



—World-Herald Photo.

Hot charge . . . Petersen starts electricity flow for Western Electric.

Power Flows to W.E. Plant Site

Electricity began pulsing into the Western Electric Company's vast plant site near Millard Tuesday.

It was a portent of things to come.

For by 1959 the manufacturing plant, now in construction, will be the Omaha Public Power District's biggest individual customer.

An OPPD official said the plant has contracted for 27 thousand kilowatts at full capacity. This is more than 7 per cent of OPPD's present generating capacity and nearly 6 per cent of the anticipated capacity in 1959.

By contrast, Tuesday's flow was a trickle.

It will be used for lighting during the construction.

When OPPD electrician E. R. Petersen activated the new OPPD substation at the northeast corner of the plant site at 10 a. m., 69 thousand volts began to flow.

A transformer stepped it down to 13,800 volts.

Tuesday's mission was to energize the first of several huge transformers.

The cut-in was another indication of the nearness to

completion of the Western Electric cable plant, scheduled as the first manufacturing unit to operate at the site.

Its activity is to begin early next year.

A Western Electric spokesman said some manufacturing machinery is to be installed in the near future. Boilers will be tested in a few days, he added.