

ILLINOIS *REA* NEWS

The Voice of 58,000 Members

VOL. 2. NO. 8.

DECEMBER 20, 1944

SIXTEEN PAGES

Illinois REA Cooperatives To Take Commission Troubles To Governor

National NRECA Convention To Open In Texas On Jan. 17

San Antonio—one of the most interesting, historic and colorful cities in the United States, extends its Texan hospitality to the nation-wide delegations which are to attend the third annual meeting of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association there on January 16-17.

Established as a Spanish garrison in 1691 while Texas was a province of Spain, San Antonio is today a busy, bustling metropolis. A city of picturesque contrasts, it has long been a mecca for sightseers and travelers. Crowded among towering buildings in the downtown section are many beautiful old structures erected in the 18th century by Spanish priests and military governors of the province of "Tejas." The historic Alamo occupies the central plaza in the heart of modern San Antonio. Missions of the early monks still stand in a half circle about the city.

The largest and most impressive military aviation training unit in the world is Randolph Field, the West Point of the Air, located near San Antonio. Several other flying fields are also located adjacent to San Antonio.

Texas, in the field of rural electrification, will also stimulate interest for those who are to partake of its hospitality incident to the national convention of REA cooperatives from across the nation. The first REA-financed line in this country was built in Central Texas and today the state claims 73 active rural electric cooperatives, serving over 92,000 farm families. One of the largest, if not the largest, REA cooperatives in the world is in operation in Texas now, with over 6,000 members.

Program in Preparation

Although a number of distinguished speakers are being secured for the convention program, ample time is being reserved for full discussion and consideration of business. All convention sessions will be held at the Municipal Auditorium, where space is also being assigned for many manufacturers' exhibits of interest to REA membership and administration. The Plaza Hotel has been established as convention headquarters. There are

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Three Directors Chosen to Board of NRECA at Meeting in Dubuque

ILLINOIS NAMES WELSH; STONEMAN ON EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

E. J. Stoneman of Platteville, Wis., president of the National Rural Electric Cooperative association, was unanimously elected a member of the executive committee of the NRECA board at a meeting of delegates from Region 5 on November 28 at the annual regional meeting in Dubuque, Iowa.



E. J. STONEMAN

Mr. Stoneman also was elected a member of the NRECA board from Wisconsin. Other directors elected to the NRECA board from the other two states in the region are G. Wayne Welsh of Sciota, representing Illinois, and Benjamin Jasper of Steamboat Rock, Iowa, representing Iowa.

The election was held in accordance with recently amended by-laws of the NRECA which calls for greater representation on the national board through the election of one member to the directorship from each state in which there are one or more NRECA members. The by-laws also provide that one state-wide director

from each region be named to the NRECA executive committee.

The new board and executive committee will take office as directors of NRECA affairs at the national meeting in San Antonio, Tex., next month. Officers of the national association board will be selected from the executive committee.

Mr. Stoneman, who was elected president of the NRECA at the national meeting of the association this year in Chicago, therefore, seems likely to be returned to that office for another year at the Texas session.

The election of representatives from Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin took place at individual state caucuses prior to the naming of executives (Turn to Page Thirteen).

WELCOME M.J.M. CO-OP

MEMBERS OF M.J.M. ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE: The Illinois REA News and its growing thousands of state-wide readers are happy this month to welcome you as new subscribers. Remember, this publication is YOURS. We all are working hard to make it the outstanding REA publication it can become through cooperative effort and constructive criticism.

In its pages you will find something of interest to you all—mother, dad, son and daughter. You can get acquainted with other cooperative members on neighboring REA projects. We're all one, big family—and this publication is our way of saying: "Howdy, neighbor, what's doing on your REA project this month?"

Let your manager, A. C. Barnes, or your directors know about things of interest going on about you and your neighborhood so that we can tell the rest of the state about the M.J.M. COOPERATIVE. We're proud of our cooperative—and we'd like the other REA cooperatives in Illinois to share that pride.

Seek Agreement With Power Firms To Help Postwar Plans

SLATTERY RESIGNS



HARRY SLATTERY

Harry Slattery, Administrator of REA since 1939, submitted his resignation to President Roosevelt which was accepted to become effective on December 8. No announcement has been made regarding an immediate successor. It is possible that the appointment will be withheld for some time, with Deputy William J. Neal acting as the administrator.

Mr. Slattery, in commenting on his resignation, charged that his authority had been by-passed by the Secretary of Agriculture and that changes in policy and personnel had been made contrary to provisions of the original Act. He proposes, according to press announcements, to carry his fight to the public.

Speculation at this time offers no basis on which to report various alternatives.

Agriculture Gives Favorable Report On Lucas Bill

The Department of Agriculture has submitted a favorable report on S. 2029, the Lucas Bill, now pending before the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry. This, of course, will be a great help when the legislation comes up for consideration in committee and later when it reaches the Senate floor.

Congressional leaders now contemplate adjournment by mid-December and both the Senate and House are working on the calendar of "must" bills to be acted upon before the session ends. The fact that party leadership does not change in the 79th Congress is a major incentive to committee activity in these final weeks before adjournment. Spade work at this time will expedite the procedure in the new Congress even though bills must be reintroduced when the measures now pending automatically die with the current session.

May Try Compromise Or Legislation to End Current Problems

Feeling that an equitable solution of problems facing the Illinois REA cooperatives with respect to decisions made by the Illinois Commerce Commission should be reached as soon as possible, members of the legislative committee of the Association of Illinois Electric cooperatives met December 15 in Springfield with the Illinois rural electrification committee to determine a decisive course of action.

As matters now stand, REA cooperatives of the state, basing their views on decisions handed down by the commission in two cases involving Illinois REA projects, are of the opinion that the commission classifies REA cooperatives as utility companies and desires them placed under commission jurisdiction.

The problem of settling the differences existing between the cooperatives and the commission, apparently is tied in with several delicate questions, the answers to which must be found before a basis of complete understanding can be reached.

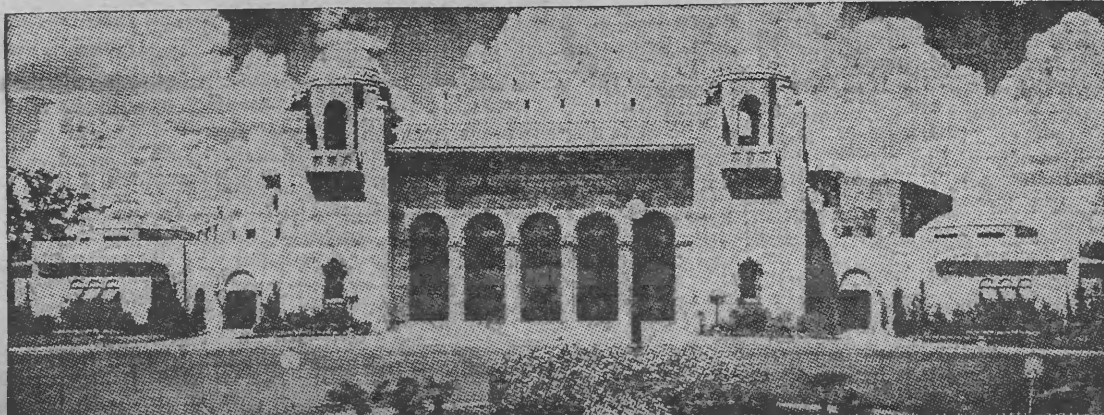
Need Answers

These questions include: The reason for the commission deciding that REA cooperatives should now be subject to commission jurisdiction when they have been free of such regulations for eight years. What right did the commission have in barring an REA cooperative in a hearing—an action which in itself seems to have no parallel at state commerce commission hearings? Can a commerce commission over-rule a WPB order in granting certificates of convenience to a public utility company, thus paving the way for court action to prevent the construction of lines by an REA cooperative?

What is behind the principal litigant's (Illinois Power company) actions in bringing about commission decisions favorable to public utilities and unfavorable to REA cooperatives? Do public utilities hope to bring area coverage to farm areas or are they going to be allowed to carry on "cream-skimming" operations—building to a selected few farms and letting the remainder of farms in thinly settled districts remain in the dark?

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NATIONAL DELEGATES WILL CONVENE HERE FOR CONVENTION BUSINESS



Co-op Index

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Illinois REA News

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RUSSELL J. GINGLES, Editor

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Here 'n there
in ILLINOIS
by RUSSELL J. GINGLES

Dear Readers:

As we review this hectic year with its joys and sorrows, its laughs and occasional tears we look at our speedometer and ponder what the miles recorded represent.

In some ways, these last twelve months have been much like a ride on a merry-go-round . . . we got on and off at the same place, and went round and round in the process. Our job was much as the pictures on this page show . . . visits to large farms, small rural dwellings, farm shops, annual meetings and chats by the side of the road with farmers busy at a hundred and one things.

We have no doubt that scenes like the one taken by Ted Hafer of a farm home in the cold, clear winter night are in the offing in the central and northern portions of the state this month or next.

The year, 1944, has been a busy one for all of us . . . and your editor has watched and admired you as you've boosted production to previously unheard of peaks. Many of your sons and daughters have left the comfort of your farms to join the armed forces. Christmas this year was an unusually quiet and solemn occasion for most of us whose thoughts today stray often to ship at sea or to battlefields in distant lands. Some of us have lost from our family circle those we have loved and cherished.

So as we bid goodbye to 1944, we find in it many things to remember tenderly as well as moments we would like to forget. It's been a harum-scarum year full of life at its best and bitterest.

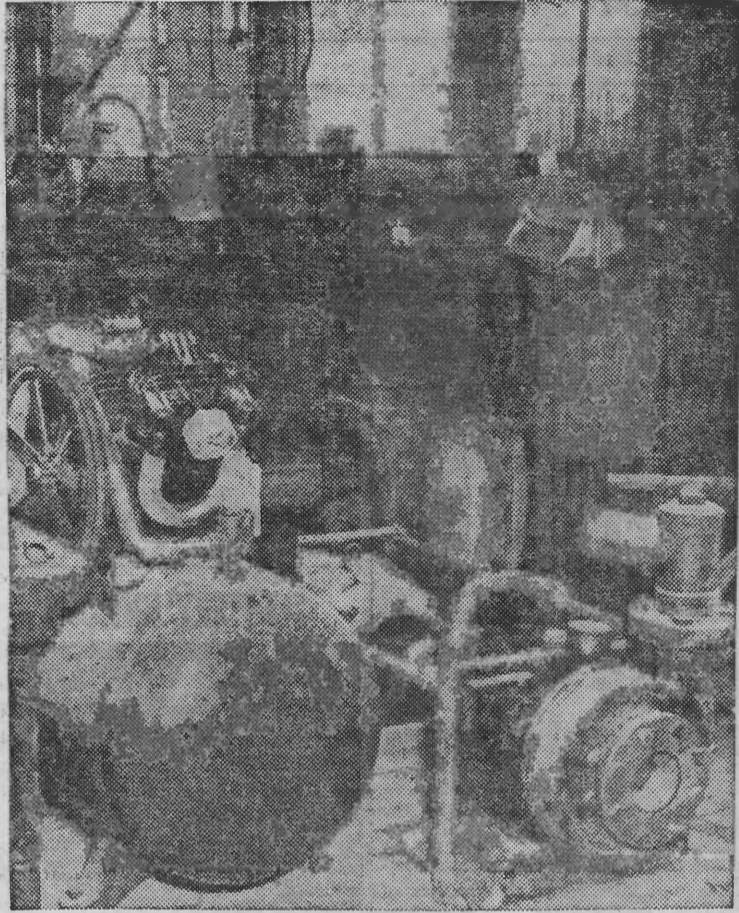
We know not what the future holds for any of us . . . but with God's help we'll see it through. Bring on 1945 say we and let us keep chins up and go forward to victory in war and peace . . . so that the gold stars which shine today in our neighbors' windows may not tarnish in the years ahead for lack of sympathetic understanding or bumbling foresight in meeting a grim world's problems.

Jack Frost was never in better form than during his fall visit this year in Illinois.

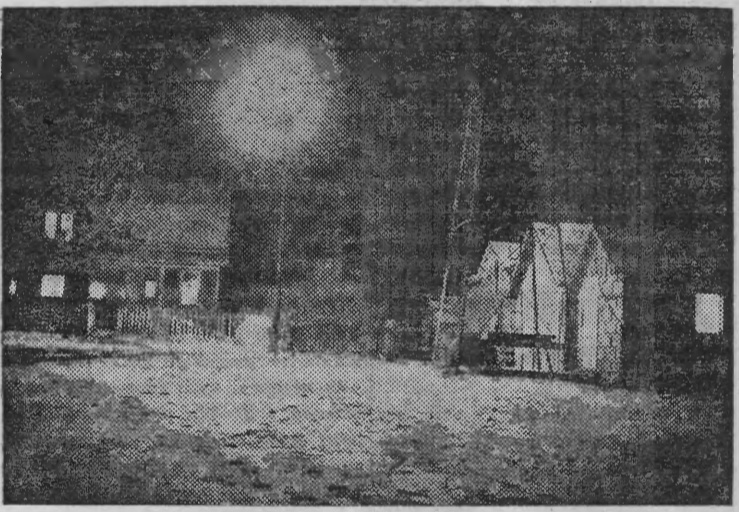
The countryside was splashed with a variety of colors—red, brown, green and yellow combining to make masterpieces painted by the old masters seem drab by comparison.

As we moved through the state by automobile, train and bus, the beauty of the autumn leaves, it seems, was glorious enough to keep the troubled brows of most motorists from becoming too furrowed over dwindling gas coupons and the occasional flapping of un-capped re-caps. From Jo Daviess county in the north to the Ozark mountain gap and the rolling country around Dongola in the south, Illinois this fall could have challenged the frost-tinted landscapes of any state

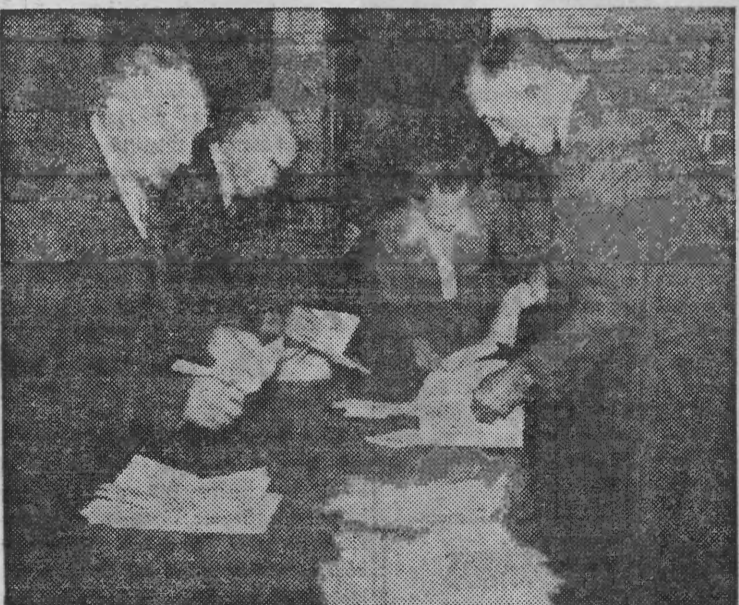
Season's Greetings-Hail '45



WHAT EVERY QUARRY NEEDS—A big air compressor and water pump are shown in the foreground in this interior view of the Jonesboro Stone company's quarry work near Dongola. In the background may be seen an electrically operated drill. All are served by power from Southern Electric cooperative.



WON'T BE LONG NOW—With cold weather snapping at the heels of Illinois residents, night farm scenes, like that shown above, are just around the corner. The picture, taken by T. E. Hafer, manager of Corn Belt Electric cooperative of Bloomington, is a time exposure "shot" of Mrs. Pauline Wurzbarger's farm, located four miles southeast of Bloomington.



BEHIND THE SCENES ON AN IMPORTANT OCCASION—It's ballot-counting time at the M. J. M. Electric cooperative annual meeting, and Edward Klekamp, Litchfield; Arthur Stadler, Carlinville; Oscar Rentoul, Jerseyville, and Verna Rodgers, office secretary, take care of the job in workmanlike style.

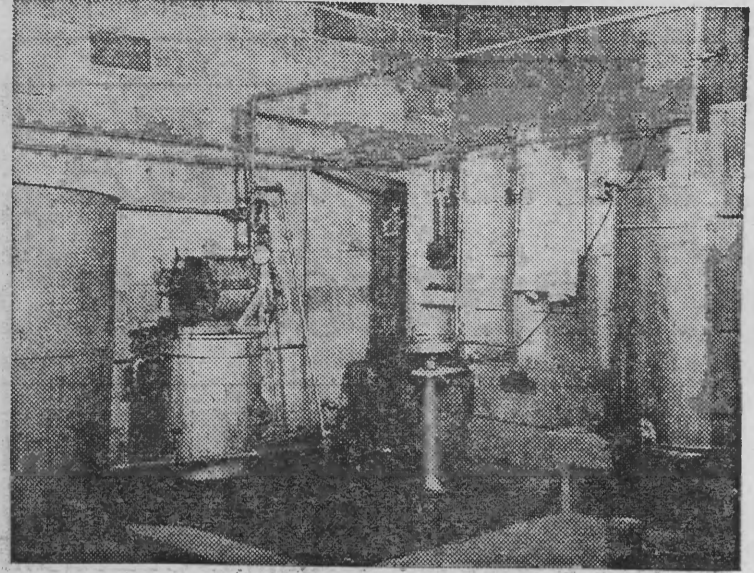
in the union and won without re-touching a single leaf or shrub.

And . . . as if to compensate for the beauties of last fall, Illinois this month gave her residents one of the most rousing snow storms in many years. Roads south of Springfield were blocked for several days, and

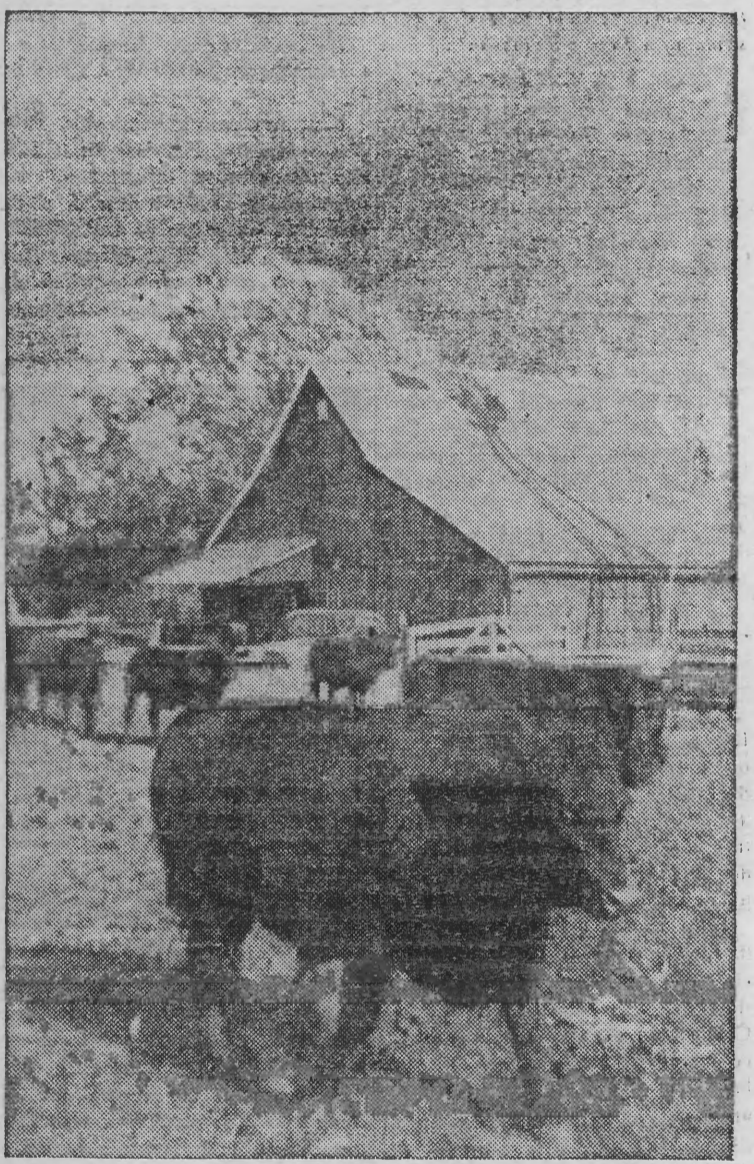
such sliding and careening around haven't been seen since grandpa dumped over a churnful of freshly made butter.

