



International Archives Week Challenge

ELECTRICITY

2023

ELECTRICITY

Archives energy

For the fourth year in a row, at the initiative of the Historical Archives of Celje (Slovenia) and the Town Archives of Ieper (Belgium), archives from different countries of the European Union are joining forces within the framework of the International Archives Week Challenge project. With a simple but effective project, one archive from each country of the European Union responds to the invitation within a very short time frame, presenting the story around the document it keeps. Every year we choose a different theme. However, we always want the topic to be very challenging, actual and attractive. In the light of the current situation, when the problem of energy supply often comes to the fore today, we distinguished ourselves this time by choosing electricity as the topic. Each of the archives decided what to present. The selected and presented pieces of archive material represent an extraordinary wealth and diversity, but also the relatedness and uniqueness of the material. The admirable documents, both in terms of appearance and content, reveal mainly topics related to the supply and use of electricity, they highlight local peculiarities and global similarities, they also introduce us to some personalities and the importance that electricity had in the process of civilizational changes for man and society.

The reason for the cooperation to issue a special electronic and printed publication is the celebration of the International Archives Week, which is promoted by the International Council of Archives as the central organization that connects archives all over the world. The marking and highlighting of the importance of

the archive service is centered around June 9 every year, which all archives have been celebrating as the founding day of the mentioned international organization since 2008, and the International Archives Week has been celebrated for the past five years. We hope that this special brochure will further strengthen international cooperation between archives, and as a result draw attention to the vital and invaluable role that archives play in society. Many thanks to all participants for a very efficient cooperation! The energy we create through cooperation is a reflection of great solidarity, but above all friendship and alliance within our archival profession.

Abbreviations

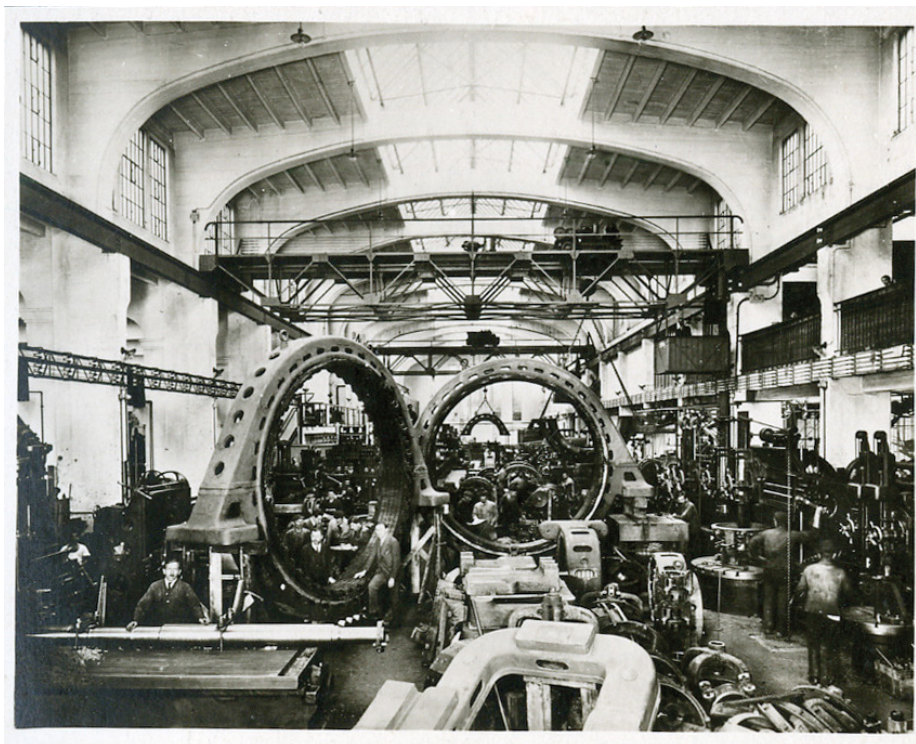
A/ ARCHIVE
R/ REFERENCE
T/ TITLE
D/ DESCRIPTOR

International Archives Week Challenge 2023

- 01 AUSTRIA
- 02 BELGIUM
- 03 BULGARIA
- 04 CROATIA
- 05 CZECH REPUBLIC
- 06 DENMARK
- 07 ESTONIA
- 08 FRANCE
- 09 GREECE
- 10 HUNGARY
- 11 ITALY
- 12 LATVIA
- 13 MALTA
- 14 THE NETHERLANDS
- 15 POLAND
- 16 SLOVENIA
- 17 SWEDEN


- A/ Steiermärkisches Landesarchiv / Styrian Provincial Archives, Graz www.landesarhiv.steiermark.at
- R/ AT-StLA-AKS-Weiz-Verschiedenes-151-02
- T/ „ELIN - Aktiengesellschaft für elektrische Industrie“, interior view of assembly hall II in Weiz, 1928.
- D/ People with pioneering spirit and entrepreneurial vision who set out to build power plants, transmission networks and also production facilities for electrical machines marked the early days of electrification in Styria. One such early pioneer in Styria was engineer and inventor Franz Pichler (1866-1919). Pichler studied at the Technical University of Graz and started a company in Weiz, which later became part of „ELIN - Aktiengesellschaft für elektrische Industrie“. Towards the

end of the 19th century, heavy-current electrical engineering underwent enormous development, particularly more powerful plants and transmission technologies. During this process, these electrical companies acted as not only manufacturers and builders of power plants, but simultaneously as financiers and entrepreneurs. This usually involved large financial burdens for said companies. From 1909 to 1911, Franz Pichler built a hydroelectric power plant on the Raab. This plant primarily supplied the factory in Weiz, achieving an output of 1 MW. The supply of a regional high voltage grid was thus secured inside the initial development phase, whose further development in northeast Styria may be similarly linked to this energetic individual.



02 BELGIUM

Philips



une lampe pour chaque usage

:- Applications Générales d'Électricité :-
Lumière - Sonneries - Téléphones - T. S. F. - Force Motrice

EMILE HEEKHOUT

YPRES, le
75, Chaussée de Menin

Madame la Bouyonnelle.

