

ILLINOIS *REA* NEWS

The Voice of 58,000 Members

VOL. 2, NO. 12.

APRIL 20, 1945

TWELVE PAGES

Thousands Are Driven From Homes as Rivers Overflow

Southern Illinois Is Hardest Hit; Co-op Provides Help

Thousands of farm families in southern Illinois, their homes threatened by angry flood waters, piled trucks and wagons high with furniture and produce and moved their stock and equipment out of danger early this month as heavy rains sent rivers and creeks rampaging over their banks into rich, productive bottom land.

Numerous miles of line adjacent to rivers from Fairfield south to Cairo were under water, and linemen in cases manned boats to remove metering equipment and keep lights burning in as much of the affected areas as possible. Outages were a dime a dozen as poles and heavy anchors on some REA cooperative lines were pulled loose along fence rows in fields which looked more like huge lakes than crop and pasture land.

Culverts were washed out and trees undermined, putting repair work on a round-the-clock basis.

George Endicott, manager of Southern Illinois Electric cooperative, where flood damage this year appears to have been more serious than in other sections of the state, said that 150 miles of line in the project area was affected by flood waters. Protective levies gave way in many places before the swirling Mississippi, Ohio, Cache and Big Muddy rivers.

In a true spirit of cooperation, the Southern Illinois co-op went to the aid of those battling to hold back the rampaging waters and assisted Illinois state police officers who were summoned to warn and help those in the path of the onrushing floods.

At a central point in the flood area, the cooperative provided free power to the state police for operation of their mobile shortwave radio transmitter so that emergency calls for help could be flashed throughout the district to individual patrol cars. Lights were strung and free electricity also provided at a sand pit to aid state highway employees and volunteers in scooping up sand for sandbags to protect the sagging levees.

Railroad and bus service in several sectors was abandoned and, in some cases, trains were re-routed over tracks which were safe from

Heavy Damage Caused by Tornado in Western Illinois Co-op Area

Wide-spread damage was caused April 12 by a violent tornado which overturned buildings and caused serious interruptions in power and telephone service, principally in the Western Illinois Electrical cooperative project area.

Among communities hardest hit by the storm, one of the worst in the history of that section of Illinois, were West Point, Plymouth and Denver. The tornado also struck Quincy a terrific blow, causing damage estimated at approximately \$3,000,000. Although the storm swept through a portion of Adams county, served by Adams Electric cooperative at Camp Point, comparatively small damage was caused there to REA service, according to Manager Dean Searls.

Western Illinois co-op, however, reported that one line was burned down in the storm and that other lines were seriously damaged by falling trees and limbs. Some portions of the project were without electric power for the greatest period of time since the beginning of the cooperative, according to Manager L. C. Marvel. With telephone lines out of order, linemen experienced considerable difficulty in locating trouble spots and were forced to drive many miles to check and re-check storm areas.

Numerous buildings were damaged and the farm residence of one Western Illinois co-op member was moved off its foundations by the violent wind. Although no one was seriously hurt, some members of the family were injured when cut by broken glass.

REA MANAGERS ORGANIZE NEW ILLINOIS GROUP

T. H. Hafer, superintendent of Corn Belt Electric cooperative of Bloomington, was elected chairman of the Illinois REA Cooperative Managers' association at an organization meeting April 18 in Springfield.

Stanley Faris, manager of Illinois Rural Electric cooperative, Winchester, was named vice chairman and V. C. Kallal, manager of Southwestern Illinois Electric cooperative, Greenville, was elected secretary-treasurer.

Managers voted to hold regional meetings monthly, with every third meeting being a state-wide session. The purpose of the newly formed organization is to discuss managerial problems and to review matters of mutual interest to various Illinois REA cooperatives.

the rising waters. Water threatened all of the popular duck hunting lodges in the Horseshoe lake area and caretakers worked feverishly to dismantle sporty horse-drawn carriages and carts to remove them to
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AUBREY WILLIAMS IS REJECTED AS CHIEF OF REA

Aubrey W. Williams, the President's nominee for the administration of the Rural Electrification Administration, was rejected by the Senate of the United States on March 23 when a coalition of 33 Republicans and 19 conservative Democrats voted 52 to 36 against his appointment. The vote came after eight days of bitter debate on the senate floor and two weeks after the senate agriculture committee voted 12 to 8 against his nomination.

Senator Theodore Bilbo, Mississippi Democrat, led the fight against Williams, injecting communistic and religious charges into his protest. Senators Lucas of Illinois and LaFollette of Wisconsin supported the President's choice, with Senators Wiley of Wisconsin and Brooks of Illinois opposing confirmation.

Major farm organizations clashed, with the National Farm Union supporting Williams, who has been employed as organizational director by NFU since the National Youth Administration, which he previously headed, was disbanded. The Farm Bureau Federation, the National Grange, and the National Milk Cooperative opposed his nomination.

The field of likely candidates for the REA post is widening since the rejection of Williams. The name of former Senator Guy M. Gillette, Iowa Democrat, is being prominently mentioned. The mention of William Sanderson of Wisconsin is gaining momentum in Washington where he is better known for his work in behalf of REA than he is outside of Wisconsin.

A press-time dispatch from Washington gives recognition to the ability and qualifications of William E. Sanderson of Wisconsin as a promising candidate for the job of Administrator of REA. Although no public endorsement has been made by a senator in his behalf at this time, the Department of Agriculture has stated that "serious consideration" is being given to Sanderson's candidacy.

Since 1934 Sanderson has been secretary to Congressman Merlin Hull of Black River Falls. A native of Menomonie, Sanderson has long been affiliated with cooperative organizations. He has been secretary-treasurer of the Farmers Union Central Exchange for 15 years. Since 1932 he has been on the board of directors of the National Cooperatives, Inc., and last year he was elected president of the Wisconsin Association of Cooperatives.

Sanderson has some strong senatorial backing, in spite of the fact that none of them as yet has made a public endorsement of the Wisconsin candidate.

LEONARD NAMES NEW MARKETING HEAD IN STATE

E. C. Secor of Sparta, Ill., has been named superintendent of the division of markets by Howard Leonard, state director of agriculture.

Secor, a member of the extension staff of the University of Illinois for 21 years, succeeds Victor A. Ekstrom, who resigned. He will be in charge of the marketing of agricultural products which includes shipping point inspection service. Secor was formerly farm adviser of Randolph county, leaving that position in July, 1944, when he was appointed district 4-H club leader.

Independence of REA Discussed by State Board

INFORMAL POLL TAKEN AT MEETING; CONTINUE LEGAL MATTERS

BULLETIN

As the Illinois REA News goes to press, announcement has been made that a bill to provide the Rural Electrification Administration with \$35,000,000 immediately for construction needs and an additional \$90,000,000 after July 1 has been passed by the Senate.

The bill now goes to the House of Representatives and all REA cooperative members are urged to contact their representatives at once and ask that they give favorable consideration to the measure. With the financial status of REA in its most critical condition since organization of the agency, quick action is needed so that money will be immediately available to continue the program of building lines to serve farm areas with vitally needed electricity. The state board also urges that similar action be taken to bring about approval of the Lucas bill to provide additional millions for constructing REA cooperative lines.

Members of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, in an informal poll of opinions at a meeting April 19, reached the conclusion that the consensus of views throughout the state favored the re-establishment of the Rural Electrification Administration on an independent basis.

No formal action was taken as to a definite stand for or against the REA remaining under the department of agriculture, some board members pointing out that they had not had sufficient time prior to the meeting to procure definite opinions from cooperatives which they represent.

Behind the informal discussion pro and con on the subject was the hope that action would be taken soon to appoint a competent man as REA administrator in order that the rural electrification program might not suffer from lack of proper, well-coordinated direction. No recommendation was made as to the selection of such a man to head the agency.

Some opinion on separation of REA from the department of agriculture centered on the theme that if REA had to remain under some governmental department that the department of agriculture was more acceptable than any other.

Legal Matters

The board devoted considerable time to discussing legislative matters and voted to continue efforts to "legislate" Illinois REA cooperatives away from commerce commission jurisdiction. Attorneys were empowered to assist in bringing about "a meeting of minds" on such exemptions between REA cooperatives and the Illinois Agricultural association.

A favorable report on the financial standing on the Illinois REA News was presented and J. Wesley Barth, president of Wayne-White Counties Electric cooperative, Fairfield, was named a member of the publication's review committee.

Boomed for Top REA Position



William E. Sanderson

JACK MINNICH, 66, REA CO-OP EMPLOYEE, DIES

John W. "Jack" Minnich, 66, assistant superintendent of McDonough Power cooperative of Macomb and former secretary of the Macomb Chamber of Commerce, died early this month.

Jack had been employed by the cooperative six years and resided in Roseville, where he was in close touch with farm residents and REA development work in Warren county. He had been named assistant superintendent a year ago. Much of his elementary schooling was received at Libertyville, where the family moved after living in Texas.

Survivors include his wife and daughter, Mrs. Mildred Rabe of Sheboygan, Wis.

Jack will be missed by REA cooperative members in the wide area he covered as well as by his associates in the office and on the board of directors of the project. Although ill for the last two years of diabetes, he was uncomplaining and steadfast in his work and a credit to the organization by which he was employed.



READY TO MOVE—While a truck stands loaded and ready to move out of the rising water in the Southern Illinois Electric co-op area, a motorist makes one last crossing over an inundated bridge to pick up passengers for the final trip to higher ground. (Other pictures of flood area on Page 3.)

Editorial Page

Illinois REA News

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

RUSSELL J. GINGLES, Editor

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Cooperatives have recently been the target of an increasing number of attacks by those who say that they pay no taxes. None of these antagonists have, apparently, taken the trouble to look at annual statements made by REA cooperatives or other farm cooperatives. If they had, they might have had less to say in support of their claims.

In an effort to mislead the public, one large utility company in a western state recently placed a large paid advertisement in the paper saying that REA pays no taxes. Of course, REA doesn't pay any taxes—neither do the department of agriculture or the commerce department. REA is a government agency. But REA cooperatives DO, HAVE AND WILL PAY TAXES.

To further emphasize the tax situation relative to cooperative, the Illinois REA re-prints below an article prepared on this subject by the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives.

Co-op Taxes

Despite clever propaganda to the contrary, farmer cooperatives are not exempt from taxation. Generally speaking, they pay taxes the same as any other business.

They pay state and local property taxes.

They pay excise taxes.

They pay transportation taxes on the movement of goods or persons and taxes on communication services.

They pay social security and unemployment insurance taxes.

They pay stamp taxes, use taxes, import taxes, occupational taxes, and miscellaneous taxes on various commodities wherever other businesses pay them.

Many of them even pay income taxes—the reason that others do not, is that they have no income to tax.

For farmer cooperatives are service—not profit—organizations.

Any other corporation operating on such a non-profit basis, would also pay no income tax, for the simple reason that there would be no income to tax. This method of doing business is actually being followed by many concerns other than farm cooperatives. In other words, there is nothing to prevent any industrial or commercial corporation from contracting to refund to patrons all proceeds, less expenses of operation, thus operating on a cost basis as does a cooperative.

The relationship between a cooperative and the farmer is essentially that of agent and principal. To tax the cooperative for balances of earnings, or savings, which it is obligated

"One of the Lasting Achievements of My Administration"—Pres. Roosevelt

In a little cottage in Warm Springs, Georgia, back in 1928, the electrification of farm homes was created in the mind of a man who carried that hope into a reality for the rural peoples of this nation. In that same cottage in Warm Springs, on April 12, 1945, death came to Franklin Delano Roosevelt, President of the United States—the man who had created in his mind and lived to create for this and future generations the blessings of rural electrification.

It was at Warm Springs in 1928 that he began his long study of proper public utility charges for electric current and the whole subject of getting electricity into the farm homes of rural America. As Governor of New York from 1929 to 1933 he promoted farm electrification in that state. He sounded his fervent hope for farm electrification across the nation in his Annual Message to Congress on January 4, 1935, when he included rural electrification among emergency relief projects for the relief of unemployment, to aid business, and to promote useful public enterprises.

On May 11, 1935, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt by an executive order created the Rural Electrification Administration; and one year later, May 20, 1936, its life was extended ten years by an Act of Congress.

Today, on the threshold of its tenth anniversary, electricity flows through REA lines into more than 1,400,000 farm homes and rural establishments of this country. Over 5,000,000 unelectrified farms are now looking to REA to bring to them the fulfillment of their hopes and the fulfillment of the hope and the intention of Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

The President's faith in REA and its expanding progress through cooperative enterprise was loyal and steadfast. To nation-wide delegates attending the first annual meeting

"Year by year, through REA reports, I have followed the advance of the rural pole lines, like a peaceful army, to the conquest of a better life for those who produce the nation's basic agricultural products. It has been a victorious march, bringing to over a million farms in 45 states, the means to better farming and the comforts of American civilization.

"But I think that the forward march of electric cooperatives has an even more pro-

found significance in terms of our fight to preserve democracy. For it represents an extension of what is perhaps the most dramatic form of business enterprise, one in which the individual finds his greatest gain through cooperation with his neighbor."

The American farmer, today, has caught step in that forward march of American progress. He has raised himself and his family to a higher plane of

living and to a progressive plane of thinking. Guiding that procession of rural progress during the past twelve years has been the uncompromising hand of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. May the power of cooperative enterprise become stronger in the honesty of its purpose; may the lights in the farm homes of America forever be bright, as lasting tributes to him who walked with the common man.

properly fused. The elements in these appliances are replaceable when they burn out but should be replaced with the same type and kind of elements.



Franklin Delano Roosevelt

1883 — 1945

of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association in St. Louis on January 19, 1943, he sent a personal message of warmth and sincerity. His message, in part, stated:

"I shall always look upon the electrification of the country's farms under the Rural Electrification Administration as one of the lasting achievements of my administration.

Safety Slants

By D. B. BIDLE
Safety Director

Electrical appliances are built to give many years of trouble-free service if properly installed and maintained. If they fail to give this kind of service it is usually for one or more of the following reasons. They have not been properly installed, not being operated according to the manufacturer's instructions, improperly lubricated and maintained.

There are three general types of appliances. Heating, motor driven and lighting.

From a safety standpoint it is important to select the right type and size for the job they are expected to do. Heating appliances require very little maintenance other than to keep the cords in good repair and the circuits on which they are being used

Tenth Birthday To Be Observed By REA May 11

The Rural Electrification Administration will reach its 10th anniversary May 11, the agency having been established in 1935 when about one farm in ten was receiving electricity.

Today nearly half of all farms in the nation are electrified, the number increasing from 750,000 in 1935 to 2,700,000 at present. This increase is due largely to stimulation provided by the REA lending program.

REA borrowers have paid \$90,000,000 in principal and interest on their loans, with more than \$18,000,000 of this amount credited to advance payments. Delinquents on REA loans to date total only about 1/2 of 1 per cent.

Congress to date has authorized \$525,428,288 for loans for REA. Records show that REA borrowers now operate 420,000 miles of power lines serving nearly one million farms and 250,000 other rural consumers in 46 states, Alaska and the Virgin islands.

ELECTRICITY IS FACTOR CUTTING FARM FEED COST

Figures show that feed grinding at home by electricity costs about 1 1/2 cents per hundredweight compared to commercial grinding at 5 to 8 cents.

Mixing costs come to less than 2 cent per ton of feed, when done at home. By grinding and mixing feed at home electrically, the farmer saves from 30 to 50 per cent under commercially advertised feed costs.

heavier water pumps, feed grinders and jobs of that kind while the straight induction brushless types are used for fans where the starting load is light and where speed does not mean much. Sweeper motors are of the series wound type where high speed is important.

Lighting equipment and appliances require very little care other than the right kind and size of lamps. All appliances should have the right sized circuits or wires feeding them protected with the correct size fuses or protective device.

In lamps use the right kind of bulbs and keep the bulbs and fixtures clean, they will give better light and last longer. Be sure all lamps are shaded for all indoor use especially in the rooms where they are used most such as living room, dining room, kitchen and bedrooms. It is not so important to shade them in closets, basements and for outdoor lighting but they should be shaded if they cause glare. Lights in stairways should be installed so they will not shine in the eyes while ascending or descending the stairs as they may cause you to miss your step and fall. Most home accidents are caused from falls.

Do not allow cords to become wet or greasy. Repair cords when they become frayed or unwrapped but disconnect them from the line or outlet when repairs are being made. Don't attempt to repair cords while they are in use. Don't attempt to repair any broken or fallen wire without first shutting off the power. Never pick up a wire until you are sure it is disconnected from the power line. Don't try to refuse your transformer, call the cooperative office and have a trained lineman replace the fuse. Never touch a high line wire that has fallen on the ground, it is dangerous even though it shows no signs of being alive. Don't take any chances, play safe at all times and you will enjoy your electric service a lot more and a lot longer.

Farmers Warned About Dangers of Using Unapproved Electric Fences

It seems a rather harmless bit of farm equipment, that electric fence of yours—BUT did you ever stop to think of the injuries and deaths caused by UNAPPROVED electric fences?

C. L. Hamilton, agricultural engineer of the National Council, writing in the Farm Safety Review, has this to say concerning electric fences:

"Unapproved electric fences caused nine deaths in 1942. Most electric fence victims are children. The number of livestock killed by UNAPPROVED electric fences is also high. Two stock rendering plants located in a midwestern state estimate that they pick up approximately 12 cows, 16 hences and 13 hogs killed by electric fences each year.

"In another state, a survey of 25 home-made installations revealed that a 3-year-old boy, one dog, one horse, one bull and nine hogs had been killed by these fences within the first year.

Did You Know?

"Few people realize how small a current can be and still cause death. It is current that kills—not voltage. The ordinary 115-volt lighting circuit can be as deadly as 40,000 volts.

"To receive a shock some part of your body must become part of an electric circuit. The current must enter, flow through your body and find an exit. A shock from an electric fence is more severe when you are standing in water, on damp ground or on grounded metal such as piping systems. Barefooted children do not have even the protective insulation from the ground that shoes may furnish."

In case of accident, Mr. Hamilton warns that the victim should be removed from the electric circuit immediately. If the current can not be turned off quickly, short circuit the fence by connecting it to the ground with a piece of wire, a rod or any metal conductor.

Always, he says, put the short circulating conductor into the earth before placing it against the fence. Where the fence is supported by metal posts, a jack-knife or metal watch chain can be used by placing it on the post first and then against the fence.

Another method is to stand on a dry board or other insulating material and either cut the fence or remove the victim from the fence. If breathing has stopped apply artificial respiration AT ONCE. In all cases a physician should be obtained as soon as possible.

Approved Controllers

"The controller," Mr. Hamilton declared, "is the most important part of an electric fence because it regulates the current. An approved controller is one that meets the requirements of a recognized testing agency such as the Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc. Testing is done purely in the interest of safety.

"Approved controllers provide an interrupted current (on-and-off) with impulses carefully limited and spaced. The current must be reduced to a few hundredths of an ampere and this small current can be delivered to the fence for only a fraction of a second. The 'off period' must be of sufficient duration that a person can release himself from the circuit before receiving a second shock impulse.

"A safe controller must be moisture-proof and protected against circuit breakdowns. The simple precaution of selecting an approved fence controller will eliminate needless tragedies and the loss of valuable livestock. Low cost SHOULD NOT be the determining factor because unsafe equipment is cheap to build.

"Even well-manufactured equipment must be used carefully and installed correctly with adequate grounding and protecting from lightning."

Safety Rules

1. Do not use home-made fence controllers.

2. No fence should be energized from any electric source except through an approved controller. (One that meets the safety standards of a recognized agency.)
3. Connect an electric fence controller only to the type of power source for which it is designed.

Here'n there
in ILLINOIS
by RUSSELL J. GINGLES

So Long Jack

We'll miss Jack Minnich, genial employe of McDonough Power cooperative. Jack died early this month after a long, up-hill battle with diabetes. An able correspondent for the Illinois REA News, he conscientiously recorded innumerable items of interest for the reading pleasure of members of McDonough Power and other co-ops throughout the state. To his saddened wife who, we know, must miss him keenly, the editor of this publication joins with Jack's hosts of friends in expressing heartfelt sympathy.

Carolyn Rettberg, Divernon high school senior, who has joined the staff of the Rural Electric Convenience cooperative at Divernon, knows row what a great invention the telephone is and something about the insatiable curiosity of a reporter. Just a suggestion from the News reporter was all Harvey Schwartz needed to go probing into Carolyn's family history. Out of the probing emerged the facts that Carolyn's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Rettberg, were among the pioneer settlers of Divernon, coming to the community in 1885 at the time the Illinois Central railroad was just being pushed through the state's great prairie empire. Her grandfather, like her father, was a blacksmith of considerable local fame.

If you see Fred Darr taking corners on one wheel instead of four—or the more or less dangerous two—think nothing of it. He still is master of the steering wheel, even though the motor hasn't yet got used to Freddy's commanding voice. The car, you see, is a 1936 model—but the motor is a 1942 super-duper.

George Endicott is sharpening up his hunting eye. This is the season the snakes come out in the hills, and George hasn't missed one yet. If the front wheel of his rampaging Dodge doesn't get the victim, one of the other three will—or George will get himself a more cooperative car.

And—speaking about automobiles. The first guy who offers us 15 cents for ours better duck back in the house quick, or he'll be run over in our anxiety to deliver it to his front porch. It's getting to the point where it sheds oil at the sight of a road map; throws up its fenders and exhales from all four tires each time we put our grip inside. In its present shape it would make a better rose arbor than a beast of burden. Did I hear someone offer 15 cents?