Claude Wickard, U. S. secretary of agriculture, had an experience common to many public speakers when remarks he did not make cropped up in at least one report of

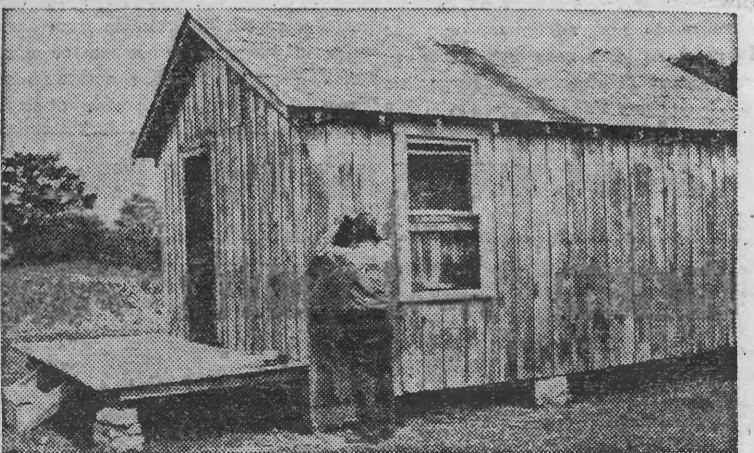
(Turn to Page Fifteen)



WHERE HONEY FLOWS—Above is a view of the interior of the Illinois Honey Producers Association, Inc., plant of Mount Sterling, a cooperatively operated venture which served more than a dozen beekeepers in the Petersburg area. On top of a small tank to the left of the other equipment in the picture is a filter which was made and used for some time in the past by W. J. Hoyt Taylor, Menard Electric cooperative member of Pleasant Plains.



BOUND FOR MARKET—A very small portion of the large herd of Angus steers, which are readied for market in the feed lot on the Kenton Loffitus farm, is shown above. In the background is a windmill which has given way to electricity, provided by McDonough Power cooperative of Macomb.



Long extensions or short extensions, they're all the same to George Endicott, manager of Southern Illinois Electric cooperative of Dongola, who believes that electricity is just as important to the residents of small houses as it is to the owners of pretentious dwellings on extensively equipped farms. Mr. Endicott is shown above "caught in the act" of placing a meter on Otis Anderson's modest dwelling, located ten miles northwest of Metropolis, one of the residents in the area recently connected under U-1-f extension remissions.

Protest Is Filed By Farmers With Illinois Officials; Service Is Sought From REA



LOOKS LIKE A TOUGH WINTER AHEAD—For Joseph DeMay of near Annawan as he and his little son, Danny, console each other before a throbbing gasoline engine upon which the DeMays place their faith in pumping water for hogs and cattle. Mr. DeMay started out, after a final inspection of the engine (a borrowed one at that), to secure as many signatures as possible on a petition to allow Farmers Mutual Electric cooperative to serve his area. So far, construction of the line has been blocked by the Illinois Power company, which recently connected six farms in the heart of the community, and secured a temporary injunction against the co-op restraining it from building further lines in the area.

Power Company Gets Order To Thwart Co-op

Backed by the signatures of more than twenty irate farmers, all of whom reside in the Annawan area in northern Illinois, letters have gone forward this month to Governor Dwight H. Green, district representatives in the state and Judge Leonard Telleen, circuit judge, asking that REA service be extended to the area as quickly as possible.

Construction of lines in the territory by Farmers Mutual Electric cooperative of Geneseo has been halted by a temporary injunction issued by Judge Telleen at the request of the Illinois Power company restraining the cooperative from further work in the area. The cooperative has filed its answer to the injunction and further consideration of a permanent order is now being considered by the judge.

Prior to the temporary injunction, the power company had been granted certificates of convenience to serve the area by the Illinois Commerce Commission despite the fact that the co-op rather than the power company had received War Production Board approval for building the disputed line. The case now hinges on the respective authority of the commission and WPB over which has the final word in the matter.

WPB Approval

Attached to the signed letters are photostatic copies of the approval given by WPB to the cooperative.

Farms in the area have been wired for months and enough poles were set, wires strung and transformers installed to serve eleven farms within ONE DAY after the temporary injunction was issued. Walter Parson, manager of the cooperative, said that the co-op could have brought service to the entire territory within approximately FIVE DAYS from the time the court order was announced.

Incongruous as it may seem, farmers in the area at present are forced to carry lanterns to their barns before dawn and after dusk while walking disconsolately beneath yard lights and under service wires which the cooperative is forbidden to energize.

Considerable time, effort and money have gone into the construction of the line and various wiring jobs which now stand idle. Small wonder that farmers in the area express themselves as being "disgusted,

disgruntled, disappointed and fighting mad."

The sight of a new transformer, meter base, yard lights, service wires and new un-used light switches should gladden the heart of any farmer—but not, wrathfully say these farmers, when the equipment is purely ornamental. Several of the farmers have electrical appliances ready for use and many have made plans to purchase equipment the minute service is available.

In citing their case, the rural residents say:

"We need electric service to operate our grain elevators, milking machines, pumps, etc., in support of the war effort. We contend that we are victims of circumstances and we want to file a protest."

Case History

The history of the case goes back about twenty years, when farmers said efforts were made in vain to get service from the Illinois Power company whose lines practically surround the area.

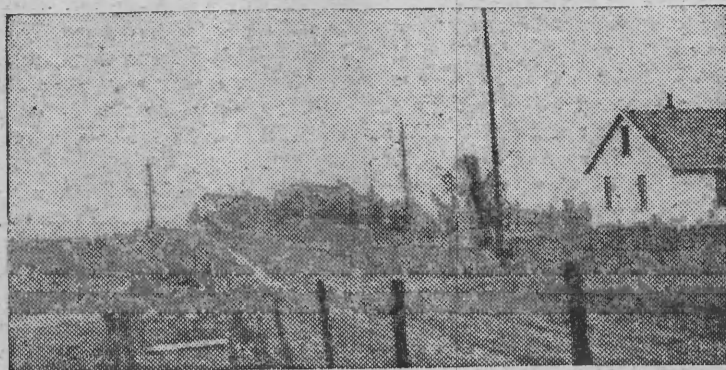
In 1941 the farmers appealed to Farmers Mutual Electric cooperative for service and a survey was immediately made and approval from REA granted to build the desired line. Wartime restrictions, however, interfered and the project was postponed. The proposed construction program was revived in January, 1944, and WPB approval obtained to start work. At this point, farmers, in their letters, say:

"The cooperative was making preparations to extend their line to serve us when, between the dates of January 20 and January 29 of this year, the Illinois Power company extended their lines into the center of the area, providing service for six farmsteads. "The company made no effort to provide us with service. We contend it did this for the specific purpose of preventing the cooperative from serving the entire area."

In taking their case directly to their elected representatives and the circuit court judge, farmers, therefore, have petitioned them to "assist by using your influence in order that the cooperative may be permitted to complete its program in providing us with electric service at the earliest possible date."

Allied armies of liberation found cooperatives functioning more or less normally in liberated Belgium.

Feedlot trials prove there is little or no truth in the belief that cattle with wide muzzles and heads gain weight more rapidly than those with narrower heads or muzzles.



CONSTRUCTION HALTED—This is one example of what is happening in the Annawan area, where REA poles, some of them wired and with transformers installed and others standing ready to be wired, had been set to bring service to more than twenty farms when the court ordered suspension of further activity.

Dairymen Need Power To Reach Market Goals

NOT JUST CONVENIENCE SAYS A. L. STEIN OF CLINTON COUNTY

Electricity is not only a convenience, it's a necessity these days for farmers who want to sell their milk commercially in the St. Louis milk shed, says A. L. Stein, Clinton County Electric cooperative member, who resides a mile southwest of Shattuc.

Mr. Stein was one of the leaders in bringing REA service to his area and he and his neighbors, he said, have never regretted a minute time spent in signing up members in the community.

Typical of the hard-working dairymen in the Clinton County territory, Mr. Stein milks an average of seventeen cows and keeps a herd of thirty-four on his place throughout the year. Although not all of his top producing Holsteins are registered, they are all of purebred stock and he recently has been recording registration papers on his herd as time permits.

His young herd, with cows averaging no older than 2½ years, produces 50 gallons of milk per day. Mildred, grand champion at this year's Clinton County Black and White show held on the Stein farm, gave 38 pounds of milk per day, with 38 per cent butter fat, during her first test period.

Milking Machine

Mr. Stein says he has reduced milking time to a minimum with his milking machine, his records showing that in un-electrified days it used to take four to milk the herd in one and a half hours, whereas milking machines and two men can do the same job in three quarters of an hour.

Most dairymen are big users of electricity, and Mr. Stein is no exception, averaging between 400, to 500 KWH per month. In addition to his milking machine, he has a modern milk house where milk is cooled by electricity and where other equip-

ment is kept clean and above inspection levels. His barn, as well as all other buildings on the farm, is electrically lighted. Mr. Stein raises five or six calves per year and is continually striving to get top quality production from his herd. He also keeps a large flock of laying hens and raises his chickens by means of an electric brooder.

And—as if all of these things weren't enough for one man to do—Mr. Stein is a substitute rural mail carrier; a job which last summer almost threatened to become permanent when the regular carrier, was inducted into the army and no regular carrier could be found. Mr. Stein, therefore, breathed much easier recently when the man for whom he was filling in was released from army duty and returned to his former carrier's job.

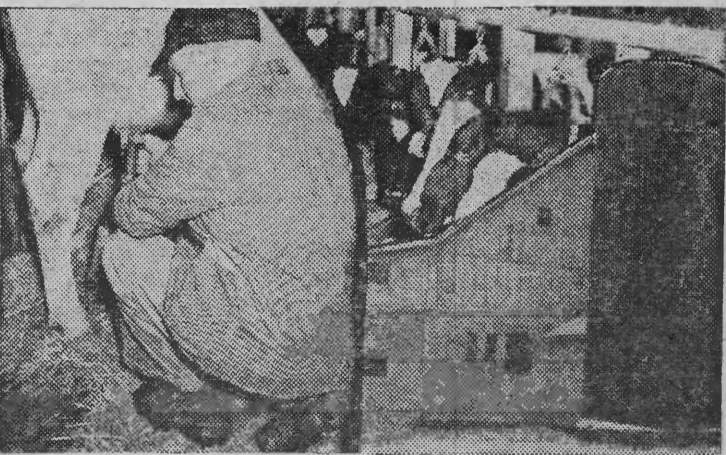
He also is doing his extra bit for the war effort and, in the sixth war loan drive as in all the other drives which have preceded it, Mr. Stein, was out canvassing his neighbors getting them to invest more and more money in the fight for victory.

The section of line on which Mr. Stein's farm is located was connected on April 1, 1940. "It might have been April Fool's day to some," he smiles, "but the farmers around here knew that weren't being fooled when we got electricity."

New Directors Are Elected At I.A.A. Meeting

John Butterfield of Pana and La Rue Tice of Shelbyville are new directors of the Illinois Agricultural association.

Governor Dwight Green told the association delegates that funds will be sought at the next meeting of the Illinois assembly to finance a college of veterinary science at the University of Illinois. Subject also to legislative approval, he said, will be proposals for flood control and drainage problems to cost approximately \$5,500,000. Assurance of a steady income for farm families, he asserted, is the "best way to improve farm living conditions in matters of housing, plumbing, POWER and educational opportunities.



NO WONDER A. L. STEIN IS ONE OF CLINTON COUNTY'S TOP DAIRYMEN—Here he is shown, left, milking his Blue Ribbon Holstein, while the other two pictures in the group give readers a glimpse of his herd, his dairy barn and well filled silo.

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

ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of your Co-operative will be held in the Geneseo City Building, Saturday, January 27, 1945, at 1:30 P. M. Mark your calendars for that date and be sure and attend.

Officers whose terms expire are Charles Yager, William Meier and William Keag. The nominating committee, in recognition of the very satisfactory manner in which these gentlemen have served their Cooperative, nominated for reelection, Messrs. Yager and Meier and Maurice Lewis to fill the vacancy of Mr. Keag who has decided to quit farming and therefore is not eligible for reelection.

Reports on the past year's activities will be given by your Manager and officers. Plans for the coming year will also be discussed. Further announcement concerning the meeting will be mailed to you.

COME—and bring your neighboring Cooperative members with you. You members that receive proxy forms within the next few days, please execute and return to the Cooperative.

The Board of Directors, Manager and personnel extend to the members of the Cooperative cordial seasonal greetings.

New Operations Head Is Selected

T. J. Robertson, NRECA Director for Region 8, President of Arkansas State Electric Cooperative and Manager of Craighead Electric Cooperative at Jonesboro, Ark., is now chief of the Rural Electrification Administration's Operations Division. His appointment at St. Louis was effective Nov. 16.

In his official capacity as NRECA Regional Director, Mr. Robertson has had extensive contacts with REA cooperatives. He has a sympathetic understanding of co-op problems and his new position will afford opportunity for REA and the cooperatives to work in complete harmony in trying to find their solution.

Mr. Robertson was born on a farm near Black Lake, Lawrence County, Arkansas. He has had wide experience in the design and construction of electrical transmission and distribution systems, substations and power plants and is recognized as being exceptionally well qualified for

Sinatra Croon? Just Moos, Show Officials Find

Sinatra isn't a crooner at all, but just a short horn which placed first in his class at the recent Chicago Junior fat stock show, as far as Willard Nelson of Geneseo is concerned. And, even if Sinatra (the bovine variety) can't warble a note, Willard's entry has done considerable more than the original idol of the bobby sox brigade could have done under the same conditions. Sandy Schulte, Easton, took second.

Lyle Kemmis of Prophetstown, and formerly of Geneseo, placed second in the Angus steer class. Miriam and Robert Meyer of Crescent City and Keith Schertz of Benson were in the money with their Chester White and Duroc Jersey barrows, along with Harold Nelson of Morris. The championship of the show went to a Chester White hog entered by Raymond Taylor of Kentland, Ind.

NEWS FROM
Adams

Camp Point, Ill.

DEAN SEARLS, Supt.

Report Promptly

May we point out to the membership again in this issue the extreme importance of reporting to us immediately line outages, broken insulators, poles washed out, or faulty or hazardous condition existing either on primary line or the service to the members' premises to the meter. Not only can much added expense to the co-op be avoided but indirectly to you members as well as if we have such information as soon as possible.

High Users

Your co-op is pleased with the large number of its members appearing on the high-KWH-users list this month. These members have discovered the many important uses which can be made of electric service—the cheapest farm labor that can be had. We are hopefully looking forward to the time when others will allow this farm service work for them to the extent as did many of the following:

High KWH Users

Tragedy Strikes

Tragedy struck your cooperative recently resulting in the death of Dorothy Jean Helmreich, 7, and her brother, Ronald, 3. Both are children of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Helmreich, members of Adams Electric cooperative for two and a half years.

The two children were fatally burned when an explosion, believed to have been caused when gasoline fumes or the fuel itself ignited, setting fire to the back seat of the family automobile in which the youngsters were riding. The parents of the children were also burned trying to remove their son and daughter from the blazing car.

Mr. Helmreich said that the family was enroute home from a school entertainment when the blast occurred. He testified that a gasoline heater had been used to warm the interior of the car while it was parked outside the school, but that the flame had been extinguished before the trip home started.

It was thought that some of the gasoline from the faulty heater may have dripped through the floorboards of the car onto the hot exhaust pipe or that fumes created by the heater may have ignited, touching off the fatal blast. Both children attended St. Peter Lutheran church at Lost Prairie.

With the line building crew reserving all available time after the necessary maintenance and operation of existing lines is taken care of, new construction of short extensions is progressing steadily. However, the problem of labor and line building materials is included among the many war-time shortages and must be faced as well. The following names as indicated with an asterisk comprise those particular extensions built under War Production Board Orders U-1-c and U-1-f:

New Members

S. Glenn and Ether A. Spencer*
Esther C. Scarborough*
John F. and Sarah Reeder
Squire and Nettie Warrington*
Geo. and Leona Post*
John and Hazel Beadles*
J. L. and Alta H. McPhail*
George and Margaret Kassing*
Richard C. and Millie King*
Loretta Agans
Harlan and Jessie Test
K. A. and Eloise N. Morgan
John and Bertha Seibel*
Everett and Florence Sparks*
Elmer J. and Hilda Dickman*

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR
NOVEMBER

Total Billing	\$7,450.84
Average Bill	\$4.53
Average KWH Used	72
Total KWH Sold	119,372
Total Members Billed	1,642
Total Miles of Line	695

NEW APPLIANCES

CLEANER—Chas. D. VanOrmer

Home-made Electrical Equipment
Helps Him Farm 430 Acres Alone

"If somebody told me today that they were going to turn off my electricity, I'd do just one thing—get in my car, go down to the nearest newspaper office and have some sale bills printed. I just couldn't operate my farm without power."

This is what Francis H. West, member of Western Illinois Electric cooperative of Carthage, thinks of his REA service. Many other farmers probably feel the same way, but none can be more sincere about the benefit received from electric power than this hard-working farmer who is today doing all of his own work on his 430 acres.

The thing that has helped Mr. West considerably in his farm work has been his unusual ability to perfect home-made, labor-saving devices which can be operated with electricity. He has fourteen motors on his place, and all of them are doing a maximum job.

Model Barn

His new, model barn is remarkably adapted to the use of electricity. Aside from his home-made elevator, which is combined with a feed grinder, overhead bin and mixing hopper; Mr. West has perfected an electrically-operated hay fork. By means of an overhead trolley, he can regulate the fork so that it can pick up and carry at one time several bales of hay from a wagon into the loft and drop them where the operator desires.

Motors in the barn include a one-third horse on the grain elevator and a one-horse on the grinder. The new barn is about 50 feet high and

and Russell Vollbracht.

CLOCK—Frank Rohn and Raymond Wellman.

IRON—Herschel Hoffman and Lloyd Beaton.

LAMP—Oscar Davis (table) and Lawrence Lewis (floor).

MOTOR—W. E. Bartlow (washer), Roscoe Derry (washer), Harold Etter (separator) and Ralph M. Wood.

WASHER—Herschel Hoffman and Chas. D. VanOrmer.

MISCELLANEOUS—C. F. Bienhoff, water system and furnace blower; Harold Etter, pump jack; Vail Hale, separator; L. G. McDonald, pump; Virgil Spears, deep well pump; Zelma Waner, milking machine; Ralph M. Wood, pump jack.

Notice Members

We have learned that a newly-developed electric stock tank heater has been purchased by the following dealers and firms.

If you are interested in this type of equipment, we suggest that you get in touch with any of these listed: C. O. Thompson, La Prairie; Emil Sherrick, Loraine; Chatten Implement Company, Quincy; C. C. Lawless, Camp Point, and Orin Black, Golden.

Safety Meeting

A two-day safety conference for Illinois REA co-op superintendents and line foremen was attended by Dean Searls and J. R. Carpenter.

This meeting was held at REA headquarters, St. Louis, on December 11 and 12. Representatives from nearly all of the twenty-seven cooperatives attended this meeting in spite of the heavy snowfall and adverse weather conditions.

The primary purpose of this meeting was to promote the interest of safety among REA linemen and to permit mutual problems to be discussed with other cooperative line foremen and superintendents and personnel from REA headquarters.

Mr. J. R. Carpenter received the honor of being appointed to a five-man Resolutions Committee which after much careful study offered resolutions pertaining to line construction, safety practices, and changes in REA construction which were unanimously adopted by the Conference.

(Turn to Page Thirteen)

replaces an older structure which was destroyed by fire several months ago. Nearby the barn stands Mr. West's farm shop containing a number of tools with which he is able to make all his own repairs as well as construct the various pieces of equipment which make his farm work a little easier.

A safe distance from the barn and farm shop is the West's 76-year-old, modernized, picturesque residence.

Plenty of Light

One of Mr. West's yard lights is almost of the airplane beacon variety. It is located at the tip of an abandoned windmill tower and its 300-watt bulb is powerful enough to cast shadow in a school yard about a quarter of a mile away.

"You'd be surprised," Mr. West said, "how handy that light is at night and early in the morning. Why, one of the neighbors says he can almost see to do his chores by it."

Mr. West is a member of the Purebred Polled Hereford Association of Illinois and he manages to have approximately 90 head on the place throughout the year. He raises most of his own cattle, his prize herd bull being Buster Domino, a 2-year-old.

When completed, Mr. West's farm shop will be one of the outstanding shops of its kind in the area—when that time will be, however, depends much on the spare moments allowed a man who farms 430 acres by himself.

SEEK AGREEMENT—

(From Page One)

When these, and other questions, are answered members of the state-wide committee feel that an understanding will be reached so that public utility companies and REA cooperatives can proceed with the job of electrifying the farm homes of the nation now and in the post-war period.

To Meet Governor

To pave the way for a common basis of thought regarding the REA cooperative program, members of the state-wide association's legislative committee will meet soon with Governor Dwight Green.

Governor Green, it was felt, should be thoroughly informed of the commission's actions and given facts to substantiate the reasons why REA cooperatives should remain outside the jurisdiction of the commission.

At this conference, the governor may be asked by the cooperatives to revive the now practically dormant Illinois rural-electrification committee; sanction an appropriation to permit the committee hiring one or two men to make whatever surveys are deemed necessary, and cloak the committee with authority so that its decisions, reached after a thorough study between public utility and REA cooperative fields of operations, will be accepted as sound by the commerce commission if disputes over rural territory should arise.

