

# Man who helped create Tir John

## MR. J. W. BURR DIES AGED 96

MR. JAMES WILLIAM BURR, whose death took place yesterday at his home, Woodstock, 346, Gower-road, Swansea, in his 96th year was for many years borough electrical engineer of Swansea, and was the engineer behind the erection of Tir John Power Station. He retired in 1939.

One of the veterans of the electricity generating industry, Mr. Burr's early power station work included service at the then leading power station at Deptford, London, in the closing years of the last century.

### MARTIAL LAW

Mr. Burr left school in Camberwell, London, at the age of 13 to assist his father in a bakery business, but a lecture he heard while attending his church young men's club, on electricity and magnetism, so fascinated him that he started night classes on the subject of electricity.

He accepted the offer of an unpaid apprenticeship to a London electrical engineer, and subsequently received his first wage of 18s. a week when he took on a job as stage electrician at the Lyric Theatre, London.

In April, 1892, he was invited to join the staff of the Sociedad Espanola de Electricidad in Barcelona, and during his stay in Spain had the experience of a political upheaval during which the power station came under martial law for six weeks.

### MET HIS WIFE

He returned to England in 1894 to join the staff of a newly created station at Kingston-on-Thames afterwards transferring to the London Electricity Supply Company's station at Deptford. It was there, when she was being shown around the station, that he first met the young woman who became Mrs. Burr in 1899.

He became borough electrical engineer at Swansea in 1914. The Corporation power station was then on the Strand, a site which had been hopelessly outgrown when Ministry permission was obtained to build a super power station near Crymlyn Bog.

### YOUTH CAMP

Mr. Burr was a member of the Institution of Electrical Engineers and attained the chairmanship of the Western Section of the Institution. He was also a member of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, and attained the chair of the South Western Centre. For a period he was a member of the National Councils of both bodies.

For many years Mr. and Mrs. Burr lived at St. Madoc, Llanmadoc and in 1944 dedicated a site of 76 acres adjoining the sea for the use of youth as the St. Madoc Christian Youth Camp.

The couple celebrated their diamond wedding in April, 1959. In addition to Mrs. Burr, Mr. Burr leaves a son and a daughter.

## Man died i

## COURT IS BRAKES V

TWO days before a four Carmarthen to Kidwelly Llanelly baker was killed involved in the collision of garage proprietor that the not be relied upon, Carmarthen were told today.

He was 17-year-old John G. Llewellyn Evans, a labourer of a Rock House, Cwmffirwd, near Carmarthen, who was charged with causing the death of Gwilym Daniel Evans, aged 34, a company director of a Llanelly bakery, of the Cleveland Hotel, Station-road, Llanelly, by dangerous driving. John Evans was represented by Mr. Alan Coulthard.

Fifteen prosecution witnesses were expected to give evidence and the case is likely to last two days.

Prosecuting, Mr. D. G. Williams said the accident occurred at about 9.15 p.m. on August 6.

A Mr. John Howell Williams, of Castleton, Surrey in a Triumph Herald, was driving towards Kidwelly.

### VIOLENT IMPACT

His young child got restless and he decided to pull in, which he did normally.

He looked in his driving mirror and saw a Vauxhall car which was driven by a Mr. A. E. Lewis, of Heol Gwelfa, of Mynyddygarreg. Then he felt a violent impact.

Mr. D. G. Williams said that Mr. Lewis had seen approaching from Kidwelly the van which was driven by Mr. Gwilym Evans.

Mr. Lewis, when he was coming up behind the Triumph Herald realised he could not overtake in safety, so he applied his brakes gradually.

Behind him was a Wolseley car driven by John Evans who had with him, because he was only a learner-driver, a Mr. Rees, who was a competent driver.

Evans' car struck the rear of Mr. Lewis' Vauxhall setting it directly in the path of Mr.