There may be a man shortage in some places, but not according to plans being made in the Eastern Illinois Electric cooperative office at Paxton—in fact the program calls for two men for each girl. Seems that Chanute field at nearby Champaign has something to do with it. The girls are whipping up a box social for the entertainment of the soldiers, and this "something for the boys" includes the bargain offer that two boys go with each girl whose box lunch is purchased at the coming auction.

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NEWS FROM Menard

Petersburg, Ill.

A. E. BECKER, Mgr.

METER READING DATES

"We have received many inquiries in regard to the month printed on the meter reading card which does not coincide with the meter reading date on your calendar. This is an error made by our printer on the 1945 calendars. Please disregard the month shown on your card and follow the dates set forth on the calendar above. The card attached to each leaf of the calendar applies to the meter reading date shown. It is very helpful if you always date and sign your card before mailing it. Thanks!" Ella Louise Cutright, Office Mgr.

Note: Reading your meter and mailing your card on the date designated is quite important. Many of our records depend on these readings; they indicate the monthly progress of your Cooperative. The service rendered to yourself as a member, when you read and send in your card promptly is a direct saving which reflects on the operating cost of your cooperative. Savings such as these eventually will aid you to secure electricity at a lower rate than that which you are paying now. It is to your advantage to read your meter, mark you card and return the card promptly.

OUTAGES

We are again entering the season when lightning or storms may cause an interruption in the continuity of your R.E.A. service. Every effort will be made to keep these outages to a minimum and to restore service as quickly as possible.

When an outage occurs, check with your neighbor and learn if their electricity is off. If so notify the member who is listed on your telephone exchange and is authorized to place a reverse call to your cooperative office and report the outage. If unable to contact this member your call will be accepted. Before calling look and see if the fuse is blown at the transformer also check service at your neighbors. Also check fuses at the entrance switch.

For your convenience and for our new members we again publish the names of the members who cooperate to help maintain REA service to your premises. This is a real service to our membership and is sincerely appreciated.

Call the member whose name is listed on your exchange when an outage occurs. Cut this list out, paste on a cardboard for ready reference.

MENARD OUTAGE CALL LIST

Members living near Elkhart, Sherman, or Williamsville and east of U.S. Route 66 call Dave Ross' Store, Buffalo Hart, during the day time and Guy Sanford, Dawson, at night. If you cannot contact the member listed nearest you, Mr. Sanford's phone number is Buffalo 2491.

Members living in Logan County, north of Middletown and in Mason County exception 21 and 22 call Robert McLean, Mason City, Phone 116W.

All members living in Morgan and Cass Counties with the exceptions of the section around Newmansville and the Oakford-Chandlerville road, also all the Western part of Sangamon County, west of Richland, and New Berlin will call Ray Logan, Phone 190, Virginia; other members in Menard, Cass, and Sangamon Counties call in the daytime your cooperative office, Petersburg 41; at night call Harry Houseworth, Phone 1, Petersburg or Ed. DeLong Phone 359-2.

Call the member listed nearest you when an outage occurs in your REA service.

- Alexander—Ben Negus.
- Ashland—William E. Leahy.
- Arenzville—William H. Wittee.
- Buffalo Hart—Dave Ross Store.
- Cantrall—C. H. England.
- Chandlerville—Mike Basso.
- Dawson—Guy Sanford.
- Delevan—Grace Bailey.

FUN, WORK, WORRY ON FLOOD FRONT



HERE AND THERE ON FLOOD FRONT—Most people work and worry, but others have fun when high water comes to Southern Illinois Electric cooperative area. The top photo shows the mobile radio transmitter served by the co-op and used by state police to aid in directing evacuation work, while the bottom picture gives an indication of what a co-op manager (George Endicott) does to help along when rain and floods send trees crashing into the line. What does he do?—Just gets an ax and cuts 'em down. Fun at flood tide is depicted in the inset where men and women take a few minutes off from moving to high ground to do a bit of fishing in an inundated field in the Horseshoe lake area.

THOUSANDS ARE—

(From Page One)

second stories of buildings calculated to withstand the pressure of flood tide.

The picture had its comic note too, as several individuals were observed fishing in inundated fields despite the warning that only a short distance away high water was expected momentarily to break through the last protective railroad right-of-way embankment. A few brave motorists drove through water which overflowed running-boards and splashed on windshields to bring a few last remaining possessions or family members to safety.

Here and there cows or horses remained on an oasis of high ground, waiting their turn to be loaded into trucks, and scattering patches of flower gardens still bloomed in the path of the rapidly rising water.

The retreat to high land was well-planned and orderly—for these people had gone through similar situations before. There was haste, but no panic. In many cases these families, evicted periodically by rising water, move in with relatives or friends; some live in neighboring towns, But they'll be back when the floods recede, working the land as usual right on the heels of the vanishing high water, giving the appearance of driving it back into the banks out of which it rose to deprive them of their homes and fields.

Out of all the mass of legislation which goes into the congressional mill, these farmers hope some day will come help to check floods which do more than anything else to hold up production in river areas.

necessary. If an outage occurs early in the day at a members home and is not reported until late afternoon, it will not be serviced until the following day only in extreme emergency. Your cooperation will be sincerely appreciated in furnishing this information to your cooperative office as soon as possible after the outage occurs.

- Easton—Ben Cave.
- Easton—Lake Shore Service Station.
- Elkhart—C. M. Van Meter.
- Forest City—John Harms.
- Greenview—Garrett Evers.
- Green Valley—W. S. Frazee.
- Havana—Julius Frye.
- Illioipolis (Niantic)—Thomas O. Knapp.
- Illioipolis—Harold Knapp.
- Kilbourne—Hal Ringland.
- Literberry—Clyde R. Martin.
- Manito—Lewis Worner.
- Middletown—Paul Becker.
- Mount Pulaski—H. D. Shelhammer.
- Mount Pulaski—Louis Bellatti.
- Mason City—Bob McLean.
- New Berlin—Edw. Stapelton.
- New Holland—Homer T. Brown.
- New Holland—Wm. Kohl.
- Petersburg—(Daytime - 41) Cooperative Office.
- Petersburg—(Night - 1 or 69) Harry Houseworth.
- Petersburg (Night - 359-2) Ed. DeLong.
- Pleasant Plains—John Taylor.
- San Jose—McSparin Service Station.
- Topeka—Ernest Budke.
- Virginia—Ray Logan, phone 190.
- Williamsville—Mrs. Earl Constant.

REPORT OUTAGES PROMPTLY

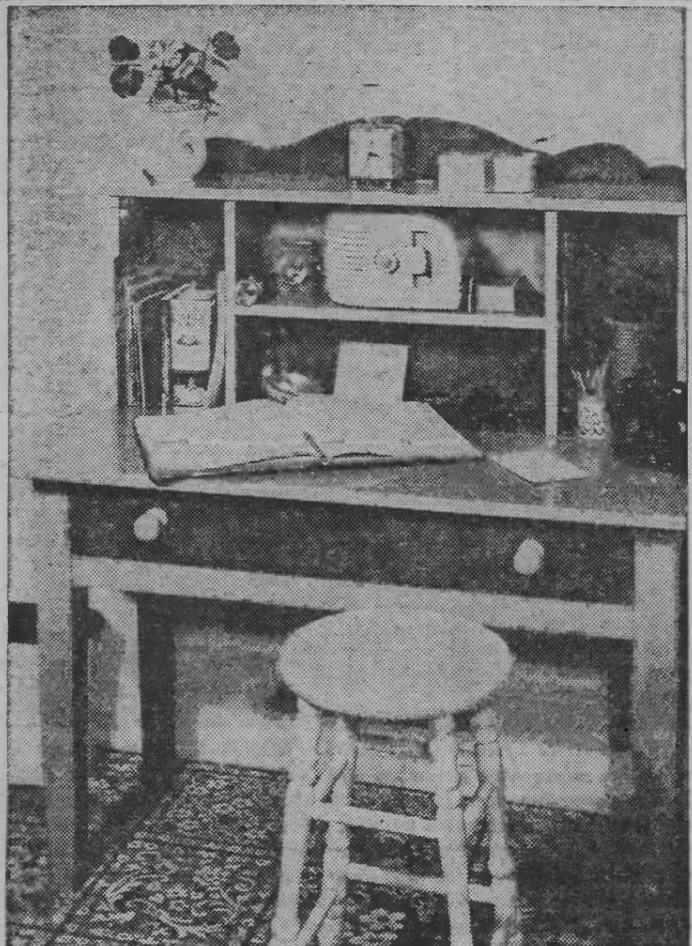
Every consideration will be given to reports on outages and immediate action taken to restore service. It is necessary, however, for each member to aid the maintenance men by reporting outages promptly. If an outage occurs during the night or in the forenoon do not wait till later afternoon to report it.

Your Cooperative has been unable to secure new trucks and every effort is being made to make the present equipment serve as long as possible. It is necessary that members cooperate and help save wear on Cooperative trucks by reporting outages as soon as they occur so that duplication may be eliminated.

The following rule has been made

REA Women and The Home

Edited by Mrs. Val Thoenig



A little carpentry work and paint wrought this handsome desk from a scarred, oaken table.

Kitchen Office

Kitchen Desk Expels Confusion Makes for Smooth Efficiency

Do you scurry around like mad when you have bills to add, memos to write, recipes to copy? Does it seem that when you most want paper, pencil and recipe book, they just aren't to be found? You can easily put an end to all of this confusion by organizing a kitchen business center.

Let's take a look-in on the Marv Jones family. They could be the family living on the farm down the road—or in the next county. It was early one Spring morning when Mrs. Jones got very tired of her kitchen business methods. She had wasted all of 20 minutes searching for a particular recipe book. The morning before she had wasted time searching for a sharpened pencil. And so it had gone for years. Yes, it was high time she organized herself—so she sat down to figure out what to do.

When electricity came to the Jones farm several years ago they had remodeled the kitchen for running water and power. Among the "unwants" banished to the attic was an old oaken table. Dingy and scarred, it still sat there waiting and collecting dust.

Why couldn't it be transformed into a desk to hold recipes, household records, memos, recipe files, and cook books? She could even keep her stationery there and dash off quick letters when waiting for dinner to cook. The idea took form. And her husband was equally enthused. He, too, had an idea for keeping his farm records.

The oaken table was brought downstairs and thoroughly cleaned. Since their plans called for some carpentry work, they scraped together a few feet of "1 inch by 8 inch" lumber and enough plywood for a desk top. The desk top could have been

perfectly straight, but the Jones wanted a curved top as seen in the picture above. First, they drew one-half the design for the top on wrapping paper. They cut this out and traced it onto one-half of the plywood, then they turned the pattern over and traced the remaining half. It was easy to saw out the pattern.

Next, shelf-design. They "doodled" on paper some while before they arrived at the design shown in the picture. Note the special places they provided for cook books, pencils, flashlights, radio, matches, ink, pens, clock. Records and note books are neatly placed in the drawer.

Last of all, they gave the desk a paint job. First, an undercoat to disguise the coarse wood grain. Then they enameled it French gray and rich red to give it a sparkling, easy-to-keep finish. Other color combinations to match your kitchen would be equally attractive.

The finished result is shown above. Nice, isn't it?

WAFFLE IRON CARE

Save electric current when baking waffles by shutting off the current shortly before the last waffle is ready for serving. When that last waffle is removed leave the cover raised until the iron cools. This prevents hot fat from burning on the grids.

While the iron is still warm clean excess fat off the grids. Whisk grids lightly with a paper towel or pastry brush. Don't wash them. That tiny film of fat left on the grids will prevent your waffles from sticking next time.

If batter burns or sticks to grids, remove it with a soft wire brush.

PATTERN LIST

We know you shan't find much time for crocheting, knitting, or sewing in the busy days ahead—but you may enjoy having some of the following leaflets just in case . . .

Address your pattern requests to Mrs. Val Thoenig, Illinois REA News, Petersburg, Ill. Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope for every four patterns you wish.

- Fresh Ideas for Fairs and Bazaars
- Make-Over Tips for Dresses
- Crocheted Summer Blouse
- Checked Taffeta Hat and Bag
- How to Plan an Informal Wedding
- Gay Clothes for Children from Discards
- Smart Accessories From Odds and Ends
- Crocheted Dinner Cloth
- Crocheted Plate Doilies
- Crocheted Bedspread
- Summer Sandals
- Crocheted Pillbox and Bag
- Crocheted Beret and Bag
- Summer Purses.
- Irish Crocheted Edging
- Hot Plate Mats
- Potholders
- This Is Season to "Suit Yourself"
- Knit a Boxy Jacket
- Baby Booties
- How to Make Slip Covers
- Flatter Your Figure
- Washing and Ironing Guide for Rayons.

Less Canning Sugar

You'll budget canning sugar with a scant measuring cup this summer. Twenty pounds will be the maximum issued any one person. No family with eight members or more can receive any more than 160 pounds. Last summer 25 pounds per person was the limit—and there was no limitation on size of the family.

This year all allotments must be obtained from the local ration board. When you fill out your application form you must state (1) how many pounds of sugar you used in 1944 for jams and jellies; (2) how many quarts of finished fruit were canned; (3) how many quarts you intend to can in 1945. Spare stamp 13 in Ration Book 4—one for each person from whom sugar is requested—must be attached to the application. No sugar stamps in the books will be validated for canning sugar this year. The board will issue special coupons in one and five pound denominations.

Within the maximum allowance, 5 pounds of sugar may be used for jellies, jams, preserves, pickles, and the like. It is estimated that 20 pounds of sugar is sufficient to can 80 quarts of fruit.

They Need Our Help

Our help is needed. In occupied Europe, more than 30 million innocent children and adults are in desperate need of clothing. Many have died from exposure—almost as many as have died from starvation.

To fill this need our country has set aside April for the United National Clothing Collection. America has pledged herself to collect 150 million pounds of serviceable used clothing for these people.

We can help meet that goal by hunting through our closets—by giving anything we can spare. Take your contribution to your local Collection Depot.

Get Ready for the Double-Duty Life You'll Live This Summer

Spring is here. And soon you will begin a double-duty life which will take you from house to field with scarcely a breathing spell in between.

Prepare now for those busy days ahead by tying up the loose ends of Spring housecleaning and checking over the jobs on your "must" list. Following are a few suggestions that may simplify some of the work.

Polish the Furniture

Give your furniture a really thorough cleaning—then content yourself during the next few months with brief dustings. A furniture polish that feeds dried-out woods, removes smudge, and helps conceal fine cracks in the finish may be made at home.

Mix two quarts of boiled linseed oil and one part turpentine. The oil "feeds" the wood, the turpentine loosens the dirt and helps the oil penetrate the wood. Apply with a soft cloth. Polish off excess with a dry cloth, rubbing with the grain of the wood until the surface is dry and will not show a finger mark.

Keep a supply of clean, soft, and lintless cloths on hand for those quick dustings. Woolen or cotton knitted material makes the best dust cloth. Wash dust cloths often in lukewarm suds, rinsing well. To make them really dust-holding, dip them in a solution of 1 tablespoon of paraffin oil and 1 pint of hot water; or sprinkle with a mixture of 3 parts kerosene and 1 part paraffin oil.

Mend the Curtains

Easiest time to mend curtains is AFTER they are washed, ironed, and hung in place. Then you can see where the mends come and arrange the folds to hide them. You can give your curtains a smooth, dirt resisting finish by starching them with a new wax-like product.

Make a Utility Apron

The right kind of house clothes can make lighter work of irksome tasks. Clarice Scott, clothing specialist of the U. S. Bureau of Home Economics, realized this and has designed a series of serviceable aprons and dresses for special household cleaning jobs. Her designs were made-up in patterns by the Advance Pattern Company.

Her portable basket apron is one of the most practical aprons you're likely to find. The large circle which is the body of this apron has drawstrings inserted in its sides so that it can be drawn up to form a roomy pouch for transporting clothespins, eggs, or garden produce. With strings loosened, it is transformed into a good all-purpose household apron.

Check Canner Gage

If your pressure canner gage has not had its 1945 check-up have it tested without delay. You'll want your canner ready for the job when those first garden vegetables are ready.

A dial-type gage is a delicate instrument and can easily get out of adjustment. Ask your county home agent or local dealer to check it for you. If the test shows the gage is "off" tie a tag on the gage stating how far off it is. Consult the tag every time food is processed in the canner.

Spring Mud Removers

During these days of early Spring, the children are bound to come home smeared with mud. But don't despair. You can save time and energy by using these new ideas for removing mud stains.

Always let the mud dry, then brush off as much as possible. Then if the mud is on washable fabric, soak in clear cool water before washing with soap and warm water. If the fabric is not washable, sponge with cleaning fluid. Red mud often contains iron and must be treated like a rust stain with lemon juice and salt or some other rust remover.

Mud often does more damage to leather than to fabric. If left to dry on shoes, it may make a permanent stain. Remove mud at once from shoes by washing with a damp cloth.



Here's an apron designed for double-duty. Use as a house-apron—or pull the drawstrings and you have a basket for carrying in roasting ears, freshly laid eggs, or a mess of peas.

Stuff them with paper to help them hold their shape and dry them slowly away from direct heat.

Lengthen Susie's Dresses

So Susie grew inches last winter and her summer frocks are much too short. Borders are the answer—plain cotton ones on printed frocks, printed borders on plain frocks. Edge the borders with rickrack braid for an extra gay touch.

Mend by Machine

Save your hand darning for fine garments and hosiery. But save time by mending overalls, work shirts, play cloths, sheets and towels by machine.

Thread the machine with fine mercerized or cotton thread and adjust length of stitch to suit the cloth. Loosen the thumbscrew on top of the machine to release the pressure on the presser foot so cloth can be darned, pulling the material slowly backward and forward, and from side to side with both hands. Follow the grain of the material, or stitch on the diagonal if the fabric has a twill weave. To hold the cloth smooth during darning, an embroidery hoop may be used, or tissue paper may be basted underneath. The paper will wash out when the garment is laundered. Baste a soft or thin piece of matching fabric under the place to be darned before putting it in the machine. It will reinforce the darn.

And Don't Worry

Mrs. Margaret McCordic, home management specialist at the University, says Wisconsin homemakers are replacing worry with action. Here's why. A worry-table shows that 40 per cent of a person's worrying time is taken up with "things that never happened"; 30 per cent with "things over and past that couldn't be changed by all the worry in the world"; 10 per cent, petty worries; 12 per cent, needless health worries, and only 8 per cent for real, legitimate worries!

Cotton Goods Coming

Rural merchants who received less than 20 per cent of their 1943 sales of cotton goods last year soon will share ten million yards of cotton goods, according to the War Production Board.

The yard goods is intended solely for over-the-counter sale to customers who sew garments in the home. WPB has suggested that retailers limit purchases to a 3-yards dress length per customer.

"Home Canning of Meat", a new bulletin just off the press, gives all the new research and directions on this timely subject. It's available by writing Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Junior News

from RHA farms

Pen Pals

Hi, Pen Pals—Here we are again with a column crammed full of interesting letters and many new members. Are you planting your garden now? Tell us about it for next month's Junior News page. 'Bye, Val Thoenig, Illinois REA News, Petersburg, Ill.

Mary Nelle Has Two Dogs, One Rabbit

I am 11, and I have dark brown hair and blue eyes. I weigh 67 pounds. My birthday is October 20. I go to Burnt-Prairie School. My hobby is music and reading. I have two pet dogs and one rabbit.

I would like to join the Pen Pal Club and will try to answer all letters.—Mary Nelle Clark, RR 1B, Albia, Ill.

Billy Has 82 Pets

I am 13 and in the eighth grade. I have blond hair, blue eyes, and am 4 feet, 9 inches tall. My favorite sport is basketball. I have one dog, two rabbits, two turtles, 75 gold fish, and two cats. My birthday is March 27. My Dad is in the Navy.

I love to write, so please write. I'll

answer every letter. I would also like to exchange pictures.—Billy T. Bircket, Geff, Ill.

Coral Collects Snapshots

I am 14 and in the eighth grade. My birthday is March 11. I go to Smith School. My hobby is collecting snapshots and movie star pictures. I will answer all letters. So please write, everyone.—Coral Iva Kelley, RR 2, Farmer City, Ill.

Eleanor Designs Doll Clothes

I am 12. I have brown hair and brown eyes. My hobbies are designing clothes for my collection of paper dolls and collecting pictures of movie stars. My favorite sports are softball and basketball.

I promise to answer all letters. Please write.—Eleanor Grace Kane, RR 1, Box 4, Broughton, Ill.

Dorothy Collects Miniature Dogs

I am 11 and in the sixth grade. I am 4 feet, 8 inches tall and weigh 88 pounds. I have blond hair and blue eyes. My birthday is March 10. My hobby is collecting miniature dogs.

I would appreciate it very much if Donna Lou Roberts of Buncombe, Ill., would write me a letter as I almost fit her description. I will answer all letters.—Dorothy Ann Kahle, RR 1, Lexington, Ill.

Esther's Hobby Is Animal Statues

This is my first letter to the Junior News. I am 11 and am 4 feet, 10 inches tall. I weigh 70 pounds. I have brown eyes and brown hair. I am in the seventh grade. I go to the Locust Grove School.



My hobby is animal statues and pictures. I am a member of a 4-H club. I take baking. I will answer all letters. Please write.—Esther Aden, Golden, Ill.