Asks Conference

William R. Bach of Bloomington, attorney for Corn Belt Electric cooperative, expressed the opinion that the "commission has made a mistake and I think they recognize it." He said that the governor has a right to be heard before being criticized and called for a conference between representatives of REA cooperatives in Illinois and commission members to "iron out these problems." He urged the group to try conciliation first before taking any drastic court action.

While no definite action was taken by the two groups at the session, the consensus seemed to be that a protracted court fight would not be undertaken until all means of compromise had been exhausted.

Senator Attends

Senator Simon E. Lantz of Con-



TAKES A HANDY MAN—But, then, that is just exactly what Mr. West is—a handy man if ever there was one. He is shown beside one of his prize home-made pieces of equipment. Shelled corn is dumped into the elevator at the extreme left, and taken to an overhead bin from where it flows by gravity into the hopper (shown at the top, center of the picture), and then down through a feed grinder and into the floor bin. To save scooping the feed out of the floor hopper, Mr. West plans to build an electrically-operated conveyor to take the feed from the floor into an adjoining bin.



SPARE TIME WORK—When and if Mr. West has any spare time, he puts it to good use—one use being to build his own rubber-tired wagons in his farm shop before which he is standing. Junked auto wheels in the foreground come in handy in building operations.

gerville, chairman of the important Illinois agricultural committee, censured the commerce commission for its reported action in barring the Illinois Electric cooperative from participating in a commission hearing, adding that the commission was established to protect the public and not the public utilities. He suggested that complete information be given the governor and that legislation possibly be introduced to prevent utilities from interfering with REA plans for area coverage.

An interesting sidelight on the meeting was a statement attributed to John D. Biggs, chairman of the commission, who was quoted as having said that the commission did not want the REA cooperatives under its jurisdiction, but that the law seemed to dictate otherwise.

Howard Leonard, director of the Illinois department of agriculture, said that the rural electrification committee of Illinois had not been called upon to function in its former advisory capacity between REA and public utility interests since its paid full-time employees were released in 1943 and material shortages seemed to preclude the possibility for further construction of rural electric lines. He said, however, that he would be glad to do all he could do to help straighten out the existing difficulties and stated that the committee would be happy to function as in the past if money was available for hiring assistants to gather the necessary facts.

As the groups pressed for definite action, Max Wineberg, attorney for Adams and Western Illinois Electric cooperatives, suggested two courses to follow—"try to get the commission

to reconsider the case, allowing it to gracefully reserve itself; or to seek legislative action to specifically exclude REA cooperatives from coming under the commission's ruling."

W. R. Harris, McDonough Power Electric cooperative attorney, held in favor of legislation, expressing doubt that conciliation would work. Louis Gorrin, chief of the REA litigation department, explained the delays which cooperatives would experience under commission ruling and stated that cooperatives would be faced with greater financial burdens in their construction programs if forced to comply with commission regulations or fight through red tape objections.

E. W. Lehmann of the University of Illinois and a member of the Illinois committee, explained that functions of the group included seeing that farmers received maximum service at minimum cost and that service was not duplicated by REA and public utility interests.

G. Wayne Welsh presided. Among those attending were W. H. Kooce and Charles Schuman of the state-wide legislation committee; Walter Risser, president of Corn Belt; A. E. Becker, manager of Menard Electric co-op and French Fraker, Illinois attorney, in addition to those quoted in this article.

A new Liberty ship bears the name, "Will B. Otwell," in memory of an Illinois farmer who pioneered in farm youth work.

If the farmer received the same hourly rate as the industrial worker, farm prices would have to be more than doubled.

New Member Elected To Board of Jo-Carroll; Rename All Officers

Members of Jo-Carroll Electric Cooperative, Inc., braved slippery roads, cold weather and a heavy storm on December 5 to assemble in Lincoln school gymnasium, Savana, for their fifth annual meeting and to welcome to their board of directors a new member—Carl Maring of Chadwick.

Mr. Maring succeeded Chester Alexander, also of Chadwick, who retired from the board after serving four years to give, he said, "another man from my territory a chance to see from the inside what the REA cooperative is doing."

Other directors and officers, were reelected as follows: Everett R. Read, Elizabeth, president; E. L. Dauphin, Savana, vice president; Morris W. Birkbeck, Galena, treasurer; Mrs. Berniece Moore, Hanover, secretary; Harry J. Stanger, Hanover; Frank Bonjour, Apple River; Henry Goldmacher, Chadwick, and Henry Dittmar, Elizabeth.

Interest paid on REA loans to date totals \$32,433.91 as against a previous total of \$17,810.20.

The cooperative, he said, still has \$78,658.40 remaining in its loan contract fund and maintains a large balance in the bank in its construction fund. Since the cooperative started operation, May 15, 1940, until the present time, "no losses have been incurred as a result of loans made to members for wiring installations or through failure of any member to pay his bill—and we are very proud of this record," Mr. Birkbeck stated. Passage of the Pace bill, the secretary declared, will mean a saving of \$3600 per year in interest to the cooperative. In addition its regular monthly interest payments, the cooperative has decreased its indebtedness by \$4000 this year.

Considerable progress has been made by the cooperative during the year despite material and labor short-

Pays To Advertise; Southern REA Tells Story Through Newspapers



... finds money well spent.

You can't tell George Endicott, manager of Southern Illinois Electric cooperative and his board of directors that newspaper advertising doesn't pay. They've got results to back up their statements.

The book, which Mr. Endicott, above, has before him on his desk contains the names of 450 community leaders who answered newspaper advertisements inserted by the cooperative to line up all rural residents in the area who might be interested in getting electric service in the postwar era.

The names of these community leaders, representing 1800 potential members, were secured through the expenditure of \$500 in advertising in one daily and eleven weekly papers in Pulaski, Alexander, Union, Massac, Johnson and Pope counties. The cooperative carries a series of eight advertisements in each newspaper, along with news articles telling about pre-allotment and postwar construction plans.

Figured on the basis of returns, Mr. Endicott said, that the cooperative paid in advertising approximately 28 cents for each potential member or a little over a dollar per return for names of interested community leaders who will do the groundwork in their respective areas.

Purpose of Plan

Limited by time and manpower, the advertising plan was undertaken to speed up the electrification of Southern Illinois' territory on an area coverage basis. At present only about one-fifth of the job has been done, Mr. Endicott said, and it "would be physically impossible, even if men were available" to canvass the potential consumers.

During the early formative stages of the cooperative, which now serves 450 miles, the cost of signing up consumers has averaged about \$5 per member, exclusive of the time donated, the manager stated. It has taken five years to reach the present goal and, with 1800 potential miles to go in the postwar period, the manager and directors felt it was out of the question to sign up consumers on the original basis.

Contains Coupon

The advertisement contained a coupon which interested potential members were to sign and mail into the office. Upon receipt of the coupon, the office mailed back a letter giving information on the proposed construction program and a return card for details on the location of the prospective member's farm, house or rural establishment. When the card had been returned, the co-op forwarded the prospective member a membership blank which was to be sent back with a check or money order for \$5. These applications are filed in the office, the new member's premises located and numbered on a map and his place becomes one of the many to be built when large-scale construction work is again undertaken.

Further assistance is given prospective members through area meeting when information is presented concerning data to be gathered in the community prior to arrival of engineers, staking and construction crews. All information received is checked with the cooperative's un-electrified farm survey completed three years ago.

Prospective REA users in the area are fortunate, Mr. Endicott says, in that under the present setup of the system, there is "no one who can not have electric service as no section of the area is isolated by utilities or contains any other obstacles which might prove a hindrance."

NEWS FROM Corn Belt

Bloomington, Ill.

T. H. HAFER, Supt.

Merry Christmas To Co-op Members

This is the 6th Christmas on which we have been able to wish our members a merry time. About one half of the present members have been receiving electric service on their farms since the Christmas in 1939. That year the original lines were just being completed and the co-op employees, by working many hours overtime, just managed to get all members who were ready connected with service for the Christmas day. We are all happy to see this Christmas light which is shining all around the countryside on Christmas eve. We think it is very closely a kin to the light which Christianity has sent over the world. We also believe that the radios which electricity makes possible will help spread the Christian ideas and spirit by helping people get acquainted with their neighbors in other parts of the world and this will eventually help to create peace on earth and good will toward men.

We wish all of our members a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Lineman C. F. Johnson and Manager Hafer recently attended a two day conference at the REA office at St. Louis. The conference was called by the Safety Committee of Illinois to furnish an opportunity for linemen and managers of the state to discuss directly with REA engineers the problems of distributing electric power to the farms of Illinois efficiently and safely.

This conference is a part of the continuous effort on the part of REA and the co-ops to develop new and better methods and equipment.

Wrong Fuse Burns Up Motor

We recently had a report from a member that his water pump motor had burned up. His story was that the pump stuck and as a result his motor became too hot and he had the expense of having it rewound. After further discussion with him it was found that the electrician who installed the motor had used a small amperage fuse which had blown and been replaced by the member with a

larger fuse. As a result, no more fuses had to be replaced but the motor had to be taken to town to be rewound at many times the cost of a few fuses in addition to the inconvenience. The correct size fuse is important.

Co-op Inspector Available for Meetings

The Board of Directors and management have agreed to offer the services of the co-op to assist at meetings wherever our members would like to have wiring problems or uses of electricity discussed. It has been suggested to the high school agriculture teachers that if the farmers in their community would like to have one session of their evening courses this winter spent on problems of safe wiring the co-op will be glad to have Mr. Aylesworth assist with such a meeting. A demonstration on the fusing of electric circuits as well as answers to many other questions which may be brought up would be included. Farmers and electricians would be welcome.

Any members who would like this assistance at any meeting they have scheduled should notify the co-op office.

We recently had our first experience of a line being broken by an airplane. A line in our Clinton substation was reported out of service and when the linemen located the trouble he found that an airplane had hit the top wire and had broken it. No damage to the airplane as far as we have learned.

Co-op Annual Meeting in February

The annual meeting of the co-op will be held sometime in February. A program is being planned by the directors which will be of profit and interest to all members. Begin planning now to attend.

December 13, 1944

Corn Belt Electric Cooperative
Bloomington, Illinois

Your REA News is very much enjoyed. In a recent issue, the article on the care of sewing machines was very, very helpful, more so than that put out by sewing machine companies.

Mrs. Roy H. Campbell, Thanks Mrs. Campbell for your comments. We will try to make the REA News bring you each month some ideals which you can use.

Hunters' Mistake Pole Top Insulator For Duck

The co-op line near Tremont recently was reported out of service and after considerable time looking for the trouble linemen Johnson and Curbly found an insulator which was broken in pieces and two empty shot gun shells at the base of the pole. Whether this was a prank or carelessness we don't know but our members should know the cost and help to keep such things from being done.

In this case the cost was as follows:

Linemen's time	\$21.45
Truck mileage	8.35
Material	.77

Total cost to co-op \$30.57.

Also 59 members were without electric service for two hours and 29 members were without electric service for 7 hours.

Safety Slates

Is your electric range grounded? It should be.

Did you get a shock off of that switch? Get it fixed.

If you are going to have that lamp cord outdoors hooked up all winter, have your electrician wire it in permanently.

Crop Goals for 1945 Again Set at High Levels

Calling for continued high production to assure "plenty of food for our armed forces, civilian needs for our allies," War Food Administrator Marvin Jones has asked farmers for approximately the same output of agricultural products in 1945 as was reached this year.



OFFICERS REELECTED—Their tasks, for the moment over, members of Jo-Carroll Electric Cooperative, Inc., relax for a picture. Officers of the cooperative appear in the front row, as follows: Everett R. Read, president; Morris W. Birkbeck, treasurer; Mrs. Berniece Moore, secretary, and E. L. Dauphin, vice president. Those in the back row include Harry J. Stanger, Frank Bonjour, Henry Goldmacher, Manager Floyd Ruble, Chester Alexander and Carl Maring. Mr. Maring, the new member, is at the extreme right, while Mr. Alexander, the man he succeeded, is standing at his right.

George E. Dillon, regional chief of REA applications and loans division, addressed the group on the far-reaching postwar aims of rural electrification and discussed the value to all of an area coverage program as opposed to "cream-skimming" activities.

He declared that the REA is "a very vital part of the over-all public power program" and predicted that a time will come in the future when REA cooperatives will be linked with public power projects on a national scale.

"Public power," he said, "can be achieved, and what you have done here in the Jo-Carroll area can be done nationally."

Mr. Dillon said he saw no reason for REA cooperatives not taking advantage of that section of the recently enacted Pace bill which permits the extension of the amortization period on loans up to 35 years, adding that it is not essential that this or the next generation pay off REA obligations when the power program will be here for all time.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Birkbeck, in his report, indicated that the cooperative is in sound financial condition and that an audit made last July 31 showed a substantial net balance on hand.

Indicative of the growth of the cooperative and the greater use of electricity are figures which show that last year total power purchased cost \$10,165.13 as compared with \$12,291.79 this year, while the average cost of power per month jumped from \$847.09 last year to \$1024.31 this year.

Total interest payments this year, he said, totaled \$14,623.71 as compared with \$9316.95 paid last year.

ages, according to F. I. Ruble, manager.

Mr. Ruble reported that kilowatt hour consumption by all members has increased 15.4 per cent over 1942, going from a total of 538,000 in 1942 to 703,827 KWH in 1944. The average kilowatts used by members rose from 86 per month in 1942 to 95.4 per month in 1944, an increase of 6 per cent. Monthly power bills per member rose from \$5.09 per month in 1942 to \$5.44 in 1944, while revenue per mile rose from \$8.44 in 1942 to \$9.83 this year—a gain of 9.4 per cent. Revenue per mile last year amounted to \$9.24.

A total of 45.7 miles of line to serve 107 new members was staked and surveyed this year and construction now in progress will extend 46.1 miles, serving 95 members.

Thirty-five miles of line were completed and energized this year, increasing the system to a current total of 353 miles of line in Jo Daviess and Carroll counties, Mr. Ruble stated.

E. R. Read Presides

Mr. Read presided and welcomed the members to the meeting, along with O. J. Thomas vice chairman of the Savana Chamber of Commerce. The reading of minutes and official call of the meeting were read by Mrs. Berniece Moore, secretary.

Musical selections were presented by The Avannas and Law's orchestra.

Members discussed briefly a plan of voluntarily billing and referred the matter back to the board of directors for further discussion preparatory to presenting a program for possible adoption. A number of prizes donated by Savanna merchants, were presented.

USES POWER TO WARM FLOOR OF CHICKEN HOUSE

Hot Water Piped Under Concrete; Circulated By Electric Pump

Walter Rovie, who resides two miles east and a half-mile south of Farmersville, had an idea that if he could make the chickens think that winter was summer he would get better laying results from his flock in cold weather.

That idea has paid dividends as the hundreds of eggs which Mr. Rovie takes to market every week shows.

Convinced that chickens would lay better in a warm house, with a heated floor, Mr. Rovie put his electricity to use in a novel way. When he built his two new chicken houses, he installed coal heaters in them and then placed an endless series of hot water pipes just below the concrete floor. With the heaters, he warms the water which is circulated through the pipes on the straw-covered floor by means of a half-horse motor on his centrifugal pump. No water is lost as it is kept circulating through the system of pipes, which are 1 1/4 inch in diameter and extend the length of the chicken house. They are placed about two feet apart.

The hot water system removes the dampness from the air, eliminates odors and danger of drafts and keeps the temperature in his two chicken houses below freezing at all times. In addition Mr. Rovie keeps lights burning all night over the waterers and feed troughs. Lights are turned on in the evening and off at 5 in the morning. Warm floors, Mr. Rovie finds, prevent infection between toes of the chickens—a condition, he attributes, to dampness.

Cost Small

Cost of the entire system totals about \$50, while the amount of coal burned in the heaters is less than a ton per stove. With heat in the houses, Mr. Rovie figures that a farmer can house more chickens without danger of crowding.

Going still farther in the use of electricity in the chicken business, Mr. Rovie has energized wires over the long system of wooden nests and also has a low voltage wire on the heating and pumping equipment to prevent chickens from roosting on these inviting places.

A member of Rural Electric Convenience cooperative of Divernon, Mr. Rovie has long been a booster for REA service and his farm and home are equipped with a large number of electric devices.

He raises 1000 chickens a year by means of electric chick brooders.

Big KWH User

His idea for warming the floors of his chicken house started before REA service was available and culminated at that time in running a single hot water pipe around the inside of the buildings. Circulation was gained by keeping the water hot enough so that it would expand and travel in one end of the pipe and out the other. Electricity, however, has enabled him to moderate his ideas, and he plans to discard his coal heaters, one of these days and install electric coils in their place.

Using the electric fence principle, Mr. Rovie has also energized wires near the floor of his corn cribs to prevent rats from nibbling at the year's harvest. With a wide variety of farm motors including those which operate his feed grinder, corn sheller, milking machine, and other equipment, Mr. Rovie uses an average of 621 KWH per month, going to 857 KWH during the chick brooding season.

When he first joined the cooperative, Mr. Rovie had a 5 KVA transformer, but this has been changed to a 10 KVA and may be changed soon to a 15 KVA, according to B. H. Snively, manager and engineer on the project.



MAKES CHICKENS HAPPY—Mr. Rovie is shown exhibiting the device which keeps his chicken houses at a comfortable temperature throughout the winter. Water, warmed by a coal-burning stove, is circulated by means of a centrifugal pump which Mr. Rovie has his hand on.



SUMMER ALL WINTER—In this chicken house. Shown above is an interior view of one of Mr. Rovie's two large chicken houses, both of which are warmed by a hot water system piped under the straw-covered concrete floor. The electrically-operated centrifugal pump, which forces the warm water to circulate under the floor, is shown in the right foreground.

NEWS FROM Rural Electric

Divernon, Ill.
B. F. SNIVELY, Supt.

Season's Greetings

Since this will be the last issue before Christmas, we are at this time wishing all of our members a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

From your Board of Directors, Manager and Employees.

At our last Board Meeting Mr. Fred Harms, President, and Mr. Geo. C. Simon, Vice-president, were selected to attend the N.R.E.C.A. Conference in San Antonio, Texas, on January 16 and 17, 1945. Alternates chosen for this conference were Mr. Joe Dowson and Mr. Otto J. Otten.

Beautiful Snow?

As we look out this morning we find that we are all but completely snowed in. Mr. Dossett, who is first up on trouble, suggests to Miss Peters, who takes all the trouble calls, (and is supposed to keep everybody happy) that she take care of any troubles that come in today by remote control, because he didn't have snow shoes for his truck.

Attend Meeting

The following Board Members and Manager attended the regional N.R.E.C.A. meeting at Dubuque, Iowa, on November 27, 28, and 29th. Mr. Fred Harms, President, Mr. Geo. C. Simon, Vice-president, Mr. Joe Dowson, Mr. Lester Miller, and Mr. B. F. Snively, Manager.

That slight-of-hand performer and camera man, Mr. Russell Gingles, was

around again last week. We expected to find rabbits and other things after he left but we guess he was too busy. Mr. D. W. Teare, head of the REA farm unit division, and Phillip Dodge, editor of the national REA News, were with Mr. Gingles.

ANNUAL MEETING

Your directors and employees are working toward a very comprehensive and entertaining ANNUAL MEETING on February 5, 1945, for our members. Come in and find out what makes your Cooperative click. We will be expecting you. At a later date you will receive a program giving full detail of the meeting.

OPERATING REPORT—NOVEMBER 1944

Miles of line energized	.....720
Number of members billed	.....1931
Number of minimum bills	.....525
Total kwh sold	.....\$1827.06
Average kwh used per member	....95
Gross sales	.....\$9385.04
Average bill per member	.....\$4.86
Revenue per mile of line	.....\$13.31

We are still plugging away with the very limited materials that are allowed us by Government regulations to build short extensions. We are staking and processing applications as our limited man-power situation will allow.

She's Not Talking

Our cashier has just returned from a very pleasant trip to New Orleans, La., where she was selected to pin the golden bars on Lt. John Allen, who graduated from Officers' Training School November 28th.

And can she smile these days? She is assisting in writing this column so if it doesn't come out right or make exact sense, please bear with us until she comes back to earth again. What, no, not a dull moment here.

NEWS FROM Southeastern

Harrisburg, Ill.
A. F. LENTZ, Supt.

At this Christmas Season of the year, our thoughts naturally turn to thoughts of gladness and joy. Glad that we live in this great nation and can have no small part in bringing joy to multiplied numbers not only in our own area but by doing our part in the Nation's War Effort, we are lending support to our valiant fighting men on all fronts of this global war, as well as our heroic Allies, who are certainly doing their part to help make the world a more decent place in which to live and enjoy the blessings of life.

As we look back over the past year, our splendid farmers have done a most noble piece of work, in that they were called upon to produce the food, not only to feed our civilian population but some eleven millions of our finest youth, both men and women, and also to contribute in no small measure, the food for our fighting Allies; as well as to feed the starving millions in conquered lands across the seas. These noble farmers came through with the greatest harvest in the Nations history, and did that with very little new tools and machinery and with the flower of youth gone from most of our farms. They have done a magnificent job. In this area, we know also that many of these same farmers worked their regular shifts in the Mines and on top of that made a hand on their farms, not only in management but in actual labor in whatever was necessary that crops might be produced, but extra hours that these same crops might be harvested, and as far as we have been able to learn, no crops were lost for want of labor to harvest them. These farmers won't make the "Headlines," they won't be given any medals but they can take pride in the fact that they have accomplished a great task and done it well.

