ILLINOIS REA NEWS

The Voice of 58,000 Members

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Annual Convention of Illinois Electric Cooperatives Is Held In Springfield

Bright Future For REA Seen Following War

Neals Lauds Financial Status; Gives Data on Production

Paying tribute to REA cooperatives of the nation for the sound financial basis they have achieved, lauding farm families for the part they are playing in meeting the country's food production goals and forecasting wide expansion of rural electrification in the post-war world, William J. Neal, deputy REA administrator, keynoted the second annual convention of the Illinois Association of Electric Cooperatives held in Springfield on August 19 and 20.

Mr. Neal's talk was one of five major addresses given during the 2-day meeting. The deputy administrator shared the spotlight on the banquet program with James M. Barnes, administrative assistant to President Roosevelt.

Other prominent speakers at the convention included E. J. Stoneman of Platteville, Wis., vice president of the National Rural Electric Cooperative association; Clyde T. Ellis, executive manager of the National Rural Electric Cooperative association, and Howard Leonard, director of the Illinois department of agriculture.

Pre-Payment Record

Illinois REA cooperatives were praised by Mr. Neal for having a record of "no delinquencies" in their repayments to REA and also for achieving "a cushion of $1,000,000 to their credit in pre-payments on loans as of July 1 of this year." Of the $12,000,000 made in pre-payments, Illinois' part represents "one-twelfth of the total amount received to date," Mr. Neal said.

Turning to an analysis of the U-1-c order, the deputy administrator declared that a total of 30,869 work orders, covering approximately 35,000 farms, had been received from February 1, the date the order became effective, until August 7 of this year.

Taking as a basis, a total of 26,000 work orders received up to July 1 of this year, Mr. Neal said that a survey of farms covered in these orders showed livestock valued at $50,000,000. These farmers, he estimated pledged in a year to produce $86,500,000 worth of livestock, $6,000,000 in eggs and $17,000,000 in milk, bringing total estimated production to approximately $110,000,000.

The deputy administration stated that 2000 applications for electrical extensions under the U-1-c order had been received in Illinois up to July 1, one-fifth of the total amount on file for the nation.

Outstanding Job

The cost of these 26,000 electrical extensions cited would amount to a total of $5,000,000 in materials and labor, which is less than one-tenth of the estimated production gain of $37,000,000 in livestock, it was said.

Mr. Neal stated that WPB men had declared that if the REA could show them the benefits of electrical connections as a means of increasing production that they would go along in the matter of materials; that job, of proving an increase has been done conclusively, he added.

In discussing the reduction in appropriations made by congress in REA administrative expense, Mr. Neal said it was difficult to understand in the face of increased expansion of rural electrication work through extensions, which entails considerable additional detail work. Saying that he had no quarrel with congress for slashing the appropriation, he, nevertheless, pointed out that the amount allocated has been reduced from approximately $4,000,000 in 1942, to $3,500,000 in 1943 and to $2,250,000 in 1944.

The deputy administrator called for closer cooperation between REA and the cooperatives in bringing service to farms of the nation.

"We're setting the stage now for the post-war program," Mr. Neal said, stating that REA and the cooperatives are setting up their houses in order "to be ready to go" when the time comes.

"We are," he stated, "not making plans to be able to make more plans after the war, but are making plans to be ready for action."

According to figures available at the present time, there are still more than 4,000,000 farm homes without electrical service, the deputy administrator said. He encouraged REA cooperatives to make surveys to determine the potential members available in their areas and to make a complete report as an important factor in the post-war program.

Mr. Neal also urged boards of directors to keep themselves informed on the activities of their system and to work with managers and superintendents for the best interests of the REA cooperative program. REA's job, he said, is not to manage individual REA cooperatives, but to be of assistance in working out various problems; "it's boys in the field," he added, are working together to help you."

Scene at Second Annual Convention Dinner

This scene of congenial diners was taken as the large crowd of REA cooperative representatives and their wives at the second annual convention of the Illinois Association of Electric Cooperatives sat down to enjoy a royal feast at the opening night's banquet. In attendance at the banquet were a number of national REA executives and several leaders of REA cooperatives from neighboring states. Two nationally known men addressed the convention at the banquet, which was the most outstanding held so far by the Illinois state-wide association.

National Speakers at Banquet

The two principal convention speakers appear above, with G. Wayne Welsh, president of the Illinois Association of Electric Cooperatives, just before the banquet in the main ballroom of the Leland hotel in Springfield. From left to right, the three men are: James M. Barnes, administrative assistant to the president, Mr. Welsh, and William J. Neal, deputy administrator of REA. Mr. Welsh was toastmaster for the banquet program in the absence of W. H. Koonce, vice president of the Illinois Association of Electric Cooperatives, who was unable to attend.

Deadly Menace To Pigs Stopped By Simple Treatment

Quite a few farmers lose pigs from mange and on nearly all farms maximum growth is retarded some on account of mange. If pigs are noticed to be itching and scratching, be sure to treat them. Often old sows are so badly infected that their hides are like leather.

For young pigs there is no better treatment than 2 parts of crank case oil and 1 part kerosene. Grab the pig by the front leg, immurse buttocks first into the solution, and finally hastily put the pig clear under. The mange mite breathes through pores in a membrane in his stomach. The oil and kerosene clog the pores so the treatment is very effective. Lime sulphur or Black Leaf-40 are also very effective.

Acre of Alfalfa Pasture Valued At $60 for Pigs

At present prices of corn, tankage, soybean meal and alfalfa hay, an acre of alfalfa pasture is worth about $60 for pigs. This is the conclusion drawn by E. T. Robbins, livestock extension specialist of the University of Illinois, from the average results of thirty-three experiments. Pigs were fed well-balanced rations from a weight of 60 pounds to 200 pounds. The pasture saved $30 worth of feed at present prices and also yielded 1.5 tons of hay per acre, worth this year, $30.

Food Problems Outlined; REA Work Praised

Barnes Reviews Farm Goals; Says Power Is Big Factor

James M. Barnes, administrative assistant to President Roosevelt in his address to the convention of the Illinois Association of Electric Cooperatives, spoke of the "increasing awareness of the American people as a whole about the problems of food supply and of the farmers who produce that supply," adding that "the fact that the war has forced us to ration food may prove to be a blessing in disguise, if it makes people realize that the abundance of food in this country is an undiguised blessing."

He told farmers: "You men who are the primary source of supply for the nation's most important single resource have a personal stake in the military victories of the day."

"Every American farmer," he said, "who is cooperating with the nation's food program is entitled to feel a glow of pride in the impressive military power which this country has shown. For he has contributed to that power. In fact, he has contributed to a miracle of productivity.

"As the war began, sober warnings were given by our military leaders, our production chiefs, and our top government officials. This war wasn't going to be a push-over, they told us. We could lose this war, they said.

Realistic Warning

"That was a realistic warning. It was an intelligent warning. And it was grand to see how the people took it. You could almost see the nation stripping off its coat and rolling up it shirtsleeves. You could almost hear 130,000,000 Americans saying out of the corners of their mouths: 'Oh, yeah?' "

Now twenty months later, we have raised military forces totaling some 9,000,000 men. We have sent nearly one-fourth of those men overseas to smash the enemy wherever we find him. When President Roosevelt set the challenging goal of 50,000 planes last year, and equally unheard of quantities of munitions and shipping, many people thought the figures fantastic. But today those goals are obsolete. Today we are concerned because our plane production was only 7300 planes in July.

"But the tremendous job which our nation has done since Pearl Harbor really began before Pearl Harbor. It began even before the lend-lease program by which we aided the British to survive the nazi attack. Our preparations to defend ourselves have their roots in the years when we built up and preserved the potential strength of this nation.

"We took a notable step in our preparations to defend our free American democratic way of life when in 1935 we set up the rural electrification administration to carry the advantage of electrical power to all farm producers. We could ill afford today to be without the tremendous assistance that many of our farms are receiving from electrical energy.

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EDITORIAL PAGE

Illinois REA News

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Difficult Job

Difficult decisions — some heart-breaking to make — are being made every day by farmers who are serving on their respective county war boards.

It is hard sometimes to separate the slacker from the patriotic American; to send one off to have his measurements taken for an army uniform, and to tell the other one that he is just as important on the farm front as on the fighting front.

For some, farming is an escape from military duty; a shield behind which they can hide safe from the firing line. They are the boys who have left city jobs from which there was no deferment to try their hands at farm chores which they abhor in peace times.

Often, their fathers and relatives are farm folks. Occasionally, their families reside in cities and have money enough to buy farms for their draft-dodging sons; or have connections with farm families who are willing to give the frightened youths sanctuary during the current war.

There, also, have been instances where boys who formerly lived on farms have returned honestly to help their elderly parents meet production goals in labor-shortage areas. Often, these city youths, physically handicapped in one way or another, can be of greater service on farms than they can in the army.

Undoubtedly some mistakes are made in classifying these two distinct groups and some enemies have been made unintentionally. But individuals, parents, wives and brothers and sisters must realize that if there is a war to be fought some must be soldiers, sailors and marines and others must remain on the home front to keep production of food and materials at a wartime peak. Food and arms, airplanes and ships can not alone win the war—it takes manpower on the battle fronts as well.

To separate the deserving farm workers from those who are only using the farm as an excuse to get out of military service is the job which faces county war boards.

Representatives of REA cooperatives serving on these war boards are doing a concientious job. It is a thankless job, with little honor and no salary, but it is a job which must be done and done right. It is best for farmers to judge who is best suited for farm work; that is why REA cooperative members are included on such boards.

Unjustly criticized at times because of decisions made in the best interests of the country they serve, farmers are given little credit for the time and thought which goes into judging the merits of each case brought before them by those who think they should farm instead of fight. All of us must remember that, given a similar task as difficult as their's is, we, too, might have heaped upon our heads the wrath of those who do not understand the rules under which war boards operate.

Many farm boys are in the service today — boys who would be doing their country a greater service if they were plowing the fields and harvesting the crops which their hard-pressed fathers and mothers are having to do this season without sufficient help. But, the selective service machinery was not geared to that level, apparently, when it was first set up. The men at the top didn't seem to realize that farmers can not meet production goals without sufficient help and critical machinery. It is ironical, therefore, that their mistakes were realized too late to keep at home a sufficient number of farm youths to maintain agricultural production at the desired peak.

A number of these farm boys are now in Africa, England and the far east—too far, probably, to have them brought home at this late date in the war. This situation, also, causes criticism of county war boards, although they were set up long after necessary changes were made in draft laws. Members of such boards are confronted with unjust criticism from enumerable sources, but all of them, with very few possible exceptions, are being as fair as possible and are deserving of more praise than many of them are today receiving from uninformed neighbors in their respective communities.

And you mothers and fathers who have sons in the service, please don't make the lot of the deferred farm boy harder than it is by thinking him a slacker. Remember, he can't enlist even if he wants to. He is "frozen" to his job—and his job on the farm is a very important one, because he is helping feed that soldier, sailor or marine son of yours who is slugging it out with the axis.

Without strong, young, willing hands to work in the fields our armies would be helpless on the battle front. A man can't fire a machine gun, he can't march, he can't fight if his stomach is empty. The farm boy's uniform is a pair of overalls, an old straw hat and a coat of tan. He, too, is doing his honest bit to win this war.

Canning On The Home Front *By Mrs. Francis Searls*

Our High Privilege

Next month it will again be the privilege of every United States citizen to help the government raise millions of dollars to keep the materials of war flowing to America's far-flung global war fronts.

We will be INVITED to invest our money in the third war loan drive. Let us think of it that way. No country on earth can give its citizens more than an opportunity to invest in victory and a lasting peace; that is the opportunity all of us will have offered us in September. Take advantage of it —be glad of the privilege to do so.

And remember that every dollar you invest in war bonds today will be there waiting for you in the post-war period. There are scores of "impossible-to-get" articles you want —electric refrigerators, automobiles, electric irons, tractors, cameras. But you can't get them today; TOMORROW they can be yours for the asking—if you've got the money to pay for them.

To be able to buy tomorrow what you can't get today —INVEST IN WAR BONDS AND STAMPS. What you buy in the post-war world will not only satisfy your desires, but will also put men and women to work on jobs other than those they will most certainly lose in the nation's present war plants. Think it over—and then do the only smart think you can do—BUY WAR BONDS AND STAMPS.

In this coming drive, individuals rather than banks will be called upon to buy as many war bonds as they possibly can. Many persons have felt that buying bonds has been the same as donating their money without hope of getting any returns. BUT SUCH IS NOT THE CASE—America's war bonds are securities of the best sort; not only do they help finance wartime industry, but they, like other government securities, pay interest in excess of some bonds now on the market which SOME people prefer to buy.

You farmers remember what a comfort the liberty bonds you bought in the first World war were when other securities began crashing. When they matured, the government paid you the face value of your bonds. There was no thought of repudiation; no gamble; no worry about whether or not they were going to pay out.

When the issue was called, you went to your banks, drew your bonds out of the lock boxes, marched up to the teller's window and handed them over. If you had bought other than government bonds during that period, you pondered in 1929 over whether it would be best to just forget them or paper an old room with them. They were worthless—and yet many of us laid down hard cash for them.

Now your government is again asking for a loan and is offering the same sense of security PLUS interest which it did the last time the country's sons went off to war. You have a right to expect the same return for your dollars as you got the last time—and you will get it. So LOAN your money —don't think you are giving it away.

Europe Electrified?

One of the biggest fields for rural electrification after the war outside of the United States may be in what is now Hitler's European fortress.

The end of hostilities will find Europe shattered and electrical service in chaos. One of the big jobs facing the United States will be to help in rebuilding the countries which have been under the Hitlerian heel so many years—and one of the tasks which may be undertaken will be in the electrification field.

Greater production on farms will be of prime importance to help feed Europe's starving millions. To bring about this production, farmers will need electricity and equipment, ideas for which will probably come from America where the REA cooperative system is now firmly established.

Like the Latin American countries, Europe will be seeking something progressive, something new to them to help in the post-war world—and an REA cooperative system, similar to that which has brought electricity to thousands of homes in the United States, may provide one of the answers. Farmers will be far too poor in Europe to pay excessive power rates, but they will need electricity if they are to produce the vast quantities of food which will be required in the shortest time possible.

United States' electrical engineers will no doubt be consulted and it is not beyond the realm of possibility that post-war Europe may see a flourishing rural electrification organization spring from bombed ruins to bring new life, new courage and new hope to a beaten, down-trodden people.

Just as the REA cooperative system has brought invaluable assistance to the American farmer, so something similar may be an answer to Europe's prayer for greater quantities of food after the last battle has been fought.

Europe's farmers can work from sun up to sun down, but work alone will not solve the problem. They must have help beyond their own physical strength, and rural electrification can provide that much-needed help. The sight of lights glowing in the barnyards and in farm homes, the joy which farmers feel as they see their electric pumps, milking machines, separators and other power-driven equipment in operation may be part of our contribution to a rehabilitation program, without which foreign nations can not hope to rise above their present meager existence.

GOVERNOR LAUDS RURAL ELECTRIC GOALS IN STATE

Governor Dwight Green, who was unable to attend the annual convention, paid the following compliments to the rural electrical program in a letter to leaders of the Illinois Association of Electric Cooperatives:

"I heartily commend the rural electrification program. Its accomplishments in extending electric light and power to the farms of Illinois are a substantial and highly practical contribution to agricultural efficiency and, thus, to our victory in war.

"They will be a continuing social and economic benefit in the peace and reconstruction to come."

REA Cooperative Service Makes Large Dairy Business Possible

Electric Milk Cooler Used by A. L. Prosser

Without electricity, the A. L. Prosser farm, located southwest of Downs, would be "just another farm," Mr. Prosser says, and his big dairy business would be a dream instead of a reality.

There was a time before Corn Belt Electric cooperative was organized when power to operate some of the electrical devices on the Prosser farm was supplied by a very much overworked portable generating plant. But, says Mr. Prosser, that was before we added all of our present necessary equipment and expanded our business to its present size.

It would be impossible, according to this successful dairy farmer, to operate all of the electrical devices in the barn and in his modern home without REA cooperative service. Neither would it be possible for him to meet his high production goals without electricity, Mr. Prosser adds.

Quick Action

One of the secrets for the high rating accorded milk from the milk is the very efficient electrically-operated milk cooling system which was installed in the milk house shortly after the REA line was extended to the Prosser farm.

Milk is brought directly from the milking machines in the big dairy barn to the cooler at 3-minute intervals. After the milk has been chilled by passing over pipes, through which run ice water, it is stored in the refrigerator room in the milk house. This room contains the large ice-water tank which keeps the milk cooler system at the desired temperature. An electric blower keeps the air circulating in the refrigerator or storage room.

Mr. Prosser milks more than forty Holstein cows and averages approximately 180 gallons a day. All of the milk is trucked to the Peoria market.

Cheaper Power

Despite the addition of the milk cooler, milking machines, water pump, barnyard lights and numerous electrical appliances in the farm home, Mr. Prosser says that his power bill is from $10 to $15 lower per month with REA service than it was when he operated his own generating unit.

Not only is the power cheaper, he says, but electrical service also allows the farm "freedom from breakdowns, repairs and worry over getting the necessary fuel to operate the portable plant."

Mr. Prosser is an enthusiastic booster for REA cooperative service and, through his enthusiasm, he has encouraged other farmers to become members of Corn Belt Electric cooperative, offices of which are in Bloomington. During the current farm labor shortage, he says, he wouldn't know what he would do without electricity—with it, however, he is able to maintain a work schedule higher than any he had formerly thought possible on his more than 300-acre farm.

