

ILLINOIS *REA* NEWS

The Voice of 60,000 Members

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SIXTEEN PAGES

PULS SUCCEEDS PAYNE AS REA CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER IN ILLINOIS

Better known by his own admission as "Sandy," Alexander E. Puls has been named REA field construction engineer of the Design and Construction Division to succeed Russell E. Payne who has been promoted to the position of assistant regional construction engineer at REA headquarters in Washington.

Puls will remain in the former St. Louis headquarters of the agency with offices in the Boatmen's Bank Building, until about February 1, after which time he will live in Collinsville.

A native of St. Louis, Puls is an engineering graduate of Washington University. During the eighteen months he has been with REA he worked in the Design and Construction Division offices of Regions Four and Five where he gained a thorough understanding of construction activities. He is especially familiar with conditions in Illinois which will now be his bailiwick.

Payne first joined the REA staff in June of 1941. From September, 1942, to September, 1944, he served as an electrical engineer with the War Department.

A. Hoosier Engineer

Born in Rockville, Indiana, Payne graduated from Purdue University with the bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering and later studied law at the University of Indiana. He is a registered professional engineer in the Hoosier State.

His interest in REA dates back to the time when he became a member of Parke County Rural Electric Membership Corporation in 1939, a membership he still retains. Having benefited by the REA program as a member of a cooperative, he has had the advantage of understanding the significance of electricity on the farm from a practical and economic standpoint. Mrs. Payne is also a native of Rockville.

For three years prior to 1940, Payne worked with a consulting engineer building REA projects. His "grass roots" background has proved helpful to him in working out REA construction problems and will serve him well in his new position in the Washington office.

A welcome and popular visitor to REA cooperative offices in Illinois, managers throughout the state responded to the official announcement of his promotion with mixed emotions, wishing him luck in his new job while expressing regret that he will not be a frequent caller in the future.

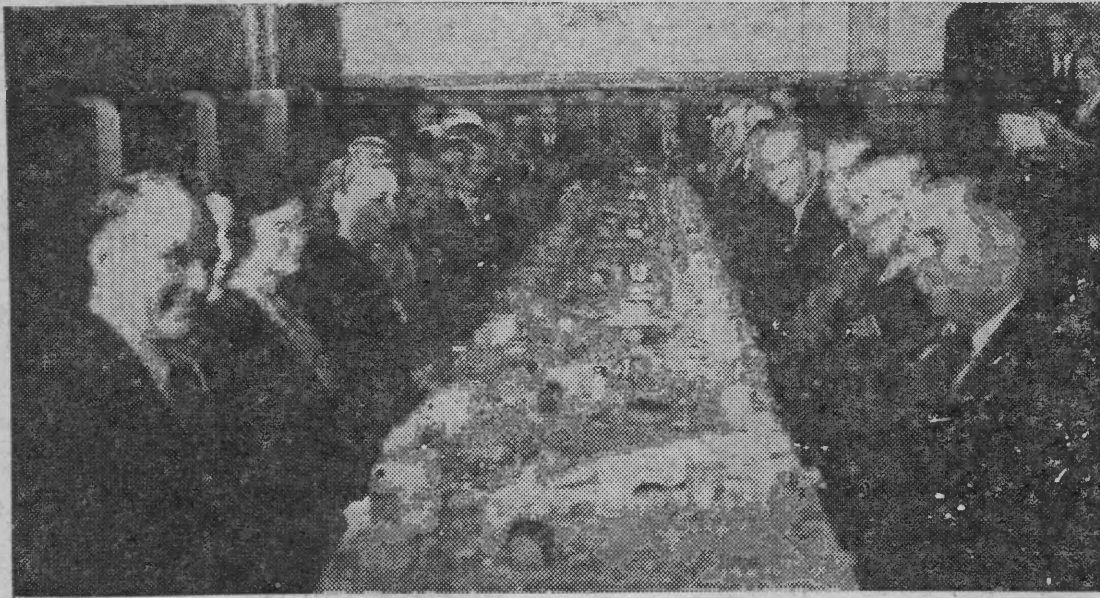
Russell Gingles Pays Fleeting Visit To Old Illinois Haunts

In Chicago the first week of December to attend several sessions of the national 4-H Club congress, Russell Gingles, former editor of the Illinois REA News, paid a brief visit to Menard Electric cooperative, Petersburg, enroute to his old home in Jacksonville where he transacted business before starting back to New York City.

"Makes me kinda homesick for good old Illinois and all the co-ops," Gingles commented as he drove through countryside intimately familiar to him from his two years of traveling the state visiting co-op projects in quest of news.

Gingles is currently manager of the Farm Electrification Bureau of the National Electrical Manufacturer's Association.

Work Interrupted For Lunch



MEETINGS THROUGHOUT THE STATE to discuss new REA work-order procedure and other technical and accounting problems to go into effect the first of the new year, were held in Jacksonville, Decatur and Mt. Vernon, this month. A typical scene is the one pictured above when the co-op personnel joined J. J. Murphy, assistant REA field auditor and other members of the REA field staffs, at lunch in Hotel Emmerson at Mt. Vernon. Seated around the table, from the left: Wm. F. Laufer, Marian Hartman, Dorothy Korando, Steelville; Emma Belle Sexton, Lois Hall and Lola Kelly, Mt. Vernon; Arleen Clarke and Helen Beam, Harrisburg, O. J. Cheney, and Kathleen Enlow, Fairfield; H. L.

Faulkner, Mt. Vernon; Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Holt, Steelville; Roy L. Morris and Samuel J. Miller, Fairfield; A. H. Lentz, Harrisburg; Joseph Heiman, Breeze; C. W. Crawford and Elmo Cates, Flora; George W. Endicott and R. T. Reeves, Dongola; Thomas Clevonger, Harrisburg; Paul Vursell, Mt. Vernon; Ben A. Hughes (REA auditor) and Wendell Newton of Mt. Vernon. At the table in the back, Harry D. Clarke is at the extreme left, J. J. Murphy and H. G. Downey of Mt. Vernon facing the large table, and Everett Brown, REA field engineer barely shows at the right. Ed Collier, REA field engineer with operations division attended but was "missing in action" to hold a flashbulb reflector.

LINEMEN OVERCOME MUD TO STRING WIRE FOR POLIO VICTIMS

A dramatic incident in the history of REA rural electrification was written during the second week of December when the line crew of a cooperative worked against time to build over three-quarters of a mile of

line through clinging gumbo, and rain to bring the therapeutic benefits of electricity to two tiny victims of infantile paralysis in a farm home in Southeast Missouri.

Assisted by willing volunteers, the skilled linemen of the Scott-New Madrid-Mississippi Electric cooperative at Sikeston worked around-the-clock hours to cross muddy cotton land in two days to connect the farm of Leslie Gaines in order that his two

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NEW MANAGER AT CLAY COUNTY CO-OP



Flora Project Brings Lights to Entire Village in Area

Since he took over his new duties as manager of Clay County Electric cooperative at Flora, Charles W. Crawford has had his hands full of problems, including work on a contract for the construction of 125 miles

of new line and that of energizing 28 miles of new line to bring service to nearly 100 new members including the residents of Bible Grove, a village north of Flora.

A contract has been let by the Board of Directors for the 125 miles of new line, and if approved by REA, Sadler Electric company of Nash-

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High Costs of New Lines May Hurt Program

Legislation Sought By Contractors Would Force Bid Taking

Sharply rising costs of rural electric line construction have compelled REA cooperatives to follow a policy of throwing out contract bids and negotiating with low bidders in some cases in an effort to reach a price which is not prohibitive.

Bids submitted by a majority of contractors dealing with REA cooperatives in Illinois have been greatly in excess of pre-war levels and in most instances, reflect a higher figure than can be justified by the increased cost of materials and labor during the war years.

So many contractors have been out of reason in their prices for construction that many Illinois co-ops have elected to do all construction work, both in building new lines under recently received allotments, and in handling major extensions and re-conversion lines where planned.

In rejecting all bids where prices

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Happy REA Year?

After four long years of bitter struggle against the forces of evil and destruction, America again faces a New Year in which our efforts can be dedicated to the pursuits of peace and the building of a better way of life.

Retarded while the nation was unified in its war against those who would have destroyed our freedom, the program of the Rural Electrification Administration is again moving forward, waiting only for a more settled peace-time economy to speed the job of bringing the limitless benefits of electricity to all who live in rural areas.

Dormant but watchful during the war years, those who oppose the REA cooperative program have now come into the open in their determined effort to curtail, perhaps ultimately to destroy, all that has been accomplished by the REA during more than ten years of prodigious endeavor. Those who for fifty years had the opportunity to construct rural lines, but who declined to do so because they were motivated by a desire for profit, now have raised their voices in loud lamentations over the success of the REA cooperatives and condemn them as "unfair competition" and "socialistic threats to free enterprise" in a concerted attack designed to undermine the program and return all power generation, transmission (and who knows... distribution?) to the greedy hands of the utility interests.

Will 1946 be a happy REA year? Will those who have worked so hard for so long to bring central station electricity to its fitting climax—complete area coverage—be thwarted now by those who oppose further expansion of the cooperative rural electrification program?

It behooves every member of an REA cooperative, and every farmer who hopes some day to be connected to an REA cooperative line, to take a firm stand against the selfish interests who would destroy what is rightfully his due—electrification.

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Buffalo Selected By National For Annual Meeting

The fourth annual convention of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association will be held in Buffalo, N. Y., on March 4-5-6, 1946, according to announcement from the Washington offices. Official headquarters will be at the Statler Hotel, where facilities are available for room reservations, convention and conference rooms, and space for exhibits. The National office feels that this arrangement offers the ultimate in convenience to delegates and to shaping the convention program.

A three-day program is also a de-

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Pie Eating To Bring New Village Lights!

In the tiny, unincorporated village of Bible Grove, 20 miles north of Flora, some thirty houses were recently connected to a newly energized section of the Clay County Electric cooperative lines.

Infused with the cooperative spirit, the residents of Bible Grove now are enthusiastically planning a series of pie suppers and community socials to raise money for the construction of street lights in the village.

When sufficient funds have been accumulated, the cooperative line crews will set the poles and install the fixtures to bring light to streets which have always been plunged into inky darkness with the coming of night.

Editorial Page

Illinois REA News

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A. D. MUELLER, Editor

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WICKARD'S ANSWER ON THE GENERATION ISSUE

Perhaps it is because we have been unduly tolerant of this unprecedented contribution to the Christian characteristics of rural living and the ever attending problems which surround the constantly expanding program of serving American farms with electric power. Perhaps we have been unduly tolerant of human frailties. Perhaps we wrongfully seek only the processes of understanding. Regardless of our guilt in these presumptions, we have chosen to accept the present REA program until something a little more convincing than arrogant predictions come along to change our mental approach to the problems ahead.

No sooner had Claude Wickard been appointed to the job of Administrator of the Rural Electrification Administration than certain people and publications started whetting the axe of bitterness, in quest of his scalp. There were others who had been slated for the job whom many favored for the appointment. But the job went to Wickard—an Indiana farmer who has proven that he possesses the qualifications to decide issues to the welfare of REA.

A few days before his appointment was announced, in a press conference in St. Louis, Wickard met head-on every question that could be fired at him by reporters representing both the friendly and unfriendly press. A few days after his acceptance of the office (July 2, 1945) Wickard declined an invitation to address a meeting of a statewide association—until he had a few months to "get his feet on the ground" in his new job. During the weeks that followed we read and heard charges of him "selling out to the utilities."

Mr. Wickard used those few months to "get his feet on the ground" and on November 7, at a meeting of cooperative representatives in Red River Valley, at Grand Forks, North Dakota, he made his first address to an audience of REA co-op leaders since taking over the job of Administrator. We believe that in the excerpts from his Grand Forks speech which follow, Mr. Wickard gives his answer to the question of cooperative generation and transmission and his answer to "selling out to the utilities":

"I regard as our greatest responsibility the taking of

The Spirit of The Pioneers

by Ellis



central service to unserved rural areas. However, I cannot overlook the absolute necessity of seeing that REA consumers receive adequate service at a reasonable cost. I believe I can truthfully say that it is worse to receive inadequate central station service than to receive no central station service at all. For example, I am a livestock farmer and I depend entirely upon REA electric service to provide water for my livestock. Nothing that I can think of would be more harmful to my farm enterprise than to have a long period without electric current or to have motors burn out because of low voltage. This is true because I have discarded all other means of pumping water. I know also the great difficulty that dairymen are in when their milking machines or their milk coolers are not functioning because of inadequate service.

"It is only less critically necessary to have central station service at a reasonable cost. If we do not have reasonable cost power we will not have the full utilization of electricity to make farming efficient and profitable. Still worse, it may not be feasible to take electricity to all the people in an area. I repeat the statement that I have made many times—that it is impossible to have an American standard of living in unelectrified rural homes. Every request for a loan for the construction of generating and transmission facilities must be considered in light of the answer to this question: Is it necessary from the standpoint of furnishing adequate service at a reasonable cost?"

"Another difficult but most important question is how much more would farm people have to pay for their power if they did not have the opportunity, afforded by the REA Act, to own their own generating and transmission facilities. Our figures show that there has been a large and very significant

decrease in private utility rates in nearly every instance where there was a generating and transmission construction project authorized, or even contemplated.

"Farm people have always liked, whenever possible, to own their own equipment. Such ownership always offers a sense of security and provides a protection against contingencies which may be most detrimental to their welfare. However, there are those who seem to feel that farmers should not be given loans so that they may become owners of their own electrical facilities—that for some reason this right should be reserved for somebody else. Now, the Federal government, by one means or another, has extended loans to corporations so that they may undertake the furnishing of many services to our citizens.

Just why some people think it is all right to make such loans to corporations but unwise to make them to cooperatives is more than I have been able to understand. They may have the idea that loans to cooperatives interfere with private enterprise. I submit the argument that the cooperative is an absolutely pure form of free and private enterprise.

Also it seems to me that it is a much better use of government funds to loan a million dollars to a cooperative composed of 5000 members to enable them to own and operate their own facilities, for their own benefit, than it is to loan a like amount to a corporation often controlled by a few persons in a distant state when such loan is used for the sole purpose of making profits from the same 5000 individuals. I was astounded recently when I heard the manager of a municipally owned power plant testify before a committee in Congress to the effect that farmers should be deprived of the opportunity of getting government aid so that they could

own their own generating facilities. Apparently this man was advocating that farm people be deprived of the same opportunity that the city people have who are served by the municipally owned utility which he manages.

"I have often heard—and you have heard—statements that farmers should limit themselves to tilling the soil; that there is something presumptuous in farmers going into business even to serve themselves. I have recently heard power company officials talk about "our territory" in tones that implied sovereign and exclusive rights. That is dangerous philosophy in a country with our democratic traditions. The right to embark freely in new enterprises belongs to every American citizen and that freedom of opportunity has made America what it is. Farmers are hard-headed people, careful of every dollar; they have had to be. They are not likely to embark on unwise enterprises. But they have the same right as any citizens to serve their own interests in keeping with our modern age. Cooperatives may have become big business but they are the people's business.

"The statement is made by the opponents to REA generating and transmission cooperatives that such cooperatives that are now in existence are for the most part operating at a loss. They even intimate that the REA method of bookkeeping is misleading. In answer to that intimation I want to point out that after the system is energized the cooperative uses the standard system of accounting established by the Federal Power Commission. It is the same system which is required of all the private utilities which come under the jurisdiction of the Federal Power Commission.

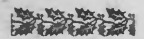
"Now, to go back to the statement that the REA generating and transmission cooperatives are operating at a loss.

Let us examine the situation involving the nine REA central generating and transmission cooperatives which are in operation. According to our record five of these cooperatives have a combined surplus of \$199,000, and four of them have a combined deficit of \$322,000. Practically all of this deficit has come as a result of interruption in development caused by the war.

"There is one thing of which I am positive—one thing which I hope is realized by every REA consumer, every prospective REA consumer, and in addition, every rural consumer of private utility power—and that is that we, in REA, must never be deprived of the authority to finance cooperative generating and transmission lines for the benefit of rural people. If rural people lose this opportunity they will lose their most potent defense weapon against inadequate service and exorbitant rates—a defense weapon against those who in the past have always charged for electricity all that traffic will bear."

To our way of thinking, Mr. Wickard has his "feet on the ground." If he held any thought that cooperative generation and transmission was not essential to the future welfare of REA cooperatives, he has learned differently during his six month's tenure of the Administrator's chair. Perhaps we are a little too cooperatively-minded. Perhaps we, too, should have expected him to plunge neck-deep into the wallow of jump decisions no later than last July 3rd—and thus contribute to the face-saving of those "I-told-you-so's."

And perhaps, after all, an agricultural publication editor is close enough to the people who count in this REA program to give just a little recognition to the word—"cooperation."



Better Take It Easy

A sharp rise in the number of influenza cases in the nation, from 13,220 to 49,694 in a week—is reported by the United States Public Health Service, with above normal incidence in several states including Illinois. From reports gained in travelling around the state and visiting the several cooperative offices, we see that illness is likewise on the upgrade in the ranks of the REA offices and among the members.

Under such circumstances, it is only common sense to wear adequate clothing, get plenty of rest and avoid crowds as far as possible. The flu hasn't reached epidemic proportions and apparently there is no cause for alarm at the prevalent mild form. Nevertheless, each individual should protect himself and his work by taking reasonable precautions.

Heavy alternate grazing gave best results in a three-year pasture test at the Dixon Springs Experiment Station, Pope county, Illinois. The field which was grazed heavily and then rested on alternate months produced the largest animal gains per acre.