Your Cooperative has also had a part in that task of producing more food, with less labor in that we have brought electric service to some 465 farm and urban homes in the past 11 months, a record of which your board of directors is justly proud. Through the use of various types of electric equipment, our farmers have been able to better take care of their livestock, put in longer hours in the fields, thus utilizing to the fullest extent the man hours available to these farms.

We wish also to express our appreciation to the many farmers who have made application for electric service and who we have been unable to serve as yet, due to the fact that we also have been hit by the shortage of skilled labor necessary to carry on an extensive building program that we simply could not build to as many farmers and others that wanted and needed electric service.

Along this line we wish to state that we do have a splendid bunch of men that are doing their best to build these services just as fast as possible, but there are just so many working hours in each day and each one of those is crowded with activity by the entire force.

We wish also to express our appreciation of splendid work done by our office personnel and we extend a hearty welcome to all our membership to call at our office any time you are in Harrisburg as many of you we do not know personally, but would be pleased to have you call.

Electric Motors

Yes, we still have a good stock of most all sizes of electric motors, as we have a standing order with General Electric, Westinghouse, and Century Company for various sizes of electric motors and are constantly receiving new stock each week. As this is being written, we have in stock the following sizes and types of motors: 1/4 HP. Split phase and Capacitor type suitable for all makes of washing machines or shop work. 1/3 HP. GE. Capacitor Type suitable for shop

work or pump. This is a heavy duty motor. 1/2 HP. Capacitor type, heavy duty, suitable for any kind of heavy work. GE & Century Make. 3/4 HP. Capacitor type, a heavy duty motor. 1 1/2 HP. GE All purpose type. 2 HP. GE All purpose type. 3 HP. GE All purpose type, also Splash proof ball bearing type.

If any of our members are in need of an electric motor, they should check with the office in Harrisburg, we might have just what you need. We are sure the price will be satisfactory, as we have helped our members to purchase some over 400 motors in the past few years.

Westinghouse Products

Your Cooperative is pleased to announce that they have been given a Franchise for the Complete line of Westinghouse appliances as we feel that most of our members would prefer to purchase a standard product, which is backed by a manufacturer whose reputation for building a line of appliances second to none is well known throughout the world. Westinghouse Manufacturing Company will be in the field with a line of appliances just as soon as materials which are now critical and vital to the war effort, have eased up a bit, and you will be able to purchase through your Cooperative organization a product that is equal to anything made. We expect to give you more information a little later on regarding the different types of equipment, which will be available.

New Applications

Yes, we are still receiving new applications for electric service every day and our own force has built or will complete during this current year of 1944, around the 500 mark, and this record we are justly proud, as certain types of materials have been very scarce, labor has also been scarce, but we have managed to carry on.

We wish to call your especial attention to the vital statistics listed below which is our November operating report. You will note that all the figures show a healthy gain over the last report last month.

Members connected	.....3796
Members billed	.....3792
Farm Members billed	.....2831
Non-farm members billed	.....476
Commercial members billed	.....166
Public Bldgs. (schools & churches)	297
3 Phase members billed	.....22
Miles energized	.....1122
Average per mile	.....3.38
Operating Revenue per mile	.....\$18.41
Kilowatts purchased (C.I.P.S.)	
Reading, Calendar Month	598,200
20th to 20th our billing month	582,900
Kilowatts sold (20th to 20th)	451,503
Line loss	.....22.5%
Substation Demands:	
Ledford station	.....960
Galatia station	.....624
Benton station	.....231
Minimum Bills (\$3.00 Min.)	.....1553
Minimum per cent	.....41%
Total Billing	.....\$20,655.83
Amount of power mill	
(Calendar Month)	.....\$6,660.60

Wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

POISON NECESSARY FOR CONTROLLING MICE IN ORCHARDS

There is no good substitute for a poison preparation to control field mice in orchards, according to Victor M. Kelley, associate professor in horticulture extension, University of Illinois college of agriculture.

He suggests the use of strychnine-coated oats, wheat or rolled oats bait or zinc phosphide treatment. The use of two different kinds of bait in the runways to give the mice a choice is worth the added trouble, Kelley says.

Field mice cause damage to many Illinois orchards each year, and more or less damage is caused to many more orchards, the horticulturist reports. Damage to trees will become increasingly serious as the winter advances. Cold weather, with sleet and snowfall, shuts off the food supply, forcing the mice to girdle the trunks and roots of the fruit trees.

THREE DIRECTORS—

(From Page One)

five committee representative. DELEGATES VOTED TO HOLD THE 1945 REGIONAL MEETING IN CHICAGO.

Business Session

The regional meeting placed emphasis on business and allowed no time for entertainment or banquet programs in its all-day session.

Speakers included Harry Edmunds of Cedar, Minn., a member of the NRECA board; Mr. Stoneman; George Dillon, regional head of applications and loans; C. F. Blickley, regional head of design and construction; and A. E. Becker, chairman of the NRECA postwar planning committee.

Mr. Edmunds advocated the use of the "cooperative principle by Christian-minded men" as a means to settling the war question and maintaining peace.

"Cooperation is something you give to, and if you don't give much you don't get much—unless you are NOT a member of the national organization," stated Mr. Edmunds. "You get back in service proportionately what you put into cooperation." In cooperative enterprise there is a part for all to play. By each doing his part, all will benefit by more abundant returns.

The cooperative movement, Mr. Edmunds continued, welcomes everybody, regardless of nationality, religion or politics. To bring the greatest good to the greatest number he advocated a postwar construction program based on area coverage—but he ruled out the idea of associate members, pleading for his cooperative philosophy of "one member, one vote."

Reviews NRECA Program

Mr. Stoneman reviewed accomplishments of the national association's program in bringing cooperative gains to all of its members. Foremost among the worthwhile things done, he said, was the backing given the Pace bill by the NRECA. This measure reduced interest rates materially and provided for an extension of time on the amortization of loans made the cooperatives.

"Senators and representatives who formerly had been cool to the REA program have warmed up through contacts made with them by the NRECA," he said, mentioning specifically the favorable attitude now expressed toward REA by Senator Robert Taft of Ohio.

One of the purposes of the NRECA, Mr. Stoneman stated, was the fostering of strong state-wide REA organizations. There now are thirty-four state-wide organizations in existence, whereas there were only three when the National Rural Electric Cooperative association was organized, he said. Only through strong state-wide organizations can we have a strong national association, Mr. Stoneman declared.

The NRECA, he said, is backing the Lucas bill, which provides \$585,000,000 to be allocated to REA cooperatives for their immediate postwar program. Of this amount, he said \$35,000,000 will be made available by July 1 under provisions of the bill which, he said, will be presented at the next session of congress.

Mr. Stoneman also discussed the insurance pooling plan presented by the NRECA. This program, he said, has saved participating REA cooperatives \$30,000 to \$40,000 a year on their premiums.

He also stated that the NRECA is "working with REA in the hopes of building a 100 per cent organization to do the postwar job as efficiently as possible."

REA Men Speak

Mr. Dillon urged members to make their plans now to construct lines on an area coverage basis and to complete all routine work which might hinder them when all restrictions are lifted and building can be

Regional Delegates Elect Stoneman to National's Executive Committee



STATE DIRECTORS TO THE NRECA BOARD are pictured among the above group of REA representatives attending the annual meeting of Region 5, held in Dubuque, Iowa, on Tuesday, November 28. Seated, left to right, are: Ben Jaspers, Steamboat Rock, Iowa; E. J. Stoneman, Platteville, Wis., and G. Wayne Welsh, Sciota, Ill. These three will serve during the coming year as directors from their respective states on the board of directors of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. Messrs. Jaspers and Welsh were elected under terms of amended by-laws which become effective at the San Antonio national meeting, and Mr. Stoneman, president of NRECA, was elected as the Wisconsin director and re-elected by the regional delegates to serve on the executive committee. Also pictured in the above group standing left to right, are: Harvey Schermerhorn, Editor of Wisconsin REA News; Harry Edmunds, Minnesota director to NRECA; C. F. Blickley and G. E. Dillon of REA; and Russell J. Gingles, Editor Illinois REA News.

advanced without wartime curtailments.

Reviewing the big job which lies ahead, he said that Illinois has only 54.1 per cent of its farms electrified; Iowa 54.5 per cent and Wisconsin, 61.6 per cent. There are, he said, a total of 190,000 farms in Wisconsin, 275,000 in Illinois and 220,000 in Iowa. Average kilowatt consumption on farms has more than doubled since REA service started, with the majority of the increase coming in war years when electrical equipment was difficult to get.

Mr. Blickley urged REA cooperatives to select their own engineers for jobs ahead and to report their selections to the REA office. This, he said, is being done in order to prevent overloading engineers and to make them available for the required work. He asked that spite line action be reported immediately to the REA office in order that counter action can be taken without delay.

Mr. Becker reviewed the postwar possibilities which are opening up for REA cooperatives and discussed the work which can be made available for returning veterans. The army, he said, is thinking seriously about the rural electrification program from a rehabilitation standpoint; and some hospitals, Mr. Becker added, have men available for some types of work now.

The delegation also nominated John E. Magnin of Wisconsin and Edgar D. Beach of Iowa as representatives from region five to the Resolutions Committee at the national convention. Their election was unanimous.

Deficiency of vitamin A in cattle, particularly in drought periods, causes sterility as well as low milk production. Yellow corn, alfalfa, carrots and pasture crops are recommended as high in vitamin A.

Milk production has fallen in this country from a high of 119.2 billion pounds in 1942 to a possible 118.5 billion pounds this year. War-induced shortages of dairy labor, machinery and feed are blamed for the decrease.

NEWS FROM Menard

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

PRESIDENT'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Dear Members:

Three years ago this month our nation was plundered into war with Japan and its partners. Since that time every home on our system has been touched in one way or another by this grim spectre of war.

The sons and daughters of many of our members are now in the armed forces of our nation fighting to preserve the rights and liberty of a freedom loving people. Those who have made the supreme sacrifice did so that we may still live, work and pray for that "Peace on Earth, Good will toward all Men" which was voiced by the Angels on that Holy Night of the Nativity.

The coming year will bring our Nation and our Allies closer to the realization of this Peace and a Victory that will return those we love. As this Holiday Season recalls the past years when our families were all together so let us look forward to 1945 with a firm hope that it brings our Nation an early and decisive Victory over the Axis aggressors and the safe return of your sons and daughters home once more. This is our New Year's wish for you and yours as the old year completes its cycle.

In closing I wish to extend on behalf of your Board of Directors and Employees Sincere Season's Greetings to every member, their family and to all friends of our Cooperative.

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

WINS "A" AWARD

Members of the Menard Electric Cooperative join in congratulating the management of Armour's Cheese Plant, Petersburg, for having earned the Achievement "A" Award of the War Food Administration.

The symbolic green and white Achievement "A" flag coveted by members of the food processing industry throughout the nation, as recognition for excellence of production, in our nation's war effort, was presented in a brief but impressive ceremony at the Petersburg High School, Tuesday evening, December 12th, 1944.

Many of our members in Cass, Mason, Sangamon, and Menard counties selling quality milk to Armour's Cheese Plant at Petersburg can claim with just pride, a share in this honor.

REA service to the twenty-eight hundred farm homes in the eight counties served by your Cooperative has aided in making it possible for our members to increase their dairy herds and thus produce more milk which they sell to Armour's and other milk processing plants serving these counties.

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE INSTRUCTORS MEET

Your attention is called to the news article printed on another page of this issue of the news which relates to a conference arranged by your Cooperative for Vocational Agricultural Instructors located in towns adjacent to areas served by your Cooperative. This conference was held the afternoon and evening of November 30th at the Hotel Abraham Lincoln, Springfield.

The object of this conference was to acquaint this group with the possibilities available for farmers living in the community, in which their schools are located, to receive REA Service. It also presented an opportunity to inform these teachers of the bulletins and plans on home made electrical equipment which are made available by R.E.A. for use in their farm shop classes.

D. W. Teare, Head of the REA Rural Electrification Farm Unit gave a practical talk on this equipment. Others appearing on this program included Philip J. Dodge, Editor, Rural Electrification News, St. Louis; Russell Gingles, Editor, Illinois REA News; H. H. Coe, Sales Manager Westinghouse Electric Mfg. Co., and Jack Nolan, Sales Engineer, General Electric Company, both of Springfield;

and Arnott P. Smith, Chairman, Sangamon County Agricultural Conservation Committee, Springfield. Cooperative personnel included A. E. Becker, Manager, Line Foreman Harry A. Houseworth, George L. Davis, Wiring Inspector and Fred E. Darr.

The following letter was received from Harold J. Nolen, Vocational Agricultural Instructor, Pleasant Plains Township High School, with reference to the Conference.

Pleasant Plains Chapter
Future Farmers of America
Section 12
Pleasant Plains, Illinois,
Dec. 1, 1944

Mr. A. E. Becker
Manager of Menard Elec. Co-op
Petersburg, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Becker:

The meeting which the REA held yesterday for Agriculture Teachers in this area was certainly fine. I know all people present should profit by the fine program we had.

Many thanks to all those on your program and to you people for sponsoring this conference.

Yours truly,
(signed) Harold Nolen.

AMONG WINNERS AT CHICAGO

Otto Winkelman, Jr., Petersburg, was among the Junior Contest winners for groups of three steers at the Chicago Market Fat Stock Show. The Winkelmann's have R.E.A. service and Otto has taken advantage of their well lighted premises to see that light is available where he needs it. Otto has also made several home-made electric pig brooders which he has used successfully.

Robert and David O. Waggener of Greenview were also among the winners. These youths are members of F.F. of A. Chapter in Menard County of which Max J. Worthington, Vocational Agricultural Instructor of Petersburg is adviser.

In commenting editorially on the Illinois winners at the Stock Show the Illinois State Register in an editorial dated December 9 states: "This constructive drama of food production reveals ambitious youth starting in the cattle-raising realm. It is a war-supporting effort. It is a stimulus to the ambition of youth. It reflects the indispensability of the farm. It indicates national prosperity even in the shadow of war."

CLUB NOTES

The Tice Community Club held their Christmas program December 8th at the Tice School, 5 miles east of Petersburg.

The Community Club at Number EIGHT School, 8 miles Southeast of Petersburg held their annual Christmas party December 17th. Mrs. Nellie Batterton, Teacher of the school with the assistance of the pupils presented a very interesting Christmas program.

The Christmas program for the Independence Community Club, eight miles northeast of Jacksonville was presented by pupils of the school under the direction of Mrs. Eva Baxter, Teacher, the evening of December 8th. Every home in the Community was represented. This is one of the oldest Community Clubs in Illinois and practically all of its members are members of your Cooperative.

Munger School of Tallula and Rose Hill School Community Clubs held their Christmas programs with the assistance of the pupils at each of their respective schools the evening of December 22nd.

There were many other programs held during the month in which your Cooperative furnished sound movies and other entertainment. Jack Price of Petersburg, a member of the Menard County War Finance Committee has cooperated with Fred E. Darr in several of these programs.

Corncobs have a practical value when fed as gro... to fattening steers, ... cent tests carried... agricultural ex...

REA Women and The Home

Edited by Mrs. Val Thoenig



Enhance Your Dinners With Breads Fresh From Oven

Christmas. The day you've been working toward for weeks is ALMOST here. And, at this point, you're probably dreaming fruit-cake, star-cut cookies, pop corn balls, and Christmas tree ornaments. But there is one last minute detail you must not overlook. Holiday breads—fresh-hot from the oven.

Surprise your family with a Christmas morning breakfast featuring delicious fruit rolls. Demonstrate your culinary prowess at dinnertime with flaky, hot pumpkin rolls, the ideal accessory to turkey.

The art of making bread has passed down through the centuries. But we are far better off than our mothers and grandmothers. Their cheeks were rosy red, their hairline damp when they pulled golden brown loaves from a huge, hot range black as Grandpop's go-to-meeting shoes. Today we work in cool comfort over a shimmering white electric range.

During the next few weeks you'll be planning choice dinners—enhance them with delicious fine textured bread. Following are some really special recipes:

Pumpkin Rolls

(As different as they are delicious, these rolls will win you an enviable reputation. The recipe make 2 dozen.)

- 1/2 pkg. quick yeast About 4 cups sifted bread flour
- 1/4 cup lukewarm water 1 cup cooked or canned pumpkin
- 1/4 teaspoon sugar 1 egg, well beaten
- 1/2 cup scalded milk 4 tbsps. melted shortening
- 1 1/2 teaspoons salt 1/4 cup sugar

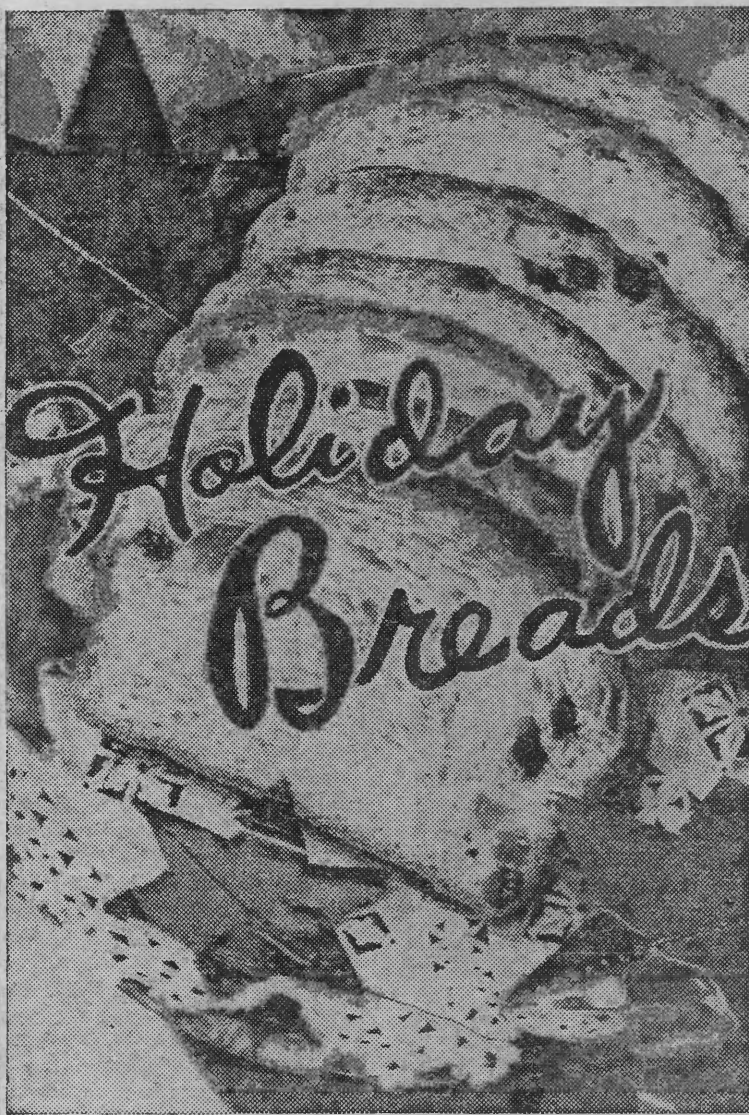
Pour quick yeast into lukewarm water, add 1/4 teaspoon sugar, stir and let stand about 5 minutes. Pour the scalded milk into mixing bowl, stir in the salt and the 1/4 cup sugar. Let cool. When milk is lukewarm add softened yeast and 1 1/2 cups of the sifted flour. Beat smooth. Add finely mashed pumpkin, beaten egg, and melted (not hot) shortening. Add remaining flour, or as much as required to knead into a smooth but soft dough. Place in greased bowl, cover and let rise in a warm place until doubled in bulk. Punch down and let rise again until doubled. Turn dough onto floured board and roll out until barely 1/4 inch thick. Brush lightly with melted butter; fold dough in thirds and let stand 10 minutes. Roll out again until barely 1/4 inch thick, brush again with melted butter and cut with small (1 1/2 inch) biscuit cutter. Pile 5 rounds on top of each other, and place on edge in greased muffin tins. Let rise until light (about 1 hour), then bake about 15 minutes in fairly hot oven, 400 degrees F.

If you wish to store dough in refrigerator, place in large container after it has been brushed with butter and folded in thirds. Cover container with tight-fitting lid and set in refrigerator. Next day, about 2 or 2 1/2 hours before mealtime, roll out dough until 1/4 inch thick, brush with butter, cut with biscuit cutter, and finish as described above.

