

# ILLINOIS *REA* NEWS

The Voice of 58,000 Members

VOL. 2, NO. 6.

OCTOBER 20, 1944

SIXTEEN PAGES

## Wickard Will Talk In Springfield At State-Wide Meeting On Oct. 31

### Farm Leaders Are Invited to Hear Secretary; REA Leaders on Program

#### ASSOCIATION BOARD AND COMMITTEES TO MEET ON NOV. 1.

Claude Wickard, United States secretary of agriculture, will address an open meeting sponsored by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives Tuesday afternoon, October 31, in the ballroom of the Abraham Lincoln hotel.

Mr. Wickard's address will be the climax of an all-day session, starting at 10 in the morning, with talks by the regional heads of the Rural Electrification Administration and other program features. The secretary's address will be based on plans for agriculture's place in the post-war world.

The meeting is expected to attract farm leaders from all parts of central Illinois, in addition to scores of directors of REA cooperatives in the state, county farm advisers and Triple-A committeemen. REA cooperative members are invited to attend as guests of their directors.

An all-day business conference has been scheduled for November 1 for members of the association's board of directors, steering committee and managers' committees within the state-wide organization.

A number of important legislative matters are to be discussed, with plans for combatting recent decisions made by the state commerce commission standing on the day's agenda.

Three of the key men in the Rural Electrification Administration have been invited to attend the 2-day ses-

### R. L. Ridings, Co-op Lineman, Dies After Fall

Raymond L. Ridings, 33, line crew member of Illinois Rural Electric cooperative at Winchester, died early this month in a Jacksonville hospital of a heart attack which followed an injury when he fell from a light pole in Carrollton.

Mr. Ridings was engaged at the time in cutting in a light in the Carrollton city park in preparation for a night football game. He had climbed about fifteen feet when his spurs struck a rotted section of the pole and he lost his balance and fell. His injuries at the time were diagnosed as a fracture of the knee. Coronary thrombosis occurred later, however, and he died four days after the accident.

### UNIVERSITY MAN ACCEPTS LONON JOB WITH UNRRA

Professor H. C. M. Case, head of the University of Illinois department of agricultural economics, has been granted a leave of absence to accept an administrative assignment in London with the United Nations relief and rehabilitation administration.

Case will be in the agricultural division, concerned especially with farm production needs of France and northern European countries, according to Dean H. P. Rusk.

sion and to appear on the program with Secretary Wickard. They are Deputy Administrator William J. Neal and his administrative assistants, James Salisbury, Jr., and Percy Sax.

### Coming To Illinois



Claude Wickard

### Annual Meeting of Region 5 to Be Held in Dubuque, Ia., on Nov. 28

#### TO ELECT 3 DIRECTORS TO NRECA; MEMBER OF EXECUTIVE GROUP.

Delegates from REA cooperatives affiliated with the National Rural Electric Cooperative association in Region 5, which includes Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin, will assemble in Dubuque, Iowa, for their annual regional meeting on November 28.

For the first time this year, the regional meeting will be preceded by separate caucuses held by the three state delegations at which each will name a director to the national NRECA board. One of the three state representatives chosen on the board will be elected a member of the NRECA executive committee at a general meeting of regional delegates.

This procedure is in accord with revised by-laws of the National Rural Electric Cooperative association, proposed at the national NRECA

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### Future Co-op Activity Is Threatened By Adverse State Commission Ruling

#### END RATIONING OF MACHINERY FOR FARM USE

Rationing and distribution control of all farm machinery and equipment, except corn pickers, has been ended by the war food administration.

The action was announced by war food administrator Marvin Jones, who said the 1944 production period and season of use for most rationed implements had passed and that the need for further controls except on corn pickers during the 1944-45 crop year "is not anticipated."

Released from rationing and other distribution controls are combines, corn binders, manure spreaders, mowers, side delivery rakes, hay loaders, pick up hay bailers, wheel tractors, grain drills, potato planters, potato diggers, silo fillers, irrigation pumps, power sprayers, dragon tractors, well water systems, power pumps, farm milk coolers, sheet metal water well casing and farm scales.

#### Radio Stars to Top Program at Clinton Meeting

Radio stars from station KMOX, St. Louis, will top the program of entertainment which will be presented in connection with the annual business meeting of Clinton County Electric cooperative at 1:00 Thursday afternoon, October 26, in the Breese high school gymnasium.

Announcement has been made today by Joseph Heimann, superintendent, that arrangements have been made to present for the enjoyment of cooperative members the popular radio stars—Skeets, Frankie and Sally Foster. Hundreds have heard them over the radio, and the cooperative feels certain that their many fans will enjoy seeing them in person.

All current directors of the cooperative, with the exception of Fred Hempen, president of the organization and a member of the board since the project was started, have been renominated for reelection. Mr. Hempen, who has two boys in service and operates his 240-acre dairy farm alone, asked not to be renominated to the board this year, saying that he didn't believe he could continue further to devote as much time to cooperative activities as he felt necessary.

#### List Nominees

As a result of Mr. Hempen's decision, John Volkamp, who resides a mile west of Carlyle, was nominated to the board. Other nominations include Fred Korte, Ben Rensing, Myrtle Dierkes, Charles Pigg, Fred C. Freund, Grace N. Johnson, Vincent Albert and Robert W. Holtgrave. Other nominations for directors may be made from the floor.

The new board will hold a reorganization session after the general (Turn to Page Six)

#### Illini Barred; Farmers Mutual WPB Approval Held Inadequate.

#### NOVEL DECISION GIVEN

#### Power Company Is Granted Authority To Build In 9 Counties.

In a precedent-setting decision which threatens to have serious repercussions in REA circles throughout the state, the Illinois commerce commission late this month ruled that REA cooperatives should comply with the Illinois public utility act and recognize the jurisdiction of the commission.

The ruling, announced by Commission Chairman John D. Biggs, struck a blow for state rather than federal regulation of REA cooperative service in Illinois.

In considering two cases in which REA cooperatives were interested, the commission barred Illini Electric cooperative of Champaign from a hearing involving a request by a public utility company for certificates to construct 23.9 miles of lines in nine Illinois counties, and also denied a plea by Farmers Mutual Electric cooperative of Geneseo to exclude a public utility from building lines in the Annawan area. The public utility company in each case was the Illinois Power company of Decatur.

#### Grant Permission

Rulings of the commission granted the power company authority to build the 23.9 miles of line requested, including 12 miles of line for which Farmers Mutual already had war production board approval. Counties involved in the company's commission-approved certificates include Vermilion, Morgan, Macon, Piatt, Edgar, Champaign, Bureau, LaSalle and Henry.

In barring Illini from participating in the hearing, the commission in effect held that an REA cooperative is a public utility, a view which is diametrically opposed to the stand taken by REA cooperative leaders and upheld by decisions rendered by commerce commissions in many other states.

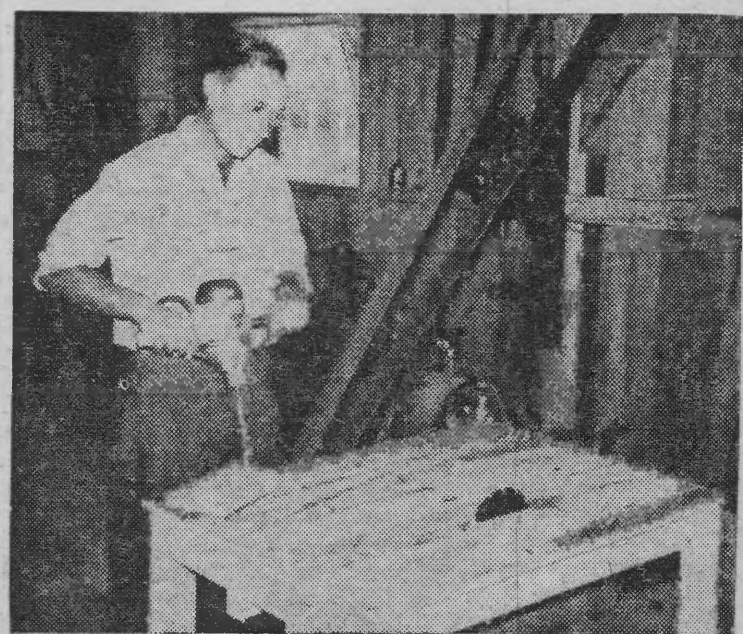
The commission's decision also said that because Illinois (as well as other REA cooperatives) held out its service to the public it should comply with commission rules and regulations. Because, the commission said, Illini had not complied with commission regulations, it had no right to participate in the power company case.

REA cooperatives extend service to members only—not to the general public, as the commission charges, and, therefore, have never felt obligated to submit to commission rulings.

#### Farmers' Mutual

The ruling against Farmers Mutual Electric cooperative would appear as a direct challenge to WPB authority in regard to permission for construction of power lines in Illinois.

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ONE OF THE REASONS—why Henry Dickhaut leads the list of consumers on the Clinton County Electric cooperative line is his well-equipped farm repair shop. Mr. Dickhaut, who is shown above using an electric drill, one of the many electrical devices to be found in his shop, is equipped to make all repairs on his farm machinery.

# Editorial Page

## Illinois REA News

Published Monthly for the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives by Wisconsin Electric Cooperative of Madison Wisconsin.

RUSSELL J. GINGLES, Editor

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Postmaster: In using Form 3578-P, always give out key number, and address to PUBLICATION OFFICE

303 East Wilson St. Madison, Wisconsin.

### EDITORIAL OFFICE

122 South Sixth Street, Petersburg, Illinois

Entered as second-class matter June 1, 1943, at the post office at Madison, Wisconsin, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

### SUBSCRIPTION RATE

Members, per year — 60c  
Non-members, per year — \$1.00

## ROCKING THE BOAT

Practically nothing has been heard of the post-war plans for public utility companies, beyond occasional paid advertisements advocating that individuals buy war bonds today so they may purchase electrical equipment tomorrow.

It isn't reasonable to suppose that huge utility empires, stretching across the length and breadth of this great land of ours and operated by some of the sharpest brains in the business world, aren't thinking of postwar markets—among them the fertile rural electrification field.

That they are keeping silent on their peace time plans should make REA cooperative leaders wary. Plans for vast expansion of rural electrification and unelectrified farm surveys which show hundreds of thousands of rural areas yet unserved have been advanced by REA to indicate what will be needed and done when war ends. The public utilities have said and done nothing—until recently.

Whether the recent hearings held before the Illinois commerce commission or the litigation started by a public utility to prevent an REA cooperative from building lines in an area for which the co-op already had WPB approval means the opening gun in the battle for post-war supremacy in the rural electrification field we don't know. We're not among those entrusted with public utility secrets.

However, out of the hearing came a very significant and, perhaps, precedent-setting decision. For the commission, in barring Illini Electric cooperative from participation at the hearing in which a utility company sought certificates of convenience to build 23.9 miles of line in nine Illinois counties, ruled that all electric service in Illinois should be under state rather than federal regulations. The co-op was barred from the hearing because, the commission said, it was functioning as a public utility but failed to comply with commission rulings. Some opinions, presumably as learned and correct as those expressed by the commission on this matter of regulation, appear on this page.

Action of the commission appears as a definite threat to the post-war REA cooperative program and definitely demands that REA projects place themselves at the beck and call of the commission. The future of the entire REA cooperative movement in Illinois is stamped as a PUBLIC UTILITY ENTERPRISE, and, if the commission has its way is subject

to all the checkmates applied to monopolistic utility companies—the very things which differentiate REA cooperatives from the power companies.

The same trend of thought surrounds the case involving Farmers Mutual Electric cooperative of Geneseo. The fact that the cooperative has on file a letter from the war production board citing the utility company involved in the case for violation of WPB regulations for moving into territory where farmers had already applied for service from the cooperative meant little or nothing to the commission.

In the light of the WPB ruling, what does the commission do? Over-riding all previous precedents and rules which have been in effect in the rural electrification field since construction work was curtailed and activities put on a wartime basis, the commission suddenly decided that: "The question of which should render local service (REA or utility company) is not a question to be settled by federal wartime agencies . . . the dispute should be determined by the commission and the commission is ready to cooperate with the war production board as to the most efficient and advantageous use of critical war materials."

Somewhere in the background there seems to be a V-day celebration in the making—victory of the commission over the REA cooperatives? We don't think 58,000 REA co-op members in Illinois would care to celebrate such a victory; which means the virtual throttling of the rural electrification movement. The celebration they have been hoping for is victory on the battle front and freedom on the home front—freedom to at least provide themselves with electricity through self-service offered by their own REA cooperatives. Electricity, the commission may remember, is something which many public utilities had thought too expensive to bring to many farm homes before the REA act was passed.

The members of REA cooperatives in Illinois may have to take their case to the state legislature where the collective voices of 58,000 irate voters can command attention.

The legislature, you know, is composed of men and women who occupy senate and house seats because of just one, single reason—THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE. The commission probably won't change its mind in seeking regulation over REA cooperatives; little satisfaction can be gained through long and expensive litigation in the courts—but there's an election coming up in November. Find out how your candidate stands on this question of state vs. federal regulation, and vote accordingly. YOU CAN BE THE WINNER—OR THE LOSER. In this fight we'll need the friendly support of our elected representatives in the state legislature; let's see that those for whom we vote, know and understand the commission's viewpoint relative to TAKING OVER REGULATION OF YOUR COOPERATIVE.

In so far as the REA cooperative program of Illinois is concerned, the battle for post-war rights and fair dealing is on. If commission and legal

## Original Opinion Still Holds True

The controversy over commerce commission regulation of REA cooperatives is an old one and goes back to the very beginnings of the rural electrification movement. Although commissions have interpreted REA cooperatives differently, there seems only one fair and accurate interpretation necessary . . . REA cooperatives are not public utilities and, therefore, do not come under state commerce commission control.

In March, 1937, Morris L. Cooke, first administrator of REA, said:

"Commerce commissions were set up to intervene between the buyers and sellers of electricity in the matters of rates and to supervise the issuance of securities. Since cooperatives do not issue securities for public distribution and since the buyer and the seller are one and the same individual in the cooperative, commission control has, as to these matters, no obligations to fulfill and no rights to protect.

"But the fact that there is no need for commission intervention is not the whole story. I believe that commission control is not only unnecessary but would prove actually harmful as applied to cooperatives. It is common practice for private utility companies to claim exclusive franchises, or rights, covering all the territory in sight. Unfortunately, it is not equally common for private utilities to feel an obligation to serve all the territory they claim. As you know, we can help to serve only those farms which are without service. Too often have we witnessed the phenomenon of a farm group which has given up hope of obtaining service from the franchise-holding utility and sought to provide itself with service, stopped in its tracks by the claim that the utility has some sort of sovereign rights in the area.

"I do not need to labor the intolerableness of such a situation. To approach a 'freezing' of the territorial allocations or 'rights' would be to halt the march of electricity to the farm. Yet the process of protesting such a manifestly unfair claim regularly calls forth batteries of high-priced legal and engineering talent to defend the claims of the utility before the commission. A cooperative can not afford any such array and hence runs a real risk of losing out, irrespective of the common-sense realities in the situation.

"There is another serious drawback to commission control and that is on the matter of rates. There is a natural tendency for these quasi-judicial bodies (commerce commissions) to want to see uniformity in rates charged. In their control of monopolies, they are more or less inevitably forced to regard uniformity of rates as an indication that the public is being fairly treated or at least that no part of the public is enjoying an undeserved advantage over another part. In the long run, under commission control, I foresee a tremendous sustained pressure to have farmers, as members of cooperatives, charge themselves the same rates for electricity as the private companies are permitted to charge farmers in other areas.

"This will mean just one thing: The present level of rates will tend to be the future level because we all know how difficult it is to obtain reductions by petition. Cooperatives do not have the overhead of private utilities and they are not seeking to make a profit, so it is reasonable to suppose that they will be able to serve themselves at somewhat lower rates than those which now prevail in most areas. Commission control would seriously retard the downward course of rate levels which cooperatives can look forward to if left free to fix their own rates in accordance with their own costs.

"With present technical knowledge and methods, only a minority of our farms can be served on a profit basis. With the elimination of any charge for profit, in other words by the establishment of cooperatives, lines can be extended into much leaner territory and serve a much larger percentage of farms on a self-supporting basis.

"Legislation concerning rural electrification should be sponsored by its friends. The strong public interest involved in rural electrification requires freedom on the part of rural communities to serve themselves over wide areas and prevent cream-skimming policies which leave many areas indefinitely stranded.

"Regulatory policies sponsored in any state by utility companies or other interests which seek to curb rather than protect the farmer's desire to serve himself with electricity must be viewed with suspicion. Regulatory bodies, established to protect the public interest, should not be made forums where opposition to this rural public interest can develop and from which protracted appeals to the courts can be made."

skirmishes thus far indulged in are part of a vast public utility plan, 58,000 members of Illinois REA cooperative should be prepared to back their leaders to the limit.

We're satisfied with federal regulations of construction, and the public utilities were more or less satisfied with them, too—until they awoke to the possibilities for profit which have suddenly appeared to them in the rural electrification field. Don't let their old chant of government subsidy sway you from your course; there is no subsidy connected with the REA program—YOU FARM MEMBERS OWN YOUR OWN BUSINESS, YOU'RE PAYING FOR IT EVERY

TIME YOU PAY YOUR POWER BILL. Money in excess of actual operating and maintenance costs of YOUR COOPERATIVE goes to pay off the loans made YOUR COOPERATIVE to build lines to YOUR FARM. The REA cooperatives didn't get those loans for nothing—they pay interest on every dollar borrowed. And, until the Pace bill was recently passed, the interest rates were higher on loans made the REA cooperatives than were paid on other government loans of a similar nature.

If that is subsidization, then every dollar borrowed from every bank in the nation on which interest is paid and the

principal finally retired is a subsidy. Public utility companies borrow money for operational work—and they too can borrow funds from REA for construction of rural lines if they wish—but they don't speak of their loans as a subsidy. That is just a BUSINESS DEAL.

There is no reason why public utilities and REA cooperatives can not function without friction—each in its own field. REA cooperatives do not attempt to bring electric service to cities like Chicago; why do public utilities wish to serve farms in small rural areas? They have admitted in the past that it costs them more than they make to build and maintain lines to thinly settled farm areas.

Many Illinois REA cooperatives buy their power from public utilities and retail it to their farm consumers. This is an additional source of revenue to the large power companies at very little expense.

Public utility men have worked themselves into considerable of a sweat over the possibility that REA cooperatives in the future may have their own generating plants or may buy electricity from government power projects. If they don't know these facts they should: The easiest way to make their worst fears come true is to try and handcuff the REA cooperatives through commerce commissions, keep wholesale power rates higher than might normally be charged, and annoy farm members with propaganda aimed at dividing loyalty to their cooperatives.

Live and let live is a time-worn doctrine, but a good one. What many public utility companies don't realize is that the REA cooperative can live with or without utility company sanction. Relations between many REA cooperatives and the utility companies from which they buy power are good at present—but only an overall spread of amiable relations between all REA co-ops and all public utility companies can win out in the final analysis. You can't play ball with half the team, without arousing the antagonism of all. Harmony between REA cooperatives and public utility companies lies within the power of public utility companies themselves. If they're as smart as they have been given credit for being, they'll realize it.

### Everybody Vote

Vote for whom you wish—but VOTE.

There is no greater privilege extended any citizen of any country than the right to cast his ballot for the candidate he thinks most worthy to hold any office in the land.

The original thirteen colonies fought Great Britain because they charged taxation without representation. The first act to be restored to the conquered countries of Europe will be the right to vote for the leaders they want to govern them; a privilege denied them in dictator-ruled plebiscites which led to the downfall of honest men and the raising of unscrupulous masters.

It is probably human nature not to miss anything until it has been taken away—but we can imagine the howls which would go up from the non-voting multitudes if they were de-

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# It's Annual Meeting Time - - Illinois Valley Gains In Membership



## Directors Are Rechosen; Knox Project Begun

Illinois Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc., of Princeton, before an over-flow crowd of attentive and enthusiastic members, closed its 1943-1944 operating period with an annual meeting September 26 at which reports showed that the project had gained in both membership and miles of line energized.

All directors were reelected by the membership and the board met later to rename all present officers for the ensuing year.

Officers and directors of the cooperative, largest in northern Illinois, follow:

President—L. F. Boyle.  
Vice president—Ray H. Jackson.  
Secretary—Edith Kays.  
Treasurer—Ray Eiten.

Directors, in addition to the officers, include Dale T. Anderson, Madge Nye, Asa Gordon, Eileen Slingsby and Perley D. Warner. John H. Wolfe is manager of the cooperative.

### Growth Recorded

Charts, presented in connection with reports by Mr. Wolfe, indicated that the membership of the cooperative, as of the date of the annual meeting was 2,049. This compares favorably with a total membership of 1821 in September, 1943.

Miles energized to date total 837, a gain of forty-five over the number reported at last year's annual meeting. The amount recorded for monthly billing totaled \$10,875.22, as compared with \$9,696.01 last year. The cooperative's density per mile has also risen from 2.3 to 2.4 per mile during the last 12-month period.

Mr. Eiten, treasurer of the cooperative, reports that the project is in excellent financial condition and has never had to default on any of its loan payments.

Assets of the cooperative show \$26,519.57 in the general fund cash; \$25,573.22 in restricted funds, \$8,004.13 in accounts receivable less reserve; other assets totaling \$938.51; prepayments—other than long term debt, \$938.50, and utility plant, including plant in service, work in progress, less maintenance and depreciation reserve, \$811,495.38. The liability side of the report shows as the largest item, \$853,724.36 listed as long-term obligation.

### 60-Mile Project

Membership in the cooperative will take a decided spurt upon completion of a newly started 60-mile area construction project. The lines will serve approximately 155 members, four of whom attended the annual meeting and participated in the activities.

The area to be served is located in Knox county and is one of the largest single buildings being undertaken at present by a northern Illinois cooperative. Construction work is being done by the A & A Electric company of Cicero.

The cooperative at present operates in eight counties—LaSalle, Marshall,

**TYPICAL SCENES AT CO-OP ANNUAL MEETING—BUT THEY TELL A BIG STORY**—At the upper left are shown directors and officers of Illinois Valley Electric cooperative after they had been reelected for another year. They include L. F. Boyle, president; Ray H. Jackson, vice president; Edith Kays, secretary; Raymond Eiten, treasurer, and Dale Anderson, Madge Nye, Asa Gordon, Eileen Slingsby and Perley Warner, directors.

**UPPER RIGHT**—This is a view of a small section of the large crowd which attended the meeting. Lower right shows Manager John Wolfe as he exhibits a chart to the membership, telling them that lower lines designate notes and loans secured, with the exception of several smaller ones recently received and not yet posted; that the dotted line shows the accumulation of all notes and gives members an idea on how long it will take before the cooperative will pay off its obligations.

Putnam, Stark, Bureau, Kendall, Knox and Henry. The width of the project, from east to west, is 115 miles, all of which are under the care of a 3-man line crew, consisting of Floyd Christiansen, Milford Jontz and Charles McFarland. The men all work out of the cooperative's office in Princeton.

### Refreshments Served

Preparations for the meeting, including the planning of the musical program, decorations, refreshments and the many other details which went to make the REA cooperative session the success it was, were in charge of the office staff, supervised and directed by Mrs. Wolfe, wife of the manager.

The office staff, which worked so long and hard on the meeting, included Irene Simon, secretary and assistant billing clerk; Camilla Anderson, billing clerk; Marie Harrison, bookkeeper.

## U. S. Experts Agree; Farming Is Tough Work

Farming is a hard way to make a living but it has its compensations, the department of agriculture says in offering advice to servicemen seeking post-war opportunities on the land.

In estimating that at least 1,000,000 soldiers and sailors would like to try their hand at farming when the fighting is over, government officials have directed agricultural leaders to lay out a program for acquainting farm-minded veterans with the problems to be tackled and helping them to a solution.

In a booklet already prepared to aid such servicemen, the department of agriculture says there is a lot of difference between a dream farm and the real thing.

"The real farm is no dream," the department reports. "Farming in fact, is a hard way of making a living."

The amazing efficiency of the new drug, phenothiazine, has opened a new era in the control of sheep worms.

## New Tools For Line Work Invented By Illinois Cooperative Manager



With experience drawn from an engineering background and a practical knowledge of line work, John Wolfe, manager of Illinois Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc., at Princeton has perfected two pieces of equipment which should go far in speeding up repair activities.

The tools, illustrated above in pictures presented through the courtesy of the cooperative, are a **HOT LINE BASKET TOOL** AND A **HARDWARE TIGHTENING WRENCH**. Both are carried on each of the cooperative trucks and are considered a part of necessary equipment used in operating a system and keeping the lines in shape.