Hand skimming does not give the best quality cream.

Farmers Mutual To Hold Annual Meet

TO OUR MEMBERS: We take great pleasure in extending to you, your family, and friends, a cordial invitation to attend our Eighth Annual Meeting, which is to be held at the City Building in Geneseo, Illinois, at 1:30 P. M. on Monday, January 28, 1946, to take action upon the following matters:

1. To hear and act upon the reports of officers and directors.
 2. For the election of three directors for the ensuing three years.
 3. All other business that may come before said meeting or any adjournment or adjournments thereof.
- The day of the Annual Meeting is the most important day of the

IMPORTANT

Please execute the proxy forms which you have received and return to the cooperative office immediately, if you have not already done so.

year to both you and your Cooperative. It is the day when you may learn just how your Cooperative is progressing, when you can meet your Board of Directors, and employees; you can ask questions; obtain any and all information you desire; all figures and facts will be available, and complete reports will be made, reviewed and discussed.

It is important you plan to attend the meeting YOURSELF because it is absolutely necessary there be enough members present at the Annual Meeting to make a quorum. Otherwise, the election of officers cannot be held. Failure to have a quorum would make it necessary to adjourn the meeting which will only add extra expense to your Cooperative.

Please plan to be on hand at your Annual Meeting, January 28th, at 1:30 P. M. Your board of directors and all of us here at "your cooperative" wish you and your loved ones "A Joyous Christmas" . . . and may the new year hold for you the promise of a pleasant road ahead.

RIGHT OF CO-OPS TO SEEK LOW BUILDING COSTS IS DEFENDED

Protests by the electrical construction contractors over the power of REA to reject bids has been given nation-wide publicity, much of it inferentially or directly critical of the REA cooperative policy of seeking to have lines erected at the least possible cost.

In an editorial December 11, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch clearly and concisely stated the case in the following words:

"It is not surprising that electrical construction contractors oppose the power of REA borrowers to reject all bids and then contract with the lowest bidder at a negotiated price less than his bid. No trade association we ever heard of was eager for any device that would lower prices in its industry. It is for that very reason, of course, that Congress should refuse to withdraw or reduce the negotiation power.

"Reserving the power to reject all bids is common practice in contract-letting. When no bid is reasonable, the power to contract by negotiation should be common practice. We can see no reasonable objection in principle so long as negotiations are rigidly confined to the lowest bidder who meets the specifications.

"It is specially important that this alternative be preserved at the present time, because costs are rising and there is a general propensity to bid high. Fairly close bargaining is necessary for electric cooperatives at any time. The only hope of making farm electrification reach far and wide lines in reasonable costs, and in this field, of course, carrying charges on capital are a very large part of total costs."

NEWS FROM Clinton County

Breese, Ill.
JOSEPH HEIMANN, Supt.

HONOR ROLL

Commercial

Herman Graham, 4455; Nick Babare, 2764; Gulf Refining Company, 2185; C. F. Frazier, 1576; J. J. Lynn, 304.

Non-Farm

E. W. Striebinger, 867; A. J. Marcham, 380; Rev. Elmer Holtgrave, 329.

Farm

Ed. Merrill, 1538; Clarence Dickhaut, 867; Jos. H. Heimann, 850; Vincent P. Schaefer, 850; Harvey Klingelhoefer, 765; Joseph F. Ratermann, 619; Paul J. Huels, 572; Harvey Harpstrite, 550; Emma Schumacher, 546; Alvis B. Loepker, 541; Albert Leicht, 541; Oliver J. Schroeder, 529; Louis Heimann, 520; Henry Kalmer, 512; Wm. Ranz, Jr., 500; Vincent Albers, 491; Alfred L. Stein, 437; Hy. Bergman, 426; Adam Nettles, 421; Mrs. John B. Batermann, 417; Frank Heinzmann, 416; Ed Carson, 409; Arthur O. Riess, 409; Edmund Riess, 405; Geo. J. Ratermann, 402; Frank Hansemann, 394; Ben Bruns, 393; Bernard Gebke, 393;

Wm. Murphy, 390; Lewis Wiedle, 388; Fred C. Fruend, 383; Joseph Meyer, 380; Edward Hugo, 372; Henry Molitor, 370; August C. Timmermann, 364; Charles R. Good, 360; Mont Criley, 353; August Buehne, 351; Anthony Rakers, 351; Ben Rensing, 349; Harry Huelskoetter, 346; Myrtle Dierkes, 341; Ray Roper, 334; Wilmer Schlichter, 333; Alphonse Varel, 330; Fred Thoms, 329; Fred Newberry, 325; Ben M. Meyer, 322; Henry Ahlf, 320; Talmadge Outhouse, 320; Henry Korte, 320; August Jansen 313; Orville Rinderer, 313; Carrie Felton, 310; Alphonse Hustedde, 309; Alphonse Olliges, 307; Walter Hester, 306; H. H. Kampwerth, 301; Robert Hayden, 300; Paul H. Renschen, 300.

News

Miss Blance Dierkes, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Dierkes, and Captain Arvell N. Mahlandt, son of Mrs. Anna Mahlandt, were united in marriage on Wednesday, November 28th, by Rev. Father Elmer Holtgrave, Marydale. The groom has been over seas for the past forty months. He is home on terminal leave and expects to be released from service soon. Congratulations and Best Wishes! The Dierkes' and Mahlandt's are REA members.

Miss Mary Margaret Lampen was united in marriage with August F. Meyer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ben M.

Meyer, in St. Mary's Church, Carlyle on November 29th. The groom has been recently discharged from the Army Air Forces after serving two years in England. Congratulations and Best Wishes! The groom's parents are REA members.

Miss Mary Pingsterhaus became the bride of Bernard W. Spihlmann on November 14th. The groom was recently discharged from the Army in which he served for three years and eight months, two years of which he spent in the Mediterranean Theatre. Congratulations and Best Wishes!

Paul C. Molitor of Germantown and Josephine E. Kuhl of Aviston were united in marriage Thursday, November 29th, in St. Frances' Church, Aviston, by Rev. Urban Kuhl, brother of the bride. Congratulations and Best Wishes!

Anton Schwierjohn died November 18, 1945, at 12:45 a. m. at his home near Germantown, Illinois. Ten children and his wife survive. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family.

Mrs. Virginia Becker, wife of Ernest Becker, passed away very suddenly on Tuesday, November 27th, at 1:00 o'clock. P.M. at the St. Joseph's Hospital. Funeral Services were held on Saturday, December 1st, at 9:00 from St. Dominic's Church, Breese, Illinois. The pallbearers were members of the Board of Directors of this

Cooperative. Mr. Becker has been employed as Lineman for this co-op since 1941. Deepest sympathy is extended to Mr. Becker.

Mrs. Eulah Marie Marcham, age 47 years, wife of Arnold J. Marcham, died Monday, December 3rd, in St. Mary's Hospital in Decatur, Illinois, having been a patient there for three weeks. The funeral was held at 9:00 o'clock Friday at St. Mary's Church, Carlyle. Her husband and three daughters survive. Deepest sympathy is extended. The Marchams have been REA users since the erection of a lovely new home South of Carlyle several years ago.

REA Arrivals

Baby boy to Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Schuette, St. Rose—November 15th.

Baby boy to Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Becker, Bartelso—November 13th.

Baby girl to Mr. and Mrs. Hy. Eversgerd, Germantown—November 12th.

Baby girl to Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Holtgrave, Breese—November 13th. Mr. Holtgrave is the Secretary-Treasurer of the Board of Trustees of this Co-op.

Farm wages in Illinois have almost doubled since the start of the war. In 1940, average wages paid ranged from \$2.10 per day without board to \$29.75 per month with board.



Alcoa can take care of your power conductor requirements for rural and hi-lines. Joints and other accessories for this construction are likewise available.

Aluminum Cable Steel Reinforced has the

high strength and dependability required in modern line construction. Alcoa engineers will help you select conductors having suitable characteristics. Write ALUMINUM COMPANY OF AMERICA, 1876 Gulf Bldg., Pittsburgh 19, Pa.

ALCOA A-C-S-R
ALUMINUM CABLE STEEL REINFORCED

CO-OP POWER CHANGES RUSTIC RETREAT INTO ULTRA-MODERN FARM

For nearly ten years Mr. and Mrs. J. Russell Carter looked forward to the time when they could build a new home on the 160 acres they owned a mile south of Chesterfield and which had served only as a retreat where they could enjoy a vacation of "roughing it" for a week-end or during the warm months.

Then came the high-lines of M. J. M. Electric cooperative of Carlinville, bringing the benefits of electricity to the area and the Carters were able to build their house and make their home on the farm.

A great deal of careful planning went into the site of their new home. First, a deep gully was surveyed and a dam 150 feet long containing 6300 yards of dirt was built to hold the water draining from 28 acres and form an artificial lake which reaches a depth of 30 feet in places and covers over three acres. The work on the dam was completed just before Christmas of 1939 and the lake was well along toward reaching the spillway the next summer and started flowing over the following spring.

A long, low brick house was erected in 1941 which provided for every modern convenience electricity could bring and Mrs. Carter started her housekeeping with the benefit of a kitchen which would do justice to a women's magazine advertisement, complete with electric range and refrigerator, built-in cabinets and sink.

Built Artificial Lake

Before a well was dug, water was drawn to the house for kitchen and bathroom use from the artificial lake, brought by electricity to a pressure tank by a pump installed in a small house some distance from the house. When the well was finished, the pump was moved to draw from it, but all connections were left intact for a quick switch back to the lake should the well ever fail.

Enjoying the out-of-doors, the Carters built a barbecue pit near the lake and used an electric refrigerator box as a weatherproof cupboard for their outdoors utensils and dishes, painting the exterior with aluminum paint to withstand the elements. It saves carrying dishes and utensils from the house each time they want to prepare a meal at the pit.

"I don't recommend putting any electric refrigerator box to such use if it is in working order," Carter advised. "This refrigerator was damaged by fire, so we removed the motor and decided to put the box to good use and it has served admirably as an outdoor cupboard."

Have Game Preserve

A lake in their backyard did not seem complete without ducks so the Carters obtained a drake and two hens to stock it. Now they have 24 tame ducks to keep them company, paddling around in the water and quacking loudly to be fed. Occasionally wild ducks will stop for a visit and remain for several days at a time, enjoying the free meals, but none of these transients have ever become domesticated and chosen to remain.

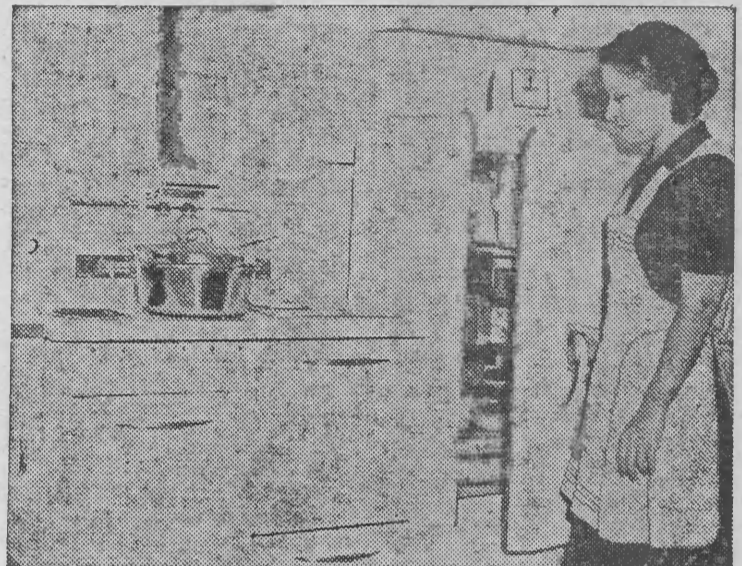
But the most rustic touch of all is created by the presence of seven deer, two bucks, four does and a faun, which roam the wooded land around the lake and make their feeding headquarters atop a hill across the lake from the house.

Carter secured them from the estate of the late Henry T. Rainey, former speaker of the national House of Representatives who had them on his farm near Carrollton.

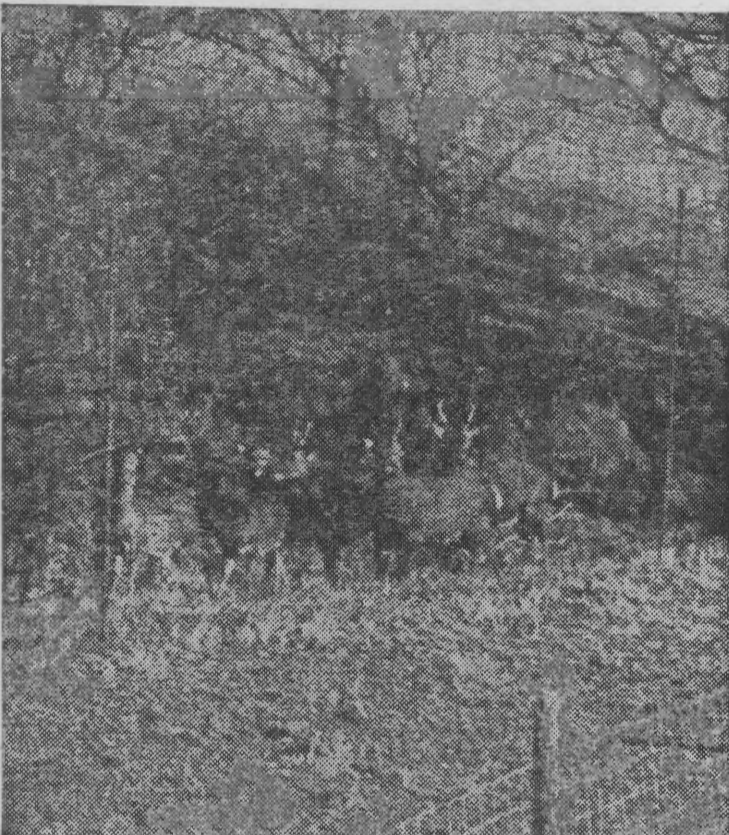
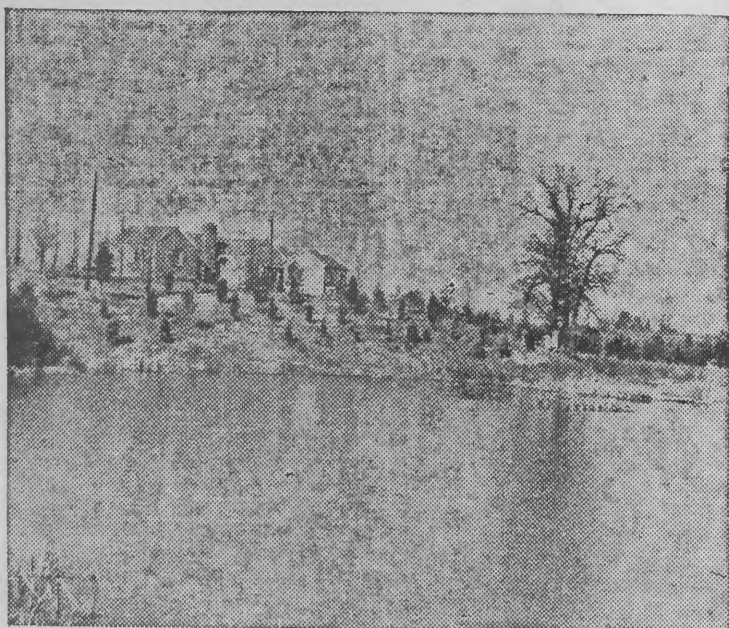
"They never grow tame nor seem to get over being skittish when you are around them, but they are pretty and we like them around," Carter said.

Because of the REA co-op line, the Carters are able to enjoy all the conveniences and comforts of a city dwelling in the midst of the rustic setting they both so thoroughly ap-

Ducks and Deer On An REA Farm



LIFE ON THE FARM has all the advantages of the city for Mr. and Mrs. J. Russell Carter, members of M. J. M. Electric cooperative, who live a mile south of Chesterfield. In the photos on the left, above, they are shown taking it easy in their living room, and directly below, Mrs. Carter opens her electric refrigerator during preparation of the noon meal (clock says exactly 12 o'clock) which is in the kettle on her electric range. On the right, the Carter home as seen from across the artificial lake stocked with tame ducks, and below, by looking closely, can be seen a hunter's dream—seven deer looking straight at you!



POULTRY RAISERS CAN PROFIT BY REA ELECTRICITY FOR MAKING "LONGER" DAY

There are two important factors to be considered by the poultry-raiser if he wishes to make a profit during the Fall and Winter months and while many articles have appeared covering the problems to be solved by the chicken farmer, a reminder at this time of year may assist poultry men to obtain improved results during the cold weather ahead.

Electricity has paved the way for many members of an REA cooperative to take advantage of available facilities to increase profits from their flocks. In a recent survey made by Menard Electric cooperative, Petersburg, a large number of the co-op's members were found to use electric water heaters and a small electric light in the poultry house to encourage hens to continue laying through the seasons when higher egg prices prevail.

An adequate supply of fresh water, kept at temperatures between 50 and 55 degrees, will keep flocks healthy and aid in maintaining higher production during the cold weather.

Because the egg is composed largely of water, it is important to have water at drinkable temperature where the chickens can have it as often as they wish. Food too, is important, and should be warm enough to be palatable to the chicken. Tests made

precipitate. Mrs. Carter's principal diversion is sewing and she designs and makes most of her own clothes, or modifies patterns to suit her own taste, doing most of the finishing on her electric sewing machine.

