

# ILLINOIS REA NEWS

The Voice of 90,000 Members

VOL. 6, NO. 9.

FEBRUARY—1949

SIXTEEN PAGES



CAN YOU BLAME HIM FOR SMILING? Not at all because dairy farmer Fred Willer remembers what a disagreeable chore it was climbing into a cold, damp silo every day. Now he throws a switch and the automatic silo unloader takes care of the rest. He merely waits at the bottom of silo for the cart to fill up as he is shown doing. And it's goodbye to chopping frozen silage on cold days. Electricity from Adams Electric Cooperative of Camp Point makes the unloader possible. For story and pictures, see Page 3.

## Power To Be A Top Issue In 81st Congress Sessions

Public power will be a major issue during the sessions of the 81st Congress. Representative John Rankin (Dem. Miss.) is re-introducing his bill calling for the establishment of eight regional valley authorities similar to TVA. Rankin, along with the late Senator George Norris, was a creator of the original TVA legislation.

Despite the re-election of President Truman, who campaigned on the public power platform, and the election to both houses a large bloc of public power advocates, the new Congress is faced with a hot contest between private and public power.

According to recent reports, the National Association of Electric Companies, a registered lobbying organization for the private utilities, is planning to intensify its activities. Principal points of focus for the private power interests will be on the subject of taxes on utilities and in opposing bills supporting additional public power projects.

### To Battle TVA

The NAEC will again wage a vigorous battle against TVA's request for a \$54,000,000 steam plant at New Johnsonville, Tenn. The bill for this project was killed by the Republican-controlled house in the 80th Congress.

Not only are the private power interests smarting from the results of the November, 1948 elections, but they are still reeling from an attack made by the American Public Power

Association. In October that organization, composed of representatives of 600 publicly owned (non-Federal) electric utilities in 30 states, issued a study which showed they pay proportionately more taxes and are better managed than the private systems. Consequently, private power

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## Aluminum 'Bottleneck' Seen Broken

A long term solution to the shortage of aluminum electrical cable that has been bogging down the rural electrification program was seen last month when a group of the nation's rural electric cooperatives signed a 14 year sales contract with the Reynolds Metal Company of Richmond, Va.

Held up by a four-year backlog of orders in the hands of present producers of aluminum wire, the rural systems have contracted with Reynolds for a total of 715 million pounds of aluminum cable.

The plan as evolved by the NRECA under the direction of its manager, Clyde T. Ellis, and finally implemented in a contract on January 14, involves Wisconsin Electric Cooperative of Madison, Wis. as marketing agent for Reynolds.

### Provisions

The contract provides for the following agreement between the Reynolds Company

and the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative:

Reynolds will manufacture the pig aluminum in its Jones Mill, Arkansas, plant and fabricate ACSR conductor in either a Kentucky or Alabama plant.

WEC will advance to Reynolds during the first four months \$6,000,000 in order to enable the company to put additional fabrication plants in operation.

WEC will market and distribute on a nation-wide basis the conductor to rural electric cooperatives, public agencies, such as Bonneville Power Administration, and TVA, and contractors engaged by them.

### REA Has Agreed

The Rural Electrification Administration has agreed to permit borrowers to make advance payments to WEC on orders to meet the \$6,000,000 advance required by the com-

pany. The borrowers will receive from WEC two per cent interest on the advance, the same rate as for REA loans. Other provisions of the agreement call for a guarantee by Reynolds of 225 million pounds of conductor during the first three years beginning January, 1950. This is enough, it is estimated, for almost half of the remaining unelectrified farms.

During the next five years, Reynolds assures 50 million pounds a year, and 40 million pounds yearly for the following six years.

### Amount

The aluminum which WEC will have available amounts to \$120,000,000 for the first eight years of the contract based on present prices.

Wisconsin Electric Cooperative will expand its operations to cover 45 states, selling wire

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## President Asks \$350,000 For REA; Stresses Need Of More Public Power

### 'Power Shortage, Among Country's Main Problems'

In his "State of the Union" message, January 5, President Truman declared, "we should give special attention to extending modern conveniences and services to our farms. Rural Electrification should be pushed forward."