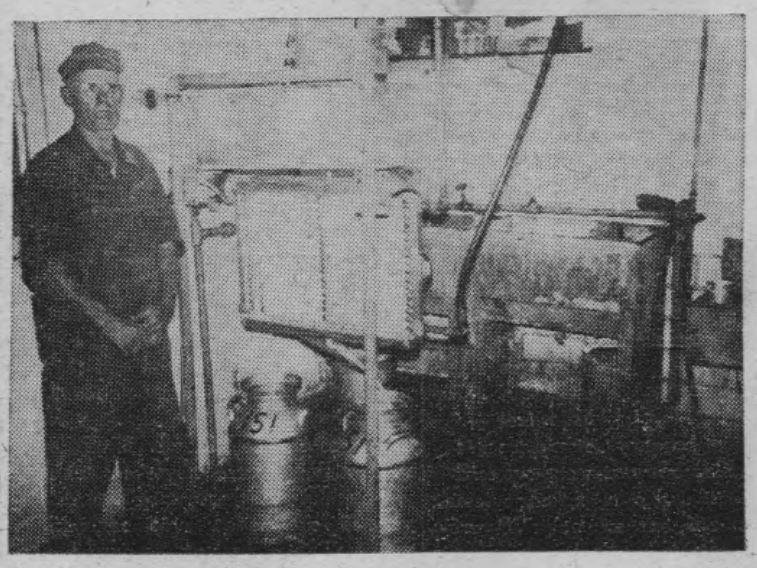
Farmers Hear of Red Clover Seed Scarcity

If at all possible, farmers should save their second crop of clover seed, according to J. C. Hackleman, crop extension Specialist of the University of Illinois.

The old seed is all used up, while the red clover is practically wiped out in central Illinois. It is the most serious shortage that has ever developed in red clover seed history.

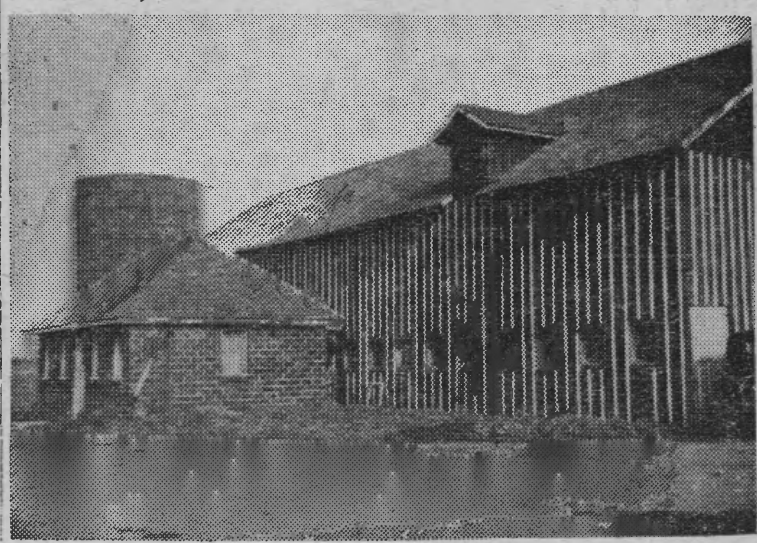
Twenty to twenty-five seeds per head will make a profitable seed crop, according to Hackleman.

Cool, Clean Milk Ready For Market



A. L. Prosser is shown above beside his electrically-operated milk cooler. Milk is brought from the dairy barn every three minutes and immediately chilled by flowing over a series of water-cooled pipes. Cans of milk are then stored in an insulated cold room, which also contains the ice water used for the cooler. All equipment is operated by current provided by the Corn Belt Electric cooperative.

Barn, Milk House On Prosser Farm



A view of the large red and white, attractive barn and milk house on the Prosser farm is shown above. Here each day more than forty cows are milked to supply the Peoria market. Mr. Prosser averages approximately 180 gallons of milk daily. Without REA cooperative service, he says, operation of his dairy business would not be possible on the present expanded scale.

NEW LEADER OF REA SAFETY AND JOB COMMITTEE

T. M. BRADY

T.M. "Ted" Brady, manager of Eastern Illinois Electric cooperative, and new chairman of the Illinois REA safety and job training committee, is planning an active program this year to promote safety measures throughout the Illinois REA system. Mr. Brady is technically as well as scholastically suited for the position to which he was recently elected because he has had actual experience in the electrical engineering field, for which he studied at the University of Illinois.

The Eastern Illinois Electric cooperative, with offices located in Paxton, is one of the larger REA cooperatives in the state.

1943 Production of Poultry Meat May Set Record

With the number of chickens on farms in Illinois and the north central states just about double the 10-year average, poultry meat production in 1943 will reach an all-time high if producers are able to carry through their present plans.

In addition to the large farm production, tremendous numbers of chicks are being raised in towns and cities—in garages, basements, attics and back yards. It is especially significant that about one out of every five purchasers of day-old chicks never bought baby chicks before.

"Beginners' luck" will see many of them through, but to some others it will be a disappointing experience. Little space is required for fifty day-old chicks, but those same fifty at fryer size will need nearly 10 times as much room and will eat a surprising amount of feed.

Feed may be saved all through 1943 by preventing waste, using liquid skimmilk or buttermilk to replace commercial protein concentrates, making maximum use of pasture and storing a supply of high-quality alfalfa or clover hay for use next winter.

Here 'n there in ILLINOIS

BY RUSSELL GINGLES

A hush fell over the garage and storage section of the Menard Electric cooperative building, as Freddy Darr maneuvered into position. On the floor in front of him a wary chicken, its legs tied, watched her antagonist as a mouse must watch as a cat closes in for the kill. The preliminary hush was finally broken by a series of terrified squawks—the chicken was in full retreat. In a few moments it was all over, and Fred was on his way home with the chicken—a gift of an appreciative member, Emil Johannes Becker of Greenview. At last reports, however, Fred was looking for somebody to kill the chicken so it might repose amidst mashed potatoes and gravy on the Darr table. Seems that as far as Fred got with the bird was the family clothes line, where he tied the chicken and left it to enjoy itself in the petunia bed.

* * *

Ted Brady, manager of East Illinois Electric cooperative at Paxton, looked up anxiously from his place in the temporary chairman's chair at the recently annual meeting of the Illinois REA safety and job training committee. Someone had just nominated him for chairman of the committee for the new year, and there was every indication that the nominations were about to be closed. Ted cleared his throat and asked: "Are there any more nominations—please?"

* * *

Whatever was said concerning the hot bearing on Clarence Thompson's new combine, no fault could be found with the spot he and two cooperative farmers in the neighborhood discovered to make repairs. Mr. Thompson, who resides southwest of Virginia, had just started into the fields to combine wheat, when something wen wrong. And, like a car getting a flat tire in front of a service station, so the combine caused trouble right in the cool shade of a big tree on the Thompson farm.

* * *

Camera film is getting almost impossible to get—consequently, if you see your reporter around in the next couple of months wearing an artist's smock and carrying his paints and brushes don't be alarmed. The Illinois REA News must have pictures, and instead of snapping 'em we may be painting 'em. It usually takes about an hour or so for us to whip up anything which looks like a straight line either on canvas or the side of a barn, so we'll arrange to come around about breakfast time and stay for the day; a fellow can't work too slowly if he wants to get results, you know.

* * *

We thought we had seen almost everything and tasted nearly everything, but we discovered we hadn't seen or tasted anything before like Mrs. C. V. Swanson's country-fried fresh eggs, rhubarb pie, delicious coffee and cookies. "Vic" Swanson took the blame for the two of us being late for the board meetng of the Illini Electric cooperative at Champaign . . . but he and I both knew who was at fault. I just couldn't tear myself away from a non-restaurant breakfast to reach the co-op office by 10 a. m. And as your representative jogged toward home in Elizabeth this trip there reposed in the back seat of the car, a big jar of home-rendered lard. Life had indeed lost much of its harshness through a visit to the Swanson farm.

* * *

J. B. "Jess" Hayes is slated to break a colt for horseback riding in the near future—his little daughter is seeing to that. As we chatted with Mr. Hayes, who resides east of Ludlow on Route 9, his daughter brought up the subject of Phil, an apt name for a colt, and got around to mentioning the riding horses which her girl friends had. It was a gentle hint and Mr. Hayes got it; so it looks as if the secretary-treasurer of the Eastern Illinois Power cooperative at Paxton is going to have ajob on his hands, in addition to taking care of REA cooperative funds.

* * *

Andrew Scharpf, conscientious board member of the Illini Electric cooperative, has a weighty problem on his mind these days—but folks who know him best are betting that they know the solution. Mr. Scharpf has farmed all his life and now is trying to decide whether to rent his large acreage and just confine his energy to his first love — raising Percheron horses. It's a big decision to make, but his friends can't imagine the very active REA cooperative member twiddling his thumbs on the porch of his beautiful home while someone else works the farm land on which he was raised . . . and so they're betting that when the time comes to make up his mind, Mr. Scharpf will vote to remain one of his county's hard working farmers. The thought of him coming to town and telling the boys about the crops he used to raise doesn't fit Mr. Scharpf, his neighbors declare.

* * *

It was near dinner time when we wandered into a little restaurant in Ashland, near Petersburg, and sat wearily down, wondering what the war-time menu held for us that evening. While we waited in fear and trembling, a snappy little waitress appeared at our table and apologetically announced: "Sorry, mister, but the only meat we are serving tonight is beef steak." You could have bowled us over with a whiff from a catsup bottle—and we thought steak had gone the way of the dodo bird and the covered wagon.

* * *

Benjamin Hughes, bookkeeper for Adams Electric cooperative at Camp Point, and Mother Nature clashed violently the other evening and Ben lost the contest. Seems like Ben was going against all tradition by trying to mow his lawn at night. To foil the gloom, he attached a light bulb to his electrically-powered lawn mower. However, while giving the lawn a quick manicure, the light went out and, in the confusion of the moment, Ben gave the mower an extra push and cut the cord in two.

* * *

One of the best messages sent out recently to REA cooperative members is the one mailed last month from the office of T. H. Hafer, superintendent of Corn Belt Electric Cooperative at Bloomington.

Ted wrote as follows: "When the REA high line was built to your farm it made available to you not only safe, convenient and economical lighting, but also gave you power to lessen the drudgery of many farm jobs. Electric power is not rationed—the world needs all the food we can produce. Use electric power wisely for maximum production of food."

We located the ideal spot for a summer office for the Illinois REA News. It's in the sharp freeze room of the Hancock Frozen Foods cooperative storage locker plant at Carthage. We don't care what the rental charge is, we'll gladly pay any price just to bang out our copy where the frigid breezes blow. And, now that we've discovered the place, readers in the future need not be surprised to find icicles hanging from every other word in the paper—no matter how hot the day.

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Warning Issued Against Move To Raise Wholesale Electric Rates

Ellis Seeks Release of Rejected Wire in Army Hands

Calling for concerted cooperative action to thwart what he termed a "campaign by power companies to raise wholesale rates on electricity sold to REA cooperatives" and pleading for a release of "rejected" copper wire held by military sources for rural electrification uses, Clyde T. Ellis, executive manager of the National Rural Electric Cooperative association, addressed delegates to the Illinois Association of Electric Cooperatives on the second day of the annual convention in Springfield.

Other speakers on the program with Mr. Ellis included Howard Leonard, director of the Illinois department of agriculture; J. Francis Buck, administrative officer of the Illinois state war board, and F. Lee Farmer, priority analyist assistant of the district office of the war production board.

In opening his address, Mr. Ellis cited instances where public utilities had won their fight to increase the rates on wholesale electricity sold to REA cooperatives and urged that similar situations be prevented through adoption of measures which require power companies to submit to hearings on the matter before OPA officials.

Copper Wire Problem

Discussing the copper wire shortage existing in the nation, the NRECA executive manager said that surveys made by the association disclosed approximately 2,000,000 pounds of copper wire, which had been rejected by army officials as being unsuitable for military use, stored away in military warehouses. This wire, he said, although rejected by military officials, is suitable for use in electrical extension work.

In summing up the situation, he declared: "We've got to get more copper wire" if the rural electrification program is to be of service to the nation in wartime.

Reviews Difficulties

In reviewing insurance plans, suggested sometime ago for REA cooperatives, Mr. Ellis said that all previous arrangements for the program have been abandoned and that a new tentative arrangement had been arrived at through a "pooling of cooperative insurance," which is similar to the program in vogue in private industrial plants.

He said that there "is and never has been any fight on between the National Rural Electric Cooperative association and REA and no fight on our part between the association and Administrator Harry Slattery." He paid high tribute to the work being done by REA and called it "the best organization in the government."

In discussing other problems facing REA cooperatives, Mr. Ellis lamented the fact that a number of smaller refrigerator manufacturing plants, which have not converted to war production, are apparently being forbidden to manufacture refrigerators for farm use. He also emphasized the need of keeping men essential to the welfare of REA cooperative systems on the job and offered the services of the association in appealing for deferment in cases presented to it.

Bluegrass Saves Protein For Pigs

In the University of Illinois tests 43-pound pigs fed to a 200-pound final weight on bluegrass pasture from July 14 to late October. Those which were fed less than half as much protein supplement as the self-fed lot ate, gained nearly as rapidly and more cheaply. They required only 5.8 bushels of corn, 8.6 pounds of tankage and 4.3 pounds of soybean meal to make 100 pounds of gain.

Red Cross Feeds Flood Refugees; Cattle Rescued

All hands "Turned to", during the recent floods which devastated millions of acres of farm lands in the midwestern states, and thousands of head of valuable li stock were saved. The U. S. coast guard rescued many animals in barges towed by U. S. army amphibian jeeps. The coast guard provided many boats for use of the American Red Cross to feed livestock marooned on high places in the flood areas. The American Red Cross not only fed animals, but provided food for families which had been evacuated, and whose feed stores were destroyed. The same agency also provided many "shots" of serum for animals, which held disease among the livestock to a minimum, with no epidemic even threatened.

Feeding corrals throughout the midwest were obtained for emergency feeding of rescued animals, and grazing lands of the U. S. forestry service, opened up thousands of acres of forestry reserve as grazing lands for animal refugees.

Among reports coming into national headquarters of the American Red Cross are such as those received from Arkansas; 850 families were given feed orders for 5000 head of livestock and 30,000 poultry; from Oklahoma came the report that feed orders were given to 540 families for 2500 head of livestock and much poultry; Illinois and Missouri areas reported 15,072 head of hogs, 3484 head of livestock, 1200 head of work animals, and thousands of poultry were fed on emergency rations. Reports from other sections came in saying that an unstated number of livestock and many head of poultry had been given emergency rations.

In many instances, the owners or herdsmen remained with their livestock which had been marooned on high places. In these cases the Red Cross fed both the tenders and the livestock.

In Arkansas, Dr. Joseph S. Campbell, state veterinarian, requested the Red Cross to help in a program of immunizing livestock, by providing the necessary vaccine and serum, against blackleg and cholera. The Red Cross supplied 130,000 cc of cholera serum, 11,020 cc of cholera virus, and 35,000 doses of blackleg bacterin. Veterinarians loaned by the U. S. department of agriculture did the work.

In sending thanks to the Red Cross for its work among the livestock, Dr. Campbell said "I consider this one of the most worthwhile jobs in the livestock field ever done in this state."

Families Flooded

More than 48,000 families were affected by the floods which flowed rampant in six states—Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Kansas. More than 3,000,000 acres in 188 counties were inundated, and 16,840 homes were seriously damaged or destroyed. Of the flood areas, 1,837,000 acres were in crop lands, while the remainder was grazing or wood lands given over to livestock production. In the Arkansas-Oklahoma area, the flood was a "double-header", when the second flood appeared before the first one had disappeared.

Most of the livestock relief was done among small farmers who had sufficient fed and food to see them and their livestock through, but were unable to either feed themselves or their cattle following destruction of their stores.

Most of the land flooded in Illinois was put back in production in mid-July as farmers followed along behind the receding waters with their tractors and plows. Although thousands of acres of wheat and corn were ruined, much of the formerly inundated land was replanted in soybeans.

Food Problems—

(Continued from Page One)

"Food and our capacity to produce it has suddenly become a No. 1 factor in our war against the fascist aggressors. Electrical energy, by saving labor on the farm and increasing production, is now being translated into the calories and the vitamins, into the tremendous human energies that it takes to win a war like this. Our farmers produced a record food crop last year, and they are doing a remarkable production job again this year.

"Our war effort would be greatly strengthened today if we could extend now, to all our remaining farm plants, power and equipment similar to that enjoyed by the 2,300,000 farms now connected with central power stations. We need every bit of energy on our farms today that we can get. The rural electrification program is essential in helping to supply this energy to maximum production of food, without which we can not win the war.

Electricity Aids

"Electric power has been a big factor in helping the American farmer carry the burden of food production in this war and that burden has been steadily growing heavier.

"Food supplies are taken into account in laying our military schedules, just as much as guns. Unless we meet our food production schedules here at home, the army can not carry out its strategic plan abroad. Food will not only help to win the war, but it will also help to win the peace when the time comes to talk peace.

"We need harmony and understanding, for we have some serious obstacles to face. Inflation in particular is an ugly menace. Both on the farm and elsewhere, we all have the responsibility to check inflationary tendencies that would raise prices for everybody and bring profit to nobody but a few speculators.

I believe from the bottom of my heart that the future of American agriculture is brighter today, and that the chances of the American farmer for a good life are better today than ever before in American history."

Here 'n There—

(From Page Three)

ILL News HERE 'N THERE Gal 2

Mrs. G. L. Briggs, who helps her husband operate Dean F. H. Curren's farm near Macomb, must be in league with the elements which produce poor photographs. She told us she didn't want her picture in the paper—said she wasn't photogenic enough to look her best while driving a tractor. But we insisted. So she posed, but we thought she looked at us with a knowing smile. And she was right—even though we took three pictures, results were still the same. So Mrs. Briggs wins. Next time we'll try an oil painting and see if we can do better.