Asked if she liked having the machine operated by electricity, she smiled broadly and exclaimed:

"Why, I wouldn't take a farm in Texas for it!

at the State Experiment Stations have shown that layers will drink nearly 25 per cent more water when it is maintained at an average temperature of 50 degrees (Fahrenheit) than when it is permitted to become chilled to 40 degrees or lower.

Plans At REA Co-ops

Plans for building a home-made water warmer can be obtained at the REA cooperative offices by merely sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your request. Commercial electric water warmers may be purchased at a nominal cost from your local hardware merchant or electric appliance dealer.

There appears to be two schools of thought as to whether a 15 or 25-watt bulb should be left burning all night in the poultry house or just turned on early in the morning. Both practices seem to get excellent results.

John Aden, an REA member of the Menard Electric cooperative, has a flock of 360 layers and during the first ten days of November 100 of his hens produced 499 eggs; during the same period of time his 260 pullets produced 1742 eggs. This flock was electrically brooded from the time the chicks were hatched on April 17 until they were large enough to range for themselves. The layers are kept in houses with a runway opening into the chicken yard so the flock can exercise. The poultry house is 24 by 50 feet divided by a partition with one 15-watt light in each section left burning all night.

Audace Herzberger, another REA member living near Virginia, has a flock which practically equals the record of the Al-

den layers, yet Herzberger advocates early morning lighting and has rigged up an alarm clock which turns the lights on in his poultry house at 4:00 A. M.

Both of these progressive farmers have earned reputations as poultry-raisers and each believes firmly in his own "lighting methods" yet they get about equal results.

Long "Day" Required

It is well known that layers need from 12 to 14 hours of light per day and such an average length day can only be provided by artificial lighting during the colder months of the year when daylight sometimes doesn't exceed ten hours.

Light fixtures should be placed high enough to illuminate the roosts and a 40-watt bulb used in a reflector will serve to properly brighten 150 to 200 square feet of floor space. Bulbs and reflector should be washed regularly.

Every REA cooperative in Illinois is interested in providing information about appliances and the many benefits to be gained from the use of electricity on the farm whether for poultry-raising or not. Members who have questions concerning the proper use of lighting fixtures or appliances would find it profitable to seek information at the local REA office.

If it isn't convenient to drive into the town to call at the cooperative headquarters, a letter with a self-addressed, stamped envelope accompanying your inquiry will bring prompt response.

Each cooperative is also interested in learning what farmers are doing with electricity on their places and if new or better methods are discovered, or plans devised for putting electricity to better use, the cooperative would like to know about it so that it may give other REA co-op members the benefit of such experience and planning. The way such information can be shared for the common good of the REA-served com-

ADEQUATE WIRING WAS DISCUSSED AT MEETING

Adequate wiring installed in a safe manner was the theme of a meeting held by Tri-County Electric Cooperative at Hotel Emerson on the evening of November 28, 1945. The meeting was preceded by a dinner held in the Egyptian Room of the Hotel and forty-eight persons were present at the meeting. This group consisted of wiring supply wholesalers, wiremen from Marion, Washington and Jefferson counties, representatives of Tri-County Electric Cooperative, and Wayne-White Electric Cooperative.

The meeting was conducted by Mr. C. D. Kirkpatrick, Field Engineer for the Rural Electrification Administration, at which time the new REA wiring specifications were presented and discussed. Mr. Kirkpatrick cautioned all wiremen to regard the specifications as minimum requirements and told them that the past eight years of REA experience had shown that there is a tendency among all wiremen to wire a consumer's premises for the present use of electricity. He further stated that a wireman must not only be a good mechanic, but he must be a salesman to sell the Cooperative member on the need for adequate wiring to take care of future as well as present requirements.

Commercial canning began in the U. S. in 1819. First American patent for the tin can was granted in 1825, although an English patent had been taken out in 1810. The word "can" is derived from the English "cannister."

community is through the cooperation of REA members.

**NEWS FROM
M.J.M. Co-op
Carlinville, Ill.
A. C. BARNES, Mgr.**

Welcome New Members

Chas. Merriman, Fillmore; Purl Skaggs, Litchfield; Lee Edwards, Carlinville; Lora M. Allen, Carlinville; P. F. Gleespin, Jerseyville; Eugene Fritz, Jerseyville; Elmer W. Keiser, Litchfield; Alfred Marburger, Litchfield; Stephen Suyo, Jr., Mt. Olive; F. B. Bornmann, Carlinville; Elvis Dossett, Shipman; Eugene Holecheck, Mt. Olive; Norman E. Drew, Irving; Lloyd Lyons, Dow.

October Operating Report

Number of Miles Energized	.....689
Members billed	.....1837
Revenue Per Mile	.....\$14.07
Density per Mile	.....2.55
KWH Sold	.....196,694
Average Bill—Farm	.....\$5.48
Average Bill—Residential	.....\$3.21
Average Bill—Commercial	.....\$5.16
Average KWH Consumption	
Farm	.....114
Residential	.....48
Minimum bills	.....471

Member News Items

Mr. J. Hilbert Dubbelde, Plainview, has purchased a farm near Prairie Town and expects to move there in the near future.

James F. Tunley, 67, former resident of Bunker Hill vicinity, died suddenly at his home in Seymour, Ind., November 30th. Funeral services were held at 3:00 p. m. December 3rd at his home with burial in Riverview Cemetery. His wife survives, also a daughter, Mrs. Evelyn Glassen, of Indianapolis; a brother, Lester A. Tunley, of Bunker Hill, and a sister, Mrs. Wm. Strohbeck, of Brighton, and one granddaughter.

Mr. and Mrs. William Lowenstein celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary at their home near Walshville, Illinois, Wednesday evening, Nov. 21st. Many relatives were present and the couple received many beautiful gifts. The evening was enjoyed playing games and prizes were awarded after which lunch was served, consisting of sandwiches, cake and coffee. The couple have been members of the M.J.M. Cooperative for the past five years and enjoy it very much. They have many electric appliances including a beautiful floor lamp given to them by their children on their anniversary.

Memberships

Recently we have had considerable difficulty with some of our new mem-

bers being under the impression that the membership in this Cooperative is returnable and that the \$5.00 membership fee can be used to pay final electric service bills when they discontinue using the electric service. We have found that some of our old members have been instructing new members to this effect and we wish to correct any impression that any member may have because the by-laws of the Cooperative provide that **A MEMBERSHIP IN THIS COOPERATIVE IS NOT RETURNABLE, TRANSFERABLE NOR CAN THE \$5.00 FEE BE USED TO PAY FINAL ELECTRIC SERVICE BILLS.** The \$5.00 membership fee which is paid to join this Cooperative is not a meter deposit.

It is true that public utilities require a meter deposit and return this deposit when you discontinue using the service provided all service bills are paid in full but in our case the \$5.00 fee which is paid is considered a membership fee and under our plan we cannot serve anyone except members; and therefore, the \$5.00 fee is not returnable.

Carlinville Farm Home Razed by Fire

The home of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Gwillim burned Saturday, December 8th, at 8:30 a. m. Mr. and Mrs. Gwillim and their son Dale were seriously burned and their year old daughter, Carol Jean, burned to death in the fire. It was reported that Mrs. Gwillim was attempting to start a fire in a stove when the oil which she was using exploded throwing over her. The room was immediately a mass of flames. The baby, sleeping in a daybed in a corner of the room, could not be saved. The father, who had been shaving in the kitchen at the time of the explosion, was unable to enter the flaming room. Neighboring farmers saved two rooms of furniture.

The farm on which the Gwillims resided composed 120 acres belonging to Albert H. Hammann. The Gwillims had just moved in last spring and the house was recently wired and fixtures installed for receiving electric service from this Cooperative. The service was to have been extended the next week. Mr. Gwillim is employed at Producers Creamer Company, Carlinville.

Our deepest sympathy goes to this family and relatives at this time.

Fairview SMP Local Re-elects

Officers for 1946

At the annual meeting of Fairview Local of Sanitary Milk Producers held Nov. 16th, officers were re-elected for 1946 as follows: Adolph Monke, Mt. Olive, president; Frank

BEEKEEPERS HEAR REA CO-OP STORY



NEW OFFICERS OF THE STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION, elected at the 55th annual convention in Springfield this month, left to right, Wesley W. Osborn, Hillsboro, treasurer; Sim Taylor, San Jose, vice president; Ellsworth Meineke, Arlington Heights, pWilliam H. Lynch, Marseilles, vice president; President; Foster Hanneford Jr., Winnetka, vice president, and Hoyt Taylor, Pleasant Plains, general secretary. Mr. Taylor, a member of the Menard Electric cooperative, Petersburg, invited Electrification Advisor Fred E. Darr to appear on the convention program.

Menard Co-op Advisor On Program of State Beekeepers Confab

Every opportunity to "spread the REA gospel" offered to him is usually accepted by Fred E. Darr, electrification adviser of Menard Electric cooperative, Petersburg, who has made an outstanding contribution to REA public relations in Illinois through his frequent appearances on the programs of organizations meeting in Springfield or vicinity.

Darr's most recent opportunity to tell the story of REA cooperative en-

terprise occurred this month when Hoyt Taylor, a member of the Menard co-op, and general secretary of the Illinois State Beekeepers Association, asked Darr to appear on the association's banquet program at its 55th annual convention this month in Springfield.

Addressing his remarks to the more than 150 members of the beekeepers organization, Darr explained some of the advantages of membership in an REA cooperative and urged his listeners to tell farmers in their own communities to join the local REA co-op if they wanted central station electric power. After his talk, he en-

terained the banquet guests for an hour with sound motion-pictures made possible through the projector equipment of the Menard co-op.

Among speakers on the beekeepers convention program, which included many from other states, were Ray A. Dillinger, acting director, state department of agriculture, (prior to subsequent appointment of Arnold P. Benson); Dr. V. G. Milum, agriculturist, and Dr. C. W. Kearns, entomologist, University of Illinois; Glen O. Jones, secretary of the national federation of state beekeeper associations, and Walter T. Kelley (the Bee Man) of Paducah, Ky.

Alden, Mt. Olive, vice president; August L. Eickmeyer, Litchfield, secretary-treasurer.

The advisory committee consists of the following: Adolph Monke, Frank Adden, Mt. Olive, Aug. L. Eickmeyer, Litchfield; transportation, Aug. Eickmeyer, Edw. Mindrup, Staunton, Herman Franke, Litchfield; membership, Adolph Monke, Aug. Eickmeyer, Edw. Binney, Staunton, Emil Monke, Mt. Olive.

Herman Franke was named delegate to the annual meeting of the Association with Emil Monke as alternate.

4-Year-Old Nilwood Boy Dies

Harlan Lair, 4½ year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Loren Lair of Nilwood, passed away at the family home December 3rd after everything medical science could do to save his life had failed. He was a victim of the dreaded blood disease, leukemia.

The plight of the little fellow drew national attention when Cecil Reed, 51-year-old Atlanta, Ga., grandfather, who had been cured of the disease offered to furnish blood for a transfusion. Reed made the trip from Atlanta to St. Louis by plane after reading of the boy's plight.

Harlan was given a Christmas party and was visited by Santa Claus on Thanksgiving day because physicians said he could not live until Dec. 25th. Cards and gifts poured into the Lair home from every state in the Union.

Harlan is survived by his parents, a half-sister, Marjorie Maupun, and his grandparents, Leslie Lair and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Welton.

Wiring

We have a number of members using our service who are doing wiring for new prospects and there have been some changes in the wiring requirements. Therefore, we are asking that those members who are doing your work please contact this office for the new wiring specifications manual. This new manual explains all the recent changes.

In the future the wiring inspector expects to see that all wiring complies with these specifications before approval is given to connect the service and rather than to have any inconvenience caused by requesting changes, we hope that those members who are doing wiring will comply

with the specifications in this new manual. We will be glad to send the manual to you if you will write us a letter or you may call at the office and receive one.

We, also, want to call your attention to all wiremen to the effect that beginning January 1st, 1946, the Cooperative will no longer furnish the meter loop either on his house or his pole meter installation. It will require the applicant to furnish all wire necessary for such work. We will furnish the meter base. Such meter base will not be given until we are ready to install the service; therefore, we do not advise a wireman to call at the office and ask for a meter base in advance of our in-

stallation because the meter base will be given at the time we are building the extension to the applicant.

LET MAMMA TAKE THE WHEEL?

"Another lady driver!" Those three little words, snarled through clenched teeth have started off many a family argument.

Here's ammunition for the Little Lady the next time those words are uttered. Joseph D. Harrington, taxi inspector for Washington, D. C., women cab drivers piled up a better safety record than the male drivers and that there are far fewer complaints registered against them!

ENGINEER AT SOUTHEASTERN CO-OP



For the past three years, Thomas Clevenger has served half of each month as engineer of M. J. M. Electric Cooperative, Carlinville, and the other two weeks as engineer of Southeastern Electric cooperative, Harrisburg. This month Clevenger moved from Carlinville to Harrisburg to be permanently assigned as full-time project engineer in the construction of 140 miles of C-section line and 244 miles of D-section, line, 45 miles of which will be conversion to three-phase line of 33,000 volts. He will also engineer work on a 3000 kva substation. Much of the work on the Harrisburg co-op will be done through force account but new construction will be handled by Michael Drazen and Associates, engineering firm of St. Louis.

PROMOTED TO OFFICE MANAGER



After serving more than three years in the Navy, from which he was honorably discharged November 19 with the rating of aviation radio technician, first class, R. T. Reeves of Dongola, has returned to Southern Illinois Electric cooperative as office manager, George Endicott, co-op manager, announced. Reeves was employed as an office clerk for a year before he entered the Navy. He is married to the former Eulita Penrod, who is a teacher in the Dongola schools.



REA Women and The Home

Edited by Joan Cameron

'Tis The Season For Pie

Tempting New Recipes That Will Hit the Spot With Family, Guests, and Sugar Ration



The never-forgotten thrill of helping Mother with the making of a pie highlights a little girl's life. Photo—courtesy of Westinghouse.

"Any season is the season for pies at our house," you say. And right you are. For pies are America's No. 1 dessert. But during the Christmas season we are generally so busy with other goodies that we may forget there is nothing in the world that can take the place of a delicious home-baked pie to top off that special dinner your guests will remember as their "best meal in a long time."

Christmas cookies and fruit cake are swell desserts but after a few days doesn't your palate crave something different? Or maybe your supply of sugar was so limited that you didn't bake so many Christmas cookies this year.

In either case we have some mighty good suggestions for you that will help you make your usual pies—apple, lemon meringue, etc., more tasty, as well as ideas for something entirely new in the line of pies.

Having Pie Crust Trouble?

As long as pie continues to be America's favorite dessert, the art of making pie crust—delicate, flaky, melting-on-the-tongue—will be a culinary triumph. You have heard theories and more theories about pie crust making—ice water versus tap temperature water, baking powder versus no baking powder, cake flour versus all-purpose flour, and many more.

Here is the secret for a double crust for an 8 or 9 inch pie with the correct techniques of putting it together, that will give a tender, delicate pie crust every single time.

Tender Pastry

- 2 1/4 cups sifted all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon salt
1 cup shortening
5 tablespoons water

Sift flour and salt together in a bowl; add shortening, cutting it in with 2 knives or pastry blender until shortening is in the size of peas—no larger. Add water—sprinkling one tablespoon at a time over crust while tossing lightly with a fork. Do not use more water than called for or the crust will be tough. Press mixture against side of bowl until it

holds together. Do not work it in any way. Divide crust in half shaping each piece into round ball. Chill in refrigerator for an hour or two before rolling but do not allow to chill so long that it becomes so cold and firm that it is difficult to handle.

"Quickies"

Or if you don't have the time to make a regular crust, graham cracker or vanilla wafer crusts are delicious for a filled pie and can be made in no time at all. Just roll enough graham crackers or vanilla wafers to make 3/4 cup of crumbs. Cut enough crackers or wafers in half diagonally to stand around edge of pie plate and put them in place. Cover bottom of plate with crumbs and fill in spaces between halved crackers. Pour in filling as usual. Try this sometime, won't you?

And here is a filling that is ideal for a crust of this kind. Very easy on the sugar, too.

Magic Fruit Meringue Pie

- 1 1/3 cups (1 can) sweetened condensed milk
1/2 cup lemon juice
2 eggs, separated
1 cup sliced strawberries or other fruit
2 tablespoons sugar

Blend sweetened condensed milk, lemon juice and egg yolks. Fold in sliced strawberries. Pour into pie plate (9-inch) lined with graham cracker or vanilla wafer crust. Cover with meringue made by beating egg white until stiff and adding sugar. Bake in moderate oven (350° F.) 10 minutes or until brown. Chill before serving. You may omit the meringue and garnish with strawberries.

Most Popular of Pies

Did you know that apple pie is the most popular pie in America? Well, it is, and if you try this recipe for an Old Fashioned Apple Pie, I'm sure you'll understand why.

- 4 cups sliced apples
1/2 cup granulated sugar
1/2 cup molasses
2 tablespoons butter
1/4 teaspoon nutmeg
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon

Line 9-inch pie plate with pastry. Fill pie shell with apples. Sprinkle

with sugar and pour on molasses. Dot with butter and sprinkle with spices. Adjust top crust and bake in hot oven (450° F.) 15 minutes, then decrease heat to moderate (350°) and bake 30 minutes longer.