Referring to the power shortage, the President ignored the obstinate denials of some private utility spokesmen that there is a shortage. He listed this shortage as one of the main problems facing the country. "We are acutely short of electric power," he pointed out, "although the means for developing such power are abundant."

Arguing that economizing without regard for the development of the Nation's natural resources is false economy, the President insisted that "We must push forward with the development of our rivers for power, irrigation, navigation and flood control. We should apply the lessons of our Tennessee Valley experience to our other great river basins."

### Seaway

Mentioning other resource developments and his continued support for the St. Lawrence Seaway and power project, the President went on to lend the rural electric systems support in their long fight against the sale of government-generated power at the dams. (The rural electric systems do not have the money necessary

(Continued On Page Three)

### Wickard Lauds President On Power Stand

First top-ranking Government official to speak publicly in support of the public power stand taken by President Truman in his "State of the Union" address, REA Administrator Clarde R. Wickard vigorously urged development of more Federal hydro-electric power at a meeting of the Tennessee Rural Electric Cooperative Association in Nashville recently.

"The President...outlined a courageous and farsighted electric power policy," Wickard asserted. "If we have the courage and foresight to follow his advice and leadership, we shall have taken a long and positive step toward making our country secure from economic, social and political evils."

We have reached the time when the people of this Nation are called upon to make a decision as to which route we will take in the field of electric power," Wickard declared. "Are we going to follow the plan indicated by the President in his recent "State of the Union" message? Or are we going to listen to and follow the advice of those whose counsel has been so misleading in the past—of those who prattle about their own brand of private enterprise, who cry 'socialism' and who use other fallacious arguments in their efforts to keep the country from getting the abundant, low-cost electric power which is essential?"

Wickard went on to point out that people on lines of REA-financed systems or who hope to be on those lines are going

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### Budget Request Is \$50 Million Less Than 1949 Funds

By William S. Roberts

The largest Federal peacetime budget submitted to Congress by President Truman, January 10, included a cut in loans which the Rural Electrification Administration will be authorized to make during the budget year of 1950. REA, short-handed particularly in its engineering division during the past year, was allowed approximately the same amount for next year to pay salaries and other administrative expenses.

Both the appropriations asked by the President for REA and the loan authorization figure of \$350-million for the new fiscal year, which will begin on June 30, are considered inadequate by rural electrification leaders. While the President cited a carry-over of \$120-million in loan funds which he expects to remain out of 1949 fiscal accounts on June 30, farm leaders point to other facts which show that this carry-over is not as large as REA had available a year ago. Furthermore, REA's administrative appropriations last year were cut from \$5,900,000 to \$5,675,000. That reduction hit REA's ability to get loan funds out as quickly as might have been possible.

### Fiscal 1949

A year ago Congress authorized \$400-million for REA loans during the current fiscal year—the 1949 year which ends on June 30 in government budget affairs. At almost the same time the same Congress approved a deficiency authorization for the last year, 1948, amounting to \$175-million, bringing last year's total REA loan authorization to the same \$400-million figure authorized this year.

In effect, the \$175-million became a carry-over fund for REA last year, compared with the \$120-million figure anticipated by the President in his budget message for this year.

An additional deficiency appropriation for REA administration will have to be passed this year because a pay raise for Federal employees was passed after the \$5,675,000 authorization for fiscal 1949. The President proposed a \$6-million REA administrative appropriation for fiscal 1950, but it is necessary to point out that with the deficiency pay raise appropriation for 1949, next year's figure for REA administrative services is no better than it was this year.

### Justification

Justification for more adequate loan authorizations for

(Continued On Page Five)

William E. Murray, Editor  
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## Editorial Page

## ILLINOIS REA NEWS

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## Scraping the Bottom

Electric cooperatives in Illinois are scraping the bottom of the power barrel. Either they get more power or the "lights" will be going out in many areas and rural electrification will be slowed down to a virtual standstill.

