

**General Report** No. 1786.

**Individual Report** No. 13.

**Risk** No. 24.

**Risk:** Power House and Storage and Storage Battery House.

**Class:** DD.

**Location:** Central Ave. and W. Mound St., Columbus, Ohio.

**Owner and Occupant:** The Columbus Railway & Light Co.

**Date:** May, 1909.

**See Map** No. 4.

#### SUMMARY.

A 1 high story, frame power house with a small 1 story brick storage house adjoining and communicating and a 1 story frame storage battery house located 10 feet South. The risk is used both as a generating station and a sub-station furnishing current to that trackage formerly owned and operated as The Columbus Traction Co. but now in the hands of The Columbus Railway & Light Co. These properties are outside the public fire limits and have no private protection except hand chemical extinguishers distributed.

#### PROMINENTLY DESIRABLE FEATURES.

Hazards are fairly well guarded, men are on duty at all times, and the risk has a good equipment of hand chemical extinguishers.

#### PROMINENTLY UNDESIRABLE FEATURES.

Buildings are of frame construction and floors are part wooden and oil soaked, area is large, all sections communicate or seriously expose, and risk has no public and insufficient private fire protection.

#### CONSTRUCTION.

**Power House & Storage:** A 1 story frame power house 18 feet to the eaves and a 1 story brick storage house of the same height adjoining and communicating, the power house being built on a hill side the engine room being higher than the boiler room. **Area** is 10,500 square feet. **Roof** is tarred paper covered on light wooden sheathing and wooden rafters and posts. **Floor** in the boiler room is of earth and in the engine room and storage house of plank on joists and considerably oil soaked. There is a frame partition between the engine room and the boiler room and a pipe basement under the engine room.

**Storage Battery House:** A 1 story frame building 10 feet to the eaves. **Roof** is composition tarred paper covered on wooden sheathing with wooden rafters and posts supporting. **Floor** is of earth.

#### EXPOSURES.

There are no outside exposures but the storage battery house and the power house are but 10 feet apart.

#### OCCUPANCY.

The Power House is occupied as an electric generating station and as a sub-station for storage battery charger. The storage house adjoining is at present occupied by The Ohio Electric Railway for the storage of line supplies, tools, etc. The storage battery house is occupied as a storage battery room only with 290 cells of The Electric Storage Battery Co's. storage battery. The power house machinery consists of; one 500 H. P. B. & W. boiler and five smaller boilers none being in use, a 250 K. W. 550 volt D. C. General Electric generator belted to a 350

H. P. simple Corliss engine, two 325 K. W. 600 volt D. C. General Electric generators, direct connected to cross compound engines, a 50 K. W. motor generator for battery charging, an 8 panel marble switchboard with its attendant instruments and equipment, one Blake duplex pump, 7 1-2 by 4 1-2 by 10, and two Wineman Machine Works single pumps 12 by 7 by 12.

#### HAZARDS.

**Heating** is by steam or incidental. **Lighting** is electric with all wiring, except one circuit in boiler room, in good condition. Only one boiler is in use, it having metal stack through roof with collar and rain shield in proper condition. Ashes are wheeled outside in metal barrows. **Power wiring** is fairly well installed and switchboard is of marble with angle iron frame but sets down to wooden floor and has resistance frames set on wooden supports in the basement underneath. There are two **lightning arresters** installed on each overhead line one being at the switchboard and one on the pole outside. **Storage batteries** are well mounted and insulated with wiring and connections in good condition. **Oily waste** is kept well cleaned up but a wooden box was being used in which to keep a part of same, the other being kept in standard waste cans. **Oils** except that in the filtering system and several small cans is kept in an outside oil house not exposing the main risk.

#### ADMINISTRATION.

Generators are in operation from 5 A. M. to the following 1 A. M. Three men are employed only one being on duty between midnight and morning. Employes appear careful and the premises were found to be in good condition. Insurance is written under a separate general form covering on all the property of The Columbus Traction Co.

#### PROTECTION.

There is no public protection and the private protection consists of 14 hand chemical fire extinguishers distributed.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. Provide vertical pipe and hose system covering all parts of the risks, with supply from gravity tank or from city water works system.
2. Discontinue the use of unapproved waste receptacles.
3. Make proper correction to the electric light wiring in the boiler room and properly mount machine resistances.

# THE COLUMBUS RAILWAY AND LIGHT CO.

OHIO INSPECTION BUREAU  
T. B. SELLERS MANAGER  
COLUMBUS, OHIO  
MARCH 1909  
Scale 1"=50' H. R. N.

CENTRAL AVE. POWER HO.  
INDIVIDUAL REPORT NO. 13