Or try this for variation:

Deep Dish Apple Pie

- 6 apples, pared and sliced
1/2 cup brown sugar, firmly packed
1/2 cup light corn syrup
1/2 teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons flour
1/4 teaspoon nutmeg
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
1 teaspoon lemon juice
1 tablespoon butter
1 pie crust

Mix apples with brown sugar, salt, flour, nutmeg, cinnamon, and lemon juice. Place in 12 x 8-inch oblong baking dish. Dot with butter. Roll dough into oblong large enough to extend 1 inch beyond rim of baking dish, on all sides. Cut a few openings for steam to escape. Place pastry over apples in baking dish, turn edge under, and press on rim around baking dish. Bake in hot oven (425° F.) 40-50 minutes. Serves 6.

Luscious Cream Pie

This seems to be the answer to a housewife's prayer. And it's guaranteed to make a hit with the entire family, too.

- 3 tablespoons flour
1 tablespoon cornstarch
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup sweetened condensed milk
1 1/2 cups hot water
2 egg yolks, slightly beaten
1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla

Mix flour, cornstarch, and salt in top of double boiler. Add condensed milk gradually, stirring until blended, then add hot water gradually. Cook until thick and smooth, then cook 15 minutes longer, stirring occasionally. Stir a small amount of mixture into egg yolks, return to double boiler and cook a few minutes longer. Cool and add vanilla. Pour into baked pie shell. Top with Meringue and bake as directed.

Meringue

Beat 2 egg whites until stiff. Add 4 tablespoons sugar gradually, beating constantly. Add 1/2 teaspoon vanilla. Pile lightly on filling. Bake in slow oven (325° F.) 25-30 minutes, or until firm and delicately browned.

Pecan Pie

There are plenty of nuts and candies around the house at Christmas time so the kiddies will never miss the cup of pecans that you will swipe from the nut bowl for this "treat that can't be beat" pie.

- 1/2 cup butter
1/2 cup granulated sugar
3 eggs, unbeaten
3/4 cup molasses
juice of 1 lemon
1 cup pecan meats, sliced

Line 9-inch pie plate with pastry. Cream butter and sugar. Add eggs, molasses and lemon juice and beat with rotary egg beater. Add pecan meats and pour into pastry-lined pie plate. Bake in hot oven (450° F) 10 minutes, then decrease heat to moderate (350° F.) and bake 30 minutes longer.

Prune Cream Pie

Instead of the traditional plum pudding, surprise your guests with a prune cream pie on Christmas day. They'll be glad you did.

- 1/2 pound prunes, cooked
1/2 cup granulated sugar
1/2 cup prune juice
1/2 cup molasses
4 egg yolks, slightly beaten
2/3 cup shredded coconut
1/4 cup butter, melted
1/2 cup orange marmalade or candied orange peel
2 egg whites stiffly beaten

Remove prune pits. Combine sugar, prune juice and molasses. Cook slowly until sugar is dissolved. Pour

syrup slowly into egg yolks, stirring constantly. Add prunes, coconut, butter and marmalade. Fold in egg whites. Pour into 9-inch pastry-lined pie plate. Bake in hot oven (450° F.) 10 minutes, then decrease heat to moderate (350° F.) and bake 30 minutes longer. Top with meringue or whipped cream if desired.

Kiddies Favorite

This Gingerbread Meringue Pie will surely hit the spot with the kiddies, who love the rich, mellow gingerbread-y flavor in pies as much as they do in gingerbread men.

- 3 tablespoons sugar
1/4 cup molasses
1/2 cup corn syrup
3 tablespoons shortening
1 teaspoon ginger
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
pinch of salt

Mix together. Then add 1/2 cup boiling water mixed with 1 teaspoon soda and stir in 1 1/4 cups flour. Beat all together with egg beater and add 1 well-beaten egg. Pour mixture into crust-lined 9-inch pie plate. Bake in moderate oven (375° F.) until firm, about 40 minutes.

Just before serving, cover pie with meringue made by gradually adding 4 tablespoons sugar to beaten egg whites. Bake in slow oven (325° F.) about 15 minutes.

Molasses Chiffon Pie

If you want to hear those familiar "yum-yums" all around the table, serve this pie.

- 1/2 cup molasses
1/4 cup brown sugar
3 tablespoons ground chocolate
3 eggs
1 1/3 cup milk
1 envelope plain gelatin
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
1/4 teaspoon ginger
1/4 teaspoon salt

Put molasses, milk, sugar, chocolate, spices, and slightly beaten egg yolks in top of double boiler and cook for 15 minutes. Add gelatin, which has been soaked in 1/4 cup cold water for 5 minutes. When gelatin is dissolved, remove from stove and chill until thick as jelly. Fold the jellied mixture into the stiffly beaten egg whites. Pour into a baked pie shell and chill. Serve with whipped cream.

Angel Pie

If you want to hit somebody's sweet tooth, this is the pie that guarantees success.

- 4 egg whites
1/4 teaspoon cream of tartar
1 cup sugar

Beat eggs until frothy. Add cream of tartar and beat until stiff. Add sugar a little at a time, beating continually until meringue is stiff and glossy. Spread in a well buttered deep pie tin. Bake 1 hour at 200° F. Then reduce the heat and continue baking until thoroughly dry.

Something Different

Are you game to try something new and different? Then try this Frozen Lemon Pie. You'll never forget it.

- 2 eggs separated
1/3 cup lemon juice
rind of 1/4 lemon
1/2 cup sugar
1 cup evaporated milk, whipped
1/2 cup cooky, graham cracker or cake crumbs

Beat egg yolks, add lemon juice and rind sliced from lemon and all

PATTERN LIST

After the busy holiday season is past, perchance you'll find time to do some of that knitting, crocheting, and sewing you've been planning. Let's hope so, anyway. And we've got some mighty good suggestions for things you can make and directions for making them for you.

Just address your requests to Joan Cameron, Illinois REA News, Petersburg, Ill. You may have as many patterns as you like but be sure to enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope for every four patterns. Please do not send coins as the post office doesn't like it and it slows up mailing procedure.

These You Sew

- Gay Pinafores and Aprons
Hat Trims
Scallop Envelop Bag
Velveteen Drindle and Heart Suspender
Checked Gingham Dickey
Dressy Faille Bag
Gifts You Can Make in Rayon
New Tricks for Old Wardrobes
Applique Luncheon Set
Feminine Bedroom Accessories

These You Crochet

- Lacy Doily
Hot Plate Mats, Pot Holder
Dinner Cloth
Irish Edging
Edgings for Sheets and Pillow Cases
Blouse Sweaters
Wool Crocheted Bag
Tray Cloths

These You Knit

- Hand Knit Quartet
Knit Shawl and Crocheted Bunting
Muff and Bonnet Set
Beanie and Bag
Mitten, Scarf, and Hood Set
Shoulder Bag and Belt
Tot's Sweater
Baby Sacque and Kimona

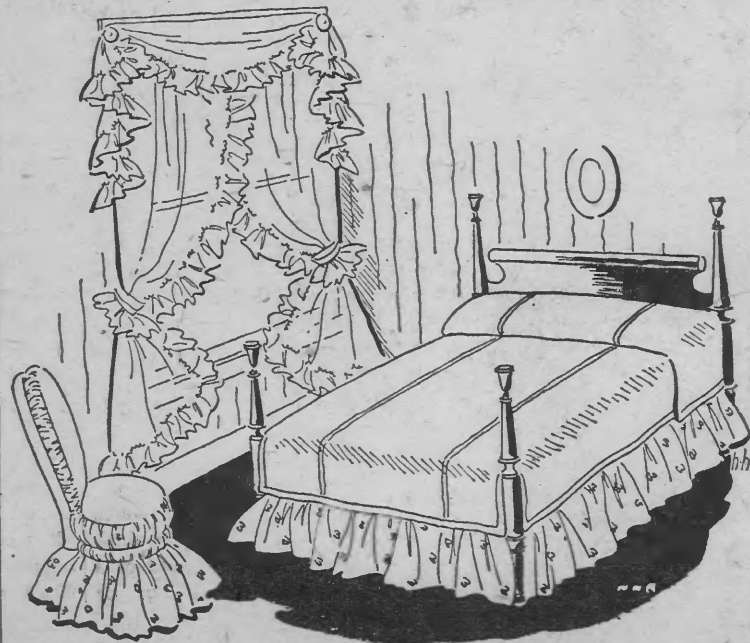
Good Homemaking

- Washing and Ironing Guide
Mending Tricks
Care of Home Furnishings
Tips on Sewing Curtains and Draperies
Selection and Care of Curtains and Draperies

but 2 tablespoons of the sugar. Cook over low heat 15 minutes, stirring constantly. Remove lemon rind and cool. Beat egg whites until stiff. Add remaining 2 tablespoons of sugar and fold into cooked mixture. Fold in whipped evaporated milk. Line refrigerator tray with waxed paper. Sprinkle with 1/4 cup of the crumbs. Pour in lemon mixture; sprinkle with remaining crumbs. Freeze with temperature set at coldest. To serve, cut across tray diagonally to make pie shaped pieces. Serves 8.

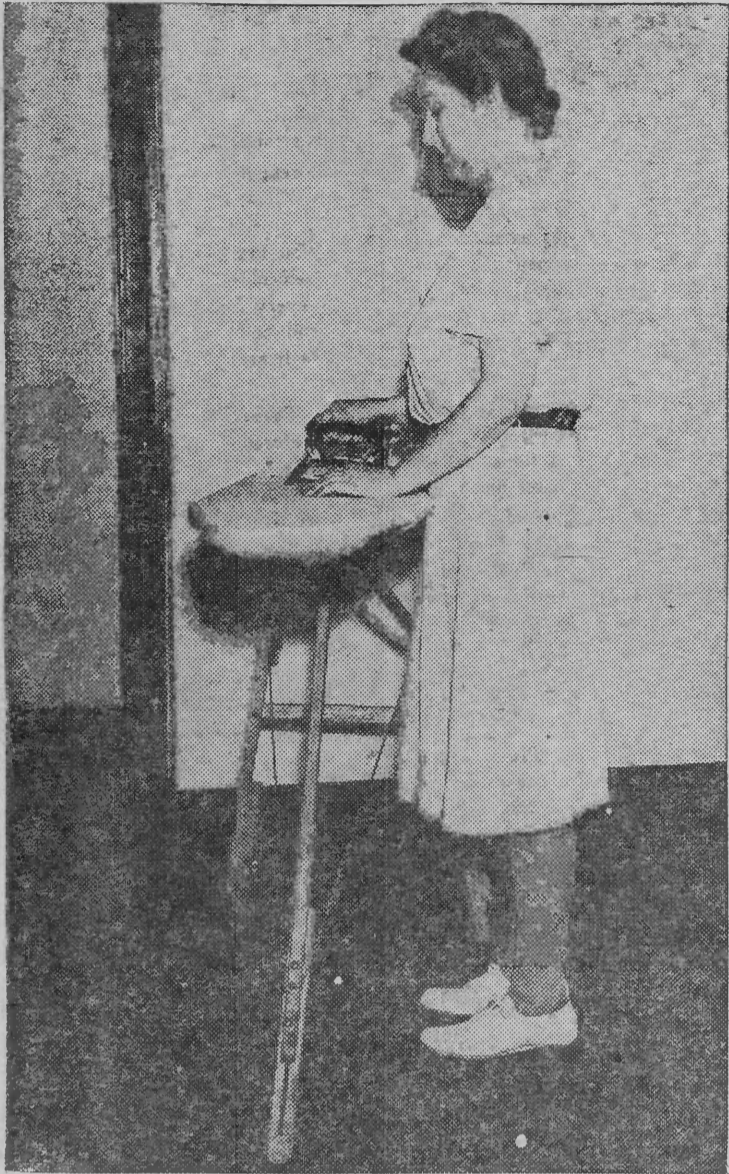
These recipes, in addition to your many own recipes for fruit, custard, cream, chocolate, and other pies, should make your "dessert problem dwindle to nothingness."

FEMININE ACCESSORIES TRANSFORM BEDROOM.



Start the New Year off by making your bedroom beruffled and feminine. A few yards of the right fabric—crisp organdy and a gay print—and you have the makings of a charming bedroom. Directions for making Feminine Bedroom Accessories may be obtained by sending a stamped self-addressed envelope to the Women's Editor, Illinois REA News, Petersburg, Ill.

TIME AND ENERGY SAVING TRICKS SIMPLIFY TIRESOME IRONING TASKS



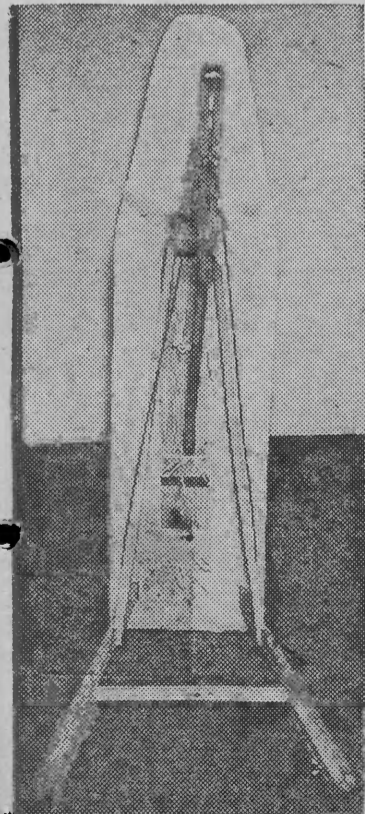
An ironing board of the right height for good posture is the first "must" in simplifying the ironing task.

Do you find the drudgery of wash day exceeded only by the drudgery of ironing? Then take heed, for here are some tips from Margaret P. McCordic and Louise A. Young, Extension Service of the College of Agriculture, University of Wisconsin, that will help you save time and energy in that age-old task of ironing.

In the first place, our experts advise us to make our time count by using tablecloths that iron easily or do not need ironing, mats, that are easily ironed, or oilcloth and other materials that may be wiped off with a damp cloth. That would eliminate ironing—good idea, don't you think?

If you do your own sewing you can lend your ironing a helping hand by using material that does not need ironing for house dresses, aprons, and children's clothing, and by making other clothes simply.

Further suggestions for saving time

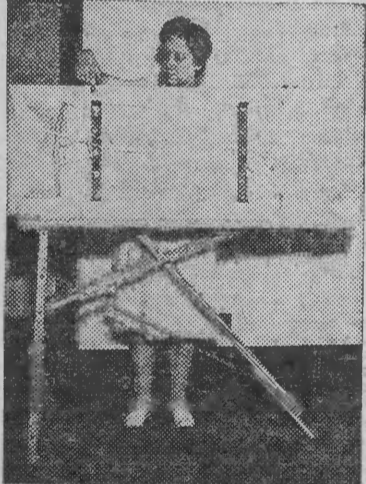


are to hang clothes on the straight of the goods and take pieces to be ironed off the line, if possible, when of the right dampness for ironing, folding

carefully so that when they are unrolled on the board, they will be in position to start ironing. Sheets, kitchen towels, turkish towels and similar items do not need ironing, so should be thoroughly dry before taking off the line.

Put Method In Your Work

Take a little time to organize your



ironing center. It will prove well worth while. Work where there is good light, ventilation, and plenty of room. Correct arrangement of basket of dampened clothes (raised to prevent stooping), ironing board and rack or table for finished articles so the ironing can proceed in a convenient order is necessary.

A good ironing board is a prime requirement, according to Mrs. McCordic. It must be a comfortable height for both standing and sitting so that an erect posture can be maintained while reaching the full length of the board. A board with a wooden frame can easily be made adjustable by using slatted extension strips. A board with metal frame can be made higher if necessary by screwing wooden extensions on to the feet.

What To Look For

When buying a new board, watch for a sturdy frame, braces that allow you to sit at work and a board of a comfortable height for standing. Be sure to get a wide board with a small end well shaped and the board treated or an iron strip screwed to the underside to resist warping.

"The standard ironing board is needed for ironing such things as skirts, children's dresses, or any gar-

ment that needs to be placed over the end of the board. Another board about 20 inches wide is more convenient for men's shirts and large pieces. Iron strips bent to fit over the wide part of the small board and screwed to the bottom of the large board make it possible to fit the wide board over the small board whenever desired. Both should be well padded," advises Mrs. McCordic.

Good Pad and Cover Essential

Remember—a good pad and cover will simplify your ironing. They should extend over both ends and sides of the board without laps or seams on the right side and should be easily removable for washing.

You can easily make a pad from a table silencer cloth or several layers of old blanket laid out smoothly and basted or sewed together to make a thickness of not more than 3/8 of an inch. Too heavy a pad may gather moisture and mildew. A good cover can be made from a medium grade of unbleached muslin or bleached firm sacks.

Care For Your Iron

Treat your iron like a good friend—for that's just what it is. And it may have to serve for quite some time yet, for although electric irons are on the market again, it will take a long time before there will be enough to fulfill the demand. So—don't forget to disconnect the iron when not using it, even when answering the telephone or doorbell. If you have an automatic iron, be sure to set the temperature control correctly as overheating the iron will shorten its life. Avoid dropping or bumping the iron as that may injure or break the heat element. Keep the iron dry and away from water. Cool it before putting away and store it carefully.

To keep the bottom of the iron clean and smooth rub it now and then with a small piece of paraffin folded in a small cloth. If it has stubborn stains, let the iron cool and rub with damp cloth and fine whiting paste. Never scrape with a knife or use a coarse abrasive and avoid ironing over pins, buttons, hooks, zippers, or other hard articles.