* * *

While looking for a farm owned by a college dean, we inquired directions at a nearby farm and discovered that it is owned by a retired Methodist minister. Looks as if educators and the clergy like McDonough county farm land. The retired clergyman is the Rev. R. T. Balleu of Knoxville, and the farm is operated by the T. B. Hughes family. The farm has been served by the McDonough Power cooperative for four years. One of its distinctive features is a broad expanse of lawn it from the farm home. In addition to raising their share of food for freedom crops, the Hughes also have 600 chickens and milk nine cows.

* * *

Ira Sieben of near Geneseo will make certain his billfold is securely in his pocket next time before he agrees to pay off a wager made to his daughter-in-law. Seems that Mr. Sieben bet and lost a chicken dinner to his daughter-in-law and, when in Chicago recently, called her up at her home in Evanston and offered to pay off if she would come down to the loop and collect. She accepted the offer gladly, but when she arrived at the restaurant, Mr. Sieben had to borrow enough money from her to make good his wager. Seems that while waiting for his daughter-in-law to come down town, he strolled into a drug store for an ice cream soda and somebody helped himself to his billfold.

* * *

Looks like the linemen for Western Electric cooperative at Carthage will have to take up a collection to buy a slicker for the motor of their service truck. The boys had just finished giving us the royal razzberry for calling a crossarm a crossbar and started out on a muddy road, when the good fairy who watches over all newspaper men, decided that we should have our revenge for their chuckles. So we laughed last as water splashed up under the car and killed the engine. While the boys worked to dry off the wires, we reclined smugly in our car and listened to the radio, secure in the knowledge that they had paid a high price for those razzberries.

Urges Release of Additional Farm Equipment

Howard Leonard Talks on Rural Problems; WPB Men Speak

Howard Leonard, director of the Illinois department of agriculture, urged that the settlement of farm problems be left to the farmers "who know their own situation better than Washington planners," and urgently requested that more machinery, repairs and replacement parts be alloted farmers, in addressing the convention.

Mr. Leonard pleaded for the establishment of a proper balance between agriculture and finished goods and said that a relaxation of farm implement manufacturing quotas will do much to help the farmer harvest his increased crops of soybeans and corn this year.

The director of agriculture said that last year a large share of the soybean crop was not harvested because of the lack of combines, adding that, while this situation existed, it was learned that a number of unsold but "frozen" combines were sitting in warehouses. He also declared that selective service officials discovered too late that agriculture was an essential industry and, consequently, many farm boys are now serving in the army. Mr. Leonard said that efforts are being made to have a number of farm workers "furloughed" back home to help with the harvest this fall.

Priority Problems

If farmers know the reason behind priority restrictions, they are usually satisfied with the report that certain materials are not available to them at this time. REA cooperative members were told in a talk by F. Lee Farmer, priority analyst of the district war production board. In explaining the copper wire shortage, he said that, prior to the campaign in Sicily, the military supplies division had asked for "120 percent of all copper wire available," and added that now, with expanding war plans underway, military requests are certainly not going to be reduced.

Changing regulations, he said, are brought about by the varying demands made by the military forces as war campaigns progress.

Francis Buck, administrative officer of the state war board, said that while the picture concerning allocations of copper wire in counties of the state appear to be brighter, the supply still will be very limited.

He discussed the recently enacted control materials order and said that copper wire now comes under this ruling, requiring farmers to get war board approval for equipment needed. Mr. Buck said that REA cooperatives should base their applications on need and ask for copper wire only in "cases of proven production." Be certain, he said, that additional wiring will permit farmers to increase production before seeking any of the small supply available.

Convention delegates were entertained on the closing day with vocal selections presented by Dorothy Gallehue, Vildra Fargusson and Betty Calvert, all of Sciota, accompanied at the piano by Twila Askew. The farm homes of all but Miss Fargusson, who resides in the village of Sciota, are served by the McDonough Electric Power cooperative at Macomb.

Farm Outlook Given; Review Feed Problems

Government agencies have established a ceiling price on live hogs at $14.75 a hundredweight, to be effective early next month. The War Food Administration also announced that the $13.75 support price would be extended to include weights from 200 to 270 pounds, good-to-choice butcher hogs at Chicago, between September 1, 1943, and March 31, 1944. Farmers are asked to market their hogs at 230 pounds or less, in order to conserve the dwindling feed supplies. It is difficult to see how this recent action is going to conserve much feed.

As matters stand now, corn is worth more for feed to hogs, beef cattle, dairy cows or chickens than the ceiling price. Under these circumstances, the individual farmer is bound to feed corn to livestock as long as his supplies last.

Unless price ceilings on dairy products are increased in the fall and winter, dairy product-feed price ratios are likely to be less favorable at that time for dairy farmers than a year earlier. Because of the probable tight feed situation, this would tend to discourage an increase in milk production ,and our consumption, both of manufactured dairy products and fluid milk will remain at approximately the same level as last winter.

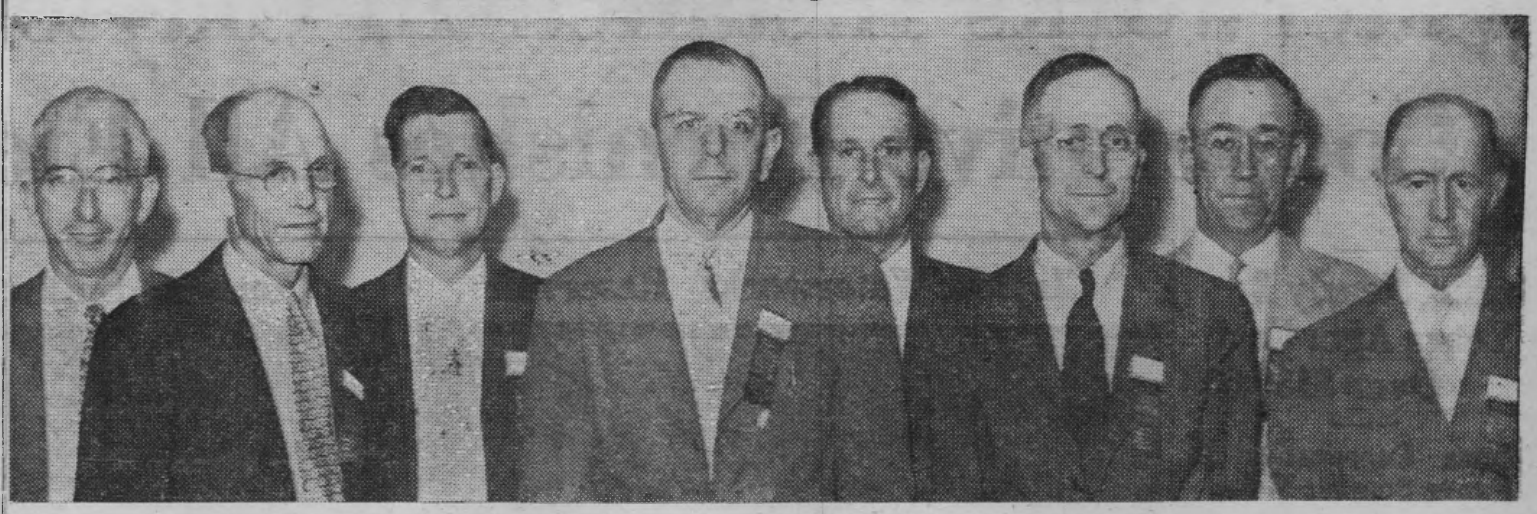
Comparison Given

Compared to July 1, 1942, cold storage holdings on July 1, 1943, showed the following percentage changes: Frozen fruits, minus 18 percent; frozen vegetables, plus 12 percent; butter plus 35 percent; cheese, minus 45 percent; eggs, plus 14 percent; frozen poultry, minus 68 percent; beef, 0; pork, minus 1 percent; total meats, minus 2 percent; lard plus 119 percent.

The very substantial drop in supplies of frozen poultry may forecast a decrease in available supplies of poultry throughout the coming fall and winter. It may mean, for example, that consumers are using poultry to such a great extent in lieu of rationed meats that, in spite of the very large production of poultry, smaller quantities will be available next fall and winter. The lard situation reflects building up of stocks to more nearly average levels. The consumer has been paying an extremely high price for lard and tallow sold to him as pork and beef. This policy is wasteful and can not be justified under any circumstances. It probably results from a desire to make the consumer believe that he is buying meat at a relatively low price. It does seem rather silly, however, to try to fool the housewife and to provide for a system which calls for double transportation and consumers and back to the soap industries as a waste product.

Total cash income from farm marketings by Illinois farmers during April, 1943 were 25 percent above a year ago. Income from the sale of crops was up 39 percent and from the sale of livestock up to 20 percent. For the United States, total income was up 35 percent, income from the sale of crops, up 40 percent, and from the sale of livestock, up 32 percent.

Association Directors, Officers Named



Members of the newly elected board of directors of the Illinois Association of Electric Cooperatives are shown above as they met to name new officers for the ensuing year, following their ratification as members of the board at the closing convention session.

From left to right, they are:

Front row—A. E. Drennan, Tri-County Electric cooperative, Mount Vernon; G. Wayne Welsh, McDonough Power cooperative; Macomb; C. V. Swanson, Illini Electric cooperative, Champaign, and E. C. Lewis, Menard Electric cooperative, Petersburg.

Back row—J. Wesley Barth, Wayne-White County Electric cooperative, Fairfield; Norman D. McCoy, Shelby Electric cooperative, Shelbyville; W. L. Bradley, Southeastern Illinois Electric cooperative, Harrisburg, and Fred W. Harms, Rural Electric Convenience cooperative, Divernon.

Mr. Welsh was re-elected president and Mr. Lewis was renamed secretary-treasurer of the association. Mr. Harms was elected vice-president to succeed W. H. Kooce, Southwestern Electric cooperative, Greenville, whom he also replaced as a member of the state-wide board. Mr. Swanson succeded Walter Risser, Corn Belt Electric cooperative, Bloomington, as a director. No director has as yet been named to succeed Raymond Eiten, Valley Electric cooperative at Princeton, which withdrew from the state-wide association.

A. E. Becker, manager of Menard Electric cooperative at Petersburg, was reappointed coordinator of the association.

Red Cross Helps Get Packages To Prisoners of War

"Stalag," "Dulag," or "Oflag," might be just three more German words to most people but to hundreds of American families they mean the addresses where their brothers, husbands, or fathers are held prisoners of war in German camps. Stalag is an abbreviation of a German word meaning a prison camp for privates, Oflag is a permanent officers' prison camp, and Dulag is a transient camp. But whatever the camp, it is such an address on the labels furnished next of kin of captured United States personnel by the Office of Provost Marshal General which enables them to mail parcels to their brothers and husbands.

Italian prison camps are designated by P. G. and P. M., followed by a designating number. The P. M. is an area and the P. G. is a specific camp.

Through April 30, 1943, the American Red Cross has been informed of the dispatch of 31,889 parcels from Geneva to American soldiers in German and Italian prison camps.

The standard American Red Cross prisoner of war food parcel contains powdered whole milk, oleomargarine fortified with vitamin A, American cheese, pork luncheon meat, corned beef, liver pate, salmon, dried prunes, orange concentrate, army biscuits, sugar, coffee, chocolate, cigarettes, and soap. Each parcel weighs eleven pounds, more than eight of which are food.

Order Weekly Parcels

The International Red Cross has been instructed to dispatch sufficient standard American Red Cross food parcels so that one may be distributed each week to each United States prisoner. Other United Nations prisoners of war receive American Red Cross food parcels, which are purchased by foreign Red Cross societies, governments in exile, and private relief organizations. Parcels for American prisoners are paid for by the army and navy.

Purchasing Regulations

New regulations have been issued by which close relatives of United Nations prisoners of war may send standard food parcels to identified prisoners in Europe through the American Red Cross. These regulations, now effective, can be obtained from local Red Cross chapters, and cover prisoners of Belgian, Polish, Yugoslav, Norwegian, Dutch, Greek, and other nationalities. Prisoners held by Japan are not included in the new regulations, due to present lack of transportation facilities to the Far East.

The American Red Cross emphasized that only through placing an order for a standard Red Cross food parcel, and under certain regulations information about which can be obtained at the local Red Cross chapters, may these parcels be sent. They cost $3.50.

In addition to food parcels delivered each week, articles of clothing and other supplies are delivered to Americans in prison camps as they are needed. In March 1943, the following distribution of such articles was reported by the International Committee to the American Red Cross: 900 overcoats, 1308 pairs of shoes, 1,323 shirts, 1,280 undershirts, 1,306 shorts, 2,280 pairs of socks, 2,660 handkerchiefs, 185 trousers, 130 army caps, 130 gloves, one case disinfectant, 100 toilet sanitary articles.

Relatives Send Parcels

The same type of standard food parcel is distributed weekly to all American prisoners of war, and is paid for by the United States army and navy. Private parcels may be sent direct to American prisoners whose next of kin reside in the United States, to whom labels are issued by the Office of the Provost Marshal General, War Department, Washington, D. C., or by any individual to whom the next of kin transfers his label. Labels issued by the department of war services, Ottawa, Canada, to next of kin in the United States of captured members of the Canadian forces authorize the sending of a private parcel each ninety days.

The American Red Cross does not accept contributions for the standard food parcels for United States prisoners, but does accept unrestricted contributions for general relief to United States prisoners, applying such funds to the purchase and shipment of medical supplies, cigarettes, tobacco, and other comfort articles not provided by the army and navy.

The new regulations do not apply to civilians living in enemy-occupied countries.

Corn Crop Will Exceed Average Yield In State

Despite a late start and the handicap of corn borer and chinch bug infestation in some areas, Illinois corn promises to make a crop better than average, although considerably below last year's unusually high record. The indicated yield is 45 bushels per acre; last year the yield was 54.5 bushels. A total crop of 393,660,000 bushels is estimated by state and federal departments of agriculture. The total Illinois yield of corn last year was 433,438, 000 bushels.

Soybeans show the best prospects of any of the leading Illinois farm crops. Fields of beans are said to be unusually free from weeds, and are making rapid growth during the midsummer heat. No official estimate on soybean acre yield will be made until

Finish Pigs Now On Feed, Farmers In State Advised

Although the corn supply is somewhat short due to the fact that farmers have responded to the government's plea for more and more pork, the University of Illinois Department of Agricultural Economics, cautious farmers not to become panicky and sell all their sows and unfinished pigs.

Some downward adjustment is necessary to balance with corn supplies. However, farmers who have corn on hand and a good corn prospect in the offing should certainly not sell all their sows and should finish pigs on feed to at least 200 to 225 pounds.

GO FISHING WITHOUT GAS— It's okay with Mr. Ickes if the country's ardent fishermen continue their sport but he says, "we still think it's a god idea for them to fish when they can and where they can without extra gasoline." Gasoline for fishing trips won't be available, no matter how productive of food the sport may be.

Dehydrator Constructed Almost Entirely of Salvage Materials

Practical for Use of Farm Family; Saves on Containers

Built primarily from scrap lumber taken from old transformer crates, a dehydrator, constructed on plans submitted by the REA, is giving farm folks in the Adams Electric cooperative territory a patriotic idea on how to prepare food through the popular drying process.

Heating units for the dehydrator, which now is on exhibit in the cooperative's office in Camp Point following a series of demonstrations in the area by the home adviser, cost a total of $9.34. The dehydrator contains an ordinary 8-inch fan. Materials which had to be purchased for its construction included insulation board and hinges, in addition to the heating units.

A farmer who has average ability as a carpenter can save the $20.10 labor cost involved in construction of the dehydrator by a Camp Point cabinet maker. The dehydrator has nine trays, measuring 18x20 inches and four cone heating units, capable of a total of 1600 watts.

One improvement made in the Adams Electric cooperative is the installation of a thermostat, containing a special wafer which allows the temperature to climb to 160 degrees. It also has observation windows in the front and back, but these were installed principally for use in demonstrations.

The dehydrator has switches for both manual and thermostatic control so that persons interested in constructing one may take their choice in the matter of heat control mechanisms.

Practical Device

Preservation of food by dehydration is particularly practical for the farm family at this time, as it represents a great saving in the number of tin cans, jars and other containers needed to preserve the yearly family food supply. Drying reduces the volume of food one-fourth to one-ninth the original volume.

Drying by dehydration can be accomplished in a shorter time than by sun-drying, and consequently there is less danger of fermentation and insect infestation. Dehydration in most cases, produces a superior product in color, flavor and nutritive value.

If properly prepared, balanced and dehydrated, foods will retain much of their original vitamin content. Vitamin C is most easily destroyed during dehydration. Dried foods can not be depended upon as a sourse of Vitamin C. Steam blanching is preferable to water blanching because it tends to preserve the vitamins and minerals.

Vegetables most suitable for drying follow:

Suitable Vegetables

Corn—Any of the sweet varieties used on the table: Stowells Evergreen, Country Gentlemen, and Golden Bantam are excellent.

Beets—Dark, red, solid color beet such as Detroit Red.

Cabbage—Savoy, Danish, Domestic and Pointed Head varieties are satisfactory, Kraut varieties are not suitable for dehydration.

Carrots—Chantenay, Morse Bunching and Imperator varieties.

Onions—(1) Evenezer, White Portugal, Red Creole and White Creole are excellent. (2) Early Yellow Globe, Mountain Danvers, Ohio Yellow Glove, Red Wethersfield, Southport Red, Yellow and White Globes, Brigham Yellow Globe, Yellow Globe Danvers may be used and blended with those of (1). (Sweet Spanish and Australian Browns are not suitable for dehydration).

