

# New Homes in Town Total 352 Since End of War; As Many More Outside

By HALE SCARBROUGH  
Since the close of World War II a total of 352 new homes have been erected within the corporate limits of Klamath Falls.

The number is not startling in size, but it does show that a good many people, even in the face of rising construction costs and widespread fear of a decline in jobs and prosperity, had faith enough in Klamath Falls to build homes here.

Home building isn't done on the spur of the moment. For the average family it is something that happens just once in a lifetime, so they don't jump into it blind. They either figure they're set well enough to pay out the house in the years to come and continue to live in it, or that if circumstances arise so they'll have to sell they can get their money out of it.

The few years since World War II have been rather critical ones for Klamath Falls in a lot of ways, and there was a considerable feeling of defeat. Some mills went out of operation and some population was lost.

But in the main, the pulse of the city settled stronger. It isn't dead and it isn't even sick. And probably every one of the 352 homes built has already or will in the long run turn out to be a good investment.

The figure of 352 was obtained from city building permits, and broken down to years it has run like this:

From September, 1945, through the remainder of that year, seven; 64 in 1946, 51 in 1947, 56 in 1948, 20 in 1949, 102 in 1950 and 52 this past year, 1951.

In each of the years, remodeling jobs of varying magnitude received city permits in a ratio of about four remodeling jobs to one new residence.

Just how many new residences have been constructed in the county, outside town, is almost impossible to say. No building permits are needed for construction outside of town and so there aren't any dependable records. But the probability is that at least an additional 600 homes were constructed in the suburban area and out in the county in the same period of time.

Construction permits issued here in 1951 had a valuation of \$1,191,436 overall — a considerable decrease from the \$1,946,594 of 1950.

How closely building permit figures follow actual constructions is something to argue about. But a builder here estimated this week that a house that could have been put up for \$8,000 in 1949 would run \$12,000 now. That's a 50 per cent jump.

The city's building permit figures show a somewhat higher percentage.

For instance, the average permit taken out in 1946 for a new residence was just \$5,000. In 1947 the average was for \$6,625 (OPA ceiling prices went off); in 1948 the average was \$7,875; in 1949 it was \$8,000; in 1950 it was \$9,880; and in 1951 the average was \$10,700.

Maybe a \$5,000 house of 1946 would cost \$12,700 to build today. Or maybe the average house-builder has stepped up the class of construction a little.

One thing virtually all homes in what is called the Klamath Basin have in common is electricity furnished by the California Oregon Power Company, and that company's records show a rather steady but likewise not spectacular growth in the number of power users.

For instance, in Klamath county (all the county except the Chemult-Gilchrist-Crescent-Lapine area) the company had in 1945 an average of 12,062 customers. Two years later the average had grown to 13,619; in 1948 it was 14,018; in 1949 — when certain mills and communities (like Ivory Pine) folded up — the average was 13,936; in 1950 it had gone back up to 14,256 and as of Nov. 30, 1951, the average was 14,536.

During 1951 the Copco system in the Klamath Basin — Klamath county plus the Tulelake area and Butte Valley — had a net gain of 293 new services. In other words, it added 293 more connections to its service than were cut off. In 1950 its net gain in services was 345, and in 1949 it was 449.

The big 1949 figure seems not to jibe with the fact that in 1949 in Klamath county Copco showed a decrease of 82 in the average number of customers it served, compared to the previous year.

But that year the company had 136 new installations in the Tulelake region, most of them hooking up to newly-won homesteads.

## Radio Forum Monday To Discuss Problems Of Boys And Girls In Klamath Area



Fifty-one persons were taken to the Oregon State Prison from Klamath County last year.

Of that number nine were between the ages of 17 and 19 years.

Several weeks ago veteran criminals in the prison were interviewed by three University of Oregon students doing work in psychology and sociology.

The veteran criminals — those with 25 or more years of crime behind them — had this to say about the younger generation.

According to Associated Press reporter Paul Harvey at Salem, the "veterans" expressed themselves as worried over the future of the younger generation.

The oldtimers who have seen a good many come and go from the State Prison said they were sorry to see many young fellows coming into prison and they wished they could make the young fellows see what is going to happen to them unless they reverse their criminal ways.

Several weeks ago Wallace Turner, special assignment reporter for the Oregonian was in the Herald & News office.