Watch That Cord

The heater cord deserves to be handled with care. A cord made of 16 gauge wire is the best type to use. It is heavy enough to carry needed current and to withstand hard wear. It always contains a layer of asbestos over the rubber insulation around each conductor and is cotton covered. If an extension cord is used, it must be of the same type since in the cords of an 18 gauge wire the conductors are smaller and the extension cord may not carry enough electricity to heat the iron satisfactorily and the cord may also become hot.

If your cord is detachable, connect it first to the iron, then at the convenience outlet. Always pull on the plug and not on the cord. Never disconnect the cord from the iron while the current is on or corroding and burning will result. When the iron is not in use, remove the cord to prevent pins of the iron from losing their spring or tension.

If the cord has a switch, make all connections before turning on the current. If the iron has a heat regulator, turn the heat off before disconnecting the iron at the convenience outlet. Never let the cord come in contact with the hot iron and do not knot or twist. Broken wires, loose connections, or broken plugs can cause short circuits and blown fuses, radio interferences and poor heating. When using the iron, slide it onto a piece of asbestos, instead of raising it onto its heel. This prevents wear on the cord which is plugged into the end of the iron and saves motions and energy.

Why Not Be Comfortable?

Develop good ironing practices. Sit when possible, using a stool of suitable height which has a place on which to rest your feet. Begin ironing with materials which need lower heat, such as rayons, then cottons and linens. Save a piece or two of rayon with which to finish up the ironing job.

Iron with the thread of goods until garment is dry. This is especially

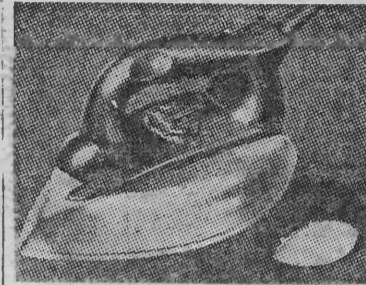
LOOK WHAT'S COMING IN NEW APPLIANCES

Remember all the new electrical appliances you were promised "after the war"? Well, you will not have long to wait now. Because some of those promised devices are already on the market (in limited supplies, of course) and many more will soon be making their appearance in store windows.

You'll be amazed at the number of new gadgets that will be offered to you in these appliances designed to make your housekeeping easier and simpler.

The Latest in Irons

Hand and machine irons to make the ironing job easier will soon be



on your dealer's shelf. One automatic standard iron, with the handle and sole air cooled and the black plastic handle equipped with a headlight to spot the wrinkles, is made with twin points so you can get into small spaces without reversing.

Steam irons eliminate sprinkling and can be used to iron the sheerest curtains and heaviest woolens equally as well. Housewives are cautioned to use only distilled water as tap water will cause lime to collect within the iron.

If tangling cord gets in your way when you iron you will be interested in the cordless iron to be manufactured after the first of the year. The cord is attached to the iron's stand and the iron draws its heat from the upper part of the stand, thus enabling the ironer to move more freely.

No More Washday Worries

No longer will you have your washday plans upset by bad weather. With the automatic clothes dryer you need not care whether the sun shines or whether it rains. You just transfer the clothes from your wringer and spinner into the dryer and they will come out either dried for ironing or dried entirely as you wish.

You'll have your choice between either an automatic or non-automatic type of washing machine, probably depending upon the cost or time you have to supervise the machine. One type of machine with two separate tub units, one for clothes and one for dishes, will fit neatly into your kitchen. Other models boast new types of flush rinses, automatic sprays, and other improvements designed to save you back-breaking hours of labor and turn out a better wash.

You'll Want a Dishwasher

No more dishwasher hands if you have one of the completely automatic dishwashers soon to be avail-

important for bias-cut garments. Iron on the right side of cottons and linens except to bring out pattern of fabric, an embroidered design or when there is more than one thickness of material where you iron first on the wrong side. Protect long pieces from dragging on the floor. Iron few creases, especially in linens, and change often to avoid wear.

Dampen to Correct Degree

Watch the amount of moisture, the method of folding and rolling clothes when dampening for ironing, and also the arrangement in the basket. Unstarched clothing needs very little dampening, while starched materials, especially linens need to be quite damp for a good ironing job. Practice using slow steady movements rather than short rapid ones.

Don't allow your ironing to be an endless job. Practice some of these time-saving tricks with a little planning and your ironing will be simpler, quicker, easier and better.

able. One model performs eight operations, starting with a spray, then rinsing and washing at one touch of a button without the use of soap, drying by a heating element turned on automatically after washing, and finally turning itself off.

Your postwar refrigerator will feature more storage space for frozen foods, with some models containing full width freezer shelves. You will have rustproof shelves, an ultra-violet ray sterilamp to retard the growth of mold and bacteria, and refrigeration coils built in the wall of the box to abolish defrosting, prevent the drying out of foods and enable the placing of uncovered dishes on the shelves.

Alarm-Equipped Freezer

Rural families will supply the greatest demand for home freezing units which will come in two styles, the upright freezer resembling a refrigerator and the top opening cabinet. The former type will freeze and store a food supply lasting from six months to a year. Packages can easily be located without rearranging and it will be equipped with an alarm that will go off when the interior temperature exceeds the danger point, 10 degrees above zero.

Vacuum cleaners, maroon with ivory trimmings, brown or light gray, will be lighter and easier to use as a result of large scale use of plastics and aluminum in their manufacture. One model is equipped with a motor



which never needs oiling and an adjustment for raising or lowering the nozzle for various rug thicknesses.

Sleep With Electricity

You'll never wake up shivering in the middle of the night if you sleep under an electric blanket. Electric flying suits used during the war have taught the manufacturer improvements for the blanket which automatically adjusts heat to weather changes while you sleep.

The new electric roasters are complete cooking units and will cook a complete meal at one time. One model with one section for meat and two for vegetables, has a look-in panel so you can watch the progress of cooking without lifting the lid. Some will have automatic timing devices for surface burners as well as ovens and V-shaped oven racks for roasts instead of the roasting pan.

Other Newcomers

Other new appliances which you can look forward to include a disposal unit in your sink to shred the garbage, electric water heater with adjustable heat control, automatic coffee maker controlled by a thermostat which turns off when the coffee is properly brewed, sewing machine, and even an electrical flour sifter.

Toasters, portable and stationary food mixers, waffle irons, grills, portable heaters, heating pads, heat lamps, and fans will also be available soon.

Along the Line

in ILLINOIS
WITH DAVE MUELLER

Slipping and sliding through a heavy snow storm, we muttered to ourselves that there were times when that popular song, "Dreaming of a White Christmas" might well be graduated into a nightmare and we wondered if Bing Crosby, who made it into a national favorite for the holiday season, ever attempted to shovel his way out of foot-thick drifts along the highways of Illinois.

Skidding to a stop at a steamy-windowed restaurant at the edge of Flora, we scraped the ice off the windshield wipers and tossed an old blanket over the hood to save as much engine warmth as possible while having lunch. An extra bit of stomping to get the snow off our shoes helped us to feel a little better before we sat down at a table to give our order.

While we were waiting, three servicemen came into the cafe, laughing as they brushed the snow from their uniforms and from their hilarious exchange of banter, we learned they had been having a snowball fight and that one of the boys had been given a good face washing by the others and all three had ended their tussle wallowing around in the deep snow.

What military men lightly refer to as "fruit salad" bedecked the left shoulders of all three men, their profusion of colored ribbons and combat badges quietly proclaiming their part in many campaigns throughout the South Pacific and the Philippines.

"You guys look like snow men," the restaurant proprietor called cheerily across the counter, "don't you know that stuff's mighty cold and wet out there?"

"You're telling us!" one of the

soldiers grinned as he vigorously brushed himself off. "Brother, I've been waiting for three years to roll around in a snow bank and it can't pile up deep enough to suit me!"

He gave one of his buddies a good-natured push and the three of them still laughing and ribbing each over the outcome of their rough and tumble sport, took their places at a table and gave ringing orders for "big, juicy, rare steaks like what they ain't got in the Army!"

Suddenly the snow looked good to us, as we sat there looking at those three heroes of the bloody war with the Japs. Snow which never touches the hot, steaming jungles or sifts into the barren quarters of men on the other side of the wide Pacific, had been a symbol of home, and Illinois and of all the warm, human qualities that make the holidays in America something a little apart from everyday life and fills the air with gaiety and laughter, Christmas carols and sleigh bells, good cheer and warm handclaps—all of the things which mean, "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men."

When we emerged from the restaurant, we found ourselves humming a few bars of "White Christmas" and we grinned as we brushed the clinging snow from the windshield and climbed into a cold car.

"I'm dreaming of a white Christmas . . ." we warbled in our shaky baritone as the rear end of the car whirled around crazily on the road.

"Let her snow!" we sang aloud as the windshield wipers slapped back and forth over a crusty mass of forming ice.

"Let her snow!"

WRITE A LETTER AND EARN A DOLLAR!

Starting with the January issue and continuing for several months, the Illinois REA News will conduct a "Letters to the Editor" column and will pay one dollar (\$1.00) for every letter published. Letters must be from members of Illinois REA co-ops, (or a member of a co-op family), must not exceed 500 words, be written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to "Editor's Mail Box", Illinois REA News, Petersburg, Illinois.

Letters may be written on any subject and will be selected for publication on the basis of interest to other REA co-op members. They must bear the writer's name and address and the name of his co-op, but initials or an anonymous name will be used as a signature if indicated. Letters not appearing in print cannot be acknowledged and become the property of the Illinois REA News.

BUFFALO SELECTED—

(From Page One)

cision of the National's executive committeemen for the Buffalo convention, permitting more time for committee meetings and floor discussion. The additional day will also permit more time to view exhibits and to participate in activities incident to the convention.

One of the activities will be a tour of the mammoth hydro development of the Hydro-Electric Commission of Toronto, at Ontario, Canada. Buffalo is a city of over a million population and the second largest railroad center in the country. Convenient transportation facilities also include airline and highway travel, via the Pennsylvania-Central and American Airlines, and the federal coast-to-coast highway (No. 20).

Reservation Procedure

Sufficient hotel space for delegates has been assured, with reservations

to be handled only through the Buffalo Convention Bureau, 602 Genesee Building, Buffalo, New York. It will be important that all delegates indicate the exact date of arrival and the type of accommodations desired. DO NOT send reservations direct to Buffalo hotels, or to the NRECA office in Washington.

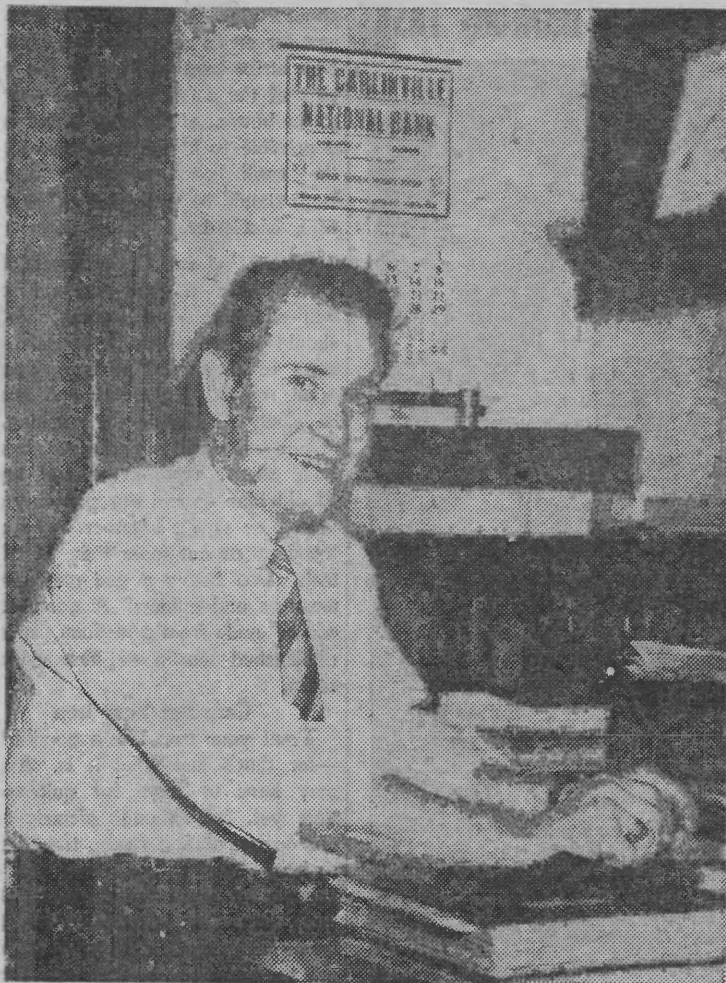
Senate Committee Rejects MVA Bill

The Missouri Valley Authority bill received an adverse report from the Senate Committee on Irrigation and Reclamation by a vote of 12 to 2. It now has to go before the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, where it is expected to get more favorable treatment. Previously, the proposed legislation had been turned down by the Senate Commerce Committee.

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ON NEW JOB AT M. J. M. CO-OP



Home again after spending 34 months in the Navy Air Force from which he was honorably discharged with the rating of Petty Officer (ordnance), David M. McKee of Carlinville has been employed by M.J.M. Electric cooperative as a general office worker assigned to handling work orders, mapping and as materials clerk.

Dave served a brief apprenticeship as a groundman to acquaint himself with the workings along the lines, then was transferred by Manager Barnes to a desk in the office where his specialty is mapping work,

a natural for him because his hobby is creative art work, chalk and charcoal portraits and architectural drawing. Although he has had no formal art training, Dave expects to follow his hobby as his chief recreational pursuit and eventually, develop it into his vocation as a commercial artist.

Before entering the Navy, Dave worked at the Western Cartridge plant in Alton. He is a graduate of Carlinville Community high school, married to the former Betty Joe Nevins, and they have one son, Dean Martin, aged 3.

LINEMEN OVERCOME—

(From Page One)

children, Stephen, 3, and David, 9 months old, might have a fighting chance against the crippling disease.

After fighting mud ranging from ankle to waist deep, the poles were in place and the line connected by 4 o'clock on the second day. A heating pad was ready for instant use the minute the electricity was turned on and a vibrator and ultra-violet ray lamps soon augmented the pads to alleviate the suffering of the two youngsters.

Now that the Gaines family have electricity and can continue proper treatment of the two children, it is considered possible that serious permanent after-effects of the polio can be averted. The two victims of the dread disease had been treated in a hospital at Cape Girardeau but because it was over-crowded, nothing further could be done for them there.

Permission to build the emergency extension was promptly granted by REA officials in St. Louis and Manager H. M. Zaricor of the Sikeston cooperative was able to get enough wire and hardware together to string the three-quarters of a mile line from the nearest energized co-op line.

Gaines signed up for cooperative service 10 months ago, before his two boys were stricken, but there were 1300 applications ahead of his and in the normal course of events he would not have been reached for several months.

RADIO NOISE FILTER

Radio listening pleasure is being increased by a radio noise filter which eliminates static or buzzing in electrical equipment, making it possible to tune in a favorite program even when the man of the house is performing facial contortions with the aid of his electric razor. The new gadget was developed during the war to make better radio reception possible aboard the huge B-29 bombers.

First Co-op Electrical Appliance On Market

An electric water heater is the first co-op appliance presented to consumers. Sold by National Cooperatives, Inc., shipments are being made to every regional cooperative. Production is in full swing and unless unexpected material shortages develop, it will continue in increasing volume output. The heater is the first in a series of new co-op household appliances, which include vacuum cleaners, refrigerators, home freezers, and milk coolers.

POST HOLE DIGGING MADE EASY!



PUNCHING HOLES MADE SIMPLE! Construction of new lines will be greatly speeded up with the use of the new earth boring machine for setting poles shown above the day it arrived at the headquarters of Tri-County Electric cooperative, Mt. Vernon. Pictured as they are about to demonstrate how the new equipment works, N. H. Lovin, truck driver, and Ralph Standerfer, lineman, put on a special show for Everett Brown, A. & S. field engineer of REA, Manager Herbert Downey, and Ed. Collier, REA operations division field engineer. Lovin and Standerfer accompanied Manager Downey to Edgerton, Wisconsin, to take delivery of the machine, going via Evansville, Indiana, to get the new truck on which it is mounted.

BLACKBURN NAMED TO SUCCEED NICHOLSON AS SOLICITOR TO REA

The appointment of K. Wilde Blackburn as Solicitor to REA, succeeding the late Vincent D. Nicholson, became effective on November 14, according to an announcement by Robert H. Shields, Solicitor General for the Department of Agriculture. Mr. Blackburn is a native of Pennsylvania. He received his A.B. degree from Temple University, and his L.L.D. degree from the University of Pennsylvania. He became associated with the Rural Electrification Administration, under its original independent status, on May 1, 1932, and was assigned to the staff of the General Counsel. He was first affiliated with the Application and Loans Division in the processing of loan applications, and later to acquisitions. When REA became a part of the Department of Agriculture, Mr. Blackburn was assigned to the legal staff under Mr. Nicholson, and he made the move to St. Louis with the agency back in 1942.

In August, 1943, Mr. Blackburn was returned to Washington and was assigned to legal work with the Commodity Credit Corporation, and later to the Farm Security Corporation. He was serving as Assistant Solicitor to FSA at the time of his recent appointment to the REA post.

NEW MANAGER—

(From Page One)

ville, Tenn., will start work in the near future to build 100 miles of single-phase line and 25 miles of three-phase line. Seventeen miles will be converted from single to three-phase in order to furnish power to a number of oil well pumpers in the project area. Customarily, oil wells are pumped by internal combustion engines but experiments with electric power have proven so economical that more oil producers are switching over to it throughout the oil belt of central and southeastern Illinois.