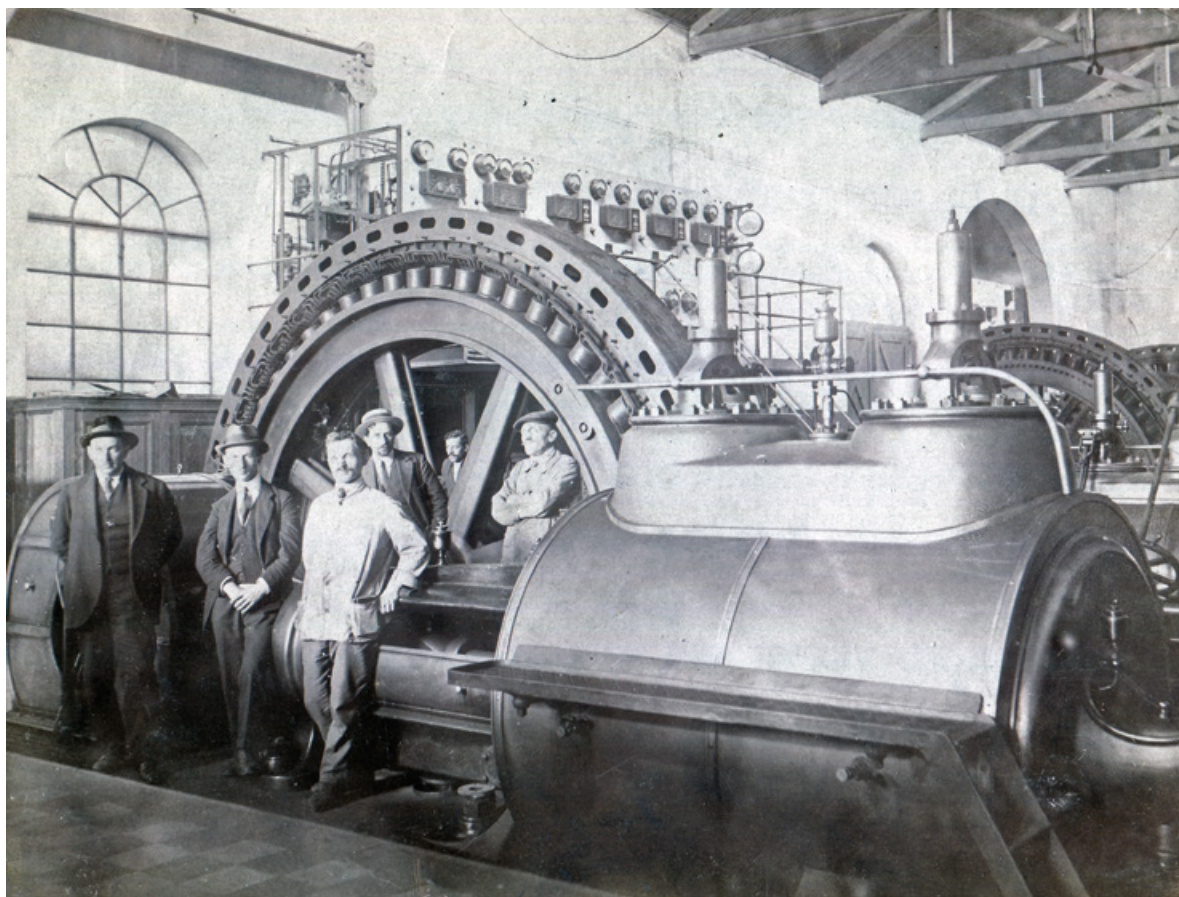
*Quand j'avais à peine huit ans, j'étais encore petit comme ça, mais
lorsque j'avais vingt ans, j'étais déjà beaucoup plus grand que ça (quelle).
Un jour la maîtresse de mon village me fit appeler pour prendre son pot et
c'est comme ça, moi c'est prendre juste le n° 34, quel malheur trois mois après
la maîtresse de mon village me fit appeler pour aller passer le conseil de révision
la major se dit à moi "garçon, il faut vous déshabiller tout suite, moi aller
tout ignu devant monsieur le docteur, et dit le docteur se dit à moi, vous garçon
c'est bon pour un sapeur, trois mois après c'est moi aller au régiment, et voir la
la caporal qui me donne la, une partabon qui est une crapote, et une partabon
Un jour je devais monter la garde, devant la maison de madame la bouyonnelle,
et il faisait bien froid ce jour là, et moi j'ai fait dire madame la bouyonnelle
avait une belle servante, qui s'appelait Lionie, et madame la bouyonnelle, qui se
se dit à Lionie, Lionie rapportez une grande tasse de bouillon à la sapeur
parcequ'il fait bien froid, et Lionie c'est portez comme ça une grande tasse
de bouillon à moi, et moi c'est dire à Lionie, portez donc, Lionie se vous apportez
encore une grande tasse de bouillon à moi, c'est moi faire un peu avant toi,
mais portez donc madame la bouyonnelle était à son fenêtre, et avait tout
entendu, et quand Lionie c'est entrée, et moi la bouyonnelle a demandé à Lionie,
et bien Lionie qu'est-ce que la sapeur se dit à toi, à moi madame, la sapeur
c'est rien du tout dit, si - si - si Lionie parcequ'il c'est moi tout entendu,
et bien oui madame la bouyonnelle, la sapeur c'est dire à moi, quand moi
apporterez encore une grande tasse de bouillon à lui, c'est lui faire un peu
avec moi, ah... ah... ah... Lionie dite une fois à la sapeur qu'il monte tout
suite, et Lionie c'est venir tout près de moi, vous voyez sapeur, avec tout
vos blâges, et il faut aller tout de suite, chez madame la bouyonnelle,
parcequ'elle a tout entendu, j'avais pas le pot, moi c'est aller chez
madame la bouyonnelle, et madame ma demandé et bien sapeur qu'est-ce que
vous dire à Lionie, moi madame la bouyonnelle, c'est moi rien du tout dit,
si - si - si sapeur parcequ'il Lionie c'est tout dit à moi, et bien
madame moi c'est dire à Lionie, quand elle portera encore une grande
tasse de bouillon à moi, c'est moi faire - faire - faire - faire ypres;*

Pour un meilleur éclairage : la Lampe Philips

- A/** Stadsarchief Ieper / Town Archives of Ypres
www.archief.iever.be
- R/** SAI, CIO_1547
- T/** Anonymous poem written down on stationery of electrician Emile Heekhout, approx. 1925-1930.
- D/** Anonymous spicy poem in French with a few words in the West Flemish dialect. The poem was written down on writing paper belonging to the Brussels electrician Henri Emile Heekhout (1878-1961) who settled on the Meenseweg in Ypres around 1905. Heekhout used Philips original letterhead (model 86 F) on which his own details were subsequently printed. The type of lamp shown came on the market around 1925.

- A/** Централен държавен архив / Central State Archives, Sofia
www.archives.government.bg
- R/** CSA, fonds 1393K, inventory list 1, unit 723, sheet 1
- T/** The engine room of the steam power plant at the "Maria Luisa" tram depot in Sofia, 1912.
- D/** On July 1, 1879, on the occasion of the ascension of Knyaz Alexander I to the Bulgarian throne, the first light bulb was lit in Sofia in the Princely Palace, with the help of an electrical installation delivered from Vienna. In the period 1890 - 1896, studies were carried out for the construction of electric lighting and an electric tram in Sofia. In 1897, a tender was announced for the granting

of a concession for the supply of the Bulgarian capital with electric current and the construction of an electric tram, which in 1898 was taken over by "Electric Trams in Sofia - a Belgian Anonymous Company" and the "Great Marseille Enterprises" Company - for the electric lighting of Sofia. In 1900, the first tram depot "Maria Luisa" was built, also serving as a workshop for the repair and maintenance of trams. In 1902, the Belgian concessionaire responsible for the trams built a steam power plant at the tram depot, where the first steam turbine in Bulgaria was put into operation in 1912. The Maria Luisa Steam Power Plant existed until 1928.