**IN THE TOP PICTURE AT THE LEFT**—is shown a hot line basket tool used in installing hot line baskets on energized lines without de-energization. It is a head that will fit into a standard hot stick. The head is made to hold the two parts of a split bolt connector and the basket, and when slipped over the conductor and turned, the spring forces the two pieces of the kearney together and it is tightened simply by turning.

### Saves Labor

Says Mr. Wolfe, regarding this tool: "We have saved many outages, additional labor and mileage through use of this tool which is considered a piece of standard equipment of the cooperative. One attractive feature of this tool is the safety angle, since it is operated on the end of a hot



stick entirely out of reach of the hot line."

**IN THE OTHER TOP PICTURE AT THE RIGHT**—is shown the hardware tightening wrench in operation. This tool is used for tightening hardware on the system's lines which has loosened from vibration. It is operated on the end of a hot cutter stick. It operates on the double ratchet system controlled by tested rope in which a piece of insulating material has been installed to take care of the safety angle if used during rainy weather. The head is hollow all the way through which means that no bolt is too long. The entire tool is solid and stationary and there is no chance of any employee losing control of it through loose parts. If the nut is entirely off the bolt, another may be installed simply by inserting the nut in the socket, placing it over the bolt and tightening. (Explanations of the tools were provided by Mr. Wolfe.)

## One-Man Pickup Baler Will Be Sold After War

A one-man, self tying pickup twine baler is expected to be one of the many new agricultural machines which are expected to prove labor savers on the nation's farms in the post-war period.

The machine is a fully automatic

## NEWS FROM Western Illinois Carthage, Ill. L. C. MARVEL, Supt.

### OPERATING STATISTICS September, 1944

KWH Purchased	125,700
KWH Sold	105,438
Members Billed	1,203
Minimum Bills	332
Miles of Line	547

### Co-op Furnishes Roadside Shelter House for Service Men

At the time this cooperative was maintaining a guard at the sub-station, we erected a small portable, frame building as a refuge for the guards against the elements. Since the guards have been withdrawn, we have been seeking some disposition of our little house.

The little house, Monday morning, was moved to the "Y" at the junction of Highways 10 and 94, east of Carthage, where it will again become useful as a Pick-Up Station and provide shelter for those G-I's traveling the "air-way" (air you going my way?)

The house will be painted; it will display the symbol of the War Dads' Organization, which organization, that is the Carthage Chapter, arranged for the use of the building at its new location.

### Poles — At Last

We have recently received a long delayed shipment of poles and are now able to proceed with a few extensions, as long as our supply of poles and other vital materials holds out. Additional poles and material are on order which we hope to receive within the next few weeks.

### Visit to Historical Spot

Manager L. C. Marvel, had the pleasure, recently, of accompanying the Editor, Mr. Russell J. Gingles, on a trip to the old jail in Carthage where the Mormon leaders, Joseph and Hiram Smith lost their lives at the hands of an infuriated mob, years ago.

The old jail has almost been completely restored to its original condition, that is it appears to be in the same state as it was at the time of the deaths of the Mormon leaders. The Mormon church regards this spot as a shrine, and each year many of their members visit it.

We shall be glad to arrange for a visit to this interesting spot, for any of our readers; just stop at the Cooperative office in Carthage.

### Illinois REA News to South Pacific Area

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Dickson received a letter from Donald Layton, a young man who formerly worked for them, and who now is in the U. S. Navy, somewhere in the South Pacific, stating that he was pleased to see the news item in the Illinois REA News about the Dicksons. Someone had been thoughtful enough to send Donald a copy of the News, which he enjoyed. Donald Layton is the son of Mrs. Leo Worden, and just before he entered the service, we had the pleasure of selling him a gift for his mother for Christmas—the young man stating that 'in all probability he would be gone, but he wanted his mother to have her gift for Christmas regardless where he was, and that he wanted her to have something nice, because she had always seen to it that he received nice things.'

More than one-half of the sweet corn canned this year at Eureka, Morton and Washington was snapped by machines rather than by hand, although the use of this type of machine is still in the experimental stage.

\* \* \*

Clover is the farmer's fertilizer factory.

twine baler and the only operator is the man on the tractor, which pulls the machine. Self-feeding is accomplished with open-end floating auger and packer fingers which are considered an improvement over belt or chain cross conveyors.

## Hundreds Attend Community Farm Dinners Given On Menard Project

### RAIN HOLDS NO TERRORS; FLYER, WAR BRIDE TALK

Hundreds of members of Menard Electric cooperative of Petersburg assembled for typical community dinners the last two months at the Arthur R. Beck and Audace Herzberger farms to celebrate the marvels of rural electrification and to visit and discuss their mutual agricultural problems.

Programs, headed by A. E. Becker, manager of the cooperative, were presented at each meeting, with returned military heroes featured in talks at the Arthur Beck dinner and musical selections and motion pictures topping the festivities at the Audace Herzberger affair.

Mr. Becker explained the aims and purposes of the cooperative at both programs and gave members an insight into the vast post-war plans which are now being formulated by Rural Electrification administration in cooperation with the National Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives. He lauded passage of the Pace bill which, he said, will save REA cooperatives hundreds of thousands of dollars in reduced interest payments, permit them to amortize loans over longer periods of time, provide the REA program with sufficient funds to carry on from year to year, and eventually allow cooperatives to reduce power rates to consumers.

#### War Heroes Speak

Lt. Lloyd F. Richardson, member of the fifteenth air force in Italy; Chief Gunner's Mate Harry W. Gilmore, veteran of Saipan and Guam, and Mrs. June Ross Kramer, wife of Lt. (Junior Grade) Wilford Kramer of Springfield, a native of Australia, also talked at the Beck dinner in a forum arranged by Charles R. Topp, former Illinois State Register (Springfield) reporter and now a member of the Davenport Daily Times staff of Davenport, Iowa.

Lieutenant Richardson, veteran of fifty missions over occupied Europe, told his listeners that his toughest assignments were raids on Vienna, Austria, and the Ploesti oil fields.

During the early days in Italy, he said, airmen were permitted "one candle in tents every other day"—not a very good light, he added, "to write or read by at night." Resourcefulness of the flyers, however, was attested to by Richardson when he said that later the boys contrived to make "lamps" by using tin cans in which peanuts were shipped.

#### Modest Veteran

Chief Gilmore, former Illinois state patrolman, said very little about his personal part in the Navy's successful efforts to put ashore combat troops in invading Pacific islands and, instead, lauded men of all branches of the service for their heroic deeds in battling the Japs. He said that today sailors make up just one part of the personnel aboard ships during invasions as Uncle Sam's vessels now carry men of all services. Because of this, Chief Gilmore declared, various branches of the service have almost lost their distinction.

Speaking of her homeland, Australia, Mrs. Kramer told the group that the "land down under" is far behind the United States in electrical appliances, and people there today are unfamiliar with washing machines, hot plates, electric irons and toasters. They have had refrigerators for only two years, she said.

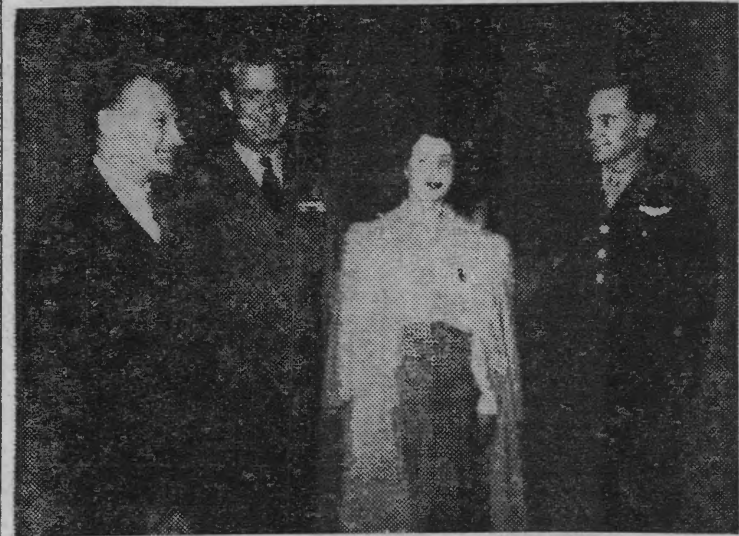
In discussing the war, Mrs. Kramer stated that clothes in Australia have been rationed for more than two and a half years. Australians, she said, enjoy a democratic form of government, their sole governmental connection with the English motherland being a governor general, chosen by

the king, to represent Britain in the country in an advisory capacity.

The program was preceded by a country fried chicken dinner, served buffet style and eaten at long tables placed on the lawn. Long strings of electric lights were arranged over the dining area and the front porch became a stage for the evening. Musical selections and motion pictures were also presented.

#### LET IT RAIN

Rain came down in torrents the night of August 30, but a crowd of about 200 persons braved the downpour to eat fried fish, potato chips, potato salad, beans, sandwiches and



**GAVE CROWD SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT**—Shown above are four of the speakers at last month's community dinner at the Arthur Beck farm. From left to right, they are: Charles R. Topp, newspaper reporter; Chief Gunner's Mate Harry W. Gilmore; Mrs. June Ross Kramer, native of Australia, and First Lt. Lloyd F. Richardson of the 15th air force based in Italy.

numerous other items of food—deliciously prepared and in abundance—at the Herzberger farm.

The large crowd gradually filled to capacity a large implement shed where food was served, as girls scampered through the rain to pilot new arrivals from their automobiles to the heavily laden tables of food. Men and women laughed at the storm as they rushed for the shed while the rain-drenched girls held umbrellas over them.

Following the meal, the throng assembled in the Herzberger residence where Charles Topp was the principal speaker, telling his audience the story of the news behind the news. He recalled many interesting incidents of newspaper life and spoke of the interviews he has had with veterans of the present war.

Prizes were awarded at both Herzberger and Beck community dinners by Fred E. Darr, electrification adviser for Menard Electric cooperative, who served as master of ceremonies at the two programs and also presented sound movies.

#### List Committees

Committees for each of the successful programs follow:

##### ARTHUR E. BECK DINNER

Tables and chairs—Harold Knap, chairman; Dwight Purviance, Clarence Bowers, Harold Brock, Lawrence Conoway, Roy Beck, John S. Erwin, Lynn Stengel and Louis Bellatti.

Serving—Mrs. Arthur Beck and Mrs. Charles Leonard, co-chairmen; Mrs. Clarence Bowers, Mrs. Dwight Purviance, Mrs. Harold Knap, Miss Mary Munch, Mrs. Louis Bellatti, Mrs. Harold Durlinger, Mrs. D. L. Moore, Mrs. Sam Swanson, Mrs. Paul Donovan, Mrs. Roy Hartley, Mrs. Lawrence Conoway, Mrs. Lynn Stengel, Mrs. Bernard Candle, Mrs. Bruce Stahl and Miss Doris Taylor.

Get-acquainted—Thomas R. Knap, chairman; Louis Pease, Herb Shelhammer, Mrs. Bessie Maxwell, Mrs. Lacey Brock and Mrs. W. M. Moore.

Program—A. E. Becker, chairman; Charles Topp, Fred E. Darr and Arthur Beck.

Music—Mrs. Arthur Beck, chairman; Mrs. John Kinahan and Miss Betty Jo Brock.

Movies—Fred E. Darr and Kent Roberts.

Lights — Don Bissey, chairman; John Correll, Guy Sanford and Bernard Candle.

Registration—Mrs. Kent Roberts, chairman; Miss Doris Taylor and Miss Mary Munch.

Parking—John Maxwell, chairman; Teddy Knap, Tommy Moore, Robert Erwin and Raymond Beck.

##### AUDACE HERZBERGER DINNER

Tables and chairs — Clarence Thompson, chairman; Paul Petefish, Frank Rolf, Sr., Woods Crum, Glenn Herzberger and Clifford Burrus.

Fish frying—Audace Herzberger, chairman; Chris Ring, Ed Carls, William Witte, Carl Mallicoat, Loren Burrus, Fritz Hammer and Alvin Ginder.

Serving—Mrs. Audace Herzberger, chairman; Mrs. Leslie Wildt, Mrs. Ed Carls, Miss Jane Herzberger, Mrs. L. D. Burrus, Mrs. Roy Musch, Mrs. E. H. Virgin, Miss Dorothy Virgin, Mrs. Frank Rolf, Sr., Miss Rena Rexroat, Miss Janice Carls and Miss Alice Lou Virgin.

Program—Lorenzo Burrus, chairman; A. E. Becker, Rudy Korte and C. A. Ogle.

Music—M. C. Thompson, Jr. Finance—Miss Betty Jane Numan, chairman; Miss Caroline Herzberger and Mrs. Wilma Thrasher.

Movies—Gus Husted, farm adviser and Fred E. Darr.

Lights—Harold Wessler, chairman; Ray Logan and Ralph Launer.

Parking—Allen Herzberger, chairman, and Frank Rolf, Jr.

## DROUGHT CAUSES MOST DAMAGE TO 1944 CORN CROP

Drought caused the most serious damage to the 1944 corn crop in Illinois, observes Dr. Benjamin Koehler, professor of crop pathology, University of Illinois college of agriculture. Other causes of damage were chinch bugs and diseases.

Losses from diseases have been reduced about one-half since 1926 and are not expected to be any worse this year than the average. The hybrid corn breeding method is an important development whereby breeding for disease resistance can be accomplished better than by mass selection in open-pollinated corn, Dr. Koehler believes. Root rot, stalk rot, black bundle disease and smut have all been decreased through the corn breeding program. Virtually no improvement in resistance to seedling diseases has been made, he said, but added that seed protection has been found to be accomplished by using seed disinfectants.

Soybean hay, when properly handled, compares favorably with alfalfa in total protein and mineral content, according to tests made by the University of Illinois college of agriculture.

## Returns to Her Desk as Bookkeeper But Only to Help Train Successor



**TEACHING 'EM HOW**—Mrs. Arthur C. Bussan, the former Aina Berlage, bookkeeper at Jo-Carroll Electric Cooperative, Inc., of Elizabeth for several years, returns to her desk shortly after coming home from her honeymoon—but only for a few days.

She is back at her old job to help school her successor, Miss Alice Biesmann, shown standing at Mrs. Bussan's right, and the cooperative's newly appointed stenographer, Miss Arletta Potter, left, in the intricacies of REA office procedure. Miss Biesmann, who resides in Galena, was formerly employed in the office of the Jo Daviess county clerk. Miss Potter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ross Potter, lives on a farm near North Hanover in an area which will soon receive power from the Jo-Carroll cooperative.

Like the hundreds of the cooperative members she served during her bookkeeping days in the Elizabeth office, Mrs. Bussan lives on an REA-served farm near Galena.

An epidemic of sleeping sickness among horses has been reported in a number of central Illinois counties.

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Prices received by farmers for eggs during the next six months will probably be less than in the same months of 1943-44.

## CROPS THIS YEAR EXPECTED TO SET ALL-TIME RECORD

Only adverse weather during the rest of the harvest season will prevent 1944 crops from reaching an all-time record, according to estimates of the Crop Reporting board.

The board called this year's farm production "remarkable," considering farmers' labor shortage and weather difficulties.

Crops, yielding a higher production per acre than in any year except 1942, are being harvested from an acreage greater than that of any year since 1932, the board said in its report of conditions as of October 1.

The largest corn crop ever produced in the nation is in prospect, the board stated. It predicted a harvest of 3,200,000,000 bushels or 96,000,000 above its September 1 estimate and 65,000,000 over the previous mark set in 1942.



**GOING INTO A HUDDLE ON THE BUSINESS FRONT**—Shown above are members of the office staff of Menard Electric cooperative of Petersburg as they get together to solve a cooperative problem cooperative-ly. In the group are Mrs. Evalena Barchert, stenographer; Miss Mildred Roegge, secretary; Howard O. Bell, bookkeeper, and Mrs. Ella Louise Cutright, office manager.

NEWS FROM Wayne-White

Fairfield, Ill. F. A. TANNAHILL, Supt.

Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative

212 East Court Street Fairfield, Illinois Phone 250

Board of Trustees

- Pres. J. Wess Barth, Cisne. V. Pres. Harold Shepherd, Albion. Treas. L. M. King, Mill Shoals. Sec. Frank Gray, Sims. Orville Smith, Calvin. Ogie Vest, Xenia. Irvin Yohe, Mt. Erie. G. O. Moreland, Norris City. G. O. Deem, Geff.

Manager

F. A. Tannahill, Fairfield, Ill.

In case of emergency calls before 8:00 A. M. or after 5:00 P. M. call the following: For Carmi, McLeansboro, Norris City, and vicinity, call Chalon Carter, phone No. 123, Norris City.

For all Edwards County, all of Wayne County, Crossville, Calvin and Phillipstown, in White County, call F. A. Tannahill, phone 156J, Cloyd Musgrave, 60M, or Bill Fleming, 213W, all of Fairfield, Illinois, Norman Davis, 18F14, Fairfield, Illinois.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

- Lieuna & Clara Henson, Sims, Illinois. Anthony D. Thompson, bachelor, Norris City, Illinois. Ernest & Sarah York, Emma, Illinois. Chester A. & Maude Gibbs, McLeansboro, Illinois. Wayne & Loren Brown, Geff, Illinois. Robert L. Lasater, Barnhill, Illinois. William D. & Ame. M. Jennings, Carmi, Illinois. James R. & Edith Allin, Norris City, Illinois. Herbert & Emma Robertson, Wayne City, Ill. C. H. & Belle Dixone, Fairfield, Illinois. Lillian B. Cheevout, widow, Fairfield, Ill. Elmer & Grace Johnson, Barnhill, Illinois. George & Emma Duckworth, Mill Shoals, Ill. George & Doris M. Hoskins, Enfield, Illinois. Roy W. & Edith Vanfossen, Clay City, Illinois. George & Hallie Welch, Norris City, Ill. Ed. & Guanell Knoetgen, Rinard, Illinois. B. R. & Maxine Yocham, Cisne, Illinois. Mary E. Hall, Wayne City, Illinois. Sulpher Springs School, McLeansboro, Illinois. Allen T. & Lucy Smith, Sims, Illinois. Lloyd & Ida Wright, McLeansboro, Illinois. John & Imogene Floyd, Mt. Erie, Illinois. Earl & Edith Taylor, Geff, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. James T. Henry, Blufford, Illinois. Lavere and Helen Best, Mt. Erie, Illinois. Kenneth Stephens, Carmi, Illinois. Harold D. Neff & Sylvia G. Neff, Geff, Illinois. Homer & Dessie Dickey, Enfield, Illinois. C. H. & Inez Dollerhide, Geff, Illinois. Charles Rothrock, West Salem, Illinois. John W. & Mae Cooker, Mill Shoals, Illinois. Kenneth & Beulah Colyer, Golden Gate, Ill. Joseph & Haley Hunsinger, Bt. Prairie, Ill. E. H. Pettigrew, Ellery, Illinois. Green B. Huff, Maunie, Illinois. Hal O. Norris, Norris City, Illinois. Charlie Hulett, Norris City, Illinois. Lin Bruce, Norris City, Illinois.

September Operation Report Miles Energized 1012 Members Receiving Service 4037 Total KWH sold 203,192 Average KWH used per member .50 Number of Minimum bills 1087 Average bill 3.40 Revenue Per mile 13.65 Density Per mile 3.98

First 20 to Send in Meter Cards

- Elvis F. Blackford, Mill Shoals W. R. Gardner, Mill Shoals Harry Hammack, Springerton C. E. Bond, Belle, Prairie C. O. Karcher, Belle Prairie. Ida Perry, Belle Prairie C. W. Tennon, Belle Prairie George F. Gelix, Barnhill C. F. Atkinson, Geff S. R. Henson, Norris City Emma Gross, Norris City Leonard Vaughan, Fairfield Ed. Tucker, Fairfield B. D. Mckyes, Mill Shoals Ira Musgrave, Mill Shoals Francis Gardner, Mill Shoals Cornelius Rainwater, Mill Shoals Mrs. Laura Spalding, Geff T. M. Pettigrew, Ellery Harold Riggs, Golden Gate

Last 20 to Send in Meter Cards

- Frank Broster, West Salem Mrs. Chas. E. Michels, Noble William Laughlin, Rinard Ed. Brinker, Mt. Erie Leo McDowell, Mt. Erie Frank D. Burton, Geff Edd Keyser, Mt. Erie Lavere Massie, Mt. Erie Thomas H. Puckett, Barnhill George Thomas, Springerton Albert Rubenacker, McLeansboro S. M. Crane, Carmi Charles Shaw, Golden Gate Robert Farris, Fairfield Arthur Redmon, Springerton A. G. Gonyer, Mill Shoals C. A. Rush, Springerton Mary J. Rose, Springerton Fred York, Fairfield Fred Garrett, Mill Shoals

25 Highest Farm Users

Table with 2 columns: Name and Value. Includes Jake Bowyer, Keenes (1267), Ben Nation, Fairfield (704), Walter Hines, Maunie (560), Harry Lasater, Barnhill (435), Luke Fyle, Springerton (424), H. W. Smith, McLeansboro (366), Frank Gray, Fairfield (354), Riley Mangis, McLeansboro (348), Loren Ackerman, Crossville, Ill. (337), T. B. Melton, Johnsonville (331), Glen J. Dickey, Wayne City (329), Oral Brown, Fairfield (324), W. P. Davis, McLeansboro (324), Holmes Brockett, Maunie (301), G. P. Calvin, Calvin, Ill. (301), Peter Westergard, Maunie (287), John Spence, Geff (284), W. D. Morgan, Carmi (265), Paul Mauntell, Carmi (262), Howard Bunnell, Geff (258), Ronald Drake, Macedonia (258), Guy M. Farlow, McLeansboro (253), Ira James, McLeansboro (239), C. C. York, McLeansboro (238)

25 Highest Commercial Users

Table with 2 columns: Name and Value. Includes Pure Oil Company, Cisne (5033), Sam Gilpins, Carmi (3050), Robinson & Puckett, Fairfield (3009), Magnolia Prod. Co., Salem, Ill. (2660), Olsen Drilling Co., Olney, Ill. (1164), Texas Pipeline Co., Fairfield (1065), Ohio Oil Co., Pipeline Dept. Bridgeport (903), Ohio Pipe Line Co., Johnsonville (873), Carmi Baptist Orphanage, Carmi (833), H. C. Hickey, Wayne City (823), Otis Wilson, Johnsonville (818), United Producing Co., Cisne (742), Theodore McConnell, Geff (711), Ralph E. Keith, Rinard (699), George Rister, Mill Shoals (686), Texas Pipeline Co., Johnsonville (675), Willia Keele, Blufford (660), Oscar Keller, Mt. Erie (600), O. A. McRill, Wayne City (588), John W. Anderson, Wayne City (572), Archie Akers, Wayne City (565), Lawrence Lee, Fairfield (564), Charles Funkhouser, Mill Shoals (552), Guy Husk, Carmi (538), L. W. Springer, Springerton (525)

Would You Like to Have a Pressure Water System On Your Farm Now? This is to announce to all members of the Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative. Your Board of Trustees have approved a plan where...

chase a pressure water system together with kitchen sink, hot water tank, complete bath and shower equipment at almost pre-war prices.

War Production-Board have approved and authorized 300,000 water systems to be manufactured, and farms are high on the list as being eligible to purchase these water systems.

Running water on the farm is a war time need and will help in many ways to increase food stuff with less man power, as well as improve living conditions on the farm. Then too, wouldn't it be something fine for the men at the fighting front and the defense plants to come home to.

Your Cooperative plans to cooperate with a firm in St. Louis, who have dealers located in several parts of the area we serve, and we will cooperate with the dealers in helping our members obtain pressure water systems, and also to get it installed and in operation.

All of the details of this plan are not yet worked out, but they will be by next month, when we will have a complete story and picture to report to our members and will authorize the program in the columns of the Illinois REA News.

This plan will work very much on the order of the plumbing program we developed before the war, but will not be on as large a scale, due to the limited amount of materials which WPB permits to go into items of this kind. However, 300,000 units will go a long way to equip many farms and will help the war effort in many ways.

In order that as many members can be contacted at the earliest possible time, we have prepared a cut-out request form which may be prepared by cutting out and mailing to your cooperative office requesting further information about the pumping unit and plumbing program.

In making your inquiry, we want you to know you are not in any way obligating yourself, but rather, that you are merely requesting information.

Therefore, if you have been thinking about a pressure water system or a water pumping system, just fill out the cut-out shown below and mail it to your cooperative office, 212 East Court St., Fairfield, Illinois, and we will furnish you with the information.

This will be very worthwhile. We recommend you do not delay in writing for further information.

To: Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative 212 East Court St., Fairfield, Ill.

