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Metropolitan Section

New Million-Dollar Buildings Proceed Ahead of Schedule

Total Value of 13 Projects Is Placed at 91 Million; Others Planned

The "million-dollar babies" in the Omaha construction nursery are doing fine.

A World-Herald survey of the million-dollars-and-up building projects showed none with serious construction delays.

In some cases, contractors reported they will finish well ahead of deadlines.

The survey showed 13 projects still under construction in the million-dollar class. They are the primary reasons that make 1957 Omaha's greatest dollar volume year in commercial and industrial building.

More Talked About

Several million-dollar jobs already have been completed this year.

The survey also showed that the string of giant jobs won't run out with the current jobs. Several projects are in the talking or planning stage.

The 13 giant buildings represent more than 91 million dollars.

More than half of this is in the huge manufacturing plant Western Electric Company is building southwest of Omaha. The company has put no official price tag on it but the project is usually referred to as a 50-million-dollar job.

Progress Report

Western Electric gave this progress report Saturday on four main buildings:

—The 400-thousand-square-foot cable building will be ready for machinery installation about November 1. Its production should start next spring.

—Foundation work is nearly done on the million-square-foot crossbar building. Steel erection will start about November 1.

—The administration building should be enclosed by December 1 to allow interior winter work.

—The boiler house will be in operation by November 1.

Other million-dollar jobs:

—Northern Natural Gas Company 15-story addition, four million dollars. Structural steel erection is 40 to 45 per cent complete. Building completion deadline: November 10, 1958.

—No. 3 generating addition to the North Omaha plant of the Omaha Public Power District, \$16,500,000. Five per cent finished, to be completed by May, 1959.

—Guarantee Mutual Life Company, \$1,600,000. Project, now 65 per cent finished, to be completed about May 1, 1958.

—Northwestern Bell Telephone Company's new 12-story building, \$4,500,000. Sixty per cent completed. Lower floors expected to be occupied about January 1 with completion set for spring, 1958.

—Metropolitan Utilities District's Construction Center, \$1,600,000. Eighty per cent completed. Finished about December 1.

—Five-story addition to Union Pacific headquarters, one million dollars. Ten per cent completed. Completion target: September, 1958.

—Thirteen-story addition to Mutual and United of Omaha, \$3,500,000 to four million dollars. Eighty-five to 90 per cent complete. Finish expected about January 1.

—New Creighton Prep, \$1,550,000. Sixty to 65 per cent finished. Completion target: April 1, 1958.

—Archbishop Ryan Memorial High School, \$2,204,000. About 18 per cent done. Completion goal: September, 1958.

—North Junior High School, \$2,231,000. Forty per cent completed. Completion target: August 1, 1958.

—OEA Senior Citizens, Inc., 12-story apartment building, \$1,300,000. About 10 per cent done, completion set for September, 1958.

—Combined project of the C. Louis Meyer Memorial and Hattie B. Munroe Home, \$1,382,878 total for the two buildings. Foundation work well advanced. Completion target: September 1, 1958.