Potatoes, Irish—Mealy varieties are most satisfactory. Idaho Russet, Oregon Gems, Klamoth Russets, and Burbanks are good. Irish Cobbler, Early Ohio, Chippewa and Bliss Triumph are also satisfactory.

Potatoes, Sweet—Both soft "yam" and hard starchy varieties are suitable for drying. The best varieties are Puerto Rican, Maryland Sweets, Key West, Jersey and Nancy Hall.

Rutabagas—American Purple Top, Bangholm, and Early Neckless.

The following fruits are also recommended for drying:

Recommended Fruits

Fruits should be thoroughly matured and ripened before harvesting.

Fruits and vegetables should be dehydrated the same day as harvested, if possible. In case it is necessary to store them, they should be kept in a refrigerator to avoid loss of vitamin content. Exceptions are pumpkin, Irish and sweet potatoes, which may be stored before dehydration.

Preparation of Fruits for Drying

Apples may be dipped in salt water as soon as sliced, to prevent discoloration. Add three to five teaspoons of salt to each gallon of water. Halves of apricots and peaches should be steamed until cooked through before placing in the dehydrator. Sulfuring of fruits is not advised when they are to be dried in the electric dehydrator, because of chemical reaction of sulfur fumes on the metal of the electric equipment. Figs, grapes and prunes should be dipped in boiling lye with subsequent cold water rinse. The lye solution

Apricots—Blenheim, Royal, Tilton.

Figs — Adriatic, Black Mission, Calemyrna, Kadota.

Nectarines—Hardwick, Newboy, Quetta, Stanwick.

Peaches (Clingstone) — Mid-summer varieties and Phillips.

Peaches (Freestone) — Elberta, Lovell, Muir.

Pears—Bartlett.

Prunes—French Imperial, Sugar, Robe de Sergeant.

Raisins (natural)—Muscat, Sultana, Thompson Seedless.

Currants—Black Corinth.

Preparation of Food for Drying

Selection:

Vegetables for dehydration should be garden fresh. They should be harvested either early or late in the day to avoid heat and direct rays of the sun. Mature sound vegetables should be selected. Immature vegetables are weak in color and flavor, while overmature vegetables are usually tough and woody.

should be from 1 to 3 per cent in strength.

Vegetables and fruits should be dehydrated immediately following blanching or other recommended treatment. They should be spread evenly over the trays, about one-half inch thick. Cheese cloth may be spread over trays for such vegetables as corn and those which have a tendency to stick to the trays.

Care and Storage of Dehydrated Foods

Products direct from the dehydrator are never uniformly dry. They should be kept in covered containers, and a daily stirring is advisable to mix the more moist pieces with the drier ones. The product should be packed in air-tight, moisture-proof containers, such as glass jars, metal cans with lids or moisture-proof paper bags. The product should be packed immediately after coming from the dehydrator, as mold and other forms of deterioration may take place. Small containers for home use are most practical. Dried products should be stored in a warm dry room and, if glass jars are used, as much of the sunlight as possible should be excluded.

The ordinary pantry or storeroom off the kitchen is usually not dry enough for storage of dried food. In damp climates, or during rainy seasons, packages of dried foods should be examined occasionally, and if any of the products are absorbing moisture, they should be returned to the dehydrator and dried to restore them to their original dry condition.

Cooking and Use of Dried Foods

Dried fruits and vegetables should be soaked in water about five to eight times their volume, for several hours, depending on the product. In cooking, the soaking water should be used. Dried foods do not require as long a cooking period as the fresh food.

A bee's sting is one thirty-secondth of an inch long. The other two feet is imagination.

Waterworks Installed In Clayton; REA Cooperative Furnishes All Electricity

Begun Nearly 3 Years Ago; Cost Over $150,000

Adams Cooperative Is Power Source; Make Plans for Lake

The village pump still stands on Main street in the beautiful little city park in the heart of Clayton—but it is fast becoming a passing fancy, linking this busy community with an era when the town was without a modern water system.

Final accomplishment of the long-sought aim was realized late this month when electrical power for operation of the pumping station was provided by Adams Electric cooperative at Camp Point. And, while many houses and business establishments do not yet have the necessary fixtures required for running water, more than 200 consumers have already begun to enjoy the new system.

An 1800-foot extension was required from Adams' existing 3-phase line to bring power to Clayton's modern, well-equipped, compact pumping station . Four motors are needed to operate the station—a 15 horsepower motor being used to pump water from the purifying basin to the big stand tank, from which it flows into the city mains; one 2 horsepower motor for operation of the water treating equipment and two quarter-horsepower motors to run the mixers.

The pumping station is one of the few in the state served by an REA cooperative for a village the size of Clayton, which has a population in excess of 1000. Although power for village lights comes from a public utility system, permission for serving the pumping station was granted the Adams cooperative because the REA line was closer to the pumping station and reservoir than the public utility line.

Covers 70 Acres

The project, which includes the pumping station, an artificial lake or reservoir and ground surrounding the station, covers seventy acres, according to Fred A. Weaver, mayor of Clayton.

So efficiently was the project planned that there is only one dead end in the entire city water system, which provides residents with a maximum of fresh, clean water. Water for the reservoir was provided by damming up a small creek and flooding a large section of farm land outside the city limits.

A total of 33,000 cubic yards of dirt was excavated for the artificial lake, spillway and dam, while 45,000 cubic yards of cement were poured for the concrete portions of the dam, spillway and other structures on the site. A survey shows that the reservoir contains thirty-five acres of "water surface."

The system has 8000 feet of 16-inch pipe, 21,400 feet of 4-inch pipe and 5000 feet of 2-inch pipe in the various water mains. Prepared for any eventuality, the city has also constructed twenty-five fire hydrants in the community, locating them so that no house is more than a block away from a hydrant. Plans are also being made to improve the city's fire department to take advantage of the water system.

Underway Three Years

The project was started nearly three years ago when Clayton received a WPA grant of approximately $96,000. To this the city added an additional $66,000. Of this latter amount, $56,000 was raised through a revenue bond issue and the remaining $10,000 came directly from the village treasury to be replaced through taxation.

Revenue from operation of the plant will be used to pay interest and retire the bonds. Drastic action was taken by the city last May when the WPA project was discontinued, with $20,000 still forthcoming from the original grant. With the project so far along, however, civic leaders were unwilling to see it dropped and the city took upon itself the responsibility for completing the job.

If the government sees fit to give Clayton the remainder of the grant promised, the project will be landscaped as originally planned in the near future. Otherwise, beautification of the grounds will have to be postponed until sufficient money is available for such purposes out of the water works fund or other sources of revenue, it was indicated.

Cottages Planned

Clayton residents are anxiously looking forward to the day when the shore around the sparkling, little lake will be dotted by privately owned, cottages, and shade trees can be planted on the rolling hillsides.

Plans are to stock the lake with fish in order that sportsmen in the neighborhood can enjoy themselves with rods and reels. Already two row boats have made their appearance on the lake and others may follow. Gasoline launches will be forbidden for fear of contaminating the water supply.

When the plant is in operation, water will be kept at a desirable level by means of gates which can be raised or lowered at will. Water can rush through the spillway into the original creek bed below the reservoir or can be directed through another channel which converges with the original stream beyond the high reservoir wall.

The pumping station is as modern in its small way as the largest plant in the country. It also contains an auxiliary gasoline motor which can be switched on at an instant's notice in the event of a temporary power outage due to storms or other unforeseen electrical trouble.

Latest Equipment

Filters and chlorine mixers are the latest which have been placed on the market and the spotlessly, clean, white building which houses the machinery is drawing considerable attention from townspeople who are anxious to know just how their new water system operates.

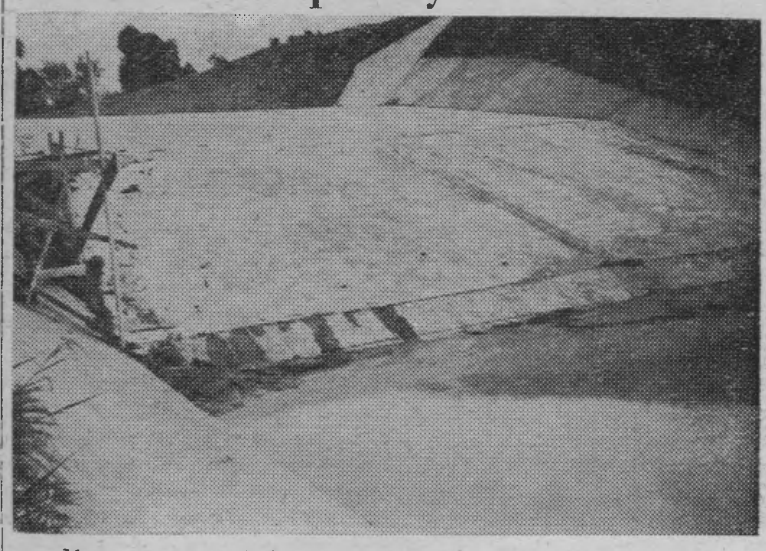
The water system was doubly appreciated this month by a number of persons in one section of the village where shallow wells had suddenly gone dry because of a prolonged hot, dry spell. Soda fountain operators too have waited anxiously for running water so that their fountains could be used adequately and the old water coolers put away for keeps in attics or basements, or turned into the nation's scrap drives.

Because of its part in being able to supply electricity, Adams Electric cooperative also has won unstinted praise and appreciation from a host of people, some of whom, like many city residents, had not given much thought to the rural electrification program and to the wonders which it has wrought on farms throughout the country.

Clayton Waterworks' Reservoir

Covering thirty-five acres and stretching for approximately one mile, the cool, inviting lake shown above is man-made. Not so long ago, most of the inundated acreage was farm land through which an average size creek meandered. But that was before Clayton got the idea of having a modern waterworks. Suiting action to the thought, the creek was dammed to provide the reservoir-lake which appears in the picture. The structure in the foreground to the left contains the mechanism for controlling the height of the water.

Concrete Spillway Is Pictured

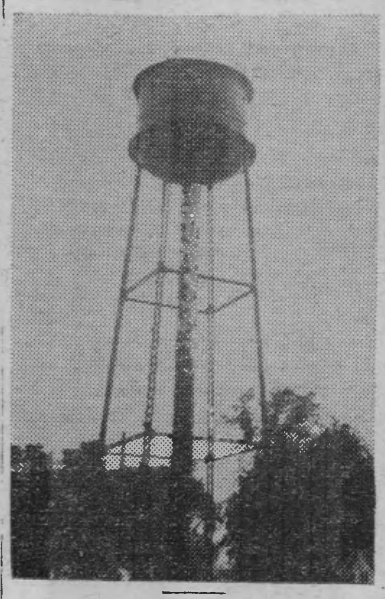


Above is a view of the concrete spillway, which is an essential part of the waterworks' project at Clayton. Into its construction went thousands of cubic yards of contrete. The lower end of the spillway empties into the channel of the spring-fed creek. Although the shore around the reservoir appears bare today, it will not remain so long—as a number of Clayton residents are looking forward to the time when relaxation of lumber priorities will enable them to construct cottages around the artificial lake.

Pump's Last Day

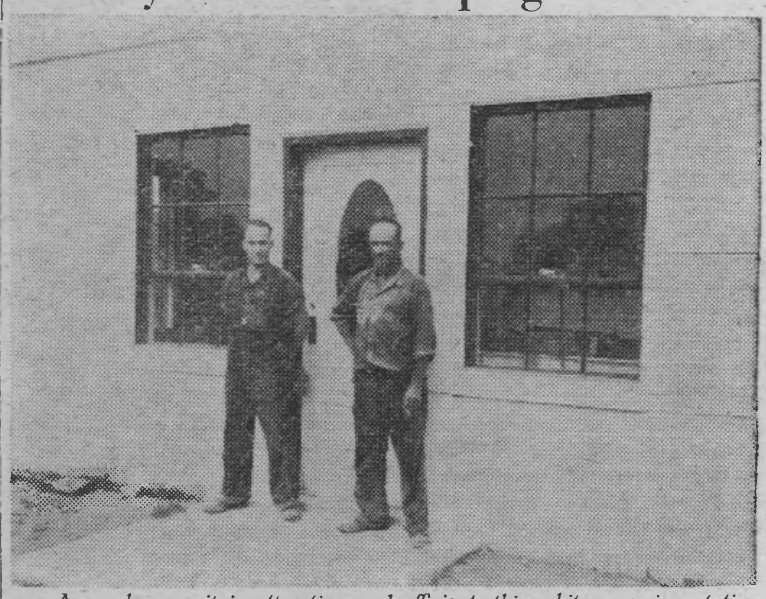
It's taken a longtime and the help of Adams Electric cooperative to reach the point where the old village pump in Clayton's city park can be classed as a landmark, rather than a necessity. But this milestone of progress has at last arrived and Mayor Fred A. Weaver, who appears above, seems to enjoy the old pump's final day while he contemplates the completion of his city's modern water system.

Water Tower



Shown above is the high water tower which is one of the vital links in Clayton's new water system. Into it will be pumped the fresh, clear, scientifically treated drinking water which will flow by gravity into the city mains. It also will hold the water which will enable Clayton's fire department to more easily extinguish any blazes which might threaten the city.

Clayton's New Pumping Station



As modern as it is attractive and efficient, this white pumping station, filtering and water treatment plant is the key to Clayton's waterworks. Through it will pass the huge amount of water needed to supply the city's homes, offices, stores and buildings. In the picture are Everett Putnam and Thomas E. O'Dear, both of whom have worked on construction of the project.

Purchasing Power of Persons Not On Farm Rising

During the first World War, the typical non-farm family spent more than 35 percent of their income for food. Wages in recent years have shown a greater increase than prices of farm products.

Today the average non-farm family can buy the same kinds and amounts of food as in 1918 for only 22 percent of their income.

Tests Indicate Availability of Rock Phosphate

Results of demonstration plots in Peoria county contradict the common misunderstanding that rock phosphate is not easily available to crops.

On one of these plots, 1,000 pounds of rock phosphate applied in the spring ahead of oats and alfalfa seedings were able to produce an increase of a ton of alfalfa the first cutting.

Because of their strong feeding power, clovers and alfalfa are able to take up phosphate and they return this phosporous to the soil in a highly available form when they are plowed under or fed and the manure returned.

Legumes such as alfalfa and clovers serve as processing plants to convert this phosphorous into a highly available form for grain crops that follow.

USED CAR GAS RATION.—The purchaser of a used car may qualify for a gasoline ration to operate it, even though he is unable to get a tire inspection record from the previous owner, if he can satisfy the local board that — (1) no tire inspection record ever was issued for the vehicle, or (2) the buyer had been unable to get the record from the previous owner after diligent attempt.

Here Is Way To Keep Water at Required Level

G. Wayne Welsh Uses Scrap Metal for Useful Device

Recipe for a home-made, automatic water control valve on a stock tank:

Take a heap of ingenuity, all the spare time you can get during your 24-hour-a-day job on the farm, add a few pieces of old iron, mix well with your son's worn-out velocipede handle bar frame, include a rod from a Model T Ford car, drive a post into the appropriate position, attach an ordinary light switch in a convenient place, add a nut and bolt or two—and presto! you've got what you've always wanted.

At least that's the way the description for making an unusual device installed on a stock tank on the G. Wayne Welsh farm near Sciota sounded when he explained and demonstrated his ingenious idea. And his Hereford steers are happy about the whole thing.

The idea was born when Mr. Welsh, who is president of the McDonough Power cooperative as well as head of the Illinois Association of Electric Cooperatives, was trying to figure out a way of keeping his big 60-barrel stock tank full of water without having to leave other work go on the farm while he watched to see that the electric pump didn't fill the tank to overflowing. There were occasions in the past when he and his hired men were too busy in another section of the big acreage to turn the pump off in time and, consequently, the tank overflowed and water ran into the feed lot.

Gets Busy

And so Mr. Welsh got busy. When he found a spare minute he wandered over to his scrap salvage pile and discovered a discarded velocipede, the handle bar frame of which he used as the basis for his workable device.

Attaching the frame to a post which he drove firmly into the ground next to the tank and a short distance from the pump, he next rescued a Model T Ford rod from the scrap pile and bolted one end of it to the lever which used to propel the velocipede in its palmier days. The other end of the rod he attached to the light switch by means of a Cotter pin. The switch is near the top of the post.

About eighteen inches from the fulcrum of the frame and over the water he attached another rod and on the end of it he put a wide, wooden float which rests on the surface of the pool. He allowed six inches of play between two bolts and washers at the end of the rod, which is attached to the velocipede frame, so that the float rises and falls with the water surface.

The light switch controls the operations of the pump which sends a stream of water into the pool through an average length pipe.

In operation, the float rests on the surface of the water and the pump does not operate until the level of the water causes the float to drop to its maximum distance of six inches at the end of the frame. When this distance is reached, the weight of the float raises the Model T rod tripping the light switch and automatically turning on the one-third horsepower motor operating the pump.

The pump continues in operation until the float has risen to its maximum height when the rod attached to the switch pulls down shutting off the power and stopping the pump.

A fascinating thing to watch, the only cost involved was the purchase of the ordinary light switch. And steers no longer are troubled with having to stretch too far into the tank to drink or wallow through mud caused when the tank overflowed as it occasionally did in the past.

The pump automatically turns on about three or four times a day and neither Mr. Welsh nor his hired men have had to take time out from chores to turn it on or off since the device was installed about a year ago. It is such ideas as this, planned carefully and produced at little cost, which farmers today are putting into use to conserve time and energy, both of which are so critically needed to offset manpower shortages and to permit them to work their farms to capacity for the war effort.