I am interested in the following item or items:

- ( ) Pressure Water System ( ) Deepwell Pump ( ) Shallow Well Pump ( ) Jet-Type Pump ( ) Running Water for Farm Use only ( ) Running Water for Farm Use and House ( ) Kitchen Sink and Hot Water Tank, Coal or Wood Range ( ) Bathroom Complete ( ) Complete Bath, Kitchen, and Running Water

Members name

Address

Check mark the item or items for which you desire further information.

We are pleased to learn that Mr. and Mrs. Harry Daniel, R.F.D. No. 5, Carmi, Illinois, have obtained an electric motor with which to pump water. We are sure they will enjoy the convenience of the electric motor very much, and wish to thank them for informing us of their purchase.

Plan a Water System for Your Farm.

POULTRY HOUSE LIGHTING

The season is here when the vacation period starts for your laying flock.

Now that the fall and winter days are here the hens' work day has shortened considerably and this is going to reflect in the egg production.

If the hen house was wired and a

timer clock was installed so that electric lights are burning when the hen enters the house, she will carry on her work instead of going to roost. thus her work day will be extended and will cause more egg production.

In view of the fact that a good laying flock should have regular hours, it is recommended that the lights should be controlled with a timer clock instead of trying to control them manually because very often a variation of ten or fifteen minutes a day will make a lot of difference in the flock. For example, if a person should be fifteen or twenty minutes late in turning the lights on in the evening, many of the hens would already be on the roost and of course it is possible they would stay on the roost whether the lights were on or not. Then, too, if one should oversleep in the morning and fail to turn them on in time, this will cause the flock to over-sleep as well, and will cause them to begin their day's work late. All of this irregularity will have a telling effect on the flock and it is, therefore strongly recommended that poultry house lighting should be controlled with a timer clock for regularity.

Timer clocks and wiring equipment can be obtained for this purpose and if your Cooperative Office can be of any assistance to you in this matter, please do not hesitate to inquire.

Do You Have Running Water on the Farm?

Claude Ivers, Fairfield, Illinois, just recently purchased a new 1/4 H.P. motor.

Leonard Bullard, Wayne City, Illinois, is the proud owner of a ham-merrill.

Estell Gregory, Fairfield, Illinois, has just recently purchased a new 1/4 H.P. motor.

Pearl Trotter, Cisne, Illinois, has just recently purchased a new 1/4 H.P. Motor.

Lester Crocker, Wayne City, Illinois has just recently purchased a new 1/4 H.P. motor.

Oren Williams, Enfield, Illinois, has just recently purchased a new 1/4 H. P. motor

Would Lou Like Running Water on Your Farm?

Mr. Pete L. Kirsch, Dahlgren, Illinois, has purchased a new dimmer type timer clock and two poultry water warmers for his flock of layers.

Mr. Albert Kreher, Belle Prairie, Illinois, has purchased a dimmer type timer clock and two poultry water warmers for his flock of layers. The Cooperative Office has requested these two members to record the results of their flock and advise the results they experience from the use of the timer clocks. We are sure they will find their production to be much increased over past winter seasons.

The Cooperative Office has a few timer clocks left and a number of poultry water warmers as well as a limited supply of wiring material. These are available for members of our Cooperative who wish to purchase them and we strongly recommend that poultry house lighting be installed at the earliest possible time so that there will not be too great a change in the time the flocks are used to going to roost.

Plumbing Outfits and Water Pumps

Be sure to read the announcement which the REA Office of St. Louis, Missouri is making in this issue regarding water systems on the farm, and complete bath and toilet facilities.

An adequate water supply on any farm is, without doubt, one of the most essential items needed on every farm and it is REA's ambition and desire to see that every REA member is given the opportunity to avail themselves of this healthful and sanitary system.

After reviewing the article, we have in another column, if you are interested in full information do not delay in cutting out the questionnaire and mailing it to your Cooperative Office.

Complete information will be pub-

lished in next month's issue of the ILLINOIS REA NEWS.

Post-War Construction

While the war with Germany is far from being won, and without doubt war with Japan will be continued for a year or more, still the War Production Board has indicated on numerous occasions of recent date, through press and radio commentators, that they intend to permit a cut back for civilian use of about 40 per cent of raw materials which are now on the critical list and are being rationed through priorities.

This means that when Germany quits fighting the War Production Board thinks there will be enough raw material available in the United States to carry on the war successfully with Japan and at the same time have sufficient raw materials to satisfy Lease-Lend requirements and also allow civilians to use about 40 per cent more material than is being used for rural line construction, etc.

In accordance with this plan and the War Production Board's line of thinking, your Cooperative is beginning a Post-Wara Pre-Allotment program to work up a section of rural lines which are to be constructed if and when material is available.

In this pre-allotment program we have two thoughts in mind. One—that by having a substantial number of miles of lines pre-allotted for construction, we would be in a position to render service to many farms. Two—at the same time we would be in a position to cause much work to be available for men who are returning home then from the war.

We look upon this program as a patriotic obligation to our fighting forces to farm members who can be served from those lines. It is definitely one of our jobs on the home front to create and make jobs for our men when the war is over and it will also be our patriotic responsibility to produce food stuff for our fighting allies until such time as they can reestablish their country and get back into production.

From past experience we are sure that it will require several months to pre-allot a substantial number of miles of line, because this is all preliminary work of signing up prospective members, arranging for right-of-way to construction lines, then have the engineering work completed so that the pre-allotment may be sent to REA headquarters for their inspection and approval.

All this must be advance work because REA administration must know the number of miles of REA lines to be constructed in the United States during a certain period of time. In order that they may request Congress to make available the necessary amount of money.

In the past, Congress has made these appropriations from year to year, and this has slowed up the rural electric line of the REA line expansion considerably, because only a limited amount of money has been made available for REA line expansion.

From the above it is apparent that we must necessarily plan from six months to a year in advance of the time when we can reasonably expect or hope to be able to construct lines and for this reason we think now is the time for us to begin to plan lines that we are to construct in 1945-46.

Further expansion of these lines in your neighborhood can be hastened if the old members who are now receiving service will lend a hand to their neighbors who are anxious to receive service. In other words, their experience can be passed on to their neighbors who are anxious to receive service. Also if you have time it would be possible to take the lead in your community and help your neighbor to get started.

Your Cooperative Office is ready and willing to assist in every way, possible and in the spirit of cooperation with prospective members and the O.D.T. We will assist to save gasoline, tires and time by meeting with a group at their local school house or church.

Your manager will be glad to attend (Turn to Page Twelve)

## Commerce Commission Seeks State Control of REA Co-op Activities

(From Page One)

Despite WPB approval for construction of twelve miles of line in the Annawan area to serve thirty farmsteads, Farmers Mutual, as a result of the commission's ruling, finds itself unable to start work—in fact, discovers itself in the peculiar position of having its approved territory presented to the power company. The situation appears somewhat more ludicrous because the power company had previously been cited as violating WPB regulations in starting construction in the disputed territory before receiving war production board approval.

Refusing to abide by WPB regulations, the power company not only requested an appearance before the commission but also started court action to prevent the cooperative from building lines in the Annawan area.

### Novel Decision

In considering the Farmers Mutual case, the commission said the question of which power organization, REA or public utility, should render local service is "not a question to be settled by federal wartime agencies through the indirect procedure of allocating or refusing to allocate critical materials in the exercise of emergency powers." The commission said there were two aspects to the matter.

It might appear, the commission said, that the WPB could determine the matter by the indirect procedure of granting critical material to one organization, and withholding it from the other, or that it might be looked at from the view that the one allowed to build lines will continue to render service after the conclusion of the present war.

"The dispute," the commission said, "should be determined by the commission and the commission is ready to cooperate with the war production board as to the most efficient and advantageous use of critical war materials."

### Cream Skimming?

In reviewing the case, Walter H. Parson, manager of Farmers Mutual Electric cooperative, charged that the Illinois Power company, "after failing to provide service for approximately 20 years (in the disputed area) suddenly started construction and set 2.5 miles of poles between January 20 and 29, 1944. Since the proposed power company line would serve six farms in the center of the area, cooperative officials could only conclude that it was built to prevent the carrying out of the (cooperative's) program."

## RADIO STARS TO—

(From Page One)

membership meeting to elect new officers.

Members of the nominating committee were Carl Sohn, Frank Becker, Walter Harpstrite, Gerhard Schumacher, Edward Defend, Henry Miesner, August Moehle, Herman Bruns and Ben M. Meyer.

### REA Leader Coming

Joseph H. McCombs, regional operations engineer of the Rural Electrification Administration, will attend the meeting, which will open with an invocation by the Rev. W. J. Schweickhart, pastor of Immanuel Evangelical church of Carlyle.

Every person attending will receive a gift and an opportunity to win the grand prize—ONE YEAR FREE SERVICE at MINIMUM BILL OF \$36. With 400 persons present last year, hopes are high that this number will increase to 500 for the 1944 annual meeting.

In addition to the entertainment and election of directors, other features will include the presentation of reports by the superintendent and officers.

A message to the membership said: "Bring your neighbor. If he can not come bring his proxy. To have a quorum, 150 members must be represented in person or by proxy."

Mr. Parsons further stated that: "The intent of congress in enacting the Rural Electrification Act was to expedite the electrification of unserved rural areas. This purpose will be defeated if private utilities, after failing to do anything about serving an area, are allowed to rush in and build lines to stifle the growth of cooperatives."

"Such tactics will retard the development of rural electrification and tend to leave pockets of unserved farms surrounded by utility lines and beyond the reach of cooperatives."

(A detailed statement by Mr. Parson, including a complete history of the case, appears below under the heading News From Farmers Mutual Electric Cooperative—which is the cooperative's exclusive news column in this publication. It is suggested that this statement be read by all REA cooperative members in Illinois so that they may familiarize themselves with this important precedent-setting case.)

## NEWS FROM Farmers Mutual Geneseo, Ill. WALTER PARSON, Mgr.

Following is a statement prepared by your manager relative to the case involving the co-op and the Illinois Power Co.

The Illinois Commerce Commission recently issued an order which can have a far-reaching effect on the progress of rural electrification in Illinois. This order leans toward a policy of turning over to private power companies areas that REA-financed rural electric cooperatives already have started to develop. Such a policy would strifle the expansion of the cooperatives and impede the growth of rural electrification in the state. Since there are some 170,000 rural homes in Illinois that do not yet have electric service, many thousands of rural families might be left without hope of receiving electricity.

The Commission's decision authorized the Illinois Power Company to build 2.5 miles of line to serve six families in an area near the present lines of the Farmers Mutual Electric Company. In the fall of 1941, our cooperative had made a survey of this area after receiving inquiries about service. Power company lines had surrounded the area for approximately 20 years, but no lines had been built to serve the farms.

### Receive Applications

During the cooperative's survey, every farmer in the area made application to us for service. Plans for lines to serve the area were submitted to the Rural Electrification Administration and were approved by that agency. The Cooperative then completed steps necessary to start construction. But in the meantime, the growing needs of the armed forces made it necessary for the War Production Board to restrict the use of materials in rural power line construction. This in turn made it necessary for the cooperative to postpone plans for electrifying the area.

In January, 1944, it became possible for the cooperative to extend service to the area under the War Production Board's wartime emergency farm service regulations authorizing the connection to existing rural power lines of farms able to use electrical equipment in livestock, dairy and poultry production. A new survey of the area was made, and the WPB approved plans for the cooperative to serve the area.

The Illinois Power Company, after failing to provide service for approximately 20 years, suddenly started construction and set 2.5 miles of poles between January 20 and 29, 1944. Subsequently, the power company applied to WPB for authority to use critical materials to complete this line.

### Protest Made

Since the proposed power company line would serve six farms in the center of the area, cooperative officials could only conclude that it was built to prevent the carrying out of the program. Thus when the power company filed an application with the State Commerce Commission for a permit to build its virtually completed extension, the cooperative appeared to protest. Since that time, the Commission has issued an order authorizing the power company to construct the line. The company also has started litigation in the courts to keep the cooperative from undertaking any development in the area.

The case of the Farmers Mutual Electric Company seems to raise an important question of public policy. Cooperatives were given a high priority for loans under the Rural Electrification Act of 1936. Subsequent events have shown that the rural electric cooperative is a very important factor in extending electric service to farmers in less densely-settled areas.

The intent of Congress in enacting the Rural Electrification Act was to expedite the electrification of unserved rural areas. This purpose will be defeated if private utilities, after failing to do anything about serving an area, are allowed to rush in and build lines to stifle the growth of cooperatives. Such tactics will retard the development of rural electrification and tend to leave pockets of unserved farms surrounded by utility lines and beyond the reach of cooperatives.

### Indirect Suggestion

The recent order of the Illinois Commerce Commission also suggests indirectly that rural electric cooperatives should be subject to the commission's jurisdiction. This suggestion is open to a damaging and unfair interpretation. It totally ignores the fact that non-profit cooperatives, which serve only their own members, are not and should not legally be subjected to the kind of control which the commission properly exercises over companies operating for profit and serving the general public. Commission regulation is intended or ought to be intended to protect the consuming public against exploitation by a supplier of something necessary to community welfare. In a cooperative there is no need for such protection, for the public is both buyer and seller.

In the final analysis, the Commission's order must be looked upon by the Illinois rural electric cooperatives as a danger signal. If private power companies are allowed to engage in cream skimming and to build spite lines to stifle the growth of cooperatives, orderly development looking to the complete rural electrification of our state will be retarded, or even prevented.

## EDITORIAL

(From Page Two)

prived today of the privilege of casting their legal and secret ballots. This is a free nation, and we can keep it that way only insofar as we exercise our duty to elect our own representatives to city, county, state and national governments.

If you have not voted on November 11, you have no right to criticize the choice made by your more conscientious voting neighbor. Your one vote may not swing an election—although that can happen in small communities—but add your one uncast vote to hundreds of thousands of other single uncast votes and you build up a majority which can, and does, sway elections.

So, vote for whom you please And—a word to farm women. Political leaders of the nation concede that the majority of votes cast this year will probably be by women; after all, you know, 51 percent of the votes in the last presidential election were cast by women.

What is the world's largest jewel? A baseball diamond.

## Good Time Had By All Around Camp Fire By Co-op Employes and Guests



If Adams Electric cooperative employes, their guests and hosts didn't get enough to eat at the recent wiener and marshmallow roast held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Beckman in Camp Point it was nobody's fault but their own.

For the long table, located near the big, blazing, cheery fire, was heaped with food, including potato chips and homemade catsup, as well as the commercial variety.

Assembled around the fire—toasting and eating hot dogs and marshmallows are Mr. and Mrs. Albert Beckman, host and hostess; Dean Searls, superintendent of the project, Mrs. Searls and their two children, Paul and Deanne; Ethel Farlow, Mrs. Elizabeth Jahn; Mr. and Mrs. Ben Hughes, Maria Kestner, Mr. and

Mrs. Francis Smith, Mary Kestner, Mrs. Betty York and Vernon York; Mr. and Mrs. Omer Kestner and Leora Longlett.

In addition to Mr. Searls, other employes of the cooperative at the late evening feast picture, include Mrs. Jahn, Mr. Hughes, Miss Farlow and Miss Longlett. Mr. and Mrs. Beckman are Miss Farlow's uncle and aunt. They formerly resided on a farm served by Adams Electric cooperative and recently moved to Camp Point.

## Wayne-White Offers Chance to See Farm Water Systems Demonstrated

### MANUFACTURERS AND REA SPECIALISTS TO PUT ON PROGRAMS.

Farm families in the area served by the Wayne-White Electric cooperative of Fairfield have been invited to witness expert demonstrations of farm water systems at a series of meetings tentatively scheduled for the 4-county area embracing Wayne, Hamilton, Edwards, and White counties. F. A. Tannahill, co-op manager, reports that he has arranged with manufacturers and REA specialists to put on the demonstrations if member response to the announcement justifies.

Interest in these meetings, according to Mr. Tannahill, will be heightened by the announcement that 50 complete sets of plumbing fixtures have been made available through dealers for the Wayne-White area, to be sold at practically pre-war prices.

Manager Tannahill plans to hold 10 or 12 meetings, at each of which full details touching on all points involved in water system installation will be given. All possibilities will be discussed at the rural demonstrations with individual problems of prospective users in mind.

### To Express Desires

The regular meter card to be mailed out by the co-op this month will ask members to designate which of the following items interest them: (1) Pressure water system; (2) kitchen sink; (3) bathroom fixtures; (4) septic tanks; and (5) REA financing for any of the above.

With the replies from the card survey as a guide, Mr. Tannahill will determine how many community meetings to schedule, at what places, and when to hold them. All will probably be held in rural school houses and will be so spaced as to be most convenient for the greatest majority. Because of the time element involved in sending out and receiving the survey cards, dates for these meetings cannot be set before five or six weeks, but each will be announced as soon as possible, Manager Tannahill assures co-op members, and all interested will be notified.

Mr. Tannahill says, "The advantages of plumbing in the home cannot be over-emphasized and their value appreciated only by using them. Any

rural resident knows that of all farm drudgery none is more burdensome than water carrying and any installation that will eliminate it is a deliverer to be had if possible."

### Step Output

The War Production Board has authorized the manufacture of 300,000 pressure water pumps during the present year. It is estimated that at least 120,000 of them will be purchased for use on farms served by REA-financed lines. Ration certificates are not now needed by farmers to purchase pressure water systems. Such a system electrified provides the best and most dependable water supply for the farm home. One pump can supply all points where water is needed on the farm—in the garden, in the hen house, at stock tanks, in the kitchen, etc.

With the step-up in manufacturing of pressure water pumps and the release of the plumbing fixture sets, an impetus in water system installation is certain for the Wayne-White area. Manager Tannahill urges members of the co-op to keep the coming demonstrations in mind, and to "get in on the ground floor in preparation for the expansion ahead."

Employment on the nation's farms as a whole, and in the North Central region in particular, shows a decrease this year over last.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACTS OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AND MARCH 3, 1933, of Illinois REA News, published monthly at Madison, Wisconsin, for October 1, 1944.

1. That the publisher is Wisconsin Electric Cooperative, Madison, Wisconsin; that the Editor is Russell J. Gingles, Jacksonville, Illinois, that the Publications Manager is H. M. Schermerhorn, Madison, Wisconsin.

2. That the Owner is: Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, Petersburg, Illinois.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: NONE.

H. M. SCHERMERHORN, Publications Manager. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 10th day of October, 1944. Elmo C. Cooper, Notary Public My commission expires Nov. 3, 1946.

# Death Ends Unusual Partnership of Brothers on McDonough Project

The Lofftus families — bankers, farmers and community leaders—of Point Pleasant township, near Raritan, have built for themselves a tradition among their neighbors which will live long in the memories of the many with whom they daily came in contact.

This tradition, founded on shrewd business sense, hard work and honesty, has meant much to McDonough Power cooperative of nearby Macomb, which serves the Lofftus farms, covering a total of approximately 1000 acres, with electric energy.

Born in the community which they have served long and well, Kenton and the late James Lofftus, come from sturdy pioneer stock. Their grandparents settled in the area in the days when electricity was still just a dream and when roads were mere wagon trails instead of highways. The old homestead is now a tenant house, while Lofftus families reside in a new, modern home. There is another house, also, on the farm and it is occupied by Everett Lofftus, son of Mrs. and the late James Lofftus.

The two brothers married sisters and, after marriage, lived in the same house. Here they raised their families and worked together in closest harmony, feeding large herds of Angus cattle and marketing hundreds of hogs.

The two brothers—and their families—were inseparable. Life, however, is no believer in such high-ranking human attainments, and tragedy struck the happy families last January when James suffered a stroke, from which he died on March 11.

Although sadness has settled over the big, white, comfortable Lofftus residence, where Mrs. James Lofftus still resides, Kenton is carrying on, with the assistance of his brother's son, Everett, in the best family tradition.

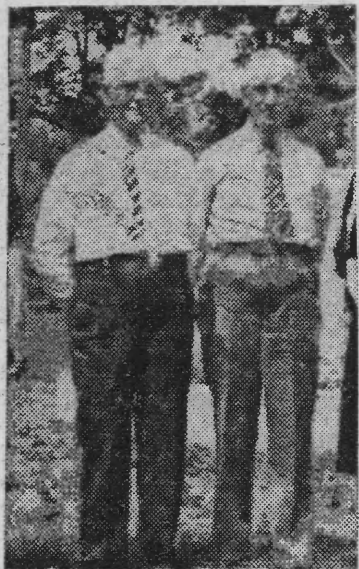
Kenton has been a director of the McDonough Power cooperative for four years and serves as a director of the Raritan State bank, of which his brother was president. A booster of rural electrification since the project was first started, Kenton Lofftus has been one of the leaders of the cooperative in the area.

The three residences on the farms are electrified and power is used to pump water for the stock and for home water systems. Yard lights and home appliances are common place around the Lofftus domain.

As Kenton said: "We signed up the three places for electricity as soon as we heard about power coming our way—it seemed too good to be true."

The brothers were born in Edison township, but spent most of their lives in Point Pleasant township.

James had a brief fling in the educational field, teaching for two years, before settling down to farming. He was president, first of the old Raritan Union bank, and later of the Raritan State bank.



**TOGETHER IN HAPPIER DAYS**—Kenton Lofftus, left, is shown above with his brother, James, who died last March, as the two of them took time off from their various farming, banking and community activities to attend a school class reunion last summer.

It is unusual in itself that Raritan, a community of about 300 individuals, should have a bank at all. But the progressiveness of the farmers in the area and the bank's ability to serve persons within a radius of fifteen miles of the village were all that were needed to give the community a sound, financial institution. In addition to his banking and farming activities, James also found time to be president of the Swan Creek Switchboard and Telephone company, president of the Dallas City Grain company, treasurer of the Monmouth Farmers Mutual Insurance company and director of the Production Credit Association of Monmouth. He was also a member of the board of the Roseville Methodist church.

To say that James Lofftus will be missed by his community is a matter of understatement.

When the brothers were operating their farms at its productive peak, they fed out 1000 head of cattle and 1000 head of hogs annually. In the old days, it was necessary to drive the cattle to Swan Creek to be loaded in cars for shipment to market—quite a chore in itself, according to Kenton.

The cooperative efforts of the two brothers and their families have aided materially in bringing electricity to many farm homes in the area.

## NEWS FROM Adams

Camp Point, Ill.  
**DEAN SEARLS, Supt.**

### HIGH KWH USERS

Scott Meyer	1293
Royal Jackson	595
Ralph McCormick	550
Thomas Sorrell	499
Ray E. Thompson	468
Sam Worman	467
Edw. Althoff	416
Elmer Albesmeyer	413
Duncan Bros.	405
Oscar Weiss	385
Jacob Jacobsen	383
Tom Kirkpatrick	355
Theo. King	351
I. W. Johnson	349
John Laswell	347
Samuel Markert	347
John Hamilton	344
Robert Lawler, Jr.	335
Henry Ibrig	317
Roger Chase	316
Earl Dralle	316
C. M. Ridings	309
Wm. Eifert	308
Ernest Flesner	304
John Roy	302
Wilbur Pearce	300
Emelia Whitford	291
Fred Keene	288
Burton Chamberlain	286
J. D. Blauser	281
Oscar Dedert	281
Emil Sherrick	281
Earl Tenhouse	279
A. B. Leeper	276
Alice Sterne	271
Leslie Knox	266
John Sargent	266
Arthur Walford	264
C. O. Thompson	262
R. B. Putman	258
Michael Metzger	256
C. F. Bienhoff	255
W. C. Bryan	252
Mrs. Anna Wall	252
Anna B. Grubb	250

### Commercial

Harry Hertzler	744
Wheelhouse Coal Co.	687
Geo. Kestner Store	597
Cheney-Wright Co.	511
Clayton Waterworks	463
Green Lantern	435
Ruth Miller	381

### Financial Report for September

Total Billing	\$7,049.77
Average Bill	\$4.32
Average KWH Used	.68
Total KWH Sold	111,061
Total Members Billed	1,629

### NEW APPLIANCES

- Motors: C. V. Weaver (2), Erma Stanley.
- Radio: James Coggeshall, Clarence Lepper.
- Separator: Ralph Allen, John Schaffer.
- Toaster: Harold Hester, D. B. Rankin.
- Washer: Harold Hester, James Coggeshall.
- Water pump: Everett Calvin, H. R. Dodd.
- Miscellaneous: Arthur Cain, Air Compressor; Everett Calvin, Iron; Clarence Lepper, Stove; Lawrence Lewis, Fencer; Roy O'Connor, Table Lamp; Fred Schlipman, Water System; Cecil Trautvetter, Milker; Ray Worley, Cleaner; Perry Morrell, Welder, Shiloh Tele. Co., Ringer.

### Annual Party

Directors and employees of your Co-op, together with their families, enjoyed their annual picnic on September 25 at the Community Building in Camp Point.

A menu centering around country-fried chicken and homemade ice cream, was served, and we are satisfied with the thought that no one's appetite suffered the least.