Glenda Wants Words for "Bell Bottom Trousers"

This is the first time I have written to the Junior News. My birthday is April 9 and I will be 12 years old. I have medium brown hair and am 5 feet tall. I weigh about 85 pounds. My hobbies are riding a bicycle and singing. I would like to "have the words to the song, "Bell Bottom Trousers."—Glenda Bolton, Hamilton, Ill.

Evelyn Takes Sewing in 4-H

I am 11 and in the sixth grade. I have brown hair, blue eyes, and am 4 feet, 10 inches tall. I weigh about 75 pounds.

My hobbies are riding a bike, horse back riding, and collecting movie star pictures. I belong to the girls 4-H club. We are taking sewing. My birthday is January 27. I will answer all letters.—Evelyn Simon, Nauvoo, Ill.

Myrtie Wants Pen Pals

This is the first letter I've ever written to the Junior News. I am 16 years old. I am 5 feet, 1½ inches tall and weigh 125 pounds. I have light brown hair and dark bluish grey eyes.

I don't have many hobbies. I do like bicycle riding, and I enjoy writing letters to both boys and girls. I like to work too. Right now I am working. I'm not in school.

Come on, Pen Pals, write. I would like to hear from the boys as well as the girls. I'll be very happy to answer every letter.—Myrtie Elizabeth Webster, Box 85, RR 1, Benton, Ill.

Magic Is Sue's Hobby

I am 10 years old and have hazel eyes and brown hair. I weigh 74 pounds. My birthday is May 25. I go to Lafayette school and am in the fifth grade. Although I live in the city I like to correspond with country children. My hobbies are magic and collecting jokers from decks of cards. I will answer all letters and exchange jokers.—Sue Meyers, 1115 W. State, Jacksonville, Ill.

Thelma Plays Tennis

I am 13 and in the eighth grade. I have blond hair and brown eyes. I am 5 feet, 3 inches tall. I like very much to play tennis. I will answer all letters.—Thelma Emig, Trenton, Ill.

Beulah Is New Member

I am 13 and in the eighth grade. I have brown hair, blue eyes, and weigh 115 pounds. I am 5 feet, 4 inches tall.

I will be glad to answer all letters.—Beulah Williamson, RR3, Windsor, Ill.

Edna Ann Embroideries

I am 12 and in the sixth grade at

THE DOG WHO WOULDN'T STAY HOME

Jeffie Dog was a big, white dog with floppy ears and brown spots on his back. His tail was short and curly. Ever since he was just a roly-poly puppy he had lived on Farmer Beecher's farm. And Farmer Beecher had spent many hours teaching Jeffie Dog the jobs he must do to be a good farm dog.

Jeffie was a smart dog. He learned to bark at strangers, to snarl and bare his sharp teeth at thieves. He knew how to protect chickens from hungry weasel and fox. And he loved to run down to the pasture to warn the cows it was almost milking time.

But Jeffie Dog had one very bad habit. He was a run-away-from-home dog. No one could depend upon him to do any of his jobs. He would run over to the next farm to play with a big brown shepherd dog. Or he would race through the woods after rabbit or squirrel. When he got tired, he would curl up in a sunny spot for a nap.

Farmer Beecher was almost at his wit's end to know what to do to change Jeffie Dog from a run-away dog to a stay-at-home dog.

Early one morning Farmer Beecher became very angry with Jeffie. He had gone to the chicken yard to feed his chickens—and there on the ground lay two of his fattest hens. A weasel had sneaked in during the night for the kill. And even though the chickens had cried for help Jeffie Dog was far, far away.

"Jeffie Dog, come here," called Farmer Beecher sharply. Soon a brown and white nose peeked around the chicken house.

"You bad dog," scolded Farmer Beecher, "You ran away from home and let the weasel kill two of my hens. This time I shall tie you up." He placed a heavy rope on Jeffie Dog's leather collar and tied him to a tree.

But the foolish dog had not learned his lesson. He hung his head and pouted. Then he started to chew the heavy rope. He chewed and chewed until he was freed. Jeffie Dog darted from the farm yard.

Right down the middle of the highway he raced, his ears flopping and the piece of rope trailing.

"Honk, honk!" A big car was almost upon Jeffie Dog before he heard it. He leaped to one side. The car missed Jeffie Dog but it did run over the rope. And that jerked Jeffie's neck and pulled his hair.

"Howl, howl," whined Jeffie Dog. "My poor neck. That car almost killed me."

But did the dog turn home? No, the silly dog kept going. Soon he



Jeffie was a smart dog—but he had one very bad habit. He was a run-away-from-home dog.

saw a farmer talking to a man carrying a gun. They pointed at Jeffie Dog.

"There—that's the dog. He killed my baby pigs. Shoot him," cried the farmer.

"Stop, dog, stop," called the man. But Jeffie ran with all the speed he could force from his trembling legs. "Boom, boom!" the man was shooting at Jeffie. He leaped into a ditch just escaping the bullets. His heart pounded, and he panted for breath.

"What a day," he whined. "Everybody hates me, I'll go home through the woods. I won't meet any cars that way." He darted through the bushes.

He stopped short. He had heard a deep growl. Soon he could see in the dark bushes. There was a big, black dog gnawing on the remains of a tiny pig. Here was the stray dog the men were looking for.

"Grr," growled the black dog. And he leaped for poor Jeffie Dog.

"Leave me alone," cried Jeffie Dog—and then he howled with pain. The mean black dog had nipped him on the back leg.

"That will teach you to stay out of my woods," snarled the black dog.

Jeffie ran from the dog. Nor did he stop until he reached his own farm yard. He fell on the ground, gasping for breath.

"I'll never run away again. My farm is the best place in the world," he panted.

And from that day on Jeffie Dog was a stay-at-home dog.

SEABEE, FORMER CO-OP EMPLOYEE, HURT IN ACTION

Charles Mann, Charlie to his host of friends on the Wayne-White Counties Electric cooperative project, where he was a member of the maintenance crew, has reported back to his Seabee base in California after enjoying a well-earned furlough.

A participant in several major battles, Charlie incurred hip and thigh injuries in a recent Pacific area engagement when hit by Jap bomb fragments. Modest about his experiences, he, nevertheless, told of some of the accomplishments of America's fighting men—giving employees of the Wayne-White co-op office an indication of the splendid job Uncle Sam's boys are doing to bring the war to a speedy conclusion. Charlie, on leave of absence from the cooperative, will remain out of action while undergoing treatment for his wounds.

Commenting on the gallant Seabee, Manager F. A. Tannahill said: "We are looking forward to the day when he will again be on the co-op payroll. He was a valuable employee and we miss him greatly at this time."

Mexico has just distributed 12,000 fruit trees to Indian farmers.

Make This Pretty Hat and Bag Set To Wear Through Spring and Summer



What girl doesn't love owning an original set of accessories? Lucky indeed is Miss Modern Magazines, who models here a crisp taffeta hat and bag designed exclusively for her. You can be lucky too with a set just like it. How? By making it yourself, in black and white checks, trimmed with red piping. Or be entirely original in the color and fabric you like best.

Directions for making "Miss Modern Magazines Original Hat and Bag Set" may be had by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Val Thoenig, Illinois REA News, Petersburg Illinois.

Farmers to Purchase Vast Amount of Equipment After Close of War

Geneseo Co-op Makes Offer To Assist Farmers

ILLINOIS POWER IS PUT ON SPOT IN DISPUTED ANNAPAN AREA

While attorneys for both the Association of Illinois Electric cooperatives and the Illinois Agriculture association worked to perfect a mutually acceptable legislative measure to exempt, as far as possible, REA cooperatives from Commerce Commission jurisdiction, principals in the case of the Illinois Power company versus the Farmers Mutual Electric cooperative of Geneseo debated a temporary compromise agreement.

Under terms of the agreement, suggested by the cooperative and, at press time, not yet ratified by the power company, farmers in the Annawan area would be provided with electric service by the co-op pending final outcome of the case. In event that the cooperative loses its fight to serve the area when the case is finally settled by court action, it was suggested that the power company take over the co-op lines in the territory and continue established service.

Lengthy Battle

The cooperative's battle with the utility company is of long-standing and dates back several months when the co-op received WPB approval to serve the Annawan area. This approval was immediately challenged by Illinois Power and a temporary injunction was issued preventing the co-op from energizing its lines already built in the area and halting further construction.

At a hearing in Circuit Court at Cambridge last month, attended by William Harris, attorney retained by the legislative committee of the statewide association; a representative of the REA litigation staff of St. Louis, and representatives of Farmers Mutual co-op and the power company, it was brought out that final disposition of the case may require considerable time. It also was pointed out that farmers in the disputed area are the real losers in the prolonged court battle and should not be deprived of service while litigation continues at its present slow pace.

With the government calling for top production to meet war and civilian needs and in the light of labor shortages, farmers need electricity to give them all possible help, according to testimony given by Walter Parson, manager of the cooperative. Farmers in the Annawan territory, therefore, have been made the "victims of circumstances" by the prolonged court fight and are entitled to the utmost consideration, he said.

Manager Comments

Manager Parson, in commenting on the case, issued the following statement:

"It was pointed out (at the hearing) very emphatically that in the matter of a couple of days, the cooperative, if permitted to do so could provide electric service for eleven farmers residing in the western portion of the Annawan area. It was further pointed out that the power company's lines had surrounded the area for a period of approximately twenty years but that the company had utterly failed to provide electric service to the farmers residing therein; the company, also, has taken the initiative in intervening when the cooperative endeavored to provide such service. These conditions combine to

NEW REGION OPERATIONS ENGINEER MAKES INITIAL TRIP AROUND AREA

PLEASED AT TERRITORY; SEES RELIEF IN ARC WELDER SITUATION

Harold A. Whittle, making his first swing through Region Five as regional operations engineer since succeeding Joseph H. McCombs, met this month with the majority of REA cooperatives in Illinois and described the region "one of the best in the nation."

Referring specifically to operations problems, Mr. Whittle said he had advised managers to complete in the near future a study of their respective projects in order to determine as nearly as possible their ultimate expansion limits. With their goal thus in mind, project leaders can then plan ahead for increased capacity and proposed construction needs to be "ready for the time when restrictions are relaxed to permit wide-spread building activities," Mr. Whittle stated.

On the somewhat touchy subject of arc welders, with particular reference to the increased service charge suggested for their use, the new regional engineer gave this rather encouraging outlook:

Good News

Indications are that manufacturers of arc welders will adhere to proposed REA specifications calling for production of welders which will not disturb the "orderly operation of the line." The new proposed welders will be of the 150 ampere-80 volt type. These devices will be limited to an input of from 37½ to 40 amperes and will have a 150-ampere output. This power factor correction, it was said, may cause the users' lights to blink when the device is in operation but will not affect other consumers drawing power through the same transformer.

Welders, made according to these specifications and carrying the approval of the Underwriters Laboratories, would, it was said, eliminate the necessity of cooperatives having to make an additional service charge for their use.

The suggested additional charge, Mr. Whittle said, served to focus attention on the use of arc welders and bring out information that devices without power factor correctors caused interference on REA lines and necessitated, in some cases, installation of larger transformers and other corrective measures to compensate for the resultant power drag.

Elimination of the welder charge will also create better feelings between farmers having such devices and cooperatives which have worried along with them for some time. Mr.

make farmers in the area victims of circumstances.

"Under the mutual arrangement suggested by the cooperative whereby either the power company or the co-op would eventually serve the territory, the farmers would be provided with service immediately and irrespective of what the ultimate decision of the case would be, they would be assured of continuous electric service."

Four weeks, however, having passed since the suggested agreement and no word as yet having come from power company officials, Mr. Parson concluded that: "It is very plain that the power company must necessarily assume complete responsibility for failure of the farmers residing in the area to receive electric service during these most critical

Whittle said that tests have shown that 150-ampere welders, as specified, can do all the work required of them on average mid-western farms.

Mr. Whittle, a graduate engineer from John Hopkins university, has been in REA since 1938. His experience in engineering dates back to the first World war and covers a wide scope in the construction and electrical fields. Mr. Whittle comes from Region Eight, comprising Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Missouri, while Mr. McCombs was shifted to Region two.

The new regional engineer was accompanied on his first Illinois trip by E. C. Collier, field man.

HERE 'N THERE—

(From Page Three)

Hail Line Crew

While members of the line crew of Adams Electric cooperative stood at attention in front of the audience at the co-op's annual meeting, they were praised in song for their work done during the year. Words of the song, a parody on From the Hills of Montezuma, were written by Mrs. Frances Searls, wife of the co-op manager.

Here they are: A-B-S Line Crew Hymn:

From the mines of Schuyler County
To the hills of Adams and Brown
We search and repair troubles
On the poles and on the ground
Trouble shooting is our specialty
We are mighty tho but few
Oh we glory in the moniker
Of the A-B-S line crew.

E-lec-tri-city means caution please
Can't depend upon our luck
We have worked in ev'ry kind of place

Where we could take a truck
In the snow of forlorn bottom lands
And in hotter places too
You will find us always on the job
The A-B-S line crew.

Here's good luck to Co-ops—to the light
Ye-es we are glad to serve
In many a storm we've worked all night
And never lost our nerve
If you farmers and your neighbors
Ever look on heaven's edge
You will find the Co-op's line crew
Trimmin' that dad blasted hedge!

There aren't many men in the REA movement who are as enthusiastic about rural electricity as "Uncle" Harry Edmunds, 75-year-old Minnesota director of the National Rural Electric Cooperative association. To Mr. Edmunds, the promotion of REA service amounts to a crusade. His motivating force is a misfortune suffered by his wife, Mrs. Edmunds, a talented pianist, is blind—a condition which the NRECA leader blames on the fact that his wife strained her eyesight by trying to read music notes by the uncertain light of a kerosene lamp. Mr. Edmunds doesn't want other farm residents to have to suffer eye strain or do many of the back-breaking farm chores which go with unserved farms. That's why "Uncle" Harry speaks with the sincerity he does when addressing REA cooperative meetings.

You can take or leave some things—but not when it comes to Elizabeth, home of Jo-Carroll Electric Cooperative, Inc. Just try and leave it when the hills of Jo Daviess county are coated with ice—as was the case

recently on the date of Corn Belt's annual meeting. The meeting adjourned at 3 p. m. and we rolled into Bloomington at 5:30, having left Jo-Carroll's icy roads far behind but with a slippery-skiddy memory lingering on—and on. We rolled out of bed at 6 a. m., that day and then paced Elizabeth's Main street until 10:30 before a brave motorist informed us that we might take a chance on leaving town.

Russ Payne will return to Carlinville when the dust flies—he says. Seems that Russ and Line Foreman Homer Virden went on a tour of M.J.M.'s mud roads; 'nuff said. Russ returned to the office with more top soil on his overcoat than normally in a 40-acre corn field.

OFF THE CUFF:

There was a near-stampede at Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative's annual meeting—and why not; one of the prizes given away was a carton of cigarettes. Linemen at Corn Belt are all for having the co-op call off future annual meetings . . . seems that each year when the big event is held, the co-op lines suffer a bad case of shortitis. The trouble this year was caused as the result of good shooting at seven or eight insulators. It's been a long time since such "official" cooperation was exhibited as that displayed at the Menard co-op's annual meeting . . . while Abe read out the prize winners, Dean Searls and Les Marvel officiated at the number box. (The postal department will get us if we don't watch out). Duke Bidle knows how to win friends and influence an audience, with his resuscitation act—he just gets the sleepest guy in the crowd to come up and take a public nap on a table. Duke even helps the fellow breathe.

Anybody want to join the Carlinville Woman's Club. If so, Ace Barnes is the fellow to see. The M.J.M. manager, whose wife happens to be president of the club, was at home one evening when a prospective member called and wanted to know if he knew how she could join up. Mustering his best managerial tone, Ace told her there was nothing to it. "Just bring your dollar initiation fee and come up to the house to the meeting tonight," said he. Word has gone out from the Woman's Club president that her husband henceforth is to tend to his REA business and leave the matter of signing up new members over the telephone to those more familiar with the club's rules and regulations.

If there is a busier prisoner in Germany than Bud Read, son of Everett Read, president of Jo-Carroll Electric cooperative, he'll have to be two men. Bud writes that he is not only engaging in every sport imaginable, but also is teaching prisoner of war classes and writing articles for English and Canadian papers.

Ben Snively should have the inside track on this applications and loans business — Everett Brown, George Dillon's field man, is living in Divernon. Everett couldn't find a house in Springfield; just wait until Gov. Green runs a little short of cash—he'll be sorry.

Super-snooper flash! Mrs. Elva Bohannon of REA's food economics division has re-married. Mr. Bohannon died a number of years ago. The lucky gentleman's name is DeMott—the pronunciation is correct, but the spelling may be wrong. However, she's still B. Bohannon to her co-workers in the REA field.

ASK APPLIANCES REDUCING LABOR, RAISING OUTPUT

Electrical equipment designed to increase production and decrease labor head the list of power appliances which will be most in demand by Illinois farmers after the war, according to a survey recently completed in cooperation with the Rural Electrification Administration.

Automatic water systems, electric motors, quick-freeze refrigerators and feed grinders are most desired, reports show. The survey, which indicates plans for postwar purchases and the extent of use of electrical equipment and appliances, is based on questionnaires returned by 11,533 farm families, representing a cross-section of Illinois REA cooperative members.

The huge number of proposed purchases of power-operated equipment will be of tremendous benefit to private business, both from a manufacturing and retail sales standpoint. Need for additional employees to handle the anticipated volume of business will also mean the re-employment of hundreds of thousands of returning service men throughout the nation.

No one other factor, it has been said, will be as important to the postwar prosperity picture than the needs of REA cooperatives and their vast combined membership. With thousands of miles of lines to be built by the co-ops and large numbers of appliances to be purchased by farm families, business interests may well do what they can to see that REA-financed projects receive just and fair treatment in the halls of congress in the matter of favorable legislation and needed appropriations.

Results of the survey may be summarized as follows:

Fifty-three per cent of the farmers who returned survey cards now own electric water systems and 12.7 per cent more plan to buy systems after the war.

Electric motors to perform a great variety of tasks around the farm will be much in demand. Forty-six per cent of the reporting farmers now own motors and about 12 per cent plan to buy them as soon as they are available after the war. Ten per cent will buy cold storage and quick-freeze units, and nearly six per cent will buy feed grinders.

Illinois farmers are not solely interested in productive equipment, results of the survey show. They want electric ranges, refrigerators and washing machines to make life easier for the women on the farm; and they want electric water pumps not only to pump water for livestock and poultry, but to put running water into the kitchen sink and bathroom, to eliminate the drudgery of drawing and carrying water by hand and to improve sanitary conditions.

Fourteen per cent of the farmers participating in the survey have the comfort and convenience of electric water heating, and 9.6 per cent said they plan to install electric heaters when they become readily available. Eighteen per cent have bath tub or shower facilities, and 12 per cent plan to put in bathrooms after the war.

Twenty per cent of the members now own electric ranges and 9.1 per cent are prospective owners who are waiting for the supply to catch up with the demand. Results indicate that even the most commonly owned appliances — refrigerators, washing machines and electric irons—will show major gains.

NEWS FROM Rural Electric

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

Tree Trimming

At regular intervals we have a special tree trimming crew go over your Cooperative lines managed by a foreman who is a graduate of the Davies Tree Surgery School and has had many years of experience in this particular kind of work.

As most of you already seen, they do not use any spurs at any time but do their work entirely by swinging on ropes to get about in the tree where they work. They are very careful about making flush cuts and painting all cuts with approved tree paint.

We expect to get this crew back on the job some time in September or October to do a complete job of trimming for all the Cooperative lines. At this time they will trim trees that are interfering with service on the primary lines and on the services to the meters. Any of you members wanting trimming done to clear your own extension wiring or trees taken down that are in a hazardous condition in your yards, this crew will do it for you at exact cost of time and labor. Any trees that are a hazard to the services or any wires owned by the Cooperative whether they are in your yard or not will be trimmed or taken down free of charge.

Most of you members have been very cooperative in granting permission to trim trees where necessary and cutting a great many that were a hazard to the service, but there is an occasional member who fails to appreciate the need for tree trimming until he is left without lights and power. When a trimming crew comes by your place, we would ask that you let them do a good job of trimming as they will remove the branches and such limbs as may interfere with good service to your equipment. You can also help to insure good service to yourself and your neighbors by making a prompt report to this office (telephone 19) on the reverse call, of any broken tree limbs that have been broken off and are torn loose by storms and are still hanging in the trees where they can fall and put the line out of service. We will send someone to clear them as soon as possible.

If we all cooperate when the trimming crew comes through, we can eliminate nearly all of the outages caused by tree limbs and trees in hazardous positions that do fall on the line. This will save you members a great deal of unnecessary inconvenience and loss.

We would appreciate any member that does have trees in their yard or about their buildings that they would like to have taken down in part or all or trimmed. Whenever we have list of sufficient number to warrant calling in the tree trimming crew for two or three days, we can get it taken care of.

Care of Your Electric Motor

(1) See that the bearings have a few drops of oil always and that the oil caps are closed so that dust and grit cannot get into the bearing.

(2) Follow the Manufacturer's instructions and be sure to use the right grade of oil.

(3) Keep your motor and all wiring wiped off clean as dust has a tendency to make the motor heat and rot your insulation.

(4) Keep your motor dry and be certain that no water has a chance to drip or splash on them.

(5) When a motor is used with a belt-drive, be sure that it is lined up; if the motor is the least bit out of line, the belt will pull sideways and burn out the bearings.