Cost Is Small, But Returns Are Great With Stock Tank Control

At little cost, G. Wayne Welsh of Sciota, shown above, has perfected a home-made device which automatically keeps water in his stock tank at the required level. The handle bar frame of a discarded velocipede forms the main basis of the device. The motor which operates the water pump is automatically turned on or off by means of a switch, controlled indirectly by levers which are set in motion by the lowering or raising of a float on the surface of the stock pool.

Has Well-Equipped Farm Workshop

Repair work on the farm is a pleasure when you have Fred Jacquot's equipment and ability, farmers in his neighborhood near Carthage say. Mr. Jacquot owns one of the most efficiently equipped farm workshops in his territory and he makes good use of it... In the above picture he is shown working on his rip saw—just one of the machines which is powered with electricity provided by the Western Electric cooperative.

Rainy Days Are Repair Days on Illinois Farm

Fred Jaquot Has One of Most Efficient Shops in State

Fred Jacquot, a native of France, had planned to retire from farming a year ago — but the army, in which his son, Leo, is serving, and the necessity of meeting food for victory goals on the home front has temporarily changed his plans.

In fact, Mr. Jacquot, his wife and their two farming sons, Hugo, who farms 400 acres, and Paul, who farms 320 acres, are working harder than ever before. Haying was a tremendous job this year for the Jacquot family, but every one pitched in and the work was finally completed.

Leo has been in the army about a year now, and for the last eight months has been located in Seattle, Wash., where, in his limited service capacity, he is acting as one of the guards at a big west coast war plant. Inducted into the army before agricultural workers were given occupational deferments, he had one of the most profitable farm sales in Illinois, auctioning off his large herd of purebred cattle and hogs for a total of nearly $12,000.

Efficient Repair Shop

Mr. Jacquot has a ready answer to what farmers can do on rainy days and during idle moments in the winter. They can, if they have a tool repair shed like that on Mr. Jacquot's farm and have his ability to "tinker," as he says, get most of their implements back in A-1 shape for days when they can work in the fields.

With a 5-horsepower motor and several overhead pulleys, Mr. Jacquot operates a disc sharpener, two emory wheels, a rip-saw and a feed grinding mill. He also is making plans to run a newly-purchased drill by electricity. Tools, which are normally only found in a well-equipped small machine shop, are neatly arranged on shelves over a long work bench near his forge and anvil.

A home-made device for cutting new threads in various "thread-stripped" bolts completes the gadgets which Mr. Jacquot uses to repair nearly all machines used in farming the family's 1200 acres of land.

Latest Project

His latest project is the construction of a silo, tile for which he bought from a neighbor who never quite got around to using the material. Mr. Jacquot made the doors for the silo himself and soon expects to start construction work.

Always a large feeder of cattle, he recently shipped thirty-five steers to market and this fall will send another batch to the slaughtering pens. Mrs. Jacquot supervises the milking of a few cows—but feeding cattle is Mr. Jacquot's first love, and he intends to continue that practice even after he gets around to retiring from other farm work.

The farm was electrified before Mr. and Mrs. Jacquot moved on the place and built their modern home there. Mr. Jacquot takes pride in showing visitors a new electric water pump, saying that it beats the old days when pumping water manually was one of the chores which went with farming. Lights in the well-built brooder house and barnyard have taken much of the drugery out of farming, he says.

Before he started farming, Mr. Jacquot worked as an apprentice in a blacksmith shop where he acquired much of the skill he now has in the repair line. Although, his boys also have a large assortment of tools of their own, dad usually is called upon to do most of the repair work.

Gets Maximum Service From Electric Power

GRINDING FEED

Putting an outside pulley on one end of the main shaft of his workshop and attaching a belt to a feed grinder in the chicken yard, Mr. Jacquot found enabled him to get the maximum amount of value out of his REA-powered workshop motor. Although, Mr. Jacquot is shown in the above picture, he says that the feed grinder is used principally by his wife.

Opinions Change

Mr. Jacquot recalls with considerable amusement the horror which friends in his native France expressed when the family left Europe to settle in America.

He was only 13 years old at the time and his father had come to the United States first to make arrangements for bringing the family over to the new land. Frenchmen at that time, Mr. Jacquot said, thought that the United States was inhabited only by wild Indians and couldn't understand why anyone would want to leave France.

Years later when the first World war was being fought, he wrote back to relatives in France to ask if they still regarded Americans as "wild men." The reply he got, based on actions of American doughboys then slugging it out with the Kaiser's troops as they are now battling Hitler's nazi legions, was that Frenchmen had changed their views and that Americans were among the most gentlemanly and courteous people who had ever landed in France.

Even as his oldest boy is now in the service of his country, so Mr. Jacquot was ready to fight for his adopted land and was awaiting his call when the first World war ended. He is a former member of the national guard and, although it means postponing his retirement a little longer, he is willing to carry on, like so many other farmers, in hopes that his bit on the home front will help speed the day of victory and bring his boy back to the land he is fighting for.

BARBED WIRE AVAILABLE.—Approximately 20,000 tons of barbed wire with extra long barbs, made for military purposes, will be used to meet a shortage of barbed wire on farms ,according to WPB. The action is part of the Office of Civilian Requirements' program to make needed supplies available to farmers. The wire shortage was aggravated by the recent midwestern floods which washed out many miles of fence.

Canton Offices Ideal for Spoon River REA Co-op

In moving its offices from Lewistown to Canton, Spoon River Electric cooperative, headed by L. C. Groat, manager, acquired a building which is ideally adapted for REA cooperative use.

The well-lighted brick structure, which formerly housed a garage, is 105 feet long, providing ample space for offices, board and general work room, and large storage room. Trucks may be driven into the building for storage and repairs. The large basement may well be envied by other cooperatives who yearn for additional space in which to store line materials and electrical equipment.

The expansiveness of the cooperative's quarters is topped off by an electrical inter-office communication system. With the main microphone located in the business office, two-way telephonic outlets are located in Mr. Groat's private office, garage and combination board and work room. The system permits office employes to talk to fellow employes in every section of the building without having to leave the key desk, thus saving considerable time.

Reclaim Materials

The Spoon River Electrical cooperative has fought an uphill battle through no fault of its own, but now is "coming out on top," according to Mr. Groat. At a time when it was growing rapidly, a large section of its territory was suddenly "eliminated" when approximately fifty farm families were moved off the line to make way for the construction of Camp Ellis.

Late last spring, many miles of line were hard hit by flood waters, which caused widespread damage, "some headaches and several sleepless nights," before the system was again functioning normally.

Because of a loss in territory occasioned by the opening of Camp Ellis, offices of the cooperative were moved to Canton to be nearer the center of operations of the system. Oddly enough, however, the loss of consumers brought about by removal of farm families in the camp area is apparently going to react favorably in the over-all picture of the cooperative's service, a survey indicates.

Reports show that the cooperative has gained nearly four times the number of consumers lost in the change-over. While farm homes were scattered in the camp area, requiring long extensions, the new consumers are located at shorter distances from existing lines, giving the cooperative a greater density of population per mile than was formerly the case.

Salvage Material

Thousands of feet of copper weld wire were salvaged when the camp area was constructed and this is being used in building new extensions. Guy wires and tie poles were removed, cleaned, tagged and stored for future use.

In an unusual salvage move, Mr. Groat bought at a poundage rate considerable copper cable, which linemen in their spare time, cut, anneal and put in bundles of fifty for use as tie wires and ground wires.

The cooperative will add 160 consumers to its rapidly growing membership when extensions are completed in the near future, Mr. Groat said.

An inspection of the storage room shows it well stocked with wire, but as Mr. Groat says, "it might as well not be there as far as actual stock on hand is concerned, because all of it is already allocated to some phase of the expanding project."

The cooperative moved into its new quarters on June 12 and Mr. Groat, his office force and line crew have been busy in every spare moment since that time "putting everything in its proper place" in order to get maximum efficiency out of their building.

The new seeding of red clover will make more hay and more seed next year if it is clipped in August.

REA Women and The Home

FAST FROZEN FOODS FOR FARMERS

By ETHEL MORRISON MARSDEN

In these days of food preservation, one of the new trends is toward fast freezing of foods. More and more attention is being devoted to it yearly, with women finding it exceedingly interesting as they expericent with freezing of vegetables, fruits, meat and fish. Whereas, fast freezing began years back, with the use of lockers, it is now reaching into homes where fast-freezing units are being established wherever it is possible to secure them.

No doubt, after the war, more and more emphasis will be placed upon the part the fast frozen foods play in our daily diets. Farm families throughout the country are eager to make use of this type of preservation, not only because it lends variety to meals, but because it offers a very simple method of preserving food, and a method which retains all of the goodness of the food when fresh.

Last summer I did some experimenting myself in freezing of asparagus, wax beans, raspberries and other foods. It was really heaps of fun to play around with the raspberries—putting them in five different packs—some without sugar, some in sugar pack, some in standard pack of syrup made with sugar and water, some in medium sugar-saving pack with less sugar and more water, and some in a maximum sugar saving pack using corn syrup and water.

The results obtained were interesting, and strange though it may seem, the raspberries which were frozen without the addition of either sugar or syrup seemed to retain their original freshness and shape the best of any put up. At the same time they kept their fresh flavor and color.

Women throughout the country are utilizing locker plants and freezer units wherever they are available today as a means of preserving part of their food supply for coming months—and they're having fun doing it, too.

This quick freezing is the culmination of long years of experiment with many methods of preserving food so that food may be available for consumption weeks and months after the food has been dried and smoked, canned, or pickled—or quick frozen.

The aim and object of all experiments in food preservation is not merely to keep the food fit for eating — but to retain its nutritional value and appetite appeal—and this is just where quick freezing comes in! The old method of slow freezing was accomplished by placing the meat, fish, poultry, or fruits in refrigerated rooms until the food was solidly frozen. In spite of the low temperature of the freezing rooms, the air in the room was still, and the foods were frozen in such large pieces, or containers, that it took many hours, even days, for the cold air to completely freeze the foods.

As the water in the food *slowly* froze, large ice crystals would form. These large ice crystals would damage or break down the delicate walls of the food cells. For instance, when fish frozen in this way thawed out, it is likely to have lost its nice firm texture and become watery and tasteless. The fish is edible, of course—but there is a vast difference between foods that are merely edible and those that retain their original delicious flavor — the flavor fresh fish would have!

On the other hand, the quick freezing is a two fold improvement over the slow-freezing method. Delicate fruits and vegetables are frozen in packages so small that the cold reaches them very quickly. Furthermore, the cold itself is so intense that the food is frozen completely in an average of ninety minutes or an hour and a half. The food passes through the dangerous crystallization stage in such a short time that only small ice crystals can form, and this has made it possible to freeze such delicately textured foods as fruits and vegetables which would hve been ruined by the slow freezing methods.

Now, in these times when we are all so busy, we have to take advantage of everything which will lend variety and nutritioual value to our meals, to say nothing of speeding up their preparation, so suppose we take a look at four reasons why fast-frozen products are of real value to us not only in food preservation, but in meal planning and preparation.

First, even in midwinter, no matter where you live, your menu may not include garden-fresh fruits and vegetables if you take advantage of fast-freezing facilities. No longer are we kept to use of seasonal produce within the seasons.

Second, these foods are vitamin rich. Most vegetables, even at the height of their season, take several days to reach market — and in these days of war transportation problems, they may take even more time to reach your dealer, if you are depending upon him to keep you supplied with fresh foods, now that canned foods are being rationed.

But the foods you have frozen yourself are harvested and packed at the peak of their quality and then quick-frozen, all within the space of a few hours. Vitamins and flavor are captured and held intact until you use the foods. Experiments have proven that these fast-frozen foods are as rich in nutritive value as the freshest foods on the market. Yet many times those fresh foods shipped in lose freshness, flavor and vitamin before they reach us.

Third, for most of us, these frozen foods prove time-savers, for our fast-frozen foods are waste-free and ready to cook or serve when we open them. The vegetables take only one-half to two-thirds as long to cook as ordinary vegetables, thus saving time, fuel, and vitamins.

Fourth, fast-frozen foods prove economical whether frozen at home or commercially frozen. Every ounce can be served; there is no waste, no blemished foods to throw away, no pods or peelings. Take as an example commercially frozen peas — one box of quick-frozen peas is equal to two pounds of peas in pods, to say nothing of the saving in time and energy.

Every particular fruit or berry to be quick-frozen has its own problem. For instance, some fruits are difficult to preserve in this way, because they darken or deteriorate rapidly when peeled or cut and then exposed to the air. We all know what sliced peaches look like when we prepare them far in advance of the meal at which we plan to serve them. In quick-freezing such fruit, the problem is solved by adding sugar or syrup to protect them against this deterioration.

There are three methods of packing fruits for quick-freezing — dry pack, syrup pack, and sugar pack. Those which are dry packed are fruits such as blueberries and raspberries which do not discolor easily. Berries may be packed without sugar, with sugar, or with syrup pack according to preference. They can be fast-frozen with no further treatment beyond sorting, stemming and washing.

Those fruits which are syurp packed, such as sliced peaches, are packed in leak-proof parchment bags or cartons, then cold syrup is poured over them. Fruits which are improved by sweetening, such as cherries for use in pies, may also be packed in syrup.

Finally, there is the sugar packed fruit. This method is used for sliced strawberries. Sugar is mixed with the fruit and the sugar and juice form a syrup which coats the surface of the fruit and keeps out the air. By the way, Vitamin C may be added to quick-frozen peaches. This vitamin not only prevents the fruit darkening during storage, but makes these peaches a rich source of the valuable vitamin.

Frosted fruits and berries are packed in sanitary cartons made of vapor and moisture-proof material. If the fruit is packed in sugar or syrup, a parchment bag is sometimes inserted in the carton and filled with the fruit. The top of this bag is closed and sealed with a hot iron. Then the outside carton is sealed—insuring complete protection from the air. Or you may pack in a carton, similar to an ice-cream container.

The effect of freezing on the vitamin content of fruits and vegetables is something which has attracted widespread attention. The statement has been made many times that frozen foods are essentially fresh foods, and every housewife knows that one of the great values of fresh foods is the vitamin content.

Certain vitamins stand heat and cold changes better than others. It has been known for some time that the extremely hot temperature needed in canning vegetables results in a loss of certain of the most valuable vitamins. As a result of extensive research, authorities for the most part have concluded that quick-frozen vegetables retain higher percentages of vitamin B1 and B2 than canned vegetables. From the standpoint of nutritive qualities, quick-frozen fruits and vegetables may be considered as being practically as good as the fresh raw product.

Even prison farms are doing their part in helping to meet the increased food demands, as 1943 plantings have been increased by twenty-five per cent on prison farms maintained by United States, over and above the plantings of last year. WFA disclosed that state and federal penal institutions have planted approximately five hundred thousand acres in crops for harvest this year and also have expanded production of livestock and other agricultural commodities.

More than 1000 4-H club members participated in the district club leadership training camps held in June and July.

EVER TASTE PEACH JELLY
Now's The Time To Make It

Hot, summer days call for cool and delicate foods — and there's really nothing quite like a glass of sparkling peach jelly for waking up warm-weather appetites. The delicious flavor of the spread flatters your salad and iced drinks . . . and its pale, sunbeam color is as pleasant to see as it is to eat.

Peach jelly probably sounds like magic to the old-fashioned cook. In grandmother's day, peaches were never on speaking terms with a jelly kettle. They have little pectin of their own, and until science brought forth magic in the way of prepared pectin, preserves and jam were the only spreads made from this fruit.

Any and every fruit will jell today with the encouragement of proper directions and a half-minute boil. Choose fully ripe peaches, and your jelly will have every bit of the fine, fresh flavor of the fruit you use. Directions like these, when followed exactly, turn out a perfect product every time:

Peach Jelly

3 cups (1½ lbs.) juice
6½ cups (2¾ lbs.) sugar
1 bottle fruit pectin

To prepare juice, remove pits from about 3½ pounds fully ripe peaches. Do not peel. Crush peaches thoroughly. Add ½ cup water, bring to a boil. Cover, and simmer 5 minutes. Place fruit in jelly cloth or bag and squeeze out juice.

Measure sugar and juice into large saucepan and mix. Bring to a boil over hottest fire and at once add bottled fruit pectin, stirring constantly. Then bring to a full rolling boil and boil hard ½ minute. Remove from fire, skim, pour quickly. Parrafin hot jelly at once. Makes about 9 glasses (6 fluid ounces each).

Peach Jam

3½ cups (1¾ lbs.) prepared fruit
4½ cups (2 lbs.) sugar
1 box powdered fruit pectin

To prepare fruit, peel about 2½ pounds fully ripe soft peaches; pit and grind or crush thoroughly.

Measure sugar into dry dish and set aside until needed. Measure prepared fruit into a 5- or 6-quart kettle, filling up last cup or fraction of cup with water if necessary; place over hottest fire. Add powdered fruit pectin, mix well, and continue stirring until mixture comes to a hard boil. At once pour in sugar, stirring constantly. (To reduce foaming, ¼ teaspoon butter may be added). Continue stirring, bring to a *full rolling boil*, and *boil hard 1 minute*. Remove from fire, skim, pour quickly. Parrafin hot jam at once. Makes about 8 glasses (6 fluid ounces each).

GRACIE ALLEN EXPLAINS DEHYDRATION

This month I am going to explain dehydration to everybody. Dehydration is what you do when you take water out of something and put back some more a little later. Of course, you might say the same thing about cleaning a bath-tub, so I guess that explanation is no good.

Try it this way. Suppose you get a little tablet about half the size of a stick of chewing gum and sprinkle a little water on it. Suddenly, it becomes a bushel of corn! The important thing to remember is not to eat the tablet first and drink water afterward. I know a woman who did, and that fall she was growing the finest half acre of corn in the county. In fact every time she needed a finger wave, she had to write for special permission to the Secretary of Agriculture.