Systems can be heaved up. New substations can be added. These are some of the ways in which co-ops are trying to meet the ever-increasing electricity demands of their consumers.

But six years hence, the average consumption per member is estimated at 350 kwh a month. That is a lot more than the present average when the bottom of the power supply barrel is being scraped.

The problem today in this and many other states, is how to meet the increasing power demands and how to provide electricity cheaply enough so that its use becomes practical for anything and everything the farmers might want it for.

By means of an engineering survey, Illinois rural electric systems have attempted to take a "look into the future." Although the conclusions of the survey require additional study and analysis, they strongly indicate that the solution of the power problem cannot be found without the expenditure of money. It may be a larger amount than the \$46,000,000 estimated by the engineers for a complete generation and transmission system, or it may be a smaller amount for an alternate solution. Only further exploration and analysis of all alternatives can establish the wisest and most practical course of action.

Since the power shortage is not restricted to Illinois alone, generating and/or transmission facilities of their own, are being considered by other groups of electric co-ops beside the one in this state.

Even though the applications of Illinois and other co-op groups were to conform in every respect to REA policy regarding generation and/or transmission loans, the agency has only a relatively small portion of its funds available for such purposes. REA has long recognized the seriousness of the power situation, and its warnings to the electric utility industry were often ridiculed while its ability to grant g. and/or t. loans was hamstrung.

If rural electrification is to provide abundant electricity at reasonable rates, it appears that more and more cooperative groups may have to look to themselves to solve the power problem. Therefore a substantially greater amount of REA loan funds for generation and/or transmission will be necessary.

## Trees And Electricity

Oil and water don't mix. Everybody knows that. Trees and electricity don't mix either, but unfortunately too many rural electric co-op members apparently don't realize it.

The devastating ice storm last month which crippled rural electric systems for extended periods, should prove it beyond doubt. Managers estimate that 80 to 90 per cent of the damage was caused by trees and brush.

Until the day when electricity can be transmitted without lines, trees will continue to spell danger and trouble. Trimming helps somewhat, but elimination of the trees which may cause damage to the electric lines and injury or death of individuals, is the only real solution.

No co-op manager is so unappreciative of the beauty of trees or of the possible sentimental attachment that a member may have for one, to ask members to cut them down indiscriminately.

But one branch from one innocent-looking tree can cause all kinds of difficulties and outages. The same is true of brush. It comes down to a choice between trees and dependable electric service. A co-op member can't have both which the recent sleet storm emphasized so dramatically to members in the co-op areas affected.

If you decide you would rather have dependable electricity than trees, ask your co-op office about having the potentially dangerous trees on your property removed. Don't do it yourself, because you might end up in the hospital or worse. Also keep your brush cut. In this way you'll be doing yourself and your neighbors a big favor.

## Non-Profit Motives

Some day, it is to be hoped, representatives of the private electric utility business are going to realize that unkind and unfounded aspersions which they have been casting at rural electric cooperatives, is bad public relations.

Not only is it bad public relations, it is dangerous and sinister for it strikes at the reputation of groups of individuals who strive with sincere unselfishness to benefit others.

While the profit motive has often been referred to as the driving urge behind great progress, an inference has unfortunately arisen that no motive other than financial profit is in keeping with American tradition.

That, of course, is not true for non-profit (financial) motives have led to outstanding achievements, the rewards of which though not monetary in form, were immeasurably satisfying.

Service, as a prime motive, inspired rural people all over the country to form electric cooperatives. It is the same motive that keeps co-op leaders and personnel faithfully performing

## Scraping the Bottom . . .



duties which in the profit utility industry would, in many instances, merit a much higher compensation.

Service to others, not socialism, communism, or any other "ism" is what has made electric co-ops the outstanding successes that they are today. It is a concept which may well one day temper the cold, materialistic view that the sole purpose of business is to make as large a financial return as possible.

Disparaging the non-profit motive of rural electric co-ops, bespeaks a misguided concept of public relations on the part of private utility industry. Ironically, the industry has found new sources of revenue from the non-profit co-ops and has been spared the expense of building distribution lines which it has said would have been unprofitable.