(6) Take good care of your electrical equipment, especially your motor. Give them a chance to breathe—they need it in the summer time as badly as you do. New motors are very scarce.

Mr. George Sloman, your Secre-

tary-Treasurer, Mr. Coy Overaker, your Attorney, and B. F. Snively, your Manager, spent a very profitable day in St. Louis on Friday, March 16, in the REA offices with the Applications and Loans and the Rate Divisions.

We are in the midst of getting ready for some line construction under contract. We hope to have our engineers on the job by the middle of April or the first of May and we believe we will be able to get a contract let by the first of May.

All of these things take time. We are doing the very best we can under the limited amount of materials that we are able to get. We ask you all to bear with us in regard to this. We will do everything we can to get things in operation for more lines and more connected members. We do know that you need these lines very badly we also realize what a big help they are in every respect. You can rest assured that we will do everything we can to keep the old ball rolling along.

Electric Welders

Are you contemplating purchasing an electric welder for your farm?

We know a great many of you are, and we are concerned about it. Why? Because there are a great many cheap welders on the market today which are not properly designed to give satisfactory operation. They will have input demands, low power factor, will cause voltage flicker, and radio interference. In addition, some types are not approved by the Underwriters' Laboratories, and are a hazard to the operator.

Our Cooperative has reached the point that our Board of Directors have recently passed a resolution limiting welder installations on the Cooperative lines to those which are resigned to specifications now being worked out with reliable manufacturers to be approved by REA. Some time will be necessary before approved welders for REA lines will be on the market and we urge that you delay purchasing welders until they are ready with motor generators.

We can tell you now, however, that resistance type AC arc welders will not be approved for operation on Cooperative lines.

There are numerous makes of this type of welder available, that retail at prices ranging up to \$30.00. These welders consist of a resistance box on one side of 120-volt circuit, which limits the short circuit current when an arc is established across the electrodes. The welding current is limited by the resistance box to approximately 30 amperes on some of these welders. Both electrode holders are exposed and one of them as a 120-volt potential to ground, thus exposing the operator to electric shock and possible electrocution.

As soon as we have anything of value to any members who are in the market for approved welders that can be used on REA lines, we will notify you if you will please let us have your name and address so that we can put it on file.

We are very busy closing out an REA approved contract with the L. E. Myers Construction Company of 11.2 miles with 28 connected members.

Operating Report—February, 1945

Revenue per mile	\$13.23
Total Members Billed	1947
Average Farm Bill	\$4.98
Average Non-Farm Bill	\$3.90
Commercial Stores, etc.	\$16.56
School and Churches	\$2.00
Signal Lighting	\$8.21
Total Sales	\$9,528.41
Total KWH sold	\$1,913.10
Average KWH used—Farm	.97
Average KWH used—Non-Farm	.60
Average KWH used—Commercial	653
Total Minimum Bills	450
Per Cent of Minimum Bills	23%
Per Cent of Minimum Bills—Farm	18.5%

One hundred fifty-two (152) estimated bills prepared and mailed to

members who didn't read their meters or 8% of our members.

Operating Report—March, 1945

Total Miles	730
Total Bills Recorded in March	1,986
Average Density	2.72
Average Farm Bill	\$4.88
Average Non-Farm Bill	\$4.95
Average Commercial Bill	\$12.49
Average Public Building	\$2.00
Average Signal Lighting	\$7.80
Average Farm KWH Used	98.2
Average Non-Farm KWH used	95.9
Average Commercial KWH used	444.5
Average Signal KWH used	223
Average Revenue per mile	\$13.00
Total Minimum Bills	575
Total Farm Bills	458
Per cent Farm Minimum Bills	24.9%
Total Billing	\$9,490.89
Total KWH Sold	1,940.45
Total Estimated Bills	131
Per cent of Estimated Bills other than schools	3%

NEWS FROM M.J.M. Co-op

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

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

- J. F. Buis—Delhi
- Loren Lair—Girard
- Elmer Gowin—Godfrey
- Arthur Carlock—Coffeen
- Virgil Carlock—Coffeen
- Lennie White—Coffeen
- Aaron White—Coffeen
- Lester Kimbro—Coffeen
- Mrs. Leona Harrison—Coffeen
- Clifford Price—Bunker Hill
- W. H. Greenwalt—Bingham
- Pete Dillman—Walshville
- Lynn Edwards—Hillsboro
- Edward Schwab—Carlinville
- Ralph Dorlaque—Butler
- James Gibbons—Jerseyville
- Joe Brundies—Jerseyville
- Mrs. H. L. Chase—Walshville
- C. M. Herring—Jerseyville
- Charles Barnstable—Carlinville
- Dr. C. F. Lewis—Jerseyville
- D. H. Voorhees—Medora
- August Branch—Mt. Olive

February Operating Report

Miles Energized	679
Connected Consumers	1,654
Revenue per mile	\$12.65
Density per mile	2.44
Total Kilowatts Sold	179,440

MEMBER NEWS LETTERS

"Expect our baby chicks on March 22nd so be sure and keep the power coming after that date. This will be our fourth season for our electric brooder and like it fine."—H. Lynn Eddington, Irving, Ill.

"We bought a new electric brooder and started operating it today. We have used lights in the hen house this winter and it helped to make them lay better."—Ernest Ferenbach, Jerseyville, Ill.

"We have a new electric brooder which we have started."—Otto Greenwalt, Palmyra, Ill.

"Just a line to tell you that we will start our brooder April 2nd. Sure hope the power comes through ok."—Mrs. Harlan J. Durston, Irving, Ill.

"I have a new electric brooder and 400 chickens under it, so please don't turn off the electricity."—Mrs. Oliver Jackson, Carlinville, Ill.

"We have our little chickens now and please when you are out our way come by our place as there are some wires twisted; and I would like to have this looked after."—Urban Spinner, Hillsboro, Ill.

"I am enclosing a check for our light bill and also for 17 more kilowatts used on the other farm. We have a new Perfection Milking machine and like it fine."—Elmer Bruce, Staunton, Ill.

We always like to receive letters

from our members telling what advantages they are making of their electric service. We have had a number call at the office telling us of their new appliances; and we wish to list our members names and the appliances which they are now using.

Charles H. Masters, Palmyra, has started a new electric Jamesway Brooder.

Harry Klaus, Carlinville, has a new electric milker.

L. C. Bates, Carlinville, has an electric stove.

Floyd Fenton, Carlinville, has a new electric milk cooler.

E. E. Lively, Girard, has a new Surge Milking Machine; he also has his brooder going again.

Myron Bates, Carlinville, started their brooder for the third season.

NEWS FROM Western Illinois

Carthage, Ill.
L. C. MARVEL, Supt.

Tornado Strikes

O windstorm of tornado intensity passed over this area, Thursday evening, April 12. The greatest amount of damage occurred in the southeast part of Hancock County, in the vicinity of West Point, Plymouth, and Denver, Illinois. Many buildings were damaged, and one of our member's homes was moved entirely from its foundation; the only injuries received by the family were of a minor nature and were caused by broken glass.

Damage to the cooperative's lines was caused by falling trees and tree limbs; one line was burned down. The damage was so widespread and so scattered that it took a great amount of time to locate the trouble, and with the telephone lines out of order, everyone was handicapped in reporting the trouble and our linemen were obliged to drive many miles in checking and rechecking the trouble areas. Certain portions of our service area were without electric power for the greatest period of time in the history of this Cooperative.

Word of Caution

Our members will recall, at our Annual Meeting, we made the suggestion to our members that if they would patrol the electric line in their immediate vicinity, after a storm, it might be the means of eliminating a lengthy outage. During the past storm, if one of our members had surveyed the small portion of the line bringing electricity to his farm, he could have detected the damaged line and by promptly reporting it to the office, would have eliminated several hours of "no service" for that particular area.

Work Goes On

We are endeavoring to complete as many extensions as possible under the U-I-c regulations. At the present time, we do have considerable material on hand for these extensions, but with only two men to do the work, and our inability to secure extra help, progress is very slow.

L. C. Marvel, Manager, attended a recent meeting of REA Managers at Jacksonville pertaining to the securing of surplus war material. Manager Marvel, also attended a meeting at Springfield, of Cooperative managers, held for the purpose of discussing operating problems of the cooperatives. Mr. Marvel, will attend a meeting at Springfield, April 18, for a further discussion of operating problems and at which time plans for the formation of a REA Managers' Association will be discussed.

Bill in Army

C. E. Hutchins, more generally known as "Bill" who was employed by the Co-op as a lineman for several years, entered the service of the United States, in February. Bill is receiving his basic training at Ft. McClellan, Ala. He writes that he expects to do some pole climbing and telephone maintenance as part of his training for future duties with the armed forces.

NEWS FROM Corn Belt

Bloomington, Ill.
T. H. HAFER, Supt.

APPLIANCE AND TELEPHONE SURVEY REQUESTED

With each co-op bill going to the members in April and May the member will receive an electric equipment and telephone survey blank. We request that members fill this out carefully in order to assist the management in planning for future co-op service.

Members, of course, will expect an almost unlimited amount of electric power available at their farm at the snap of a switch. With over 4,000 farms now using service, and many hundreds more being added each year, it will take some future planning to have transformers at the substations and on the lines available to handle the full demand. Your co-op system at the present time has ample capacity and the management intends to anticipate the demand in such a way that we will always have ample capacity.

BY RETURNING THIS SURVEY BLANK CAREFULLY FILLED OUT TO THE BEST OF YOUR KNOWLEDGE YOU WILL HELP MAKE POSSIBLE THE FULFILLMENT OF OUR DESIRE TO GIVE YOU ADEQUATE SERVICE IN THE FUTURE.

The telephone survey is for the purpose of determining the need, if any, for a "telephone REA." There are pending in Congress two bills which will make possible cooperative telephone lines on the same scale as the REA co-ops. There are several different ways in which telephone service can be secured for every farm. Your co-op is helping to determine how this should be done if there is a need for it. Your answers to the telephone questions will help us to make decisions in this matter.

TERMITE EXTERMINATORS CRAVE ELECTRIC POWER

There are many reasons why the several hundred people requesting the addition of electric power to their farms are in a hurry for it to be hooked up. Everyone knows that chick brooding, water pumping, milking, milk cooling, refrigeration, etc. are very important and make electric power indispensable on most farms.

We have recently had another need added to this list. One of our good applicants, who has been patiently waiting for the line crew to get to his place, recently explained on a card that it is very important that we hurry the service to his farm because the termites are working in his buildings and the termite exterminator whom he had hired requires electric power to run his equipment. Therefore, the termites are safe and will continue doing their damage until electricity is available.

Electric Line and Dynamite Poor Combination

A story was recently received of a man who nearly lost his life because he failed to respect a rural electric distribution line when blowing stumps.

He made the charge in the stump and prepared to blow it electrically by stringing his wire from the charge under the electric line to a ditch on the opposite side of the road. He took hold of the wires, made contact to his battery, and when the stumps blew they carried his wire over the electric line while he still held the other end of the wires.

The voltage which he received through his hands knocked him to the end of the culvert and he could not release himself from the wires.

His helper came up and took the wires loose and pulled them off from the line. It was very fortunate that by the time the helper took hold of the wires the line breaker had opened so that there was no current there.

Dynamite should not be used under an electric line but if absolutely necessary then a co-op lineman should be present.

What Value Does REA Service Have In Your Area? Essays Give Answer

Publish Three Prize Winning Essays on REA

ELECTRIC IRON, COFFEE MAKER, HEATING UNIT GO TO WINNERS

Thousands of REA cooperative members realize the value of electricity on the farm, but it is well sometimes to sit down at your desk or at the dining or living room table and jot down the advantages which electric energy has brought to your rural community.

That is what happened in the Adams Electric cooperative area, when a number of members competed in an essay contest, writing on the subject: "The Value of REA In Improving Farm Living Conditions In My Community."

Out of the many entries emerged three prize winners: Lois Musick, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. G. Musick, first; Mrs. Alice B. Stearne, second; Mrs. Alma Dickhut, third.

Contestants who received honorable mention included: Mrs. James Jud, Jacob Horst, Mrs. William H. Shriver, Alton W. Grove, Mrs. Lucy Hayes, Mrs. K. M. Sutherland, Mrs. Erma Franken, Mrs. Walter Cramm, Martin Leerhoff, Mrs. Daniel Gallaher, Leland Shupe, Mrs. Willis Cook, and one who signed his entry "An Old Bachelor."

First prize in the contest was an electric iron; second, a coffee maker, and third, a 1000-watt brooder heating unit. Six 100-watt bulbs were awarded each of those receiving honorable mention.

First Prize

By Lois Musick

The coming of electricity to the farm has greatly raised the standard of living in rural communities. One has only to think of the day before REA came along to realize that.

There was a trend when anyone who thought of the farm thought of drudgery, long hours and inconveniences—but the REA has changed all that. Now, one has thoughts of modern conveniences, shortened working hours, pleasant working conditions and increased profits.

With our country now at war electricity is especially needed on the farm. With so many of our young men on the battle fronts all over the world, the tasks of those left at home have been greatly increased. Women, children and elderly people are all helping to win this war by working on farms, and electricity enables them to do many things which they could not do without its help. It can be said that electricity is a truly American soldier. Like our soldiers on the battle fronts and home front, it is helping to win this war.

Food production has been greatly increased by the utilization of electricity. Dairy farming, which previous to the coming of REA, required much labor, has been especially benefited. Feed for the cattle can be quickly and economically ground at home, water is pumped in less time, and warmed. Milking machines save much time and work, and separating and cooling the milk are done quickly, all because of electricity.

Poultry raising has been almost completely changed by electricity. Electric lights play a very important part from the time chicks are hatched until they become laying hens. Electric brooders are both safe and eco-



EVERYONE A WINNER—that's the story behind the above group of pictures. On the LEFT, Miss Lois Musick, first place winner in Adams Electric cooperative essay contest, receives her prize—an electric iron—from Dean Searls, manager of the co-op. The CENTER photo shows Mrs. Alma Dickhut, third place winner, as she proudly displays one of the electric conveniences which makes her farm life more comfortable. The lady vacuuming her rug at the extreme RIGHT is Mrs. Alice B. Sterne, winner of second prize.

nomical. Water warmers will repay their small cost many times.

Hog raising, too, is benefited by electricity. Many small pigs have been saved during cold weather by the use of pig brooders. Lights are also greatly appreciated in farrowing houses where attention is often needed during the night.

The farm work shop must certainly not be forgotten. Electricity has made it possible for farmers to have much more needed equipment, such as saws, lathes, soldering irons, drills and many others. Any farmer realizes the advantages derived from a well-equipped, electrically powered work shop.

No less important is electricity in the farm home. The housewife's tasks has been lightened considerably and housekeeping has become more pleasant and interesting than ever. Electrical time-savers enable her to spend more time in her garden, producing and later conserving food for her family's use. The whole family appreciates the many electrical appliances to be found in the modern farm home. Life in homes the REA reaches is more pleasant, easier and more enjoyable.

Lights, which are one of the most important uses of electricity, are one of the greatest things which ever came to the farm. Electricity is used in this way in practically every building and in many outside locations as well. Their economy, their safety and their convenience are all considered in determining their value.

To sum it up in a few words—the time it saves, the increase in food production and the increase in profits because of it, the new pleasures in living it has brought about, and the raising of living conditions in general, make it more than worth the small amount it costs each of us.

It can truly be said that rural electrification has greatly improved living conditions in all communities. We owe our thanks to those who spent so much of their time and efforts in bringing REA to our communities.

Second Prize

By Mrs. Alice B. Sterne

The value of the REA!
Why it just turns work into play!
With all the help that it can give
We really find it's fun to live.
Perhaps the first that's on the list
Are lights that banish gloom and mist:
Instantaneous illumination,
Like lights that flooded the creation.
No lamps to fill, no wicks to trim,
No smoky chimneys, dark and dim.

I think our dearest, chiefest love,
Is that good friend, the electric stove.
So white, so clean, so quick, so sure,
So charged with glamour and allure.
It bakes, it broils, it fries, it cans,
It never blackens pots nor pans,
It simmers slow, or cooks with speed,
Either or both, what e'er your need;
All this with tiny cost indeed.

And, oh, it's very, very nice
Refrigeration without ice.
No pan to drip, no ice to haul!
This shining servant, white and tall
Is good to look at, fun to use;
We're always sure, no food we'll lose.
The meat that's left from Sunday's roast,
Will gaily garnish Friday's toast,
The salad crisp at early morn
The evening meal may well adorn.

This little Reddy Kilowatt,
Is always Johnny on the spot.
It milks the cows, it broods the chicks,
With willing zeal the cakes 'twill mix.
Another thing as fine as silk,
An electric cooler cools the milk.
If there's one thing that makes you glower,
It's when they bring back milk that's sour.

We used to hate and dread Blue Monday,
But now our wash day's just like Sunday;
We toss the clothes in the machine,
And presto! soon they're white and clean.
No more we use the heavy, sad iron,
The electric iron is a glad iron.
It's farewell dust, and goodbye broom!
The vacuum cleaner sweeps the room.

How good on some hot afternoon
To sit down in a chair,
Beside a cool electric fan
Which gently stirs the air.
The blower on the furnace too
Is a friend that's constant, kind and true,
It saves us fuel and warms the rooms,
That otherwise were cold as tombs.

Oh, I could go on by the hour
In praise of our electric power!
A servant working night and day,
The more we use the less we pay,
Hurrah! hurrah! for REA.

Plans for the 20th annual meeting of the Pure Milk Association, scheduled for March 13 in Chicago, was canceled because of ODT regulations on meetings attended by more than 50 persons.

Third Prize

By Mrs. Alma Dickhut

Before my mind's eye comes the picture as painted by an artist of a farmer nearing the barn in the inky dark that precedes dawn carrying in one hand a bucket, in the other a lantern whose little spot of light, only a few candlepower, served only to make the darkness more intense. An artist's idea of early morning chore time on the farm, prettier in fancy than in fact, but nevertheless true before REA came. Now let us reconstruct the picture: As the man leaves his doorway he pushes the button that floods the pathway from house to barn with light. To him that equals a song to start the day.

"When day is done and the lamps are lit," so the poet says. It may have been a twelve-hour day or a sixteen-hour day but now the lights go on and it is evening chore time on the farm. Chores are definitely such a part of farm life you can't ignore them and the poetry this man likes to hear at chore time is the whir of the motor that pumps the water for his stock, grinds their feed, perhaps milks his cows, separates the milk and countless other jobs.

Since electricity has lightened these tasks so much it is possible in the busy crop season for the farm wife or children to have the work about the barnyard done when the husband comes from the field. At peace with the world and the satisfaction of work well done, they sit down to their evening meal. Isn't that a value beyond comparison?

REA is equally valuable to the farm wife or mother; provides light when and where she wants it, water at the turn of a faucet, fuel for the cooking, radio, entertainment or enlightenment, care for her own outdoor line—her poultry. Inside her home electricity improves many esthetic values upon which you can put no price.

It was an unknown something until Edison and others captured and harnessed it; and still others made it available for rural folks lifting burdens from men's backs and lightening the loads of women's hands. The mind fails to function efficiently when the rest of the body is worn and weary; and the best of minds will be needed in the coming days for the problems that lie ahead. And some of the best have always been found in rural communities.

Bess Streeter Aldrich might well follow her book: "A Lantern in Her Hand" with "A Glow in Her Heart" for the farm woman is still pioneering new trails.

I have spoken mainly of moral value of REA in improving living conditions in my community, but add that to the natural graciousness of farm living and it will be treasured by your children and their children. A satisfying home life is the basic

step toward building a permanent national defense against war, depression or trouble whenever or wherever it may come.

High Standards Reached by 4-H Boys and Girls

RAISE ENOUGH FOOD TO SUPPLY 16,000 MEN IN ARMED FORCES

Leaders of agricultural youth groups estimate that 34,000 4-H club members in Illinois last year produced and conserved enough food to feed more than 16,000 men in the armed forces of the nation for one year.

Each man in service, it is said, requires approximately one ton of food a year. It follows, therefore, that every 4-H club boy and girl produced an average of approximately 1000 pounds of food in their beef, swine, dairy, sheep, poultry, garden and crop projects.

In addition to their food for freedom record, 4-H members last year made or remodeled 21,000 garments; collected 3,000,000 pounds of scrap, paper and waste fat; sold or bought a half million dollars worth of bonds; earned \$7147 to buy four army-navy ambulances; gave more than \$1700 to equip a radio shop in a veterans' hospital; contributed \$2000 to other war funds. It also is reported that 2000 club members participated in 4-H health activities.

It has been said that "boys and girls represent the most valuable crop produced on the farm." 4-H members secure training by conducting various projects and by attending regular club meetings.

Corn Reserve at High Level; May Urge More Hogs

An agriculture department report has cleared the way for a government appeal to farmers to produce upwards of 20 per cent more pigs next fall. The report said stocks of corn on farms are at near record levels for this time of the year.

The war food administration is also considering a change in price policies designed to step up pork production. It is estimated that reserves of corn now total 1,340,000,000 bushels—an increase of 23 per cent over a year ago. This reserve, government officials said, is sufficient to support livestock production at a heavy rate.

Whiteside county applied 85,000 tons of agricultural limestone in 1942, an increase of approximately 10,000 tons over the previous years.

Hats Off to Rural Telephone Line Operators; Co-ops Appreciate Them

Trouble Calls Find Them All Ready To Help

Switchboard Provides Link Between Home, Service Men.

