

Wiring for Electrical Living, Article Subject

Note: The following article, written by Mary Roche, has been submitted to The Eagle for publication because it tells of the need of adequate electric wiring in the home. The article appeared in the New York Times on February 24, 1946.

By Mary Roche

The tempting prospect of all play and no work, inspired by the new and wonderful electric appliances, may have distracted us from the fact that these inventions will not, precisely speaking, work all by themselves. They must have current—obtained easily enough in theory by plugging into an electrical outlet and flipping a switch. In practice, however, this performance can be multiplied just so many times and then comes trouble. Engineers warn us that an electrical wiring system designed to accommodate a dozen or so lights, an iron and maybe a refrigerator, just isn't up to taking on a toaster, a roaster, a blanket and a freezer with a couple of radios thrown in. So instead of gnashing your teeth over the tardiness of appliances ordered last October, it might pay to investigate the load capacity of your present wiring system and ascertain whether it is prepared for the new arrivals.

No house built prior to 1928

(and not rewired since then) is equipped to take care of today's electrical loads, according to the National Adequate Wiring Bureau, the authority in these matters. And few houses built between 1928 and 1941 are adequately wired for 1946 requirements, much less the requirements predicted for 1956. Hence the bureau's earnest plea to remodelers to plan on a rewiring job before they start in to add a room, streamline a kitchen or even redecorate.

New home builders are urged to install a system sufficient to take care of all the electrical equipment they have or can afford to buy now, plus whatever else they think they might like to have some day.

For it's ever so much cheaper to install a good system at the start than it is to improve an inadequate one after the house is built. To help figure it all out, the industry committee of interior wiring design has just published a "Handbook of Residential Wiring Design," containing diagrams for every room in the house and suggesting outlet locations for every appliance you have ever dreamed of having. You can get it for 25 cents from the committee's headquarters, Room 3650, 420 Lexington Ave., New York.

Some of the trials of poor wiring are obvious enough—too few outlets, multiple sockets trailing tangles of extension cords. Others, if noticed at all, are usually blamed on the wrong causes. Lamps give out less light. The radio seems to fade. Irons and cooking appliances take longer to heat up. Electric motors turn sluggish. It's not their fault but just that the circuit—serving a group of several outlets and fixtures—is carrying too much of a load. Meanwhile, you pay for the same amount of current, without getting the same amount of light or heat or power.

If the lights dim or flicker when the oil burner goes on, that is a bad sign. If fuses blow out too often, that is another. A fuse, in case you have wondered, is merely an alarm device, a weak bridge in the circuit that will heat up and break when the load gets too heavy, before the rest of the circuit has a chance to heat up and start a fire. A more modern version of the familiar screw-in fuse is the circuit breaker, a simple, self-operating switch that springs out of position when something goes wrong. After the trouble is corrected, the switch is merely flipped back into place. (No frantic hunt for a new fuse.) Circuit breakers for home use weren't made during the war, but they are coming back again now.

As a rule you can count the circuits in a house by counting the fuses in the fuse box. Unless your house is very large or very modern the number is probably four or less. But for post-war electrical living, the engineers recommend anywhere from ten to twenty. Here is the way they figure it out:

For every 5000 square feet of floor area, at least one general purpose circuit for lighting fixtures and convenience outlets serving portable lamps, radios, vacuum cleaners, and other small and occasional plug-in devices. For kitchen and dining room appliances, such as roasters, refrigerators, waffle irons and toasters, at least one circuit of their own which is not used to light. For laundry equipment, another. And for certain individual appliances, individual circuits to which no other equipment or lighting is connected (range, water heater, laundry drier, auto-

matic controls for central heater.)

While the circuits are the backbone of a home wiring system, the intake (wires leading into the house) and the outlets have to measure up too. The arrangement of outlets, including lighting fixtures and multiple switches, varies somewhat with family requirements. But there ought to be a separate outlet for every appliance that is used habitually in one place so that multiple sockets and extension cords can be marked "For Emergency Only."

LDS Conference For District Attended At Hillsboro Sunday

RIVERVIEW—Mr. and Mrs. Billie Bassett drove to Hillsboro last week end to visit her sister, Mrs. Norman Carter and family and were introduced to the infant son who arrived at that home recently. Mrs. Carter was formerly agent for the Avon Cosmetics firm in this vicinity.

Congratulations go to Miss Martha Wells this week as the only member of the VHS speech class to win a place in the finals held Saturday at the Willamette University at Salem. Several members of the class were unable to get to Salem due to bad weather. Miss Wells' overnight guests Saturday night were Hulda White of Birkenfeld and Joyce Kates of Vernonia.