Casual conversing of the affairs of the day and pleasant informality rounded out the evening.

Those attending this annual affair were: Mr. and Mrs. Roy Sharrow and grandson; Mr. and Mrs. Horner Myers, Marilyn and Jim; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Frey; Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Barnes and Barbara; Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Vollbracht; Mr. and Mrs. Roy McCaskill; Mr. and Mrs. Glen

Waner and Daughter; Max L. Weinberg; Mr. and Mrs. Dean Searls, Deanne and Paul; Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Carpenter and Marjorie; Mr. and Mrs. Francis Smith; Mrs. Vernon York and Vernie; Mr. and Mrs. Omer Kestner, Mary, Marcia, and John; Fred Vollbracht; Lowell Tournear; Mr. and Mrs. Ben Hughes; Marion Young; Ethel Farlow; Elizabeth Jahn; and Leora Longlett.

For the past several months, Lowell Tournear, Camp Point, has been in the employ of this Co-op. Lowell, who was graduated from the local high school last spring, is helping to alleviate the labor shortage in assisting with new construction as well as maintenance work over the three counties served by the Co-op.

### Payment of Bills

When remitting payments of your electric service bills, please pay the TOTAL AMOUNT on the statement. Almost every day we receive payments that do not include the amount of the 3% energy tax. Then it is necessary to send that member a card stating the amount of the balance due which will be added to the next month's bill. Please make every effort to send the exact amount of your bill so that your account will be in balance at all times. This will save your billing clerk and bookkeeper considerable time at the end of the month when preparing the bills for mailing.

Remember if you mail your payment and it is not postmarked on or before the 15th, a 5% penalty will be added. Even though your check is dated the 14th and the postmark is the 16th the penalty will be charged and will be added on your next month's bill. The second 5% penalty is added if the bill is not paid on or before the 20th.

### Meter Cards

Please notice the space on all meter cards for the date of the reading and the name of the reader. Your cooperative will appreciate your filling in this information. It is impossible for us to send the meter cards so that all of our members will receive them on the 18th—the day your meter should be read. If you receive yours one day early, some other member may receive his on the 18th or the 19th. If you receive it early, hold it until the 18th, mark it and return it to us

## IMPEDES FUTURE

A. E. Becker, coordinator of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, in commenting on the commission's actions, said that the decisions "may impede the future progress of rural electrification in Illinois."

The statement attributed to the commission saying that the "Illini Electric cooperative and other electric cooperatives have not complied with commission rules" was branded as damaging and unfair by Mr. Becker. Non-profit cooperatives, which serve only their own members, are not and should not legally be subjected to the kind of control which the commission properly exercises over companies operating for profit and serving the general public, he said.

Mr. Becker's statement continues as follows:

"It is the contention of the Illinois cooperatives that many of the 200,000 rural dwellings not yet electrified in Illinois can not hope to get electric service if private power companies are allowed to build lines through the more densely settled communities in cooperative territory. The cooperatives plan area coverage; that is, they will serve the thinly populated areas as well as those more densely settled. They fear that the power companies are interested only in skimming the cream, as long as by doing so they can head off cooperative expansion.

"The Illinois cooperatives financed by REA loans do not object to meeting the private power companies in open and fair competition."

immediately. If you do not receive your card by the 18th, read your meter, mark the reading down, and put it on the card when you do receive it.

If you do not get a card, we will appreciate your sending your reading on a post card. We strive to send one to every member, but sometimes they are lost after they leave our office.

## Summary of Rural Electrification Post-War Program in State Given

Rural electrification's post-war program looks forward to an over-all total of 138,000 farms in Illinois being connected in the peace years ahead, according to a summary of aims released today by A. E. Becker, chairman of the National Rural Electric Cooperative's post-war planning committee.

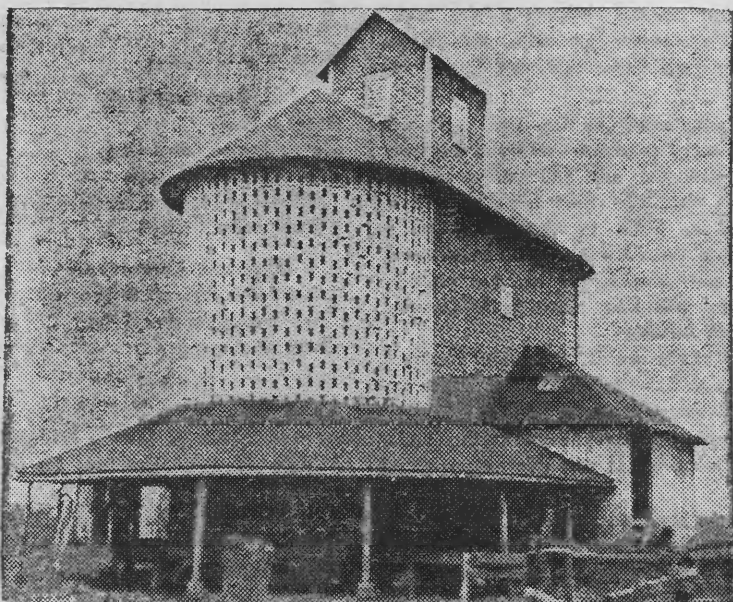
The committee has set total expenditures for completion of the gigantic task at \$48,319,600 and estimates that 24,159 man-years of labor will be necessary.

A summary of facts and figures as compiled, as of January 1 this year, on REA's plans for the post-war era follows:

Summary	
<b>Immediate Postwar Program</b>	5 years
Number of Consumers	121,400
Total Expenditure	\$42,500,000
Man-years Labor	21,250
(Based on assumption that utilities will in each of 5 years connect 50% of 1/3 of 3 year REA program)	
<b>Longtime Postwar Program</b>	
Number of Consumers	16,600
Total Expenditure	\$ 5,819,600
Man-years Labor	2,909
<b>REA 3-Year Program</b>	
Distribution	\$15,000,000
Generation and Transmission	1,000,000
Section 5 Loans	1,000,000
Total Expenditure*	\$17,000,000
Number of Consumers	42,700
Man-years Labor	8,500
*Does not include amount for rephasing of existing lines.	
<b>REA 5-Year Program (Distribution Only)</b>	
Distribution	\$30,000,000
Number of Consumers	85,400
Man-years of Labor	15,000

A new war baby, waxy-maize, developed since Pearl Harbor to replace tapioca and saga flours formerly imported from the Dutch East Indies, will be milled in commercial quantities for the first time this fall.

United States farmers received 10 per cent more for their production during the first seven months of this year than for the similar period in 1943, according to the Agriculture department.



**PLENTY OF STORAGE ROOM HERE**—Shown above is the concrete block and frame crib on the Lofftus farm. Making maximum use of a 5-horsepower motor to elevate shelled corn and grain, the crib holds 3500 bushels of ear corn in the side bins and 4000 bushels of shelled corn, grain and beans in overhead bins.

# REA Women and The Home

Edited by Mrs. Val Thoenig



Picture Courtesy of Westinghouse.

## Light the way for Better Sight

(An Uncensored Letter For Your Perusal!)

Dear Emmy—

The strangest things do happen. This afternoon the Happy Hollow Sewing Club met at Mrs. Grayson's house—but we didn't sew a stitch. Instead, we discussed GOOD LIGHT (yes, in capital letters!). If you recall the Grayson house, you can fully appreciate this topic of conversation. Remember how we dreaded sewing there because of the gloomy-darkness. A few lucky ones would huddle under the floor lamp with its tight circle of light. The ladies outside this circle would be practically blinded by the glare of a ceiling light with three unshaded bulbs. All this is changed now. If you want to see a well lighted home—just come to Grayson's.

The women were astounded. Almost in unison we asked Mrs. Grayson what she had done. It seems that she and her family had been suffering bad headaches; the doctor diagnosed the cause as eyestrain. That settled it. Mrs. Grayson went to her electric co-op and obtained the latest information on better lighting. Then she carried out a one-family campaign for better light and better sight. We women decided then and there she must tell us the entire story.

### Avoid Glare, Harsh Shadows

Their worst lighting faults Mrs. Grayson declared had been glare and harsh shadows (and again I shudder from the thought of that ceiling light). Now from the moment you enter the front door until you leave the kitchen you find only softly diffused lights, well illuminated walls and ceilings, and lamps spaced for the convenience of all family members.

Two decorative table lamps have become worthwhile reading lamps at either end of the divan. Their shallow thin shades which didn't conceal the light bulbs have been replaced with light colored shades which flare out like a bell. The electric man told Mrs. Grayson that drum-shaped lamps shades hold the light in a tight spot—while flared shades spread the light over a wider area. And here is something to remember—white or ivory shades give 50 per cent more light than dark shades. She admitted she lost no time removing the dark fringe from the shade of her floor lamp when she heard that.

### Bases Add Height

The two table lamps were too short for reading comfort so Mark (he's the youngest son) designed pretty three-inch bases for the lamps. He enameled them ivory to match the body. Then Mrs. Grayson placed 100 watt bulbs in them. (By the way, did you know a 100 watt bulb is considered the minimum for close work?) Glass and plastic reflectors were placed under shades of all the Grayson's lamps. With these bowls the light is "sifted" downward but some reaches the ceiling and walls and is reflected through the entire room.

The man from the co-op gave her some marvelous tips about light bulbs. Imagine this! One 100 watt bulb gives 50 per cent more light than four 25 watt bulbs and uses only the same amount of current. Bulbs which have turned dark steal 50 per cent of the light. No wonder Mrs. Grayson followed his suggestion to place good sized bulbs in her lamps and to use the small bulbs in hallways and closets where critical light isn't needed. Colored light bulbs absorb one-third of the light—so they're OUT as far as the Graysons are concerned.

### Regular Cleaning

Lighting equipment in the Grayson home receive regular and thorough cleanings. Mrs. Grayson sees to that ever since she discovered that clean shades give 20 to 50 per cent more light. She removes the reflectors from lamps and washes them in warm soapy water. But she cautioned us never to submerge a lamp—just wipe them with a soapy cloth, she says.

Rearrangement of furniture also helped toward their enjoyment of better light. The rejuvenated floor lamp was placed between two big chairs. On either end of the divan is a table lamp. Mark and Ethel do their homework by the light of a big study lamp which occupies the place of honor on the dining room table.

I can tell you, we were 14 inspired women when we left Grayson's this afternoon. And we're going to start a campaign for better sight and light in our homes, too.

Your friend, Jane.

P. S.—I forgot to mention—the Graysons don't have headaches any more!

## ADD AN IDEA PLEASE!

Remember our Switch Clicker Columns a few months back? We did have fun exchanging recipes and ideas! My cookie jar has been filled often with oatmeal cookies made by Mrs. Fred Hinderberger's recipe—and more than one cake has been rescued by Mrs. Curtis Graham's tip on dissolving grainy icing with a bit of vinegar.

During the summer, canning and harvesting didn't leave much time for writing down ideas. But, if you wish, I should like to begin again our Switch Clicker Column. The holiday season will be here before we know it. And it would be helpful to share each other's favorite recipes and hints for making gifts. Do send in your ideas (if you enclose them with pattern requests I'll find them). The address is in care of this paper, Petersburg, Ill.

—Mrs. Val Thoenig.

## FASHION GOES FANCY

When you were a little girl (and very, very good) maybe your Grandma let you page through her treasured old Godey's Ladies' Books. And maybe this fall's fashions remind you of those elegant ladies with their richly colored gowns.

Fall, 1944 will go down on the fashion calendar as a time to remember, declare designers. The date of the trend to elegance. We'll look, act, and dress the part of the lady. Our make-up will be less obvious, our hair well groomed, our voices softer. We'll wear larger hats, wool dresses, suits. Side-swept drapery, peplums, and portrait necklines will become increasingly important. We'll also take inner pride knowing we wear fine handmade batiste undies and choctetted camisoles.

## Take Time Out For Pretty Hands

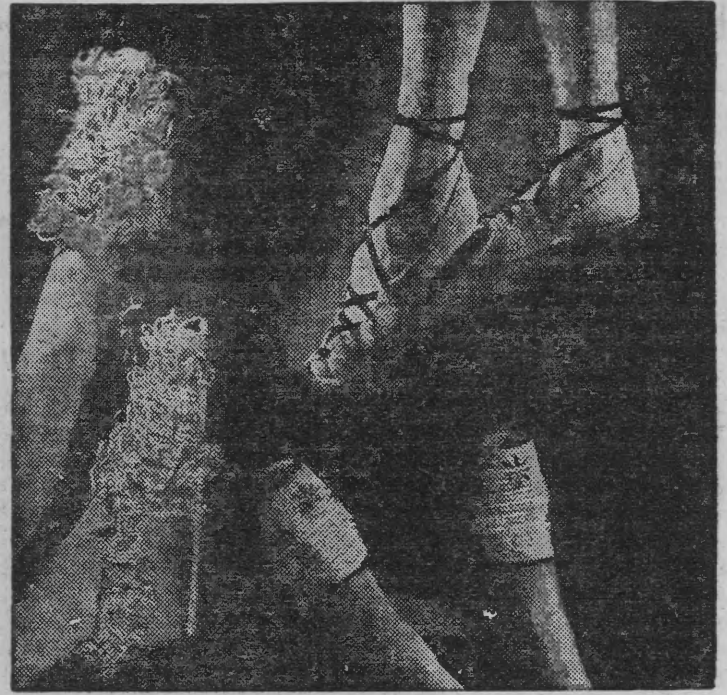


and soft brush. Then massage (not forgetting a single finger) with an oily cream. Leave a heavy film of cream on your hands and slip on a pair of cotton gloves for the night.

To keep your nails well groomed you'll need a supply of emery boards, orange sticks, and a buffer. Roughness is out—no more filing nails with steel, trimming nails with scissors, snipping of calloused corners, tearing off hard cuticles. An emery board is ideal for shaping and smoothing rough nails. The coarse side is for filing, the fine side for smoothing. Soften the cuticles with oil, then coax them back with the flat end of the orangewood stick. Buffing is to the nails what brushing is to the hair. Use a side-to-side motion to pep up circulation.

Not at once—but soon your nails will respond to this care and will have the beauty of rosy tinted shells.

## Hand-Made Christmas Gifts Have That Friendly Touch



What friend or neighbor wouldn't adore a pair of these cozy slippers for Christmas. For that matter, you'll find them very pleasant to relax in yourself! These three good-looking designs, made of washable pearl cotton, are easy to crochet and are surprisingly durable. Directions for crocheting the looped scuffs, lazy daisy scuffs, and ballet slippers may be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Mrs. Val Thoenig of this paper. Specify "Cozy Slippers."

## More Patches

### Will Be Sewed

Sorry, there is no sugar coating for this pill—so here goes. Further cuts in civilian work clothing are in prospect. Not that further cuts will mean much because for several months most store shelves have been like Mrs. Hubbard's cupboard.

Nor can we console ourselves that the situation will brighten. The Office of War Information tells us right brusquely that the cotton shortage is expected to continue for one to two years after the collapse of Germany. Just to show you what the situation in denim alone is: civilians' needs for the third quarter were 64,400,000 yards of denim. Actual output was 55,000,000—and that was divided between the Navy and the civvie population. All available work shirt chambray, just a memory for civilians, is earmarked "Navy."

The cotton situation, worse now than at any period during the war, is caused by many conflicting demands for cotton goods. As the Pacific war expands more cotton will be needed by the Army and Navy for clothing and tents. Other heavy demands are for exports, including relief, rehabilitation, and food packaging.

## Patterns for You

Only a little more than 60 days from now we'll be decorating Christmas trees and rushing to meet the mailman. Hardly seems possible, does it? So, if you plan on making gifts for your friends (and this year, it is a good idea) it's time to commence. Many of the items listed here make lovely gifts. And even more wonderful, they are neither difficult nor expensive to create. Order as many patterns as you wish. Send your self-addressed envelopes and sufficient postage with a note specifying the patterns you wish to Mrs. Val Thoenig of this paper. Postage averages about three cents for every four leaflets.

### Perfect for Christmas

Knitted and Crocheted Gloves  
Stuffed Toys  
Cozy Slippers  
Crocheted Edgings, Camisoles  
Lacy Soft Sweater  
Twin Sweater Set  
Roomy Bag  
Pop Corn Topper and Bag  
Bow and Flower Hair-Do; Snood  
Tray Cloth  
Doily  
Barefoot Sandals  
Luncheon Set  
Hand Knit for Little Sister  
Hot Plate Mats

### Sweaters and Blouses

Crocheted Dinner Blouse  
Knit Sweater-Jacket  
Sweater Blouses  
Knit Cardigan-Jacket  
Striped Sweater  
Sweater and Ascot

### Bags and Hats

Striped Bag  
Dutch Bonnet and Bag  
Two Crocheted Bags  
Ruffled Half-Hat; Circular Bag  
Three-Circled Calot

### Personal Appearances

Lines for a Smooth Silhouette  
Plan That Bandbox Look  
Good Grooming

### Sewing?

Make-Over Into a Boy's Suit  
Save and Make a Child's Snowsuit  
What's New in Fashions By the Yard  
Fall Fashions—Make, Mix, Match  
Tips on Sewing Rayon Curtains  
Adaptable Room Furnishings

### Miscellaneous

Lingerie Trimming  
Mending Tricks for Rayon

When sleeves on youngsters coats become too short, buy a pair of knit wristlets and sew inside sleeves,



**NEWS FROM  
Shelby Electric**  
Shelbyville, Ill.  
**LESTER BOYS, Supt.**

Elsewhere in this publication appears news concerning the recent conflict between a Power Company and a Cooperative which may set a precedent that will vitally effect the expansion of this Cooperative.

Up until this time when Cooperatives wish to build lines they planned them on maps and submitted the same to R.E.A. Being organized as a non-profit corporation and serving only its own membership the question of whether they will pay for themselves was the main consideration given. If the proposed lines were feasible, the money, if available, was loaned by R.E.A. to the Cooperative. Care was always given by the Engineer that the grade of construction complied with the Commerce Commission Code. It now seems that there is a pressure group that would force the R.E.A. Cooperatives to be under the jurisdiction of the Commerce Commission. Up to now, R.E.A. Cooperatives and the Mutual Telephone Companies have not been subject to such jurisdiction unless they so wished. If it comes to pass that Cooperatives must be classed as a utility and are governed by the Commission not only the type and grade of construction will be interfered with but all short extensions must be approved by this Commission. The Commission also governs rates, etc.

The original purpose of the Commission was to protect the public. Since utility service is not a commodity for which a buyer may shop either as to source of supply or quality of service, the utility customers are at the mercy of the utility. Members of this Cooperative need no such protection in that they manage their own affairs, elect a Board of Directors annually, and are distributing electric service to themselves at cost. It is our contention that Commerce Commission is "out of bounds" in trying to regulate and attempting to dictate to organizations of this kind.

No Cooperative wants to chase to Springfield to get a hearing for a certificate of "convenience or necessity" to build a quarter of a mile of extension nor do they wish to file a report on each interruption of service. It is not necessary for a member to have a Commission to complain to about his service when the same may be reported to the Board of Directors that he elects annually, which Board of Directors controls the operating personnel.

We wonder if the governor knows that his Commerce Commission is taking steps to handcuff the co-ops?

The voice of 58,000 REA members in Illinois might be an influence. Think so?

**Attention Members**

About two years ago it was necessary for the Board of Directors to suspend new connections on the water heater rate. This was about due to the shortage of time-switches that would make the water heater consumption an "off-peak" load. By ordering these switches several times the Cooperative has been successful in acquiring a minimum number.

Several instances are known where water heaters have been installed that will qualify for this rate but no doubt many others have been without informing the Cooperative. If you are one of those members that has an insulated water heater having a capacity of at least thirty gallons, the office should be advised so that the time-switch can be installed and service billed on the water heater schedule.

**RATES**

Several members from time to time inquire about their rate schedule. Ninety percent of the membership are on the farm schedule. Here it is: Minimum, first 40 KWH—\$3.25. Next 40 KWH at 4 cents; next 120 at 2½ cents; all over 200 KWH at 1½

cents. All bills have 3 percent added as a tax expense. The 3 percent is not to be confused with the 2 percent sales tax.

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Shelby Electric cooperative has connected the following new members during the last three months:

Those connected during July follow:

**July**

J. Lee Hooker, Decatur; Dale Baugher, Windsor; Clarence T. Aden, Nokomis; Vernie True, Blue Mound; W. P. DeBruler, Findlay; Ross Henry, Shelbyville; Lucian H. Jones, Windsor; Earl Thomas, Shelbyville; Charles L. Summers, Mode; Frank Slaughter, Nokomis; Gene Kettlekamp, Nokomis, and Wallis S. Bromley, Dalton City.

Those connected during August follow:

**August**

Harlow Sims, Taylorville; Earl Blosser, Moweaqua; Ezra Collier, Blue Mound; Emanuel Meryman, Moweaqua; H. M. McPherson, Neoga; Stanley Wheat, Strasburg; Charles Sims, Moweaqua; Ward Gregory, Assumption; C. L. Kriete-meier, Stewardson; Floyd G. Dial, Moweaqua; Walter Belcher, Decatur; P. M. Myers, Nokomis; Orville Ray Allen, Blue Mound; W. D. Robertson, Lakewood; Laura C. Specht, Lakewood; Samuel M. Wemple, Assumption; Walter A. Ruble, Moweaqua; A. R. Bafford, Shelbyville; Richard Workman, Taylorville; R. Floyd Wooters, Moweaqua; Clarence G. Matlock, Assumption; Anton Stalsek, Mokomis; Wesley Widick, Assumption; Joe Jurgena, Morrisonville; Martin Moran, Stewardson; Walter J. Klindworth, Pana; Louis E. Klindworth, Pana; B. R. Pockock, Mokomis; H. F. Zindle, Moweaqua; Benjamin Kettelkamp, Nokomis; Wenzler school, Palmer; John Ladd, Jr., Taylorville, and Ralph E. Welch, Taylorville.

Those connected during September follow:

**September**

C. F. Luzader, Nokomis; E. A. Kirk, Moweaqua; James Marshall, Stonington; Carl Hurelbrink, Stonington; Roy E. Robinson, Moweaqua; C. S. Long, Assumption; Ed Puckett, Assumption; Hiram Allgood, Nokomis; Lester Bennett, Findlay; Lawrence Turner, Macon; Johnie Cravens, Edinburg; Wilson Danenberger, Edinburg; Roy E. Hunsley, Edinburg; Dora Hall, Lakewood; Clarence Brandt, Stewardson; Ralph Porter, Edinburg; Lizzie B. Birch, Lakewood; Mrs. Irma Christman, Shelbyville; O. K. Hawley, Findlay; E. T. Dove, Mode, and Claude L. Culumber, Tower Hill.

**Bookkeeper Married**

Miss Helen Stewardson, who served as bookkeeper for your cooperative since its organization in 1938, was married Saturday, October 7, to Second Lt. Thomas B. Weakly of Moweaqua. Lieutenant Weakly is in the army airforce.

Carl Boys, younger brother of Lester Boys, manager of Shelby Electric cooperative, was inducted into the army recently and was assigned to Fort Sheridan for training.

**Honored at Party**

Carl Furry, former cooperative billing clerk, and Robert Dove, former cooperative attorney, who are serving in the army and navy respectively, were honored at a potluck supper last month by members and families of directors and employes of the cooperative. Families of the service men also attended as guests of the group.

**FARM PRICES DECREASE 1 PERCENT OVER 1943**

Farm prices in Illinois for the month ending September 15 were approximately one per cent lower than the level for September 15, 1943, according to A. J. Surratt, state-federal farm crop statistician.

Coney Island was so named because at one time it was overrun with conies (rabbits to you!)

**NEWS FROM  
Southern Illinois**

Dongola, Ill.  
**GEORGE ENDICOTT,  
Mgr.**

**Wiring Inspector**

We are very glad to announce that we have finally secured the services of an inspector so we can clean up some of the old connections and get the program evened up again. Mr. Dana O'Donnell has consented to come down for a few weeks, and help us catch up with this work. He has been the regular inspector on the Cooperatives located at Breese, Greenville, and Winchester. He has also assisted several of the other Projects in clearing up these old inspections, and it is his intention of spending just as much time as he can on this Project, until he is needed back at the other Cooperatives.

There are many of the old inspections on which no fee had been collected at the time the place was wired up. Providing a fee has been paid to some of the wiremen and you have a receipt, it will be necessary that this receipt be shown to him, at the time he inspects your wiring, in order that payment for inspection can be made to him.

We shall appreciate your cooperation in this matter, and if it is not possible for you to be there at the time the inspection is made, and you have not paid your fee, please forward same to this office. Any one on whose premises an inspection is made, and a fee is not paid, they are subject to disconnection of service.