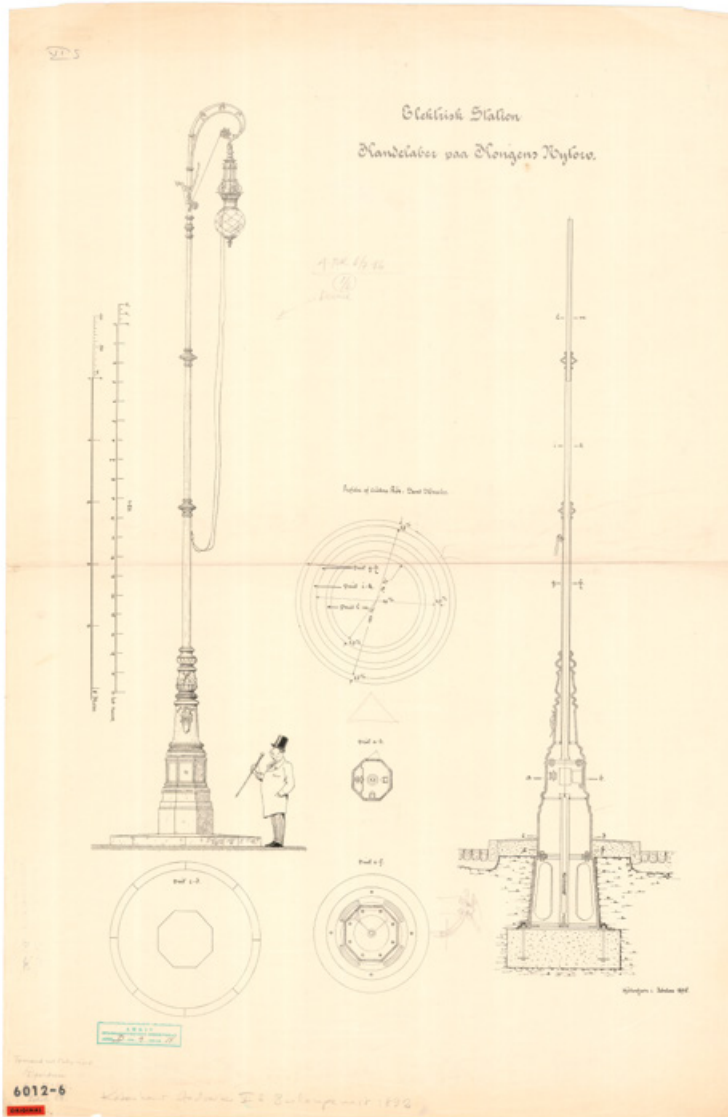


- A/** Državni arhiv u Rijeci / State Archives in Rijeka
<https://www.riarhiv.hr/>
- R/** HR-DARI-57, Technical offices of the city of Rijeka, box n. 121, item n. 124/6/1884.
- T/** Plan of the engine room building in the port of Rijeka, where the first electric power plant in Rijeka was located, 1884
- D/** Electricity was first mentioned in Rijeka in 1838 when, for the needs of the City hospital of St. Spirit, was acquired an electric machine (macchina elettrica) for the purpose of medical treatment. In 1881, the first experiments with electricity began in the port of Rijeka. Engineer Károly Zipernowsky from the Ganz factory in Budapest, the inventor of the transformer, illuminated Zichy pier (today De Franceschi pier) and warehouses with four lamps. The following year, the Whitehead torpedo factory also received electric lighting. In 1883, the Maritime administration acquired a locomotive with an electric generator. It was placed on one wagon and could be moved along the railway tracks. In the same year, the Patriot casino (today Radio Rijeka) was illuminated. The new Municipal theatre, built in 1885, also got electric lighting. Due to the expansion of the port of Rijeka, the construction of new warehouses and other port facilities, cargo cranes and for various activities in the port, there was a need to build the first electric power station in Rijeka. The Maritime administration accepted the offer of the International electric association from Vienna for the construction of the power station. It was installed in the engine room building in the port of Rijeka, on Rudolph pier (today Orlando pier) and started operating in 1890. It had a 22 KW generator and a 40 horsepower steam engine.



- A/** Státní oblastní archiv v Plzni, Státní okresní archiv Cheb / State Regional Archive in Plzeň, State District Archive in Cheb
www.soaplzen.cz/soka-ch
- R/** Archive fund Sturm Heribert, Dr. (EL NAD 5), negative photo sign. 82/4, fsd 880.
- T/** A man with a head cooling device undergoing electrotherapy in the spa Františkovy Lázně. Around 1910.
- D/** The negatives collection of Heribert Sturm, the director of the Cheb archive in 1934-1946, contains

a set of photographic glass plates that document the spa treatment in Františkovy Lázně around 1910. The spa Františkovy Lázně was founded in 1793, thanks to a doctor from Cheb Bernhard Adler and with the support of the emperor Francis II., in a locality about 6 kilometres from Cheb rich on mineral springs and peat deposits. The Sturm's negatives document the spa procedures from a period of rapid technical and economical development of the local spa industry at the beginning of the 20th century.