When the private utility industry comes to the realization that the motives of rural electric cooperatives are worthy of respect, it will then be ready to build a public relations program on a sound basis.

## Washington Report

By William A. Roberts

Not since the days of Franklin Delano Roosevelt's mastery in Washington has one man held the influence and leadership that is Harry S. Truman's as the 81st Congress is assembling in the Capitol. The November elections spelled that out clearly.

The REA-financed rural electrification program is fortunate in that fact, for the President has shown his understanding and friendship for the program. As much as in the early pioneering days of the Rural Electrification Administration, the rural electrification program needs friends in Washington this year. Just 12 months ago private utility companies opened their greatest assault in history on all Federal electric power activities—and REA came in for its share of undermining tactics by the utilities.

But rural electrification is too important, and has accomplished too much for America in peace and in war during the 13 years of its existence, to suffer damage which cannot be repaired. Public power took a beating last year. The issue of public power is not just generation by Federal hydro electric dams—the transmission lines which distribute low-cost wholesale power produced at those dams to rural systems are equally vital. It is like a farmer who grows a bumper crop, but can't get any trucks to

quarters. The private utilities have not given up their efforts to monopolize Federal hydro power or to cripple REA by any means.

But President Truman is fortunately well aware of the issue of transmission lines from Federal hydro projects. In El Paso, Tex., during his campaign, President Truman, in speaking of proposals for selling power at the dam sites, said: "That means these private utilities fellows and the public utilities lobby want to turn this electric power over to the high-jackers so that they can stick you with high prices."

Former Farmer

It is interesting to note that President Truman was a real farmer himself. Perhaps it was the lingering qualities of sincerity, modesty and hard work that he learned on the farm which made him so successful in November. Recently President Truman talked with Executive Manager Clyde T. Ellis of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. Ellis heads up the national association of rural electric systems throughout the United States, which has been a lone champion of power for the people as opposed to only power for profit. He received an outline from Ellis of the NRECA legislative recommendations.

The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's annual convention is being held in New York City under the very shadow of Wall Street this year. It is significant that the farmers are invading Wall Street, for the case is usually reversed. So far as electricity is concerned REA financing came into existence, and cooperatives and power districts along with it, because Wall Street had been blind to the need of farmers for electric power—and their ability to pay for service.

It is Wall Street financed utility companies which appear each year at Congressional hearings to fight against REA loan authorizations and which succeeded in influencing a reduction in the administrative service REA can render to its borrowers.

NRECA, as it gathers in New York City this year, is a much stronger organization capable of representing the 1,800,000 people who receive their electric service from member cooperatives and power districts. That too is fortunate for the rural electrification program. For utility interests are pouring millions of dollars into advertising propaganda designed to undermine REA and the low-cost public power which rural electric systems depend upon to serve members efficiently at rates the farm affords.

An information program recently launched by NRECA is designed to spread more of the facts to counteract the fiction of the utilities. There are now over 800 rural electric cooperatives and power districts holding memberships in NRECA. They are scattered from one end of the country to the other and have a proud story of achievement to tell. It is an achievement that brought about the increase of electrified farms from 10 per cent in 1935 to 70 per cent now.

But in case anyone wants to rest on their oars after reviewing that remarkable accomplishment, he needs merely to be reminded that there are still nearly two million  
(Continued on Page Seven)

# Silo Unloader Is Boon To This Dairy Farmer

The installation of a silo unloader on his dairy farm, seven miles southeast of Quincy, has eliminated for Fred Willer one of the most disagreeable tasks of farming. It is the task of climbing into a cold, damp silo every morning.

Willer's unloader, which operates on a 3 H.P. motor, is entirely automatic. In operation, the silage is raked into the middle of the silo and blown down the chute. The silage was chopped in the field and blown automatically into the silo. The device handles frozen silage.

An additional feature of

Willer's Unloader is the fact that it makes his work more safe. Nothing can be more slippery or treacherous than a silo ladder.