**Building Project Headquarters**

At the board meeting this month, the board went on record of completing all preliminary work for the drawing up of plans or specifications for a new Project headquarters, to be constructed on the plot of ground by our substation. Anyone desiring to see these plans, can do so, by dropping into the office any time they are in Dongola.

**Billing**

The past few months, we have had considerable discrepancies in the figuring of bills, due to the fact that a number of members are not figuring their tax correctly. If you are on the \$4.00 minimum, and use under 31 KWAH a month, send in \$3.00, plus 3 per cent tax on the number of kilowatts used. If you use over 31, send in the amount shown on your rate sheets. If you are on the \$1.50 minimum, use under 15 Kilowatts per month, send \$1.50 plus 3 per cent tax on the number of kilowatts used; if you use over 15 send in the amount shown on the rate sheet. At the end of each billing period, cards are mailed to each consumer, on whose account there is a debit or credit. Please do not destroy these cards, but add or subtract the amount indicated, and return them with your next light bill. Also do not let these cards accumulate. The last card you receive, is the proper balance.

**Minimums**

As you will note, there are different colors of meter sheets for various connections. The following colors apply to the different rates, and if you are on any of these, and have sheets, other than the color specified below, please make a note on your next light bill, and the proper book will be mailed:

White meter reading sheets—\$3.00 Regular.

Pink meter reading sheets—\$1.50 Regular.

Green meter reading sheets—\$1.50 Limited Service.

Yellow meter reading sheets—1.50 Schools and Churches.

Blue meter reading sheets—Commercials.

Also with reference to the Commercials. On the recent books mailed out, an error was made, and the wrong rate sheet enclosed. If your rate sheet is different from the one you have been paying on, please notify the office, and proper sheet will be mailed.

**Meter Testing**

Many requests have been received from consumers, wherein they feel their meter is not registering correctly. In cases where this applies, it will be necessary that you pay \$2.50 for this meter check, and if the meter is found to be registering incorrectly, an adjustment will be made in your bill, and the \$2.50 returned to you. However, if the meter is registering correctly, this \$2.50 will be retained by the Cooperative, to cover the cost of the meter check. The Cooperative is very limited on tires and gasoline, and it is not possible, to make all these checks, many of which are unnecessary. Many times an error is made in your readings, and the next month your usage seems to double up. This does not mean that the meter is wrong. It is imperative that each member make correct readings. Please cooperate.

**Ware House**

The foundation has been poured and undoubtedly by the time you read this, the frame will be completed, on the new warehouse the Cooperative is constructing at the Substation. There are many items which are seasonal, and which must be purchased in large quantities, which we do not have any storage for in our present warehouse, which will be stored in the new building.

**B2 Section**

Of special interest to those individuals which the latest contract was made for and the poles have been set, now waiting on the arrival of conductor for completion, is the fact that conductor is to be shipped the 20th of this month. As soon as it arrives, the lines will be completed.

**Membership Drive**

The membership drive which has been underway by the Cooperative for the last 4 weeks, is progressing very nicely, with approximately 400 requests having been received. We shall appreciate the efforts made by any individual, toward helping this drive out.

**Locker Plant**

Of special interest to most of our members in the lower end of Pulaski County, is the fact that a locker plant is being erected in Mounds, Illinois, dedication of which will be announced at a later date in the papers and on the radio. If you are interested in securing a locker, you should contact some of the officials immediately. It is the plan of the Cooperative to have several lockers over the Project after the present conflict is ended. The plan is to have a main plant, with slaughtering facilities, here at Dongola, with the various branch lockers over the project, possibly at Olive Branch, Ware Station, Mt. Pleasant, Boaz, and east of Metropolis. A delivery service would be carried on in conjunction with this plan, wherein the member could have his hogs, or whatever picked up, and brought to the central slaughtering plant, where it would be processed, and the finished product delivered to the correct locker. Of course, this will be possible, only through the cooperation of all members concerned, and the amount of interest shown).

**Rea Conferences**

A conference of the Managers and Bookkeepers is being held at the Leland Hotel in Springfield, Illinois, on October 18, 1944. Manager Endicott and our bookkeeper Edna Ohlau, plan on attending.

**Feed Grinders**

The Cooperative has several feed grinders available now, and first come, first served. The motors are also on hand for these grinders. We are expecting an additional shipment in the near future. Anyone desiring these grinders, should get in touch with the office immediately.

**Disconnections - Moving - Late Payment**

PLEASE, before moving, notify the office, in time, so that your meter can be checked, and if another tenant is moving in, let us know, so it will save the cost of making a trip to disconnect, only to reconnect in two or three days. If your bill is not in by the 16th, disconnection is in order. Please do not cause us to

make a trip to collect these bills. Anytime a trip is made to collect a bill, a fee of \$2.50 is charged. The 10 per cent penalty is also added. The cooperative is very limited on gasoline, and tires, and it is impossible to make any unnecessary trips toward collection. Please get your bill in on time.

**Tree Clearing**

In riding over the line, during the last four or five months, we have noted there are many places along the line, wherein the member could do their cooperative a good turn by clearing out the brush and willows that have grown up under the line, mostly along their fence rows. It had not been the idea of the Cooperative that the member be required to do this, but due to the fact that our travel is very limited, it will be necessary that each and every member who can, do whatever possible, to keep the lines cleared. The Cooperative is very limited on tires and gasoline for this, and are even more limited on equipment and labor. We had planned on taking a small crew out on this clearing, but at the present time do not have any rolling equipment to use for this work. We hope to get this work started as soon as we can get tires for the truck, which is now on blocks. All of you are familiar with the fact that truck tires are very limited, at this time, and we have one unit which is set up, due to the lack of tires, and one of the other running on borrowed tires, which are not safe for the operation of the truck. We do not know whether it is the fact that the Cooperative is being put aside or whether the actual requirements are so critical that at least a portion of these tires can not be allotted. Applications have been in for four or more months, for some of these tires, and to date we have received no reply in regard to them.

**OCB's Oil Circuit Breakers**

The Cooperative has made plans to install oil circuit breakers at various points on the Project. By this installation our trouble outages will be cut approximately 75 per cent. It will enable us to find the trouble quicker, and will mean more dependable service in the future.

**Pole Numbers and Letters**

In riding over the lines, it has been noted in several cases, wherein the pole numbers and letters have been removed from the poles. These letters or figures were not placed on these poles for decoration, but are essential to determine the locations of various lines. Anyone caught removing these letters or having them in his possession, are subject to punishment. We have been told that school children are bringing them home with them and ask that all parents please see that none of these letters are removed.

**Tree Trimming**

The electrocution of a 13-year-old girl who came in contact with a 2300 volt primary line while she was climbing a tree, again calls attention to the importance of trimming trees along power lines.

Most electrical codes and also decisions handed down by courts state that it is the responsibility of the owner of the electric distribution lines to so trim any trees that neither the movement of the trees nor the swinging or increased sagging of conductors in wind or ice storms or at high temperatures will bring about contact between the conductors and trees.

In these days of manpower shortages such a ruling is made more difficult than in ordinary times, but those are the facts nevertheless and must be faced before it is too late. Members of cooperatives can — and have — cut down high hedges under REA lines, but cooperative linemen or a special tree-trimming crew are normally assigned to cut limbs which approach lines.

Always stop any farm machine before attempting any repairs or adjustments is a rule that safe practice demands.

### NEWS FROM Menard

Petersburg, Ill.  
A. E. BECKER, Mgr.

#### WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

You are now one of 2,681 members of the Menard Electric Cooperative who are enjoying the benefits of REA service through the foresight and perseverance of a group of pioneers interested in securing electricity for farmers living in the area served by your Cooperative.

The appreciation of what REA service can and will mean to you becomes apparent as you acquaint yourself with the possibilities and advantages through the intelligent use of this electricity. The saving of time, labor, and the ability to do a given task with less physical effort is appreciated.

You will find your Cooperative office always ready to answer any question which may arise concerning the operation of electrical equipment; or any other matter in connection with REA service to your premises.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, it is a pleasure to welcome each of you to our growing REA family.

Sincerely yours,  
(Signed) Henry B. Colby,  
President

#### BI-MONTHLY BILLING

Dear Member:  
In the September issue of the Illinois REA News mention was made of the bi-monthly billing which would become effective in the near future. We are pleased to advise that notices have been mailed to all user-members stating that this plan has now been put into effect.

There will be two billing dates and you should have received your notice by this time as to whether you are in section No. 1 or section No. 2. This notice was included with your recent energy bill.

The advantages of bi-monthly billing include the saving of bank charges, postage, time of reading the meter and making payments. The Cooperative will save considerable expense in postage, paper, and labor which will help us to pay off the mortgage on your lines that much sooner. Members, directors, and the management are all interested in the efficient operation of your Cooperative, and this is another step toward that goal.

Bi-monthly billing has been approved by your Board of Directors and is now in effect with many REA Cooperatives. Your cooperation will be most helpful in making this plan successful.

Cooperatively yours,

(Signed) A. E. Becker, Manager.

#### Junior Club Activities

Editor's Note: Beginning with this issue we shall print each month news pertaining to activities of clubs and other groups in which junior members of our Menard Electric Cooperative participate.

Ask your club secretary to send in news of your club activities to your Cooperative office at Petersburg. All news should reach this office not later than the 8th of each month if you wish it printed in the current issue.

#### Heater 4-H Club

A meeting of interest to Junior Cooperative members and their parents was held by the Heater 4-H Club at the Lake Shore School north of Easton, Friday evening, September 29th. The program, arranged by their leader John Harfst, Jr., was to celebrate for the cash awards earned by club members in competition with other 4-H Clubs in Mason County.

These cash awards are paid from a fund created by the Mason County Farm Bureau, and the Mason County Board of Supervisors. The following members of the club received cash awards: Leo Cunningham, Ralph Frese, Marvin Frese, Marion, Nancy and Rosalyn Kleier, Evelyn Messman, Helen Pfeiffer, Donald Schmidt and Janice Lee Whitehead.

Trevor Jones, manager of Cimco

Farm, Havana, was present and gave a very interesting talk on 4-H club work and its benefits and educational value to those participating in the 4-H program.

Fred E. Darr from your Cooperative, spoke briefly on the aid available to 4-H and other club groups through a program sponsored by the Rural Electrification Administration. This club aid with Miss Louisan Mamer in charge is available to all club groups.

Mr. Darr then presented two interesting sound movies, "Illinois an Inland Empire," which contains much information on Illinois agriculture and industry, and the film "The Open Road," a sound movie in color on the state parks was also shown.

At the close of the program refreshments were served. Officers in the Heater 4-H Club are: Lucille Pfeiffer, president; Rosalyn Kleier, vice president; Marion Kleier, Secretary; and John Harfst, Jr., Club leader.

#### Rock Creek 4-H Club

Members of the Rock Creek 4-H Club, their parents, and friends held a 4-H Achievement award meeting at the Rock Creek School, near Tallula, Monday evening, October 2nd. A pot-luck supper was served prior to the meeting by the mothers of the 4-H club members. Following the supper the group was called to order by Edward Golden, club president, and the following program presented: piano solo, Mary Jane Weier, Short talks—Victory service, Elizabeth Weir; Swine, Henry Whitehurst; Beef cattle, Wayne Colby; Gardening, Larry Winder, and Trip to U. of I., David Weir; piano duet, Patty and Richard Bast and an Outline of Club Activities, Ernest M. Primm, Club Leader. At the completion of this part of the program President Golden announced the following members had received prizes on their exhibits at the Menard County 4-H Fair held at the fair grounds at Petersburg this fall: Donald Agner, Kenneth, Patty and Richard Bast, Norman Bryant, Marie and Melvada Clark, Ralph and Wayne Colby, Junior Conkey, Roland Cox, Delores and Donna Derry, Edward Golden, Frank and Larry Minder, David, Elizabeth and Mary Jane Weir and Henry Whitehurst. There are 20 members in the club and all received one or more awards. Outstanding winners were Donald Agner with four first prizes on poultry, Kenneth Bast with four 1st prizes, two 2nd prizes, and one each of 3rd and 4th prizes all on swine, Roland Cox with five firsts, one second, one third, two fourths, and two fifth prizes all on garden vegetables. The program was concluded with the showing of the sound movie, "Illinois State Fair," by Fred E. Darr.

Editor's Note: The following letter was received by Manager A. E. Becker in connection with the Cooperative's participation in the program held at Lake Shore School, Easton. "Dear Mr. Becker:  
Just a few words of thanks and appreciation to you for the interesting pictures that Mr. Fred Darr showed at the Lake Shore School last Friday evening, for my 4-H Club and the Community. All present certainly enjoyed the show and would surely be nice if more communities could enjoy such educational pictures.  
Sincerely,  
John Harfst, Jr.,  
4-H Club Leader,  
Easton, Illinois."

#### Menard County Girls' Club

Menary County Girls' 4-H Clubs held their Annual Finish-Up Day at the Farm Bureau Building in Petersburg on September 21. Miss Mary McKee, Specialist in Girls' 4-H work was present. At this time the County Outstanding 4-H members for Menary County were selected. They are as follows:

Avis Brauer, Hazel Dirks, Clelabel Severns, JoAnn Eades, Mary Lynn Power, Elizabeth Ann Weier, Patricia Bast, Harriett Tobias.

The girls' record books were scored and the following girls were selected as County Project Honor

Members for Menard County: Elizabeth Weir, Tallula; JoAnn Eades, Petersburg; Patricia Bast, Tallula; Avis Brauer, Oakford; Donna Brauer, Oakford; Shirley Ann Tobias, Fancy Prairie; Imogene Schafer, Pleasant Plains; Hazel Dirks, Chandlerville; Mary Jane Weir, Tallula; Clelabel Severns, Oakford; Delores Krell, Athens; Nancy Hill, Petersburg; Harriett Tobias, Fancy Prairie; Mary Thompson, Athens; Gene Pelham Petersburg; Enid Draheim, Petersburg; Mary McHenry, Oakford; Emma Lou Arnold, Petersburg; Jo Anne Mallergren, Petersburg; Barbara Lounsberry, Oakford; Marian Carlson, Oakford; Donna Derry, Tallula and Evelyn Johnson, Athens.

The majority of this group of Menard County 4-H Club girls are junior members of your cooperative.

Petersburg Observes October 6, 1944  
Scouts Promoted

The Boy Scouts of Troop No. 54 of Petersburg held their monthly Board of Review at the Library at 8:00 o'clock Monday evening. The following Scouts became Second Class: Lee Bell, Jimmy Smith, Werner Meyer, Glen Biggs, Wayne Claussen.

Gerald R. Brown, chairman of the Board of Review was assisted by Lloyd W. Chalfrafts, John W. Gellerman, Milo F. Vogt as Reviewers, and E. O. Clemmons, Field Executive for the Lincoln Home District.

E. E. DeLong, Scoutmaster of the Troop, held a regular troop meeting at 7:00 p. m. with 15 Scouts in attendance. The boys are doing a fine job in the Troop under the leadership of Mr. DeLong.

Mr. DeLong is responsible for maintenance of REA service lines in Menard County.

#### News About Your Neighbors

Member Robert Barsnes, Alexander, has again been appointed rural chairman to direct the USO drive in the rural areas of Morgan County. This USO drive deserves the support of every Co-op member (of not only Morgan County, but each of the eight counties in which our Cooperative has distribution lines.)

Dr. J. W. Cooper, Manito, is one of our newest Cooperative members. "Doc" who is well known in Tazewell and Mason Counties, has built a substantial country home, south of Manito, which will also serve as his office. To speed up the staking in of his line and that of his neighbors, "Doc" pitched right in and assisted in staking the entire spur.

The splendid cooperation of "Doc" and the many others who have assisted in helping to complete the preliminary work on other spur lines certainly shows a real cooperative spirit, and is much appreciated.

The many friends of Bill Shafer, Buffalo Hart, will be pleased to learn that Bill is quite busy these days operating his farm southeast of Buffalo Hart. In his spare time, Bill, as a member of the Sangamon County Board of Supervisors, is kept out of trouble, with necessary duties connected with that office.

Manager A. E. Becker has been appointed to serve as the 6th War Loan Drive Chairman for Menard County. The 6th War Loan Drive starts November 20th. Cooperative members did an excellent job in supporting the 5th Loan Drive and can be depended on giving their hearty support to the coming drive.

Many members are assisting new applicants for REA service by advising them to contact your Cooperative office for information. Among this group have been: Harold Knap, Niantic; Clyde Lewis, Ashland; Ralph Launer, Philadelphia; Herb Shelhammer, Mt. Pulaski; C. Nelson Worner, Manito; Arthur Beck, Illiopolis; and Brady Clark, Newmansville. Other names will be listed later.

A real service is rendered by these members and all others who assist in aiding their neighbors to secure electricity and improve their farm-

steads to save time and labor through the use of electrically operated equipment and increase food production.

#### PROGRAMS

Your Cooperative furnished speaker or sound movies in connection with programs held during September and October as follows: Sept. 5, Member Meeting, Grace Chapel, Jacksonville; Sept. 7, Community Club, Tice School, Petersburg; Sept. 13, P.T.A. Meeting, Petersburg; Sept. 15, REA Community Party, Arthur Beck's Illiopolis; Sept. 18, Kiwanis Club, Petersburg; Sept. 20, P.T.A. School Council Meeting, Petersburg; Sept. 22, P.T.A. School Council, Greenview; Sept. 29, 4-H Achievement Program, Rock Creek School. Tallula; October 4, Freshman Agriculture Class, Petersburg; October 6, County Teacher's Institute, Petersburg and Community Club, Fancy Prairie; Oct. 9, Service Extension Meeting, Union School, Arenzville; Oct. 11, Community Club, Newmansville; October 13, Hatton Community Club, Lincoln; and Community Club, Manito; October 20, Community Club, Murray School, Athens and October 27, Brush College, Petersburg.

Movie and sound equipment was furnished courtesy of the Cass County Farm Bureau. Films were made available courtesy of the Illinois Film Library.

### NEWS FROM Clinton County

JOSEPH HEIMANN, Supt.  
Breese, Ill.

#### Honor Roll

Commercial  
A. F. Strawser .....4227  
Gulf Refining Co. ....1935  
Lawrence Truitt .....1455  
C. F. Frazier .....1352

Non-Farm  
E. W. Striebinger ..... 605  
A. J. Marcham ..... 480  
Rev. Elmer Holtgrave ..... 308

Farm  
Harvey Klingelhoefer .....1020  
Clarence Dickhaut ..... 799  
Ben Toebe ..... 781  
Wm. Ranz ..... 740  
Louis Heimann ..... 625  
Edward Hugo ..... 600  
Joseph Meyer ..... 600  
Joseph Heimann ..... 583  
Alvis Loepker ..... 565  
Fred Freund ..... 512  
Frank Hansemann.....498  
Albert Leicht .....472  
Emma Schumacher .....470  
Alfred Stein .....445  
Vincent Albers .....433  
Anthony Rakers .....432  
Joe Detmer .....418  
Millard Felton .....414  
Charles Virgin .....408  
George Rohling .....403  
Lewis Wiedle .....400  
Charles Good .....400  
George Zieren .....388  
Frank Heinzmann .....387  
Adam Nettles .....380  
Harry Huelskoetter .....380  
Geo. White .....372  
Wilmer Schlichter .....362  
Bert Matthews .....360  
Rudolph Buehler .....353  
Harvey Harpstrite .....350  
Mont Carley .....349  
Herman Dierkes .....340  
Paul Renschen .....332  
Orville Rinderer .....331  
Walter Hester .....329  
Vincent Schaefer .....328  
Ben Meyer .....323  
Henry Ratermann .....321  
Emelia Heimann .....218  
Ben Bruns .....317  
Henry Hilmes .....316  
Bern Gebke .....309  
Ben Rensing .....309  
Delmar Heuberger .....308  
Henry Korte .....307  
Myrtle Dierkes .....307  
Joseph Ratermann .....306  
Herman Bruns .....300  
Tony Rensing .....300

Operating Report  
Miles Energized .....463.52  
Members billed .....1125  
Average KWH Consumption .....101.0

### SAFETY SLANTS

Education of the public to the hazards involved in touching hot wires or making difficult repairs on electrical equipment comes under the heading of safety and is partly the responsibility of REA cooperative personnel.

Repairs and new installations of electrical equipment by amateur electricians frequently result in trouble and sometimes serious accidents. Customers and other members of the public must be educated to understand that electricity is nothing to be fooled with, and especially to by one who is not an experienced electrician.

A few unsafe practices about which the public should be warned are:

1. Attempting to move a power line that is found to be down on the ground. Such a wire should be left alone except that someone should stay there to warn others. The power company should be notified immediately.
2. Replacing fuses on transformers in the yard. This should only be done by a lineman or experienced electrician.
3. Replacing of ordinary fuses while standing on a wet floor, which applies especially in milk houses, basements, barns, etc. Time enough should be taken to get something dry, to stand on, such as a box or ladder.
4. Over-fusing of electric circuits by using fuses of higher amperage, or even by placing a coin behind the fuse. This is a dangerous practice as it reduces the safety factor and can result in overheated wires, causing fires.
5. Loading wagons, such as hay-racks, too high so they cannot pass safely under the electric wires.

Average members bill .....\$4.77  
Total KWH Consumption .....114,020  
Total Billing .....\$5,374.25  
Income per mile .....\$11.59  
Consumers per mile .....2.41

#### Around the Project

Fred Hemen, Fred Korte, Ben Rensing, Joseph Heimann and Ernest Becker attended the funeral of Ben Tuttle, Manager of the Tri County, Electric Cooperative at Mt. Vernon, Illinois, on September 22nd.

John Von Bokel, one of our active members, recently celebrated his 72nd birthday.

We extend our sympathy to Mrs. John Probls on the recent loss of her daughter.

On the evening of September 22nd the nominating committee composed of the following members met in the co-op office:

Carl Sohn, Frank Becker, Walter Harpstrite, Gerhard Schumacher, Edw. Defend, Henry Meisner, August Moehle, Herman Bruns and Ben Meyer. A most active discussion was held on the condition of the co-op and after much deliberation the following members were nominated for trustees to be elected at the annual meeting on October 26th.

Fred Korte, Ben Rensing, Myrtle Dierkes, Charles Pigg, Fred C. Freund, Grace N. Johnson, John Vahlkamp, Vincent Albers and Robert W. Holtgrave.

T/S Raymond Busselman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Busselman southeast of Breese, Illinois, is home on a furlough. He has seen active duty in India. Monday, October 9, Miss Cleo Feltrop became the bride of T/S Raymond Busselman.

Gene R Emmert, son of Mr. and Mrs. Emil R Emmert northwest of Carlyle, was home on a furlough.

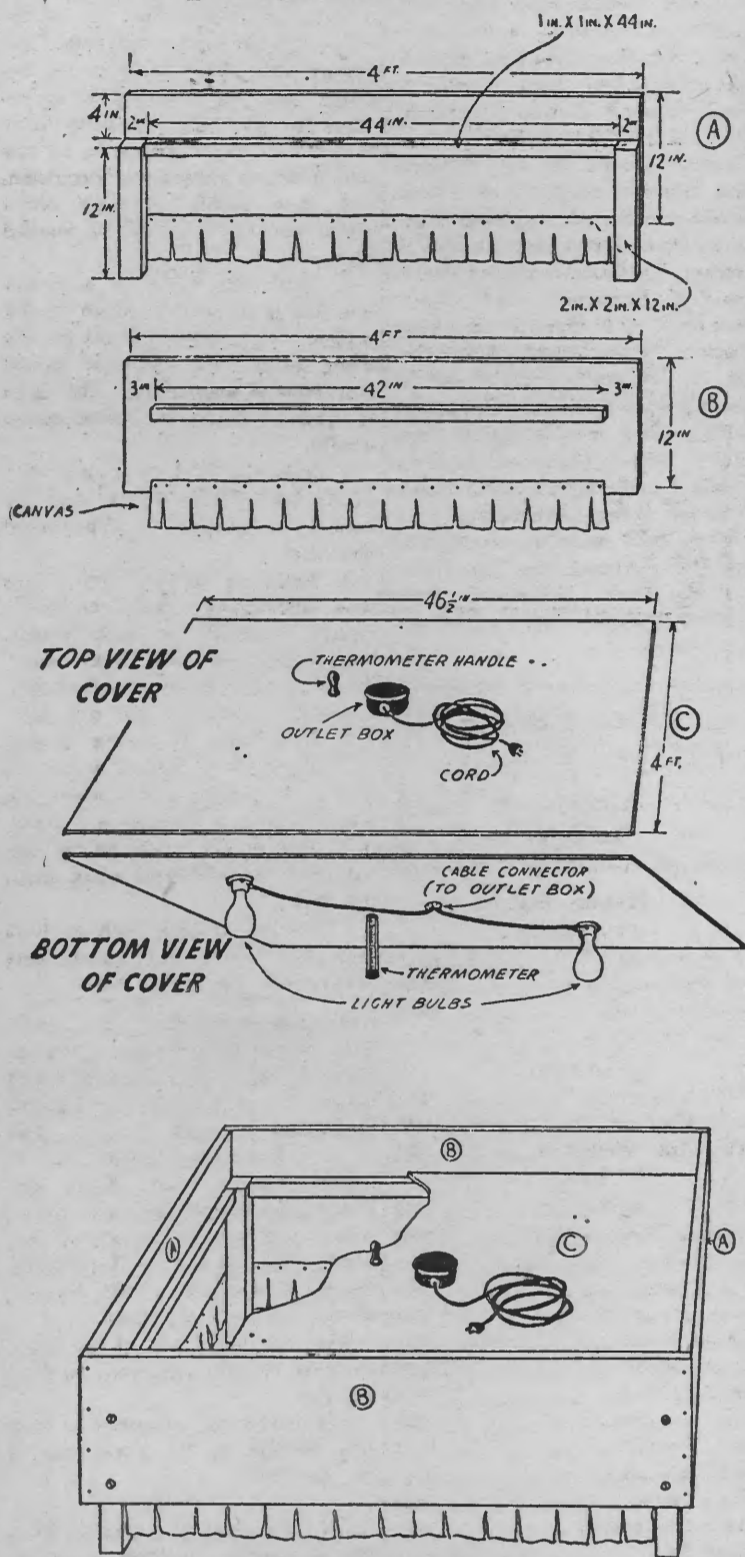
#### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Fremont Rinderer, Richard Pauls-meyer, Alphonse Beckmann, Lenard Lippert, Larvin Knolhoff, Wm. Dumstorff, Milevorunia Dunbar, Geo. Wobbe, W. L. Boggy, Wm. A. Jenne, Walter Jenne, Malcome Laramore, Ben Ripperda, Mrs. Mary Duing.

