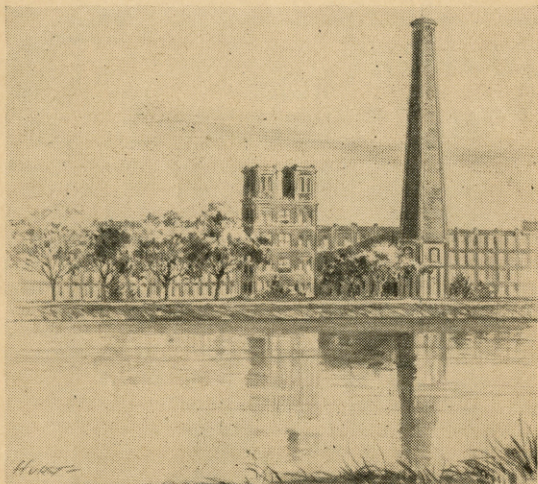


Kilowatt News

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No. 5



POWDER WORKS' CHIMNEY
Augusta

“Georgia History” Series

No. 5—Confederate Powder Works

The beginning of the War Between the States in 1861 found the South woefully unprepared. Throughout the South it had not been expected that the North would seriously oppose a secession of the Southern states from the Union, hence no provisions or war materiel had been gathered.

Manufacturing in the South was on a very limited scale, and there were no factories for war purposes. Hence their speedy construction was of extreme urgency and had to be accomplished under the most unfavorable conditions.

At the beginning of the conflict, the entire supply of gunpowder in the Confederacy was scarcely sufficient for one month of active operations, and not a pound was being manufactured. A small amount of gunpowder was captured with the Norfolk Navy Yard. A small cargo of saltpeter and sulphur (two basic essentials of gunpowder) was purchased in Philadelphia and arrived safely in Savannah before that port was blockaded.

Plans were made to charter a ship to import saltpeter from Liverpool, England, but could not be carried out on account of the effective blockade at the mouth of the Mississippi river. However, the Confederate government, through its agents in Europe, was able to purchase quantities of saltpeter, which was shipped by blockade runners, arriving in Charleston and Wilmington ports.

At the outbreak of the war, George Washington Rains, Confederate soldier, inventor and author, and a native of North Carolina, was given a *carte blanche* assignment for the procurement of gunpowder for the Confederacy. Peculiarly fitted for his assignment, Col Rains had served as assistant professor of chemistry, geology and mineralogy at West Point Military Academy, where he had previously graduated,

He had also served as president of a large iron works in the North for several years, and during 1860 and 1861 he had obtained patents on several of his inventions relating to steam engines and boilers.

After a rapid tour of the South to find a suitable site for the location of a powder plant, Augusta was chosen because of its central location, canal transportation, water power, railroad facilities and for its security from attack by reason of its location far back of the fighting front. The Confederacy needed the new Powder Works for reasons of economy, even if there had been no other reasons—the extreme hazard of importing gunpowder through the blockade had raised its average price to \$3.00 per pound during the very first year of the war.

Augusta also was the site of the U. S. Arsenal. This had been seized with all its arms at the outbreak of the war by orders of Joseph E. Brown, Georgia governor. Converted by the Confederacy from a storage depot into a manufacturing armory, ordnance materiel was produced at the Arsenal. Churches gave up their bells to be cast into cannon, and one old Southern

(Continued, Inside Fold)

KILOWATT NEWS, Georgia Power Company,
P. O. Box 1719, Atlanta (1), Georgia.

Please send me, without charge, an enlargement of the Confederate Powder Works, suitable for framing (or scrapbook use), with separate descriptive sketch.

I would also like to have a picture and descriptive sketch of The Cyclorama, Atlanta; The Ocmulgee Indian Mound, Macon; Fort Frederica, St. Simons, and Kennesaw Mountain, Marietta.

NAME.....

Address.....

City.....

Treat Your Vacuum Cleaner Right— It Will Do More and Last Longer!

SPRINGTIME with its sunshine and balmy days is mighty welcome after a long, hard winter. But how it reveals the wear and tear and dust and grime. This spring there is more to do in the way of housecleaning, and less to do with. And with servants scarce or non-existent, there is more hard work for homemakers to do themselves.

Another reason spring cleaning is harder in 1945 than ever before, is the fact that your furnishings are older, materials scarce and replacement costs are high. This year your problem is to make things last at least another year by extra gentle care.

With the aid of your trusty vacuum cleaner you can have a spic and span house with much less work and in far less time. Use your vacuum properly, keep it in first-class condition and it will do a better job and last longer.

Vacuum your rugs frequently. A good cleaning with the vacuum removes imbedded grit and dirt, and makes your rugs last longer.

Your upholstered furniture gets dirty, too. Your upholstery cleaning attachment will not only remove the dust and dirt, but will fluff up the nap as well. Don't use a vacuum on down-filled cushions.

Vacuum your draperies and curtains regularly. They will need dry cleaning less frequently.