So far as the principle of dehydration is concerned, the scientists have only scratched the surface. Incidentally, that's the trouble with scientists — they're always going around scratching the surface. I wouldn't have one of them in *my* house.

But think of what a world of wonders will be ours tomorrow! Imagine, if you were going to a bridge party one night and your husband didn't show up in time from the golf club or office. Simply take out a little tablet, sprinkle a little water on it, and presto!, you have a fine new husband. Of course, how to get them to go back into tablet form afterward is going to be tricky.

But think how much fun you will have listening to the daytime serials on the radio then, urging you to buy either the Tyrone, Cary or Clark brand of tablet!

Father and Son Form Successful Business Team

Swinging Elevator On Sieben Farm Aids Hybrid Business

A father and son partnership, started five years ago, laid the foundation for organization and promotion of the Sieben Hybrid Seed Corn company, which now serves a large number of farmers in various sections of Illinois.

The hard-working partners are Ira Sieben, one of the leaders in the REA cooperative movement in the Geneseo area and a widely known stock feeder, and his son, Arthur Sieben. With their equipment powered by electricity provided by the Farmers Mutual Electric company of Geneseo, father and son have built their hybrid seed corn business to an ever-expanding level.

Starting in a small way, the Siebens now have 110 acres in seed corn, producing the following grades: U.S. 37, U.S. 44, S-350 and S-440. The latter grade was developed by Arthur Sieben to resist extremely dry weather and combat the corn borer. It is an early maturing type of corn, while the other grades have a medium maturity standard.

Swinging Elevator

One of the progressive developments on the Sieben hybrid scene is a "swinging corn elevator," which has been in operation in the huge storage shed for almost a year.

The elevator, made in the shape of a giant letter U, was constructed by the Siebens on an experimental basis and it has proven practical in every way. It stands thirty feet high and can be moved into place with its upper opening coming in direct contact with the big hopper near the roof of the building and its lower end resting near the floor ready to receive a load of shelled corn.

Trucks can drive into the shed and unload corn into the lower hopper in rainy weather. Construction of the indoor "swinging" elevator also enabled the Siebens to forego the usual practice of cutting a hole in the top of the metal roof.

One of the most unusual devices of its kind, it is entirely home-made and was constructed without previous plans.

Once the corn is in the big hopper near the roof of the shed, it flows by gravity over the grader, where the good seed and culls are separated, and then down into another device where it is treated and sacked ready for sale.

The Illinois REA News hopes next month to present pictures and a sketch of the elevator so that it may be used by other farmers in the state.

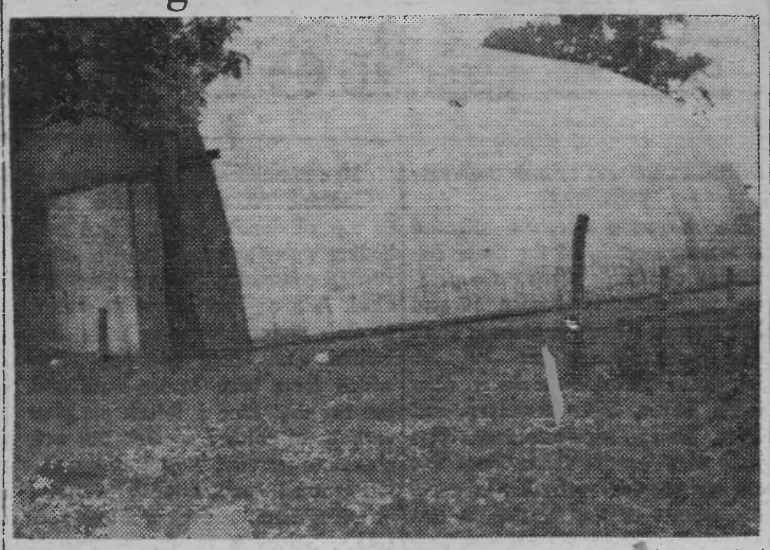
Cattle Feeding

Early this month Ira Sieben, who has been a member of the board of the Farmers Mutual Electric company since this pioneer Illinois REA cooparative was organized, had a total of 212 Herford steers on pasture.

He buys his cattle from western stockmen and keeps them for an average of ten months, fattening them at a rate of about sixty pounds per month.

Like most cattle feeders, Mr. Sieben is concerned over proposed plans for next year which call for fattening cattle on grass rather than corn, feeling that pasture-fattened cattle will bring a lower price on the market and that meat will be of an inferior grade.

Storage Shed On Ira Sieben Farm



Shown above is an exterior view of the Sieben hybrid seed corn shed in which is housed the unusual "swinging" elevator used to carry corn from trucks to a hopper thirty feet high. The company was started five years ago and is operated by Mr. Sieben and his son, Arthur.

Detasseling Crew In For Lunch

It's lunch time and this group of men and women have just come into the Sieben barnyard for a rest after a morning of detasseling hybrid seed corn. A few minutes after this picture was taken, all of them were busily unwrapping sandwiches and eating in the shade of a big tree. Detasseling takes about three weeks of steady, painstaking work.

Time is Taken Out From Work On Sieben Farm

Ira Sieben, center, is shown with his son, Arthur, right, and his grandson, Dick Sieben, left, as time is taken out for a few moments during their various chores in connection with the hybrid seed business and unloading corn and protein concentrates for the large herd of Hereford steers being fed on the farm. Dick, who lives in Evanston, is visiting this summer at the Sieben farm, a short distance from Geneseo. Mr. Sieben and his son are partners in the highly successful Sieben Hybrid Seed Corn company.

Check Prices of Black Walnut To Get Full Values

More black walnut is needed for war uses, but unless owners check markets before making sales they may not get a reasonable price for their logs, says J. E. Davis, extension forester of the State Natural History Survey and University of Illinois college of agriculture.

"Reports have been received that buyers misrepresenting themselves to be 'government' buyers have offered walnut owners low prices which are said to be 'ceilings.'" Davis states. "Such men may buy to fill government orders, but the government employs no buyers."

No Permit Needed For Home Repairs Up To $200 Limit

If your home needs repairs, you can make them without authorization, under WPB's Construction Conservation Order L-41, provided they are necessary and do not change the structural design of the property. The work must not exceed $200 or involve the purchase of critical materials.

Pointing out that wartime restrictions on building new houses permits new construction only for war workers in certain areas, Federal Housing Commissioner Abner H. Ferguson recently said: "In view of these necessary restrictions, it is all the more imperative that the present supply of homes be kept in adequate repair, conforming to decent standards of health and sanitation. For the great majority of American families," Mr. Ferguson added, "these properties represent the only supply of housing that will be available for the duration of the war."

Conserve Materials

Because critical materials must be conserved for direct war production purposes, new home building is restricted to war industry areas, and there only in such numbers as is absolutely necessary to meet the housing needs of essential workers.

Loans to maintain present home properties in sound condition will be insured by the Federal Housing administration under Title I. These repairs must be necessary for sanitation or health, or for preventing decay and deterioration. Luxury repairs or improvements that are designed merely to beautify or enlarge a home without providing additional living units are not approved.

At Last

Rationing has been defined: The customer simply points to what he wants, and the grocer tells him he doesn't have it.

Annual Report For Year Given By Coordinator

Covering the highlights in activities of the Illinois Association of Electric Cooperatives during the last year, A.E. Becker, coordinator of the association and president of Menard Electric Cooperative at Petersburg, in his annual report, said:

"During the period from the last annual meeting up to the present time twenty out of twenty-six cooperatives in Illinois have become members of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives. This high percentage of membership has enabled the state association to accomplish several major steps in the promotion of the rural electrification program in Illinois during the past year.

"At the request of the REA administrator and the secretary of agriculture, representatives from your state association attended the food goals conference in Chicago last December 3, 4 and 5. There is no doubt that the information furnished to the under secretary of agriculture, Hill and his associates by the REA cooperatives at this meeting was instrumental in bringing about the release of frozen materials and supplies through the WPB., P-46 extension plan. This WPB order was later changed to the U-1-c plan. There have been approximately 1250 farm homes connected in Illinois since this release of materials has been made available and it is estimated that there are 11,000 farms along the REA cooperative lines in Illinois which still do not have electric service. Since the production of food is a vital factor in our war effort, it is obvious that the state association and all of the individual cooperatives should lend all the assistance possible to new applicants for service in securing their farmstead wiring supplies.

Newspaper Started

"Your president and coordinator met with officials of the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative in February to work out the details of a plan whereby it would be possible to publish a state-wide paper, The Illinois REA News, which would be available to all members of REA cooperatives. This plan was presented to and endorsed by the board of directors and association members at the meeting held in Peoria on March 3 and 4. I am happy to report that six cooperatives have taken advantage of this plan and 11,000 members of their cooperatives are now receiving their copy of Illinois REA News each month.

"We were very fortunate in securing the benefits of the past experience of the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative in publishing a state paper as well as the low cost to our members through their cooperative. It is the sincere request of your coordinator that all cooperatives give this publication their serious consideration as it will be possible to lower the cost of the paper considerably if all of the cooperatives will take advantage of this plan. All of the money made by increasing the number of subscribers will be returned to the member cooperative in the form of a patronage refund. It will be possible to put out the Illinois REA News at less than 4 cents a copy if all of the cooperatives will subscribe.

Special Meeting

The results coming from the special meeting of the state association held in Peoria on March 4 of this year demonstrated the need of a strong state organization of the REA cooperatives in Illinois. In order to refresh your memories, I will read the resolution adopted at that meeting.

"'Whereas, it is the consensus of opinion among the representatives of the twenty-six rural electric cooperatives operating in Illinois representing a membership of 58,000 farmers assembled here at a meeting of the association of Illinois Electric cooperatives in Peoria, Illinois on March 4, 1943, that the rural electrification program has brought lasting benefits to the rural communities of the United States: And, that the rural electric cooperatives are making a vital contribution to the war effort and with proper support in Washington can make an even greater contribution: And,

"'Whereas, it is the unanimous opinion of said representatives that said program should be continued and should be increased after the war:

"'Therefore: It is hereby resolved that the officers of the association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives contact the United States senators and members of the house of representatives from Illinois and members of the state legislature to ascertain their attitude on the rural electrification program. Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be furnished to each senator, congressman and member of the state legislature.'"

"I wish to report that with a few exceptions every state and national representative acknowledged receipt of his letter, in which was enclosed a copy of the resolution just read, in a favorable manner. The only exception were a few of our state and national representatives residing in Chicago. One national representative from that great city even requested an explanation as to what the rural electrification program stood for. I feel sure that these favorable replies, assuring us of their interest for the future promotion of the rural electrification program in Illinois would not have been received if a similar contact had been made by an individual cooperative.

Association Helps

"When the REA appropriation bill came up for a vote on April 19, 1943, telegrams were sent to every representative from Illinois urging them to consider the amount of the appropriation as recommended by the bureau of the budget. I feel confident that this message from your state association carried considerable weight in securing favorable action on this bill, thus enabling the rural electric administration to continue a constructive program for the REA cooperatives in Illinois and other states.

"The recent plan adopted by the board of directors setting up the four committees of superintendents and managers, namely: Engineering, construction and operation of outside plant, taxes and legislation, labor and public relations and wholesale rates and finance, insurance and office procedure to assist them in working out the future problems coming up for their action, will give everyone an opportunity to contribute something for the promotion of a rural electrification program through our state association.

"Under this plan each committee consisting of superintendents and managers from member cooperatives will meet regularly to discuss problems pertaining to their respective committees. Advice and counsel will be solicited with the REA officials on these problems. Members from these committees will then meet with the board of directors to submit their recommendations on whatever action is needed.

"All out of pocket expenses of the superintendents and managers attending these meetings will be paid from state association funds. I would suggest that all member cooperatives contact the chairman of these committees in the future with their proposals and ideas which will be of mutual benefit to all of our cooperatives in the state.

"Your coordinator was honored by representing your state association at the annual meeting of the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative in Madison on March 23 and 24, and also at the Indiana state-wide rural electric cooperative at Indianapolis on April 20, 1943. The exchange of ideas and good will created between groups, interested in the same problems, should be ample reason for our state association to have its representatives attend all such gatherings in the future in adjoining states."

(Turn to Page Twelve)

News from Member Co-ops.

Adams

Camp Point, Illinois

Considerable difficulty is being experienced by farmers at the present time in securing their farmstead wiring materials. During May, June, and the first three weeks of July farmers who were certified by the County War Boards obtained up to seventy-five pounds of wire to equip their farmsteads for electric service. Since the last week of July the Farmstead Wiring Order known as P-144 has been superceded by an order which requires all farmers to secure their farmstead wiring needs by obtaining an order through their County U. S. D. A. War Board. Copper is now being allocated on a Controlled Material Plan whereby each user of copper anticipates his needs for each quarterly period.

In order to obtain wiring materials at the present time you should first secure an electrician to estimate the minimum amount of wire necessary to provide adequate service at the point where service is to be used. You should then make application to your County U. S. D. A. War Board and they in turn will consider your application and notify you of their decision. Each county has been given a certain number of pounds of copper which can be used in farmstead wiring for each calendar quarter. The order which you receive from the U. S. D. A. War Board will contain a Controlled Material Plan number which must be used when ordering the allocated number of pounds of copper. The county quotas have been very small in most cases and it is hoped that a greater amount of copper can be allocated for farmstead wiring in the future so as to permit a farm to be better equipped to produce food for victory.

These instructions should be followed regardless of whether you now have service or not. The same procedure should be followed by those who wish to extend a couple of wires from the meter pole to the water pump as those who are just starting to wire their farmsteads.

Welcome Folks

A number of new members have recently been accepted into the Co-operative, among which are those whose farmsteads the Co-op was able to extend service to under War Production Board Order U-1-c: Sherman Drawve, Joseph Schroeder, Don Stevens, Arthur Worthington, Emerson Marshall, Meredith Witt, Everett Kerr, Arthur Schutte, D. W. Voorhees, S. Riley Stevens, Roland C. Janes, Harley Pickinpaugh, Lester C. Nutt, Edw. J. W. Flesner, Wm. Harvey Bowen. Andrew Bartell, Frank Elbus, W. A. Kelly, Newton C. Jones, Wayne Eaton, Fred Hoelscher, Eugene Nelson, C. H. Altenhein, W. C. Martin, O. F. Shulian, Mildred Eaton and Kate Buss.

Where electric service had already been available in the past, the following new members comprise that list: Hubert Myers, Edwin Curtis, Virgella Hood, Wilbur Harris, Nellie Morrell, Mrs. Ora Bilderback, Carl Rigor and Harriett D. King.

The Co-op heartily extends a welcome to the foregoing new users into its membership and hopes that electricity may be used to the best advantage whereby the general food-for-freedom campaign may be advanced.

Corn Belt

Bloomington, Illinois

WE ARE GLAD THAT OUR MEMBERS ARE ENJOYING THE "ILLINOIS REA NEWS". WE HAVE HAD QUITE A FEW ORAL COMMENTS AND ONCE IN A WHILE A WRITTEN ONE. HERE ARE A COUPLE.

"PLEASE FIND ENCLOSED CHECK FOR ELECTRICITY. WE ENJOY THE NEW "ILLINOIS REA NEWS" VERY MUCH. IT IS NICE TO KNOW JUST WHAT THEY ARE DOING OTHER PLACES FOR THE FARMERS TOO." MRS. HENRY GAFFRON, OREANA, ILL.

"ENCLOSED FIND CHECK FOR ELECTRICITY USED. WE ENJOY READING THE ILLINOIS REA NEWS." MRS. ROSELLA REID, CISCO, ILLINOIS.

COPPER WIRE NOW ON ALLOTMENT BASIS

If you or your neighbor needs electric wire there are only two ways in which you can get it.

1. Buy the wire from someone who can sell it without a priority—someone who had a large stock before priorities went into effect or someone who has some used wire. There is no rule to prevent a farmer from using wiring material purchased without a priority.

2. Apply to the County Agricultural War Board for a Copper Wire Allotment Certificate. These certificates can be made for farmers who meet certain requirements, but only to the extent that copper is available in the county quota. This may be for farms newly connected for electric service or farms already using electricity. Copper may be allotted only for agricultural production purposes, **not for dwellings.**

These copper allotments are very low and will not provide all the wire which is needed. REA and your state and national association are attempting to show the War Production Board that larger quotas are needed in order for farmers to produce the most food. Meanwhile every ounce of copper wire should be used to the greatest advantage. If you have some wire not in use perhaps your neighbor could use it. When buying wire buy only what you need for the duration of the war.

STORMS CAUSE LINE DAMAGE

The recent storm which hit Peoria and cut across the Corn Belt Electric Cooperative area to the southeast the last week in July, along with the electrical and rain storm which hit this area the first week in July, made a series of outages in some lines which were the worst since we have been operating. Our linemen all worked practically 43 hours without any rest after the first storm and then worked many hours of overtime during the next two weeks to get the damage cleaned up. We want to highly commend the work of these men who put forth such loyal efforts to keep the service continuous. We know our members appreciate this work and we want the men to understand it.

ELECTRICAL COURSE AT 4-H LEADERSHIP CAMP

Your Wiring Inspector and Superintendent were asked to take charge of a class of Electric Repair at the 4-H Leadership Camp at Lake Bloomington. This camp included leading 4-H club members from all over Illinois.

There were about 100 older boys and girls who took the electrical course of four hours. They were very much interested and we believe will learn to live with electricity on their farms and will pass on much information to other club members in their local clubs. Your co-op is glad to have had an opportunity to help out in this 4-H enterprise.

SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPES

Your co-op has had a few requests in the past for self addressed envelopes for members to use in making payments by mail. Many members pay at the office and would not use these envelopes and many others no doubt would lose them, therefore, it would be considerable wastage if we put an envelope with each bill. However, we have ordered a supply of self addressed envepoles and any member desiding them may have them by calling at the office or requesting that they be mailed to him with his next bill.

DIRECTORS ATTEND STATE MEETING

The following directors attended the annual meeting of the State Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives in Springfield August 19 and 20th: Walter Risser, president; Ruth Otto, secretary-treasurer; W. M. Ellis, Ethel Moon, Ivan Snow, Miss Beulah Miller, office secretary, and T. H. Hafer, superintendent. This was a very worthwhile meeting. We hope our members will all read carefully reports of the meeting in this issue of the "Illinois REA News".

4-H ELECTRICAL PROJECTS

It has been the privilege of your Superintendent and Wiring Inspector to judge the 4-H electrical project exhibits at the MeLean County 4-H Fair for several years. While they are not numerous the exhibits show that the boys have done a very good job on their projects. This year the quality was better than ever before, with the work showing a lot of skill and ability both from a practical farm standpoint and household use standpoint. The winners and their projects this year were as follows: James Merna, first; Lowell Hinshaw, second; Joe Kelley, third, and Dan Gould, fourth.

Cooperative Recipes

Here are some recipes furnished by Miss Virginia Norris who was home economist for the Corn Belt Electric cooperative and who is now in Agricultural Extension Service in Missouri. She is the daughter of one of our members and many of our members will remember her as the young lady who called on them to assist them in cooking with an electric range.

Her folks sent her a copy of the new "Illinois REA News" and she sent these recipes back as her contribution.

Refrigerator Maple Ice Cream

2 egg yolks
1 cup maple syrup
2 egg whites
⅛ teaspoon salt
2 cups cream

Beat egg yolks thoroughly and gradually beat in maple syrup. Whip cream and egg whites and combine with other ingredients. Freeze in trays stirring once or twice during freezing period.

Plain Vanilla Ice Cream

1½ to 2 cups sugar, 3 eggs, 1 pint cream, about 5 pints whole milk, one tablespoon vanilla.

To Make: Heat in double boiler almost to boiling—2 cups whole milk, sugar, ⅛ teaspoon salt. Add the well beaten eggs and stir constantly for about 3 minutes—do not boil. Cool, add remainder of whole milk, cream and vanilla.

Freeze in hand freezer.

Refrigerator Marshmallow Ice Cream

12 marshmallows
1 cup milk
1 T. sugar (optional)
1 cup cream.

Cut marshmallows and dissolve in milk which has been warmed. Add sugar. Whip cream and fold into marshmallow mix. Pour into trays and freeze. Stir once or twice during freezing period.

Half Gallon of Ice Cream

3 pints milk
1½ cups cream
1 rennet (junket) tablet dissolved in a T. of water
¾ cup sugar (or ½ cup sugar and 1/3 cup corn syrup)
2 teaspoons vanilla (1 T. better)

Heat milk to lukewarm so that sugar will dissolve add vanilla and pour into freezer. Add rennet tablet that has been dissolved in water. Let stand 20 minutes or until custard has set. Freeze in hand freezer.

Chocolate Ice Box Torte

¼ cup cocoa
2 tablespoons sugar
2½ tablespoons water
4 egg yolks
1 teaspoon vanilla
4 egg whites
10 coconut wafer cookies, crushed

Combine cocoa, sugar and water in top of double boiler. Place over boiling water and heat until blended, stirring constantly. Remove from fire. Cool. Add egg yolks, one at a time, beating thoroughly after each. Add vanilla. Chill. Fold into egg whites which have been beaten until stiff, but not dry. Line a 9-inch pie plate with ½ of crushed cookies. Fill with chocolate mixture. Top with remaining crushed cookies. Chill overnight in refrigerator. Serve with whipped cream. Serves 8 to 10.

Junket Ice Cream

1 cup milk
½ cup sugar
½ Junket tablet
1½ cups cream whipped

Dissolve sugar in warm milk. Cool. Dissolve Junket in a tablespoon of water. Whip cream and add to first mixture. Add Junket. Let stand until custard like. Freeze.

Your cooperatives welcomes the following new members: Ralph Van Horn, Clinton; Wilbur Duley, Secor; Eldon Murphy, Lexington; Orval J. Spencer, Downs; M. R. Donovan, Heyworth; John G. Benjamin, Rural Route 1, Farmer City; John Sledge, Rural Route 1, Saybrook; P. D. Speers, Cooksville; Claude Dolberts, Bloomington; Jerry Post, Emden; Lee Shaw, Weldon; Walter Reeser, Rural Route 1, Oreana; Jesse N. Imel, Oakley; William Barron, El Paso; Robert Nelson, El Paso; Richard Robinson, Delavan; and William R. Bach, Bloomington.

Jo-Carroll

Elizabeth, Ill.

Demonstrating a truly cooperative spirit, your cooperative again this year will wire the Elizabeth city park to provide lights and power for the twenty-third annual Elizabeth community fair and Jo-Davies county 4-H club fair.

Hundreds of visitors attended the fair each year and your cooperative is glad to be able to extend this service to the city as a part of its contribution to good will in the community.

Damages estimated at several thousand dollars were caused August 9 at the farm home of Lawrence Meyer, one of our members, who resides about four miles east of Elizabeth on Route 20. Fire destroyed a barn and a large quantity of hay. Six calves which were in the barn at the time of the blaze were saved.

Your cooperative and all its members extend their sympathy to Mr. Meyer in his loss.

Ray Hutchinson, veteran lineman, who was injured sometime ago while climbing a pole to re-fuse a cutout, is still in the hospital.

A new permanent fence has been constructed around the cooperative's sub-station near North Hanover.

McDonough Power

Macomb, Illinois

Your cooperative's delegation of nineteen representatives was honored at the second annual convention of the Illinois Association of Electric cooperatives as being the largest delegation of any of the state REA cooperatives in attendance.

G. Wayne Welsh, president of your cooperative, was reelected head of the state-wide association for the coming year. Harold Whitman served as a member of the publications committee and, on the floor of the convention during the closing day, expressed the hope that all REA cooperatives in the state support your paper, The Illinois REA News, in order that it might become truly representative of REA cooperative activities throughout the state.

Farm residents in the Sicota area entertained thirty-three soldiers from Camp Ellis July 25 with a picnic dinner and a tour of the farming territory. The boys attended services in the Christian church in Sciota prior to the dinner.

In appreciation of the "home cooked meal" and the hospitality shown by the rural residents, the soldiers staged a military drill for their hosts. The boys enjoyed the countryside so much that they were reluctant to return to camp in the afternoon and enough food was left over from the basket dinner to serve supper at the church. A number of Sciota area folks accepted the invitation of camp officers to attend the dedication of the camp's recreation center, a gesture extended to the farm residents in return for the hospitality shown the soldier boys.

Dorothy Gallehue, Vildra Fargusson and Betty Calvert, vocal trio, appeared as a feature of the entertainment program at the convention. They were accompanied at the piano by Twila Askew. Miss Fargusson resides in Sciota, but the farm homes of the other girls are served by your cooperative.

Western

Carthage, Illinois

OPERATING STATISTICS
July, 1943

Kilowatt Hours Purchased	116,100
Kilowatt Hours Sold	96,274
Kilowatt Hours Unaccounted For	20,826

July Sales

Farm & Home	$4,910.11
Commercial	203.04
Season Cottages	15.89
Public Buildings	6.94
Rural Villages	42.01
	$5,177.99

(Schools—not billed during Vacation Period).

1083 Connected Members.

NEW MEMBERS — "WELCOME" — J. E. Bisby; L. E. Lovitt; Gladys L. Vaughn; Charles Lehr; Clarence Ziegler; Clarence Jones; Fred Gibbs; Louis Anderson; Kern Clover; Cyrene Johnson; Glen Clark; Gail Schmitz; George Pilkington; John Tanner; Frank Alexander; Donald Lord; Laverna Peasley; W. C. Burrell; Jesse T. Covert; Dessie Worden; Homer L. Burg; Della Mae Blythe; Robert Nelson; Glenwood Smiddy; Aris Kindred.

A total of 34 members have been connected, to-date, under the Government's U-1-C order; 41 applicants are yet to be connected.

The limited line construction or extensions which we are permitted to make, is being delayed, due to our inability to secure steel wire and transformers.

We have experienced some very bad electrical storms, during July and August; 8 line transformers were put out of working order, by lightning, during this period.

Lloyd A. Dickson, and Lee Murphy, were appointed as representative and alternate, respectively, to represent this Cooperative at the 2nd Annual Meeting of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, to be held at Springfield, August 19th and 20th, 1943. L. C. Marvel, Manager, and other members also plan to attend this meeting.

The Huey Seed company, whose owner, is Mr. Lee Huey, and who is a member of this Cooperative, have in operation three motorized corn detasselers.

The Huey Seed company has approximately 500 acres of hybrid seed corn planted in this section, and these motorized pieces of equipment are used in the work of raising hybrid seed corn. Each machine carries a complement of twelve workers besides the driver.

One of the local newspapers carried pictures recently of this equipment, which were interesting to note.

Petersburg High Students Build Equipment for Farm Front Needs

Project Begun Three Years Ago; Learn Use of Tools

Students of the farm mechanics class at Petersburg community high school are fighting the home front battle against equipment shortages in their vocational shop room — and, what's more, they are not only winning the battle but also are receiving grateful tributes from their community and their hard-working farm parents.

Started as a class project three years ago, the construction of home-made electrical equipment has become a standard work unit in the class, which is incorporated in the vocational agriculture department of the school. Under supervision of their capable, vocational agriculture teacher, M.J. Worthington, and in cooperation with the Menard Electric cooperative, the young farm boys composing the class have made pig and chicken brooders, tank heaters, chicken water heaters, portable motor units and various other equipment for use on the farm.

Every-Day Tools

There is nothing fancy about the workshop and nothing elaborate about the tools provided for the eager and capable students. In fact, Mr. Worthington's text on the matter of tools goes something like this: "The average farmer's tools usually consist of only a dull saw, a hammer and an axe—if the boys can learn to make things worthy for use on the farm and keep in mind that they have only a minimum number of tools available to complete the job, they have gone a long ways in achieving the purpose for which the farm mechanics class was established."

All tools in the Petersburg high school work shop are of the "hand tool" variety, no power saws, lathes or other appliances having been added to the equipment. But, the boys have learned to use their hands and minds, as is evidenced by the fact that three of the boys—Dale Backs, Donald Woods and Edward Golding—can, without working too hard, turn out as many as three pig brooder units in one morning.

War Speeds Program

When the program was first launched three years ago it was in the experimental stage. However, as war clouds began to appear on the horizon, classwork was stepped up to its present capacity. And, through it, high school students have learned to make simple but essential repairs on various home electrical appliances--repairs which might otherwise have been delayed for days because of the critical shortage of electricians.

They have taken their skills out of the classroom and practiced them at home and the fruits of their handiwork can be seen in hog houses, chick and pig brooder and numerous other home-made appliances for which their parents are grateful.

As Mr. Worthington says:

"This project (the construction of home-made electrical appliances) has been highly successful. As a teaching device it furthers the teaching of proper use of tools and gives the boys confidence in themselves to go ahead and make practical materials which they can use in their project program and on the home farm. Also a wider use of the home-made electrical equipment is secured throughout the community, thus bringing about more efficient use of electrical current. At present, because of the war and because much equipment is not available a definite community service is rendered in helping supply demands for such equipment."

Mr. Wortnington said that the value of this equipment was "first demonstrated in the boys' supervised farming program with their use of electric pig and chick brooders."

"We found," he said, "that it is easily possible to raise an extra pig per litter, as the possibilities of the pigs being crushed, injured by the sow, or chilled were practically eliminated.

"The use of the electric chick brooder was found to be just as efficient as any other type of brooder and the cost of operation was about one-half."

Use of the home-made equipment by the boys has led parents and neighbors to become interested in the project and making use of such equipment, the teacher declared.

Better Cooperation

The program as a whole has contributed very definitely to a closer friendship and worthwhile cooperation between the school and the REA cooperative, said Mr. Worthington.

The teacher explained that for the last two years the boys in the farm mechanics class have spent about six weeks' time in the farm shop course doing this type of work. Boys in other agriculture classes, he said, are allowed the use of the shop during free time to construct equipment for their own use.

Mr. Worthington advised vocational teachers who want to revise their shop course to fit war needs, to "contact the local REA cooperative office for plans and advice; then work with the REA representatives to secure materials and help."

School Work Pays Big Dividends

Three of the students in the farm mechanics class of Petersburg Community high school are shown above in the school's workshop completing one of the pig brooder units which the class made last semester as part of the program to encourage the construction of home-made appliances for the farm. Left to right in the picture, are Dale Backs, Donald Woods and Edward Golding. The farm homes of Dale and Edward are served by the Menard Electric cooperative. The pig brooder units are made for installation in hog houses, also made by the class. The actual cost of materials for the units is under $5, while material for the hog houses costs $27 each.

Egyptian

Steeleville, Illinois

This past month we have had several outages due to electrical storms which have blown several fuses and also interrupted our souce of power from Illinois-Iowa. During the course of one storm a tree fell over the line taking several hours before service was restored. We appreciate your patience and it is our policy to restore service as soon as possible, but your help is needed in order to shorten the time of the outage. At the end of this article you will note a list of members who have telephones and who will notify the Cooperative office in the event that an outage occurs in their respective communities. If the **line goes out which is serving your place, call the member listed below, who is on your telephone exchange and he in turn will call the office and inform the Manager that your line is out.** These calls to the office will be reversed so that the members who volunteer to make these calls will not be put to the expense. In making calls we would appreciate getting any information you may have or what might be the cause of the outage. For instance, if you know that a tree has fallen through the line or anything of that nature it will be a great help to your linemen in getting the line back into service. **We kindly request that outages be reported promptly.** We have had several cases where a line was out in the earlier part of the afternoon and the outage was not reported until five when our linemen were completing their days work and it was necessary for us to pay them overtime, whereas had it been reported at the time it occurred we would have contacted our crew and had them to repair it during the afternoon. **In case you call us collect and we refuse to accept your call, please do not feel hurt, as that means that we already know of the outage.**

We would appreciate any suggestions from anyone in connection with the control of outages. If there should be any names that aren't listed below or that we have omitted in any territory we will be glad to add them and notify you in the next issue of the Illinois REA News.

In case of outages call one of the following persons who is nearest to you: August Spier, Red Bud; James Hood, Carlinville; W. M. Zigler, Murphysboro; Henry James, Baldwin; Verne Campbell, Carlinville; Sig Welge, Chester; Harry Redpath, Baldwin, John Schlatter, N. Athens; R. L. Mines, Sparta, Ernest Dietz, Sparta, B. A. Porter, Verg.; Teo Kueker, Neal Hunt, Carbondale; Harry Doiron, Harold Runge, Sig Gremmels, Chester, or Palestine operator.

Illinois Rural

Winchester, Ill.

If you know where some of our members can purchase appliances, such as irons, washers, refrigerators, etc., please get in touch with us. We are not allowed, under present restrictions of the war production board, to connect many new members to our service, but where a member can qualify, one of the first things his wife wants is an electric iron—and who can blame her. We have several requests for irons and surely would like to be able to help locate any that are for sale.

Mrs. Bernard Davis, Rural Route 4, Pittsfield, writes as follows: "I am sending in our payment on our electric bill. We have just begun to use it. We can't afford to be without it. Before I never could read or sew at night. Now our little boy reads his lessons with ease. Here is a small incident that happened at the start.

"We had a short in our radio wiring and burned out the fuses about 9 o'clock one night, so I sent my husband off to a neighbor's home to see if they had some extra fuses. They did and I was at ease again.

"I attended your annual meeting. You have a fine bunch of folks and board members, and I want to thank you and every one of the workers and all for being a help to give my family electricity."

Gifts awarded at the annual meeting follow:

Present Gifts

$25.00 war bond — Mrs. Henry Day. One month of free electric service—T. M. Orr, Everett Fantz, Mrs. Della Kincaid, Mrs. A. W. Weder. Electric stock tank heater—Jimmy Williams. Electric pig brooder—Mrs. J. E. Dillon. Electric flour mill—John Osterman. Package of electric light bulbs—Mrs. C. A. Bauer, Raymond Doane, Fred Korty, Paul Ellis, Mrs. John Smith, Mrs. Herman Spencer, Mrs. James Mungall, Miss Esther Ammerman. Ivory fluorescent bed lamp—Claude Tucker. Bronze fluorescent bed lamp—V. T. Parks. Pin-up lamp—Mrs. Ed Ranft. 25-lb. bag chick feed—Carl Saxer. 25 baby chicks—Mrs. Ella Conroy. Indirect lighting fixture—W. A. Glenn and Ernest Cooper. One gal. paint cleaner—Fred Moeller, Boudoir lamp—Mrs. Walter Suhling. Pin-up lamp—Mrs. Ed Albers. Coffee maker—Arthur Wildhagen.

Meter Notes

Please mark only the drawing which corresponds to the type of meter you have. In marking the dial type meter, please be sure to draw in the hands on the dials in the exact location they appear on the meter.

We wish to thank all of you for your cooperation in so splendidly returning your meter cards promptly. We greatly appreciate it.

Clinton

Breese, Ill.

Mr. and Mrs. Burl Quick of near Boulder are enjoying the convenience of a recently purchased refrigerator.

Theodore Stone, residing near Patoka, has purchased a milk cooler and likes it very much.