Willer formerly operated the Willer Dairy in Quincy. This business has been sold to a cousin, so that his entire time can be devoted to farming. His 290-acre dairy farm and herd of 40 Guernsey cows produces milk for the dairy.

Some of Willer's cows produce as much as 500 pounds of butterfat a year. He gets from 50 to 75 gallons of milk a day.

In addition to the unloader, his barn is equipped with auto-

matic drinking cups and automatically controlled stanchions which he can release at the press of a button. A milk room is attached to the barn and has an electric milk cooler which enables him to produce grade milk. Willer also has two, double unit milking machines. Eventually he plans to install an electrically powered gutter cleaner.

In referring to electricity, Willer says that "he couldn't do without it."

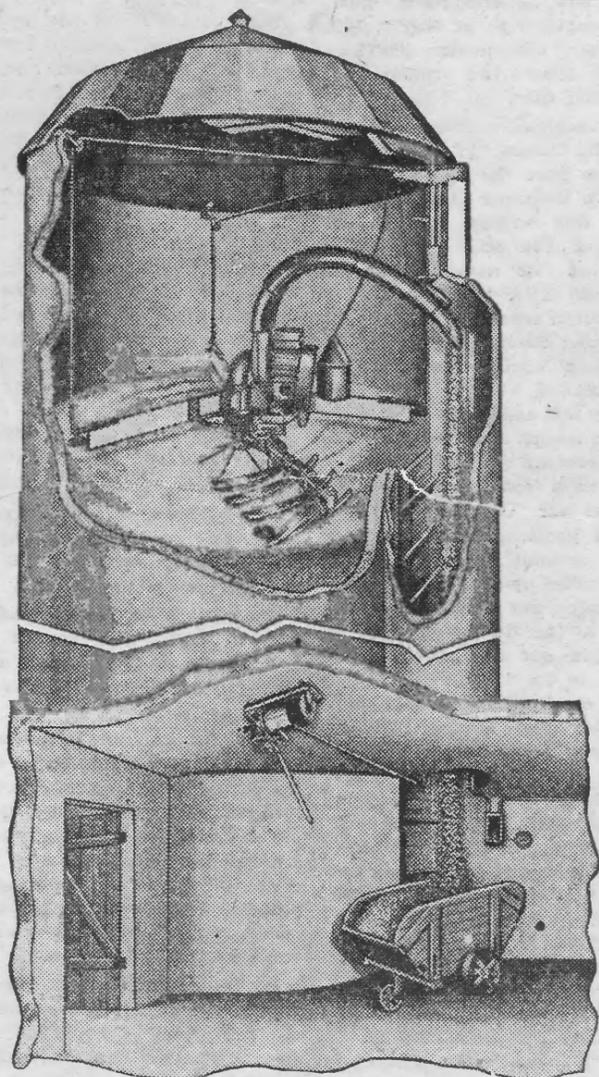
He also adds, "Electrically operated equipment has saved me hours of labor and makes farming much more pleasant."

The convenience of an electrically-equipped farm was one of the main reasons why Willer turned from business life in the city to dairy farming.