Manager Crawford was for 29 years with Missouri Power and Light Company and at the time of his resignation, was district manager at Clinton and New London, Missouri. At the time of his appointment as manager of the Clay county co-op, Crawford was procurement agent for the electrical department of the St. Louis Shipbuilding company. Previously in charge of right-of-ways and applications, C. D. McCommons had served as co-ordinator and acting superintendent from 1943 until Crawford's appointment as manager.

With 109 Lights, Everything Electrical 'Old McDonald's Farm' Tribute To REA

POWER MAKES PROFIT ENOUGH FROM INCREASE IN EGG PRODUCTION TO PAY ENTIRE COST

"You only live once, so enjoy fully what you have!" That is the motto of Foster McDonald of Route 7, Mt. Vernon, and what is more, he has made it pay dividends.

One of the first farmers in Jefferson county to sign a membership in Tri-County Electric cooperative back in 1938 and one of the earliest to be connected with the newly energized line in 1939, McDonald recognized in the advent of central station power an altogether new life for himself and Mrs. McDonald on their farm a few miles from Harmony, and he set out to make the greatest possible use of electricity in his home, in the out-buildings, and in the operation of the farm itself.

Today there are 109 lights on the McDonald farm and every one of them serves a useful purpose. If counting the two Christmas lights suspended on a wreath in the window brings the total temporarily to 111, who is to say that they do not serve a useful purpose in perpetuating the charming legend that they light the path of the Christ Child as he visits the homes of His own on the anniversary of His birth?

Making Kilowatts Work

For many years before he had the benefit of his REA cooperative power, McDonald worked around his farm on winter nights peering out into the darkness beyond the range of his kerosene lantern or working in the yellow glow of its rays as it hung from a nail in the barn or chicken house. Chores were slow going in those days, he recalls.

"I can't even see to work by lantern light anymore," he confesses, explaining that recently he returned after dark to finish a small job in the fields only to discover the great contrast between electric lights and the out-moded illumination of his lantern.

But McDonald has no use for a kerosene light on his farm now. He brings daylight working conditions to his entire barnyard with the flip of switches which turn on five yard lights strategically placed to brighten every essential part of the out-buildings and working area.

Wherever he steps into a building, there is a switch for lights located to illuminate every crevice and cranny of the interior whether it is the horse stalls, the hog pen, the feed boxes, the brooders, the chicken house or the work shop.

As he moves along from one job to another, McDonald can snap of switches behind him as he turns on more lights ahead so that he never needs to retrace steps to darken his buildings after his work is done.

Makes Power Pay

Not alone lights, but bulbs of 150 to 200 watts are in each socket throughout his outbuildings to give a bright, working light where he needs it.

"My work goes twice as fast and there is less danger of an accident when you can see what you're doing and get on with the job," McDonald explained in commenting on the large sized bulbs he had installed.

Of course, he uses a variety of bulbs where less light or the factor of heat enters the picture, McDonald pointed out. In his pig brooders or his chicken brooders he changes bulbs at the proper time, starting his pig brooders, for instance, with 150-watt bulbs, then when the pigs are a little older and require less warmth, he reduces the bulb to a 100-watt and finally, as the pigs themselves generate more body heat and require less artificial warmth, he puts in small bulbs until the brooders are no longer needed.

"I had 22 pigs from three sows last January and with lights and my two brooders, I saved them all. Lights in the pen greatly lessen the possibility of the sow lying or stepping on the pigs and the brooders eliminate any mortality due to the cold," McDonald explained. "I can pay for a lot of electricity and still be money ahead when I use it to get 100 per cent returns on my pigs!"

Profit from Poultry
But it is his egg production which



ALL NIGHT LIGHTS IN THE HEN HOUSE, electrically warmed drinking water and proper feeding has increased egg production to such an extent that profits from the increase alone pays for all the power Foster McDonald buys from Tri-County Electric cooperative at Mt. Vernon. Here McDonald is shown holding "the proof" of his daily winter egg production from his flock of Grade A-1 pullets.

reflects the greatest profit from the use of electricity, McDonald declared. Each year he buys 1000 chicks, a third of which he turns over to his father, J. S. McDonald, who lives on an adjoining farm and shares the same REA transformer.

The remaining chicks he raises, culling them out to select his best layers and roosters, and using the unproductive ones for the table, or sending them off to market.

This leaves him about 250 A-1 pullets which at six months, he puts in his hen house and never again lets them out on the ground. Following specifications from the College of Agriculture, McDonald built pit roosts and covered the concrete floor with a heavy layer of straw which he continuously covers with fresh litter. Only twice a year does he clean the chicken house competely.

Metal feed troughs with inch-wide flanges along the sides prevent the hens from wasting feed by throwing it out of the box and a metal cover which revolves if a hen attempts to roost on it, keeps the chickens from contaminating the feed.

Lights and Water

Using a discarded kitchen sink, McDonald built a drinking water reservoir on a wooden frame with a wire grill through which the hens can reach the water but cannot get in or over it. The sink rests on a flat metal electric warmer which keeps the water tepid in the coldest weather so that the hens drink a great deal more.

Six 15-watt bulbs illuminate the chicken house all night. The combination of constant feeding, warm water and all night lighting has increased egg production until the increase alone more than pays the entire monthly bill for all the power used on his farm, McDonald said. He averages 14 to 15 dozen large eggs a week right through the long nights and the cold weather.

Making a profit from the use of his REA power, McDonald believes in using it to the fullest extent everywhere on the farm and in the house.

In the large living room he has 13 lights including the overhead cluster, and outlets for his radio. The rooms throughout his house average five lights per room and he has them wherever they will serve a useful purpose. In addition to those on each side of his mirror in the bathroom, on each side of his two ample kitchens,

(one he explains as belonging to Mrs. McDonald, the other as his own!) on both sides of the dressers and vanities, he has one over the head of his bed which he uses to read himself to sleep each night.

"That's where I get all my reading done—in bed," McDonald grinned. "In the morning, I wake up at 5 o'clock and snap on my bedside radio and just lie there in luxury while I listen to the market and weather reports and hear what Charles Stooky, the farm editor of KMOX has to say, before I get up to start my day's work."

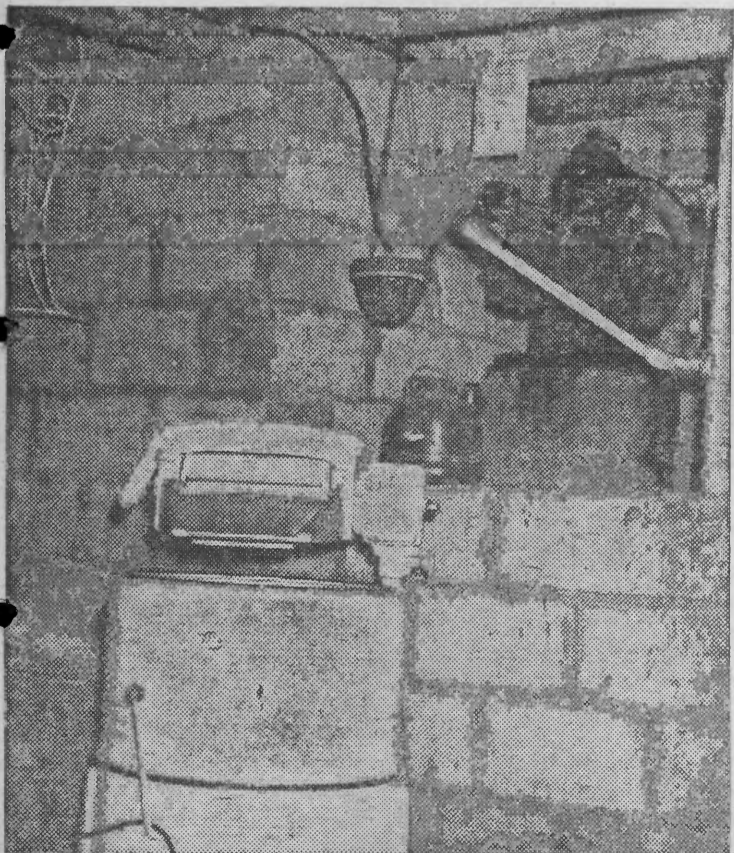
Everything Electrical

But all the conveniences of electricity on the McDonald farm are not

reserved exclusively for Mr. McDonald. The many lights throughout the house were selected by Mrs. McDonald and she has in her ultra-modern kitchen, the latest electric range and large refrigerator. In addition, her work is made easy by the help of an electric sweeper, iron, food mixer, toaster and sausage grinder, and whenever home-made ice cream is on the menu, it is made in a freezer turned by a quarter horsepower motor!

She too, enjoys a radio as she works and benefits by the abundance of hot and cold water from the electric pump and pressure system installed in the basement. Even enter-

(Turn to Page Sixteen)



OUT OF THE WAY AND TROUBLE-FREE is the electric pump which supplies the McDonald farm with water, 11 outlets of cold water and 9 for hot. Placed on a cement block poured at the time it was installed, the pump is bolted onto a heavy plank and operates without vibration or noise, yet is easily accessible for maintenance attention or repairs.



EVEN HIS ICE CREAM FREEZER operates by electricity and McDonald puts it to frequent use, connecting the freezer by belt to a quarter-horsepower motor which also operates his grind-stone and emery wheel and being portable, is moved around to do many odd jobs on the farm. He is shown here putting his ice cream maker together to demonstrate it.

Junior News

from REA farms



Rover and Flossie Learn to Forgive And Have Merriest Christmas Ever



Suddenly they both stopped short. What do you think they saw? A big, beautiful dog house and a cute little red and white checkered basket.

You could tell it was just before Christmas at the Douglas farm. Especially if you spent any time at all in the house as Rover, the dog, and Flossie, the cat, did.

As they lay on the rug in front of the stove or in the corner or curled up in the big chair in the living room they watched Mrs. Douglas hustle and bustle around the kitchen, mixing batters and dough and baking cookies of every design and color. How good they smelled when she took them out of the oven. And how tempting they looked!

At four o'clock Rover and Flossie knew that it was time for school to let out. In a little while Jimmy and Janey would be home. They listened for the sound of children's voices shouting gaily as they came down the road.

"Here come Jimmy and Janey," exclaimed Rover. And he ran to the door wagging his tail as hard as he could.

"I'm so glad they're coming home," shouted Flossie as she jumped off the window sill purring loudly.

The door opened and in rushed Jimmy and Janey, swinging their lunch boxes in one hand and their school bags in the other, bringing with them a gust of cold air and a flurry of snow. "Bow, wow, wow," barked Rover as he leaped up at Jimmy, licking his face. "Meow, meow," purred Flossie as she rubbed her soft fur against Janey's legs.

"Hello, Mom, Hello, Dad," shouted both children at once. "Guess what? We just got a new piece to learn for the Christmas play at school," and they pushed Rover and Flossie away from them and said, "Go lie down in the parlor. We're too busy to play with you."

Yes, you could tell it was Christmas time. And Rover and Flossie were not sure that they liked it. Oh, yes, the holly wreaths looked very pretty in the window. And the little lighted fir tree on the front lawn was admired by everyone who went past. Everybody seemed so happy and friendly to each other and people laughed more than they ever did before.

But Rover and Flossie were not happy. Nobody paid any attention to them. They were always in the way and they had to be careful or they

would have their paws stepped on.

"I wonder if we did something wrong," mourned Flossie one evening. "No one seems to love us any more. I've always tried to be good and I've caught all the mice around the house and barn. And you always helped Jimmy get the cows in the summer time and you watched the chickens and guarded the farm. Why does everyone treat us so mean?"

"It's just because they are so busy," replied Rover. And he was right. Jimmy and Janey were busy learning their Christmas pieces and making Christmas cards for all their friends; Mrs. Douglas was busy sewing Christmas toys and baking; and Farmer Douglas was busy with his farm work.

"Well, I don't care," complained Flossie. "It just isn't fair that they should ignore us so. Even if they are busy! I think we should teach them a lesson. I wonder what we could do to make them sorry for the way they're treating us."

"I agree with you, Flossie. We should teach them a lesson. Let me think." And resting his head on his paws Rover thought and thought. Suddenly he jumped up and exclaimed, "I've got it! I know what we will do."

"What?" questioned Flossie.

"We'll fix them. On Christmas morning we will get up early. So early that all the Douglasses will still be sound asleep. We will go into the parlor where the Christmas tree will be set up with all the tinsel and lights and ornaments and all the gifts will be arranged so neatly beneath it and you know what we will do?" asked Rover.

"No, what?" asked Flossie.

"We'll mess up the whole room. Scatter the presents all over the floor. We could even hide some of them. Maybe we could knock the tree over and . . ."

"Oh, Rover. That would be mean," interrupted Flossie.

"Sure it would. But do you like the way they are treating us?" answered Rover irritated. "And anyway, it was your idea to get even with them. That would surely teach them a lesson."

"You're right, Rover," Flossie agreed. "We'll do just that."

So the days passed and soon it was

Christmas eve. Jimmy and Janey went to bed early because they knew that Santa Claus was going to visit their home that evening. And Rover and Flossie went to sleep early, too, so they could wake up Christmas morning to carry out their plan.

True to their word they woke up before dawn and crept silently into the parlor. Just as they expected, there was the Christmas tree—oh, so lovely! And beneath it were many, many wonderful gifts.

Just as they entered the room, Flossie whispered, "Isn't it gorgeous?"

"Don't back out now," retorted Rover. "Come on, let's go."

"Okay," answered Flossie.

Then suddenly, they both stopped short. What do you think they saw? Right before their eyes was a big, beautiful dog house, painted bright green with "ROVER" printed above the door in big white letters and on the card were these words, "Merry Christmas to my best friend, from Jimmy."

And right next to it was the cutest red and white checkered basket with the softest little blanket you ever saw and the card with it said, "I love you, Flossie. Merry Christmas. Janey."

"Oh, Rover!" "Oh, Flossie!" exclaimed Flossie and Rover at the very same time. "Aren't they grand!"

"Now I know why they were so busy," murmured Rover. "They were making these things for us."

"Aren't you sorry we ever had such bad thoughts? Let's go back to sleep again and when Jimmy and Janey are up we'll come in and pretend that we don't know anything about this," suggested Flossie.

So that is exactly what they did. And just guess who had the merriest, merriest Christmas in the world. That's right. Farmer Douglas, Mrs. Douglas, Jimmy, Janey, Rover and Flossie.

Gleaming White Dickeyes Are Thrifty Fashion Aid

Dickeyes are one of the most popular articles in the high school girl's wardrobe. They furnish the fashionable way to give smart variety to sweaters, suits, and winter dresses. But to really add that touch of smartness to last year's sweater, the dickeyes must look hand-box fresh.

Keeping your dickeyes neat and fresh is a job which will give you teen-agers a great deal of pride. Wash them by hand and dissolve bluing flakes along with your soap flakes. This little trick of bluing automatically as you wash insures against streaks and eliminates the need for a separate bluing. Follow with two clear rinses as you do for your other dainties. And of course, starch those that are starchable.

Ironing is the job you hate, you say, especially if there are frills and ruffles. Iron ruffles first along straight edges, then edge the point of the iron into the gathers. With a little practice you'll be able to do it as well as Mother, and what a thrill you'll get out of wearing a gleaming, neat dickey that is that way just because of you!

Frozen Cranberries

Fresh cranberries for spring and summer meals will be more than just wishful thinking if you freeze them now while they are still on the market. Just clean the berries, removing stems and discarding any with bruises. Rinse in clear water, drain, and fill container. No sugar or syrup is needed.

Pen Pals

Merry Christmas, Pen Pals!

Merry Christmas, Pen Pals!

This is your newest Pen Pal greeting all you REA boys and girls with a "let's get-acquainted" invitation. Yes, it's Joan Cameron, your new Junior News editor, asking each and every one of you Pen Pals to write me a letter so we can get to know each other.

My home is on a 120-acre dairy farm in Wisconsin, though I live in Madison now. When I was a little girl I helped my family with the farm work. I attended a little red one-room country school for eight grades. We had electricity both at school and at home, so I know how much REA means to you.

Now that I have written my Pen Pal letter, I want to receive one from you. Send your letter to Joan Cameron, Junior News, Illinois REA News, Petersburg, Illinois. Tell all our Pen Pal friends how you spent your Christmas vacation, about your New Year's resolutions, your work, your play, yourself . . . How 'bout it?

...

Jane Has Three Bird Dogs

This is my first letter to the Junior News. I am 12 years old, 5 ft. 4 in. tall and have blonde hair and blue eyes.

I live on a 440 acre farm. I have one brother and no sisters. My hobby is collecting movie star pictures. I have three bird dogs and one cat.

I would like boys and girls about my age to write me. I am in the seventh grade. So Pen Pals, please write.—Jane Ann Doak, R. R. 2, Marod, Ill.

...

Only One in Her Class

I am 13 years old and am in the eighth grade. I have red hair, blue-gray eyes, and am about 5 feet, 2 in. tall. I am the only one in my class, so I get pretty lonesome.

I have written to three Pen Pals previously and have not received a letter. Two of them I wrote last year. So will someone please write to me. I will faithfully answer all letters.

Merry Christmas, Pen Pals, and please, please write.—Audrey Callahan, R. R. 1, Macomb, Ill.

...

Jane Is Stone Collector

I am 5 ft. 2 in. tall, weigh 102 lbs., and have light brown hair and gray eyes. I live on a 170 acre farm. I read all issues of the REA News.