Some farmers have used electric motors successfully in driving their ensilage cutters

# Electricity For Farm and Home

## Here's Brooder Blueprint for Spring Friers, Early Layers



Culling out your chicken flock these days? Then you'll want to replace those culls with laying hens next Spring—and now is the time to make possible those replacements the economical way.

Shown here is the Rural Electrification Administration's design for a lamp-type brooder which may be inexpensively constructed of small pieces of lumber with either a plywood or wall board cover. REA engineers heartily approve this type of brooder because the lamps do not heat the entire brooder house, but permit a natural zone of cool air away from the brooder. Moving freely from warm to cool zone, the chicks become hardened up at an early age to temperature changes. Creditable, too, is low percentage of critical material called for in this design. Its two lamps instead of the usual four reduce use of critical material by 80 per cent.

Electrical supplies required in its construction are: one 12-foot extension cord and male plug; two porcelain lamp receptacles; six electric lamps (two each of 200, 150 and 100 watts—or as needed); two 1/2-inch cable connectors; one 4-inch metal outlet box and top; 6-inch strip of friction tape; 6-inch strip of rubber tape. You'll also need six pieces of canvas (4-in. by 36-in.); a brooder thermometer, shingle nails, wood screws, carpet tacks, stove bolts, and nuts.

### Assembling

First, cut cover piece as indicated.

semble pieces as indicated in diagram. Cut other lumber to size. Then use shingle nails, and secure with screws for additional strength. Nail support for cover along sides as indicated. Next locate the center of the cover by drawing diagonal lines from opposite corners. Bore a 3/4-inch hole at the center, and two 1/4-inch holes at either side, to accommodate the outlet box. Attach the box by stove bolts. Fit one cable connector in knockout opening in bottom of outlet box. Fit the second cable connector in the sides or top of outlet box as desired.

Bore two 1/4-inch holes to fit light receptacle openings, half way between the outlet box and the respective corners. Bolt receptacles to cover. Bore another 3/4-inch hole at one side of outlet box to hold the thermometer.

Attach cloth or canvas canopies, with bottom edge cut to permit small chicks to pass in and out readily.

A spool or two attached to the cover will serve as handles for raising.

When the brooder is in use, chopped hay or straw, or ground-up corn cobs should be piled on the cover, level with the top of the sides.

### Cooking with Electricity

Four million homes are cooking with electricity today. The trend to electric ranges, according to manufacturers, is shown by sales of 750,000 in 1941, compared with 450,000 in 1940 and 375,000 in 1939. The war halted production in the spring of 1942.

## Have You Heard?

Portable room coolers will be available in the post-war period as soon as production can be started. They will be priced for the average-income family.

Warm floors, no draughts is the promise for the future. Electronic controls will do the trick. In operation the system will be less complicated than the modern radio.

The newest everlasting flashlight is one that runs 2,400 hours or more, using a tiny storage battery instead of dry cells.

Extracting honey is made easier through an electrically-heated knife. The beekeeper uses it to uncap the honeycomb on each tray. The honeycomb is then placed in a drum and the honey is extracted—leaving the comb undamaged so the bees can refill it.

Electric iron prices hold! Price Administrator Chester Bowles announced that 20 manufacturers who have allocations to produce 1,768, 968 electric irons have agreed to market them at no change from their March 1942 prices.

Automatic washing machines that will not only heat water, wash, rinse and damp-dry clothes but will shut itself off when the clothes are dry are now being designed by electrical engineers. Some brand new housing projects already have washing machines that perform most of these miracles.

## AVAILABLE LEAFLETS ABOUT ELECTRICITY

Add the following leaflets to your "make-electricity-work-for-you" collection. They contain ideas that will make your work go smoother, that will save you time and labor. Just send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to this paper specifying the leaflets you desire. If you order more than three, please add an extra 3-cent stamp to cover the postage.

**Make This Motor Table.** Plans for a handy table that will enable your motor to power small hand-driven devices.

**Care of Your Electric Motor.** Treat kindly your good servant, the electric motor. This leaflet tells how.

**Small Portable Motor.** Make your motor portable, and it'll do more work for you.

**How to Keep Power on the Job.** What the average farm user of electricity needs to know about fusing requirements, power loads, and electrical equipment.

**Make Your Own Egg Cooler.** You'll be glad next summer if you take time to build one this winter.

**Water—When and Where Your Garden Needs It.** Another leaflet you'll be interested in next summer. Do read it this winter.

**Our Home Is Safe Electrically.** Can you say the same for yours? Check into this.

**It's Smart to Play Safe.** An outline of the practical ways to insure safe use of electricity. Are you putting them into practice?

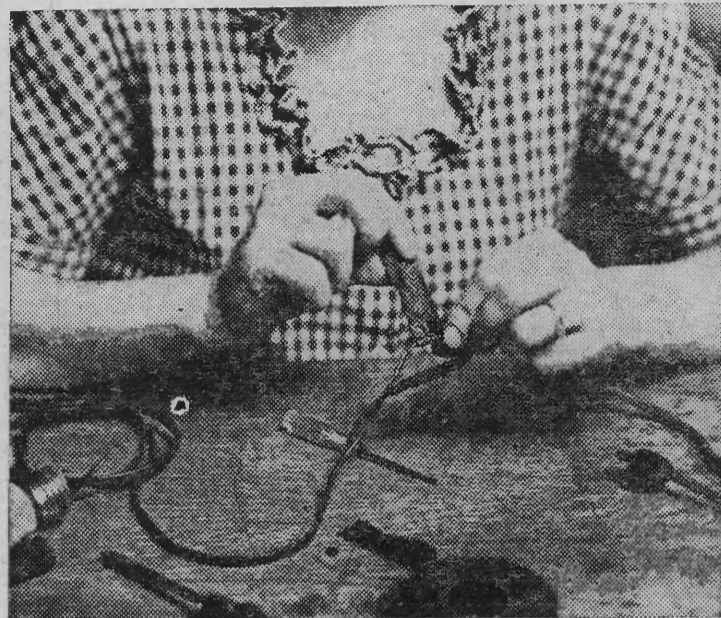
**Hay Drier.** You'll be enthusiastic about this, too.

**Michigan Conveyor Elevator.** This already has had a popular run in Wisconsin—and we're resupplied to satisfy the demand.

## Rural Education Is Topic At White House Conference

The first conference ever held in the White House on rural education was held October 3 to 5 when policies for progress of rural education through the first decade of peace were charted. More than 200 leaders in the fields of education, agriculture, labor, government and public health participated in the conference. Co-operatives, U. S. Department of Labor, U. S. Department of Agriculture were among the groups represented.

## You Don't Need Aladdin's Lamp To Make New Cords From Old



This picture shows the proper way to wind tape on wires after splicing—tape each wire separately, then both together.

(Pictures and Story, Courtesy of Rural Electrification Administration.)

Because electricity travels over extension cords, they are essential to your home electric system. They have two parts—cords and plugs.

Look for worn places in the cord. Where only the fabric covering is worn through, wrap friction tape around the cord. If the inside insulation is worn, trim off rough edges of the old insulation and tape each of the two wires separately. They have two parts—cords and plugs.

### Joining Two Cords

Two or more short extension cords can be joined temporarily by splicing. Clip off worn ends of the wire and strip the outer insulation about four inches back on each wire. Then bare the ends of the four wires about three inches back, making sure they are clean for soldering. Next, twist the ends of each wire separately to make them easy to handle. Twist the two pair of opposite wire together, wrapping at least four times. Pull on the cord slightly so that the two connect-

ed wires will be the same length. Heat the joints with a clean soldering iron, apply enough solder to fill the spaces between the wire. Tape (insulation tape) each wire separately so that no metal shows and then tape (friction tape) both joined wires together as one cord.

### Installing Cord Plugs

Check the two-prong male plug. If it is damaged, replace it. If insulation on connecting wires is worn, cut off the ends of the wires about two inches back and reconnect as follows:

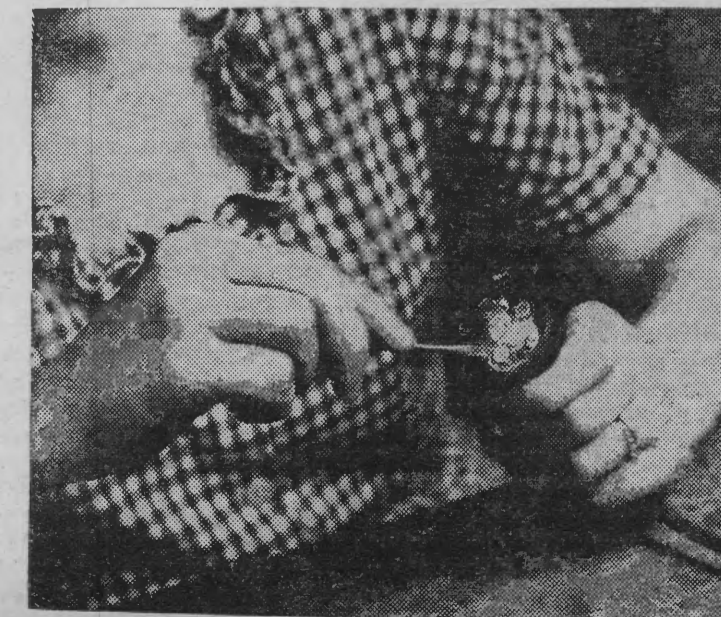
Loosen the binding screws and remove the cord from the old plug. Cut off worn ends of the cord and thread through the plug. Make a little collar around the cord about three inches from the end, by winding a narrow piece of friction tape around the wire. This will prevent the wires from pulling out of the plug if the cord is jerked accidentally. Then remove the outer insulation from the collar to the end of the cord. Snug one wire around each prong and binding screw, and cut off extra wire except for about an inch to wrap around the screws. Next, bare the ends of the wire about a half inch back and twist into a solid tip. Place the tip under the terminal screw, binding it in the direction the screw will turn when tightened, and tighten the screw. Then fasten the other wire to the second terminal in the same way.

## YOU'LL LIVE LONGER IF...

Rural electrification engineers are not quibbling when they say you'll live longer if you—

Don't overload the wiring, or use extension cords as permanent installations.

Don't let the braid or insulation on wires get frayed. Make repairs or replace cords at the first sign of danger.



It's easy to install a new plug on your old but serviceable cords, as shown above.

# Junior News

from REA farms

## PLAN A SPOOK PARTY FOR HALLOWE'EN NIGHT



The witches, goblins, and black cats have plans afoot for their big night—Hallowe'en, the very last night in October. Why not get busy and outdo them? Plan a party and make it crammed-full of spooky doin's. Of course, we know "dey ain't no ghosts"—but it's so much fun to pretend just for one night.

First, ask your Mother's approval. She, too, enjoys Hallowe'en fun and will love helping with your plans. (You might be surprised to find that Mother is a champ apple bobber!)

Then send invitations to your friends. Make the invitations yourself and don't spare your originality. One idea will lead to another. For instance, you can fold orange paper and cut out pumpkin heads. Draw a funny face on the front side—write the invitation on the inside flap. Make up a poem something like—Come to my house on Hallowe'en night.

Masked or costumed you'll be all right.

The spooky party starts at eight. Woe to the ghost who arrives late!

Clever decorations make for party-success. Autumn leaves, corn, apples, fall fruits, brooms tied with black crepe paper ribbons, coat-stands draped with sheets—all add up to Hallowe'en. Pumpkins from your garden make a fine bowl for nuts, apples, and candies. Clean the pumpkin inside and out—then line the inside with wax paper before filling it with party goodies.

Not one dull moment will dim your party if you plan every detail in advance. The secret is — keep everybody busy. Have apples tied on strings for the entertainment of early comers. Line up the guests, hands behind their back, and let them squirm and duck for apples. When they finally bite into the apples, hand them paring knives with the warning to "peel carefully . . ." The superstition is that an apple peeling thrown over the left shoulder will reveal the initial of THE one. If the paring breaks or does not form a letter, marriage is not to be the thrower's fortune.

Popular at all Hallowe'en parties is the Hall of Terror or Chamber of Horrors. Hallway, attic, or cellar is perfect for this scary place. You can make the room really spooky covering the lightbulbs with heavy masks, draping sheets over the furniture, and hanging damp pieces of crepe paper from the door frame (the damp paper feels like clammy moss)! Tin cans filled with pebbles sound unearthly when kicked. Corn husks when stepped on sound like crunching bone. Ask several

friends to stand in the shadows. One can moan and shake car chains. Another can extend a clammy leather glove stuffed with wet sand. Just be careful not to make any trick too unpleasant or frightening — that would spoil the fun. And have several boys and girls go through the Hall of Terror together. That way, no one becomes too frightened.

### Jolly Games

After the chiller-dillers above, your friends will enjoy playing jolly games. Fun is a relay race in which you use life-savers on toothpicks. Divide your company into two groups and give each person a toothpick which he holds between his teeth. Place three lifesavers on the first person's toothpicks. One by one he must pass them to the persons next in line. If anyone drops a lifesaver, it must start its journey all over. The side wins which successfully carries the three lifesavers to the end of the line.

Then start a Stick Hunt—(you, of course, have already hidden plenty of sticks—straight ones, bent ones, branched ones, etc.) The stick each guest finds describes the sort of husband or wife the finder may have. The slender straight stick means a good, handsome wife or husband. The bent stick stands for widows and widowers. You can make up some other meanings.

Just before you serve refreshments hold an unmasking of your guests. There are sure to be surprises!

### And Then Food

Witches Brew, doughnuts, taffy apples, nuts and candy are tops for the party menu. Below is the easy-to-follow recipe for the Brew:

1 cup strong decaffeinated coffee  
2 squares unsweetened chocolate  
3 tablespoons sugar  
Dash of salt  
3 cups milk

Make coffee extra strength using 1½ tablespoons for each ½ pint water. Add chocolate to coffee in top of double boiler and place over low flame, stirring until chocolate is melted and blended. Add sugar and salt, and boil 4 minutes, stirring constantly. Place over boiling water. Add milk gradually, stirring constantly; then heat. When hot, beat with rotary egg beater until frothy. Serve hot or cold. Top with whipped cream. Use cinnamon sticks for stirrers.

Bring your party to a perfect end by reading "Ghost Story" by Mark Twain or "Dey Ain't No Ghosts" by Edgar S. Werner. (Either is in your school library, probably.) And you will have had a party the gang will talk about for months.

## Pen Pals

### WANTED! More Pen Pals

Do you want a FULL mailbox and lots of new friends? Of course, who doesn't! Well you can have both by writing a letter to the Illinois REA Pen Pal Club.

Who can be a member? Every boy and girl who lives on a farm lighted with REA electricity IS a member. All you need do is write a letter about yourself and your activities — and I'll make sure it appears on this page. If you have pictures, tricks, riddles, or poems, you want printed on this page send them too. It's your page to do with as you wish. And remember to write to this month's new members.

I'll be looking for a Pen Pal letter from you. Please send it to Val Thoenig, Illinois REA News, Petersburg, Illinois.

Yours for fuller mailboxes,  
Val.

\* \* \*



NEW PEN PALS are Eileen Haskins, left, 12 years old, and her sister, Roberta, 10. They are shown with their mother, Mrs. Robert Haskins. Both 4-H members, the girls enjoy farm work. Eileen helped on their 80 A. farm in Augusta this summer by driving the tractor. Read their letters on this page.

### Susie Wants Pen Pals

I am a young girl in her late sixteens and in want of letters. I am a junior in high-school and have several hobbies. Some are drawing, writing poems and letters, and collecting pictures of boys in service of which I have more than two thousand.

I am 5 feet, ¼ inch tall, have brown eyes and hair. I promise to answer every letter and make you each my close friend. Age? I'm not choicy.—Susie Holtzclaw, RR 5, Carmi, Illinois.

\* \* \*

### Roberta Will Exchange Pictures

I am 10, have blonde hair and blue eyes. I weigh 85 pounds and am 4 feet, 7 inches tall. I am a 4-H member. I like to read, to write and I like school. I live on a 80 acre farm. I enjoy living on a farm. I will answer all letters and will exchange pictures.—Roberta Haskins, Augusta, Wis.

\* \* \*

### Don Plays Basketball

I am 14, have dark hair, hazel eyes, and weigh 160 pounds. I am 5 ft.,

## PAGE CECILE DE MILLE; SOLDIER SAYS FILMS HAVE WRONG SLANT ON PACIFIC

### Pythons, But No Movie Queens In Islands— Arlon Delp.

If you think the native girls of New Guinea look like Dorothy Lamour or some other glamorized Hollywood beauty in a film-land sarong, you haven't talked with Sgt. Arlon Delp.

Sergeant Delp, who is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer G. Delp, of near Geneseo, knows whereof he speaks—for he has just returned after sixteen months in the islands which look so dreamy and moon-drenched on the screen, but which are, in reality, just so much mosquito infested jungles to the men in Uncle Sam's overseas army.



SGT. ARLON DELP

Home on his first furlough after three years in service, Arlon, whose family's farm is served by Farmers Mutual Electric cooperative of Geneseo, is getting reacquainted with the folks in his rural neighborhood. He was one of the first in his area to enter service, leaving his war job at Rock Island arsenal to use the tools of war he had previously been busy making.

### Searchlight Brigade

Arlon is a member of the 236th battalion and is in a searchlight unit of the anti-aircraft brigade. His job is to see that Jap planes which come over to raid anti-aircraft concentrations points are caught in the glare of searchlights so that gunners can bring them down.

"So far," he modestly admits, "we've been doing a good job."

The young army sergeant served fifteen months in Australia before moving into the fighting zone. His memories of New Guinea, to which he expects to return, are linked with Japs—"who must be blasted out of caves and trees one by one" and Pythons. Speaking of Pythons, which have the disconcerting habit of squeezing the life out of any living thing they chance to embrace, he recalled that some boys in his outfit reported seeing a snake thirty feet long which withstood the harrowing experience of being run over by an army truck and merely wriggled away, apparently unharmed.

And—about that story that Australian girls are so much more desirable than American girls—Sergeant 10¼ inches tall. I am a sophomore in Ellsworth High School. I live on a 200 A. farm. I like skating and basketball for sports and I like to hear from people in different parts of the country. So please write to me, and let me see what you look like.—Donald Swanson, Maiden Rock, Wis.

Arlon shrugs that one off with the observation that maybe they seem that way because the Yanks are just so far away from home. All of which leads the casual observer to lift an eyebrow and report to the girls back home that they have little to worry about about their feminine counterparts in the "land down under, where kangaroos and parrots are the rule rather than the exception."

### Sees the World

Sergeant Delp has no illusions on the war ending overnight—especially in the Pacific theater—and sees many months of hard fighting ahead. Some of the Japs may be easily licked, he says, but most of them are tough and will stand a lot of punishment before capitulating.

Like other young men who have traveled in Uncle Sam's army, he speaks as easily about the strange sights seen in strange lands today as he did in the old days about his visits to cities in Illinois. Arlon underwent much of his training in the Carolinas, parts of which, he said, are as wild-looking as New Guinea.

He is hoping for the day when he can come home permanently and is thinking about the time when he can return to his old job at Rock Island arsenal. That time, however, he thinks is far in the distance and the coming months may find him changing his mind about his old job. If he does take a new job, however, he is certain that he won't settle down among the Pythons and the non-Hollywood natives of New Guinea.

## WAYNE-WHITE—

(From Page Five)

any meeting that may be called either in the afternoon or evening. He will bring maps of the system, membership applications, and right-of-way easements with him so that the whole area may be plotted, the prospect signed up, and right-of-way easements arranged for.

As indicated, in view of the time that is required for pre-allotment approval, and construction, we should not lose any time in starting this pre-allotment work, therefore if any of our members know of any group who is not now receiving REA service and who desire to receive it, will advise those people to discuss the matter among their group and to arrange either an evening or afternoon meeting, your manager will be more than pleased to work out all details.

We think the hour is late and therefore we should not lose any time in getting the program started.

The fact of the matter is the program is officially started already, because we now have several groups signed up for F section and we are hopeful that other groups will not delay matters until the last minute because a certain number of miles have been pre-allotted, that section will be closed, and those who are not included in that section will necessarily have to wait another year or so.

If any information is desired regarding this matter, please write a letter to the Cooperative Office outlining the information desired and we will gladly furnish the required information.

Put a Bond in the Bank for a Yank

### Eileen Drives Tractor

I am 12. My birthday is April 8. I have brown hair and blue-green eyes. I weigh 92 pounds and am 5 feet tall. I am in the 7th grade. I am taking sewing in our 4-H club. I like to read and write letters. I drive an Allis-Chalmers tractor on our 80 acre farm.

Please keep my mailbox full of letters because I like to receive them and write them. I will exchange pictures.—Eileen Haskins, Augusta, Wis.

# Large Hybrid Seed Corn Plant Is Served By Shelby Electric Co-op

Moving steadily forward toward its annual monthly peak load of three thousand kilowatt hours of electric power, the processing plant of Frank S. Garwood and Sons, located two miles east and a mile south of Stonington, and served by Shelby Electric cooperative, was rapidly shifting operations into high gear about the middle of this month in the face of a steady stream of heaping wagon loads of hybrid corn being brought in from the adjacent fields.

The completely electrified hybrid drying and processing plant is operated by Frank Garwood and his two sons, Harold and Donald. The latter son, however, is now serving the fighting rather than the home front and at present is a lieutenant in the army, assigned to the movement control branch of the invasion forces in the European theater. Lieutenant Garwood has been in service two years and overseas about seventeen months.

As associate producers of Funk's G-Hybrids, the Garwoods produce, process and sell their product in a wide territory which includes Christian county and parts of Shelby, Macon, Sangamon and Montgomery counties. Seed produced is especially adapted to growing conditions in this 5-county area.

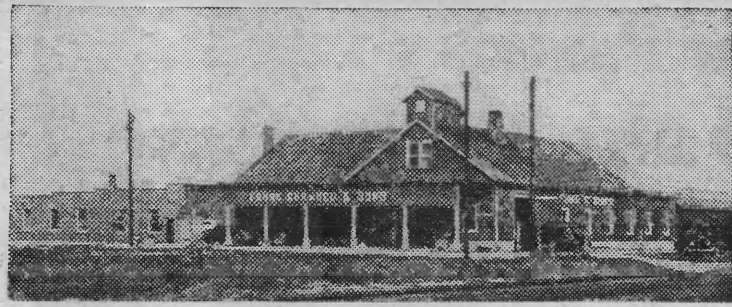
seed yields this year were reported as being "fairly good" by the Garwoods, and better than the average for the country as a whole.

Picking is generally finished early in November, with mechanical pickers being used for the first time this year. Corn is roughly sorted after being brought in from the field and then is dried until the moisture content has been reduced to from 12 to 13 per cent. Later the corn is carefully sorted again by hand, shelled and stored until it is ready to be treated, dusted and sacked.