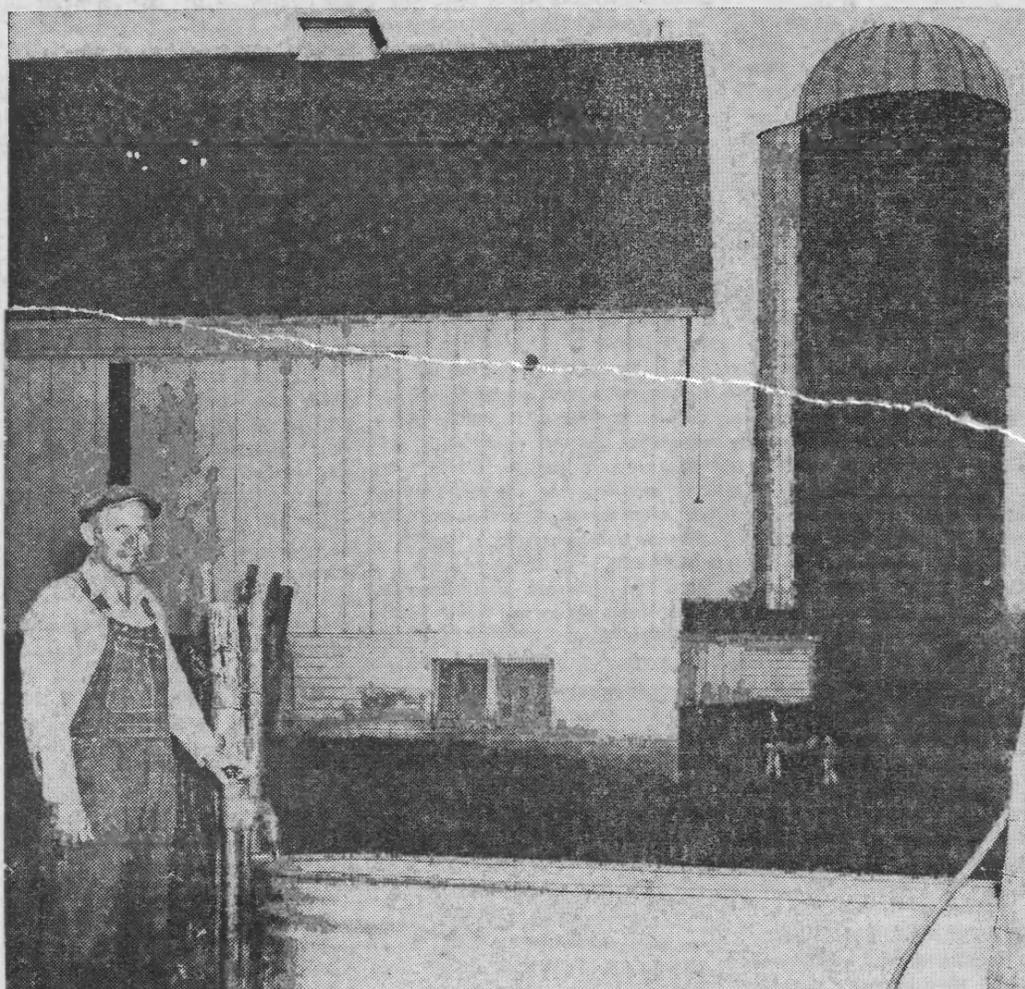
Willer is a member of the Adams Electric Cooperative, Camp Point, from which he receives his electricity.



ANOTHER ASSIST from electricity in Fred Willer's dairy barn is the automatic drinking cups which save him countless hours of labor in caring for his herd of 40 purebred Guernsey cows. The stanchions are also electrically operated.



HERE'S A drawing of the same type of silo unloader in the Willer silo. The unit at top hangs on three cables which converge and are controlled by a hydraulic winch below. A ratchet setting and a automatic timer on the winch controls the amount of silage to be delivered. Chopped silage is raked to middle and blown down ladder chute into cart at bottom.



ELECTRICITY ALSO makes a plentiful outside supply of water available where and when its needed on Willer's farm. In the background is the silo in which this progressive-minded farmer has installed an automatic silo unloader.

## NEWS FROM Clay Electric Cooperative

Flora, Illinois

Elmo A. Cates, Mgr.

Telephone Numbers  
Office (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) Flora, 78R  
Homes (Night or Sunday)  
E. A. Cates Flora 389J  
James Erwin Flora 312J  
Henry Mix Flora Rural 8F31

### New Construction

Construction of our F section by contractor has been slowed somewhat the past few weeks due to so much bad weather.



We have, however, been able to energize about 30 miles of new line to serve approximately 100 new consumers. This makes us a load greater than the capacity of our substation and means we may not be able to add

more new lines until such time as the 33,000 volt line being built by the Central Illinois Public Service Company, from Olney to the "Y" east of Flora, is completed, which will probably be the latter part of March. We will, however, continue with construction in order to be able to serve all of these lines immediately after power becomes available.

Our force account construction crew is working on the new substation and five miles of conversion connecting it with our existing three phase line.