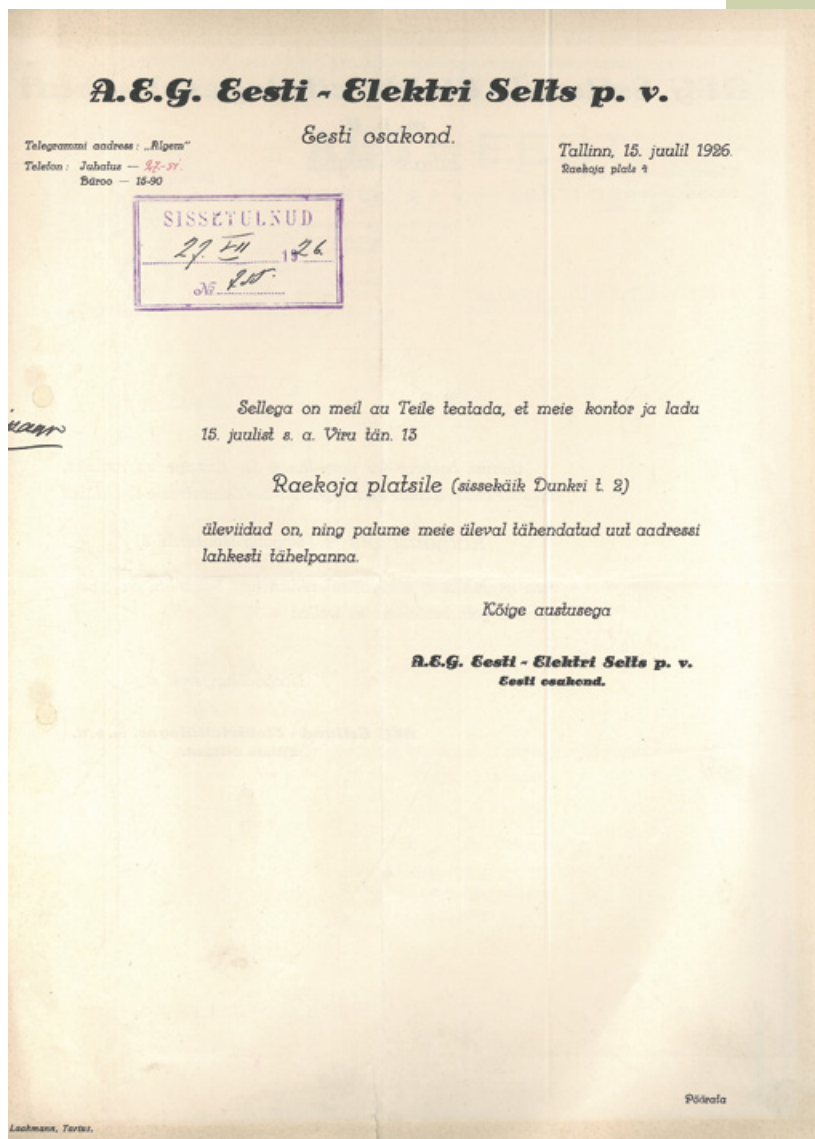


- A/** Københavns Stadsarkiv / Copenhagen City Archives
www.kbharkiv.dk
- R/** VI S 1895 /3
- T/** Elektrisk station. Kandelaber på Kongens Nytorv. 1895
- D/** In May 1892 on occasion of the golden wedding anniversary of King Christian IX and Queen Louise Copenhagen's first electric streetlamp was lit on the central square of Kongens Nytorv. The city's first electric station was placed in the street of Gothersgade near Kongens Nytorv and provided electricity for the neighborhood around Kongens Nytorv. The architectural drawing from the city's chief architect's office depicts the design of the streetlamps on Kongens Nytorv. Notice the scale ratio between the gentleman looking up and the light bulb. A common conception among Copenhageners was initially that the light was so bright that it frightened people. A Danish engineering newspaper wrote the day after the first lights were lit in 1892: "For many pedestrians, the experience was such a complete shock that it made them cry." Electric streetlighting was a new experience, challenging the nerves and senses of people.



ESTONIA 07

- A/ Tallinna Linnaarhiiv / Tallinn City Archives
www.tallinn.ee/et/arhiivindus
- R/ TLA.116.1.176; TLA.1565.1.279
- T/ AEG or "Allgemeine Electricitäts-Gesellschaft" moves to the house in Tallinn in which Thomas Seebeck, the discoverer of thermoelectricity, was born, 1926
- D/ On March 1, 1921, the Estonian department of AEG started operating in Estonia. Since 1926, AEG Estonia's office and electrical goods shop were located in Tallinn at the address Raekoja plats 4 / Dunkri 2 (Town hall place 4 - entry through Dunkerstreet 2). The Estonian department of AEG operated in the country until the resettlement of the Baltic Germans in Estonia to Germany at the end of 1939. In this house the Baltic German physicist Thomas Johann Seebeck (1770-1831) was born on March 29, 1770. He owned the house from 1819 to 1827. Seebeck has gone down in history of science primarily as the discoverer of the most primary thermoelectric phenomena, the so called Seebeck effect.





A/ Archives de la Communauté d'agglomération du Pays de Saint-Omer / Archives of the Saint-Omer agglomeration

www.bibliotheque-agglo-stomer.fr

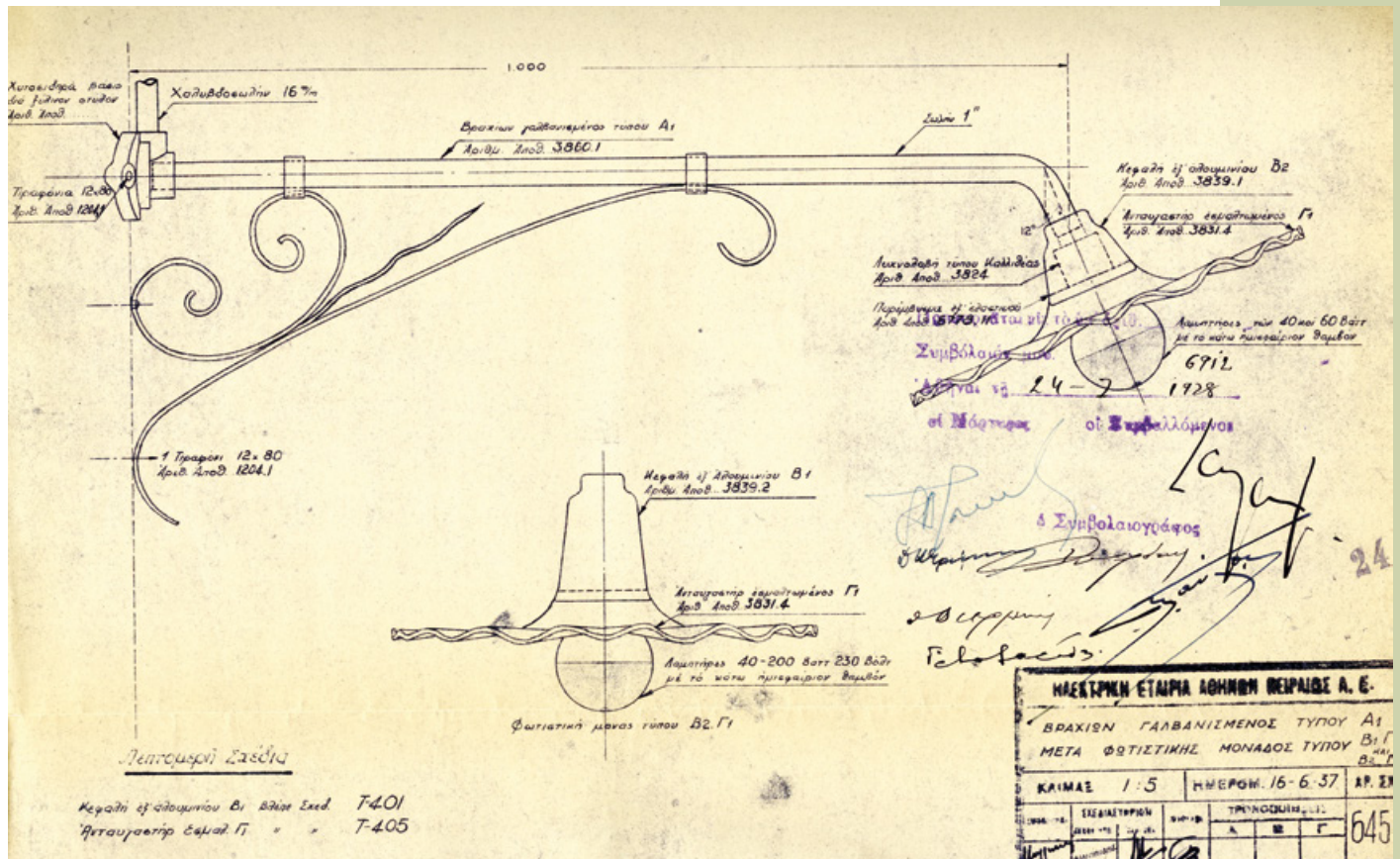
R/ Fonds Picquet, 42Fi 361.

