

# More Farmers to Get Electric Power Soon



Practical application of electronics is this automatic dishwasher. Experimental model operated by Gale Idle, Westinghouse engineer. It is forerunner of a new device in which the housewife will place dishes, glassware and silver, and then simply press a button. The machine then sprays dishes, washes them, rinses them twice, cleans and drains itself automatically, and then shuts off.

## End of War Assures Priorities End Soon

The dreams of many farmers in this area for electrification of their farms may be realized sooner than they had imagined only a few months ago.

With the conclusion of the war and consequent release of many materials which had been under priorities expected shortly, the power companies and projects of the nation will be able probably to begin much sooner that process of extending the electric lines to farms which have not previously had such service.

**Many Uses**  
Diversity of uses of electricity on the farm has been considerable. Where it formerly was used mostly for lights and for pumping or at most for turning smaller machinery, the last few years has seen its use in preparing and curing seeds for market; for heating and lighting livestock and poultry sheds and incubators and for scores of other uses.

The scores of farmers which have not previously been served with electricity because of the scarcity of materials may look forward soon in the Grande Ronde valley to extension of lines which will bring them into the electrical fold, according to Raymond Gray, manager of the Grande Ronde division of the Eastern Oregon Light and Power

company. **40 More**  
Already, the company has 208 miles of distribution and transmission lines and has about 650 farm service customers, which is nearly 40 more than at this time last year.

With seven miles more line built in the last year or so, 25 more farms were added to the system, which operates in Union, Alicel, Elgin, Imbler, North Powder, Cove, Summerville and Perry, and in the vicinities of these towns as well as La Grande.

**50 Miles**  
There are plans for constructing 50 miles of line to supply 40 percent of the 175 farms left which do not have electric service. This will be made possible through the release of materials and manpower.

The company has 3,894 residential customers in the county and 4,818 meters.

At present there are 22 employees of the La Grande division. Average length of their employment there is 14 years.

## Electronics to Offer Handy, But Costly Gadgets for Post War Use

By S. BURTON HEATH  
NEW YORK (NEA) — Just around the corner is the age of electronics. It won't be long now until that marvel of electrical science which has contributed so heavily to defeating nazis and Japs can be turned toward your home.

You have heard much about what electronics can do for you. You may have built up high hopes. This seems to be the ideal time for a word of warning. It is this:

Electronics can do things so wonderful that electronically-controlled gadgets seem to possess human brains. Electronics could make your home so comfortable, your home-work so easy, that the maid problem would disappear.

But unless you are wealthy you probably won't have that sort of electronically-operated home within your lifetime. Your children may see it.

On a stunt basis there seems to

be almost nothing that electronics can not do. The electric eye, opening a door or turning on a water fountain; the electric ear, opening a garage door when your horn (or one of the same frequency) is sounded; radar. These are familiar applications already.

### Magic Eye

Popular science writers have evoked the picture of a housewife busy in her kitchen. The doorbell rings. She looks up at a screen to see whether it is the neighbor coming with a cup to borrow sugar, the insurance man coming to collect premiums, a white-bearded youth selling magazines to pay his way through college—and there'll be such even in the postwar world—or a tramp who, having discovered there is no wood-pile and the lawn already has been mown, is asking for the chance to earn a crust of bread and a glass of water.

If it's a friend, Milady turns on her own television so that the caller can see her, and tells her to open the door and come in. If it's an undesired caller she just keeps quiet or, if he is too persistent, tells him to go away.

It is possible to cook a pound of roast in two seconds. It is possible to have an electric eye turn on the lights when you enter a room and turn them off when you leave. It is possible, every time you light a match for

a cigaret, to have an electric eye start a fan to blow out the match for you.

Several experts agree that, though it would be tricky, it is possible to devise an electronic setup so that when Daddy comes home from the 6:14 and enters his automatically-opening front door, loud speakers would announce softly in every room in the house:

"Hi, Mother—here I am. Hot, tired and hungry. Where are my slippers? How about a drink? What's for dinner?"

### Electronics Now

The end of the war finds you already living in an electronic home, if you only knew it. Every electric light bulb is an electronic tube. Your radio is an electronic device. So is your sun-tan lamp, your home movie projector. After the war all of these will be better than ever.

But those stunt gadgets? Forget them, for years to come.

To roast your prime ribs in two seconds would require a \$50,000 range that would be 13 feet long, five feet deep, seven and a half feet high and would use 150,000 watts of current.

The electric fan probably would blow out your match before your cigaret was lighted. Instead of staying on until you left the room, your lights might go out when somebody else entered. And so it goes.

## 1944-45 Panorama

Dec. 20—Navy training unit, one of three in the state, has been allotted to La Grande. . . . Wallowa county grand jury composed entirely of women was empaneled in Enterprise. . . . Glenn Wagner was elected king of La Grande chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

Dec. 21—C. E. Millering was installed worshipful master of La Grande lodge No. 41, A. F. and A. M. . . . Mrs. W. M. Pearson was re-elected president of the W. S. C. of the First Methodist church.