### ANNUAL MEETING

Our annual meeting will be held this year February 8 at the Grade School Gymnasium in Louisville. This is the same building in which it was held last year.

Plans have not been completed at this time, however, we have the promise of a very excellent speaker, Noble Wrinkle of the Application And Loans Division of REA, Washington, D. C. There will also be a display of electrical equipment by local dealers, attendance awards, music and other entertain-

ment. Please plan to attend and tell your neighbors who are not yet receiving service, about this meeting.

### NEW LOANS

We have been informed by the Applications and Loans Division of REA that our request for the H section loan will be considered May 10, 1949. If it is made, we will then be able to start ordering material for this construction.

### NEW EMPLOYEES

Our former Work Order Clerk, Miss Roberta Lewis, decided to spend the winter in Florida. To replace her, we have been able to secure the services of Mrs. Mary Beth Gibson, also a local girl, who graduated from Flora High School, having recently been employed by the International Shoe Company of Flora. Mrs. Gibson was a June bride (formerly Miss Mary Beth Reed) and now resides at the Henson Court's directly across the highway from the Co-op's office.

## Power Shortage Among Country's Main Problems

(From Page One)

to build lines to these dams so must buy it at increased rates from the private utility who does get it.)

Hitting at this situation, the President urged that, "In all of this (development of resources) we must make sure that the benefits of these public undertakings are directly available to the people. Public power should be carried to consuming areas by public transmission lines where necessary to provide electricity at the lowest possible rates. Irrigation waters should serve family farms and not land speculators."

According to a survey of residues.

CO-OP POWER, a trade journal in the rural electrification field, "the new Senate indicates near unanimity in favor of pushing the rural electrification program to full completion."

### Asks Senators

The publication's poll asked the question of Senators, "Is it your belief that the (REA) program should be speeded to nearly 100 per cent completion?" Enthusiastic support was evidenced in the replies of both Republican and Democratic Senators including both Illinois senators, Scott W. Lucas and Paul H. Douglas, CO-OP POWER said.

To maintain good tilth, it is necessary to grow clover and return plenty of organic matter to the soil by plowing-down clover manure and crop

## NEWS FROM Southern Illinois

Dongola, Ill.

**GEORGE ENDICOTT,  
Mgr.**

The 10th annual meeting of your Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative is scheduled for February 12th, Saturday, at the Dongola High School Gymnasium. Plans are being made now for a very interesting meeting. We have already secured the promise of Noble Wrinkle, the Application & Loans, Region 5, representative, REA, to be present to give you some of the points

which are affecting the REA program today.

Having heard Mr. Wrinkle at several of our state-wide meetings, we feel that we will have a very worthwhile message for everybody attending.



G. W. Endicott

It is hoped that we can also secure the service of one of the better lecturers, who would give an illustrated talk with slides which he has taken of some of the European and Asiatic countries. But at this time it is undetermined whether we will be able to secure this individual or not, but we will have some other entertainment which will be very worthwhile.

Gifts will be offered, and of course the free lunch will be prepared and served by the Union County Home Bureau during the noon hour.

This is the one time of the year when every member has the opportunity to discuss and find out about the actual operation of his own cooperative. Plan to be out for this meeting, as this issue of the Illinois REA News is the last one you will receive before the annual meeting, which will be held on Saturday, February 12th, starting at 9:00 o'clock at the high school gym.

Reservation cards are being made ready for sending out, and, of course, the official notice of the meeting will be sent out at a later date. It is imperative that we have these return reservation cards in the office. A deadline is being placed on them this year to assure that we will have sufficient lunches prepared for those that desire these lunches to be reserved.

Again this year there will be a limitation on the number of lunches, that is, three to each membership that will be free lunches. The balance will be charged at the cost of the lunches to the Cooperative. So be sure and encourage your neighbors to plan on attending, and be sure and turn in their reservation card after they have them, if they plan to attend, so that we can make proper arrangements for the lunches.

All members that are now served as well as those located on the "C", "D", "P", or "R" sections, will be eligible for voting at this annual meeting and will receive notices and reservation cards of the meeting.