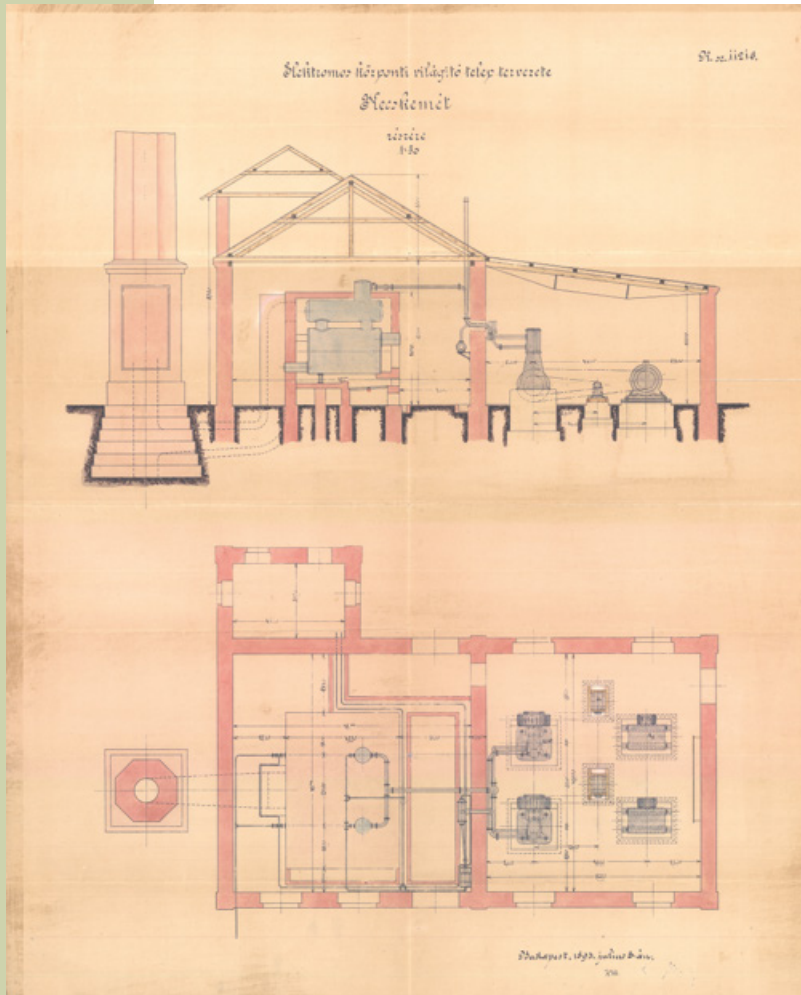
T/ Albert Picquet (1873-1948) is electrical manufacturer around 1898-1899, owner of an electrical factory in Lumbres, a city on the banks of the Aa river, and of an electrical shop in Saint-Omer, 29 Victor-Hugo place, which moved 15

rue Carnot in 1905. It's this last address you can see on the photograph, where he not only sales electricity supplies, but also articles of armoury and photography. In the display window you can see a set of lights among other things. On the window of the front door, one can see an advertisement for Mazda, a French company of lighting systems. After Picquet's death in 1948, the store is handled by his wife until her death in 1953.

- A/** Γενικά Αρχεία του Κράτους / General State Archives of Greece. Central Service, Athens www.gak.gr
- R/** Archive of Athens' public notary George Dimitrios Theodoropoulos, no. of contract 6.912/1938
- T/** Detailed plan of lighting unit with bracket, 16 June 1937

- D/** The photograph portrays a detailed plan (in scale 1:5) of a lighting unit with a bracket of galvanized type A1, which intended to be applied in the town of Elefsina. The plan accompanies the contract between the Athens-Piraeus Electric Company S.A. and vicinity of Elefsina, drawn up by Athens' public notary George Dimitrios Theodoropoulos (no. of contract 6.912/1938) and kept in the Central Service of the General State Archives of Greece.





A/ Magyar Nemzeti Levéltár Bács-Kiskun Vármegyei Levéltára / The Hungarian National Archives Bács-Kiskun County Archives, Kecskemét

www.mnl.gov.hu/bkml

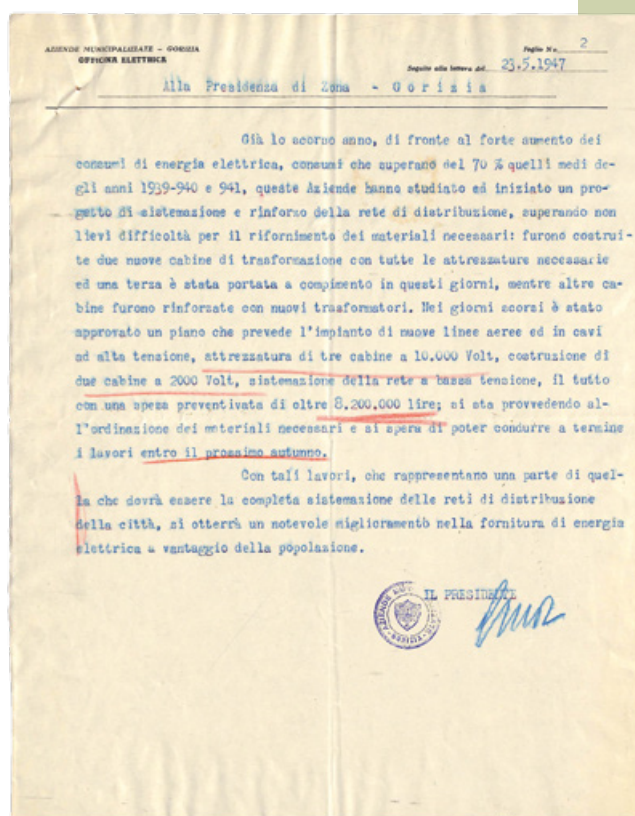
R/ HU-MNL-BKML-XV.15.a. 556.3.

T/ Plan of the power plant, Kecskemét, 1893

D/ In Kecskemét, in December 1892 the board of directors of the József Steam Mill initiated the lighting of the city's streets and public places, which had been lit by kerosene lamps thus far, with electricity. The city management quickly accepted the idea of using this new source of energy: under the direction of the chief urban engineer it assessed the experiences of cities which had already used electricity and it contacted the electric companies in Budapest and Vienna for the installation of a new power plant. Finally, the company named "Ganz és társa Rt.", that made the most favourable bid for the construction and was one of the largest mechanical and electrical enterprises of the era, built the power plant in the southern part of the city by February 1897. Since March 1897 the power plant had been constantly providing evening electricity for the local population and enterprises. Due to increasing energy demands, the city expanded and modernized the power plant several times and from 1911 installed daytime electricity too.

