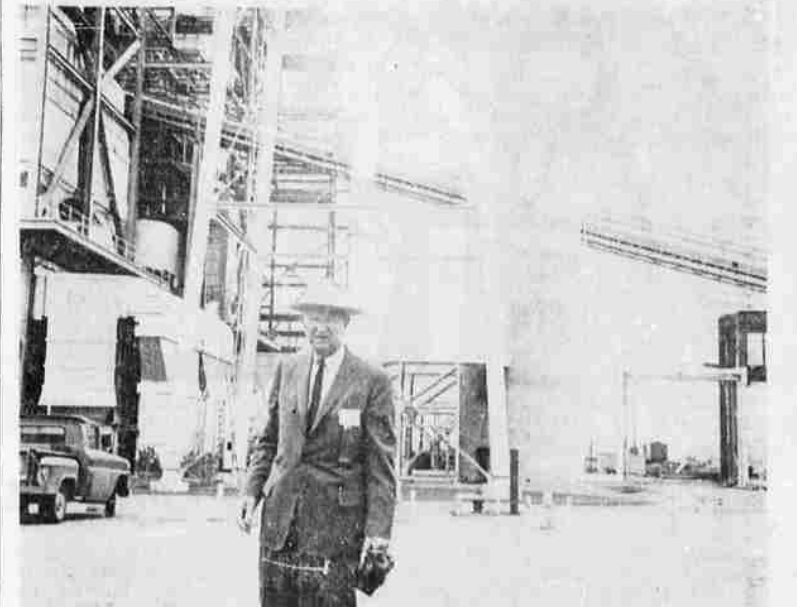
Huge coal deposits had been

reported about 15 miles south of the prospective plant site, and this, with the water, made the site ideal for steam generation of power.

The first 100,000 kilowatt unit began to assemble in 1956, and in 1958 it was dedicated. Simultaneous with the dedication came the announcement that another unit would be built adding an-

other 100,000 kilowatts of power. This second unit went into service in 1960. Electric power in quantity was now available for the first time in Wyoming and industry began to see the possibilities of the state. As the industrial load climbed, plans

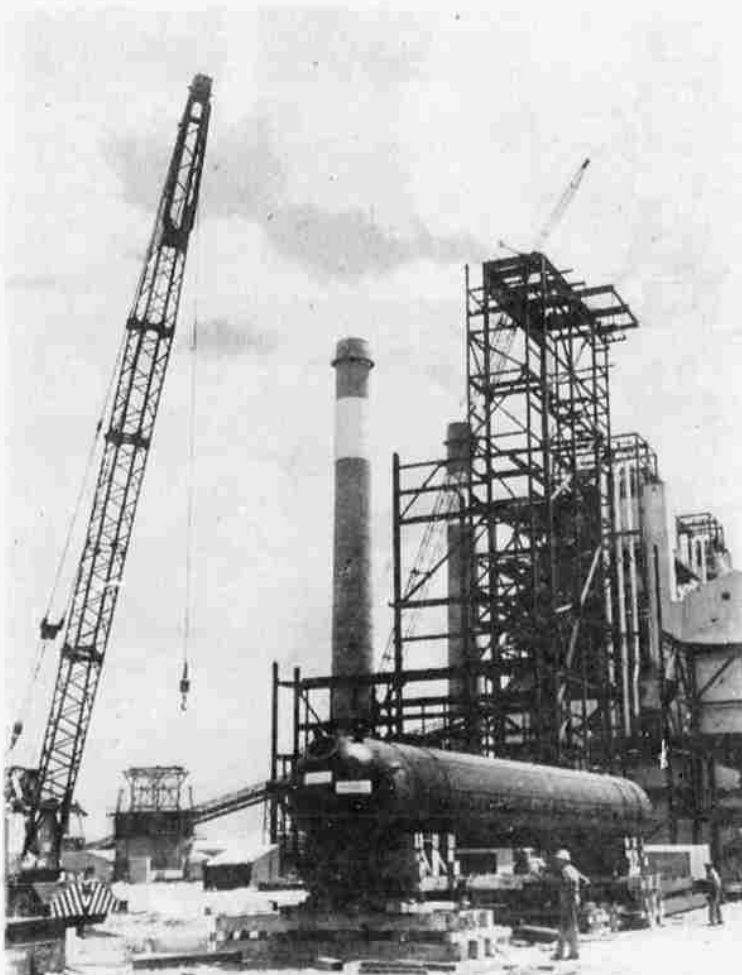
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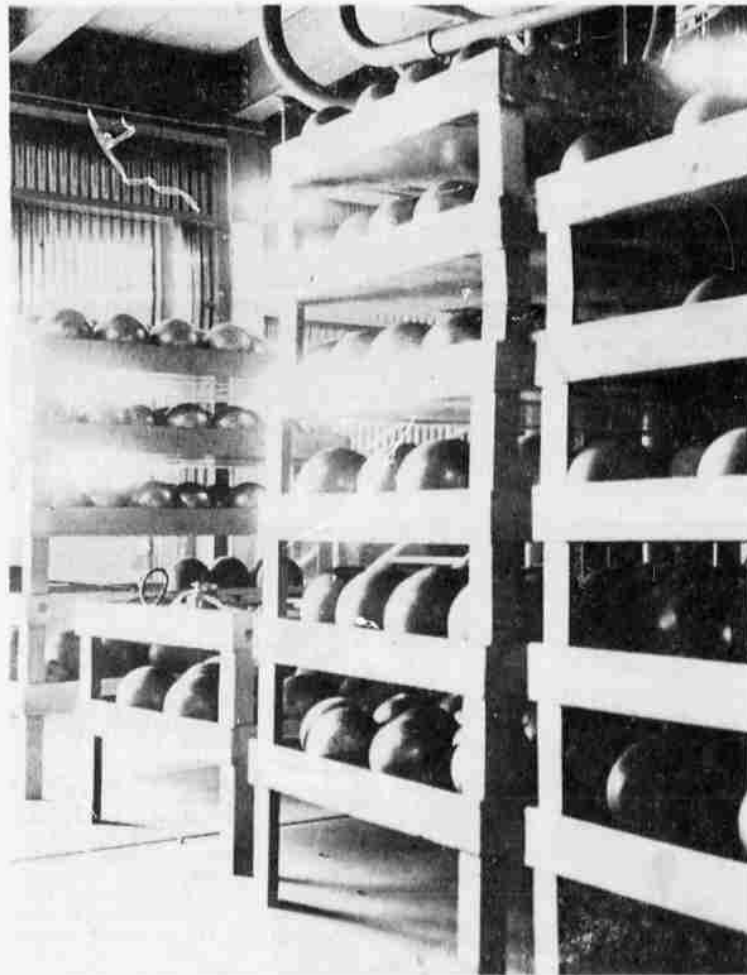
DAVE JOHNSTON — The huge steam generating plant of the Pacific Power and Light Company carries the name of a man who has long been associated with the power industry of Wyoming. With all the vision of Wyoming etched in his features, Johnston views the plant with understandable pride. It represents a new step in full and resourceful development of his beloved state of Wyoming. He is shown here just outside the plant.