Mrs. Polly Lynch attended the L.D.S. district conference in Hillsboro Sunday. She reports an attendance of 300 or more and a very genial, beneficial gathering.

Sunday dinner guests at the L. L. Wells home were Pev and Mrs. U. S. Childs of B-livar, Mo. Rev. Childs had conducted services at the Christian church in Vernonia that morning.

Visitors at the Chas. Ratkie home during the week end were Mr. and Mrs. Bert Keck and son Vennie of Grand Ronde and Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Keck who came over from Sultan, Wash.

Just to while away a Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Hillver drove to Seaside Sunday via the Jewell-Elsie route and returned by way of Astoria and Clatskanie circling the Oregon northwest.

4th Birthday Is Celebrated

RIVERVIEW—Mr. and Mrs. Leo Violette, who sold their Vernonia home two weeks ago to Mr. and Mrs. Roy Sutton, parents of Mrs. Walker, are now stopping at the Louis Violette home here. They own other homes in Vernonia but must wait until the expiration of the rental contracts on them before taking possession.

A group of pre-school aged youngsters had a jolly time Monday afternoon at the Harry Kipp home when they gathered to help little Dickie celebrate his 4th birthday anniversary. Those present were Maryl, Mickie and Laura Taylor, Darla Walker and Dick's young brothers. A dainty lunch

of ice cream and cake was served by Mrs. Kipp.

Monty Dewey and John Wolf helped Mr. and Mrs. Charles Beacom move their household goods to their new home in Vernonia Saturday.

Thursday visitors at the Glen Hawkins home were Mr. and Mrs. Robert Moore of St. Helens and on Sunday the Hawkins family drove to Trenholm for a visit with Grandpa Serafin.

Mrs. W. D. Steele, who is still suffering from her recent accident, reports the following visitors this week: Mr. and Mrs. James Walker and children and Mrs. Rutledge of Eugene from Tuesday until Thursday, Mr. and Mrs. Cleve Brown of Jewell Thursday evening and Mrs. Emil Messing Saturday.

A week end guest at the Mahar home was John Hendrickson of Estacada.

Phone 91

GIVE HARRY KING YOUR ORDER FOR GROCERIES AND HAVE THEM DELIVERED TO YOUR KITCHEN. THAT IS THE WAY TO EASE THE WORK OF GROCERY SHOPPING.

AND FROM KING'S YOU GET THE BEST IN MEATS AND GROCERIES WHEN YOU ORDER.