The Garwoods, who reside in a beautiful farm home a short distance from the processing plant, recently completed construction of a brick, fireproof ware house where complete protection can be given for the G-Hybrid seed. More and more, farmers are making use of the storage facilities offered by the Garwoods by leaving their seed until planting time, it was said.

All of the seed is planter tested, each sack carrying a planter plate suggestion tag, for standard edge drop planters. Such precautions are taken to insure accuracy of drop, the Garwoods explained.

In selecting the G-Hybrids which they produce, Frank Garwood and Sons have consulted every available



**PLENTY OF CAPACITY HERE**—Above is shown a view of the processing plant of Frank Garwood and Sons, with the drying crib at the right, rear of the main building, and the newly constructed warehouse and office at the left. REA poles stand prominently in the foreground of the modern plant structures.

## NEWS FROM McDonough Power

Macomb, Ill.  
RAY GRIGSBY, Supt.

The long spell of draught last summer caused many of our farmers considerable worry at the time but from all reports they are going to harvest their share of the bumper corn and bean crop this fall. Many farmers are combining beans and there are some corn pickers in the field. If this good weather continues it won't take many weeks to harvest these crops—Both the corn and beans are of fine quality.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Sexton of St. Louis, Mo., have purchased the Hoover farm on East Broadway Road about four miles east of Monmouth. They have the place wired and moved in about the first of October.

Our president, E. Wayne Welch, made a trip to Washington October 9th to attend a committee meeting relative to by-laws of the national association. We are informed that there are five members on this committee.

Mr. Welch went from Washington direct to Western Nebraska where he met Tildon Burg and E. G. Welch. They made the trip west to purchase cattle.

Our line foreman and his crew have been more than busy this fall, besides taking care of their regular work they have built several miles of short extensions connecting up several new members.

Our president E. Wayne Welch and Vice President Kenton Lofftus made a trip to Des Moines, Iowa, to attend the annual meeting of the Iowa Rural Electric Cooperatives held in the Hotel Kirkwood September 20th and 21st. They report an unusually good meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. Guy Gillette have purchased the B. R. Courson farm 4 miles East of Birwick on the Abingdon Road. They have taken out a membership in our Cooperative and expect to wire their building soon.

Mr. and Mrs. Cleo Cannon, S. W.

of Greenbush have the remodeling of their home well underway and expect to have it completed before the cold weather sets in.

On October 3rd we had a very welcome visitor who was no other than Russell J. Gingles, Editor of this newspaper. During his short stay we contacted our president, Wayne Welch and vice president, Kenton Lofftus and visited only a few of the outstanding places along some of our lines.

In our visit with Mr. Gingles we learned that he was very fond of aged pipes and while here had the misfortune to lose his favorite one. We endeavored to share sympathy with Russell but during his short stay we soon found out that wherever that pipe is, it has ample strength to take care of itself.

Anyway Russell, we are looking forward to another visit from you soon and hope you can spare more time—for we might meet up with that pipe—Who can tell.

—Jack Minnich.

Some of our readers may think our news items are rather short for this issue. We admit that news is rather scarce and we will be glad to have several of our members come to our rescue by sending us news items from time to time.

Please send them to our office in Macomb or J. W. Minnich, Roseville, Ill.

### Pay \$163 to \$298 Per Acre for Macon Farms

Seven Macon county farms, totaling 1079 acres, were sold at auction in Decatur recently to settle the estate of Mrs. Ella V. Schroll, and prices ranged from \$163 to \$298 an acre.

The majority of the purchasers were individuals who bought for investment purposes rather than to actively work the land. Prices in most cases ranged closer to the maximum figure for the seven farming tracts than to the minimum amount.

The soybean is not adapted to sloping ground because it loosens the soil and promotes erosion.

Soybean growers plan to make a drive after the war to increase the use of soybean oil in paints and varnishes.

## Here'n there in ILLINOIS

by RUSSELL J. GINGLES

Hey, there mister—don't pass that guy hitch hiking his way along Illinois highways. He may be your editor; sans tires, sans gas, sans car—but long on camera, typewriter and copy paper. Looks like our present ration board is going to take everything away from us but a road map. But there'll come a day—or will there? Pyramid here we come—that's the out-in-the-county stop on the bus line where you get to after fifteen minutes of travel from several co-op offices in southern Illinois and then wait five hours for a ride to your next destination. We must look into the surplus army mule situation; could be that one of the critters might be willing to be reconverted into peace-time pursuits. The trouble is that you've got to know more than your mount—and mule skinning isn't exactly in our line, while the mule may be an old hand at editor skinning.

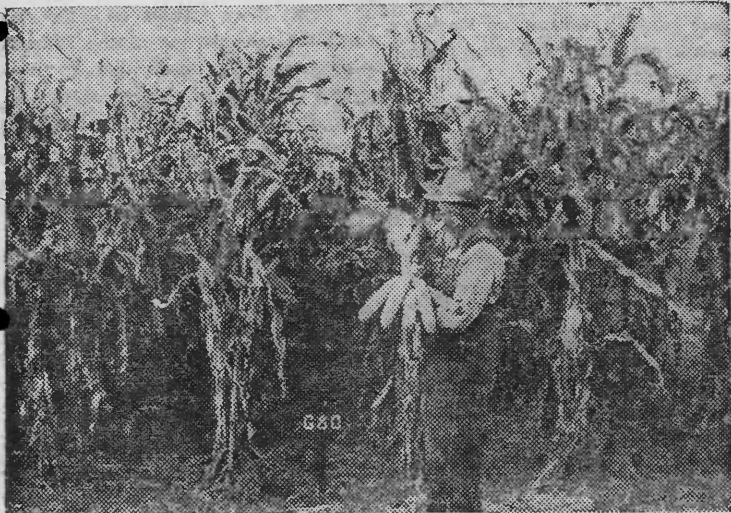
George Endicott, who has killed more snakes than Frank Buck has brought back alive, has scored again. The hustle-bustle manager of Southern Illinois Electric cooperative at Dongola recently put on the brakes of his car, glanced menacingly out his window and then nodded in approval. His victim last month was a Copperhead—and George cut another notch in his steering wheel.

Sharp as a tack is no fooling matter with the office staff at Adams Electric cooperative at Camp Point—as any unsuspecting visitor will know. When there's work to be done around the office, the loafing callers are invited to take a seat. That usually ends the conversation; as Leora Longlett coyly (at least in our personal case) slips a tack on the unsuspecting visitor's chair to bring the guest up on his feet and send him on his way slightly wounded but certain of having gotten the point.

The pot seems to be boiling with respect to the state commerce commission finally expressing itself as dissatisfied over not having control of Illinois REA cooperative activities. We say the pot is boiling... but maybe it's just a fine kettle of fish. Just a game of heads they win and tails we lose.

The first cow caught puffing a pipe while grazing in a pasture adjacent to the Scottsburg elevator will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. We lost that pipe while taking a picture of the elevator and no cow is going to beat us out of our pride and joy.

(Turn to Page Sixteen)



**PROUD OF HIS PRODUCT**—And well he might be, for Frank Garwood, shown above with several ears of the Hybrid corn produced under his direction, has maintained a high reputation for quality since first starting in the Hybrid seed corn business in 1937.

The Garwoods started in the Hybrid seed corn business in 1937, when the industry was new, and have grown up with each new development in this comparatively new agricultural field.

Firm believers in electric power as more efficient and economical than the gasoline engines they formerly used, Mr. Garwood and his sons now operate all of their processing equipment with electricity. In the plant are found three 5-horsepower motors to run the drag line, corn dump, grader and sheller; a half horsepower motor on the treater; a quarter horsepower motor on the suction fan; another quarter horsepower motor on the machine used to sew the bags closed at the top and a half horsepower motor for operating the exhaust fan.

The blower which drives warm air into the drying bins, which have a capacity of 8000 bushels at one time, is operated by a ten horsepower motor.

### Year-Round Job

In addition to these motors, all of the buildings are adequately lighted, fluorescent fixtures having been installed in a section of the processing plant where final sorting of ear corn is done by hand. The fixtures provide light as near to sunlight as possible so that sorting may be efficiently and speedily handled.

The hybrid seed corn business, as operated by the Garwoods, is a year-round job, with four men employed steadily twelve months out of the year and two more added during the winter. From fifty to sixty persons are hired to detassel the 306 acres devoted to seed production.

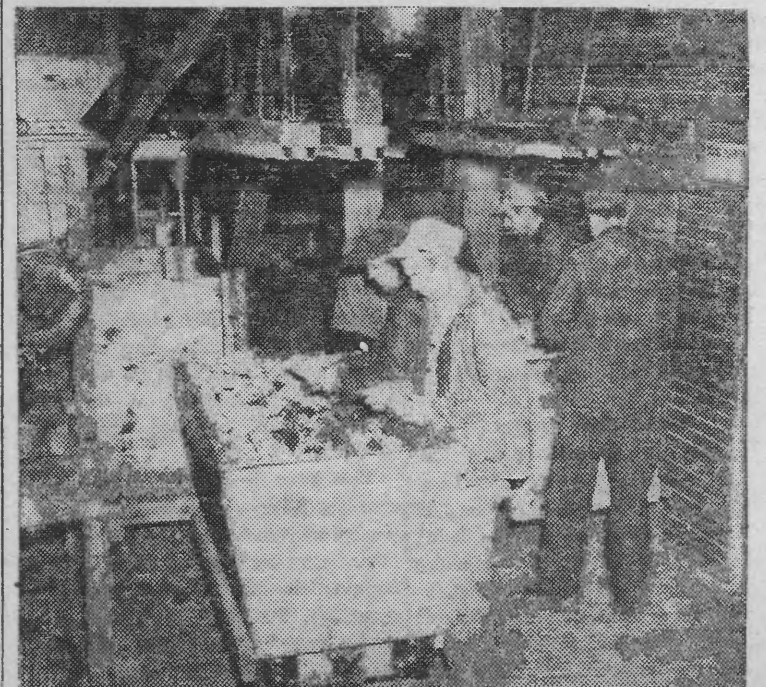
Despite the hot and dry summer,

test, as well as the expert advice of Dr. J. R. Holbert, head plant breeder for Funk's G-Hybrids.

As Harold Garwood explained: "We have always tried to do our best in putting on the market top quality products." Strong, vigorous germination, plus Garwood's accurate grading for width, thickness and length, insures a good stand, fathers and son say.



**INTO THE DRYING BINS**—A scene common around the Frank Garwood and Sons processing plant these days is that shown above. It illustrates ear corn being scooped in the drying bins.



**LOOKED OVER CAREFULLY**—Under fluorescent lights, workmen above are shown sorting the good from the bad among the thousands of ears of Hybrid seed corn after it has been dried.

# Geese For The Pantry- - Horseshoe Lake Clubs Have The Answer

## Dongola Co-op Brings Power to Aid Hunter

LODGES LOCATED ON  
MAIN FLYWAYS NEAR  
GAME PRESERVE.

The Canadian Honker—aristocrat of game waterfowl—is again meeting its match this season in its annual battle of wits to outsmart upraised shotguns in the hands of scores of eager sportsmen crouched in the pits of hunting clubs served by Southern Illinois Electric cooperative in the picturesque Horseshoe lake area.

The clubs are on the Central or Mississippi flyway for the big Canadian geese, thousands of which make Horseshoe lake and its spacious island their winter resting and feeding grounds—and well they might, for the community is one of the largest state game preserves in the mid-west.

The abundance of the big birds and the desire of the conservation department to spare as many of them as possible from being killed in any one year has contributed this season to reducing the daily limit to two. Another rule prohibits hunters having more than four in their possession at any one time.

### Typical Club

A typical example of the many hunting clubs in the area is the Wicker Hunting club, located near Miller City. Managed by Paul L. Ryal, the clubhouse accommodates between thirty and forty men at one time, and reservations are generally made months—and even a year or two ahead, many of the hunters making arrangements to return to the club the following season before their guns have cooled from the first day's outing.

The Wicker clubhouse is a rustic, log structure, containing a lounging room where hunters meet evenings to discuss the day's good—or bad—luck; a dining room, glassed-in porch which extends the length of the second story and several bedrooms, most of them equipped with double-decker beds.

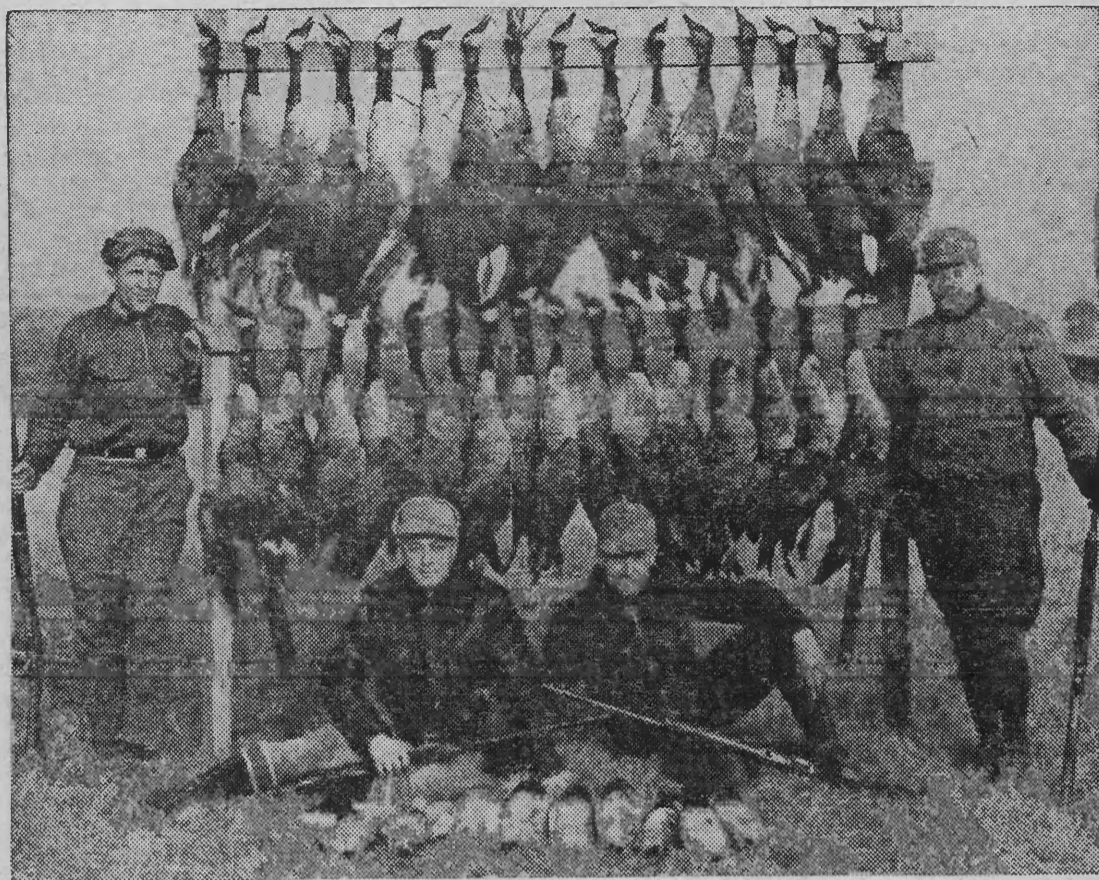
Hunting clubs in the area are patronized by men high in the industrial, business and sports world—and they come to Horseshoe lake to rough it and to get away from the pressure of daily business and promotional life. Few of the clubs have barbers, for many of the men let their whiskers grow. There are no entertainment features beyond the daily hunting trips—and the men don't ask for anything out of the ordinary in an entertainment way. Fact is, as Mr. Ryal explains it, "They just act like kids on a Sunday school picnic, having a whale of a good time in their own way."

Joseph Regenstein of Chicago, head of a large envelope manufacturing concern, is the owner of the Wicker Hunting club. Having a distinct preference for ducks rather than geese, he and his party occupy a little frame cabin adjacent to the Ryal farm home and do their shooting on one of the backwater sloughs of the lake.

### Electricity's Part

Electricity plays a big part in the annual hunting spree providing power for huge walk-in lockers in which geese are stored after being shot. The Wicker Hunting club's walk-in locker is kept at a temperature of thirty degrees. A homemade building, it is well insulated and is served by underground cable from the nearby REA service pole.

Most clubs also have electric stoves, hot water heaters, huge refrigerators, water pumps and—of



ALL IN A DAY'S HUNTING—Shown above are four hunters as they meet at the end of a successful day's shooting to display the large number of geese and ducks which they and others at the Wicker Hunting club have bagged for future feasts. Hunters are limited to two geese a day and can not have more than four in their possession at any one time.

course—electric lights.

The Wicker club covers 500 acres of ground bordering the lake, and its guest list has included sportsmen from nearly every state in the union. Shooting pits are located out in the open fields, with two men assigned to each pit, which are 150 yards apart. Grain is scattered in the field for geese to feed on. The men eat breakfast at 6 in the morning and are taken to the shooting pits in automobiles or trucks. In former years, when hunters were allowed to bang away all day at the geese, lunches were provided at noon—but today when hunting stops at noon, the men eat at the lodge.

Most of the hunting lodges are located on farms, the Wicker Hunting club, for example, using its big acreage during the crop growing season principally for corn and cotton. A large herd of cattle is also kept on the farm, which, also, is operated by Mr. Ryal.

Electric power, provided by Southern Illinois Electric cooperative of Dongola, has been a vast help in the growth made by the hunting clubs in the Horseshoe lake area—as Mr. Ryal puts it: "Electricity has meant everything to us here."

### Other Clubs

A number of other clubs are also served by the cooperative among them being the Lansden Hunting club, located at the Spillway, and operated by Charles Sickman; Miller Hunting club, (a private lodge) situated on the "ditch," and operated by Claude Clinton; Carmi Hunting Club of Carmi, located near the Miller Hunting club, and also operated by Mr. Clinton; Blakemore Hunting club (a private lodge), near the Miller club, and operated by J. F. Blakemore; Miller Hunting club, located on the west side of the lake, and operated by Leland Miller, and the Spillway Hunting club, situated at the lake spillway, and operated by J. B. Rhoarks.

This year as in years past sportsmen are filling the clubhouses to capacity and indications point to another successful season with hunters bagging the limit each day. It's a great life, Mr. Ryal says, and gives as his secret for operation of a successful club this suggestion: "Just let the men have a good time."

The hunting clubs are a seasonal challenge to Southern Illinois Electric cooperative, for lockers must be



WHERE GOOD FELLOWS GET TOGETHER—Above is a view of the exterior of the Wicker Hunting club lodge, showing the homemade walk-in locker at the right. Here sportsmen from all over the country sleep, eat and swap yarns on the day's hunting experiences.

kept in operation to preserve meat. George Endicott, however, is meeting that challenge this year as in every other, by keeping constant watch over the clubs and rushing in to the area to restore service whenever storms threaten to put the line out of order temporarily.

Horseshoe island's game preserve covers 2300 acres, much of which is used for growing corn and wheat to be fed geese wintering in the area. It was started in about 1931 and is open to the public on visiting days. The state has recently released several deer on the island. No shooting is allowed on the lake or island and hunters must stay a minimum of 150 yards away from the state property.

## NEWS FROM Jo-Carroll Elizabeth, Ill. FLOYD RUBLE, Mgr.

Construction has been started by your cooperative on lines which will bring electric service to sixty-four members.

Electric energy, in these days of critical manpower shortages, can take the place of a hired hand in many instances on farms where cooperative members find themselves without necessary help. In cases where farmers have adequate help, electrical farm appliances work wonders in helping boost production of vitally needed food for home and fighting fronts.

One example, which came to our attention recently, concerned a man in our area who changed not so long ago from hand milking to milking machines. Results of the change-over from manual labor to electrical

power resulted in the farmer saving many hours of time—which were turned to better use at some other activity.

Electric energy as a time saver is at the peak of its efficiency in pumping water, grinding feed, in the operation of chick and pig brooders, and in running milking machines.

### Serve Good Purpose

The two portable generating units, which formerly provided electric power for our cooperatives and which were used by an army hospital some time ago as standby power during a threatened utility company strike, have now been forwarded to Roseclaire, Ill., for use by the Lead and Flourspar company mine.

A power breakdown at the mine resulted in a hurried call for assistance, and rental of the two generating units was the answer. Products of the mine are used in the manufacture of military equipment, for ingredients in paint and many other articles which are important in today's news behind the war headlines.

The third generating unit, which has been standing rather forlornly at the cooperative's abandoned diesel power station on Route 20, near Woodbine, will, we trust, soon be on its way to Mexico.

Clearance export transportation papers have at last been received and instructions have arrived so that the cooperative might prepare the unit correctly for shipment.

New lines being built by your cooperative are going up with the help of five Elizabeth men who formerly worked for the A & A Construction company of Cicero.

The crew consists of Jack and Alec

## When War Ends Lee Wants Old Line Job Back



There'll come a day when this war will be over—and when it is, chances are good that Sgt. Lee Wilson, shown above, will return to his old job as a member of the line crew of Illinois Valley Electric cooperative at Princeton.

Home on leave last month, Lee, who is stationed with the signal corps in Trinidad, has served in Uncle Sam's army for more than two and a half years. He has been assigned to the signal property supplies unit for twenty-three months on Trinidad, which, he said, is one of the islands northeast of Venezuela and an important jumping off place for planes flying to Africa in the early days of the war.

One of the bases acquired by the United States in South America shortly after war was declared, Trinidad was a military hotspot and guardian of North America when it was feared the Nazis might try an invasion attempt from Dakar, Lee said.

### Modern Cities

The far-away island's cities are as modern as many of those in the United States, and the temperature averages 80 degrees, the sergeant declared. Lee told the large crowd at the cooperative's annual meeting that he has "never forgotten how much pleasure it was being associated with the cooperative" and said he "would like to be back working for you." He became a member of the line crew and started work on March 1, 1940, shortly after the cooperative began to function.

An interesting sidelight on the Nazi submarine menace early in the war was given by Lee, when he said that when his ship first sailed for Trinidad it was held up longer than anticipated in order to make sure that no enemy U-boats were lurking at the mouth of the Mississippi river which it was reported they had entered on more than one occasion.

Schleicher, Roy and Delmar Allen and Clarence Lisk. The line crew, which also includes William Plosch and William Lisk, is in charge of Charles "Chuck" Youtzy.

### Purchase New Truck

The cooperative has recently purchased a new 1½-ton Dodge truck which is being used for construction work. It is equipped with all the modern devices needed to speed the building of lines in the area.

Miss Arletta Potter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ross Potter, who resides on a farm in the North Hanover area, has been employed as a stenographer by your cooperative.

IT MAY BE EARLY TO MENTION IT—BUT IT'S NOT TOO EARLY TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING. THE DATE WILL BE DECEMBER 5. IT IS YOUR PRIVILEGE AS WELL AS YOUR DUTY TO ATTEND AND REVIEW THE PROGRESS MADE BY YOUR COOPERATIVE.

# Apple Packers Turn To REA

## Equipment For Work Served by M. J. M. Power

Ambition and energy seem to go hand in hand—like electricity and increased production. Henry Hoelting, who operates an apple orchard and packing shed, 3½ miles east of Carlinville, and who also conducts a fresh produce route in the area, seems to have all four twin qualities on his side of the ledger.

Without ambition and boundless energy, Mr. Hoelting couldn't begin to operate two business enterprises successfully—and, without electricity, productivity of his large apple crop, measured in fruit mechanically graded and later saved through electrically cooled storage facilities, would be understandably far less than present capacity.

On Mr. Hoelting's side also are his wife, a registered nurse, who dons slacks and blue denim jacket to oversee and, at times, take a hand in grading and packing shed activities, and his son and daughter, Bernard, 14, and LuAnn, 16, who work during their spare time on all the many jobs required to produce apples for market.

Started in 1930 Henry and his brother, John Hoelting, present Carlinville postmaster, bought the orchard in 1930, and four years later, Henry became sole owner of the venture.

At the time the orchard, which covers fifty-five acres, was purchased, the trees were ten years old. During the intervening fourteen years, the orchard's 1500 trees have produced an average of 10,000 bushels a year. Apples raised include Jonathans, red and golden Delicious, Grimes Golden, Gano and Winesaps.