You will also find your vacuum cleaner a worthy ally in your war on moths, for it gobbles up lint and dust, which are favorite breeding grounds for the destructive little pests.

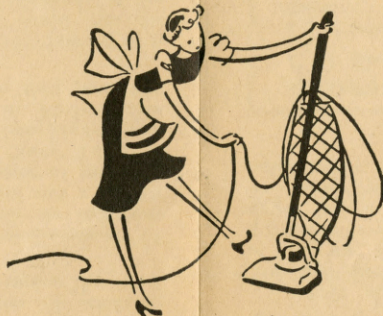
Vacuum Needs Care

1. Empty the dust bag of your vacuum cleaner, and brush it well inside and out. A dirty bag clogs the cleaner, puts an extra strain on the motor and slows the cleaning. Never wash the dust bag.
2. Keep brushes free from hair and threads.

With a grinding of brakes, an Army officer pulled up to the side of the road.

"Say, sonny," he called to a small boy. "Have you seen an airplane come down anywhere near here?"

"No sir," said the boy, hiding his slingshot behind his back. "I've just been shooting at a bottle." -



3. Don't run your vacuum over pins, nails, coins, or other metal objects. Pick them up by hand.
4. Be careful of the cord. Don't run the cleaner over it. Keep free from kinks. Coil cord loosely on rack.
5. Clean and oil according to manufacturer's instructions.

If your vacuum cleaner needs a new belt, new brushes, or other repairs, take it to an expert. Don't tinker with it.

"There's only one thing worse than trying to shave with a razor after your wife has sharpened a pencil with it."

"And what's that?"

"Trying to write with the pencil."

"You look sweet enough to eat," He whispered soft and low.

"I am," said she quite hungrily, "Where do you want to go?"

Try a Strawberry Ring Shortcake

Now that strawberries are here you can give your family this springtime treat that's new, economical, delicious. It's easy on your ration book, and you'll rate ace high with your family. Honey sweetens the berries and the honey meringue pinch-hits for whipped cream. Little butter is required.

1 cup sifted all-purpose flour	2 eggs
1 teaspoon baking powder	1 cup sugar
$\frac{1}{8}$ teaspoon salt	$\frac{1}{2}$ cup hot milk
2 tablespoons butter	$\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon vanilla extract

Sift together three times the flour, baking powder and salt. Beat eggs at No. 8 speed until very light and thick. Beat in sugar gradually, beating $2\frac{1}{2}$ minutes. Turn to No. 1 speed, add dry ingredients all at one time. Beat until blended. Combine hot milk, butter and flavoring. Add to batter, continue beating only until blended. Pour into a well-greased, nine-inch ring mold. Bake in a moderate oven, at 375° F, about 35 minutes. Remove from mold. Cool. Fill center with honey meringue. Border with strawberries as illustrated.

HONEY MERINGUE: Place two egg whites in small bowl. Add $\frac{1}{8}$ teaspoon salt. Beat at No. 8 speed until stiff enough to stand in points. Add gradually $\frac{1}{2}$ cup honey, continuing to beat until mixture is fluffy and stiff. Serves eight.

Confederate Powder Works

(Continued from Second Fold)

mansion in the city is said to have given some 2,000 pounds of sash weights to be molded into bullets.

In July, 1861, Col. Rains selected a site for the Powder Works, one half mile from the western city limits. All of the land between the canal and river for a distance of two miles was included in the site.

Much of the heavier machinery for the Powder Works was manufactured in Richmond, while some of the lighter machinery was made in Macon, Chattanooga, Nashville, Savannah, Mobile, and New Orleans, as well as Augusta.

Col. Rains initiated the wholesale collection of niter from the limestone caves in Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia and North Carolina. Thus it was that material was collected from all parts of the southland for the construction and operation of the Powder Works.

Following the manufacturing processes of the Waltham Abbey Government Gunpowder Works of England, the Confederate Powder Works is said to have been the largest in the world at that time. Its daily output varied with the demand for gunpowder and with the amount of saltpeter on hand. At no time after its completion was it operated to full capacity. There was made at the Confederate Powder Works from April 10, 1862, to April 18, 1865, 2,750,000 pounds of gunpowder. This was distributed throughout the Confederacy, mostly east of the Mississippi.

Of the once extensive Confederate Powder Works nothing remains except the great chimney. Its battlemented tower and lofty shaft remain to this day a monument to the Confederacy.

The Sibley Cotton Mill later was erected on a portion of the site, and so arranged that the Confederate obelisk stands conspicuously in the front.



*"Did you miss your train, sir?"
"No, I didn't like its looks, so I chased it out of the station."*

"We'll Build a House on a Hilltop"



OR BY A BROOK—or near a lake. . . . It's great to be young and dream and plan.

The dream-homes being planned today call for frozen food cabinets and automatic washers and electric blankets and air conditioning and lots more electric conveniences.

They'll have them, too. And the electric service that keeps them running will continue to be both cheap and friendly. That's one way we can help make dreams come true!

Georgia Power Company

A CITIZEN WHEREVER WE SERVE