Features

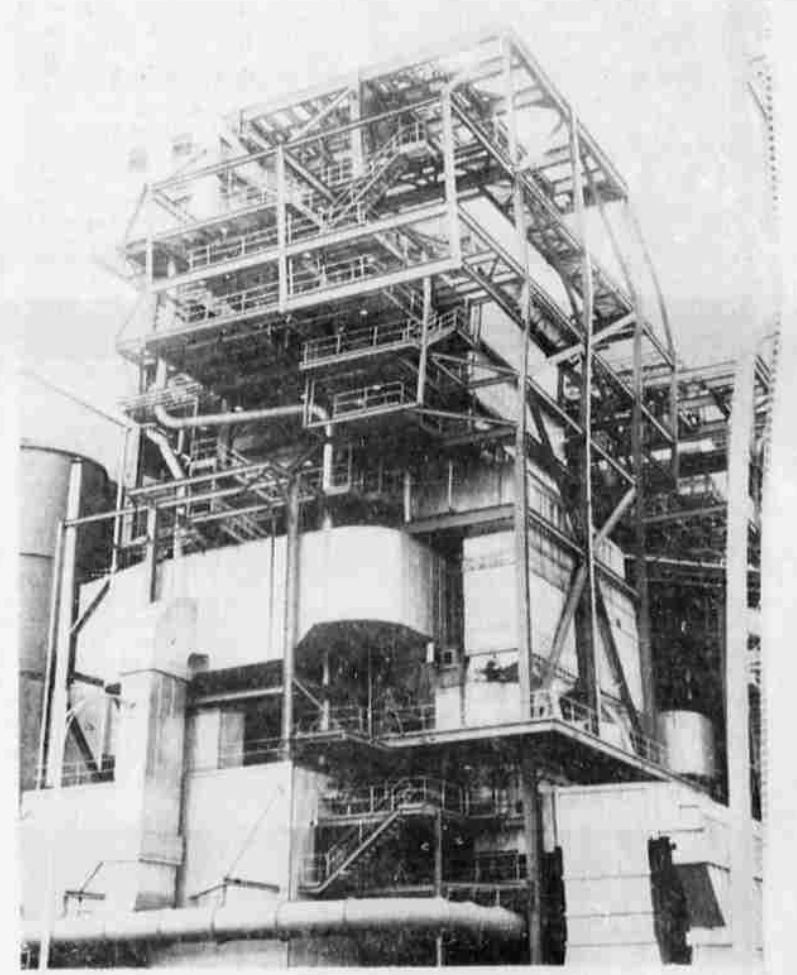
KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, SUNDAY, JUNE 30, 1963