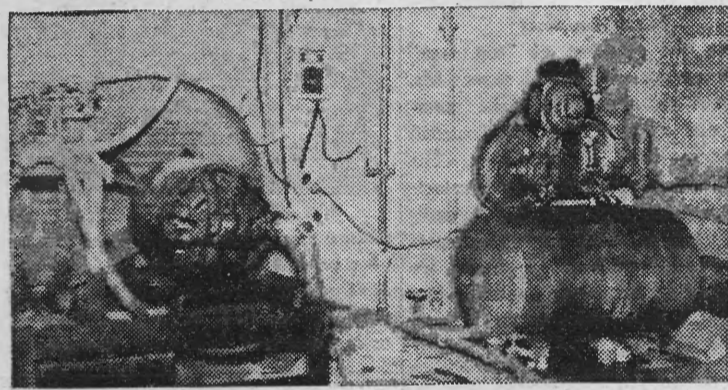
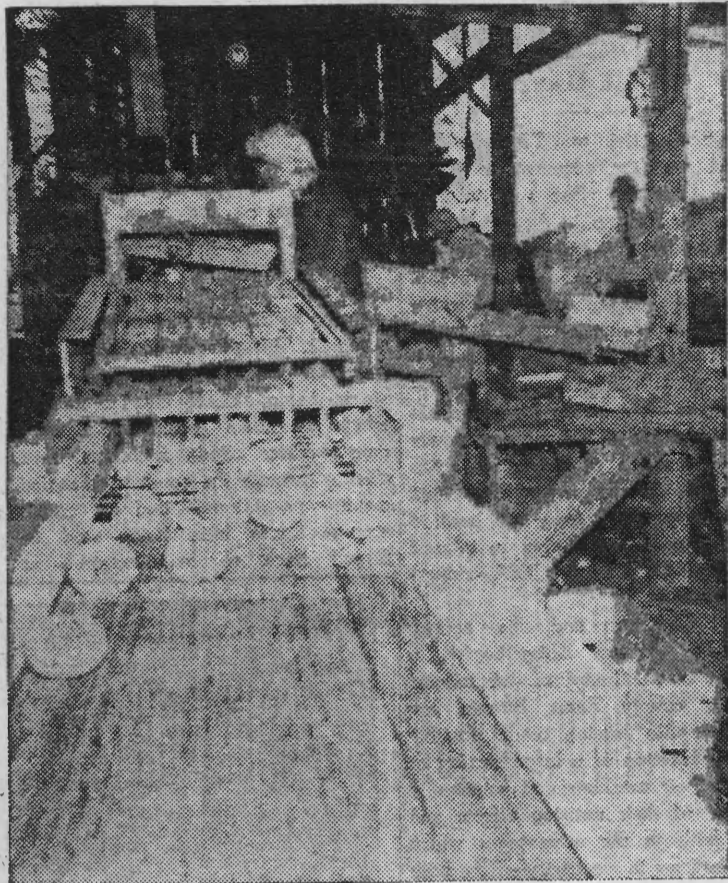
The Hoeltings formerly resided in Carlinville, home of M.J.M. Electric cooperative which serves the orchard industry and the Hoelting residence, but, when they learned that REA service was to be brought to the area, they decided to move into the country.

Electric power soon replaced gasoline engines in operating the grader, and a modern electrically cooled storage room replaced the underground cave-like former storage place. An electric fan was installed in a larger basement storage room for cooling apples which are sold during the fall and winter; those in the storage locker, where the temperature is kept just below freezing, are held over through the winter for spring delivery.

The large majority of the apples are trucked to Jacksonville where larger commercial storage is available, but use of the home locker room, Mrs. Hoelting says, saves her husband from making frequent trips to Jacksonville for additional quantities of fruit. Hoelting-produced apples are sold in stores within a radius of 50 miles of Carlinville.

**Sixteen Motors**  
Availability of electricity permitted the family to undertake an unusual construction plan, which has worked out perfectly. Because it was possible to convert a portion of the former underground storage place into a cold storage locker room and use the additional space for warehouse facilities and a garage, the Hoeltings conceived the idea of building the house over the cave-like storage space and making it a sub-basement. Another basement, dug at regulation depth, houses the heating plant, with its electrically-driven furnace blower fan.

In all there are sixteen motors in use on the Hoelting place—both for operating the orchard business and for household appliance aids. The number of pickers in the large orchard varies with help available, but an average of ten persons are gen-



erally on hand in the packing shed. Rain doesn't stop operations on the Hoelting "production line," for apples which are wet when picked in the afternoon are dried off by blasts from an electric fan which speed up moisture evaporation during the evening, so that morning finds the fruit suitable for grading and brushing operations.

### Son, Daughter Aid

Both of the Hoelting children are active in 4-H club activities, Bernard's project being sheep and LuAnn's project being chickens.

LuAnn generally markets from 82 to 90 dozens of eggs per week. She uses an electric brooder to raise an average of 600 chicks a year, and then carefully culls her flock until she keeps an average of 250 laying hens. Lights are kept burning low all night in the new chicken house.

Both children are gifted musicians and play in the Carlinville high school band. Their parents pay them for their orchard work at the prevailing scale of wages, giving them credit for money earned. In that way the boy and girl have both paid off costs involved in financing their 4-H projects and have all the spending money needed.

Mrs. Hoelting, who has had considerable experience in public health nursing work, headed the Red Cross home nursing course in Carlinville.

A busy family, the Hoeltings are building for the future on a sound financial foundation. They all pitch in and work cooperatively. For instance, when help was hard to get at tree spraying time, Bernard drove the truck and LuAnn did the spraying, while Mr. Hoelting and their one regular employe, Orville Hern, carried the additional equipment needed.

### APPROVAL IS GIVEN SOUTHEASTERN FOR FOURTH SUBSTATION

Southeastern Illinois Electric cooperative of Harrisburg has received approval from the Rural Electrification Administration for construction of its fourth substation.

The new substation will be located

### NEWS FROM Corn Belt Bloomington, Ill. T. H. HAFER, Supt.

#### DIRECTORS CONFER WITH REA

President Walter Risser, Director W. B. Ellis and Manager Hafer, made a trip to St. Louis during September to confer with REA regarding policies for the future of the Corn Belt Electric Cooperative. The new legislation incorporated in the Pace Bill, which has previously been reported in this paper, has now been signed by the President. This legislation will reduce the interest rate paid by your co-op to 2%. The interest rate now paid varies from 2½ to 2¾%. Other problems discussed with REA officials were the purchase of oil circuit breakers to replace fuses, and engineering and construction problems for postwar extensions.

Russell Gingles, editor of the Illinois REA News, got honorable mention in a story in the Cooperative Digest, a national publication for cooperatives of all kinds. We have always felt that "Russ" is doing a swell job of getting out the Illinois REA News full of interesting information for our members. We are glad to see that his work is recognized in this national publication.

#### TO MOVING MEMBERS

Whenever any members move they should do the following things in order to assure themselves of proper stopping of their bill at the right time and to save confusion and expense in the co-op office. We have no way of knowing when a member moves unless we are notified.

about two miles east of Marion on Route 12 and will serve principally the area in Williamson county, where the cooperative brings service to a number of coal mines. Additional power facilities will add greatly to the efficiency of the service in the area, according to B. D. Gates, president of the cooperative.



**ELECTRICITY IS THE ORCHARD OPERATOR'S FRIEND THESE DAYS**—At least so says the Henry Hoelting family. The picture at the UPPER LEFT shows part of a bushel of apples being carried along on an electrically-driven conveyor belt to the power-operated grader, where they will be brushed clean and separated according to their size and quality. At the UPPER RIGHT four members of the packing shed crew, together with Mrs. Hoelting, prepare and check apples ready for storage and market—from left to right, they are: Russell Sanson, Mrs. Hoelting, Mrs. William Culp, Helen Culp and Orville Hern. LOWER LEFT photo shows two of the most important pieces of electrical equipment on the Hoelting place; to the LEFT IN THE PICTURE is shown the motor operating the refrigerator unit which is used in the basement cold storage room, and to the RIGHT is the electric water pump which provides running water for the Hoelting modern home which, incidentally, was planned by Mrs. Hoelting.

(1) Notify the co-op office that you intend to move so we may send you a final meter reading card.

(2) Mark this card and return by "Uncle Sam" after you are through using electricity at the place you are moving from. You will then be sent a final bill at your new address. Remember that your monthly electric bill is dated about 10 days after the meter reading on which it is based, therefore, if you move on the date of the bill you will have about 10 days more service to be shown on your final bill.

(3) Don't try to transfer your membership in the co-op to the next occupant of the premises. The by-laws specifically state that the membership is not transferable from one person to another. The \$5.00 fee which you paid is for your own personal membership which you take with you. If you move to another farm where this co-op service is available you need not pay another \$5.00.

(4) If you move to a new place where this co-op service is available ask for a beginning meter reading card if you do not find one already there. In this way you can send us your beginning reading. This should check with the final reading of the member who moves out.

Members cooperating in this way will save a good many miles of unnecessary driving and expense by co-op linemen.

#### Wiring Inspection

Most of our members had their farm wiring inspected before the electricity was turned on. Since the war started we have conserved gasoline by allowing some farms to be connected previous to inspection on a temporary basis with the understanding that the wiring will be corrected after it has been inspected. This enables our inspector, Mr. Aylesworth, to make a good many more inspections for the same mileage driven. Quite a number of these delayed inspections are reinspections which have accumulated. We have secured the help of Owen Orendorff who will assist Mr. Aylesworth in making inspections and checking meters so it is expected that many of these delayed inspections will be taken care of in the near future.

Many members have asked for a re-inspection where they have added some wiring to their original system. The fee for this reinspection is \$1.00 and we recommend that all members who add wiring request this reinspection. We have found several places where very hazardous wiring has been in use and the \$1.00 is a small price to pay to find out whether or not your wiring is safe.

Wider use of fresh condensed milk and frozen milk after the war has been predicted.

### Services Held For B. H. Tuttle

Representatives of the Rural Electrification Administration and Illinois REA cooperatives joined September 22 with scores of farm and city residents in and near Mount Vernon to pay their last respects to B. H. Tuttle, manager of Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Mr. Tuttle—Ben to his hosts of friends and co-workers—died September 19 in Good Samaritan hospital Mount Vernon, following a major operation. He previously had been undergoing treatment for undulant fever from which he had recovered. Services were conducted at Fouts Christian church, north of Cravat, with the Rev. Clyde H. Todd of Mount Vernon in charge. Burial was in Hill Crest Memorial Park, Centralia.

#### Employes Have Part

Active pallbearers were Charles Morgan, Newton Lovin, Charles Swain, Edwin Lehde, Paul Bursell and Everett Harlow, while the following members of the cooperative's line crew, Sam Overstreet, Ralph Albrecht, Clarence Voilkel and Lowell, served as honorary pallbearers. I'Marie Weigand, Bernice Breece, Virginia Keef, Lola Kelly, Emmabell Sexton, Nelda Eator and Morris Trobaugh, office employes, had charge of the many beautiful floral tributes.

E. C. Collier, REA operators representative attended the services from the REA organization. The Illinois REA cooperatives, headed by Mr. Tuttle's own directors, led by A. E. Drennan, president, were represented by V. C. Kallal, superintendent of Southwestern; L. C. Groat, manager of Spoon River; George Endicott, manager of Southern Illinois; Joseph Heimann, superintendent of Clinton County; F. A. Tannahill, superintendent of Wayne-White; A. F. Lentz, superintendent of Southeastern; Fred Hempten, president of Clinton County; E. C. Lewis, secretary-treasurer of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, and Fred Darr, electrification adviser of Menard. Other representatives of state cooperatives also attended the services.

#### Born in Carlyle

Mr. Tuttle was born in Carlyle, Ill., on Aug. 31, 1888, the eldest son of Samuel W. and Cathrine Townsend Tuttle. He married Pansy Faulkner of Centralia on Jan. 11, 1910 in Evansville, Ind. Two sons were born to this union, Blaine H. Tuttle of Woodlawn, Ill., and Harold L. Tuttle, who died in March, 1942.

Surviving are his wife and son; two brothers, five sisters, and three grandsons.

# Here 'n there in ILLINOIS

BY RUSSELL GINGLES

(From Page Thirteen)

Don't know whether Wayne Welsh's big Buick eats hay and oats or not, but it certainly must have some attributes of old Dobbin, judging from the buggy whip which reposed recently in the back seat of the state-wide president's automobile. Might be that Wayne has been doing a little research on material written during the early days of the gas buggy, when manufacturers confidently advertised that an automobile will do everything a horse does . . . including, probably, working up a balky streak when a flick of a whip might be just the thing needed.

Offices of Rural Electric Convenience cooperative at Divernon and McDonough Power cooperative at Macomb are among co-op headquarters in Illinois which have perfected means of letting line crews know what is on tap for them evenings without causing the boys to come into the office unnecessarily after they have returned from an afternoon of work.

Rural Electric uses a blackboard for this purpose, while McDonough relies on a lightcord. Line crews coming home at Divernon can look into a window in the rear office of the Rural-co-op and read on a conveniently-placed blackboard any important messages which they should know before going to dinner.

Letters and messages for linemen are dangled from a lightcord in the front office of McDonough Power—a lightcord which can be easily seen through the front door as trucks are driven past to the warehouse at the rear of the building.

No messages on the blackboard or lightcord—no need to stop, say linemen of these two co-ops.

The omission of a line in the column prepared last month for Jo-Carroll Electric Cooperative, Inc., of Elizabeth placed the president of the cooperative in a German prison camp. The paragraph referred to started out thusly: "Lt. Arthur 'Bud' Read, president of your cooperative, who had been reported missing in action after a recent bombing mission over Germany, is reported to be a prisoner of war." The line omitted described Bud Read, Elizabeth air hero, as "the son of Everett R. Read, president of your cooperative, who had been, etc." . . . Well, there's nothing like making news for yourself when you can't seem to find it elsewhere, we always say.

Miss Alice Biesmann, newly appointed bookkeeper for Jo-Carroll co-op, looked up a bit glassy-eyed the other day as Manager Floyd Ruble rattled off priority numbers, WPB regulations and wiring material terms when dictating a note for a shipment of supplies. A bit on the bewildered side, Miss Biesmann, looked wistfully at Mrs. Alma Busan, who is helping instruct the new staff in REA ways before leaving to devote the rest of her time to housewifely duties, and asked: "When do they talk English around this place?"

Farm-minded Joe Heimann, manager of Clinton County Electric cooperative, even selects a service station with an agricultural motif when stopping for gasoline. The station chosen is located in Mascoutah and has as fine a stalk of corn growing in its victory garden as can be found in Illinois.

C. D. McCommons, manager of Clay County Electric cooperative, staid his ground against all obstacles while getting his project started. He

sat resolutely behind his desk and fought for materials, priorities and labor. But things have changed . . . Mac has finally been forced to retreat from his small office. His desk is out in the warehouse now—there wasn't enough room in the office for the two office girls AND the manager. Just a case of being outnumbered no doubt.

Les Marvel, manager of Western Illinois Electric cooperative, and your editor went to jail the other day in Carthage—but we went willingly and fared better than did those other residents of the historic lockup—the late, lamented Joseph Smith, Hiram Smith and John Taylor. The jail to which Les escorted us, you see, was the scene of the notorious mob-murder of the three Mormon leaders. Occupied for several years as a dwelling and then as a rooming house, the jail has been purchased by the Church of Latter Day Saints and is preserved as one of the shrines of the demonimation. Among things to be seen in the old building is a glass-covered stain, said to be caused by blood flowing from a wound inflicted on one of the Mormon leaders by the infuriated mob.

Society note: Fifteen WACS from Camp Ellis visited the jail the day before Les showed it to us. None came the day we were there. Why couldn't we have stopped in Carthage a day earlier?

As Paul Ryal, manager of the Wicker Hunting club at Horseshoe lake, started to mow the lawn at his farm home the other day after having spent some time undergoing treatment in a St. Louis hospital, one of the several colored people in the area, whom Paul helped on more than one occasion, came into view. He looked at Mr. Ryal for a few moments and then gave his benefactor a serious talking to. The colored gentleman's conversation went something like this: "Well, dere you is, mowin' dat lawn. Yo ject came back from da hospital—an if you don' watch out yo is goin right back in agin' and den, what am gonna happen to us?"

Bing's picture did not appear in last month's issue of the Illinois REA News—but it now is probably on its way to a soldier overseas to take its place among the pinups around Harold Sickles' barracks. For Bing is a new member of the Glen Sickles family group, and a very active one too. He is a Boston bull terrier—Harold's new dog, and a successor to the one killed last summer by a passing motorist. The picture is a sort of introduction of dog to master—for neither of them have ever seen each other.

There was a flurry of excitement behind the scenes at last month's annual meeting of Illinois Valley Electric cooperative at Princeton. With refreshments prepared for an averaged-size crowd, the unusually large turn-out sent office workers scurrying out to stores after more food to set before the cooperative members. Better that, though, than to have to return half of what had already been purchased.

## Home Economics Group Will Meet In Chicago

Members of the Illinois Home Economics Association will have their annual convention November 3-4 in the Morrison Hotel, Chicago, Miss Mary Louise Chase, state president has announced. Theme of the conference will be "The Family in the World of Tomorrow."

## DAIRY FARMERS IN CLINTON COUNTY AREA GIVE CREDIT TO REA SERVICE

### Clarence Dickhaut Has All That's Needed For High User.

"Just bring it in and I'll use it." That was the comment made by Henry Dickhaut when rural electric energy for farmers in the Mascoutah area was first talked about several years ago in connection with organization of Clinton County Electric cooperative of Breese.

That Mr. Dickhaut has used electricity goes without saying today—for month after month his name has headed the list of top users of power among members of the cooperative. Not only did he accept electricity, but he also talked long and hard to other farmers in the area to interest them in signing up for REA cooperative service.

Mr. Dickhaut and his nearby neighbor, Harvey Klingelhofer, a member of the board of directors of Sinclair county Farm Bureau, are credited with having made possible the construction of a large section of line in their neighborhood principally because of their untiring efforts and their faith in the advantages which they foresaw in electricity—from both economic and social standpoints.

### Maximum User

From the position of "top man" on the system, you would expect Mr. Dickhaut to have and make maximum use of a number of electrical appliances—and so he does. His large dairy barn, constructed principally of white tile, contains, a ventilation system, water system, lights and milking machines. He credits his milking machines with enabling him to cut the time required for milking in half.

Mr. Dickhaut has a herd of thirty-nine head, the majority of which are registered Holsteins. He milks an average of twenty-four cows—a considerable task if the work had to be done by hand.

The milk house, which adjoins the residence, is also completely electrified and contains the most modern appliances for cooling milk. The top cow in the Dickhaut herd produces a record ten gallons of milk per day over a period of three to four months a year.

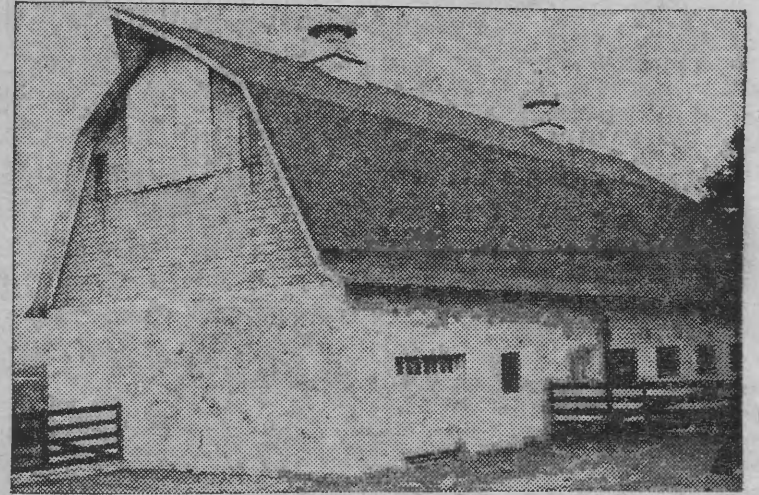
In addition to all of the usual household appliances, Mrs. Dickhaut proudly displays two electric ranges, hot water heater, refrigerator and home deep freezing unit. The Dickhaut farm buildings are most unusual, with the dairy barn, residence and milk house all constructed of attractive tile. The only link with the past in farm buildings is a 70-year-old frame barn, built of locally hewn timbers.

Mr. Dickhaut has an electrically-equipped farm shop which is the envy of many members on the system. In it, he can make all essential repairs on his machinery—thus saving money and time. In addition to several electric motors for operating various pieces of equipment, Mr. Dickhaut also has two electric brooders on the farm.

### Smart Business

Mr. Klingelhofer, also a dairy farmer, milks an average of fourteen cows. When home deep freeze units were suddenly rationed he took a long, shrewd look at the situation—decided he could save money by having one on the farm, and did what others on the system have since done. He bought an 8-hole ice cream storage box.

Going to St. Louis to make his first purchase, (his present box is his second) Mr. Klingelhofer was fortunate in being able to enter a market which was then considered a wartime sacrifice. Soda fountains were closing through the country when ice cream was rationed—and ice cream storage boxes were being sold or turned back to manufacturers at



WHAT THE WELL-BUILT DAIRY BARN LOOKS LIKE—This picture may give the farmer who is thinking of building a new dairy barn an idea or two on construction. Located on the Dickhaut farm, the barn is built principally of tile which easily can be kept clean. Only the trim around windows and roof need be painted. The inside of the barn is just as clean as the spic and span exterior would lead the observer to believe.

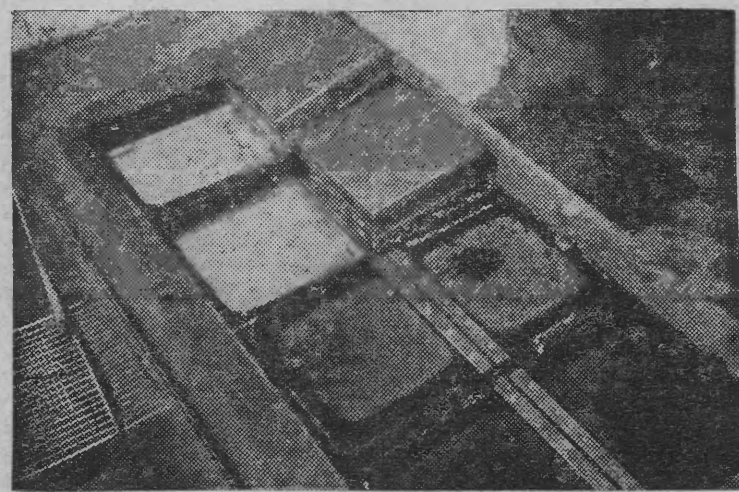
rock-bottom prices. Prices, however, have since gone skyward as dealers and manufacturers realized the new use to which the freezing units were being put by shrewd farmers.

The 8-hole box which the Klingelhofer family uses can hold a quarter of beef and two hogs and is operated by a one-third horse motor. It is located in the original farm residence, which has recently been replaced by a new modern home.

Like the Dickhaut residence, the Klingelhofer home is much more attractive, modern and comfortable than the majority of city dwellings. Both contain pressure water systems.

All of the newest pieces of electrical equipment needed to cool the average of forty-five gallons of milk produced daily by the Klingelhofer herd can be found in one spotlessly clean milk house. Mrs. Klingelhofer has the advantage of having a wide variety of home appliances and, recently, a hot water heater was added to the list. Chickens on the farm are raised by the aid of an electric brooder.

Prior to the establishment of the Clinton County Electric cooperative, farmers in the area who were anxious to get electricity sought service from a private utility which operates in the community. The cost of extend-



WHAT ONE SHREWD FARMER TRIED—Others have also tried, and found workable. Above is shown a view of the 8-hole ice cream storage box which has been pressed into service as a deep freeze unit by Mr. Klingelhofer. In the two compartments, shown with their lids opened, can be found enough meat and vegetables for many an evening meal.

ing service to farmsteads, however, made acquisition of electricity prohibitive—for the utility asked from \$800 to \$1100 per farm for service; far different from the \$5 membership fee required by the cooperative.

## Huge Quantity of Hybrid Corn is Grown in State

Three million bushels of hybrid seed corn, sufficient to plant 21 million acres next year, or more than twice the acreage planted in the state this year, is the estimate for the 1944 Illinois seed corn crop, according to Oren Bolin, assistant professor of plant genetics, University of Illinois college of agriculture. Bolin has just returned from an inspection trip to the seed corn fields of the Corn Belt. "Illinois is one of the very few

## Kenneth Bast Is First in Annual Junior Hog Show



Here is Kenneth Bast, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jake L. Bast, Tallula, Illinois, and the Duroc barrow that won first place at the Chicago Junior Market Hog Show held September 28th. Kenneth later sold the animal at auction for \$29 per cwt. This same pig was judged Grand Champion of the Menard County 4-H Fair at Petersburg earlier in the month. Second place was also awarded Junior Member Bast on a pen of five Durocs.

As a member of the F.F.A. group of the Petersburg High School, under the supervision of Max J. Worthington, Agriculture Instructor, Kenneth has participated in stock judging contests and other activities which have aided to keep him interested in swine raising. He is now a freshman at the University of Illinois.

The Bast's are members of the Menard Electric Cooperative and Kenneth has used several home-made electric pig brooders built from plans supplied by that Cooperative to protect the litters.

The 1944 hybrid seed corn crop in Illinois was the largest in the history of the state.