

Big Deal.

EDISON GAS PROPERTIES IN EIGHT CITIES SOLD.

Southern Counties Company Takes Over System for Large Sum.

Planning to Become Exclusively Electrical, Selling Corporation Disposes of Systems Supplying Pomona, Long Beach, Santa Monica, San Pedro, San Dimas, Lordsburg, Ocean Park and Claremont.

FOR a sum unofficially reported to lie between \$2,000,000 and \$4,000,000, F. R. Bain, president of the Southern Counties Gas Company, and eastern capitalists associated with him, yesterday purchased outright the gas properties of the Southern California Edison Company at Pomona, Long Beach, Venice, Santa Monica, San Pedro, San Dimas, Lordsburg, Ocean Park and Claremont, the deal to take effect immediately. The contract was consummated yesterday afternoon between Mr. Bain and William A. Brackenridge, vice-president and general manager of the Southern California Edison Company.

FOR GREAT DEVELOPMENT.

Steps will be taken immediately to develop the present \$2,000,000 gas corporation known as the Southern Counties Gas Company into a \$10,000,000 gas corporation to embrace its old and new holdings in the Southwest. This action will make it one of the largest corporations of its kind in the country.

Both Mr. Bain and Mr. Brackenridge admitted last night that the deal had been consummated, but neither would state the exact amount of the purchase price.

ELECTRICAL ONLY.

For some time past the Southern California Edison Company has been endeavoring to become an electrical corporation exclusively. However, it retained certain obligations to perform to the communities it served, and until a comparatively short time ago had no competitors strong enough to take over these obligations.

Then the Southern Counties Gas Company, under the skillful leadership of Mr. Bain and his eastern associates, began to develop into a large concern. One by one the cities and smaller towns of Orange county were taken into the system of this company. Mr. Bain obtained first privileges on the natural gas resources, and, he states, is the only corporation now serving the unadulterated article.

In many places old and decrepit gas plants were acquired by the Southern Counties Gas Company. These plants were built over, renovated and otherwise improved. Before the contract was signed yesterday the company represented a \$2,000,000 system, including the cities of Fullerton, Anaheim, Santa Ana, Ontario, Whittier, Sierra Madre, Monrovia, Gardena, Duarte, Glendora and Covina.

According to Mr. Bain and his associates, it will be comparatively easy to connect this system with the newly-acquired plants. The Long Beach plant is now operated under the name of the Consolidated Gas Company. The sale includes all the systems of the Southern California Edison Company in the cities named for the manufacture and distribution of gas. The Edison company also owns the plant at

Santa Barbara, but the contracting parties declared last night that this is not included in the deal.

NATURAL GAS.

It is understood that the Southern Counties Gas Company has recently contracted for a large amount of gas to be delivered from the Standard Oil Company's fields at Fullerton. This gas will at once be turned into the new and larger system.

The offices of the Southern Counties Gas Company are in the Title Insurance Building. Mr. Bain is president, W. S. McFarland secretary and F. N. Hawes treasurer.

TO REORGANIZE.

"I believe we will at once reorganize our company," Mr. Bain said last night. "The name will probably be changed and our capitalization increased. We will become a \$10,000,000 concern instead of a \$2,000,000 one. It will be one of the largest gas companies in the country."

Volunteers.

OXY TEAMS TO DINE.

Million Dollar Campaign for College About to Start With Systematic Work and With the Active Help of Prominent Business Men.

The opening dinner of the active volunteer workers in the million dollar Occidental College campaign will be held at the Alexandria Monday evening, February 14. At that time the teams of eight will be seated at separate tables and given instructions for the two weeks of work that will begin the following morning.

These volunteers will be the guests of the college at luncheon at the Alexandria Wednesday noon, February 16, and each succeeding noon except Sunday through the campaign. Luncheon will be served in thirty minutes, the remaining thirty minutes to be given over to reports from team captains.

The following business and professional men have accepted the post of team captains: John S. Mitchell, Louis M. Cole, H. M. Haldeman, Edward D. Lyman, Lynn Helm, Willis H. Booth, Maj. A. J. Copp, Jr., W. P. Jeffries, J. Harry Pieper, Claire S. Tappan, O. C. Pickrell, Councilman W. A. Roberts, Godfrey Edwards, Leo V. Youngworth, J. A. Kingsley and Frank B. McComas.

In addition to these there are enlisted four team captains from the alumni of Occidental, David Farles, Harold F. Landreth, Dan M. Hammack and G. Harold Hopkins. The student body has five live teams of eight workers each. Pasadena has two women team captains, Mrs. S. W. Odell and Mrs. Myron Hunt. Long Beach is represented by a team of which Dr. Arthur S. Buell is captain.