

County Gazette

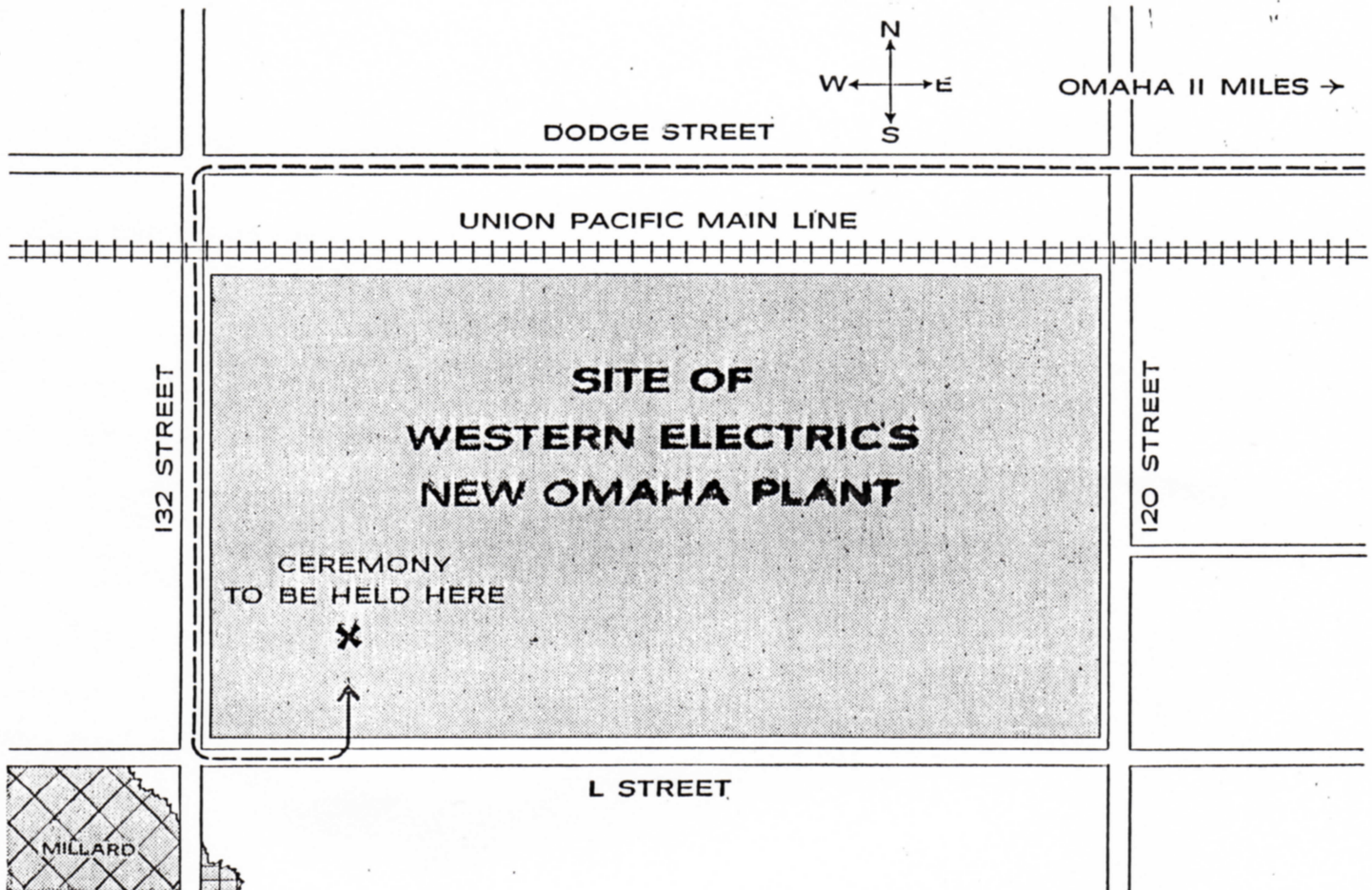
Please Phone Your News

Valley	3241	Waterloo	2031
Millard	3061	Bennington	2560
Elkhorn	8612	Washington	
Elk City	Water. 4671Arlington	55F3
South Valley	2547	Spring Gro.Gret.	2879
North Valley	2586	Irvington	PR 1367

LOO, NEBRASKA, FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 1956

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Western Electric to Hold Ceremonies June 28





Charles V. Price, head of the Nebraska Resources Division, will join with Fred R. Kappel, president of the Western Electric Company, on June 28 in breaking ground for the manufacturing firm's new Omaha plant, L Street at 132nd Street. Mr. Price will be acting in behalf of Governor Victor E. Anderson who is attending the Governors' Conference at Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Power derived from the sun by means of the Bell System's recently developed solar battery will be used to pass the signal to the bulldozer for the start of the work. Simultaneously Mr. Price and Mr. Kappel will turn the first shovelful of earth with the traditional chrome-plated spade of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce to mark the occasion.

Half-Hour Ceremony

The half-hour ceremony will begin at 10:30 a. m. During the course of the program Mr. Kappel will outline reasons leading to the selection of Omaha as the site for Western Electric's new manufacturing plant, and Arthur B. Goetze, vice president-manufacturing, will unveil a drawing of the new buildings and de-

scribe the construction timetable and future plans for the plant.

The public is welcome. No invitations are required and ample parking space has been arranged at the site. Direction signs will be posted to mark the location for the ceremonies.

The proportions and position of the three main buildings on the 390-acre tract will be pointed

out by Mr. Goetze on a large scale drawing to be displayed at the site of the ground breaking ceremonies. These buildings comprising an administration building and two manufacturing buildings will be modern brick structures adjoined by parking lots with a capacity for over 3,000 cars. Preliminary drawings show some 35 acres under roof, with an additional 25 acres paved for parking areas.

Chief products to be made at the new plant will be local or exchange type cable and crossbar switching equipment which automatically routes a telephone call to the dialed number. Output from the Omaha plant will be shipped to Bell Companies in all directions to help meet the heavy requirements to the Bell System for this equipment.

Actual construction is expected to start immediately after grading work at the site and the

plant should be ready for operation in 1959.

Following is the sequence of ceremonies at the ground breaking site:

The Program

National Anthem and raising of colors.

Invocation by Dr. Edward W. Stimson, pastor, Dundee Presbyterian Church.

Opening remarks by Herbert P. Heath, superintendent, Omaha Shops.

Talk by Fred R. Kappel, president, Western Electric Co.

"The Omaha Plant," Arthur B. Goetze, vice president-manufacturing, Western Electric Co. Address by Charles V. Price, director, Nebraska Resources Division.

Ground breaking—Mr. Price and Mr. Kappel (solar battery used to power signal to start work). Benediction, Very Rev. Carl M.

Rehnert, S.J., president, Creighton University.

The Bell Solar Battery

The solar battery to be used in the ground breaking ceremonies of the new Western Electric Omaha plant, represents the first successful device developed by man for the conversion of useful amounts of the sun's energy directly and efficiently into electricity. An invention of the Bell System, the battery is comprised chiefly of highly purified silicon, an element of sand. It is at least 15 times more efficient than the best previous solar energy converters.

The solar battery already has demonstrated its practical utility in an experimental rural telephone system at Americus, Ga. There, about six weeks ago, the Bell Solar Battery furnished electricity to power a commercial telephone call for the first time.