My birthday is Feb. 13. I am 14 years old and am a freshman at Normal Community High School. My hobby is collecting stones, which I enjoy very much.

I will answer all letters, so please write.—Jane Buth, R. 1, Normal, Ill.

...

Betty Collects Movie Star Pictures

I am 13 years old and in the eighth grade. I have brown hair and dark eyes. My birthday is on April 5.

My hobby is collecting movie star pictures. I have two brothers. I like to ride a bicycle. I will answer all letters from boys and girls.—Betty Norton, R. R. 1, Colfax, Ill.

...

Aileen Will Answer All Letters

I am 10 years old and in the fifth grade. I have light brown hair and blue eyes. My birthday is August 25. I go to a country school. I like school. I like to read, ride horses, and ride a bicycle.

I have two sisters and one brother. I would like to have some Pen Pals, so please write to me boys and girls. I will answer your letters.—Aileen R. Freeland, Keenes, Ill.

...

NEW ROLE FOR RAY LAMP

Heavy cream prepared by a new method utilizing a germicidal lamp, will stay fresh at room temperatures for more than a year.

Average vitamin A value of creamery butter produced in the U. S. is more than 15,000 International Units per pound.

Switch Clickers

Clever Things To Do By REA Women

Here are some more helpful hints for lunch box packing and favorite recipes from some of our Wisconsin REA women passed along to our other readers.

Let's have a Switch Clicker idea from you—a favorite recipe or household hint. Include them in your pattern requests or send to Joan Cameron, Illinois REA News, Petersburg, Illinois.

...

If you will put on a pair of gloves before putting on or taking off those hard-to-get stockings, it will save many snags from rough fingers or nails.

Baked Sweet Potatoes

Boil until tender, peel and quarter, place in a greased shallow baking dish and spread over the top butter and brown sugar or red syrup, to save sugar. Sprinkle any kind of nuts or peanut butter if you have no nuts. Bake until light brown.—Mrs. Herbert Davis, Olmsted, Ill. Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative.

...

Leather Mittens

I took an old soft leather coat of my sons which was worn too much to be of service. Turned inside out the leather looked like new suede. From it I made mittens for the children's Christmas box. I used an old mitten ripped up for a pattern. A warm lining and cuffs, either knit or dark wide elastic, make the mittens as nice as any you can buy. I make four pairs from one old coat.—Mrs. Ray Hardesty, R. 4, Bloomington, Ill., Corn Belt Electric Cooperative.

...

Frame Holly Wreaths With Fresh Curtains

Be sure your window curtains are fresh and clean before you hang up your holly wreaths for Christmas. A special laundering will do the trick and it isn't much trouble even amidst the hustle and bustle of these busy pre-season days. A time-saving, worry-saving trick is eliminating a special bluing rinse by using bluing right in the wash water.

Give your curtains two clear water rinses. By adding a specially prepared wax-like product to the starch you can prevent sticking and pulling when you iron. And, presto, your curtains are back on the windows looking like new!

...

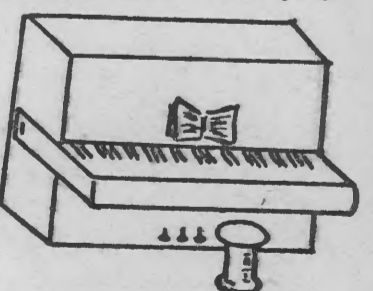
DOLL PIANO

Does your dolly have a piano? Your doll house is not complete without a piano, you know, so if she doesn't have one, why don't you give her one for Christmas?

You can make a doll piano in a jiffy. All you need is a candy box, some glue or staples, a spool, and paint or crayons. The upright part of the piano is made from the box. The keyboard is cut from the top of the box and can be fastened to the upright part of the piano with glue or staples.

With your paint or crayons draw the music, pedals and black keys. You can paint the spool a bright color and there it is—a gift as nice as any dolly could want.

Are you starting on your well-stocked cellar of home-canned goods? Remember that for safety all home-canned vegetables must be boiled at least 10 minutes before tasting.



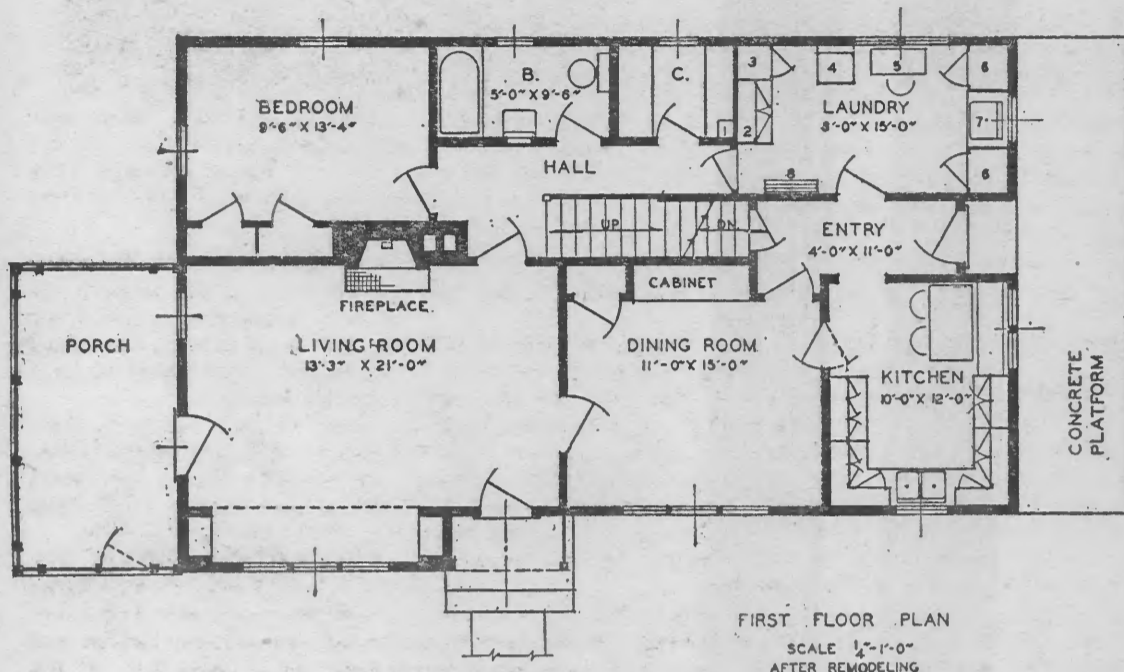
Electricity For Farm and Home

Your New Farm Home

Whether Building or Remodeling You Will Want A House That Is Livable and Workable

KEY TO LAUNDRY ARRANGEMENT.

- 1. CLOTHES CHUTE
- 2. CABINET FOR SUPPLIES
- 3. STORAGE CLOSET
- 4. WASHING MACHINE
- 5. IRONER
- 6. CLOSETS
- 7. SINK
- 8. RACKS



FIRST FLOOR PLAN
SCALE 1/4"=1'-0"
AFTER REMODELING

REMODELED FARM HOUSE

Floor plans for remodeled farm house prepared by Max LaRock, agricultural engineer, University of Wisconsin.

Building a new home or remodeling your old one? You've probably been thinking about one or the other. Maybe you plan to start as soon as building materials become available or maybe it's a dream that you

Or the housewife can go directly to the kitchen from the entry. The same principle applies to anyone going from the living room, bedroom, or dining room to the bathroom or either up or down the stairs.

the fireplace in the living room with bookcases in the wall on either side and a davenport in front of the window adds a gracious air of coziness to the room.

Kitchen Planning

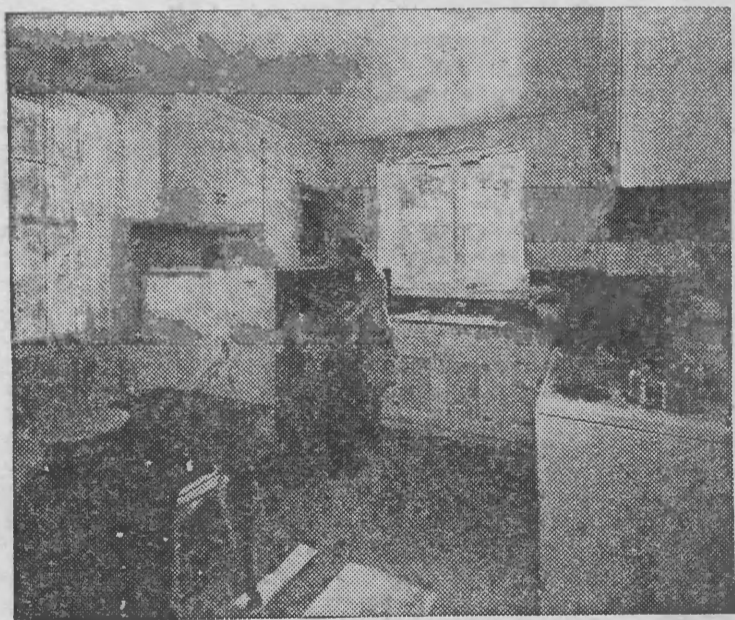
The kitchen is the woman's domain and must be laid out to allow her greatest efficiency in her housewifely activities. Proper arrangement of stove, refrigerator, sink, cabinets, and table are essential. It will save her many steps.

Good lighting is of extreme importance. This applies to all rooms. Plenty of windows to allow natural light to enter and plenty of artificial lights for dark days and evenings make a home more livable.

Utility Room

A laundry or utility room is a feature of new farm homes that should not be overlooked. It is one of the most handy and most used rooms in the house. Besides containing the laundry facilities, it provides a sink and perhaps a shower, closet, cabinet, and deep freezing unit if the family has one. This saves trudging up and down basement stairs many times a day.

Almost any farm house can be remodeled to include these features. And it need not be very costly. The trick is simply this—study carefully the present set-up and plan with painstaking efforts the changes that



A well planned kitchen is economical, convenient, and charming.

plan to fulfill when your war bonds come due.

At any rate, you know that good planning is essential to a good job. And Max LaRock, agricultural engineer at the University of Wisconsin, wants to help you. He has designed plans for three new and seven remodeled farm homes. The purpose of these plans is to serve as a guide for farmers and they have been used at various demonstrations given by Mr. LaRock throughout the state.

The accompanying illustrations are those of a remodeled farm house on the Dave Slinger farm, near Randolph, Wisconsin. The plans were made by Mr. LaRock and carried out just before the war.

Above all, the farm house must be arranged for convenience and practicability. These features are well exemplified in this house. A farmer entering the house from the back can go directly into the laundry to clean up, and from there either to the bathroom, dining room, or living room without trekking through the kitchen.

A well laid out house will allow plenty of room without being unduly large. Proper arrangement of furnishings will give that effect. In the Slinger house the little nook opposite



An attractive exterior adds beauty to the farmstead and is an indication of what you may expect on the inside.

will be necessary to give you the house you want.

County Agent Can Help

If you are contemplating building or remodeling, ask your County Agent for advice. Chances are he has Mr. LaRock's plans in his office which will serve as a guide though you may have to alter them somewhat to fit your individual needs.

If he doesn't possess these plans, he may secure them from the Agricultural Extension Division of the University of Wisconsin for a small fee. They are well worth it for they may help you and other farmers build the kind of home you want and deserve.

Christian Co-ops Hope of Japan, Entire World

"More cooperatives" is the answer offered by Toyohiko Kagawa, Japanese Christian, to a question as to what Japan's future foreign policy should be.

Kagawa stated that before the seizure of cooperatives by the government during the war seven million Japanese were members, including five million farm families.

"Christian cooperatives must be the foundation not only of Japan, but of the entire world," he said. Credited with having done more for social reform in Japan than any other man, Kagawa is quoted as saying that a basic cause of the war was widespread American racial discrimination, particularly as directed against Japanese and other Asiatic races.

Consumer Co-ops Push Ahead Into Production Fields

Consumer cooperatives in the United States and Canada affiliated with National Cooperatives, Inc., and the Cooperative League own and operate 158 mills, factories, and refineries, plus 1,664 miles of pipe-line and 429 oil wells. Goods produced in these plants totaled \$65 million in 1944, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Consumer co-ops have gone further in the farm supply field than in any other activity. They own and operate 11 fertilizer factories, 18 feed mills, 8 soybean processing plants, 7 insecticide and fungicide and dust manufacturing plants and 39 chick hatcheries.

Farm Machinery

In the field of farm machinery co-ops own a milking machine, tractor, farm implements, and corn picker factory. They also own and operate 2 flour mills, 2 coffee roasteries, 2 canneries, 7 bakeries and 8 miscellaneous food processing plants, including a bottling works, sausage factory, dairies, slaughter house and packing plant in the field of food production.

Other production units include 5 printing plants, 6 saw mills, 2 paint factories, 4 coal mines, a chemical products laboratory, hot water heater factory, serum factory, grease factory, 2 alfalfa dehydrators, and a prefabricated housing plant.

Bossie and Farmer Get a Break As Stock Tank Troubles Are Thwarted

By IRA MILLER
Farm Electrification Bureau

With old King Winter moving into the feed lots and barnyards, farmers are again beginning to worry about the annual problem of keeping ice from coating the surface of their stock tanks.

They know that if a dairy cow is to maintain top milk production and economical gains maintained on beef cattle and hogs, an adequate year-round



COME SNOW AND ICE—Bossie goes right on drinking.

water supply is essential. Stock tank heaters burning coal, wood, fuel oil, kerosene and, in some cases, gas have been tried with indifferent results—now electricity will have a go at this winter chore.

In tackling the problem it is well to know that experiments at Purdue University disclose two basic principles to low-cost operation of an electric stock tank heater: 1—There is no advantage in actually warming water for stock; it is necessary only that it be kept sufficiently ice-free so the animals can drink. 2—Water under pressure eliminates the necessity for large capacity storage tanks, making smaller, easier insulated tanks feasible. Smaller tanks, having a minimum of exposed water surface, permit less surface heat radiation than larger tanks.

As for electricity being equal to the tank heater challenge, Ohio State University specialists have this to say: "There is no question about electricity being able to do the job."

These findings: That warm water and large capacity tanks are unnecessary, and that electricity is equal to the task at hand, have opened the way for the development of electric stock tank heaters which cost only a few cents a day to operate. Heaters, with wattages rated as low as 300, are capable of keeping ice-free holes open for stock to drink all the water necessary.

Among newly developed electric stock tank heaters, operating at low cost, is a device which is designed to float on the surface of the water. It consists of a hollow metal disk, encircled by a heating element and containing a thermostat. Tests show that it can keep a drinking hole open even when the temperature drops far below zero. With agricultural engineers and manufacturers working together on a practical basis, stock tank heaters now bid fair to take their place beside other electrical labor-saving devices for farm use.

REA TRANSFORMER MAY "TRANSFORM" WAY OF LIFE FOR NEW CO-OP FAMILY

Electricity Will Make It Possible To Develop A Brooder Plant on Farm

A new transformer hung this month on the yard pole of his farm near Chatham may transform the whole way of life for R. B. McDonald and his family and become the symbol for an entirely new future.

That is the way McDonald feels about it and his cheerful helpfulness to the line crew of Rural Electric convenience cooperative of Divernon gave ample evidence of his willingness to be a truly cooperative member of his co-op in completing a 1000-foot extension to bring the limitless benefits of electricity to the McDonald farmstead.

It was nearly two years ago that Mr. and Mrs. McDonald and their two boys, Eugene, 14, and Jerry, 10, moved to their present location on Route 1, Chatham, after McDonald had worked for several years as a highway commissioner out of Garrett and as an employee in the Kaiser shipyards on the West Coast and later at the Sagamon Ordnance Plant near Illiopolis. They had long dreamed of living on a farm where they could make a living for themselves and the two boys, and to plan for the future so that Gene and Jerry could carry on after their parents were ready to retire.

"It may seem like a long-time planning program, and perhaps our dreams may not be realized, but with the coming of the REA power line, we will be the first big step in the direction we want to go," McDonald explained.

Plan Family Business

While he was working at the Ordnance Plant that McDonald became aware of the tremendous demand for fully dressed broilers and chickens and the idea was born to engage in the broiler business as a family enterprise.

Starting off with a limited number of chickens, McDonald confined himself to raising breeding stock and learned a good deal about the poultry business in the process.

When the McDonalds moved to their present farmstead, they promptly arranged to have the house wired for electricity and to lay plans for eventually wiring the outbuildings, but they plan extensive alterations

before even their wiring can be completed.

"Our dreams have grown around the idea of having a broiler plant with a capacity of 1000 chickens a week. We plan to do the entire job from raising the chickens clear through to marketing our own produce in the city markets, probably Chicago," McDonald outlined.

Electricity First Step

Without electricity, the plans of the McDonald family were nothing more than dreams; now that they have electricity from the Divernon cooperative, they can go ahead with their long-range program for economic security, a better way of living, and the development of a family business which ultimately will be taken over by Gene and Jerry.

"Both boys are enthusiastic about raising poultry and Gene will start next year as a member of the 4-H Club at Auburn school and his project will be chicken raising. As Jerry gets older, he'll take a more active part in the work, but right now he spends his after school time running his trap lines where he picks up a sizeable number of wild game. Gene has a trap line too, of course, but as he gets more and more involved in his chicken project, I imagine he'll find less time for it than he has now," McDonald explained proudly.

The proposed broiler plant on the McDonald farm will be equipped with all the latest electrical equipment for raising chickens from brooders to chicken pickers, and the capacity production of 1000 broilers a week will be ready to prepare and serve. They will be quick-frozen and stored in a huge cooler to await delivery.