Avoiding Lightning

Lightning frightens more people and kills fewer than any other common hazard. Fatalities from this cause seldom exceed four hundred a year, nine-tenths of them in rural areas. Yet this doesn't alter the fact that lightning is no toy: it costs the public plenty in damages despite elaborate protection; it destroys around $20,000,000 worth of farm property a year plus thousands of head of cattle killed in the fields. So, while lightning hardly justifies the rabid fear professed by some people, it certainly merits resepcct and sensible precautions.

Sould you be caught by a storm in open country, your best havens would be a cave, ravine or gully, a patch of woods, the denser the better. Give wire fences a wide berth; get off high ground if possible.

The safest places are properly rodded buildings, metal structures, and buildings of steel-frame construction. Such places are struck frequently but rarely damaged, since the charge is conveyed harmlessly to the ground.

Lightning's penchant for chimneys (the highest point on the house) emphasizes the prudence of staying out of the line of fireplaces and stoves during a severe storm. For although a bolt may come nown the chimney, it is likely to jump to some better conductor in one of the rooms, and it isn't healthy to be in the way. By the same token, lightning often follows plumbing or electrical systems through a house: hence the bathtub is not a very good spot to be caught in. It is advisable also to refrain from using the telephone if the outside wires are overhead.

Truly, Nature's blitz is no toy; but it does submit to reasonable precautions. And atlhough it scares lots of people half out of their skins, it actually kills only one-fortieth as many as die from falling downstaris or tripping over rugs!

Operating Report

Miles of Line	440.34
Members billed	1008
Average KWH Consumed	115.1
Average Members billed	$5.03
Total KWH Consumed	116061
Total Billings	$5075.08
Income Per Mile	$11.52
Consumers Per Mile	2.28

Menard

Petersburg, Illinois

The August issue of the National REA News contains an interesting article and pictures of the vocational agricultural department of the local high school in connection with the building of home-made electrical equipment by the students in that department for use on both REA and utility rural lines.

Max J. Worthington, vocational agricultural teacher, in cooperation with Fred E. Daar of the Menard Electric cooperative, has developed a program for students to construct practical home-made equipment including electric chick brooders, pig brooders and water warmers for use at home.

In addition this shop program has included the construction of hog houses, feed troughs, chick feeders and the fundamentals of constructing and repairing of buildings.

The development of this work shop program as a definite part of the vocational agricultural department of the Petersburg community high school will continue during the coming school year.

Plans are being made to interest a number of schools in counties served by our cooperative in a similar program.

Picnic Held

Mr. and Mrs. Audace Herzberger, who live southwest of Virginia, are members of the Menard Electric cooperative. Mention was made in the July issue of the spacious lawn and pond located on their premises and what an inviting spot it would be for a summer outing.

The Herzbergers took the matter to heart and promoted a neighborhood fish fry to which practically the entire community was invited. Over 120 pounds of fish was fried and served to the 135 neighbors and guests present.

Those attending this neighborhood party brought along the extras which consisted of several kinds of salads, tomatoes, potato chips, cold slaw and cake. Following the fish dinner a program was presented.

Service Noted

Albert Basso serving with the armed forces in Iceland has been promoted to the rank of staff sergeant. Sergeant Basso recently assisted in the elaborate military funeral rites for high army officials who were killed in a plane crash in Iceland. Albert is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Basso of Chandlerville. Mike Basso serves as a member of your board of directors.

Pfc. Charles Becker, U. S. Marine corps, addressed both of Petersburg's service clubs recently, talking before the Kiwanis club one night and the Rotary club the following evening. He is with the Marine detachment serving on the U.S.S. Nevada and has seen service in both the south and north Pacific, and told a graphic story of his experiences during the past year.

Charles is the son of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Becker of Petersburg. Mr. Becker is manager of your cooperative and also serves as coordinator for the Illinois Association of Electric Cooperatives.

Mrs. Ollie Pillsbury has received word that her son, Captain Glenn T. Pillsbury, who has seen service in the north African war zone, has been decorated with the Order of the Purple Heart. Captain Pillsbury was wounded in the leg during the Tunisian campaign.

FUEL FOR USED OIL STOVES —Buyers of used oil stoves are eligible for fuel under the terms of a recent amendment to the fuel oil rationing regulations. Fuel oil rations for use in oil stoves acquired after December 19, 1942 (or March 15, 1943, in Washington and Oregon) have been denied unless the heaters were acquired under stove rationing provisions. Since only new stoves have been rationed, buyers of used or second-hand stoves have so far been ineligible for fuel oil allotments.

Unusual Housing Project Served By Jo-Carroll Cooperative Line

Located Adjacent To Ordnance Depot; Is Modern, Compact

Ten electrically-equipped 1-room cottages comprise Proving Park Villa—an REA serviced housing development which provides homes for army officers and their families as well as civilian couples, all of whom are employed or stationed at the Savanna ordnance depot.

Located in Carroll county, adjacent to the ordnance depot, until recently one of the government's largest shell loading plants, the development receives its electricity from Jo-Carroll Electric Cooperative, Inc., offices of which are in Elizabeth.

Started in the spring of 1941, the project has grown steadily, additional cottages being added as the demand and finances made expansion possible, according to Miss Charlotte Johnson, manager of the development.

Compact—Modern

The cottages are models of compactness and feature electric refrigerators, stoves and hot water heaters. Some have telephones and all are equipped with electric lights and modern bathrooms. The cottages are 10x20 feet in size; contain in-a-door beds, a very compact kitchen with built-in cupboards and two small closets.

Everything is built according to scale and provides a surprising amount of space for a combination living and diningroom. They have sufficient electrical outlets for using all of the standard home appliances, such as electric irons, and vaccum cleaners.

Owners of the development also provide tenants with a small washing machine, which is "passed around" from one cottage to another during the week. Running water is forced through pipes into the houses from a community well by an electric pump.

All of the cottages are equipped with shades and cellulose drapes.

One of the most unusual developments of its kind, the project attracts considerable attention as scores of motorists pass by daily on Route 20. The housing development is located only a short distance from the main gate to the Savanna ordnance depot and is only a few miles from the Jo-Carroll cooperative's sub-station near North Hanover.

Without REA electric service, the development would not be able to offer prospective tenants all the modern conveniences which it now has.

Force Reduced

Until comparatively recent orders were issued by government leaders, the ordnance depot employed nearly 5000 civilian workers in its various industrial plants. This force, however, has been considerably reduced, although the exact number of employees at the depot has not been made public.

During the first World war, the depot was a big gun testing grounds and huge shells were hurled by cannon for miles along the Mississippi water front on which the government reservation borders. Sometime ago, the testing grounds were moved to Aberdeen, S.D., leaving the ordnance depot primarily a storage and loading station. For more than a year the ordnance depot was operated on a production-line basis and thousands of shells were filled with T.N.T. for use on the world's far-flung battle fronts.

The depot is a former Indian camping ground and numerous Indian relics have been found there during vast excavation projects.

Annual Report—

(From Page Nine)

Falkenwald Tribute

At the suggestion of the coordinator, REA representatives stood in to a silent tribute to the memory of Charles Falkenwald, pioneer in the REA cooperative movement, who died several months ago. In eulogizing the late Mr. Falkenwald, Mr. Becker said:

"No one was more interested in the REA program in Illinois and in seeing our state association organized than our late friend in REA, Charlie Falkenwald. Your coordinator was greatly honored by Administrator Harry Slattery of REA by being requested and being able to act as one of Charlie's honorary pallbearers at his funeral in Baltimore, Md. Mr. president, it seems to me that in due respect for the man who was the first REA representative to come to Illinois to assist in the promotion of the REA program, which now has twenty-six cooperatives serving approximately 60,000 farmer-members, we should all stand and give silent tribute to Charlie's memory, which will serve as an inspiration for all of us in carrying to completion the rural electrification program in Illinois."

Hints Are Given For Maintenance of Trucks, Buses

A specific program for the proper maintenance of idle trucks, school buses, or cars has been outlined by the office of defense transportation. The following suggestions are from the ODT report:

Idle equipment must be carefully maintained until such time as it is placed into useful war work. It should never be left out-of-doors or otherwise neglected.

1. If the vehicle is to be run occasionally, wheels and tires should not be removed. Fuel and water also may be left in it.

In Dead Storage

For cars in dead storage, follow these suggestions:

2. To protect body paint, store in clean, dry place, roofed, free from water leaks, lime from white wash, and sunlight. Cover with either paper or cloth covers.

3. Vehicles should be jacked up so that tires will be clear of the floor. Keep them inflated to slightly above operating pressure. Remove wheels and tires and store in a cool, dark place. Pack horizontally, not vertically.

4. Bright work should be covered with a coat of light oil, vaseline, or cup grease.

5. Close all windows to keep out dirt and dust.

Care of Battery

6. Remove all batteries to facilitate servicing. Check gravity every six weeks in cold weather, every three weeks in hot weather. Recharge every six weeks to gravity reading of 1.2800 or above. Don't allow gravities to fall below 1.220 (at 60 dedegrees F.) Keep correct water level at each inspection.

7. Drain radiator to prevent rust. Be sure all water drains from the entire cooling system.

8. Drain all gasoline from tank. Run engine until carburetor and fuel pump or vacuum tank are empty. If carburetor is not drained, gum will form as gasoline evaporates. Remove spark plugs and inject into every cylinder one-half ounce of oil. Rotate engine to leave a coating of oil on cylinder walls and replace spark plugs.

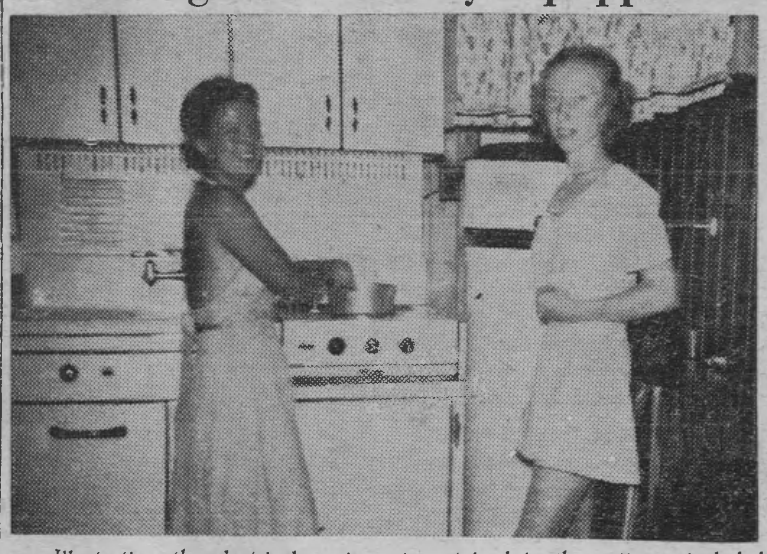
9. Disengage clutch and place block of wood beneath clutch pedal and the underside of the floor board. The block should be large enough to hold the clutch disengaged.

10. Do not remove rear axle, transmission, or engine oil.

11. Leave hand brake in a release position.

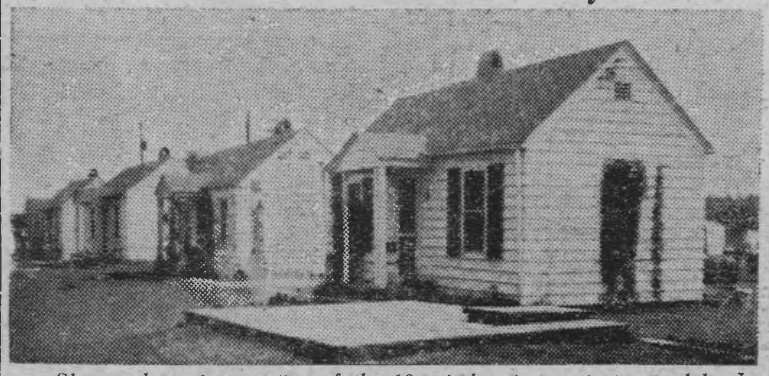
DON'T WRITE "ROUND ROBBINS"—Writing soldiers "round robins," or news letters, and inviting composite replies by the group is inadvisable, the war department has warned. Replies tend to become anthologies of military information, and a custom that arose from innocent motives become security hazard.

Cottages Electrically Equipped



Illustrating the electrical equipment contained in the cottages included in the Proving Grounds Park Villa, two army officer's wives are shown above as they switched on the current preparatory to starting dinner on the electric range, one of which is installed in each house. The young lady officiating at the range is Mrs. E. G. Kock, whose husband is a major in charge of the ordnance school. At her right is Mrs. J. R. Beauchamp, whose husband, Lieutenant Beauchamp, is a special service officer at the school. Behind Mrs. Beauchamp is an electric hot water heater.

These Houses Are Served by REA



Shown above is a section of the 10-unit housing project served by Jo-Carroll Electric Cooperative at Elizabeth. The development, known as Proving Grounds Park Villa, is located at the edge of the Savanna ordnance depot grounds in Carroll County. All of the cottages are completely electrically equipped.

Work Out Pre-convention Plans

E. J. Stoneman of Platteville, Wis., (left), vice president of the National Rural Electric Cooperative association, is shown above as he discussed pre-convention plans with A. E. Becker of Petersburg (center), coordinator of the Illinois Association of Electric Cooperatives, and G. Wayne Welsh of Sciota (extreme right), president of the Illinois state-wide association.

In addressing the convention on the opening day's program, Mr. Stoneman called for more attention to "social frontiers" and urged individuals to pay less attention to the material things in life. Too much emphasis, he said, is being placed by people on the dollar bill and not enough attention is being paid to the social side of life.

One of the causes of the present war, Mr. Stoneman declared, was our "inability to get along together." He called attention to Mark Hanna, whose fame as the richest man of his time has virtually disappeared, while the name of Abraham Lincoln, whose interests were focused on the welfare of humanity, has endured through the years, as examples of the two schools of endeavor—one of a lasting nature, the other superficial.

Referring to the nation's soldiers, sailors and marines who are "fighting and dying for democracy," he asked what the country intends to do for the boys after the war is over. We will all subscribe to the four freedoms, he declared, adding that what the nation must be prepared to do is to "give every individual an equal opportunity in life if we are to have a strong democracy."

He said that people must learn the A, B, Cs of cooperation, recalling that in the matter of transportation the world today is a smaller place than the state of Illinois was fifty years ago, and in the matter of communication the world is smaller than the city of Springfield was seventy-five years ago.

Mr. Stoneman pleaded for a more ideal meeting of minds of men and women in order to wipe out dissentions of various factions, saying we should be able to sit down at a table and work out our problems on a national and international basis.

Panel Discussion

A feature of the program was a panel discussion on How Can REA Cooperatives Develop a Constructive Educational Program for Their Members? Led by Professor E. W. Lehmann, head of the University of Illinois college of agricultural engineering, talks were given by the following REA cooperative representatives, managers and superintendents: T. H. Hafer, Corn Belt; V. C. Kallal, Southwestern; Dean Searls, Adams; Fred E. Daar, Menard, and T. M. Brady, Eastern Illinois.

Mr. Hafer and Mr. Brady emphasized the need of safety programs in REA cooperative activities, while Mr. Searls and Mr. Daar discussed methods which their cooperatives have used to encourage the building of home-appliances. Mr. Kallal discussed methods of keeping memberships informed through pertinent reading matter.

The call to order was given by G. Wayne Welsh, president of the Illinois Association of Electric Cooperatives, and the notice of the meeting and minutes of the last annual meeting were read by E. Clyde Lewis, secretary of the Illinois state-wide association.

SHORT CIRCUITS Around the Home

By EDNA RITTER

When putting cut flowers in a vase, push stems through a paper doily which rests on top of the vase and keeps them in neat arrangement.

Instead of pouring melted parrafin over glasses of jelly, shave it into the glasses, then pour in hot jelly, this melts the wax and causes it to rise to the top.

Your chamois skin for washing windows will be improved if a piece of flour sack is sewed to the back, wash windows with the cloth side, polish with chamois.

Now that colors in wash dresses aren't as fast as they were once, try wrapping garments whose color fastness are doubtful, in waxed paper after sprinkling, thus they cannot stain other pieces in the basket.

An old dishmop sprinkled with furniture polish, works like a charm for cleaning coil bed springs.

Dents in aluminum pans and kettles can be rolled out with a chair or bed caster fitted with a handle.

To prevent small rugs from "skating" on waxed floors, glue or sew discarded jar rings to each corner on the under side.

It's easy to grease a waffle iron by placing tissue paper soaked in hot lard between the grids while iron is heating.

Anchor small boxes in dresser drawers by pushing a thumb tack through the box bottom into the drawer bottom.

Bright colored finger nail polish is fine for marking dishes and silverware, that is being taken away from home, it is easily removed with polish remover.

To press trousers without danger of scorching use a newspaper instead of a cloth.

To prevent enameled pails from becoming chipped on the pump, wrap padding on the pump below the spout.

Now that ice cream powder has practically gone to war, here is a recipe for Refrigerator Ice Cream that's easily prepared and is really good.

Beat 2 eggs well, add ¾ c. Sugar, beat some more, add 2 teaspoons vanilla, beat again. Take 2 cans of Evaporated Milk which has been chilled over night, and whip separately until thick. Fold in sugar and egg mixture, beat all well. 1 small can crushed pineapple or any fresh fruit may be added. Pour in tray. When it begins to freeze, stir. Allow to freeze again, then serve. This amount serves 8 persons. No ice particles ever form in this ice cream.

Give curtain rods a generous coating of wax. It protects them from rust, and makes it easier to slide curtains back and forth.

Now that rubber gloves are precious try putting a bit of cotton in the fingertips to keep sharp fingernails from cutting the rubber.

To banish lime deposit in the teakettle, put 2 cups of vinegar into the teakettle, fill with water, place over fire, bring to a boil. Remove from fire, allow mixture to stand in teakettle over night. If coating is extra thick you may have to do this two nights in succession.