- A/ Archivio di Stato di Gorizia / State Archive of Gorizia
www.archiviodistatogorizia.cultura.gov.it
- R/ Prefettura di Gorizia - Archivio di Gabinetto (1945-1986), box 118, file 275 (year 1947)
- T/ Letter sent by the President of the Municipal Companies to the President of the Gorizia Area (Allied Military Government 1945-1947) about "limitations on electricity supply", 1947
- D/ The population, at that time deprived of gas due to the postwar restrictions, uses electric burners and therefore the consumption of electricity, especially in the hours from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., has

greatly increased and the distribution systems are not able to support the loads. It is necessary to disconnect the network of some roads to lighten the power supply system. "It is known that this measure is extremely serious for the users who are affected by it, but in the current conditions it is not possible to renounce it". However, the President of the Municipal Companies of Gorizia reassures: "the companies have studied and begun a project for the arrangement and reinforcement of the distribution network", building new transformer stations to strengthen the plants and the electricity power grid.



- A/** Latvijas Nacionālais arhīvs - Latvijas Valsts Kinofotofonodokumentu arhīvs / The National Archives of Latvia - Latvian State Archive of Audiovisual Documents, Riga
www.redzidzirdilatviju.lv
- R/** LNA_KFFDA_F1_11_161_A114
- T/** Foundation stone laying ceremony of Ķegums Hydroelectric Power Plant, 22 May 1937
- D/** Photographers trying to catch an image of the authoritarian leader of Latvia Kārlis Ulmanis and members of his government inspecting the building site of Ķegums Power Plant after the grand foundation stone laying ceremony on 22 May 1937. Ķegums Power Plant was the

first hydroelectric power plant built on Latvia's largest river Daugava. Construction of the plant was initiated in 1936 in an attempt to create a fundament to a unified national electrical power system, two years after veteran politician Kārlis Ulmanis took the power in a largely peaceful coup d'état. Ķegums Power Plant was switched on and integrated in the electrical grid on 15 October 1939 and remained the last grand undertaking of Ulmanis' regime. The plant was almost fully destroyed in WW2 but later restored and expanded during the Soviet occupation. Ķegums Power Plant remains a vital part of the electrical power system of Latvia to this day.

