

The Nebraska Lighting Company

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PLATTSMOUTH

THE plant of the above Company was purchased in January, 1913, by Messrs. Abbott and Eaton, acting as agents of the Continental Gas and Electric Corporation of Cleveland, Ohio.

From the time the Plattsmouth Company was turned over to its present owner in April, 1913, a system of comprehensive and radical improvements has been inaugurated and actively prosecuted. The Continental Corporation is also owner of the York Gas and Electric Company, at York, Nebraska, and a number of other electric properties in Western Iowa. Among this number may be mentioned Red Oak, Shenandoah, Malvern, Villisca and some smaller towns in the same vicinity. The parent company's plan contemplates a connection of all these companies by transmission lines, so that any one of the various power houses will be available during a period of necessity for use on the line for all the different plants. At the present time the Company has something over 100 miles of transmission lines diverging from its Red Oak plant.

The Company has expected, and still hopes to further develop its business in Nebraska, covering all available territory west of here, and to build an additional power plant at Plattsmouth. The building of the power plant has been postponed temporarily on account of an attempted invasion of this territory by a foreign lighting company, which is asking for a Plattsmouth franchise. The electric business of this community will not justify the operation of two plants owned by different companies. The business men of this city have had a demonstration of this statement in the operation of two telephone systems here. Neither company offered effective service until their consolidation was made about two years since.

It is the wish of the Continental Gas and Electric Corporation to give Plattsmouth just as good Electric and Gas service as any town of any size has, but if other corporations are allowed franchises here for exploitation purposes the city will be the sufferer as may be readily seen by even the most superficial observer. One company can maintain an adequate plant and give all classes of consumers what they want, and at a proper rate, while two companies will fill the field in a manner unsatisfactory to all.

It is not difficult to see that the object of the McKinley company is to sand-bag some one sufficiently to compel the payment of a tribute to the Traction Czar of Champaign, Illinois.