To Raise Own Feed

With sufficient land for crops, McDonald feels that a great proportion of feed required can be raised on the farm, augmented by commercial preparations and some commercial feed, if necessary. As the boys grow older, they will take an active part in the field work and help in the complete operations of the broiler plant, eventually taking it over and running it themselves, McDonald envisions.

"Raising broilers is something of a science," McDonald declared. "Just the other day a woman stopped here to see if we could sell her some chickens and she wanted them exactly two pounds, no more and no less. This was because she serves a half-broiler at her restaurant and her



PLEASED WITH THE RESULTS of their bond selling campaign these pupils of Munger School Tallula, are gathered around the desk of their teacher, Mrs. Helen Nichols, as she adds the figures which disclosed that they had greatly exceeded their quota of "E" Bond sales to be the first school in Menard county to reach the goal assigned by the War Finance Committee. From left to right: Ralph Sapp, Chester Masten, Ada Powell, Mrs. Nichols, Eugene Powell, Marilyn Powell and Kenneth Stiltz.

Sales Of Over \$1,2000 Made By Pupils In Single Morning

A distinguished service citation to be issued by the War Finance Committee will be awarded to the pupils of Munger School, east of Tallula, for being the first school in Menard county to reach its quota of "E" Bond

prices are adjusted to a pound of chicken for each serving. If she buys broilers weighing less, she cheats her customers; if she buys them heavier than two pounds, she cheats herself. We hope to be able to furnish broilers to specifications once we get our plant going," McDonald explained.

With a lifetime of plans for his family depending upon the service furnished by his REA cooperative, it is not surprising that McDonald is an enthusiastic new member of the Divernon co-op.

NEWS FROM Menard

Petersburg, Ill.

A. E. BECKER, Mgr.

SINCERE SEASON'S GREETINGS TO ALL MEMBERS, THEIR FAMILIES AND OUR FRIENDS. (Signed) MENARD ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS and EMPLOYEES

WE START A NEW YEAR

Dear Member:
The Menard Electric Cooperative is a business in which you have a vital personal interest. It is your Co-op just as your farm is your own. Its success and growth depends on you and your neighbor and the interest and cooperation which you both show in its development. Each constructive suggestion and every new member you secure aid toward building for a permanent and successful business in which you have a definite responsibility. 1946 promises to be a banner year for your Cooperative. Construction should move along at good speed once material and manpower facilities are again coordinated. The pioneers who had the interest and success of your Cooperative at heart did their work well. It is a moral obligation for every member to see that their work continues till every unelectrified farm in reach of our distribution system does receive REA service.

Your suggestions and comments are always appreciated and we welcome them. Let us make 1946 a banner year for the Cooperative. It can be done with your cooperation and help.

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) A. E. Becker, Manager

AL HINRICH'S RETURNS

Albert L. Hinrichs has returned from the war to resume his duties as

Line Foreman. Al has been away nearly 3½ years, during which time as a member of the U. S. Army Signal Corps he served in the European Theatre of War. He attained the rank of Staff Sergeant during his service with the U. S. Armed Forces.

During the time Mr. Hinrichs was away Harry A. Houseworth served as Line Foreman. "Buzz" accepted the responsibility to direct the work of keeping continuity of service to your farmsteads and the extension of additional lines where possible. He did his work well. Mr. Houseworth will now supervise securing necessary right-of-way agreements in connection with new extensions and post-war building of new lines.

RE-INSPECTION OF PREMISES
At a regular meeting of your Board of Directors held March 8, 1945, a resolution was passed authorizing the charge of \$1.00 for a re-inspection of all farmsteads connected to existing Menard Electric Cooperative lines. A notice to this effect was included in the REA News. This re-inspection has met with the hearty approval of the majority of our membership. It has been welcomed by the thinking member who realizes that UNSAFE wiring is dangerous. The nominal fee of \$1.00 is a VERY LOW FEE to pay for the assurance that the wiring is safe or IF NOT, the opportunity of learning so and have it corrected, in time to prevent a serious fire.

Members are cordially requested to cooperate with Wiring Inspector Harold Hedgecock and assist him by advising him of any new wiring, which is subject to inspection. The fee of \$1.00 is payable even though a member refuses to have a re-inspection made, as the Inspector was authorized to make the trip.

Members of your Board of Directors are all practical farmers; decisions which they are called upon to make are for the best of interests of all members.

NEWS ABOUT YOUR NEIGHBORS

The Munger School, Tallula, taught by Mrs. Helen Nichols was the first school in Menard County to make its quota in the County School Victory "E" Bond drive. The assigned quota was \$750.00—amount sold \$1256.25.

This school is served by your Cooperative. The teacher and parents of the pupils attending the school are members of the Cooperative. Pupils attending the Munger School include: Nancy Zillion, Eugene Powell,

In addition to the citation to be given to the school, a cash award will be made to the three pupils who sell the most "E" Bonds before the campaign officially ends.

Those who took part in the bond-selling campaign are: Nancy Zillion, Eugene Powell, Chester Lee Masten, Marilyn June Powell, Ralph Sapp, Ada Powell and Kenneth Stiltz.

Munger School is served by Menard Electric cooperative, Petersburg.

Chester Lee Masten, Marilyn June Powell, Ralph Sapp, Ada Powell, Kenneth Stiltz.

Pascal Allen, Green Valley reports that he has purchased a Freezer Unit for Food Storage. Mr. Allen has been interested in this type of equipment for several years. He is a real advocate for REA service and uses electricity to good advantage on and about the farm.

An electric pump installed near a deep well supplies water to several feeding pens and hog sheds, through an underground pipe system.

A portable three horse power motor is used to grind feed; it also serves to operate a grain elevator. An electric water heater in the basement, supplies adequate hot water for all needs. Other electrical equipment at the Allen farmstead includes a refrigerator, range, small appliances and several radios.

Mr. Allen has cooperated in pioneering for new members and bringing the story of REA service to his community.

Mrs. Elza Stevens, Middletown wishes to add her endorsement to other poultry raisers who have found it pays dividends to have a small light burning all night in the poultry house.

"It Costs to Forget" a notation on a recent light bill stub, returned late, the forfeited discount being included with remittance.

This slogan can well be applied to every member who fails to send their remittance before their final discount date.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACTS OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AND MARCH 3, 1933, of Illinois REA News, published monthly at Madison, Wisconsin, for October 1, 1945.

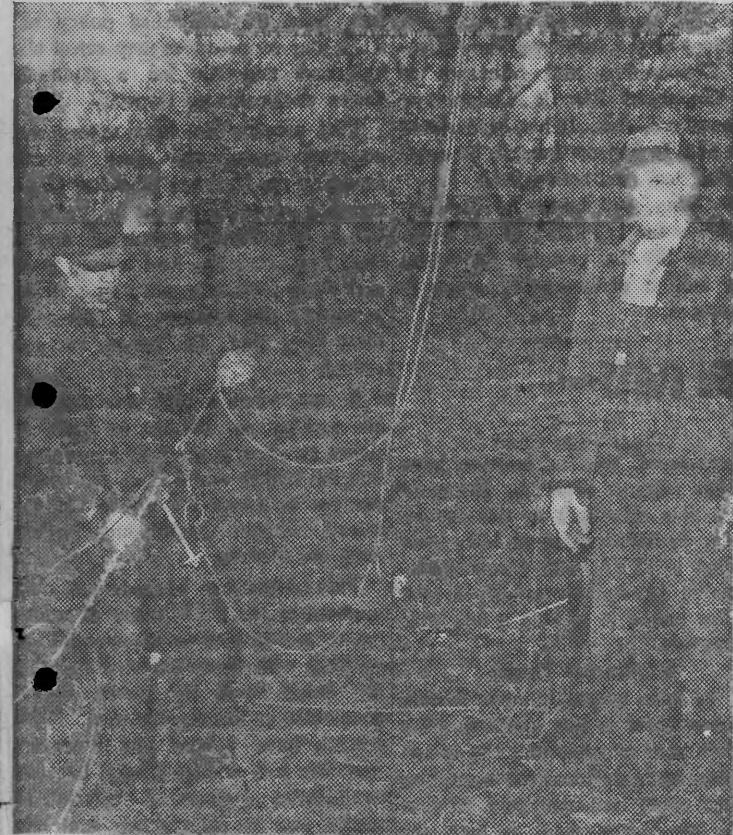
State of Wisconsin, County of Dane, ss. Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared H. M. Schermerhorn, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Publications Manager of the Illinois REA News and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, to wit:

1. That the publisher is Wisconsin Electric Cooperative, Madison, Wisconsin; that the Editor is A. D. Mueller, Carbonale, Illinois; that the Publications Manager is H. M. Schermerhorn, Madison, Wisconsin.

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

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

H. M. SCHERMERHORN, Publications Manager.
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 9th day of October, 1945.
Elmo C. Cooper, Notary Public
My commission expires Nov. 3, 1946.



DULL GREY DAYS such as the one when this picture was taken of R. B. McDonald, Route 1, Chatham, (left) and George Smith, groundman for Rural Electric co-op at Divernon, will have little affect now that the McDonalds have electricity with which to brighten their home and farm and to serve as the foundation for a brooder business which they plan to develop. Holding the transformer "gin" preparatory to swinging a transformer to the top of the pole, McDonald predicted that it may "transform" the whole way of life for his family and himself by making electricity available for his brooder plant.

Hillsboro Broiler Plant Will Give Owner Chicken Dinners In Chicago

Expect To Reach 1000 Per Week Capacity In New Business

For years one of America's foremost popular orchestra leaders and currently a high official in Radio, Harold B. Stokes of Hillsboro, has long listed chicken dinners as his favorite meal.

Now he has converted his farm near Hillsboro into a modern broiler plant with a capacity of 1000 chickens a week and expects to supply several restaurants and hotel dining rooms in Chicago so that when he leaves his desk in the American Broadcasting Company's studios, he can enjoy a succulent chicken raised on his own farm.

A member of M. J. M. Electric cooperative, Carlinville, Stokes and his partner in the broiler business, Seward Fisher, are making full use of electricity in the scientific raising of the broilers, starting with five rooms equipped with brooders to a large quick-freeze unit and a cooler for storing the fowl ready for shipment.

As the active partner and farm manager, Fisher is well qualified to deal with the complex problems of raising and preparing broilers for market. For sixteen years he was a feed dealer in Hillsboro as a partner in Fisher-Whitten Feed Company and he has long served as an adviser to farmers in the best methods for getting results with their flocks.

First Shipment Ready

On October 1, Fisher moved to the Stokes farm and shortly afterwards, bought the first 1000 chicks and started them in their way to brooder size in order to have the first shipment ready for the Christmas market. In subsequent weeks chicks were received in lots of 500 every other week and 1000 every other week, bringing in a total of 2000 a month.

In the modern, cement-block brooder plant, the principal source of heat is from a boiler operated with an electric stoker which keeps at uniform temperature the large heating pipes which traverse the entire building. In each of the brooder rooms two electric brooders, in tiers higher than a man's head, maintain an even temperature for the chicks.

An electric chicken-picker makes it possible for Oliver Hunt, Fisher's only help in operating the farm and broiler plant, to clean 300 chickens a day and still have time to attend to his other chores around the place. With the deep-freeze unit having a capacity of 300 and the large cooler, (five by eight feet with a nine-foot ceiling) also designed to hold 300 broilers, the plant can have that many ready for shipment in a comparatively short time. Each broiler is dressed "New York style" with the feet and head left on.

Stokes Hillsboro Resident

Stokes' familiarity with farm life dates back to his boyhood when he was born on a farm near Nokomis, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Stokes, later moving to Hillsboro. In his position as production supervisor of the Blue Network of the American Broadcasting Company, he has charge, among other national hook-up programs, of "The National Farm and Home Hour," a favorite noon-time program of many farmers in Illinois. Other programs under his direction are "The Breakfast Club" featuring Don McNeill, "Backstage Wife," "Jack Armstrong," and "Terry and the Pirates" the latter being a favorite of many of the men in the Armed Forces serving in the Pacific Theater.

Stokes was a member of Paul Whiteman's orchestra, playing piano and accordion, early in his career as an entertainer, later he formed his own orchestra and held high rating in popularity throughout the country, and from 1930 to 1934 he was musical director for the National Broadcasting Company, moving from that position

to become musical director for WGN-Chicago, where he remained until 1942. After a short period with Welding Pictures Corporation, a commercial film organization, he accepted his present assignment with ABC in Chicago.

With 109 Lights

(From Page Eleven)

taining friends is simplified by getting out the electric corn-popper and turning out a dishpan full of the crispy kernels in a few minute's time.

Of course, electric fans cool the house in summer and electric fences on the McDonald farm keep the stock of registered Shorthorn cattle and registered Duroc pigs properly enclosed. Electricity, in fact, is the principal factor in the operation of the farm and the main source of the personal enjoyment and economic security of the McDonaids.

"I actually spend only about ten minutes a day taking care of my poultry and that includes gathering eggs every day and seeing that they have plenty of feed and water twice a week," McDonald estimated.

"I gain the greatest benefit from my electricity by putting my chickens and pigs to brood on the 20th of March, the day I read my meter, and using the brooders through until the 20th of April, when I read my meter again. In that 30-day period I get up into the low-rate bracket by using between 1100 and 1200 kilowatt hours and then my biggest single use of the power is over with for another year. The rest of the time my bill only runs between \$5 and \$7 a month."

Mrs. McDonald's lively sense of humor lends itself to having a good chuckle over the great interest her husband takes in his farm, even to including the one-way buzzer system which permits him to signal to her from the barn despite the playing of her radio or the noise of her electric sweeper, and she recently contributed the following gingle describing life on the McDonald farm:

Old McDonald had a farm,

It wasn't very big.

He had a rat

And he had a cat,

And he had a bow-legged pig.

He had no horses on this farm,

But he had a bob-tailed mule,

And with a cow

He tried to plow

While sitting on a stool!

He had pink chickens that laid no eggs,

And a green-eyed legless calf,

T'll do no harm

To see this farm

Come out and have a laugh!

HAPPY NEW YEAR—

(From Page One)

tion of his farm at reasonable cost.

This is America, a land which has shouldered arms to protect the very freedom of enterprise which is so clearly exemplified in REA cooperatives, and which guarantees the right of citizens to band together in the common good.

With unified action, with every REA cooperative member believing, and willing to exercise his democratic right to work for a better way of life, the REA program will move forward in 1946, unhampered and unfettered by crippling legislation and unfair propaganda fostered by those who oppose it, and indeed, the New Year can be a Happy REA Year!

BEGINNING OF A CHICKEN DINNER



HUNDREDS OF HOLIDAY MEALS for Chicago restaurant and hotel dining rooms are lined up in these coops along both walls in one room of the brooder plant on the farm of Harold B. Stokes, near Hillsboro. In the top picture, Oliver Hunt, employed on the Stokes farm, is looking at the flock which is the object of his solicitous care. Lower right shows Hunt checking the water bowls in one of ten electric brooders in five similar rooms in the plant. At the left, he is making the feathers

fly at an electric chicken-picker on which he can prepare 300 broilers a day for the deep-freeze locker from which they are later moved to a large cooler to be kept until time for shipment to market. Everything in the modern brooder plant is operated by electricity from the M. J. M. Electric cooperative, Carlinville.

Resigns REA Post



T. J. ROBERTSON

St. Louis headquarters of REA has announced the resignation of T. J. Robertson, chief of cooperative operations, and the appointment of George J. Long as acting chief. This change in personnel is now in effect.

Mr. Robertson joined the staff of REA on November 16, 1944, and has made many friends over the country in his capacity as chief of cooperative operations. At the time of accepting the appointment to REA, Mr. Robertson was a director on the

NRECA board, from region eight; president of the Arkansas State Electric Cooperative, and Manager of the Craighead Electric Cooperative at Jonesboro, Ark. It has been stated that Mr. Robertson intends to enter the electrical contracting field.

Mr. Long, well known in REA circles since the beginning of the agency, will fill the vacancy as acting chief until a permanent appointee is announced.

HIGH COSTS—

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are excessive, the cooperatives have the full support of REA. In many cases, bids submitted to the agency with co-op board approval, have been rejected by REA with recommendations that negotiations be opened with the low bidder in seeking a fair price on contract.

Inflationary Trends

If the trend toward inflation in construction costs is not checked, REA officials have pointed out, the security of government loans for farm power lines might be jeopardized. Higher costs, of course, tend to limit the areas which it would be feasible for REA cooperatives to serve through loans from the Rural Electrification Administration.

Although more bids have been rejected during recent months, due primarily to the excessively high prices contained in them, the practice of throwing out bids is not new. It has

long been an established policy of REA that cooperatives may reject all bids and negotiate for a contract where circumstances warrant.

This practice has been vigorously attacked during the past several weeks by the National Electrical Contractor's Association and Business Week, a nationally circulated magazine, has taken the lead among several trade papers in carrying articles protesting the rejection of bids and demanding that the lowest be accepted.

In one article a plan was outlined for making an attempt to have a clause attached to the next appropriation bill which would force the cooperatives to accept the lowest bid received without negotiating further with the bidders.

The contracting interests are also opposed to the REA policy of refusing to permit a co-op to enter into a contract with construction firms who are doing work for public utility companies in the co-op's area. REA officials have pointed out, however, that this is a necessary step because confidential engineering material is turned over to construction contractors and that there is no competition between various jobs handled by any contractor as to which will be given preference in use of scarce materials and manpower.

Vaccination of calves four to eight months old is a recognized aid in the control of brucellosis disease.