"The lightning season is now approaching and it is only reasonable to expect that lightning will strike our lines. When it does it will, of course, put them out of service. Therefore, the earlier a member gets the report to the cooperative office, the earlier we will be able to repair the damage and have service resumed."

Behind that statement made to members of Wayne-White Counties Electric cooperative last month by Manager F. A. Tannahill lies the assurance that telephone operators, located at switchboards in country towns throughout the area, will see to it that the emergency calls get through to the project's designated trouble-shooters.

Nine times out of ten, a flash of lightning and the resultant occasional sudden interruption of service will bring familiar requests to operators which sound something like this: "Our lights are off; will you call the REA office and have them send someone out to fix them?"

Messages like this, coming over lines some of which are held up by trees, fence posts and broken poles, are relayed over the system's sturdier rural lines to the cooperative office or trouble-shooting linemen in specific areas. Morning, night and noon—and sometimes in the middle of the night—line trouble reports are dumped squarely on the switchboards of under-manned, under-staffed, but always willing rural telephone companies. Their operators, young and old, new at the game or veterans of many years experience, know what to do. They are truly a godsend to those charged with operation of rural power lines.

True Cooperators

Few persons realize that calling trouble-shooters to repair damage to lines is not part of a rural telephone operator's job—but both operators and REA consumers have come to accept it as such. It is an emergency call, like tracing down a doctor for a sick family or calling out the fire department, and no operator thinks of it in any other way.

They gladly cooperate, and residents in the area they serve and the REA cooperatives are grateful for the service they render. Their switchboards, set up in most cases in the living rooms of operators' homes, are a vital link between the REA cooperative office and co-op members who need electric service these days for an ever-increasing number of uses, from lights to power for operating brooders, pumping water for stock, grinding feed, cooling milk or running a host of home appliances.

No cooperative office can tell when trouble exists on the line unless it has been reported—and that is the job performed by invaluable telephone operators as they relay outage calls 'phoned in by members scattered over many miles of rugged rural territory.

Typical Systems

Typical of the operators serving sections of Wayne-White's extensive territory are Mrs. Ada McCormick of Enterprise; Mrs. R. C. Caldwell of Rinard and Mrs. Fannie Whitson of Jeff.

Both Mrs. McCormick, with eight years experience, and Mrs. Caldwell,



EMERGENCY CALLS—OR JUST PLAIN CONVERSATION—it makes no difference to these operators; they're on the job 24 hours a day to serve their rural subscribers and, incidentally, Wayne-White Counties Electric cooperative. Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Caldwell of Rinard, LEFT above, are the veterans of the group of telephone workers depicted on this page. Mrs. Caldwell has been operator for 39 years, while her husband has worked for a number of years as a repair man for the Peoples Telephone company of Southern Illinois. Mrs. Fannie Whitson, operator of Jeff Mutual Telephone company, and her daughter as well as her relief operator, Phyllis, are shown above at the RIGHT. In the LOWER RIGHT picture, Mrs. Ada McCormick of Enterprise is shown at work at her switchboard.



a real veteran of 39 years at the switchboard, work for the Peoples Telephone Company of Southern Illinois. Mrs. Whitson is employed by the Jeff Mutual company of which George O. Deem, member of the Wayne-White board, is secretary-treasurer.

Enterprise, home of J. Wesley Barth, president of Wayne-White; Rinard and Jeff are all served by the cooperative, which puts the telephone systems more nearly in the co-op camp than in many other smaller communities.

The majority of rural telephone companies operate much like the Peoples Telephone company in that members must own a share of stock in the project to get service. Stock, however, costs 25 cents a share, with Rene Caldwell the heaviest stockholder—he holds three shares. And telephone service averages from \$3.50 to \$8 per year.

An indication of the extent of service may be gleaned from the fact that the Enterprise exchange has 65 subscribers and 14 lines, the Rinard exchange, 111 subscribers, and the Jeff company board controls 40 lines and has about 30 subscribers. Each line has its own elected president and subscribers do their own maintenance work just as they did when rural telephone systems were first instituted. There has, however, been considerable improvement in some of the boards and operating equipment.

Veterans on Watch

Mr. and Mrs. Caldwell probably have the longest records for continuous service in telephone work in the area. Mrs. Caldwell first started as an operator in Enterprise but has been in Rinard eleven years. Her activity in telephone work interested her husband who now services the company's lines out of Jeff and Rinard as well as keeps careful watch on switchboard troubles at all the firm's exchanges.

In addition to his telephone work, Mr. Caldwell also has gained considerable prominence as a trainer of bird dogs and has had dogs in his kennels from sportsmen in Chicago and St. Louis as well as many other cities.

His occasional spare time also permits him to render service to the cooperative by wiring houses on the REA line.

Mrs. Whitson is the newest operator in the area, having started at Jeff in October, 1943. Her husband, Rufus, takes care of telephone lines in town for the company.

Mrs. Whitson's daughter, Phyllis, is the relief operator at Jeff, while Mrs. McCormick's 11-year-old daughter, Edwina, performs the same job at Enterprise. Mrs. Caldwell calls on her busy husband, Rene, when she needs a rest from the board.

Serve Their Country

These busy operators perform another service which alternately brightens or saddens their tasks.

The bright side comes when boys in service, some just ready to be shipped out and others back in the states from fighting zones, call home to talk to dad, mother, sweetheart, or wife. They call and most of them, they'll laughingly tell you, "call collect."

It's hard, though, when telegrams come through from the war department telling of the death of one of the boys in these rural towns; but it's part of the operators' job to relay sad as well as glad tidings. Calls such as these make them feel that they are almost as close to those young farm boys who went off to war as the sorrowing families themselves. You'll find pictures of service men on the boards of many switchboards throughout the area just as in the case at Mrs. McCormick's home, a service flag with three blue stars hanging in the window.

These Wayne-White area operators and others like them are the watchdogs of trouble in their communities, the bearers of joy and sorrow and heaven-sent to appreciative REA cooperative managers throughout the land.

Be Careful

A 3-year-old Wisconsin boy was crushed to death recently by a barn door. He was watching his father put the cows in the barn, when one of the animals crashed into the door and tore it loose from its hinges.

DEBTS TO FSA IN STATE ARE BEING PAID UP

Farm Security Administration borrowers in Illinois cleared almost a thousand dollars each in 1944, after all farm operating and family living expenses were paid, State FSA Director J. M. Fullington said today.

Fullington's figures were based on family records in all sections of the state. He said that the average borrower's gross farm income amounted to \$2,642, farm operating expenses \$1,056, and cash family expenses \$651.

He cited the figures as proof of the value of FSA's live-at-home program. Actual family living costs were almost double the cash outlay but borrowers raised \$427 of the food and fuel used in their homes. Their farm operating expenses were reduced by sharing machinery and pooling labor.

In Illinois, FSA helped 22,721 families with rural rehabilitation and farm owner loans, it was said. Of the 21,944 rehabilitation loans, 10,509 families paid their debts in full. Fifty-six of the 777 farm owner borrowers also are paid up.

Borrowers paid \$14,224,459 of the \$19,139,618 loaned for rehabilitation since the program started.

For the six-month period ending Dec. 31, 1944, FSA loaned \$1,004,509 to 811 Illinois farm families. It collected \$1,354,160 on previous loans, Fullington explained. During the last year FSA has found it prac-

tically impossible to purchase farms at prices within their earning capacity.

Any farmer who buys at current prices and goes in debt for most of the purchase price is headed for trouble, the FSA man warned.

Profit Realized Watering Garden "The Power Way"

Electric water pumping for a quarter-acre garden will increase vegetable profits from \$13 to \$40 for the season.

The cost of a home-made rotary type sprinkler totals \$2.85, plus cost of hose. A thorough 1-inch night drenching for one-quarter acre can be laid in 7 to 8 hours at a pumping cost of 25 cents, or about \$2 for 8 drenchings during the growing season. This means an extra profit of \$8 to \$30 per season.

Milk Cooled by Electricity Is Given Top Price

Electrically cooled milk stays fresh and pure and brings top grade ratings and prices at creameries.

Cooling costs about 10 cents per day for 10 gallons of milk, including depreciation and operation. Electric cooling also is clean, convenient and easier to obtain. It also is said to be 75 per cent cheaper than ice.

Electricity For Farm and Home

Here Are Symptoms That Mean 'Danger Ahead' for Water Systems



The automatic electric water system requires so little attention, that it is often neglected until major repairs or replacements may be necessary. Check yours regularly, and watch for danger signals.

Heart of your farm's circulatory system is the electric pump. Once it breaks down the water lies dormant in the pipes—and no simple twist of the faucet will convince it to surge forth.

You can depend on your water system to warn you when things go wrong, however. And when you recognize these symptoms you can act quickly to avoid serious breakdowns which threaten the productivity of your farm. The Rural Electrification Administration has prepared a list of danger signals. Watch for them with an eagle eye—and check before too late.

Pump starts and stops frequently. This may mean your pressure tank is "waterlogged." Water absorbs air under pressure and carries it out of the tank, thus destroying the balance between air and water in the tank, and causing many stops and starts. Better ask your service man to examine the air "bleeder" valve if this condition continues.

If the pump starts and continues pumping for a long interval, check for leaks in valves or equipment.

Air from faucets. The cause of this is usually too much air in the storage tank—just the opposite of the "waterlogged" tank. The pump, under some conditions, might be pumping air only instead of water. The "bleeder" valve may be clogged or otherwise not functioning. Or, on a deep-well system, a sucker rod may be broken.

No water from the faucet. Your power may be off or a fuse blown; your motor's belt may have slipped off; the pump may not be drawing water because the level is too low.

Pump runs but doesn't deliver. A valve may be worn or not functioning; a suction line may be clogged; leathers may be worn; pump may need priming. Pumps must be primed after they have been drained or if prime is lost. Ask your repair man to show you the priming plug or valve cap opening. If you have a plunger type pump, prime the pump while it is running, and close the priming plug when you hear the

valves opening and closing in the water.

Leakage. A small amount of leakage is necessary to lubricate the packing in your pump's stuffing box. If more than a few drops of water a minute leak out, tighten the stuffing box until no leakage occurs, then loosen the nut a quarter-turn.

Lubrication. Follow the directions of your manufacturer carefully in lubricating your pressure system. If low temperatures are regularly experienced and either of the power units is outdoors or in unheated structure, replace heavy summer oils and greases with a light lubricant in the winter, and vice versa. Wash exposed moving parts with kerosene to remove oil, when winter approaches. Then coat them with light oil.

Prevention of Freezing. When freezing weather approaches, your pump must be drained and the pump and pipes covered unless they are properly housed or already set below the frost line. Consult your service man or co-op on how deep the pump should be covered. A 100-watt lamp under the pressure tank or pump will help in extreme weather.

Motors. Many pump troubles start in your motor. For example, if a belt is too loose, your pump may not operate at full capacity. Make sure your motor and pump pulleys are aligned properly.

Pounding noise. When a piston type shallow well pump has a pounding noise and the bearings are all right, it may be caused from one of the following: sticking valves, clogged suction line, or source of supply of water higher than the pump. Remedies for sticking valves and clogged suction line are obvious. The third, sometimes called "water hammer" may be eliminated by increasing the size of the vacuum or suction chamber, or by using a globe valve in the suction line to restrict the flow of water to the pump.

Iron-clad Rules

Before making any repairs on your pump,

- (1) Make certain that electricity is switched OFF.
- (2) Make sure you're right before

Write Us, Please

Write us a letter please—telling us how you put electricity to work on your farm and in your farm home. Other REA members will benefit through learning how you built an electrical gadget from salvaged odds and ends, how you added power to a "muscle-operated" piece of equipment . . .

The Illinois REA News will pay \$1 for each letter printed on this page. Send your letter to the Editor, Illinois REA News, Petersburg, Ill.

Have You Heard

Milk cooling time on the farm is reduced by 50 per cent when a motor-driven pump is installed in electrically operated equipment. The device, called an agitator, sets up a rapid circulation of water around the milk cans and cooling coils.

Electricity is scarce in the land of wooden shoes and tulips. One Holland city has limited the use of electric current to one 25-watt lamp for six hours each day per family. If there are two families in one home, one 15-watt and one 9-watt lamp must serve their purpose. Three families in the same house may each have one 9-watt lamp. Use of electric heaters, irons, vacuum cleaners, and washing machines is prohibited.



Poultry debeakers are really quite painless—and do not make chickens look as grouchy as this bandaged-up fowl. The debeaker is equipped with an electric heating coil which in turn heats a sharpened plunger. The plunger both cuts and cauterizes. Debeaking checks cannibalism, helps to prevent feed waste, and insures healthier flocks.

Peach defuzzer is the newest task performed by one of the Tiny Tims of electric motors—the one horsepower job. It scrubs the fuzz from peaches, at the rate of 15 tons of fruit per hour. The defuzzer operates a system of brushes to give peaches their facials.

Power driven hammer mills are solving the winter feed grinding of many dairy farmers. They find that one to one and one-half cents worth of electricity grinds 100 pounds of feed.

An all-purpose repair kit for solderless electrical wiring has been devised. It contains a precision tool that fulfills six purposes, including cutting and stripping the wire, indicating stud sizes and crimping the terminals.

Fluorescent circles to be used in portable lamps, ceiling and wall fixtures will be manufactured as soon as war conditions permit.

Production of 35,000 domestic electric ranges per quarter has been approved for 1945. About 35 per cent will go to military services and National Housing agency. The remainder will go to institutions and individuals who certify need and can show no additional wiring will be required.

you go ahead. Ask your pump dealer or repair man to explain thoroughly the various parts of your system.

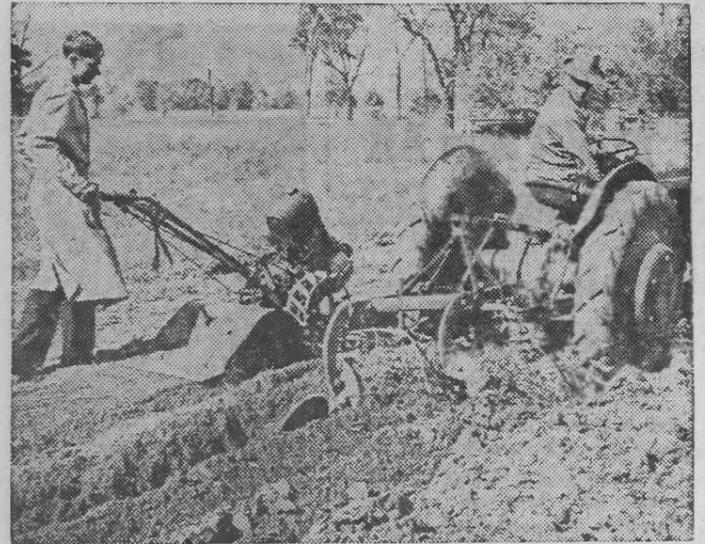
More Aids

A stamped, self-addressed envelope sent to this paper will bring the following leaflets to you. You will find the information helpful:

- Planning Your Farm Water System.
- Care of the Electric Motor.

Flax crop insurance will be offered this year for the first time.

IT PLOWS, DISKS, HARROWS -- ALL IN ONE



Here's a picture of the rototiller, that revolutionary piece of farm equipment which promises to make plowing, disking, and harrowing one operation. A comparison in tillage is made in the above picture with the rototiller in action alongside a plow.

The rototiller has steel picks which rotate like paddlewheels. They crumble the soil from top to bottom to any desired depth down to 12 inches. The manufacturers declare that the smallest model will keep ahead of eight men planting. Models already produced will prepare from one and one half to three acres per day. The handlebars may be shifted so that the operator can walk on either side without tramping down the prepared soil.

A roller may be fastened behind the revolving tines to compact the soil. Furrowing and covering attachments may be added so that crops like potatoes can be planted in one operation. The machine is also adapted to snowplowing, trenching, cultivation, hilling, and as a source of power for pumps, saw, and other stationary equipment, declare the manufacturers.

WIDE USE OF ARC WELDING ON FARM IS SEEN AFTER WAR

Authorities on rural electrification believe that World War II will bring arc welding to U. S. agriculture just as World War I brought it to industry.

Farm boys serving in the Armed Forces have learned the advantages of the process—whereby electric heat forges metal parts without use of rivets or bolts—from seeing it used in making Liberty ships, bombers, and other war implements.

War plant training also will be a factor in spreading use of arc

welding, as will vocational schooling.

After the war it is believed the process may eventually be used on three-quarters of a million farms to accomplish many jobs. Farmers, especially the ones in isolated rural areas, will welcome it in making speedy repairs of broken machinery, parts. It also can be used in hard-facing plowshares and tractor rails, putting together racks and frames, or even in making a wagon from a 4-P. automobile.

The use of arc welding on 750,000 farms does not indicate that each farmer will own a welding device. Rather, there probably will be ownership by groups or by townships. Arc welding shops in villages may become as familiar after V-Day as the village "smithy" was in Longfellow's day.

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF ELECTRICAL TERMS

Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13	14			15		
16			17				18			
19			20			21				
		22			23			24	25	
26	27				28				29	
30				31				32		
33			34					35		
36			37				38			
			39			40			41	
42	43				44				45	
46					47				48	
49							50			

- ACROSS**
- 1-6. Popular household appliance
 12. Scent, eliminated by an electric ventilator
 13. Burden
 15. Roman emperor
 16. Time lapse between phases of A.C.
 17. Kind of electric switch
 18. Overawed
 19. Transformer abbr.
 20. Raw material for porcelain insulators
 21. Seed capsules
 22. Crucifix
 23. Common form of electrical conductor
 24. For example: abbr.
 26. Turn inside out
 28. Group of radio frequencies
 29. Grow old
 30. Insulating material
 31. Television receivers
 32. Broad smile
 33. Being
 34. Unit of electric pressure
 35. Balance
 36. Regarding
 37. A telephone abbr.
 38. Vended
 39. Be defeated
 40. Gentle
 41. Male parent
 42. Preservative for lighting poles, etc.
 44. A conducting wire pertaining to transmission of power
 46. River island
 48. Fabled monster
 47. Large bundle
 9. Tidings brought us by radio commentators
 10. Before
 11. Kind of lightning arrester
 14. Negative vote
 17. Groove in an armature
 18. Flexible electrical connection
 20. Center of an electro-magnet
 21. Pegs on lighting pole insulators
 22. Twilled fabrics
 23. A unit of electricity
 24. Protection
 25. Dynamo
 27. Wind indicator
 28. Telephone inventor
 29. Dry
 31. Part of a shoe
 32. Metal having high electrical conductivity
 34. Enormous
 35. Support for transmission lines
 37. Geometric figure
 38. Tendon
 39. Italian coin
 40. Unit of wire measure
 41. Voltaic battery
 42. Kettle
 43. In time past
 44. Old Etruscan god
 45. Burnt residue
 47. Exist
 48. Bone
- DOWN**
1. Device for measuring electric force
 2. Hebrew month
 3. Gear tooth
 4. Abraham's birthplace
 5. Single unit
 6. A container
 7. Lighting switch: abbr.
 8. Positive electrode

Get out your dictionary—and see how many of the little squares you can fill in this crossword puzzle. If the going gets too tough, you'll find the answers on page sixteen.

Electricity Does Job--- Report Brooders Save Two Pigs In Each Litter



OUTSTANDING BREEDING EMPHASIZED IN W. A. VANCE AND SONS DUROC LINE

Coal Stove in Brooder House Replaced by Big Heat Lamp

You don't have to sell the idea of using electric pig brooders to W. A. Vance and Sons, prominent raisers of purebred, registered Duroc hogs, whose farm is located eight miles south of Carthage . . . for the electric pig brooders themselves have done an outstanding selling job.

Sherman Vance, herdsman for the firm, says that a careful check on operations revealed that he saved an average of two pigs per litter with electric brooders. Brooding pigs by electricity for the first time this year, the Vance farm hit a new high by getting 120 little pigs from the first twelve sows to farrow.

Eight electric pig brooders are in operation on the farm at present and others will be added later, now that the power equipment has been given a trial. The brooders were built according to REA plans and best results were obtained with those having sideboards 3½ feet long, Mr. Vance said.

Unusual Feature

An unusual feature of the equipment is use of a pig brooder house, with six brooder pens warmed by one overhead reflector containing a 250-watt heat lamp. Standard 150-watt bulbs are used in the individual pig brooders in the large hog house which, incidentally, contains a loft where laying hens are kept.

Use of electricity in the pig brooder house has proven so successful that the Vances have permanently removed from it the former coal stove which once performed the heating job now done more economically and efficiently with REA service. It is well also to record that electric lights are used throughout the fall, winter and early spring months in the chicken loft—a factor, Mr. Vance says, which has enabled him to maintain top egg production during the cold months.

Big Producers

The Vances—father and son—raise an average of 300 pigs per year, with the majority of the hogs being disposed of at sales to other breeders. Three sales are contemplated in 1945—a bred gilt sale in August, boar and gilt sale in October and a bred sow sale in January or February.

Most of the spring pigs on the Vance farm this year have been sired by Landmark News, a full brother to Elmgrove 4-Square, first prize junior pig in the 1943 Illinois Duroc show. The Vances recently purchased a new boar, Vance's Proud Bomber, sired by Victory Bomber, owned by Knotek Brothers of Riverside, Iowa, for use in breeding fall gilts.