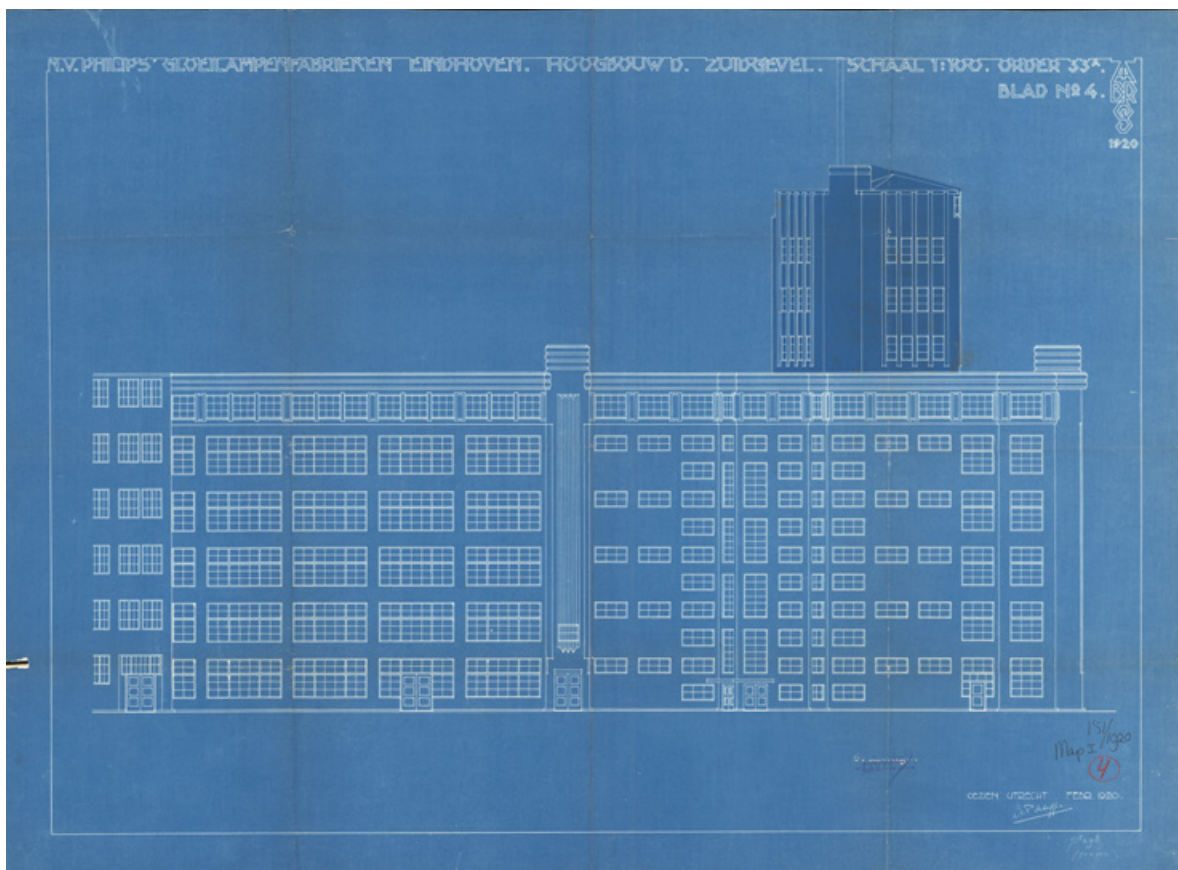


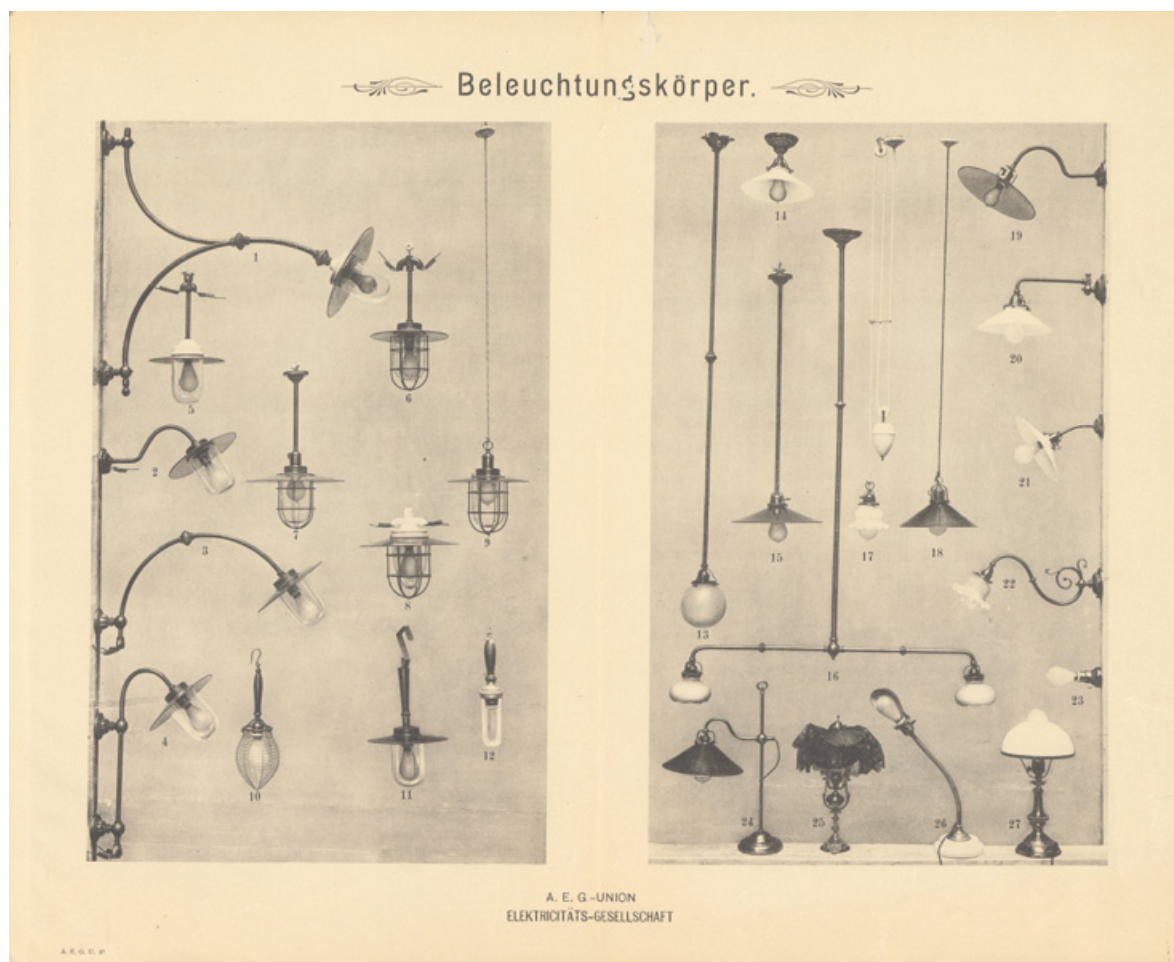


- A/** L-Arkivji Nazzjonali ta' Malta / National Archives of Malta, Rabat
www.nationalarchives.gov.mt
- R/** Prime Minister's Collection (Photos)
- T/** Inauguration of new power station. 5 December 1953
- D/** Maltese Prime Minister Giorgio Borg Olivier inaugurating the new power station at Marsa that replaced the one at Lascaris Wharf on 5 December 1953. This power station, wholly underground, was built with assistance from the Marshall Aid Scheme for the recovery of war-torn Europe. The installed capacity was 15 MW.

- A/** Regionaal Historisch Centrum Eindhoven / Regional Historic Center Eindhoven
www.rhc-eindhoven.nl/
- R/** Collectie bouwvergunningen Eindhoven, 1896-1935, nummer archiefinventaris 10090, inventarisnummer 5222
- T/** Fabriekscomplex de Lichttoren anno 1920 / Factory de Lichttoren anno 1920.
- D/** In 1892, Philips & Co. founded the first electric light bulb factory in Eindhoven. Soon, it became one of the largest and most important manufacturers of light bulbs. Thanks to its high-quality technical product and efficient commercial organization, Philips conquered markets all over the world.

The expansion brought about structural changes. The small workshop was no longer sufficient and grew into a factory complex with the iconic seven-sided white tower, known as "De Lichttoren" (The Light Tower). The towering factory with its enormous window surface was a remarkable addition to Eindhoven, giving the city a more urban appearance. The complex symbolizes the development of the large-scale industrial landscape of Eindhoven. From a cultural-historical perspective, the complex represents the expression of Philips' economic development and the development that the city has undergone.

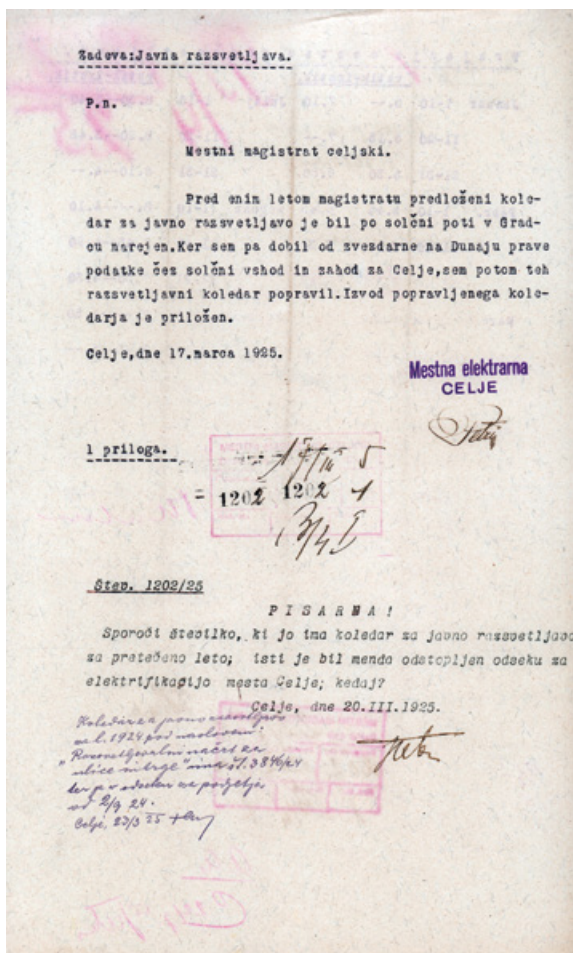




- A/** Archiwum Główne Akt Dawnych / The Central Archives of Historical Records, Warsaw
www.agad.gov.pl
- R/** Kartograficzny collection 456-45 / Zbiór. Kartograficzny 456-45
- T/** 1905, Oprawy oświetleniowe / Beleuchtungskörper / Lighting fixtures
- D/** Here are examples of electric lamps for interior lighting. In this folder of Cartographic collection there are only a few technical drawings of electric motors and DC generators from the years 1902 - 1905, presumably from some

advertising materials of the Viennese branch of the AEG-Union *Elektrizitäts-Gesellschaft* (UEG) company. UEG was a German subsidiary of the American Thomson-Houston Electric Company (founded 1882). On February 27, 1904 it was absorbed by the AEG, German producer of electrical equipment founded in Berlin as the *Deutsche Edison-Gesellschaft für angewandte Elektrizität* in 1883 by Emil Rathenau. The new company name in the caption indicates that this material was created after that date.