KING'S Grocery - Market

"Where Your Money Buys More"
At the Mile Bridge

Phone 91

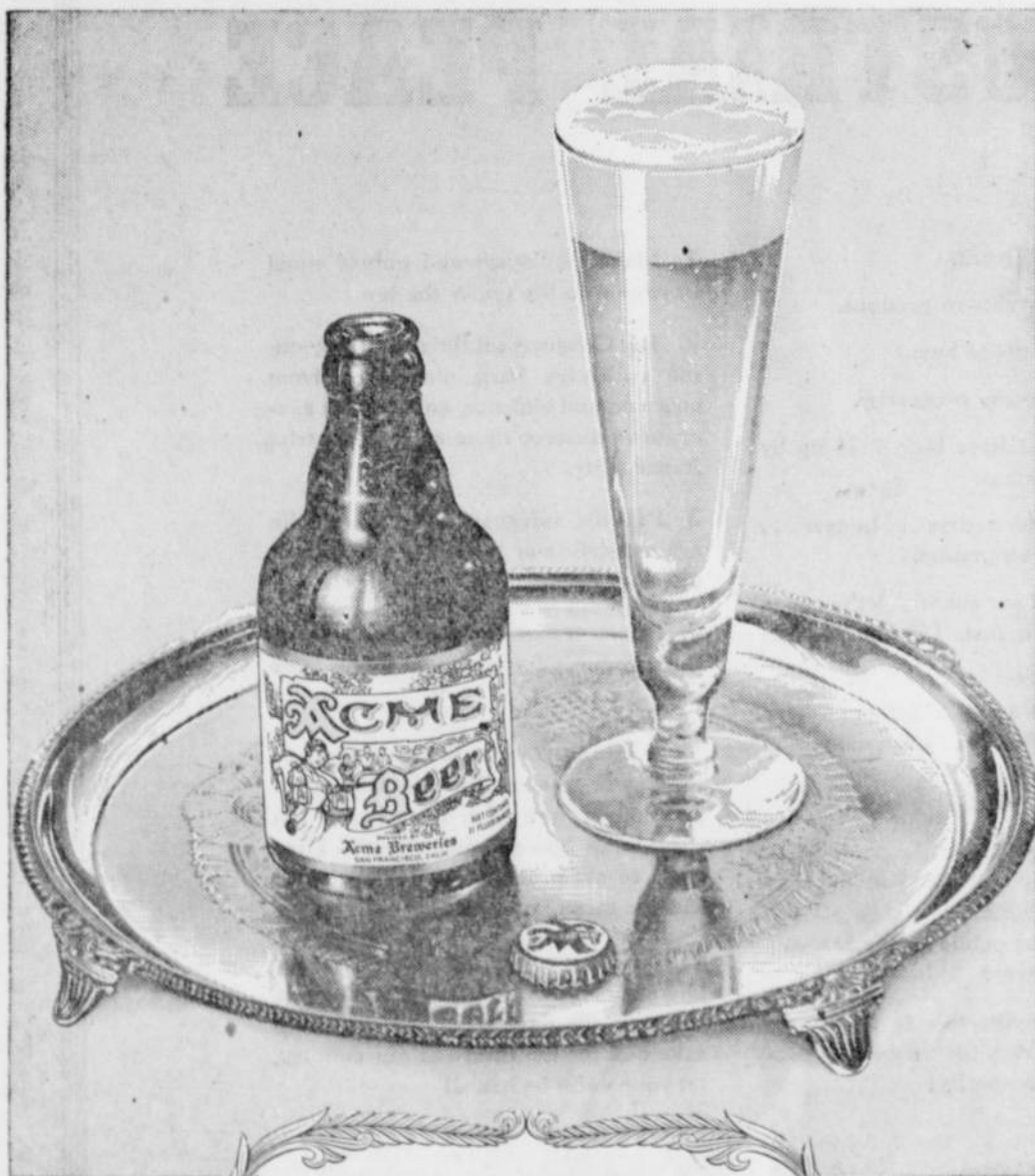
Riverview

Time to CHANGE

Don't punish your car—give it the best—give it Signal Oil Products

HATH'S Service
Ph. 5711

Get Ready for SPRING



ACME
..the beer with the high I.Q. (It Quenches!)

ACME BREWERIES • San Francisco

Nehalem Dairy Products Co.
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Kerns
Vernonia Oregon



Don't Let This Happen to Your Home Because of IMPROPER FUSING!

IF YOUR HOME HAS--

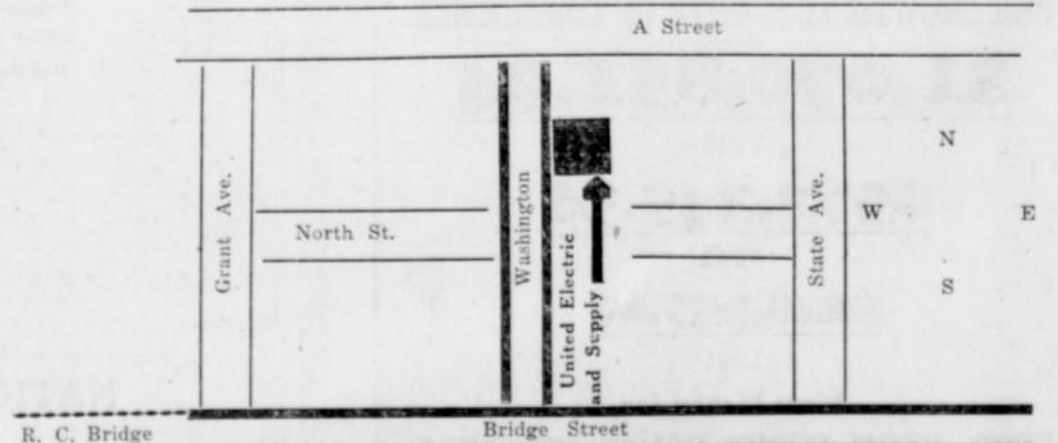
ONE FUSE OR NONE AND WIRE LESS THAN NO. 12 IN THESE LOCATIONS: WASHROOM, KITCHEN, DINING ROOM, OR PANTRY,

YOU NEED--

PROPER PANEL, PROPER WIRE SIZE, PROPER FUSE SIZE TO PROTECT WIRE, PROPER INSTALLATION OF APPROVED EQUIPMENT.

PHONE 113--

COST ESTIMATES AND WIRING SUGGESTIONS. SHOP HOURS 8 A. M. TO 6 P. M.



FOLLOW THIS DIAGRAM TO

United Electric & Supply Company

Union Shop — I.B.E.W.

State License No. 510
Washington and A Sts.

Phone 113