In additions to Sherman Vance, Mr. and Mrs. William Vance have two sons, Pvt. William A. Vance, Jr., who enlisted in the Army Air Corps last December when only 18 years old, and Sgt. Thomas W. Vance, serving with the army in

TRIED AND FOUND SUCCESSFUL—That is the story behind the trial given eight electric pig brooders by W. A. Vance & Sons. The picture to the LEFT above shows how the Western Illinois Electric cooperative members used a single overhead reflector and a 250-watt heat lamp to warm the 6-pen pig brooder house, shown in the CENTER photo. At the RIGHT is a view of one of the individual brooders in operation. Unable to get deep reflectors, the Vances used the ordinary shallow type and soldered a rim around the exterior of the reflector.

Germany. William Vance is superintendent of the Denver Christian church Sunday school, a member of his soil conservation district and a director of the Hancock county farm bureau.

Along with raising hogs, father and son also find time for some general farming, with dad milking six and his son, five cows. Mr. Vance farms 160 acres and Sherman farms 60 acres. They raise considerable corn.

Prize Winners

W. A. Vance and Sons are consistent prize winners at various hog shows. At last year's Chicago fat stock show, they received third prize

on a lightweight pen of three pigs and fourth prize in the single lightweight class.

Their power comes from Western Illinois Electric cooperative at Carthage from whose manager, L. C. Marvel, the Vances learned about electric pig brooders and through whom they received their REA brooder plans.

William Vance started in the hog raising business in 1918, selecting Durocs because, he said, they seemed to be most in demand. As his sons began to take an interest in farming, they each in turn entered 4-H work and, of course, made hog raising their main project.

Co-op Group Will Push Fight For Separate Agency

Representatives from eleven states, their number limited by ODT regulations, dedicated their efforts to re-establish the Rural Electrification Administration as an independent agency of the government at a meeting held in St. Louis on Saturday, April 14. The meeting was called by Ansel I. Moore of Missouri, who has been a leader in the fight to remove REA from the Department of Agriculture.

Discussions during the meeting were woven around the primary purpose of promoting by every possible means the enactment of legislation which would return the administration of REA to its original independent status. Officers elected at the meeting emphasized that the group would not oppose any individual or any other established organization. They also added that the group would not advance the personal ambitions of any individual or organized association. Chief point of controversy in the present status of REA, which was discussed at the St. Louis meeting, was the present and future control of the agency by and for political aspirants.

The meeting also made arrangements for financing further work of the group. According to information coming out of the St. Louis meeting there will be no membership fee or obligation and that the ranks will be open to all REA cooperatives who believe that more can be accomplished in rural electrification under the original Act of 1935.

Representatives from REA cooperatives in Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, Illinois, Missouri, Indiana, Minnesota, Iowa, Tennessee, Louisiana, and Arkansas, were present at the meeting. Officers elected by the group are: Ansel I. Moore of Missouri, chairman; Earl Murley of Indiana, vice chairman; L. C. Groat of Illinois, secretary; and H. C. Knappenburger of Arkansas, treasurer. The officers will work under the direction of an executive committee which has among its membership George Endicott, Manager of the Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative of Dongola. L. C. Groat of the Spoon River Electric Cooperative of Canton, secretary of the group, was also named as an alternate member of the executive committee from Illinois.

C. F. Helser of Ohio, Ansel Moore of Missouri, and Dr. K. T. Hutchinson of Tennessee, members of the executive committee, are all presidents of their respective statewide associations.

NEWEST ILLINOIS CO-OP EMPLOYEES



WELCOME TO OUR FAMILY—These three girls are among the most recent employees added to office staffs of REA cooperatives in Illinois. The TOP picture shows Agnes Peters, left, and Carolyn Rettberg, both of the Rural Electric Convenience cooperative of Divernon, while the photo to the RIGHT shows Grace Niemeyer, newly named cashier of Clinton County Electric cooperative at Breese.

Miss Peters, sister of Mrs. John Allen, former cooperative employe, is a stenographer and also works on staking sheets; Miss Rettberg, a senior at Divernon high school, is a part-time clerk.



Credit Electricity for This Herd



ELECTRIC PIG BROODERS—were used this year for the first time on the W. A. Vance & Sons farms near Carthage with gratifying results, as the herd of spring pigs above shows. William Vance is shown on the right in the photo, with son, Sherman, on the left. Individual pig brooders were used in the barn at the rear which also contains an electrically lighted chicken loft.

Will Add 27.6 Miles at Clay; Award Contract

A contract for the construction of 27.6 miles of line to serve 95 U-1-c and U-1-f new consumers of Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc., of Flora has been awarded the T & D Electrical Service company, it is announced by C. D. McCommons, project superintendent.

In addition to farmers along the line, the cooperative also plans on serving fifty or sixty oil wells in the vicinity of Bible Grove. At present these wells are being pumped with engines using gasoline or butane. Oil field records show, according to Mr. McCommons, that it requires one man to operate fifteen wells when gasoline is used for power, whereas one man can operate approximately sixty-five wells with electric energy performing the pumping chore.

Other bidders for the contract included A & A Electric Construction company and L. E. Meyers company.

The Chicago Field Museum contains a petrified log of redwood from Alberta, Canada, which is said to be 100,000,000 years old.

**NEWS FROM
Wayne-White**

Fairfield, Ill.

F. A. TANNAHILL, Mgr.

Board of Trustees

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

Manager

F. A. Tannahill, Fairfield, Ill.

In case of emergency call before 8:00 a. m. or after 5:00 p. m., call the following: For Carmi, McLeansboro, Norris City and vicinity, call Chalon Carten, Phone No. 123, Norris City.

For all of Edwards County, all of Wayne County, Crossville, Calvin and Phillipstown, in White County, call F. A. Tannahill, Phone 156J, Cloyd Musgrave 60M, Norman Davis 18F21; or Bill Fleming 14M, all of Fairfield, Ill.

* * *

**FIRST 20 METER CARDS
TO COME IN**

Ed Straub, Geff; Duane Adams, Golden Gate; Ben Block, Cisne; E. F. Keen, Keenes; Mary Brock, Fairfield; Fred Downes, McLeansboro; C. E. Bond, Belle Prairie; S. R. Henson, Norris City; L. R. Stein, RFD 2, Enfield; J. O. McIntosh, Springerton; Lawrence Dixon, Mill Shoals; Daniel L. Kuykendall, Crossville; Delbert Strange, Rinard; Richard Donoho, Bluford; Lewis Russell, Carmi, Rt. 5; Virgil Fieber, Albion; Albert Gaede, West Salem; Walter Wilson, Wayne City; Lem Glasco, Clay City, RFD 2; George B. Weil, Emma.

**LAST 20 METER CARDS
TO COME IN**

E. H. O'Daniel's, Ellery; John W. Curtis, Albion; James Bosseto, Parkersburg; W. J. Green, Norris City; Giles Gibbs, McLeansboro; C. C. York, McLeansboro; Everett Rennels, Carmi; Gilbert Gersbacher, McLeansboro; Starlus Pyle, Carmi; Doyal Chapman, Maunie; Walter E. Dagley, New Haven; C. S. Knight, Norris City; Joe Renshaw, Jr., Maunie; R. P. Williams, Carmi; Ira Musgrave, Fairfield; Alfred Merritt, Fairfield; Ernest Lane, Wayne City; Mary J. Rose, Springerton; William D. Jennings, Carmi; Thomas M. McDonald, Bluford.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

E. R. and Mrs. E. R. Stevens, Crossville; Farrell and Elizabeth Faris, Parkersburg; Alva Brown and Verdine Brown, Sims; Leon and Muriel Rich, Wayne City; Andrew and Opal F. Rose, Keenes; Leonard and Maxine Donoho, Xenia; Delbert and Sarah Elliott, Fairfield; Harlan and Marcella Simpson, Fairfield; Earl Atkinson and Ruth Atkinson, Barnhill; Dave and Elizabeth Clevenger, Barnhill; Perry Gray, Mill Shoals; Orville and Carrie Files, Mill Shoals; Eugene and Lettie Garrett, Springerton; Etta Rankin, Springerton; M. E. and Marvelia Lovelace, Box 409, Crossville; Lewis and Audry Johnson, Grayville; James B. and Sarah J. Buchanan, Wayne City; Clyde and Italene Meadows, Wayne City; Lawrence Edward and Nannie W. Payne, Geff; W. G. and Bessie McCracken, Cisne; J. W. and Mattie W. Chapman, Mt. Erie; B. M. Berg, Mt. Erie; Carl and Ina Mae Bailey, Geff; Wm. and Vern Beasley, Cisne; Walter and Gladys R. Karcher, McLeansboro; Beryl and Elizabeth Talley, Norris City; George and H. C. Lockhart, Enfield; Mark and Ruby H. Frasher, Maunie; William and Nora Burnett, Maunie; James and Clara Kingrey, Emma; Roy and Ora Reed, Macedonia.

25 Highest Commercial Users

Gholson's Hatchery, McLeansboro8433
Pure Oil Co., Cisne6240
Magnolia Prod. Co., Salem4980
Kingwood Oil Co., McLeans-

boro3840
D. W. Humphrey's Deep Oil Co., Fairfield3630
Robinson & Puckett, Fairfield3558
J. G. Clark, Wayne City3177
Stanley Bratton, Johnsonville3177
Sam Gilpins, Carmi2110
Texas Pipeline Co., Fairfield1271
Carmi Baptist Orphanage, Carmi1085
Sohio Pipe Line Co., Johnsonville995
The Texas Co., Salem909
St. Patrick's Church, Enfield851
Carmi Rendering Plant, Carmi754
United Producing Co., warehouse, Cisne656
Ralph E. Keith, Rinard608
George Rister, Mill Shoals600
Sun Oil Co., Evansville, Ind.569
Otis Wilson, Johnsonville567
O. A. McRill, Wayne City557
Ross Miller, Fairfield556
H. C. Hickey, Wayne City554
Community High School, Wayne City550
Olsen Drilling Co., Olney534

25 Highest Farm Users

Jake Bowyer, Keenes1193
Ben Nation, Fairfield1036
Harry Lasater, Barnhill608
Ulla Givens, Carmi553
Otis Meyers, Wayne City487
Everett McKibben, Ellery451
John Spence, Geff447
G. P. Calvin, Calvin421
Clarence Bohleber, Carmi420
Albert Frey, Dahlgren400
Oral Brown, Fairfield388
J. F. Combs, Wayne City360
Maurice Hammell, Calvin359
J. E. Dennis, Crossville358
Clarence Brown, Carmi351
Walter Hines, Maunie344
Delmar Lampp, Bt. Prairie326
Roscoe Wisner, Parkersburg305
Ed McRill, Wayne City297
Gilbert Green, Albion297
Frank Gray, Fairfield283
John H. Nast, Bt. Prairie279
H. G. French, Mill Shoals269
Judge Williams, Carmi263

F. A. Tannahill, manager, attended the managers meeting at Springfield, Ill., Monday, April 9, for the purpose of discussing important matters which are coming up and which will effect the operation of REA Cooperatives in the State of Illinois.

Several important matters were discussed at the meeting and the matters were turned over to various committees to be worked out.

In view that no definite decisions could be arrived at, at the meeting, it would not be worthwhile to mention those matters at this time because of the fact no definite conclusion were drawn. However, after the various committees have had an opportunity to work out the problems and after they are presented to the State Associations Directors for their attention, facts will be quoted.

**CONTRIBUTE OLD CLOTHING
FOR OUR ALLIES**

New Equipment

In a letter, Mr. Louis E. Cowling, Edwards County, has informed the cooperative office they have recently installed a new automatic water pressure system for their home and were exceedingly fortunate in obtaining an automatic electric iron.

We are sure Mr. Cowling is quite proud of their fine new electric equipment and we are sure they will enjoy the service and convenience of this equipment very much. We wish to thank Mr. Cowling for their nice letter.

Member Helps

We wish to thank Mrs. C. E. Crooks of the vicinity of Blue Point School, northwest of Cisne, Ill., for the letter she forwarded to the cooperative office reporting to us that the electric wires were twisted together on their farm, west of Blue Point schoolhouse. Mrs. Crooks explained that the high wind blew a tree limb down and when it fell it struck the wires and caused them to become twisted together.

We wish to thank Mrs. Crooks very kindly for the promptness in re-

porting this matter because it is things of this kind which help to render better service and to reduce the number of interruptions which occur as a result of wind and lightning storms, and it gives the cooperative maintenance crews a chance to repair conditions like this before serious trouble can happen.

We wish to take this opportunity to request all members of the cooperative to follow this practice whenever they see something they think is not right with their line or equipment.

Very often things of this kind do not look or seem important to a member because they do not always realize the extent of trouble something like this could cause and we do appreciate very much members taking time to advise us when they discover something along their line.

We enjoyed another nice visit from our editor, Mr. Gingles, who spent the day with us Wednesday, April 4th.

The manager and Mr. Gingles spent considerable time out in the territory taking pictures and gathering information for news items in our column.

Mr. Gingles and the manager thought we should give special comment and praise to the fine work our rural telephone operators do in conveying messages, etc., to the cooperative office when REA members on their lines are experiencing trouble and elsewhere in these columns you will find an interesting article compiled by Mr. Gingles and supported with pictures of some of our rural operations in action. Be sure to read this item, we are certain it will be of interest to you.

VISITORS TO THE SYSTEM

We had a very pleasant visit with Mr. H. A. Whittle, regional engineer of Region V who is located at REA headquarters in St. Louis, Mo.

We say new, because Mr. Whittle has recently transferred from Region VIII to Region V, replacing Mr. Joseph McCombs who, in turn, was transferred to Region II of REA. Mr. Whittle has had much experience over a long period of time in REA operations division and public power work.

Mr. E. C. Collier, field representative, of Mr. Whittle's department accompanied Mr. Whittle on the visit to our system.

Mr. Whittle reviewed and discussed many operating problems and sighted out a number of plans which our REA cooperatives will face in the post war era when adequate transportation facilities, manpower and materials will be available.

After reviewing our system and procedure of operations, Mr. Whittle complimented our cooperative on the splendid progress our members have made in advancing the cooperative to such a splendid and successful organization as it has developed into on so short a period of time as it has been in existence.

It goes without saying we enjoyed this visit very much and we are hopeful that Mr. Whittle will again find time to visit our system at a not too distant future date because we always enjoy visiting with REA officials from headquarters and obtain valuable and pertinent information from them relative to the successful operation of our system.

**ATTENDING APPLIANCE
DEMONSTRATION**

The manager, Mr. F. A. Tannahill, bookkeeper, Mr. O. J. Chaney and billing clerk, Miss Betty Jo Bestow attended the Westinghouse Electric Supply Company appliance demonstration at a meeting held in Evansville, Indiana, Thursday, April 5th.

At this demonstration, Westinghouse Company officials from the sales organization and factory gave a complete and concise report on their plans and the new line of electric appliances which they will manufacture

for farm use in the period following the war.

Space will not permit a detailed coverage of all of the items touched on at this meeting. However, the employees from this cooperative who attended the meeting were well paid for the time which we spent to attend the meeting because the Westinghouse Company representatives had on display in large charts and also talkie movies, outlining and explaining in complete detail the advantages and features of the numerous appliances.

Westinghouse Company is very anxious that their dealers be completely informed on the electric appliances and equipment which their dealers distribute to consumers and they do not hesitate to spend large amounts of money to carry this information and instructions to their dealers so that their dealers may be well informed in those matters.

We were told at this meeting that other similar meetings are planned for future dates and as the end of the war approaches. Therefore, we are looking forward to gathering still more good information about Westinghouse Electric appliances and equipment, which we will be handling and installing for our members as soon as they become available after the war.

We indicated in our last month column that your Board of Trustees has negotiated the necessary papers so that your cooperative is the authorized Westinghouse dealer in all of the rural territory which this cooperative serves and we again wish to take this opportunity to urge our members who are in need of electrical equipment such as refrigerators, washing machines, electric irons, vacuum cleaners, and the many other electrical appliances needed for household and farm service that those members write to their cooperative office and advise us of the appliances they are interested in obtaining as early as possible. We are compiling a prospect list so that we, in turn, will be able to advise those members immediately when the appliances which they are interested in becomes available. Therefore, if the membership will send us a postcard or a letter and advise us of the appliances and equipment which they would like to purchase, we will put their name on file and will be able to inform them as soon as those appliances do become available.

Following is listed the new appliances purchased this month: Electric Motors—Eugene Garrett, Mill Shoals; Roy Rainwater, Wayne City; B. F. Karlee, Johnsonville; T. C. Jordan, Rinard; Matt Thomas, Enfield; Arthur White, Barnhill. Electric brooders—Fred Best, Geff; Marshall Smith, Geff; N. W. Pyle, Carmi; Tom Smith, Ellery; A. J. McRill, Fairfield; C. W. Hunsinger, Bt. Prairie; J. Alex Questell, New Haven; Frank Barbee, Wayne City. Brooder heating element—W. L. Cushman, Springerton. Water systems—P. T. Chase, Wayne City; Bob Stevens, Wayne City; Kelly Greenwalt, Keenes; Bell Brothers, Wayne City. Sump pump—W. O. Allen, Wayne City. Electric milking machine — Frank Barbee, Wayne City. Electric water heater—Paul Dailey, McLeansboro. Electric iron —Mrs. W. O. Allen, Wayne City; Mrs. Emery Shields, Wayne City.

Post War Line Construction

During the past months your cooperative office has received applications from several groups who desire to have REA electric service after the war.

No doubt some of these groups have been interested through the effort of some of our members who are now receiving electric service and this only goes to prove that if the members now receiving service will render their assistance to their neighbors who do not now have electricity, those members will be rendering a valuable service. We find that in many cases people who do not have R.E.A. electric service do not realize how to go

**Co-op Managers
Review Surplus
Material Status**

**Adequate Descriptions
Asked; New Shipping
Plan Is Urged**

Illinois REA cooperative managers, meeting recently at three district conferences, approved the handling of surplus war material through the office of J. Warner Pyles and drafted several suggestions to expedite delivery of such equipment and make more applicable to co-op use.

Managers described the items offered for sale in "good" and "not acceptable" categories. They declared that descriptions furnished of materials listed for sale were inadequate in most cases and led to misunderstandings among prospective purchasers.

It was suggested that methods be worked out possibly through a committee so that some of the larger items of equipment could be personally inspected and complete details provided as to condition, type and over-all effectiveness for use on jobs for which they have been recommended. Managers were informed by district Chairmen T. H. Hafer of Corn Belt, Harold Downey of Tri-County and Stanley Faris of Illinois Rural cooperatives that large amount of surplus war materials suitable for REA construction needs are becoming increasingly available and that REA is able to procure much of this material for co-ops at a considerable saving.

Shipping Problem

Representatives were opposed to having war surplus equipment arbitrarily shipped to one cooperative office for redistribution to other points. If shipments of materials cannot be made to individual cooperatives, it was suggested that a small group of managers get together and settle their own handling and delivery problems. It was also suggested that a minimum shipment table be worked out to aid state cooperatives in ordering for their own separate needs.

Because REA can not bid on material, managers said they favored groups of neighboring REA cooperatives join in a cooperative bid on equipment which all of them desired. Co-op managers also favored sending to Mr. Pyles complete lists on materials which they need and will buy, if and when it is available through war surplus channels.

about it to make application for future lines. Therefore, we again kindly request our members to look around their neighborhood and if there are any groups a mile or so beyond the end of their R.E.A. line, that they speak to some of those neighbors and offer to assist them in anyway they can or if the members will write a letter to the Cooperative Office furnishing the name and address of one or two in that unserved group, the Cooperative Office will be more than pleased to get in touch with those folks and get them started on their sign up.

The war in Germany is going to end one of these days and when it does materials, etc., will be available for major line construction and we should have many of the unserved members signed up so that line construction can be started at the earliest possible time following the war in Germany. Therefore, any assistance any of our present members can render to their unserved neighbors will be helping both their neighbors and our cooperative with a very important mission. Your splendid cooperation is solicited in this matter.

Because of increased military requirements, the national goal for producing vegetables in 1945 has been increased. Canners participating in the program will be certified by state AAA committees.

**NEWS FROM
Southern Illinois
Dongola, Ill.
GEORGE ENDICOTT,
Mgr.**

Pumps

The Cooperative has just received a shipment of deep and shallow well pumps. These are government surplus pumps which have been obtained from the surplus agencies and are for release to our REA members for farm and home use. The parts that are not here, that are needed for a complete water system can be obtained through another supplier. Anyone interested in these units, please contact the office so that you can pick out the unit best suited for your needs.

Wells

As we have stated several times in this column, that we had contacted and secured a well driller who is planning on coming in on the project. We are very glad to say that this driller has now received his drilling rigs and just as soon as high water "scare" is over, he is ready to come in and if necessary bring both rigs, and complete the well drilling on request at this time. There have been several requests for information and cards and letters have been sent to these individuals. If you or anyone else is interested, please send in your name, so it can be forwarded to the individuals who have consented to come in and do this work.

Wiring

Due to the most recent revision of the AAA wire release program it is necessary that the Cooperative have the AAA copper certificate for any outside weather proof or romex wire released for use in the home or on the farm. We do have a supply of underground copper and government surplus single wire which can be used without any priority rating for the wire for small outbuildings or homes that cannot qualify under the copper certificate through AAA boards. The wiremen are attempting to hold the price down as much as possible, on this wire, and we have established a unit price of \$3.25 instead of \$2.50 on this wiring.