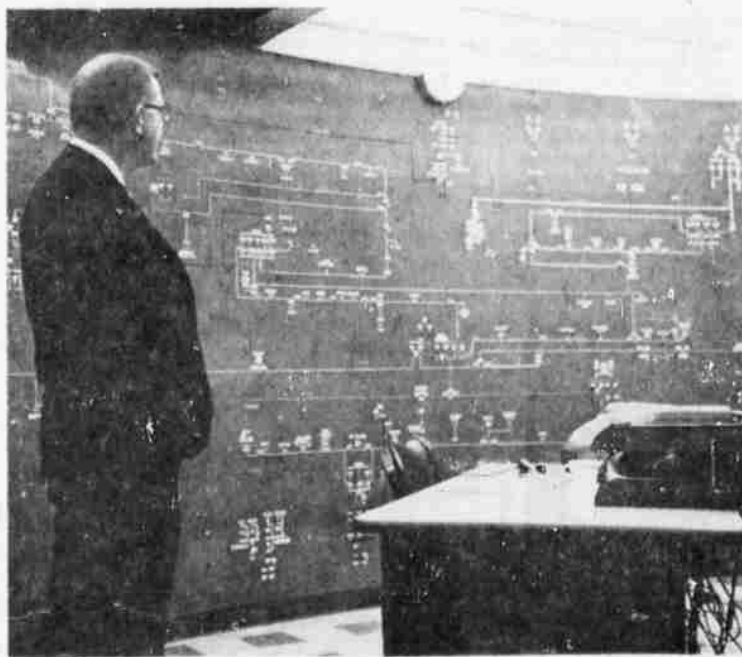
A BIG HOIST — The steam condensing unit, shown here on the ground alongside the skeleton structure at the Dave Johnston plant, will be hoisted into place at the very top of the steel structure. It weighs in excess of 36 tons and will take delicate handling to maneuver and weld it into place atop the 18-story high structure.



COAL CRUSHERS — These huge steel balls, shown clustered in rows like bowling balls, do the job of crushing chunks of coal into fine powder, even finer than talcum powder, for use in the boilers of the steam generating plant. They weigh about 400 pounds at first and are gradually worn down and eventually discarded.



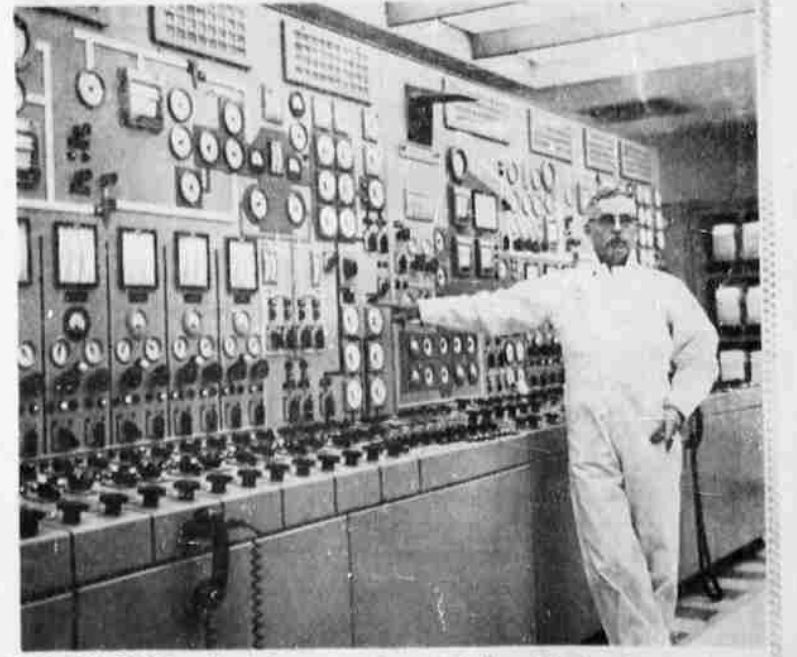
POWER SKELETON — A new structure rises alongside the double-unit coal-powered steam generator on the plains of Wyoming. Eighteen stories high, this skeleton will house the third unit of the Dave Johnston steam generating plant of the Pacific Power and Light Company. At present each of the plant's two units generate 100,000 kilowatts. The new addition doubles this capacity.



EXPLAINS CIRCUITS — David Crabtree, chief dispatcher for Wyoming, explains the various circuits which are outlined on the huge map that covers one wall. He explained to the group how power is metered and fed from this generating point to others throughout Wyoming. A dispatcher is also kept in constant touch with all phases of the operation throughout a refined communications system.



COAL FOR THE FURNACES — Almost 3,000 tons of coal daily pour through the boilers of the Dave Johnston steam generating plant just outside Glenrock, Wyo. In background can be seen one of the coal trucks being loaded. Each truck carries about 70 tons. The coal is conveyed through a long crusher assembly and reaches the burners in powder form. The coal comes from strip coal mines located south of the plant site and indications are that the supply will last at least 100 years.



EXPLAINS DIALS — Frank Bauman, engineer at the Dave Johnston steam generating plant, explains some of the countless gauges and dials that must be monitored at all times. Closed circuit television is used in a number of places. By this means, the water level in the boilers is constantly visible. Another television circuit is used to monitor those who gain entrance to the yards of the plant.