Scandinavian Holiday Bread

- 2 pkgs. quick yeast 2 eggs, well beaten
- 1/2 cup lukewarm water 1/2 tsp. ground cardamom
- 1/2 cup water 7 cups or more sifted flour
- 1/2 cup sugar 1/2 pkg. seedless raisins
- 1/2 cup scalded milk 1/2 cup sliced citron
- 1/2 cup sugar 1 beaten egg yolk
- 1/2 cup salt 1/4 cup milk

Pour the quick yeast into lukewarm water, add 1/2 teaspoon sugar, stir and let stand to soften. Pour the scalded milk into mixing bowl and dissolve in it the salt and the one-third cup sugar. Let cool. When milk is lukewarm, add the softened yeast and 1 1/2 cups of the sifted flour. Beat until smooth. Next add the beaten egg, the melted (not hot) shortening and vanilla. Mix well, then stir in enough more flour to make a medium-soft dough. Knead



cream together butter, sugar, and salt. Add beaten eggs and cardamom. When milk is lukewarm add to softened yeast and 3 cups sifted flour. Beat until smooth. Add the butter mixture and blend well. Then stir in remaining flour, or enough to make a soft dough that forms a ball while being mixed. Beat until smooth. Place in a greased bowl, cover and rise in a warm place until doubled in bulk. Mix in the raisins and citron, which have been lightly dusted with flour. Let rise again until doubled. Turn risen dough onto floured board and divide into 6 equal portions. Roll each piece into a roll 10 to 12 inches long. Twist rolls together loosely in pairs and place in greased bread pans. Let rise until doubled. Bake about 50 to 60 minutes in a moderately hot oven, 350 degrees F. Remove from oven and brush with the beaten egg yolk mixed with 1/4 cup milk.

Fruit Rolls (1 1/2 dozen)

- 1 pkg. quick yeast 1/2 tsp. vanilla
- 1/2 cup lukewarm water 1/4 to 1 cup sliced citron and candied cherries
- 1/2 tsp. sugar 2 Brown Sugar
- 1/2 cup scalded milk 2 tablespoons cream or top milk
- 1 teaspoon salt Sifted flour, 3 1/2 cups or more
- 1/3 cup sugar 1 egg, well beaten
- 1/3 cup sugar 1/3 cup melted shortening

Pour the quick yeast into the lukewarm water, add the 1/2 teaspoon sugar, stir and let stand to soften. Pour the scalded milk into mixing bowl and dissolve in it the salt and the one-third cup sugar. Let cool. When milk is lukewarm, add the softened yeast and 1 1/2 cups of the sifted flour. Beat until smooth. Next add the beaten egg, the melted (not hot) shortening and vanilla. Mix well, then stir in enough more flour to make a medium-soft dough. Knead

until smooth. Place in greased, covered bowl and let rise in warm place until doubled in bulk. Knead down and let rise again until doubled. Turn onto floured board. Roll into a rectangle, 1/4 inch thick and about 18 inches wide. Brush with melted butter and sprinkle with brown sugar. Scatter the fruit evenly over the dough. Roll up as for a jelly roll, pressing edge down firmly. Cut into one-inch slices. Place, cut side down in greased biscuit pans or in muffin pans. Arrange the fruit so that red and green may show on the outside of the buns. Let rise until doubled. Brush tops of rolls with the cream or top milk and sprinkle with granulated sugar. Bake about 25 minutes in a moderately hot oven 375 degrees F.

A Little Goes A Long Way

Homemade ice cream is not necessarily "out" for the duration. You can easily pull a few sleight of hand tricks and makes a little go a long way. Mixed canned fruit—peaches or pineapple, for instance—into ice cream while it's soft; save the juice and combine with lemon juice to make fruit sherbet; to make thrifty use of dried-out cookie and cake crumbs, stir crushed crumbs into plain ice cream.

Candy Cookery

Even a few sugar crystals may cause a whole batch of candy to granulate. As a precaution don't stir candy when its boiling, and don't scrape what clings to the side of the pan down into the candy. To prevent fudge from boiling over, lightly butter the rim of the pan.

Switch Clickers

Clever Things To Do
By REA Women

Here are more wonderful ideas and recipes sent in by Illinois REA women. Do tuck them away for future use. And, too, write down your own favorite recipes, ideas, and housekeeping hints. Please enclose them with your pattern requests . . . I'll be looking for them. The address is Illinois REA News, Petersburg, Illinois.

Boston Creams

If it's a candy treat you want, do try Mrs. Walter Arensman's recipe for Boston Creams. It's her favorite. Mrs. Arensman lives on Route 4 in Metropolis, Ill., and is a member of Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative.

- 3 cups sugar 1 cup syrup
- 1 cup cream

Cook until mixture forms soft ball when tested in cool water. Beat until white. Pour melted bitter chocolate over top.

Kitchen Snowmen

Mrs. Harvey Milner adds an extra holiday-touch to popcorn balls by shaping them into tiny snowmen. She uses red peppermint candy drops for eyes, nose, and mouth.

We're sorry we can't give you Mrs. Milner's address but it wasn't included in her letter—and the envelope was destroyed.

Lemon Cake Pie

Mrs. Irene Schirmer shares with us her recipe for her best-liked dessert—lemon cake pie. Mrs. Schirmer lives in Royalton and is a member of South Eastern Illinois Electric Co-

PATTERN LIST

Patterns were really in demand this past month—and we hope you received yours in ample time to meet that Santa Claus deadline. There was a short delay in filling some requests. We had to wait for pattern reinforcements. Your patience is appreciated. Thanks, too, for your many kind notes. It was interesting to know that the patterns solved the Christmas problems of a group of boys and girls in Medford, Wis., of a REA mother in Granton, and of others.

You will doubtlessly wish to continue your crocheting and knitting during these winter months. And again we print the pattern list. Order as many as you wish. Send your stamped, self-addressed envelopes to Mrs. Val Thoenig, Wisconsin REA News, 303 E. Wilson, Madison 3, Wis. Postage averages a three-cent stamp for every four leaflets.

For the Home

- Tray Cloth Slip Covers
- How to Store Rayon
- Crocheted Potholders
- Daily Hot Plate Mats

For Yourself

- Head Scarves Crocheted Gloves
- Cozy Slippers Lingerie Trimming
- Crocheted Dinner Blouse
- Sleeveless Jacket
- Sweater Blouses Roomy Bag
- Twin Sweater Set
- Lacy Soft Sweater
- Popcorn Topper and Bag

For the Family

- Men's Scarf, Gloves, Socks
- Scarf 'n Cap for Little Girl
- Boy's Snow Suit
- Baby Booties Stuffed Toys

operative.

Cream 1 cup sugar, 3 tablespoonfuls butter, and 3 tablespoonfuls flour. Stir in 2 beaten egg yolks. Add juice and rind of one lemon and 1 cup diluted pet milk slowly. Beat the 2 egg whites until stiff and fold into mixture. Pour into unbaked pie shell and bake in moderate oven (350 degrees F.) for 30 minutes or until done. Makes one 9-inch pie.

Design Your Own Costume Jewelry



The newest fad is making one's own jewelry. And a most commendable style it is—because it gives expression to your imagination and, even more important, it saves money that should buy defense bonds and stamps.

To make your "jools," equip yourself with paste pot, tiny pliers, thin wire, needles, strong thread, and buttons. You'll brim over with ideas if you study the costume jewelry displays in the stores and in magazine ads. An almost limitless choice of novelty plastic, ceramic, and metal buttons can be found at the notion counter of your local sewing center.

Ornamental combs are simple to make. Shown above, the young woman admires her pair of sparkling combs which were made by adding two huge tortoise shell buttons to the front side of each upstanding, side comb. Her earrings were made by pasting buttons on little plastic holders which may be purchased at most notion counters.

Here's a way to pep up that tired, black dress that has stood by you season after season. Mount velvet bows on a pair of plain side combs. Center each bow with a lovely button. Then make a matching brooch by sewing a button-studded bow on a tiny, metal safety-pin.

M.J.M. OFFICES ARE AMONG BEST FOUND IN STATE

REA Cooperative Owns Own Building; Warehouse in Rear

One of the few REA cooperatives in Illinois which owns its own building, M.J.M.'s home office in Carlinville is among the finest in the mid-west.

The present headquarters are a far cry from the original office which was located in the basement of the Farm Bureau building. Later, when building activity on the project expanded, M.J.M. moved to an upstairs location in the Carlinville business section.

Feeling the need for larger and more adequate office space, the cooperative in December, 1940 bought its present brick building. The structure, built in the days when construction work was undertaken on an efficient, sound and thorough basis, was erected for the Standard Oil company. It was originally used by the oil company for offices in connection with their program of operating coal mines in the area to provide fuel for their various plant activities.

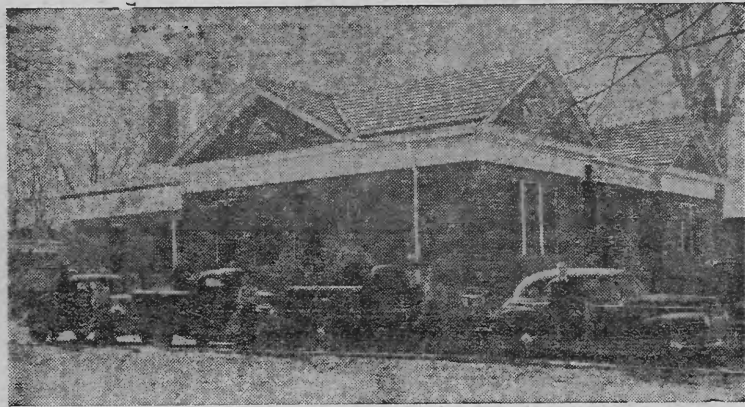
The building was later abandoned by the company and was idle for several years, being used during the depression by various WPA agency

Location
In the down-town Carlinville and yet far enough so that sufficient parking space is always available, the offices of M.J.M. are ideally located for cooperative members and representatives.

The cooperative are located in the north half of the first floor of the building, with private offices for the manager and office secretary near the front of the building. The south portion of the building has been rented to the Macoupin county OPA organization.

Among features of the building are

M.J.M. Linemen, Manager Shown



Shown above outside the M. J. M. Electric cooperative office building at Carlinville are members of the organization's line crew and A. C. Barnes, manager, together with the co-op's service trucks.

From left to right, they are: John Scroggins, Thomas Clevenger, William Yost, Claude McAfee, Aerio Balestri, Homer Virden and A. C. Barnes.

a lineman's room in the basement, stoker heat and locker room, with each line crew member having his own locker and key. A combination warehouse and garage is located at the rear. Adequate parking space is available at the rear of the building.

Study Canadian Control of Hog Cholera Costs

Because annual losses from hog cholera in Canada amount to only four cents a pig, as contrasted with an annual loss of approximately 50 cents a pig in this country, consideration is being given to the Canadian methods of control by agricultural experts here.

In Canada vaccination for cholera is forbidden by law. There are but few outbreaks of cholera, but when one is discovered the government imposes strict quarantine, burns or buries the infected animals and injects anti-cholera serum in swine herds in the neighborhood. The owner is reimbursed by the government for his losses and directed to stay out of the hog business for at least three months.

NEWS FROM M.J.M. Co-op

Carlinville, Ill.
A. C. BARNES, Mgr.

ATTENTION MEMBERS

This newspaper will come to you monthly for the next year with the compliments of your Cooperative.

We hope you will enjoy reading it and that you will find it most helpful. This is a state-wide R.E.A. paper which will give you information what the other Cooperatives in Illinois are doing. You will also learn how others are making use of their electric service. Each month this column will be devoted to personal items about your own Cooperative and we will welcome any information you wish to send in about how you are using the electric service and any personal information about your family and friends. So

- If you have a good suggestion, Send it in;
- A story that is true, An incident that's new, We want to hear from you, Send it in;
- If you have a tale of woe, Send it in;
- Or a bit of news that's so, Send it in.

HOLIDAY GREETINGS

We wish that we might call on each one of you personally at this time of the year to grasp your hand and with a smile and a prayer wish you a Merry Christmas. We know that for many, it will be a hard time to be merry. Still, we can do more for those who are about us, and those whom we would like to have with us, by being merry than by being sad. It is, despite the war, a time for good will, and for hope of peace.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and bright and prosperous New Year.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Guy Newport, Staunton; Frank Gardner, Coffeen; H. E. Randolph, Fillmore; Earl Greenwood, Fillmore; H. E. McCollum, Coffeen; Selma Barcroft, Litchfield; Elmer J. Chaplin, Hillsboro; R. C. Warford, Fieldon; Henry L. Vogel, Walshville; Wm. Grosenheider, Litchfield; Mrs. Alice Sternickle, Staunton; Edwin Boedecker, Litchfield; Marvin W. Swain, Godfrey; Raymond Lee, Chesterfield; Harold Heeren, Staunton; Mrs. E. A. Thornton, Litchfield; Barney Holden, Plainview; Leonard Kurfis, Hillsboro; Leo Strohbeck, Brighton; Raymond Sheppard, Greenfield; Geo. M. Smith, Macoupin; Edw. W. Eichmeyer, Mt. Olive; Ernest Knalhan, Jerseyville; Chas. Vannoy, Walshville; A. P. Leasenfelt, Shipman; Arthur Hoisington, Walshville; Chas. J. Moon, Litchfield; Frank England, Reader; Edwin Bohlen, Litchfield.

September Operating Report

Miles Energized	.....675
Connected Consumers	.....1628
Average K.W.H. Usage	......99
Revenue per mile	.....\$12.92
Average Bill	.....\$5.04

Number Minimum Bills	.....427
Percent of Minimum Bills	.....25%
Density per mile	.....2.41
October Operating Report	
Miles Energized	.....676
Connected Consumers	.....1632
Average K.W.H. Usage	.....96
Revenue Per Mile	.....\$11.48
Average Bill	.....\$4.92
Number Minimum Bills	.....364
Percent of Minimum Bills	.....22%
Density Per Mile	.....2.41

Winter Outages

Bad winter weather and spring storms are liable to cause some outages on our lines and so we are again reminding you of a few things you should do at such times and also listing those names where you should place your call.

Before you place your call check your fuses and if the trouble is not there call your neighbor to see if they are without service. Then when you report the outage tell us that you and your neighbors are out of service. This might save us much time and expense if we knew whether the outage was effecting only you or several members.

For your convenience we list again the telephone numbers which you are to call: During office hours 8:00 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. every day except Sundays and holidays call, Carlinville—136. After 5:00 P. M. and on Sundays call the following:

- A. C. Barnes, Carlinville—416-L
- Homer Virden, Carlinville—326-L
- John Scroggins, Carlinville — 577-Y
- Aerio Balestri, Hillsboro—County 2005

If you are receiving service from the Brighton substation, which includes the Southern part of Macoupin County and all of Jersey County, you are to call Claud McAfee—Brighton 40.

Co-op Represented

The annual meeting of Region 5, of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association was held at Dubuque, Iowa, on November 28th. Mr. Wayne Welch, Sciota, Ill., president of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives was elected to the National Board from the State of Illinois. Those attending the meeting from this Cooperative were Robert Schweickhardt, President; W. H. Monke, Vice-President; L. Wm. O'Malley, L. E. Wilhite, Attorney and A. C. Barnes, Manager.

C. P. KONNEKER GOLDEN WEDDING

Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Konneker, of Shaws Point township, Carlinville, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary Sunday, Nov. 26th, with a family dinner at their home. They held open house for neighbors and friends on Tuesday evening, Nov. 28th, which was the date of their wedding. The couple were married Nov. 28th, 1894, and have lived their entire married life on the farm formerly owned by her parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. Wilhelm Tatje. They are the parents of eight children, one of whom is deceased.

Area News Notes

Grant Pitman, Carlinville, has recently added an electric milking machine to his farm equipment which he thinks is the finest electrical appliance that has ever come to the farm.

Vernon Angelo, Carlinville, has his entire farm fenced with a new high line electric fence.

Lewis Burger, Carlinville, has just purchased a new Philco Radio. They are also using the service to run their saw and emery wheel. Mr. Burger was connected to the line this past summer under the U-1-c regulations.

Illinois led the 11 Midwest states in the hot school lunch program during last month.

The Canadian Federation of Agriculture emphasizes the fact that farmer cooperatives will be a vital factor in the postwar program for agriculture.

PLAN SHOWS ON LABOR-SAVING POWER DEVICES

A series of 24 labor-saving shows, sponsored by the Emergency Labor Division of the Agricultural Extension Service, will be held in various parts of Illinois during January, February and March, according to Professor E. W. Lehmann, head of the Department of Agricultural Engineering, College of Agriculture, University of Illinois.

The College of Agriculture, Extension Service, county farm and home advisers, and the Illinois Farmers' Institute are cooperating in staging these events. The first show will be held in Champaign County January 12.

Latest methods of labor saving through use of machinery and equipment, time study, and general farm and home management will be featured.

A truckload of models, machines, photographs, motion pictures, and display panels will be taken to the places where the show is scheduled and will be set up for one-day stands. In addition, Professor Lehmann advises that he expects all the REA managers, implement and material dealers to cooperate with the county advisers and their farm labor assistants in rounding up for display local labor-saving equipment, machines, and gadgets developed by farmers that have proven practical during the labor shortage. Housewives are also encouraged to bring labor-saving devices to the show, Professor Lehmann says. County and state prizes will be offered for these things.

"I hope every farmer who has an idea, device, or gadget will display it at one of these shows," he said, "as very substantial prizes in the form of \$25, \$50, and \$100 war bonds are to be offered in each county and on the statewide level by the Sears-Roebuck Foundation, International Harvester Company, Public Service Company of Northern Illinois and others."

Here is a list of the dates and places where these labor-saving shows will be held:

Itinerary Given

Champaign County, January 12; Mason County, January 17; Macoupin County, January 18; Logan County, January 19; Livingston County, January 23; Marshall-Putnam County, January 24; Stark County, January 25; Henry County, January 26; Iroquois County, January 30; LaSalle County, January 31; Will County, February 1; Kane County, February 2; Richland County, February 13; Fayette County, February 14; Bond County, February 15; Jackson County, February 16; Pike County, February 20; Morgan County, February 21; McDonough County, February 22; Knox County, February 23; Rock Island County, February 27; Lee County, February 28; Stephenson County, March 1, and McHenry County, March 2. It is a pleasure to have a showing at Urbana Farm and Home Week, January 6-8 with special prize awards.

Two Taste Tease

When Mrs. Noble E. Mann, of Jose, Ill., wants to fix a quick dessert, she mixes a milkshake of delicious and rich in iron. To one pint of cold milk, she adds eggs, a dash of salt, and 2 tablespoons of molasses. She beats the mixture until it froths—and there are two big glasses of tasty goodness.

Mrs. Mann, a member of Menard Electric Cooperative, also sent the following recipe for Pecan Pie:

- 3 eggs
- 1 cup Karo
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup pecans, chopped
- Mix together and bake in pie shell ¾ hour.

American farmers are losing more than \$400,000,000 a year as a result of livestock diseases and ailments.



WE'RE DOING OUR BEST TO SERVE YOU—Shown above is the office staff, line crew members, managers and attorney for the M.J.M. Electric cooperative of Carlinville during one of the few moments when nearly everyone could get together for a group picture.

IN THE FRONT ROW, left to right, are: L. E. Wilhite, attorney; Claud McAfee, lineman; Aerio Balestri, lineman; Homer Virden, line foreman; A. C. Barnes, manager.

SECOND ROW, left to right, are: William Yost, groundman; William Phillips, bookkeeper; Mrs. Verna Rodgers, office secretary; John Scroggins, lineman; Thomas Clevenger, engineer and stock material clerk, and Mrs. Martha Wyzard, billing clerk.

Concrete Lots Are Favored by Cattle Feeders

Concrete lots are considered a wise investment for cattle feeders by agricultural engineers of Iowa State college, who cited the following experience story to prove their point.

A group of steers which had averaged a daily gain of 2.47 pounds per head for two months of good weather last winter, suddenly became mired down when rain and snow turned the lots muddy. Not only did the animals then lose an average of 3.25 pounds each in a 26-day period, but consumed nearly \$10 worth of feed each in the process.



VITTORINA SELVO
Miss Vittorini Selvo, assistant billing clerk of the cooperative, was not present when the group picture was taken, but appears above at her desk in the office.

Electricity For Farm and Home

Electricity Will Add Profits To Your Poultry Business



A portable electric egg candler speeds up the job and helps eliminate faulty candling.

Now that you have electricity on your farm are you thinking of "modernizing" your chicken business? You'll find it a profitable decision whether your poultry and egg production is on a big or little scale. And, too, this is a project which doesn't necessarily have to be listed "postwar."

Rural Electrification Administration engineers have been busy answering letters of hundreds of farmers who wish to "powerize" their chicken business.

"What equipment shall I get? What can electricity do to save me time and step up my yields?" these farmers ask. And in answer to these requests, REA engineers compiled the latest information about modern electrical devices and their importance to you.

Stretch the Day with Lights

Lights are probably the first novation you will add to your poultry houses. Many farmers have stretched their biddies' "working" day 12 to 14 hours during the fall and winter months—and have been amazed at the high egg production. Then when spring comes and feed is scarce, they sell their birds. All in all it adds up to a profitable circle.

