



Plumb Line



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PROGRESS SO FAR

Fred's Toy

When the crane crew packed up their equipment and headed out to the next job, they left something behind. It wasn't exactly a huge item, but it wasn't tiny, either. Fred found it after they left and played with it for a while, and then called them up to ask about it. "Oh," said they, "we forgot all about that! You can go ahead and use it for the rest of the week, and we'll come by and pick it up later."

What was it, you ask? Oh, just a little four-wheel diesel-powered forklift with a twenty-foot reach, that's all. No construction project is complete without somebody roaring around in a big yellow machine!

Tap, Tap, Tap...

This week, we plan to dig some trenches and tap into the water and sewer lines that run alongside the property. Since we're able to tap the sewer line at its closest point to the building instead of tunneling halfway to Pueblo, the job should be fairly straightforward. Pretty nasty, but straightforward.

Once we get the water hooked up, we won't have to worry about getting yelled at for playing in the dirt, I bet. If we get too dirty, we can just hose each other down! (Hey -- it works for the kids, doesn't it?)

Shocking News!

The team of electricians should arrive today! Please join us in welcoming them to Lafayette and making them feel at home. The team consists of the following people:

Ralph and Charlene Cole

Jack and Marguerite Carter

James and Barbara Smith

Chester and Betty Wilkes

Ralph worked with NASA, Jack worked with DuPont, James worked with the Tennessee Gas Authority, and Chester worked with the Olin Paper Company.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Holy, Holy, Holy

How would you like to drill 960 holes 3/8" in diameter through quarter-inch plate steel? Sounds like fun, eh? Oh, by the way -- all these holes have to be drilled in the compression ring, ten feet off the ground. Here's how it works: on each of the eight sections of the compression ring, you need 80 holes on the top of the beam so that you can bolt down a 2x6 that is used to tie down the ends of the rafters. Then, you need 40 holes on the underside of each section to bolt up a 2x6 plate that forms the top of the wall. It's a slow, BORING (Oh, man -- the puns are really getting bad, aren't they?) job, but Somebody's Gotta Do It.

Sample On The Side

No, no -- I'm not talking about an appetizer.

When you get a chance, walk around to the west wall of the church building and check out the sheets of stucco board on the outside of the wall. These sheets are nailed to the wall like siding, but they have a stone-like texturing on the outside. With a little work on the seams and nail holes, this will really look sharp next to the brick around the columns.

Roofing Along...

As you've noticed by now, the roof is showing steady progress. It took quite a while to get all the measurements worked out and come up with a plan for hanging the rafters, but now the process is running along smoothly. It's a lot of work, but it sure is exciting to watch the roof fill in section by section. Once all the decking is in place, the roof crew will cover the whole thing with tar paper and then we'll be ready to start putting on the metal roofing plates.

If you get tired of working in the sun, I guess it only makes sense to build yourself some shade! Hats off to the roofing crew for tackling this complicated job.

Where's The Juice?

There's good news and bad news.

The good news is that plans are being drawn up to install the transformer and underground cables that will hook the new building up to Public Service for our three-phase power line.

The bad news is that it won't happen for a couple of months or so.

We can still keep on working, of course -- the electrical crew can install all the equipment and wiring and get everything ready for the hookup. Then, when the Great Day arrives, we can plug in the whole building at once.

Great Wall Of Lafayette

Hurry! Hurry! Step right up!

Don't miss your chance to drive a nail (or two, or three, or 47) into the walls of our new church building. We still need people to come out and help with the framing -- there's plenty of work to be done, and we will certainly appreciate all the time you can spare to help out.

We've pretty well figured out how to build around the angled steel brackets -- come out to the site and take a look. Now, we just need to bang out the rest of the walls.

Mark Your Calendar!

Mark your calendars NOW for our 'Round-Up Sunday' on October 6! We'll be meeting out in the new building (the 'Big Tent,' according to Pastor Archer), which should do a much better job of keeping the weather at bay than the tents we rented last year.

If you really want to have a tent meeting in style, nothing beats putting up a two-story gazebo! We'll be the envy of Baptists everywhere...

*** Gold Stars ***

Yes, it's time once again to present the spectacular Plumb Line "Gold Star Award" for service above and beyond the Call of Duty:

Debbie Wood brought water to the workers one day last week, putting Matthew 10:42 into practice. ("And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward.") Calling Pastor Archer 'one of these little ones' may be stretching a point, however.

Question and Answer

Q. What exactly is 'three-phase power' and why do we need it?

A. Most houses are wired for single-phase electrical power, and that works well for things like clothes dryers and vacuum cleaners. When you start getting up into some really big electric motors like the ones used in commercial heating systems, though, it's a lot more efficient and cost-effective to run them on three-phase power. Even though it is more expensive to set up a building for three-phase service, you reap the benefits year after year and come out ahead in the long run.

Working Hours

The work schedule varies with the weather, occasional hold-ups experienced while waiting for material, and other reasons, but here are some general guidelines:

* Work is normally done from about 8 A.M. to about 2 P.M. on weekdays, and most Saturdays.

* Work continues on most weekday evenings, starting in the mid to late afternoon after things cool off.

For specific dates and times, ask around -- DeeDee Minne is helping Pastor Archer coordinate the volunteer effort, and you can also grab someone on the construction team to find out about day-to-day operations on the site.

Back Talk!

Got a question? Want to make an announcement? Want to recognize someone for a job well done? Get it in the paper! The **Plumb Line** is here for construction news, announcements, and project updates. Help us make this paper better and more useful; get in touch with me.

Contact Information

Here are some names and numbers you may need for project information and coordination:

DeeDee Minne 665-0382

Volunteer coordination (construction, child care, etc.)

Dorothy Sorenson 469-4905

Coordination of meals and work breaks