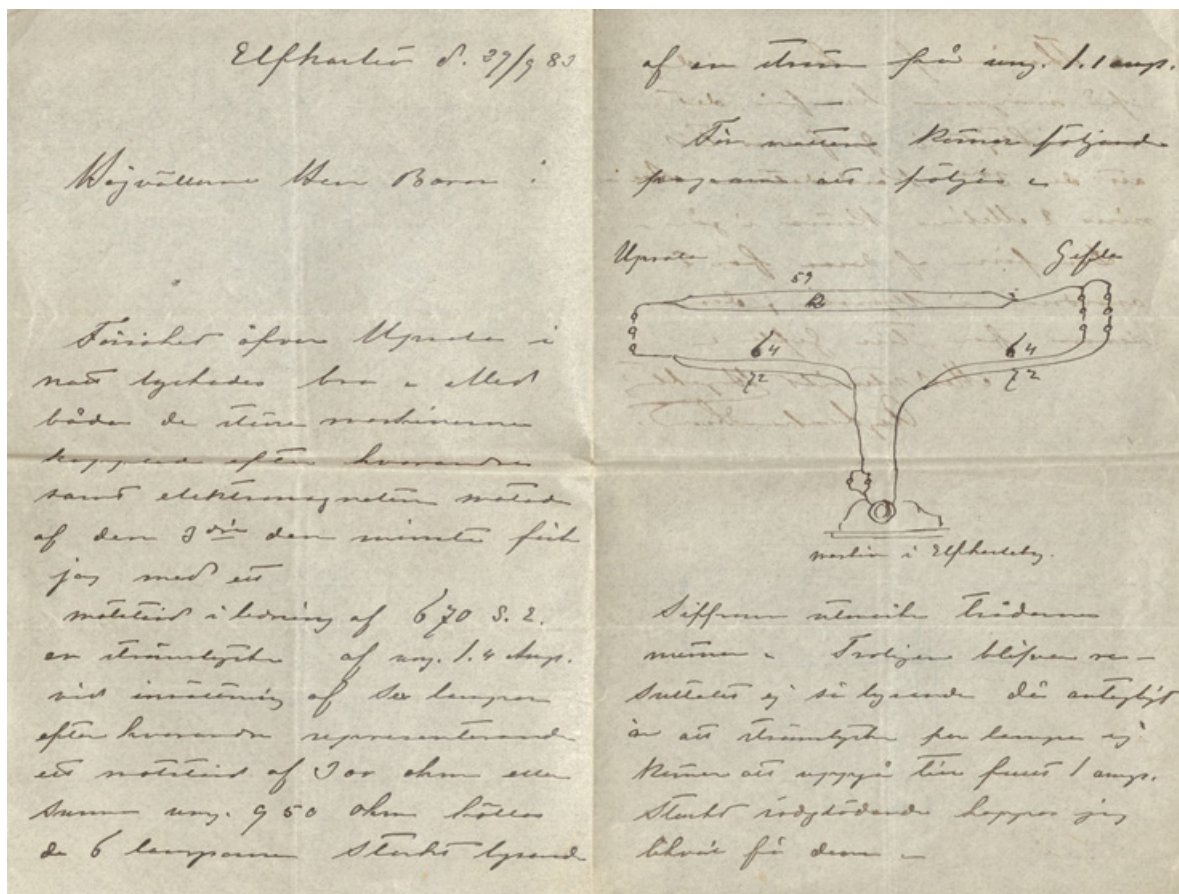
- A/ Zgodovinski arhiv Celje / Historical Archives Celje
www.zac.si
- R/ SI_LZAC/0024/002/008/00043 Mestna občina Celje / Municipality of Celje
- T/ Calendar for public lighting in Celje, 1925.
- D/ The municipal power plant of Celje, which was responsible for the distribution of electricity in Celje, sent a letter to the Celje magistrate, announcing that it had checked the correct data for sunrise and sunset in Celje with the Vienna observatory. On March 17, 1925, the city power plant sent a corrected calendar for public displacement to the city magistrate and corrected the previous version. The "Lighting Plan for Streets and Squares" from 1924 followed the sun path in Graz. The specific time of adjusting the switching on and off of the lighting was changed every 10 days, thus adapting to the season. The file was closed by the City Magistrate and signed by Mayor Juro Hrašovac on 21 July 1925.



Trajanje cestne razsvetljave.

		vstik-izstik.			vstik-izstik.	
Januar	1-10	5.--	7.10	Julij	1-10	8.30--8.40
	11-20	5.15	7.--		11-20	8.20--8.45
	21-31	5.30	6.50		21-31	8.10--4.--
Febr.	1-10	5.45	6.45	August	1-10	8.----4.10
	11-20	6.--	6.30		11-20	7.45--4.20
	21-28	6.15	6.10		21-31	7.30--4.30
Marc	1-10	6.30	6.--	Septemb.	1-10	7.----4.50
	11-20	6.40	5.40		11-20	6.45--5.--
	21-31	7.--	5.20		21-30	6.30--5.15
April	1-10	7.10	5.--	Oktober	1-10	6.10--5.30
	11-20	7.20	4.40		11-20	5.45--5.40
	21-30	7.40	4.20		21-31	5.30--5.50
Maj	1-10	7.50	4.--	November	1-10	5.15--6.10
	11-20	8.--	3.50		11-20	5.----6.20
	21-31	8.10	3.40		21-30	4.50--6.40
Junij	1-10	8.20	3.30	December	1-10	4.50--6.50
	11-20	8.30	3.30		11-20	4.50--7.--
	21-30	8.30	3.30		21-31	4.50--7.--

17/3 25



- A/** Riksarkivet i Uppsala, Uppsala / The National Archives in Uppsala
- R/** Wallox-Säby säteris arkiv, series F 14, volume 1.
- T/** 29th September 1883: Letter from August Lenhardtson to Lars Gustaf von Paykull.
- D/** In 1883, electric experiments were carried out at Älvkarleby by the mighty Dalälven river. By using the water wheel of a sawmill, electricity was produced and conveyed to the cities of Uppsala and Gävle by the telegraph wires. In this letter the engineer August Lenhardtson describes how the experiments on the preceding night were very successful and then outlines the plan for the night to come, when the wires between Älvkarleby, Uppsala, and Gävle will be used. He worries that the light bulbs – the small circles on the sketch – might just become red-hot, but we know from the newspapers that they in fact shone brightly and produced cheers and applause. Appropriately, one of Sweden's first big hydroelectric plants was built where the sawmill once stood three decades later.

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Tomaž Milač, no title, 2022
(acrylic on canvas)

URL:

<https://zac.si/2023/06/05/electricity/>

Celje / Ieper
June, 2023

International Archives Week 2023
5-9 June 2023

Athens
Celje
Cheb
Eindhoven
Gorizia
Graz
Ieper
Kecskemét
København
Rabat
Riga
Rijeka
Saint-Omer
Sofia
Tallinn
Uppsala
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