Some have found that a 40-watt lamp is sufficient for every 200 square feet of floor space. Place it over water receptacles to enable the birds to eat and drink. To maintain winter-time production an automatic time switch is used to turn the lights on and off. In the 40-watt lamps are turned on, a dim lamp of 10 watts should be turned on by another circuit. This enables the chickens to get to the roosts. If desired, a 20-watt lamp can be used for all night lights. Only a manual switch is necessary.

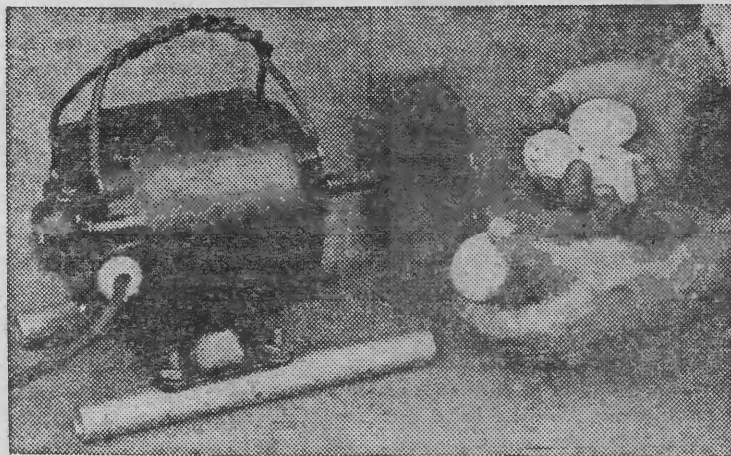
You'll find lights valuable too, in discouraging would-be marauders and in increasing the number of fall-brooded young chicks.

If you become deeply interested in the chicken business you will want ultra-violet lights which aid growth, production and health by supplying vitamin D.

Don't shock your chickens with too much light all at once. Start easy—

and build up 15 to 30 minutes each day at the start of the season.

Cost? Two lights in a poultry house of the common 400 square foot size use from 2 to 3 kwh per week,



Shown here is an egg-cleaning brush attachment driven by an electric motor. Easy to operate, it makes for better grade eggs at low cost.

depending, of course, on size of lamps and time used.

Running Water Is Cheap Luxury

Anyone who has carried water to their chicks by hand well realizes the "luxury" of running water. Actually it isn't a luxury. Pumping of water for a flock of 500 chickens averages LESS than one kwh per week.

We can readily understand why water is a "must" for egg production and healthy birds when we know that the body of a bird is about 55% water, that eggs are 65% water.

A poultry waterer of the fountain type may be made automatic by float control and direct connection by pipe to your water system. If automatic control is lacking, connect a hose from faucet to waterer. At any rate, make sure there is a steady flow of water to your flocks.

Water Warmer

Your chickens will drink 20 to 40 per cent more water in cold weather if it is warmed to 40 or 50 degrees F. Electric warming can be done either with an immersion heater placed directly in the water, or by heat under the waterer. Immersion heaters are usually of the cartridge type, of about 200 watt capacity. Small sizes

Pictures and material for article courtesy of Rural Electrification Administration.

can be obtained from small receptacles. Indirect heaters are of several types—the most common being a ring on which the base of the waterer is set.

Whatever type of warmer, electric insulation and thermostatic control are important features. A warmer with thermostatic control will probably not use more than 100 kwh during the winter season.

Fresh Air—Please

Just as we thrive on fresh air and good ventilation, so do our chickens. By simply installing an electric fan in the poultry house, temperature can be regulated, moisture removed, and fresh air brought in.

Fans may be of several types—built into the brooder unit or installed in wall of brooder house in such a way as to pull in the fresh air. Fans for cooling are installed to remove warm air. Cost of ventilating equipment depends upon size of fan, number of birds served, and length of operation.

Lamp Type Brooder Recommended

If you wish to raise chickens you will consider a brooder a "must have." You can buy them ready-made as simple or as elaborate as you wish, or you can make one. Capacity varies from 50 to 500 chicks.

REA places emphasis on the lamp-type brooder because of its simple construction and economy in use.

Have You Heard?

It's 1969—electrically! Electrical manufacturers report that the war has advanced technical knowledge by at least a quarter of a century.

An automatic hitch for the tractor has been invented by F. W. Duffee, agricultural engineer at the University of Wisconsin. It's the first real improvement in tractor hitches.

Portable machine shops are predicted to provide an important farm service after the war.

The giant B-29 bomber contains 14 miles of electrical wires.

Plugging too many appliances into a single outlet or to a single circuit results in inefficient operation of electrical equipment. It sometimes causes interruption of service.

Over a period of six weeks, it uses from 1/2 to 1 1/2 kwh per chick. (Diagram for constructing a lamp-type brooder appear in the October issue of this paper.)

Coolers Maintain Quality

Eggs are very perishable—and to maintain their quality they must be cooled from the time they are gathered until they are marketed. An electrically-powered fan circulating cooled air through baskets or other containers of eggs provides rapid cooling. A household fan using about 1 kwh per day is excellent for the purpose.

Egg Tester and Grader

A properly focussed electric lamp makes an excellent egg candler. It uses about one-tenth kwh per house.

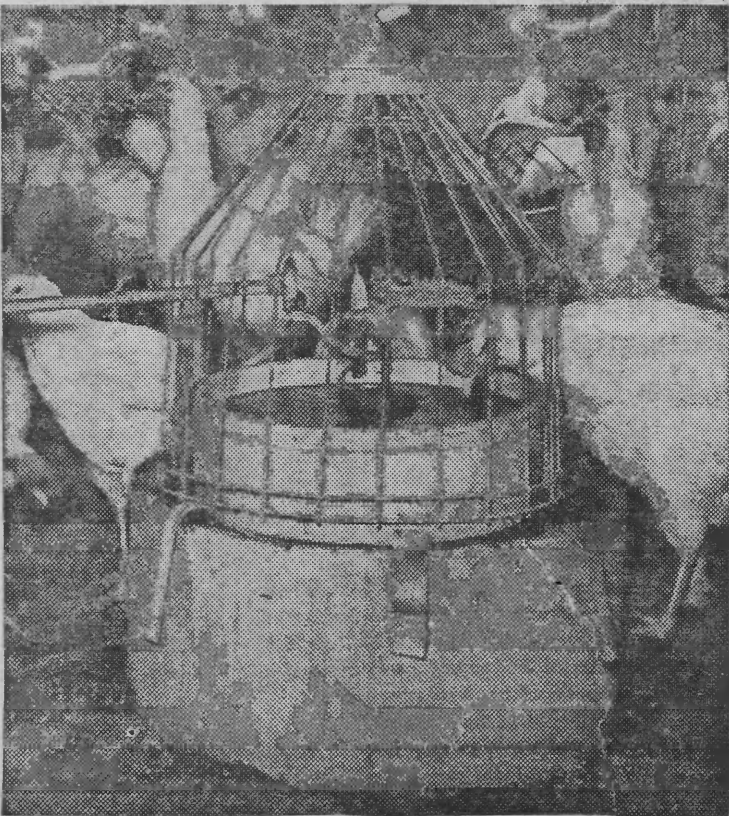
A grader which is of special value to large producers grade eggs for weights, lifting them from one cup to another until the proper balance is obtained. It uses about one-twentieth kwh per hour.

Picker—Debeaker—Fly Trap

If you have many chickens to prepare for markets you'll appreciate a picker. It's a revolving drum with rubber fingers which strip a bird in about a minute. It removes all except the heavier wing and tail feathers and uses only about 1/2 kwh per hour.

An electric debeaker which snips a bit off the beak prevents cannibalism and eliminates feed waste. About 1 kwh of power is required to debeak 200 birds. Feed savings of 20% and complete elimination of cannibalism have been reported.

An electric screen or trap harmless to humans and animals, increases sanitation in the poultry house by reducing the number of flies. The screen uses one-fifth to one-third kwh per day.



Fresh, pure water is essential to the health and egg production of your chickens.

NEWS FROM Clinton County

JOSEPH HEIMANN, Supt.
Breese, Ill.

HENRY SCHURMAN DIES

The cooperative extends its deepest sympathy to the family of Henry Schurman, who died December 1. Mr. Schurman owned one of our electrified farms, two miles east of Bartelso.

Superintendent Joseph Heimann represented the cooperative at the annual meeting of Region 5 of the National Rural Electric Cooperative association in Dubuque, Ia., recently. Your cooperative is a member of the national association, as well as of the Illinois Association of Electric cooperatives.

We're Growing Up

The increase in the amount of power consumed by the members, as well as the addition of new members, led to the installation of three larger transformers at our sub-station, 1 1/2 miles southeast of Blackemeyer.

The new 200 KVA transformers replace the three 100 KVA transformers which formerly served the area. The new transformers, weighing 3800 pounds, took the afternoon of December 6 to be done by your superintendent and cooperative's 2-man crew. The hour, current being supplied by the system from 1:25 to 3:00 p.m. the afternoon the transformers were installed.

NOT OUR FAULT

Electric power in the Clinton County Electric Cooperative area and throughout all territory, including towns, villages and rural settlements, from Trenton to Centralia was disrupted for forty-five minutes the night of December 7. The area went dark at 7:05 when trouble resulted on the Illinois Power Company lines which serve the cooperative and a wide area in this sector of the state with electricity. A faulty circuit breaker was said to have caused the interruption in service.

Season's Greetings

The cooperative's board of directors, office personnel, line crew and management take this opportunity of extending to the membership their best wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a most prosperous and happy New Year.

NEW EQUIPMENT PURCHASED

Several of our members have been fortunate in securing new electrical equipment. Edward Eifering, who resides southeast of Albers, has purchased a milking machine, while Rosa Lohmann, 1 mile west of Aviston, Henry Buehne, 1 1/2 miles southeast of St. Rose, and Henry Ottensmeier, 3 miles southwest of Breese, have each installed hot water heaters in their milk houses.

At the last meeting of the board of directors, it was voted to continue subscribing to the Illinois REA News for the members. To help us in preparing news notes for our column in the state-wide publication, we wish that more of our members would remember to tell us things of interest going on in their community. We'd like to have more news, for instance, about your sons and daughters in service; where they are; what they're doing and how they're getting along. Give us some information the next time you're in the office, or drop us a line.

(Turn to Page Eleven)

Teachers Learn About REA; Join In Conference

The REA cooperative program, its aims and purposes; wiring requirements, necessary steps in securing service, and the possibilities of using and making home-made electrical equipment were presented late last month at a vocational agricultural instructor's conference in Springfield.

Sponsored by the Menard Electric cooperative of Petersburg, the conference was open to all vocational agricultural teachers and school authorities in the area served by the cooperative. Speakers included A. E. Becker, manager of the cooperative; Arnott P. Smith, chairman of the Sangamon County Agricultural Conservation committee; George L. Davis, wiring inspector of the cooperative; D. W. Teare, head of the REA farm unit division of the Rural Electrification Administration; Phillip Dodge, editor of the national REA News; H. H. Coe, manager of Westinghouse Electric Manufacturing company, and J. H. Nolan, sales engineer of the General Electric company.

Fred E. Darr, electrification adviser of the cooperative, was chairman of the meeting. A complimentary dinner was served in the evening.

Teare Speaks

Mr. Teare, with the help of stereopticon slides and a demonstration of various home-made appliances mounted on an ingenious motor table, outlined the advantages to be gained through the profitable use of electricity and described how farmers can build their own electrically operated equipment to meet current wartime shortages.

Electricity, he said, has now become a universal tool and predicted that the end of the war will see 80 per cent of the farm homes, rural establishments and farms electrified through an intensified REA construction program.

The beginning of mechanical developments in the rural field, he stated, occurred in 1830 when Eli Whitney invented the cotton gin—a factor, Teare added, which made slave labor profitable and led to the Civil war. What mechanization has not entirely displaced manual labor from the farm areas, however, was shown by Teare's statement that there still are 12,000,000 horses and mules in the country today.

Electricity on the farm, he said, will lower production costs, raise living standards, decrease labor costs, increase income and improve the quality of products.



DURING A LULL IN THE MEETING—Vocational teachers, REA representatives, farm and cooperative leaders have their picture taken during vocational conference, sponsored by Menard Electric cooperative.

Those shown in the group include: First Row—George L. Davis, cooperative wiring inspector; Phillip Dodge, editor REA News; T. J. Shambaugh, representative of University of Illinois agricultural engineering college, and son, Teddy Shambaugh, both of Oakley; A. E. Becker, manager of Menard Electric cooperative; J. B. Adams, assistant state supervisor of agricultural engineering; J.

H. Strubinger, also assistant state supervisor of agricultural engineering; M. H. Banner, Tri-County high school, Buffalo.

Second Row: Fred E. Darr, electrification adviser, Menard Electric cooperative; A. E. Foster, Lincoln community high school; Harry A. Houseworth, line foreman of Menard Electric cooperative; John H. Churchill, Rochester community high school; Harold Nolan, Pleasant Plains high school; D. W. Teare, head of REA farm unit division; Charles Ater, Ashland high school; Arnott P. Smith, chairman, Sangamon County Agricultural Conservation committee; Max J. Worthington, Petersburg high

school; William Petefish, Virginia community high school; R. M. Tomlin, Springfield high school; A. E. Stetson, public relations head of Illinois department of agriculture; Jack Nolan, sales engineer, General Electric company; H. H. Coe, sales manager, Westinghouse Electric Manufacturing company.

Those who attended but who were not present when the picture was taken include W. B. Braeuninger, principal and vocational agricultural teacher, Athens Community high school; Homer Brown, director of Menard electric cooperative, and C. A. Armstrong, New Holland high school.

Can Save Time

Mr. Dodge told the agricultural representatives that "using electricity for the purpose of driving mechanical implements can save you time and money."

During a question and answer period, he received ideas from the teachers for preparation by the REA informational department of stereopticon slides, motion picture strips and texts which will enable them to better present the story of electricity for classroom study.

Cooperative Story

Speaking about the cooperative program, particularly as it has applied to Menard Electric cooperative, Mr. Becker told the group that the Menard co-op started in 1936 and was one of the first in the state to be energized.

Beginning with only 123 miles of line, the cooperative today has a system which covers 1186 miles, serving farmers in Logan, Sangamon, Morgan and Menard counties. Revenue on the project, he said, averages about \$11.50 per mile. Self meter-reading, Mr. Becker stated, has saved the cooperative 8 cents per meter and bi-monthly billing has brought a saving to the cooperative of from \$400 to \$500 a month. He discussed organization of the Association of Illinois Electric cooperatives and the National Rural Electric Cooperative association, adding that passage of the Pace bill, a project of the NRECA, has saved the cooperative a total of \$2700 per year in interest.

The post-war period, he said, will see the cooperative building many more hundreds of miles of line on an area coverage basis and foresaw the REA program as affording an opportunity for the employment of many World War II veterans.

Wartime Restrictions

Mr. Smith discussed the difficulties which have faced plans for construction of electric lines because of the shortage of critical materials, saying that every effort possible was made to provide service for those who qualified for it. The thought behind allocations, he said, was to "back up the men at the front, even though it meant that many farmers had to carry a lantern just a little longer."

Electricity, Mr. Smith stated, will see better living conditions possible on farms and will provide farmers with higher type employees. He advocated adequate wiring in order to prevent fire hazards.

In discussing wiring requirements, Mr. Davis declared that insistence on proper wiring jobs is done only to help farmers eradicate hazards through use of electricity on farms. It is, he stated, not a matter of regi-

mentation, but purely one of safety. The inspector reviewed proper methods of wiring and answered numerous questions on installations to meet REA specifications based on the national code.

Mr. Coe and Mr. Nolan said that the "picture of getting small motors is not very bright, because small motors have gone to war." They advised that farmers discuss their problems with the cooperative office and their local electrical dealers before ordering motors in order that they may get the motor which is applicable to their needs.

I. A. A. PRAISES REA CO-OPS IN SERVING FARMERS

The Illinois Agricultural Association, at its recent meeting, voted unanimously in favor of electrifying the farms of the nation and commended REA cooperatives for their part in furthering the rural electrification program.

The text of the resolution adopted follows:

Whereas, the demands of war for materials have resulted in limiting and restricting the expansion of rural electrification, we urge the removal of these limitations upon the use of the materials for rural electric lines at the earliest moment consistent with military demands. We oppose any effort to injure the rightful intent or to impair the service of the REA cooperatives.

We request the board of directors to use every proper influence of the association to further the extension of high line electric service to the farm homes of Illinois.

RANGER ALFALFA RESISTANT TO WILT DISEASE

Ranger, a relatively new variety of alfalfa, has demonstrated its resistance to wilt and winterkilling in a three-year demonstration on the William Rohlwing farm in Cook county.

In 1941, nine varietal plots of alfalfa were seeded in plots 300 feet long and 12 feet wide at the crossroads of Highways 53 and 58, under the supervision of C. A. Hughes, Cook county farm adviser. Seed was provided by J. C. Hackleman, professor of crops extension, University of Illinois college of agriculture.

CLINTON COUNTY

(From Page Ten)
HONOR ROLL FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 1944

Commercial	
A. F. Strawser	5127
Gulf Refining Co.	1996
C. F. Frazier	1320
Lawrence Truitt	1151
Frank L. Hasson	400
Non-Farm	
E. W. Streibinger	750
A. J. Marcham	504
Farm	
Harvey Harpstrite	1359
Clarence Dickhaut	766
Harvey Klingelhofer	740
Joseph Heimann	653
Alvin Husmann	606
Charles Good	509
Vincent Schaefer	484
Henry Bergmann	475
Albert Leicht	472
Bernard Gebke	472
Vincent Albers	465
Frank Heinamann	435
Lewis Wiedle	408
Frank Hansemann	404
Geo. White	400
Alvis Loepker	395
Mont Criley	389
Orville Rinderer	388
Joseph Meyer	380
Ben Bruns	367
Wm. Murphy	364
Louis Heimann	363
Ed. Carson	362
Emelia Heimann	355
Emma Schumacher	344
Millard Felton	332
Adam Nettles	329
Walter Hester	326
Ben Meyer	323
Wm. Ranz	317
Joseph Ratermann	314
Wm. Varel	310
Fred Fruend	304
Robert Hayden	300

Operation Report

Miles of line	469.45
Members billed	1146
Average KWH Consumed	104.3
Average Member's bill	\$4.86
Total KWH Consumed	119,489
Total Billing	\$5,568.20
Income per Mile	\$11.86
Consumers per mile	2.43

TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE GIVEN CONSIDERATION BY SENATORIAL COMMITTEE

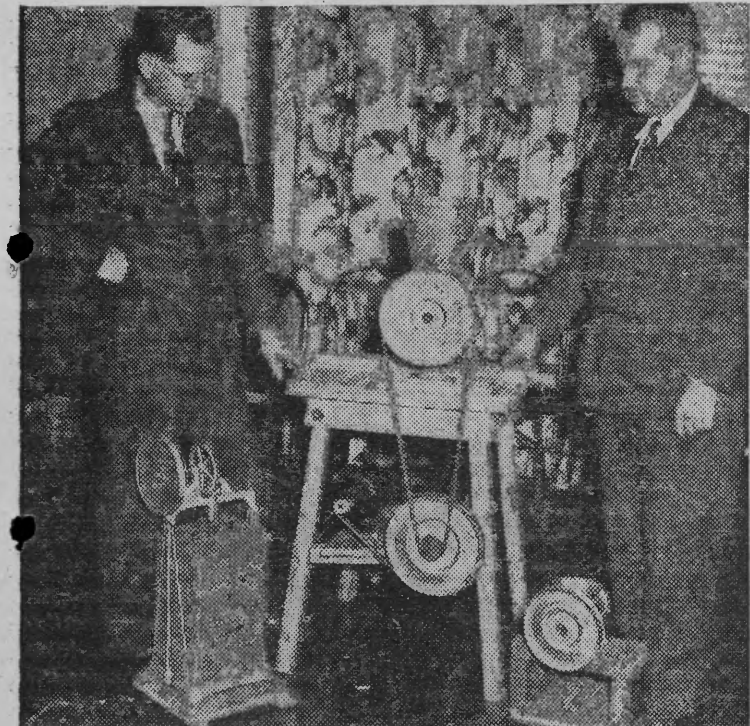
A bill which would create a Rural Telephone Administration, similar in set-up to REA and delegated to do for rural communication much the same job REA has done for rural electricity, has been presented to the Senate. Authored by Senator Lister Hill, Alabama Democrat, the bill was introduced on December 8—less than a month before the 78th Congress will have passed into history. Indexed as S. 2213, the bill was read twice before being referred for further study to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry.

Senator Hill's plan is for a Rural Telephone Administration established as an independent agency and headed by an administrator who would be appointed by the president with approval of the Senate for a term of 10 years. The administrator would receive an annual salary of \$10,000 and among other duties he would be charged with making loans which would provide and improve telephone service to rural areas.