Dec. 22—Mrs. Walter Apple was elected president of the Jolly 600 club.

Dec. 23—La Grande hoopers beat Ontario 32-29.

Dec. 28—La Grande's basketball team won a 35-34 victory over Nyssa.

### January, 1945

Jan. 1—Leora Sue Pierson was the first baby to be born in La Grande in the new year. She was born in St. Joseph's hospital at 3:42 a.m. new years day.

Jan. 3—Herbert J. Speckhart took office as the new Union county commissioner. He re-



AN EXAMPLE OF THE USES to which electricity can be put in rural areas is to be found in this modern dairy farm, the Enkay dairy farm operated by K. W. Siegrist, two miles south and west of Summerville. About 25 to 30 cows are milked here and the milking is done with machines. Separators, grain choppers, wood saws, the cold storage plant, shop machinery and other farm equipment is also operated by electricity. In the farm home itself, electricity is used for cooking, lighting, refrigeration, and for operating fans, mixers, iron, washer, radio and other devices. Siegrist, with a crew of four or five men, operates 840 acres here. In the picture are shown the lounging sheds, dairy barn and silos, hog barn and horse barn.

placed W. C. Condit. . . . La Grande cagers won easily from North Powder, 42-20.

Jan. 4—Jeanette Isabelle Benefiel was appointed director of nurses at Grande Ronde hospital. . . . Sgt. Earl Hopkins of Imbler received a presidential citation for his participation in the Saipan invasion.

Jan. 5—College enrollment was up 56 percent for the winter period. . . . Rainfall deficiency marked the valley weather for 1944, with only 10.61 or 2.47 below average. . . . D. E. Richards was honored on retirement as head of the experimental farm.

Jan. 5—Mrs. Anton Froisinger was honored as Oregon's outstanding bond saleswoman. . . . Baker nosed out La Grande 40

to 34 in basketball game.

Jan. 9—Mearns T. Gates addressed the local junior chamber of commerce. He is national president. . . . Little Miss Cosner of Summerville, daughter of Otto N. Cosner, was trying to find her dog which had gone astray. Or she wanted to know if he was dead so she could replace him. . . . Arla Larie Langman was married to Howard Bingaman.

Jan. 10—Mrs. T. B. Lumsden was re-elected chairman of the Union county Rod Cross chapter. . . . Capt. John Ferris and Lt. Jack Lee Riggs, former La Grande classmates, met and spent Christmas together in Calcutta.

Jan. 11—Registration at the

college continued to mount. . . .

Elso Putnam, 3, was shot accidentally in the leg by his brother, Larry, 13. His injury was not serious. . . .

Jan. 12—Union county war bond sales beat the quota by 67 percent. . . . Roben J. Maasle was invited to lecture three weeks in the summer at Chicago university.

Jan. 13—Rainfall of the last four days had brought the rain for the month to 1.83 inches, 1.80 more than in January, 1944. . . . Half a dozen cars parked near the high school during the band concert were looted the night before. . . . H. G. Avery was appointed superintendent of the experiment station. . . .

Jan. 15—Four boys were held

on charges of ransacking autos. . . . Cpl. Sirney McNeill was decorated with the gold medal and purple heart.

Jan. 18—Clayton Fox was elected president of the South Forty club. . . . Christmas seal sales in the county were \$2,508. . . . Mrs. Frank German was re-elected president of the northside club. . . . Edgar F. Willock, grocer, died.

Jan. 19—Rev. Mark Talney expressed opposition to peace time military conscription, training.

Jan. 23—County quota for the March of Dimes was set at \$3,500. . . . Rev. Arthur J. Stanley was re-elected chairman of Boy Scouts district and troop committee. . . .

(Continued in Section C)

## 1945-46 Taxes To Be Due Soon In Union County

Valuation This Year Lower Than For Last

In another six weeks or so, 1945-46 taxes will be due and payable in Union county.

Lee Reynolds, county assessor, has announced the total tax valuation this year for all property is \$17,845,546, which is slightly less than the assessed valuation of all taxable property last year, when it was fixed at \$17,875,663.

Total taxes levied for all purposes in this county this year will be \$564,575.00. Last year the figure was slightly higher, \$596,444.70.

One of the greatest decreases was in the school taxes of Elgin, where the rate dropped from 31.1 last year to 7.9 this year. This was due to several consolidations, which brought other districts into the Elgin district.

## La Grande Listed as One of Safest for Traffic in State

La Grande, for the third year, is listed as one of the safest for traffic in the state according to its size, it was stated by Clyde C. Lund, chief of police.

La Grande, listed as a "U" city, one having a population of 10,000 or less, was top city in the state again this year, with no traffic fatalities within the city, Lund stated.

Most of the traffic accidents involved parking maneuvers, and almost half occurred on Saturdays and Sundays.

## Columbia Basin Project to Show Model Irrigation

COULÉE DAM WASH. (UP) — Six pre-development farms will be established on the 1,000,000-acre Columbia basin project in south-eastern Washington. The farms will be designed to demonstrate irrigation methods and give the way for more efficient use of land. They will be placed in representative areas on various types of soil.

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