Billing

Non-Receipt of Meter Reading Sheets
Again this month, several cases were presented to us, wherein the member did not send in a meter reading sheet, and estimate bills were figured, resulting in a discrepancy in the following month's bill. We wish to remind you that the board has gone on record, of not accepting bills without a meter reading sheet. These sheets must be turned in in order that proper credit and postings can be made to your account, thereby avoiding any misunderstandings later on. So if you come to the office to pay your bill and do not have a meter reading sheet, the office personnel has been instructed not to accept your bill. Please bear this in mind when sending in or bringing in your light bills each month.

Feed Grinders

The Cooperative still has a few feed grinders and motors for operation of same for sale. If you are desirous of one of these items, please notify us at once, as it is our understanding no more shipments will be received before next spring.

Motors

We also are fortunate in having a small supply of fractional horsepower motors on hand. In as much as these are a fast moving item, it would be well for you to leave your name on our want list, so as soon as these arrived we can notify you of same.

Appliances

During the last month there have been many requests for information relative to electric appliances that will be available. So far as we know, there has been no release of any appreciable amount of appliances for consumption by civilians. It is true that we have taken over the General Electric Franchise and will be receiving appliances as they become available to the general public, but due

to the fact that these will be very limited, and that the policy has been set up that just as soon as appliances are received, cards will be sent out to those individuals having their names requesting appliances sent here to the office. So if you are desirous of purchasing any electrical equipment, please send us a card telling us what type you want and your name will be put on our "want list" for appliances as soon as they arrive at the office.

Billing Comparison

Below is a comparison of our billing for last year at this time, and for the present year. You can readily see from these figures that there has been a definite increase in the KWH used. Many of our members have written in, stating that they were using more than usual, and this is due to a general increase in the usage of kilowatts, as you can see by the figures below.

	KW Purchased	KW Sold
March, 1944	95,400	70,243
March, 1945	120,600	91,530
Billing, 1944	\$4,993.45	
Billing, 1945	\$6,211.10	
Average Bill, 1944	\$3.66	
Average Bill, 1945	\$3.92	

Cooperative Services

Due to the fact that our field force is very limited and that the work which is to be completed is many times greater than our capacity to complete it in the time we would like to, for this reason there are many members who have written in for some of the cooperative services that we would ordinarily perform. But it will probably be some time before we can clear these up. An attempt is being made to get another unit started in the field, so that we can clean up some of these old extensions and can render the type of service we would like to but which is not possible at this time, under the present conditions.

Project Office

We have just been informed by the Architect that he is completing the primary details on the office building and ware house which site has been purchased up near our substation. The architectural service contract is being drawn up in REA so that the architect can complete his portion of the work.

Substation Increase

As we have stated in our column previously that we have received a release from REA for the purchase of larger transformers to replace the original three 100 KVA transformers at our substation. A release has been obtained from the Utility supplier for this increase, of our substation to 1200 KVA capacity. An order has been placed with the transformer supplier for three KVA transformers making a total of 999 KVA capacity and a spare of the same size. Due to the fact that we have been running approximately 360 KVA demand on our substation the last five or six months, it is necessary that we take this action in securing larger transformers before the increased load of summer is here.

This will give you some idea of the growth of the project in that these transformers which were originally placed are too small to care for the load. Then too, at the present we have approximately 25 miles of line to be added on which the contractor is completing at this time.

High Water

We are very glad to report that the danger is past from our present flood scare on the project. Mr. W. J. Rendleman, one of the directors from the Ware-Wolf Lake area, stated that the river is back in its bounds and no danger is in this area at this time. It is hoped that this will be the end of the flood scare for this year, and that the members in the flooded areas, will be able to go ahead with their farming operations.

Temporary Service

During the first part of the month, temporary connections were made at Morgan sand hill, just south of the Ware for the State highway for lights to be used in the getting of sand for the filling of sand bags for use on the Mississippi and Big muddy levees.

Also a temporary connection was made for the state highway mobile re-

porting station, located at Ware Station adjacent to Della Roberts Truck stop. We are more than glad to make these connections, in that they will be of some help to the public, and know that the various individuals appreciate these connections, in that no charges were made for energy used, nor for the cost of installing these temporary services.

Reporting of Outages

We wish to remind you that in the case of an outage, at any time, if you will call and inform the operator here at Dongola that there is an outage on the REA line, she will see that the proper person is notified. Please do not call in collect, unless there is an outage. For benefit of you individuals around the following areas, in the Villa Ridge-America area, Clyde Hogendobler will be glad to report outages for you. In the Alexander County area, Mr. Wm. Planert at Unity will call for you. In Massac County, Mr. R. E. Kidd, or Calvin Volle will report. Anyone who would be so kind as to take over the responsibility of reporting outages in his immediate vicinity, please notify the office, so we can notify neighboring members of this. We repeat, do not call collect unless there is an outage. And please report outages immediately.

**NEWS FROM
McDonough
Power
Macomb, Ill.
RAY GRIGSBY, Supt.**

The McDonough Power Cooperative has recently suffered the loss of one of its oldest employees, both in point of years and service, in the death of Mr. J. W. "Jack" Minnich, which occurred on Sunday, April 8, in the Mercy Hospital in Burlington. Jack, as he was familiarly known to all his friends, has been with the Cooperative since it was organized in 1938 and has served in the capacity of right-of-way and fieldman, map maker, and being very versatile in his work, could adapt himself to almost any position. During the past year he had completed new maps for the system which would be almost a masterpiece for a graduate engineer, inasmuch as they were all drawn by hand and on a scale of 3 inches to the mile, and are among the finest system maps that we have ever seen. J. W. was a loyal, conscientious employee and will be greatly missed by the entire organization.

We have had many inquiries in the last few months in regard to installing arc welders on the line and we have been at somewhat of a loss to know just what to tell the people.

However, we have finally reached the conclusion that if the farmers will confine their purchases to welders of the following specifications, they will be permitted on the lines at no additional charge.

They must be welders not to exceed 37½ amperes in-put with a control power factor, and not greater than 150 amperes out-put. Welders of this type will operate on 3 KVA transformers, which are very common on the lines of the Cooperative. However, any welder of greater capacity than that and which requires added transformer and wire capacity will be charged for according to the expense of making the installation.

Of course, if you have a 5 or 7 KVA transformer and are using enough current at present to justify that heavy installation, then no additional charge will be made, but your Cooperative cannot go to the expense of large transformers and added wire capacity for an arc welder alone.

However, we would appreciate anyone who is contemplating putting a welder on the line, to please con-

tact the office for further information.

Some few weeks ago your Cooperative had a very severe outage caused by the thoughtless act of a school boy when he threw a short piece of wire over the high-line which gradually drifted along the line until it came to a pole pin, with a resulting outage of about 20 miles of line which required about 5 hours of patrolling and a great deal of anxiety among the housewives who had chickens under the electric brooders. We would like to suggest to our members that they caution children against accidents of this kind.

Sometime before the first of May you will receive through the mail a Cooperative calendar containing your next 12 cards for the reading of your meters. A great many of these calendars will contain the necessary stamps on the inside of the calendar, and we would suggest that as soon as opened, you place the stamps on the cards so that they will be in readiness to mail back on the last day of each month.

We are going to again ask that you cooperate with us by reading your meter and mail us the card promptly so that the correct billing can be made to you each month. We believe if you understood how important it is to the office to have these readings on time, we would have your cooperation.

**NEWS FROM
Adams
Camp Point, Ill.
DEAN SEARLS, Supt.**

- HIGH KWH USERS**
- Herbert Orr 955, Clem Stroot 782, Gerald Syscle 728, Ray E. Thompson 717, Geo. Fuller 628, Royal Jackson 618, Thomas Sorrill 572, Theo. King 566, Earl Tenhouse 549, Harry Dempsey 536, Tom Kirkpatrick 535, Ray Thyson 469, Henry Ihrig 464, Robert Lawler, Jr. 446, Estel Meservey 434, W. D. Scoggan 434, Roy Morton 430, Floyd Shriver 421, Harry Sherrick 419, Jacob Jacobsen 395, Gertie Meyer 389, Oscar Dedert 378, Earnest Volger 365, Tim Mast 356, Ernest Flesner 353, Leereee Woods 350, Junior Kirgan 350, Wm. Eifert 346, J. Ben Jefferson 332, Earl Dralle 330, Fred Hester 328, Menhard Buss 326, Duncan Bros. 326, John Laswell 318, Sam Workman 317, Emil Sherrick 315, Clifford Foreman 309, Arthur Walford 305, Fred Keene 302, C. M. Ridings 287, Carl Dingerson 286, Melvin Reichert 285, C. V. Houston 279, Sarah Wittler 278, Nickolas Busboom 272, J. D. Blauser 271, M. Ray Ihrig 271, John Sargent 271, Anna Grubb 270, R Wray McIntyre 265, Allen Clark 262, John Roy 259, Philip Balzer 254, Victor Aden 250.

- Commercial**
- Liberty High School 1245, Town of Camden 594, Wheelhouse Coal Co. 492, Geo. Kestner Store 463, Harry Hertzler 444, Clayton Waterworks 385, Ruth Miller 337, Green Lantern 323.

- New Appliances**
- AIR COMPRESSOR:** Claude Hamilton, Chas. Shrader.
 - BROODER:** Gailord Anderson, Carl Dingerson (Pig), Verne Diserion, J. G. Fitzhenry, Osborn Hatch, Robert McClintock, C. J. Miller, M. C. Obert, L. E. Pickinpaugh, D. B. Rankin, Walter Starman, Earl Tenhouse (Pig), Henry Vogel.
 - CLOCK:** Gerald Brickman, Fred Keene, Henry B. Wiewal (Alarm).
 - IRON:** John Beadles, Leo Beeler, Howard Reid.
 - SWEEPER:** Lloyd Coffman, G. E. Janssen.
 - WASHER:** Leo Beeler, Ben McClelland, Morgan Schaberg.
 - MISCELLANEOUS:** Dwight Fowler, pump; Pauline Green, door bell; Lawrence Leenerts, water heater; Robert McClintock, waffle iron;

Howard Reid, motor; Raymond Salrin, range, radio; Wm. Tritsch, refrigerator, milking machine.

Financial Report

Total Billing	\$7,396.38
Average Bill	\$4.32
Average KWH Used	69
Total KWH Sold	117,984
Total Members Billed	1,710

Another of the always appreciated letters received in the office was one sent by Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Harris, Rushville. They write, "Enclosed is \$1.50 to pay our final bill. We thank you for your service and are hoping we can have the REA soon where we live now. We certainly do miss it."

And we, too, hope that we may see the high line constructed to serve the premises at your present location in the not too distant future. However, as you can well realize, a far more important task awaits to be performed—that of achieving complete victory in order that further rural electric line construction may go unharassed across this project.

Your cooperative has been able to purchase a quantity of No. 12 stranded single-conductor rubber-covered cord for re-sale to our members. This rubber cord is a surplus war property item and is being offered at 1 cent per foot. It can be used for motor extension cords, trouble light cords, and other similar uses. In order to make a cord, you will need to place two lengths of the wire side by side and cover with friction tape. The cost of an extension cord would be slightly over 2 cents, whereas a conventional-type No. 12 rubber-covered cord would cost you at least 10 to 15 cents per foot.

Our project experienced a very long outage which began at 10 p. m. Thursday, April 12, and it lasted for a greater portion of Friday, April 13. This outage was caused by the C. I. P. S. transmission line which feeds our substation being damaged by the very high winds which occurred on the evening of April 12. We sincerely regret that you experienced this long outage. The residents of Quincy experienced this outage also. The management of your cooperative and your Board of Directors are doing everything in their power to provide you with as near 100 per cent continuity of service as possible. It is hoped that some arrangement can be made in the future to prevent these long outages.

The attitude which the majority of the members have during the distressing times of outages is certainly appreciated. Perhaps we should be thankful that our homes were left intact and our loss for the most part was one of inconvenience. Fortunately the lines of your cooperative were not damaged to any extent by this storm.

- NEW MEMBERS**
- W. B. and Olive M. Lagers, Wilbur and Ruth Thien, Walter and Ada Mae Ennen, Ralph and Bertha A. Haley, Clarence J. and Leta Post, Harry and Doris Bullard, Herbert and Eva Allen Chockley, Lyle and Vera L. Brock, Herbert A. and Thelma A. Waters, Harlow and Susie Hoffman, Merle and Dorothy Bientlinger, Emmett Hiland, Melvin M. and Laverna Voorhis, Harry H. Hertzler, service connect, Albert A. and Ella M. Hillebrenner, Walter and Blanche Tallcott, Eddie R. and Mildred Schlueter, Roy and Ida Galaher, Ercil and Dorothy E. Robbins, Joe Bockenfeld, Ed and Lela F. Steighorst, Lozelle and Mary A. Hoffness, Walter R. and Nureta M. Thompson, Everett A. and Alberta Longlet Spangler, Merle and Edna Weisenberger, Russell and Helen Royer, Bernard M. and Alice B. Scheid, Ray W. and Laura F. Tenhouse, Albertus F. and Dorothy Ufkes.

Less corn and more soybeans will be the rule this year for most Macoupin county farmers.



THE SPARKS FLY—when Mr. Burrows goes to work with his average size welder as he is doing in the TOP picture. In the LOWER LEFT picture Mr. Burrows demonstrates another of his many electrically-powered devices in his farm workshop. A manure loader, LOWER RIGHT, is one of the mechanical devices constructed by Mr. Burrows with the help of his 150-ampere welder.

Rates Near Top Among Project's Users of Power

JOHN BURROWS BUILDS 32 TRAILERS; ERECTS MANURE LOADER

Larger welders may be necessary for some jobs, but John Burrows of Towanda, member of Corn Belt Electric cooperative, finds that his 150 ampere welder is powerful enough to do all of the machinery repair and construction work he has tackled so far.

And, when it comes to construction work, few in this area have done more. In addition to a host of smaller jobs, Mr. Burrows has recently constructed a manure loader for his tractor and has built thirty-two horse and farm trailers. Most of his farm trailers are of the 4-wheel type, although he has constructed some 2-wheel models.

Mr. Burrows' welder occupies an important place in his farm shop because it is used for scores of jobs—big and little. Other machines operated by electricity in the shop include a band saw, grinder, table saw, sander, joiner and hand drills. The shop is heated by an oil burner, with warm air sent quickly to all corners of the large room by an electrically powered circulating fan.

One of the original members on the Corn Belt line, Mr. Burrows has used considerable electricity, because, he says, it is the cheapest power available. Last January, Mr. Burrows' meter made a complete circuit, placing him in the select group of large power consumers in the area. A check on electricity used by this progressive farmer shows that he uses about twice the average number of kilowatt hours of power consumed by other members on the project.

Mr. Burrows, who farms 360 acres of land, also has equipped his residence with all the usual household appliances, and sometime ago installed a stoker. His outbuildings, as well as his residence, are lighted by

electricity and a big yard light dispels any shadows which might lurk around the barnyard dawn or dusk hours.

NEWS FROM Jo-Carroll

Elizabeth, Ill.
FLOYD RUBLE, Mgr.

Last Units Sold

Notice has been received from the Rural Electrification Administration office in St. Louis, Mo., that the last two mobile generating units, formerly used to provide power for the project, have been sold. The units had been stored in St. Louis after having been used for a time to provide standby power at an army hospital, when a strike threatened the electricity supply at the institution. The third unit was sold sometime ago to the Mexican government.

Helping 4-H Clubs

The first meeting of Jo-Daviess county 4-H club members enrolled in the farm electricity project was held April 28 in your co-op office. More than 20 members have so far decided to make rural electricity one of their major projects.

Special instruction will be presented by your manager on the use of electricity on the farm, wiring requirements and other phases of the program as it pertains to and interests 4-H members. Participants in the project may compete for state and national awards in a nation-wide contest sponsored by the Westinghouse Educational Foundation. Prizes include trips to the national 4-H congress, medals and scholarships to colleges or universities.

The project, according to Manager F. I. Ruble, emphasizes:

- 1—Use of the more common wiring materials.
- 2—Construction, repair and the maintenance of wiring systems.
- 3—Function of switches and control equipment.
- 4—Wiring plans for the farm and home.
- 5—Uses and costs of electricity on the farm.

NEWS FROM Clinton County

JOSEPH HEIMANN, Supt.
Breese, Ill.

Old Home—New Face

The interior of your cooperative's office is undergoing a number of startling and refreshing changes which will improve it both from an attractive and efficiency standpoint.

In addition to a new coat of paint, addition of two new overhead fluorescent lighting fixtures and some changes made in the arrangement of desks, the manager's office has been incorporated into the directors' room. Come in and see how we're doing. Better come soon too—or you won't recognize the place when we're through.

Another thing, winter weather won't be near the hardship it has formerly been—we've got a stoker now, just like a good many of you more progressive consumers on the line. When we're through we won't take a back seat for any of the other co-op officers around the state.

We've just heard from Colette Sherwood Robert, former office secretary of your cooperative. She's in the WAVES now and has won her seaman, first class rating. Colette is stationed at Memphis, Tenn., and says she likes the service fine.

Our Sympathy

It is with regret that we learned of the death of Mrs. Caroline Dickman, 73, one of our former members. Mrs. Dickman died of a heart attack on March 28. Her husband preceded her in death last January 4. Three of Mrs. Dickman's six daughters—Mrs. Herman G. Himes and Mrs. Edward Krebs, both of Carlyle, and Mrs. Emil Richter of Breese—are Clinton County co-op members.

New Equipment

New electrical equipment added to our line recently includes that purchased by the following: Mrs. Kate Haar, milker; Theodore Boenig, Elmer Haake and Ben Trame, chick brooders.

Among service men on our line who have been home on furlough are Alfred Luebbers, veteran of two years in the merchant marine, and Pvt. Vincent Voss, who is now stationed at Fort Knox, Ky., in the armored division. Vincent's brother, Sgt. Victor Voss, who had been stationed in

6—Building of electrical equipment for use in the home and about the farm.

The county 4-H committee at its spring conference approved rural electrification as a new 4-H project in the county. From the interest shown, the project promises to be one of the most popular attempted in this area.

Several of our members in Jo-Daviess county are showing considerable interest in the pasture improvement contest being promoted by the Farm Bureau. Prizes include presentation of a \$300 purebred dairy bull.

Did you ever notice that ball of cotton in our office? It was sent up here by George Endicott, manager of Southern Illinois Electric cooperative, of Dongola. The Jo-Carroll and Southern Illinois co-op projects have a number of things in common, including the lion's shares of the state's hills and beautiful scenery. We differ, however, on equipment at various seasons of the year—while Jo-Carroll's linemen need snowshoes in the winter, Southern Illinois' line crew take to boats when rivers overflow in the spring.

REA Visitors

Our project entertained two REA representatives this month—Harold Whittle, newly named regional operations engineer, who succeeded Joseph H. McCombs, and E. C. Collier, Mr. Whittle's fieldman. They made a brief tour of the project. The trip was Mr. Whittle's first through the region.

MC DONOUGH POWER GETS READY FOR POSTWAR; NEW MEMBERS ARE CHARTED



With tires, gasoline, the wear and tear on automobiles and the shortage of manpower to consider, \$25 spent in advertising to sign up 600 prospective members of an REA cooperative for connection in the post-war era is one of the best bargains of the year.

Italy, is now back in the states and is at Camp Adelburg, Ind.

If you have time, all of our men and women in service would like to hear how the things are going back in their home communities—write them, won't you?

March Operating Report

Miles of Line	475.90
Members billed	1174
Total billing	\$5518.11
Average bill	\$4.70
Revenue per mile	\$11.60
Density per mile	2.46

Commercial

Herman Graham	4667
Gulf Refining Co.	1924
C. F. Frazier	1310

Non-Farm

E. W. Striebing	900
A. J. Marcham	425

Farm

Clarence Dickhaut	2127
Frank Hansemann	798
Jos. Heinann	773
Tony Rensing	734
Harvey Klingelhoefer	700
Vincent Albers	532
George White	500
Ben Rensing	488
Bernard Gebke	485
Geo. J. Ratermann	465
Virgil Albers	458
Joseph Meyer	435
Rudolph Buehler	429
Caroline Schroeder	420
Louis Heimann	400
Robert Bales	400
Alvis Loepker	386
Henry D. Niess	378
Alphonse Olliges	372
Wm. Varel	370
N. K. Meddows	367
Albert Leicht	364
Charles Good	356
Geo. Gerling	354
Arthur O. Riess	350
Vincent Schaefer	350
Orville Rinderer	349
Kate Haar	340
Mont Criley	333
Alphonse Varel	330
Herman Koopmann	328
Herman Wildhaber	327
Wm. Ranz	325
Ben Meyer	323
R. L. Twenhafel	322
Millard Felton	311
Fred Wekmann	310
Ed Carson	309
Henry Bergmann	305
Alphonse Hustedde	305
Anthony Rakars	302
Gerhard Schumacher	301
Emma Schumacher	300
Theo. Taphorn	300
Robert Hayden	300
Armin Richter	300
C. F. Zimmermann	300
M. D. Walker	300

The advertisements were inserted in newspapers circulating in the McDonough Power cooperative area on a trial basis, according to Manager Ray Grigsby. What they accomplished is now gratifying history to the cooperative management and directors.

The flood of applicants for membership have made a busy place of the back office of the cooperative headquarters where Ray Henderson, right-of-way man, is shown above charting locations of new members on area maps. Final results showed that 385 new members were signed up in McDonough county and 175 in Warren county.