Loans Not to Exceed \$50,000,000

The Reconstruction Finance Corporation would be authorized to extend loans not exceeding \$59,000,000 for the year ending June 30, 1945. This same amount would be loaned each year as Congress may determine necessary. The interest rate would be 1 3/4% per annum on all loans which would be fully amortized in a period not exceeding 35 years. No loan would be for more than 85% of the principal amount outstanding of obligations constituting security.

Today Britain produces 70 per cent of her food supply, compared with only 40 per cent before the war,



JUST A SIMPLE TWIST OF THE WRIST—Is all that seems necessary for Dan Teare (right), REA farm unit head, to convert numerous hand-driven equipment to electricity with the aid of his sturdy motor table. Phillip Dodge, editor of the national REA News, is shown at the left pondering Dan's ideas. A small corn meal mill is shown in operation, geared to a quarter-horse motor. On the floor ready for use are a churn and meat grinder.

Junior News

from REA farms

The Merriest Christmas--Ever



A little spruce tree stood deep in the forest. It was a beautiful spruce tree. Its branches were full, its body straight, and its top pointed to the sky. But the little spruce tree was sad—and its branches drooped to the snowy ground.

Timmy Swishtail, the little red squirrel, was running through the woods singing his merry song. Timmy loved the Christmas season because then his mother gave him more nuts to eat—and his father brought home special treats of rosy apples. But the little squirrel stopped short when he saw the sad spruce.

"Why are you so droopy, Miss Spruce?" asked Timmy. "It's Christmas tomorrow. Be merry and gay like me!"

"O Timmy," cried Miss Spruce. "All year I had planned on being a Christmas tree. I dreamed of wearing a shimmering white dress hung with red balls."

"Maybe you will be a Christmas tree," said Timmy, trying to comfort the tree.

"No, no, I won't. The birds told me that Jack, the farmer's boy, found a tree at the edge of the woods," and the spruce dropped its branches still deeper in the snow.

"Cheer up, Miss Spruce. You'll still be here next year and the other year will be dried up," said Timmy, as he went on his way.

But Timmy wasn't as happy as he had been. He was thinking so hard about Miss Spruce that he bumped headlong into his pal, Bunny Flufftail.

"Look where you are going Timmy. You hurt my ears!" and Bunny rubbed his long ears with his soft little paws.

"Bunny, you're just the one I'm looking for," said Timmy Swishtail. "Miss Spruce is broken hearted. More than anything she wants to be a Christmas tree—but Jack, the farmer boy, found a tree closer to his home."

"Let's make her our Christmas tree," said Bunny, his ears standing straight up.

"Bunny, you're smarter than I thought. We'll do just that!" and Timmy's tail swished harder than ever. "We'll call the animals and birds. They can help decorate her."

The news spread like wildfire. All the animals and birds came flocking

toward Miss Spruce. You should have seen them work. Not once during the day did they stop.

The birds flew back and forth carrying bright red berries to hang on Miss Spruce's green boughs. The beavers brought long silvery icicles to make her shine. The rabbits placed pretty red leaves in her green needles, and the squirrels tucked big brown nuts in the branches.

Timmy Swishtail stood back and stared. "All we need is a star for her tip."

"And I know just the thing. We'll gather milkweed floss and the sparrows can place it on her crown," said Bunny Flufftail.

The sparrows worked very carefully. Soon they had made a shimmering white star on the tree's tip. Miss Spruce was beautiful. All the animals could hardly believe they had made this wondrous Christmas tree.

"You're the prettiest Christmas tree we've ever seen," they told Miss Spruce. And Miss Spruce shined happily and held her branches out straight and strong.

"Thank you, thank you very much," she said softly. "Now that I am your Christmas tree, please bring your families and celebrate Christmas under my boughs."

The animals dashed home to bring their gifts out of hiding and soon they returned pulling their babies and gifts on little sleds. This was the Merriest Christmas ever!

Best fed countries in the world are United States, Britain, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, Canada, New Zealand and Australia.

The extension service of the University of Illinois College of Agriculture has a recommended program which dairymen can follow to control chronic infectious mastitis.

The American grown soybean is expected to play an extensive role in the post war European food relief program.

Landlords in England must give 12 months' notice to move a tenant and the equivalent of a year's rent for "disturbance" or termination of a lease before it expires.

Pen Pals

Merry Christmas, Pen Pals!

Season's greetings, slick skating, and fast sledding, Pen Pals. We hope, too, that Santa fills your stocking bulging-full on Christmas morn. And remember your Pen Pals with holiday greetings.

Vacation time is a fine time to catch up on your letter writing—and after you've finished your "thank-you" notes, do write that first 1945 letter for the Pen Pal column. The address is Val Thoenig, Illinois REA News, Petersburg, Ill.

Naomi Collects Napkins

I am 15 years old, have brown eyes and auburn hair. My birthday is March 31. I am five feet, three inches tall, and weigh 106 pounds.

My hobbies are collecting napkins, playing the cornet, reading, and writing letters.

I attend Ursa High School and I am a sophomore. I belong to 4-H clubs. Bicycling is my favorite sport. I will answer all letters.

—Naomi Baker,
Ursa, Illinois.

Vernice Wants Pen Pals

I am 8 and will be nine on July 7. My eyes are blue-grey. I am four feet, three inches tall. I have blonde hair. I go to McGuffey School and am in the fourth grade. I would like some Pen Pals. I have a big sister and a baby brother.

—Vernice Hull,
Burnside, Illinois.

"Everyone write!" says Jane

I would like to join the Pen Pals. I am 17 years old and am five feet, five inches tall. I have medium auburn hair.

I have several hobbies—writing letters, listening to the radio, Harry James is my favorite.

I work in Assumption, doing housework. I have seven sisters and five brothers.

I like to play basketball and baseball. I would like to hear from boys and girls in different states but anyone will do. So every one write to me.

—Jane Brittin,
Assumption, Illinois.

Joan Likes to Sing

I am 11 years old and am four feet, seven inches tall. I weigh 70 pounds. I have blonde hair and blue eyes. I am in the sixth grade and go to Harrison school. I like to sing and read. I will answer all letters.

—Joan Harris, RR 1,
Parkersburg, Illinois.

Mildred's Third Letter

This is my third letter in the Illinois REA News. I am 12 years old, five feet, seven inches tall. I have brown eyes and brown hair. I weigh 105 pounds and am in the seventh grade. My hobbies are 4-H and playing the piano. I have some cats, one dog, seven rabbits, one bird, and chickens. I help Mother and Dad. I collect iron, fat, and paper.

—Mildred Schmidgoll,
Mackinaw, Illinois.

Grace Will Answer

I am 11 years old and am four feet, 11 inches tall. I have brown hair and brown eyes. By birthday is June 1. I weigh 94 pounds and am in the

sixth grade.

I have several hobbies. I live on a 80 acre farm and have one brother. I will answer all letters.

—Grace Brinner, RR 1,
New Holland, Illinois.

"Don't let me down," writes Verna I have written to some Pen Pals in New York and I would like to have more than two pen pals. So come on kids drop me a line. I am 13 years old and am five feet tall. I weigh about 92 pounds and have dark brown hair and eyes.

Please write to me. I live in the Pure Oil Camp. Please write to me in the Brown's Camp. Come on boys and girls, don't let me down.

—Verna Morris,
Box 183,
Cisne, Illinois.

Tricky Stuff With Nail Polish

Slick-chicks these days are doing everything with nail polish except eat it up! They paint gadgets, buttons, artificial nails to string around the neck.

On the beam teen-tricks are these ideas: "We paint doll's clothespins, clip them on the edge of a belt or pocket, or use them as bobby pins.

"We lace our shoes backwards to tie at the bottom, and paint the shoe-lace tips with red polish. If our nicknames have five letters we write them on our fingernails with polish—one letter to a nail.

"A swell lapel gadget can be whipped up with corks, nail polish and a little ingenuity. Or paint macaroni and string it for a necklace—alternate with white buttons for something really special.

"We're hot for raincoats that look like a comic strip—Li'l Abner Daisy Mae and the gang make fine decorations. We use pen-and-ink for sketching, nail polish to add spots of color."

NRECA MEETING

(Continued from Page One) to be no evening sessions, a requested arrangement this year in order to provide additional free time for the conventioners.

Among the notables secured thus far for the convention program are Hon. Herbert Cottingham, Chairman of the Manitoba Power Commission, Canada; Paul J. Raver, Bonneville Power Administrator; Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey; and a representative of the Mexican government.

Reservations Important
With nine army camps and flying fields surrounding San Antonio to crowd its hotel facilities, urgent need of hotel and travel reservations are being emphasized by the National Association and the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce.

Hotel reservations are being handled by the NRECA office in Washington up to January 1. After that date all reservations must be directed to the Chamber of Commerce in San Antonio. Care is being given to the assignment of all reservations with respect to state delegations but is now being suggested that delegates from each state unite in placing reservations in order that this convenience can be provided. Train reservations should be made on a round-trip basis and should be placed immediately.

All Co-ops Invited
Through the National association an invitation is being extended to all REA cooperatives, public power and public utility districts to attend the annual meeting in San Antonio, irrespective of membership in the organization. Any non-member cooperative, appearing at the convention with membership application and check for dues, will be permitted to participate in the transaction of business.

In Britain about 2 per cent of the farmers have been pushed off the land for failure to cooperate in the government drive to step up food production.

WAYNE-WHITE

(From Page Twelve)
Electric Code be adhered to 100 per cent.

All of the employees and management were very appreciative of the time and effort Mr. Payne put forth to inform us with regard to many construction details and we are hopeful that Mr. Payne will find time to do this again because it was very educational and beneficial to all of us.

Attending Regional Meeting at Dubuque, Iowa

Your Manager was delegated to attend the Annual National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Regional Meeting at Dubuque, Iowa, November 28th, for the purpose of nominating and electing a delegate to serve on the National Association Board.

A detailed item of this meeting will appear in another part of this issue. Therefore, we will not take much space to report results of the meeting because it will be covered in the other item.

The Manager found the weather to be considerably colder and more wintry in Iowa, the ground was covered with snow and ice and the temperature was down to near zero. We were happy to get back to Southern Illinois temperatures. It was much warmer.

The Board of Trustees, Management and Employees of the Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative wish to take this opportunity to wish all of the Board of Trustees, Managers and Superintendents of all other Illinois REA Cooperatives a very Merry Christmas and a successful Happy New Year.

ADAMS ELECTRIC

(From Page Four)

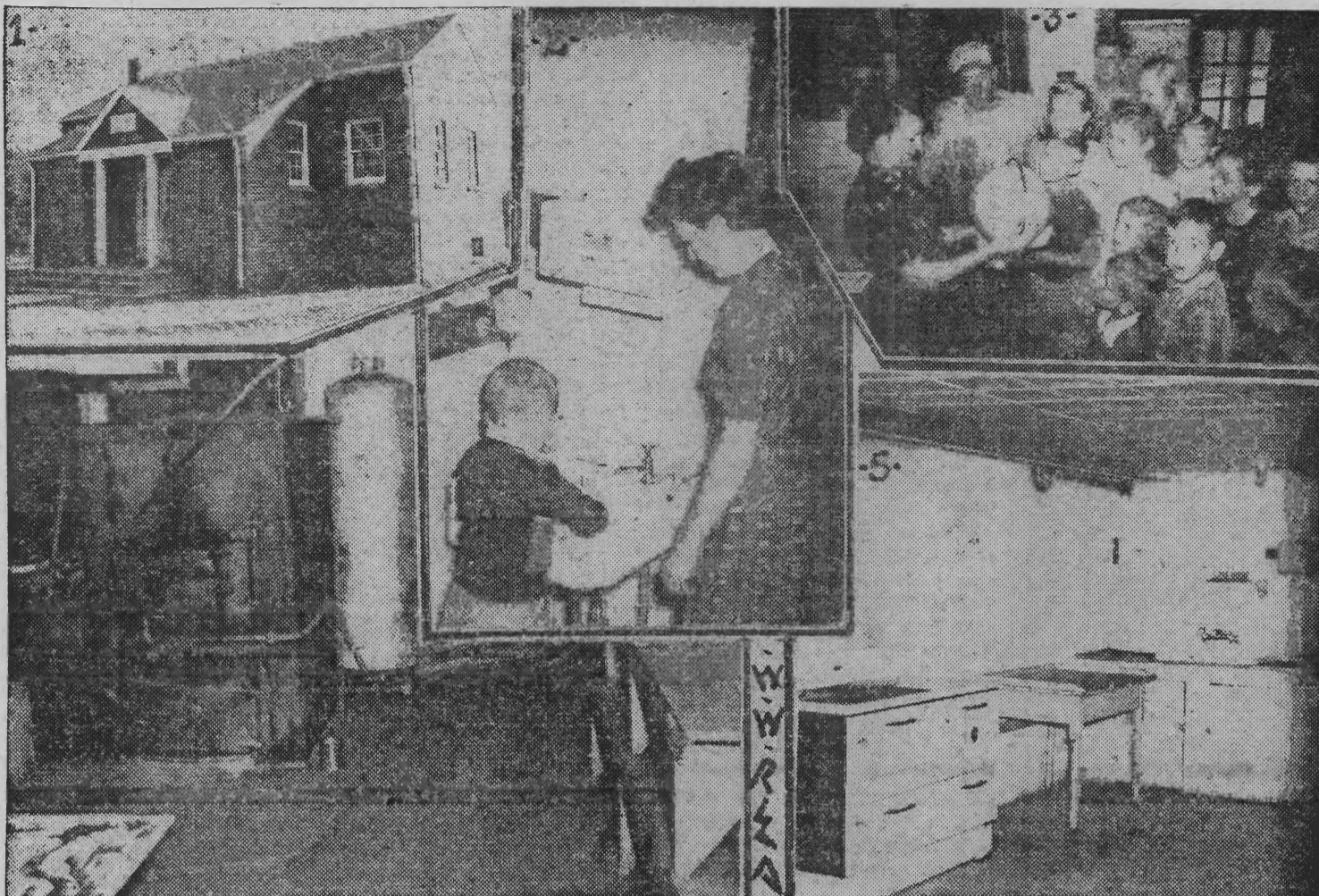
Thomas Sorrell	671
Royal Jackson	592
Earl Tenhouse	516
Sam Worman	511
Harry Sherrick	502
Duncan Bros.	468
Jacob Jacobsen	444
Henry Ihrig	423
Ray Thompson	422
Mrs. Anna Wall	417
Elmer Albsmeyer	386
Burton Chamberlain	386
Frank Shriver	373
Ralph McCormick	349
John Roy	348
Earl Dralle	347
Mrs. Louis Durst	344
C. M. Ridings	329
C. O. Thompson	328
Edw. Althoff	325
Wm. Eifert	320
Oscar Dedert	313
John Laswell	313
Arthur Walford	313
Tom Kirkpatrick	308
Raymond Leeper	305
Anna Grubb	297
Robert Lawler, Jr.	297
Herbert Orr	297
A. B. Leeper	291
R. Wray McIntyre	291
Fred Keene	289
Ernest Flesner	288
Emil Sherrick	286
Henry Schrecke	280
John Sargent	279
Lawrence Stone	278
Wilbur Pearce	275
J. D. Blausler	273
Roger Chase	273
James Gunn	268
Geo. Baker	261
Michael Metzger	257
Leslie Knox	255
Harm Aden	254
John Hamilton	254
Vernon O'Brien	253

Commercial

Roy Morton	1608
Martin Sherrick	884
Liberty High School	836
Town of Camden	745
Wheelhouse Coal Co.	725
Harry Hertzler	710
E. P. Gross	589
Geo. Kestner Store	559
Green Lantern	488
Lucy Seymour	445
H. M. Seymour	438
Ruth Miller	393
Clayton Waterworks	382

What REA Power - - - Does For Rural School Illustrated Here

Resolutions on Line Work Are Given Approval



RURAL SCHOOL IS MADE MODERN BY ELECTRIC POWER

Constructed about four years ago, this colonial-type, one room rural school building, located near Fairfield, stands high on the list of country schools which advance claims to having a wide range of modern conveniences.

It owes its beginning to the progressive oil boom in the Wayne-White Electric cooperative area, the original school building, which was located a quarter mile west of the present site, having been torn down to make way for an oil well in 1938. For two years thereafter, students went to school in a temporary building, a half-mile away from the new school.

Although the oil well wasn't as successful as had been hoped, the new school was based on an optimistic output, with the result that the building today is the pride of rural educational authorities in the county as well as community residents.

Water from a deep well at the rear of the building was piped into the school and the old hand pump discarded. With the electrically-operated water system, the school board made available a number of modern facilities, including water fountains, shower baths and lavatories.

All of these modern conveniences, including adequate lighting facilities, were made possible through power provided by Wayne-White Electric cooperative at Fairfield. Electricity virtually brought the city to the country and boys and girls in the area are better students because of it. They follow a schedule of taking shower baths twice a week, and study without the dangers of eye strain beneath overhead lights.

The coal-burning furnace in the basement has an electrically-operated fan which forces warm air into the building. There also are facilities in the basement for holding community meetings, and parents assemble regularly there to enjoy dinner sessions.

Mrs. Freda Baker, wife of Olen Baker, clerk of the circuit court at Fairfield, is the teacher at the school, which this year numbers grades from two through eight.

Students include Leonard Fray,

Benny Southard and Joan Nevius, second grade; Bobby Southard, third; Merle Nevius, Billy Southard and Richard Jackson, fourth; Carl Nevius and Norma Jean Johnson, fifth; Bobby Merritt, Grant Hoskins and Elmo Majors, sixth; Nadine Majors, Barbara Jackson and Jack Nevius, seventh; Ethel Nevius and Virgil Sprague, eighth.

A PHOTOGRAPHIC ADVENTURE AROUND A MODERN RURAL SCHOOL—1. Attractively designed—what do you think? 2. When Johnnie needs, or wants, to wash his hands he can do it in this rural school building—and he doesn't have to carry water first from the pump either; modern plumbing solves the problem. 3. Teacher and students greet a new arrival—the very latest globe of a very troubled world. 4. Lower left shows the school's heating system—an efficient furnace with an electric force air fan. Also visible is a hot water heater. 5. A view of the kitchen corner of the school basement.



HAPPY DAY—For Mr. and Mrs. Bailey, shown at extreme right, as they watch Corn Belt linemen set a pole in their farm yard preparatory to extending service to their premises.

Co-op, Farmer Keep Trying; Goal Reached

Perseverance is a virtue which Mr. and Mrs. George Bailey, new Corn Belt Electric Cooperative members, have in abundance.

Small wonder, therefore, that when details in connection with bringing service to the Bailey farm were completed and linemen arrived to finish the job Mr. Bailey told co-op workers he was "happier to see them than Santa Claus."

The line leading to the Bailey property had been staked at various times during the last three years, but difficulties arose to prevent service after each attempt. First the war came along and hindered the cooperative from procuring sufficient materials to complete the line, then

there was a matter of not enough animal units and finally an important section of right-of-way couldn't be secured.

But the cooperative and Mr. and Mrs. Bailey kept trying, and finally all obstacles were cleared to permit electricity to flow to the farm and operate the equipment which had been "standing-by" ready for the day when current arrived.

Now Is Limestone Time

Now is a good time to buy limestone for sour soil. The farmer seldom has a better chance to buy so much lime with 100 bushels of corn or 100 pounds of live hogs than he has today, according to L. B. Miller, assistant chief of soil experiment fields over the state.

Only 10 per cent of the increase in national income since 1939 has gone to farmers.

INCREASE LOANS MADE FARMERS FOR CORN CROPS

In compliance with new farm price legislation, the War Food Administration will make loans to farmers on 1944 corn at 90 per cent of parity. They were made last year at 85 per cent.

The loan rates will average 98 cents a bushel nationally but will vary by counties from 87 cents to \$1.12 a bushel on U. S. No. 3 corn or better.

Rates under a similar price support program last year ranged from 81 cents to \$1.01.

Generally speaking, loans average lower in midwestern corn belt counties and higher elsewhere, in line with normal market price variations.

Forty REA cooperative superintendents and foremen from Illinois projects braved one of the worst snow storms of the year to attend the annual Illinois safety conference December 11 and 12 in St. Louis.

With D. B. Bidle, director of the Illinois REA safety and job training committee in charge, the group discussed a variety of subjects pertinent to line construction activities and safety and then joined in adopting the following resolutions:

Resolved, That Illinois REA cooperative superintendents, managers and line foremen in conference assembled at REA offices at St. Louis, Missouri, express appreciation to the Illinois REA Safety and Job Training Committee and to REA personnel for arranging and assisting with this conference, and be it also resolved that such safety conferences be held annually.

Resolved, That Committee A of the Rural Electrification Administration carefully consider an H-frame structure designed for mounting oil circuit breakers on three-phase lines and to prepare specifications for same.

Resolved, That Safety Section of REA be requested to give approval for use of pole steps for switch poles where cooperative deem their use advisable and that specifications be prepared for their installation and use.

Resolved, That the Legal Division of REA be thoroughly informed regarding problems of improper farmstead wiring and its legal implications and be requested to study the problem and make recommendations to cooperatives.

Resolved, That the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives give consideration to the purchase of one or more bulldozers to be used by Illinois cooperatives in clearing hedge and other right-of-ways and a plan be presented to Illinois cooperatives for its use.