Turner said every time he goes to the State Prison it seems to him the inmates get younger.

What does all this signify for the future of Oregon?

What kind of citizens are the younger generation of today going to be?

The problem of "How We Can Better Build Tomorrow's Citizens?" will be the topic of the first in a series of panel discussion programs starting on Radio Station KFLW next Monday at 3:30 p.m.

A panel of seven experts has been chosen to discuss this timely topic on the first of a series of radio programs sponsored by the Herald and News and KFLW. The program is entitled, "Build the Basin."

Believing that the greatest asset for building the Klamath Basin is its citizens, staff members of the Herald and News and KFLW chose "How We Can Better Build Tomorrow's Citizens?" as the most timely topic to inaugurate this interesting series of programs.

Subsequent "Build the Basin" programs to be heard weekly over KFLW will dwell on such pertinent problems as future of the lumber industry in the Klamath area, the potato ceiling fight, the Klamath watershed problem and power development.

Monday night the panel of seven will present their own personal opinions on "How We Can Better Build Tomorrow's Citizens?" and then answer questions phoned in by the radio audience.

The unhearsd program will emanate from studios of KFLW. Station Mgr. Bud Chandler will act as moderator and Staff Announcer Floyd Wynne and Hank Henry will handle other details of the program.

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## Atom Gun Shown Solons

WASHINGTON (AP)—The military Friday showed the Senate-Atomic Committee a model of an artillery gun designed to handle atomic bombs.

The model was enclosed in a concealing wooden box when carried into and from a close-door session of the committee.

Chairman McMahon (D-Conn.) declined to comment when reporters asked him whether the model was that of a gun already actually constructed or was made from the blueprint of a gun still to be built.

McMahon said the committee members looked at the model and discussed it. He declined to say more, except that the model had been brought to the committee session by an ordinance officer.

It was the first time, he added, that such a model had been shown to the committee.

## Industries To Hold Clinic

WASHINGTON (AP)—Small companies hard hit by the copper and aluminum shortage are being invited to send representatives to government "industry assistance clinics" later this month.

The National Production Authority announced Friday that the sessions would be held in 14 cities. Military and production officials will discuss how the 3,128 affected firms can obtain defense contracts and subcontracts.

Firms whose consumption of copper and aluminum has been cut to 24 per cent or less of their pre-war levels are the only ones invited. These include makers of Venetian blinds, screen doors, auto trailers, lamps, toys and costume jewelry.

Sessions are scheduled for Seattle and Portland.

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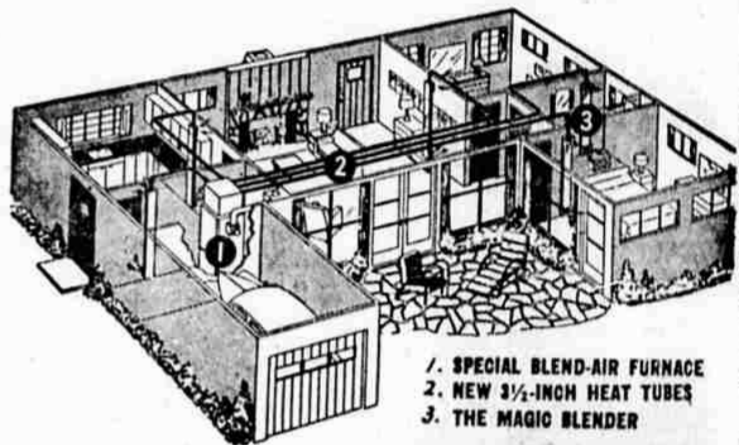
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New small 3/4-inch-diameter pipes that fit any construction. Pre-fabricated! Pre-engineered! Practical! Flexible elbows bend around obstacles. Easy and quick to install. Save expensive on-the-job hand metal-work.
- 2 THE MAGIC BLENDER  
Each room has a blender. It sucks in room air, blends it with the hot air from the furnace, recirculates it through the room. There's no stale, stasis heat. You get even warmth from floor to ceiling. (Concealed, Recessed and Cabinet types)
- 3 MODOMATIC WARM AIR FURNACE  
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Coleman's perfect-working modomatic-comfort heat-maker. Forces warm air into ducts that lead to each room individually, giving amazing new even comfort for a better heated home.



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