Mr. Henderson and the late Jack Minnich, assistant superintendent, together with Mr. Grigsby and engineers have gone over the long list of names and today all is in readiness for the time when construction of lines can begin on an area coverage basis.

Mr. Henderson, who, in addition to working on right-of-way in McDonough county, also fills in as groundman when needed and does a host of other jobs around the co-op is just plain "Pop" to the office force and his wife, Stella, is "Mom." They have three sons in the service, Keith, in Germany; Robert, gunners mate third class in the armed guard on liberty ship, and Master Sergeant Miles, located somewhere in the Pacific area where the going is toughest.

BELL TELEPHONE PLANS EXPANSION OF RURAL SYSTEM

In line with a proposed bill to create a government agency, similar to REA, to bring telephone service to thousands of farm residents, the Illinois Bell Telephone company has issued a statement saying "it is ready to resume expansion and improvement of rural telephone service as soon as war conditions permit.

Officials add that "in the territory served by the company, rural telephones have increased over 115 per cent since 1935, as compared with a 50 per cent increase in city telephones." The expansion program, planned by the firm, includes, it was said, many new types of physical telephone facilities, improved pole-line construction and the radio telephone. Bell officials also mention work done by the company in cooperation with the REA "aimed at perfecting a method of sending telephone conversations over power lines."

Farmers on Proposed Menard Line Join in Clearing Brush and Trees

By Fred E. Darr

The objective for extending REA service to applicants signing U-1-C applications for electric service under the War Production Board U-1 ruling has been to increase food production. One of the requirements requested by the Menard Electric Cooperative of its members is that right-of-way be cleared of all trees, brush or limbs which will interfere in the building of distribution lines to serve them.

There have been several outstanding examples of community cooperation in getting this work done. The most recent being that of a group of neighbors along a proposed line eight miles southeast of Havana, north of Poplar City. This group received word early in February that there was a possibility of an extension being approved for REA service to their premises, construction to begin about March 1. Steps were immediately taken by George Preisel, Andrew Larson, Sr., and Harold King to enlist members to assist in clearing the necessary right-of-way so that no delay would be experienced by the contractors in rushing construction and completion of the 4½ mile extension to serve 14 farms. Several of the user-members will operate turkey ranches and approximately 30,000 turkeys will be brooded and raised for market during the next eight months. REA service will be used to brood the poults and to light the ranges on these turkey ranches. Others on the line will operate dairies and raise poultry; thus making a definite contribution to the increasing of food for the war program.

assistance needed to secure REA service for their communities. Outstanding leaders in these two groups include Rudy Korte, Beardstown; George Fozzard, Arenzville and Charles A. Olge and Fritz Hammer, both of Jacksonville.

The following men contributed their time and labor to assist in building the Poplar City spur: Taft Barrett, Boyd Busey, Walter Fisk, Charles Goodey, Leo Hopping, Henry Kastendick, Ralph Kemper, Harold King, Andrew Larson, Jr., Andrew Larson, Sr., David Larson, Fred Middleton, Adolph Neiderer, Ted Powers, George Preisel, Ed Pullin, A. L. Shelabarger, Harry Speckeaer, Dierk Van Hoorn, Julius Weimer, Fred Wells and Frank Wissman.

PRODUCTION OF POWER AT NEW LOW IN NATION

Nation-wide electricity production for the week ending April 7 slumped 7,684,000 kilowatt-hours—a new low since Jan. 17, 1944, according to the Edison Electric Institute.

There were 4,321,794,000 KWH of electricity generated, compared with 4,329,478,000 the previous week and 4,361,094,000 a year ago. The largest year-to-year decrease appeared in the Pacific Coast area, where the amount of kilowatt-hours used dropped 6 per cent. A gain of 9.4 per cent, however, was recorded in the west central region.

NEWS FROM Southeastern Harrisburg, Ill. A. F. LENTZ, Supt.

Since the last issue of the REA News the flood water in our area has subsided and aside from a lot of inconvenience and damage to buildings and crops, we are happy that no lives were lost in our immediate territory. Your cooperative maintenance crews were kept pretty busy during this time getting meters out of the flooded area, disconnecting services and then re-connecting these same services after the waters receded. We find that a number of homes are not yet habitable as new floors had to be laid and old floors had to be re-finished, new wall paper had to be put on and in fact most of the homes there were in the water were left in quite a "mess."

We wish also to express our appreciation to our membership for their good cooperation and patience with us during this trying period, as along with the high water we had considerable wind and lightning damage, causing trees to fall on the lines and forcing our men to drive great distances to reach the point of trouble, using all means available including tractors, farm wagons and even boats. Credit is also due our loyal line crews, who worked thru some 48 hours with very little sleep or rest in order to restore service as quickly as possible.

We wish to state that the contractor's crews are now on the job delivering poles to the various lines to be built under our construction contract and within a few days poles will be going into the air, wire will be strung, transformers will have been hung and when completed 105 farm homes on this 30 miles of line will receive electric service for the first time and along with this number there are quite a number of additional homes lying along these new lines that will also be able to receive electricity under the present regulations. So, if one of your neighbors living along one of our lines and he is wondering whether he could receive electric service, will state that there is no change in the regulations which is as follows:

A minimum of 5 animal units is required or a minimum of 1 animal unit for each 100 feet of line necessary to serve him. If he has no animal units, we are permitted to build not to exceed 1000 feet of line and install a transformer, provided he has at least one of the following electric appliances: Washer, Refrigerator, Range.

We are also permitted to serve a member without units or electric appliances, provided he can be reached from a transformer already installed. The distance not to exceed 750 feet of underbuild plus a service drop from the pole not to exceed 250 feet.

We are still receiving quite a number of applications for electric service and are building them as rapidly as manpower and weather will permit.

We have just received the sad news of the death of our great president, Franklin Roosevelt, and are all deeply grieved at his passing. We trust that the great program of Rural Electrification will continue to expand under his successor and we can all take pride in the fact that this program will be a living monument to one of America's greatest presidents. We mourn with the Nation in this tragic hour and will look forward with hope and confidence that the splendid leadership of our statesmen will continue to be a beacon light to the peace loving peoples of all the world, and may the program of Rural Electrification go forward until every farm home in this great nation can enjoy the blessings of this greatest of all servants "Electricity."

Our operating report for the past month shows a slight decrease due to a number of factors, including high water, and a short month, as our meter reading date runs from 20th to 20th,

and since Feb. has fewer days than the other months we are some 3 days short in this report:

Members connected	3949
Members billed	3942
Farm members billed	2971
Non-farm	481
Commercial members	169
Public Bldgs.	300
3 phase members	21
Miles energized	1149
Average per mile	\$3.44
Operating revenue per mile	\$18.39
Kilowatts purchased (CIPS)	622,800
Kilowatts purchased (20th-20th)	580,200
Kilowatts sold	446,273
Line loss	23.1%
KW* Demand:	
Ledford substation	960
Benton substation	228
Galatia substation	243
Marion substation	456
Minimum bills	2019
Total billing	\$21,125.45
Power bill	\$6,949.40

NEWS FROM Shelbyville, Ill. LANE WALKER, Mgr.

Prisoner Freed

Carl Furry, former billing clerk for your cooperative, who had been reported missing in action in Europe since last December, was found recently when American forces captured a German prison camp. Furry, along with scores of other United States soldiers was released, and is expected to be returned home in the near future. All members of the cooperative as well as Carl's many friends in the Shelbyville area join in expressing their joy over his release from the prison camp.

NEW ARRIVAL—Mr. and Mrs. Norman McCoy are the parents of a son born recently. We don't know what the little fellow's name is, but no doubt he is announcing himself regularly without his parents' having to resort to any given name as yet. Mr McCoy is a member of your cooperative board and also is a director of the Association of Illinois Electric cooperatives.

Mrs. Helen Stewardson Weakly, our former bookkeeper, has returned to her home in Findlay after her husband, Lt. Thomas Weakly, was sent overseas. Drop in at the office Helen and get re-acquainted.

We have recently received word that John Klitzke, one of our members in the Stewardson area, has installed a new water system. The work was done by Weber brothers of Stewardson.

Welcome New Members

The following new members were added to our line during February, March and April:

February

E. L. Brugener, Moweaqua, Logan Clark, Shelbyville, C. R. Kitchell, Morrisonville, Arthur Christopher, Tower Hill, Alvin T. Rhoads, Morrisonville, Arthur B. Cameron, Owanecco, Leona Caldwell, Nokomis, Burl Young, Moweaqua, Orrville F. Jones, Pana, Paul Hill, Taylorville, C. C. Pearson, Morrisonville, Floyd J. Keating, Assumption, Owen Hilvety, Moweaqua, Lemar Pope, Taylorville, Clarence E. Sisk, Pana, Everett Morrison, Moweaqua, Milton L. Oltmann, Nokomis, Frank G. Wilson, Windsor, Virgil Gregg, Shelbyville, L. E. Snyder, Stonington, Wayne Dewar, Gays.

March

James Gibson, Shelbyville, Mrs. Lewis Hawes, Mode, Mrs. Ida Patrick, Edinburg, Cecil Morgan, Mechanicsburg, Herschel Hampton, Shelbyville, Lemon Pope (Tenant), Taylorville, Merl M. Kull, Strasburg, Delbert Freeman, Assumption, Sam Lehman, Shelbyville, John Wilson, Moweaqua, Robert Bunning, Moweaqua, Wayne L. Ekiss, Moweaqua, Ralph Lindley, Moweaqua, Harrison Maxedon, Bethany, Guy Crickman, Assumption, Walter E. Beck, Mt. Au-

SO YOU'D LIKE TO BUY A JEEP; CONSIDER FACTS

So you'd like to buy a jeep. If so, here are some facts concerning this sturdy little machine which, the government says, may dampen the ardor of enthusiasts who hope to jeep around their farms when the cars become available through the war surplus board:

1. No jeeps now, but some may be put up for surplus disposal after V-E Day. Treasury procurement isn't sure, because it does not know the plans of the armed services.
2. At least 500,000 jeeps have been built in the United States. There are no exact figures on the number turned over to Allied nations under lend-lease but many will be put up for sale eventually.
3. The jeep in use is about halfway between a small tractor and a light passenger or hauling machine, but it is not ideal for either purpose.
4. If the jeep is used as a passenger or hauling machine with a trailer attached to increase the size of its load, the jeep is slow, uses much gasoline and oil and doesn't ride comfortably.
5. Its speed is too great for a tractor, although it can be used as such. The engine might burn out at the slow speeds required for tractor purposes, and its pull is only about a third that of the ordinary small tractor, besides which it has less horsepower and uses more gasoline.
6. The jeep weighs about 2,000 pounds, about 800 less than a popular sized touring car, has twin driving axles, general ruggedness, a motor that can develop 60 horsepower and is designed to pull about 1,300 pounds under certain conditions. It can climb, claw or jump.



WOODMEN SPARE THAT TREE—but not if it will interfere with your REA lines. The tree in the above picture is being cut down by two new members of Menard Electric cooperative for the very good reason that its branches might cause interruption in electric service by shorting out the high line soon to be constructed in this area.—Photo by Fred Darr.

Clear 3 Miles

The members along this spur line cleared practically 3 miles of timber and brush along the road for a width of 20 feet so that no interference would be caused from trees or limbs. Nearly a mile of timber was cut on private right-of-way to provide entrance into the premises of two of the applicants.

This clearance was all done within 10 days time as every available neighbor gave as much time as possible to help get the work done. In addition to the clearing of right-of-way, the group, led by Dierk Van Hoorn, president of the Farmers Telephone Company, moved 1½ miles of telephone line to the opposite side of the road so as to avoid conflict in constructing their REA line. The fine spirit of cooperation and the willingness of all those along the line to cooperate is evidence of the cooperative spirit which makes America.

Two other groups in recent months also deserve credit for their perseverance in securing right-of-way, clearing trees and brush and rendering as-

Power Company Requests SEC Election Probe

Illinois Power company has petitioned the Securities and Exchange commission for an investigation into an election held by its parent companies which resulted in naming three directors for Illinois Power.

Directors, which Illinois Power alleges are to be named for it at annual stockholders meetings, are affiliated with Midwest corporation and Central Illinois Public Service company. Midwest and CIPS, Ill., with its policy in respect to rates, labor, rural electrification and other matters.

The breeding of yearling heifers fed for about five months is a sound practice, according to information from the University of Illinois college of agriculture.

W. C. Hatfield Turns on Power and His Machine Shop Turns Out Work



OLD HAND AT THE MACHINE SHOP BUSINESS—that's W. T. Hatfield shown in the top picture about to turn on the power to start his lathe. In the background is a power drill press. THE LOWER PICTURE shows Mr. Hatfield's son, Robert at work on an electrically-operated band saw, while two interested spectators—William Bradley (left), member of the board of Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative and a state-wide director, and another of Mr. Hatfield's sons, Willard, "oversee" the job.

Do you need a ferry boat built in a hurry? Or maybe you'd just like to have your tractor or combine repaired; your coal mine machinery put back in operation; a little welding job done, or, perhaps, you'd like a little competition with your .22 calibre rifle.

Well, if you want any of these things, 73-year-old W. T. Hatfield (he'll be 74 in July) will be happy to oblige. Mr. Hatfield's machine shop, located near Ridgway and served with power by Southeastern Illinois Electric cooperative of Harrisburg, is the wonder of the neighborhood. Out of it have come precision jobs which city shops and so-called city machinists would have difficulty delivering.

Mr. Hatfield has been a machinist 50 years, moving to the Ridgway community from Winchester, Tenn. Without any formal technical training, but with a wealth of common sense and what is now popularly described as inherent "know-how," he has moved along with the mechanical engineering profession as rapidly as new developments, new machinery and new methods have been devised.

Moved to Country

Twenty-five years ago, Mr. and Mrs. Hatfield and their family grew tired of living in the village of Ridgway and moved into the country where they settled on sixteen acres of land. Mr. Hatfield might have thought some of farming the soil, but the mechanical urge was too strong and the needs of his neighbors too great for his equipment to stand idle long. Besides his four sons had by that time become as mechanically-minded as their dad—who, by the way, inherited his genius for mechanics from his father, C. L. Hatfield.

Faced with the need of a home on his acreage, Mr. Hatfield did just what his neighbors and friends expected him to do—he built one himself. Not only that, but he constructed the machines needed to saw the native lumber into the lengths required and made the other tools ne-

cesary to complete the rest of the job. He even produced bricks for the sides and porch of the residence in his own kiln.

Small wonder, then, that making a ferry boat for use on the Wabash river out of sheet steel presented no obstacles for Mr. Hatfield. Built for use between New Haven and Mount Vernon, it was completed in a year's time and went into service on its maiden trip without a single leak developing.

Seven Motors

There are seven REA-powered motors in the W. T. Hatfield machine shop. Included among the devices they operate are drill press, lathe, band saw, planer, air compressor, emery wheels and welder.

Mr. Hatfield had the first acetylene welding unit in Gallatin county.

Prior to the coming of the REA line, the machine shop was operated by gasoline and steam engines, both of which Mr. Hatfield considered more expensive and less efficient than electricity. Southeastern Illinois Electric cooperative also enabled Mr. Hatfield to completely electrify his home as well as his shop, permitting Mrs. Hatfield to cook with electricity as well as use a host of household appliances. Water systems were installed in both the shop and home, along with electric lights and radios.

Mr. Hatfield's hobby is rifle target practice and 73 years have not dimmed his ability to hit the bullseye—as younger, greatly surprised marksmen have discovered.

Unusual as it may seem, the Hatfield mechanical gift has lasted through the fourth generation. Until they were called home to help their father Willard and Robert held top jobs in their lines, Willard having been a mechanical engineer in the Airadio laboratory in Stamford, Conn., and Robert classed as a machinist in the Pullman Standard Car and Manufacturing company in Hammond, Ind. Their two brothers, Paul and William, also rate highly in the same field—Paul working as a machinist in a large shop in Harrisburg

Directors Rechosen at Winchester Meeting; Co-op Lays Post-war Plans

GENERATING PLANT WILL BE ENLARGED; MEMBERSHIP 3,300

Termed a "large family meeting of the cooperators of this REA project," Illinois Rural Electric cooperative on April 7 observed its seventh year of progressive operation with a program in Winchester high school and by re-electing all directors and officers for another twelve months.

Features of the program included a demonstration and talk on easy-to-make, home-made electric devices by Louisan Mamer, home electrification specialist of REA; safety demonstration by D. B. Bidle, Illinois REA job training and safety director; illustrated address on electrified farm water systems by W. S. Cowan farm sales manager of Westinghouse Electric supply company, Chicago, and musical selections by students of McMurray college of Jacksonville.

Directors reelected included Glenn C. Smith, Walter Strubinger, Howard Hurrelbrink, F. J. Longmeyer, H. H. Kilver, V. J. Galloway, R. J. Myers, Henry Day, Leonard Wood, V. T. Parks and C. H. Erke. Mr. Smith was renamed president; Mr. Hurrelbrink, treasurer, and Mr. Longmeyer, secretary.

Progress Made

In addressing the large crowd, Mr. Smith said: "We have made better progress this year in line construction and in adding new consumers than in any period since restrictions were imposed on us at the start of the war."

He declared that with present shortages of labor and materials it will take "a whole year to catch up with the applications now on file," and added that "even so, we are one of the few cooperatives in this state that maintains a construction crew and keeps adding new lines to our present system day by day." Mr. Smith told of plans to increase the capacity of the cooperative's generating plant and of standby service arranged with the municipal plant at Jacksonville. He also commended Manager Stanley Farris and Mrs. Farris, along with all other employees of the cooperative for their work during the year; predicted a bright future for the organization and said that the day is not far distant when all members would be using two to three times as much electricity as they are now doing.

Manager's Report

Mr. Farris reported that the cooperative has made steady progress. "forging ahead year by year, each year overcoming new obstacles." We can, he said, look back with "satisfaction on the foundation we have built, and look forward to the day when we will have fulfilled the obligation we took upon ourselves when our cooperative was first organized—to make electric service available to every farm within our area boundaries at a cost they all can afford to pay."

The manager called one of the year's big accomplishments the completion of a plan worked out for post-war development, and said that it included building lines on an area coverage basis to serve all farms at "our standard \$3.50 minimum."

Today, he said, we are serving

over 3,300 rural homes and called attention to a survey which showed 6,514 unserved farms and other rural establishments still unserved in the project area. Of this unserved group, Mr. Farris estimates that 5,000 could be considered potential consumers.

Post-War Plans

To serve the proposed consumers, Mr. Farris said "We have drawn into the blueprint additional generating capacity, which will be installed step by step as it is needed. Our plan is flexible and provides for adequate power to meet the most optimistic estimate."

In order to meet currently rising demands, the cooperative is planning now to have an additional unit of 1,000 Kilowatt capacity installed in the generating plant as soon as possible, and hopes to have an engineer working on plans for a new generating plant on the west side of the river for construction after the war.

Mr. Farris said that the cooperative has set 400 new connections as its goal for 1945. Reports showed that revenue per mile increased from \$12 in 1943 to \$13 in 1944, and that revenue increased an average of approximately \$1,600 per month in 1944 over 1943. Production at the generating plant gained from 350,000 KWH per month last year to 385,000 KWH per month in 1944.

Luncheon was served buffet style at noon in the gymnasium. It was voted to hold the annual meeting the first Saturday in March in the future.

See Farmers In State Vital To Post-war Plans

Agriculture's place in Illinois during the post-war years will be just

as important as it is now during the current emergency with farmers making every effort to produce sufficient food for the United States and to aid war ravaged countries, according to Albert E. Stetson, informational representative of Director Howard Leonard's office.

Stetson said that soil conservation and the health of livestock are being particularly emphasized at the present time. Referring to soil conservation, he said that there are 43 such districts covering 43 counties, representing one-third the total area of Illinois.

Of the 379,834 cattle blood tested for Bang's disease, 19,418 were found to be reactors. Vaccination of calves as a preventive against this disease is increasing in popularity, Stetson reports.

The state's program of treating sheep for scabies, he says, has placed Illinois sheep in the front rank in the nation for healthy flocks. Stetson also mentions that remarkable progress has been made in electrifying Illinois farms, reporting that more than 3000 farms were electrified during the last fiscal year. In this connection, he mentions specifically the rapid growth of REA served farms despite wartime shortages and restrictions on building lines.



HERE ARE TWO HIGHLIGHTS AT ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE AT WINCHESTER—TOP picture shows a view of the stage in Winchester high school auditorium as Manager Stanley Farris presented his annual report to the members and board of the cooperative. The LOWER picture shows D. B. Bidle, Illinois REA safety and job training director, illustrating the correct way to administer artificial respiration, while one of the co-op's line crew acts as a limp and very cooperative subject.

Poultry Lights Mean Additional Profit On Farm

Do you know that statistics show that poultry lighting during the four winter months will increase egg production about five eggs per hen per month.

For 200 hens the increased production totals more than 300 dozen eggs, which is worth considerable to you. Wiring the poultry house for lights costs about \$15, while the cost of

current for the entire four months is approximately \$1.

Crossword Answer

VACUUM CLEANER
ODOR ONUS NERO
LAG SNAP COWED
TR CLAY PODS
M ROOD WIRE EG
EVERT BAND AGE
TAPE SETS GRIN
ENS VOLT POISE
RE CALL SOLD R
LOSE MILD PA
PAINT LINE AIT
OGRE BALE OSLO
TOASTER WASHER