Resolved, That Construction Drawing M24-2 entitled "Special Service Assembly Guide" be revised so that all conductors are placed on the same side of support poles on services.

Resolved, That the Safety Section of REA be requested to provide each cooperative lineman a copy of each current issue of the REA "Lineman."

The resolutions committee consisted of T. H. Hafer, chairman; N. B. Elliott, L. C. Groat, John E. Hardy, and J. R. Carpenter. It was suggested that Dean Searls, secretary of the state committee, prepare a report of the meeting for distribution to each REA cooperative in Illinois.

In 1940 approximately one-half of the farms in the United States were located on dirt roads.

Charles Ness, Litchfield, Minn., has found 67 uses for electricity on his farm.



APPLE A DAY—Keeps the doctor away, but doesn't prevent this Corn Belt lineman from setting a pole on the line going to the Bailey farm. Manager T. H. Hafer stands by to see that everything goes according to plan.

Here 'n there

in ILLINOIS
BY RUSSELL GINGLES

(From Page Two)

his speech to REA and farm leaders. The reporter, assigned to cover the talk, based his story on the secretary's prepared speech—a handout which Wickard did not use. The incident recalls Henry Ward Beecher's remarks. Beecher, a famous preacher, once said that he usually had three speeches—one that he wrote, another that he gave and a third which he was reported as having given.

The mystic art of sleight-of-hand, that gentle science of now-you-see-it, now-you-don't, held sway at two annual meetings last month. Both M.J.M. and Southwestern presented magicians who did things which even electricity would have trouble doing.

Frank Andrew, that farm mechanical wizard, evidently hasn't yet had time to turn his inventive mind to changing the more conventional ways of life. For Frank, who plows, harrows and disks his fields without bothering to do more than whisper to the gas tank of his tractor and who, now is devising a multitude of other ways to get more fun and less work out of farming, gave his fellow co-op members a shock at the M.J.M. annual meeting. He ate his ice cream and drank his pop in the usual manner of less talented men and women.

Joe Heimann and his progressive board of directors had a method in giving prizes to every member attending Clinton County's annual meeting . . . and results of the prizes are bound to show up sooner or later in monthly bills. For the every-member award was a 100-watt light bulb.



EASY TO MAKE, ECONOMIC TO USE—That's the power operated 2-hole hand corn sheller shown above. It is one of the many samples of Mr. Baus' handiwork and shows the advantages which farmers can derive from using their electricity to the maximum degree. The wooden alley, attached to the flywheel spokes by U-bolts, is operated by a half-horsepower motor.

Must have been a spy in the recent closed meeting of managers and directors of Illinois REA cooperatives in Springfield. Just as the boys warmed up and started throwing verbal rights and lefts in the direction of the Illinois state commerce commission for its adverse decisions on REA co-ops, the lights went out.

Down in the Southeastern Illinois co-op area in Harrisburg, Art Lenz has a name for farm homes which seem likely to be connected and those which are in the "maybe" class. The likely members are dubbed "prospects," while those in the uncertain category are referred to as "suspects." Somehow we have a sneaking feeling that Art and your editor may skip an invitation to call back at a big flourish.

spar mine. We've both been assured of a trip down 300 or more feet into the bowels of the earth to watch the men at work.



LOOKED LIKE A TIRE—From across the road, but closer inspection revealed that Wilbur Curtis, member of Western Illinois Electric cooperative of Carthage, was rolling up about 600 rods of wire used in fashioning an electrified fence along his pasture land. Mr. Curtis uses a 6-volt battery to charge his fence and says that the charge from a battery of this voltage is sufficient to "shock" stock into remaining in designated areas over a span of two or three miles of wire.

A good REA superintendent evidently has to know his unelectrified as well as his electrified side. Had it not been for F. A. Tannahill's knowledge of which end of a kerosene lamp to light, we would have twiddled our thumbs in the darkness of Martin Creek church recently. Long before the crowd had gathered to discuss an REA building program, "Tanny" had dispersed a few shadows from the piano and was humming lustily while we picked out a few assorted sharps and flats from a hymnal.

Correction please: C. D. McCommons is in the office and the girls are out in the warehouse. OK girls, don't speak to any strange transformers.

NEWS FROM Jo-Carroll

Elizabeth, Ill.
FLOYD RUBLE, Mgr.

Successful Meeting

Despite inclement weather, your cooperative enjoyed a very successful meeting on December 5. Sorry you weren't all there, as you would have enjoyed the program presented along with reports of last year's activities. All of the reports are on file in the cooperative office, so those of you who wish to look them over may do so at your convenience.

Annual Billing

The board is considering offering members of the cooperative an opportunity to pay their electric bill ONCE PER YEAR instead of every month. Some farm residents feel that paying once a year would be easier than every month—wouldn't forget to look at the meter so often, they say. At any rate, some plan may be presented for the consideration of members in the near future. Annual billing would save your office personnel considerable time—and, maybe, save you some time too.

It's Corn Picking Time And REA Men Assist In Aiding Neighbor



ALL ABOARD AND RARIN' TO GO—While Horner S. Meyers guides his 2-row picker through the field, Den Hunsinger, (rear) sees that no ears escape going into the wagon attached to the tractor.



WEIGHING IN TIME—Back from the field with the first load of corn, R. H. "Harold" Farlow and son, Lee, stop a few moments on the scale while John Floetman weighs the results, and finds them good.

The cooperative welcomes Carl Maring of Chadwick to the board of directors this year. He succeeds Chester Alexander, also of Chadwick. To Mr. Alexander, we say: "Thanks, Chester, for a job well done. We've appreciated your cooperative views in helping direct Jo-Carroll, and we're going to miss you. Always remember, if you have any suggestions you'd like to make to help improve the cooperative, let's have them."

Attend Meetings

President Everett Read, Treasurer Morris W. Birkbeck and Manager Floyd Ruble represented your cooperative at the recent NRECA regional meeting in Dubuque. Mr. Ruble was also present at the Illinois safety meeting in St. Louis, December 11 and 12.

DEEP IN THE HEART OF . . .

Cpl. Robert Wand, who was employed by the cooperative before being inducted into the army, has returned from Alaska and is now thawing out at Kelly Field, Tex.

Bob, who was recently home on furlough, said that he had spent several months in Nome, where the temperature at times was as low as 50 degrees below zero. For sixteen months he was stationed in the Aleutian islands where, he recalled, the mercury dipped to 16 below and the wind at times reached a maximum velocity of 105 miles an hour. A member of a re-fueling unit of the Army air corps, Bob has been stationed in the Alaskan area for twenty-six months.

Good Postwar Market

That dairymen will have good postwar markets, given a reasonable degree of urban prosperity, was the opinion expressed by Tom G. Stitts, War Food Administration dairy chief, at the recent IAA meeting in Chicago.

"With full employment milk consumption could increase still further in the postwar period," the WFA chief said. "Since the war started, it has gone up 25 per cent."

No high-grade timber should be sacrificed for fuel wood. Use crooked, limby, diseased, insect-infected or dead trees.

Adams Officer Uses Picker To Speed Up Work

It takes a cooperater to be cooperative, says Horner S. Meyers, secretary-treasurer of Adams Electric cooperative of Camp Point . . . and so, even before his own corn had been picked this year, Mr. Meyers was using his new picker to help out his neighbors.

Starting at dawn, with the assistance of Den Hunsinger, R. H. "Harold" Farlow and son, Lee, Mr. Meyers brought grateful assistance to the John Floetman farm, located about three miles northeast of Camp Point.

And, just to keep the cooperative story rolling, let it be recorded that Mr. and Mrs. Farlow are parents of Ethel Farlow, an employe of Adams Electric cooperative, while Mr. and Mrs. Floetman are Ethel's grandparents. All are REA cooperative members. Mr. Hunsinger's farm was electrified by a utility company in the days before the REA line was brought to the community.

Mr. Meyers, however, expected to get back to his own corn picking job soon after assisting Mr. Floetman and hoped to make short work of picking his 80 acres with his 2-row picker. There are, the REA leader said, 200 head of hogs waiting to eat his corn this winter—so, he added, he had better get back to his own farm soon.

Mr. Floetman, 75 years old and still going strong, once operated a dairy in Quincy but returned to farming sometime ago. His record of raising a maximum number of pigs from a minimum number of sows is one of the wonders of the neighborhood.

Keep Costs at Minimum, Farm Operators Told

The principal opportunity for the individual farmer, especially if he is producing staples, lies in cutting the cost of production, according to Dr. E. C. Young, farm economist of Purdue university.

"If, through research, we can cut the cost of making meat, milk and related products, we can achieve many desirable objectives," Young said in a recent speech. "Farmers will harvest the profit who first take advantage of such cost reducing elements, if, as, and when they occur."

noon portion of the program scheduled to start at 1:15 p. m.

All members of the cooperative are urged to attend. Come and bring your neighbor, is a slogan which has helped REA cooperatives in Illinois get out big crowds this year. Let's follow the same thought.

Approximately 1000 persons attended the cooperative's annual meeting last January—and there is no reason why a similar crowd should not be present this year. Remember, this is your cooperative and it is a duty as well as a privilege for all cooperative members to attend.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Your board of directors met December 18 at a special session to consider the appointment of a manager to succeed Lester Boys, who resigned several weeks ago. Announcement of Mr. Boys' successor will be announced in the near future after the board's choice has been approved by the Rural Electrification Administration.

Since the resignation of Mr. Boys, Irvin McBride, who has been connected with the cooperative for a number of years, has been serving as acting manager.

NEWS FROM Shelby Electric

Shelbyville, Ill.

WELCOME

Your cooperatives welcomes the following new members, all of whom were connected during November: Dale Nicholls, Blue Mound; Reuben Solliday, Stonington; J. B. Rogers, Clarksburg; W. B. Reed, Shelbyville; Doris M. Giberson, Lakewood; Harry G. Hall, Shelbyville; C. W. Smith, Assumption; B. & B. Elevator company, Boody; Wayne Damery, Blue Mound; Burl Younker, Assumption; Cleve Jackson, Mode.

Lillie Combest, Shelbyville; William McCaslin, Nokomis; Mrs. Owen Shepherd, Blue Mound; Harold Reed, Assumption; Emma E. Clay, Shelbyville; Gus Ferguson, Windsor; Christina DeClerck, Assumption; Roy Devore, Stonington; Edward Reulecke, Rosamond; Floyd C. Kalenbach, Blue Mound; Basil E. Dain, Taylorville.

Ira Deam, Moweaque; Robert Young, Shelbyville; George E. Fearn, Pana; Mrs. Clara Schmitt, Strasburg; Mrs. Gladys Danenberger, Edinburg; Edward R. Albers, Blue Mound; Leland Clark, Blue Mound.

Ina Marie Swinford, who had been employed as office secretary of the cooperative, has resigned to accept a position in the Houdaille-Hershey war plant in Decatur.

ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Shelby Electric cooperative will be held January 25 in the old high school gymnasium at Taylorville.

John Strohm, managing editor of the Prairie Farmer magazine, and one of the best informed and most interesting speakers on farm affairs in the middle-west, will give the address on the afternoon program.

Reports of committees, presentation of management statistics and the election of officers will be features of the morning session. The day's activities will start at 10 in the morning, with the after-



Southeastern Provides the Juice and Fred Hamp Makes the Repairs

OPERATES ONE OF BEST RURAL MACHINE SHOPS FOUND IN STATE

Oil, grease and an accumulation of odds and ends left over from various repair and manufacturing jobs seem to go with most machine shops—but Fred Hamp's spic and span shop is different.

A former rural mail carrier, Mr. Hamp, whose shop is served by Southeastern Electric cooperative at Harrisburg, is one of those mechanically-inclined fellows who learned as he went along. At an early age, he realized that the farm was a great place for cows, hogs, and chickens and would make money for those who enjoyed farm work—but it was not for him.

For eight years, Mr. Hamp carried mail during most of the day and spent the remainder of the afternoon and early evening hours tinkering in his home blacksmith shop. Gradually he came to know most of the folks who reside in his area and built up a reputation for honest and skillful workmanship by repairing his neighbors' farm equipment in his spare time.

Came the REA

Five years ago Southeastern Electric cooperative began building lines in his direction and Mr. Hamp began building his frame and cement block machine shop on U. S. 34, just 1 1/4 miles south of Herod. Working with his father, who also is an REA member, Mr. Hamp was ready for service when Southeastern's high line reached the new constructed machine shop.

This ingenious machinist, who builds his own power hack saws and hydraulic presses, admits that on the day the shop opened for business his sole equipment consisted of a few hand tools. But, five years have made a world of difference.

A quick look around this shop, which has become practically a rural industry in the Herod area, reveals a bushing grinder, generator test bench, welder, two mighty presses, a test tank with all the mechanical devices necessary to repair radiators, an arc welding machine, power lathe, drill press, emory wheels, overhead crane and a host of other equipment so necessary in the machine shop business. There is a place for every tool—and every tool is in its place.

Farmer's Friend

Despite the fact that Mr. Hamp didn't stay on the farm, he is one of the best friends the farmers in the area have, because he has been a friend in need.

Many nights electric lights have burned until nearly morning in the machine shop while farmers waited anxiously for Mr. Hamp to repair a piece of broken equipment—or, at times, to make a new piece when the old one couldn't be fixed.

His hardest jobs, though, are brought in by operators of mines in the locality. It's a tough task, he says, to make bushings for obsolete

mining equipment—"but they can't buy them so somebody has to make them," Mr. Hamp patiently declares.

Nothing in the machinist line seems to stump him—"bring him anything that looks like a valve and he'll turn out the size and type valve you need—and in a hurry," folks in the neighborhood say. His reputation has traveled with his good work, and today customers patronize his rural shop from towns and cities 50 miles away.

All makes of automobiles and farm equipment and nearly every piece of mining equipment have been brought to Fred Hamp's machine shop for repairs in the last five years . . . and he fixes 'em all with an innate skill, assisted materially by his large number of electrically-powered machines operated by REA service. And Mr. Hamp knows how to operate his shop economically, too, for he has individual motors—seventeen of them—on each power-driven machine.

NEWS FROM McDonough Power

Macomb, Ill.

RAY GRIGSBY, Supt.

Farm adviser Ray G. Bendow, has been devoting considerable time lately at Camp Creek school in Scotland Township where a number of young people are about ready to organize one or two groups of the 4-H club. More than one unit will have been organized by the time this newspaper is published.

Mr. and Mrs. Reeon Hicks of Blandinsville received word last month from their son Harrell Hicks stating that he had been transferred to another ship. Those wishing his new address may obtain it from his parents.

Harrell has been in Londonderry, Ireland twice, Cardiff, Wales, Glasgow, Scotland, saw action in the Mediterranean during the summer of 1943 and has also been to Casablanca, Naples and Liverpool and England.

The new tenant house at the W. E. Streater home on the Berwick-Rosville Township is almost completed. From our observation the Streathers have not lost any time in rebuilding the new house since the fire and it looks as though the builders will be finished soon.

Roy H. Capron of Kirkwood Dead
Following injuries sustained in a fall in his home at Kirkwood a few days ago. Roy H. Capron who was an outstanding man in Warren County.

An extensive farmer and stock raiser, Mr. Capron was a man of wide interest and his passing is felt by a very wide circle of friends and acquaintances. Always pleasant and friendly, Mr. Capron was not without convictions and while he never obtruded his views on others, all of his acquaintances were aware of

EFFICIENT IS THE WORD FOR THIS MACHINE SHOP—
Extreme left shows Fred Hamp standing beside his home-made hydraulic press. Center shows an exterior view of his up-to-date frame and concrete block rural shop. At the right, Mr. Hamp demonstrates his home-made power hack saw.

his attitude on matters and affairs of public interest.

He came to Warren County, fifty-four years ago and on December 21, 1892, was married to Miss Minnie Billings, who survives him. Surviving also is an only son, Kieth B. of Glencoe, Ill., and two grandchildren, Darian and Keith Jr. There is one brother, Ralph Capron of Whiteboro, New York, and one sister Mrs. Jennie Markham of Constableville, in the same state.

Junior, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ebon Irish who is in the army had the pleasure of visiting home a short time. Thinks the time seemed so short while he was here that Father Irish is hoping for another visit.

James Franklin an army man also visited his father Charles Irish, a short time ago.

George E. Deams of the navy visited with his folks Mr. and Mrs. Orville Deams this month.

Mr. and Mrs. Tilden B. Burg and son, Jerry, of Sciota have returned from Chicago where the former exhibited cattle at the national livestock show.

He placed sixth with his Circle Dot cattle in the heavy weight car lot division and his prize steer won fourth place against strong competition in the open class division. Both wins were important in view of the class and the numbers of the competing exhibits.

Our president G. Wayne Welch and our Atty. Wm. R. Harris will attend a meeting of the Legislative Committee of the state association in Springfield next Friday, Dec. 15. They will then attend a meeting with the state rural electrification committee.

Miss Lofftus Outstanding in 4-H Club Work

Miss Marjorie Lofftus, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Everett Lofftus of Roseville community was selected by 4-H club officials from the University of Illinois college of agriculture and named as a winner of the national achievement contest, which carries two \$200 college scholarships, announced at the national 4-H club congress in Chicago recently.

In her nine years of 4-H club work Miss Lofftus has made 108 new garments, remodeled 20, prepared 675 meals, canned 1,083 quarts of fruit and vegetables and completed 21 room projects for improvement.

In 1943 she devoted 14,400 hours to victory service project and other 4-H work and was named the outstanding state member in the house beautification project.

This year she and her sister, Irene did all the house work in an 11-room house for nine people, prepared all the meals, preserved all the food that was canned or frozen for the family.

In addition, Miss Lofftus has served for the past two years as a local leader of the Point Pleasant Tireless Toppers 4-H club and been active in community and church affairs.

LESTER BOYS RESIGNS AS MANAGER OF SHELBY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE



Lester Boys, shown above with a part of his herd of 27 cattle, has resigned as manager of Shelby Electric cooperative after serving in that position since the beginning of the project.

His plans for the immediate future are based primarily on working his own 120-acre farm and assisting his father with operation of the home place, jobs which have become increasingly difficult since his younger brother was inducted into the army several months ago.

Later next spring Mr. Boys plans

to become an electrical appliance dealer and expects to open a place of business in Shelbyville. With 40 of 120 acres of land in timber, the former manager said that much of his time for the present will be devoted to cutting and marketing logs hewn on the farm.

CLAY COUNTY IS EXPANDING; PLAN 26 MORE MILES

Applications for service are pouring into the office of Clay County Electric cooperative at Flora since the project was recently energized, according to C. D. McCommons, manager.

The last of an original 146-mile construction job was completed and service brought to farmers in that area early this month. Plans now are to construct an additional 26 miles of line to serve 70 more consumers in Clay County's constantly expanding territory.

CARDINAL PRINCIPLES

The four cardinal principles in producing good quality cured ham, shoulders, and bacon at home are prompt chilling of the meat after slaughtering, careful measuring of meat and pickling ingredients, keeping the meat cool while in cure, and leaving the meat in cure the proper length of time.

Miss Lofftus' unusual career was broadcast over the Farm and Home Hour of WGN and her picture and stories of her achievements have been in a number of outstanding newspapers.

Since enrolling in the University of Illinois as a sophomore she has been active in the Wesley Players, Home Economics club, YWCA, and the Ili Union. Miss Lofftus is a granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kenton Lofftus of Point Pleasant Township.

Report Drop In Butter Shipped To Armed Forces

Shipments of butter to the armed forces and lend-lease have not been as heavy this year as last, according to War Food Administration officials.

Preliminary estimates indicated that 98 per cent of all the butter produced in 1944 will have been eaten by Americans. Eighty-nine per cent will have gone to civilians, 17 per cent to the armed forces, with the remaining two per cent to the Russian army, mostly for use in military hospitals.

Heavy amounts of milk powder and cheese, however, have been shipped by the WFA via lend-lease. Of the 740 million pounds of cheese set aside for government use this year, 470 million pounds went for lend-lease and 270 million to U. S. armed forces.

I.A.A. Demands Improved Roads, Better Schools

All-weather roads became the No. 1 project at the Illinois Agricultural association meeting late last month in Chicago, as farmers demanded the Illinois use the surplus in its state treasury to finance postwar jobs aimed at creating improved rural roads.

The I.A.A. schools committee also presented a comprehensive 71-page report calling for complete overhauling of the rural school system in the state in the hope of getting better country schools.

Earl C. Smith, association president, challenged industry and labor to meet the large scale production of agriculture after the war in maintaining prosperity and a high level of income. The convention delegates approved the agricultural adjustment act, but advocated that operation of it be taken out of politics through administration by a non-partisan board.

Smith asked that all pre-election bitterness be forgotten in order that "as a nation we can do our utmost in speeding the day of final victory and laying the plans for a permanent peace."

Some 8000 tons of zinc per year have been saved for essential war use by changing the tops of mason jars from zinc to steel.

Each million cartridges for small arms requires about 38,000 pounds of copper.