If you do not receive your notice and reservation card and are a served member of the Cooperative or on these sections which are being considered, feel free to write to the office and request your reservation and announcement letter.

### CONSTRUCTION

The contractor is still working on the "P" section. He has approximately 30 miles of wire to string which is now on hand ready for the completing of this

section. Work has slowed up during the last six or seven weeks considerably on account of the weather that we are having, which is anything but helpful to completion of construction. It is hoped that it will not be too long before you will have completed these other lines which were not completed before the bad weather set in.

The "R" section which is being constructed by force account; that is, by the Cooperative force, is progressing as well as can be expected due to weather. The staking crews at this time have approximately 60 miles of this line staked. They are working in the lower southwest part of the project, as they have completed most of it in the north end.

They will progress from the southwest part over into the southeast, over in what we refer to as the Massac County area. Mr. Haverkamp and Mr. Sheffer of the right-of-way, have all of their right-of-way cleared up for these extensions.

The staking crews are encountering considerable difficulty in the take-off from those members who have service and who object to any additional poles being placed on them.

It has been necessary that the board set up the policy that where the individual refuses to have any additional poles set on his property to make service available to the unserved applicant, that he be considered as not a part of the Cooperative and that service be denied to his place.

We realize this may be a very severe action, but after all, it is a Cooperative, and each and every one has to work together in order for electric service to be made available to those individuals desiring it. It is not just a playship where we can build line without having poles and anchors, and until this time comes, it will be necessary that we consider each and everyone as a member of the coop, and go along on this basis of attempting to make service available to each and everyone in our area, which will require some poles and guys even though there may be some times when we would rather not have them.

But the individual who has service must remember that somebody else had poles on his property so that they could get to him, so that for this reason we may have to put some poles on your land to get to somebody else who is more unfortunate and has not received the electric service as of this time.

### "S" SECTION

The most recent section which has been submitted to REA for an allotment is known as our "S" section. This, as stated in our last month's issue of the paper, has been submitted to the engineer and we are now sending it to REA for approval and allotment out of the funds for 1949. We are in hopes that sometime after June we will be through with the "R" section and can get started on the "S" section which means that more individuals will have available electric service which each and every one in the area has a right to expect.

### MASSAC OFFICE

Arrangements have been completed for the placing of John Turner of Metropolis in charge of the branch office located north of Metropolis on 145. It was hoped that Mr. Turner could make a trip to Springfield to go through Sangamo Electric, which was planning to give a course in the testing and repair of meters.

This trip has been delayed until the latter part of February, and for that reason we anticipate by the time you have this that Mr. Turner will have been in the office for a couple of weeks.

You folks in Massac County, this is your office. It is an extra service which we are offering you due to the fact that you are located some distance from our main office. Stop in and get acquainted with Mr. Turner as he is going to be your representative and can secure the information that you may want from the office through the use of our two-way radio.

We feel this is a step in extending a service which folks in Massac County have a right to expect. The first time you are up in that area stop in and get acquainted with Mr. Turner, as he will be attempting to help you wherever he can.

The office hours there will be from 8:00 to 4:00 Monday through Friday. Besides being merely a branch office, it will be a point at which the folks in Massac County who wish to, can pay their bills instead of sending them in or securing money orders for sending them in to the office.

### PERSONNEL CHANGE

Mrs. Belva Keller resigned effective the first of the year, and plans to devote her full time to homemaking. Mrs. Keller has been with the Cooperative for several years, following her teaching at the Dongola School. We all miss Mrs. Keller, and those new members coming in will wish to get acquainted with the individuals who are now changing around in the office so that they can take over the work which Mrs. Keller previously took care of; that is the billing.

### SYSTEM CHANGES

During the month of December the substation at Dongola was changed over to increase its capacity. The 1,000 KVA transformers were replaced by new 1500 KVA transformers. The 1,000 KVA transformers were taken to Jonesboro. This will take care of some of the load, and we have a report from our maintenance crew in Massac County that it has increased the voltage approximately five per cent on this change.

In addition to this, we hope by the time that you receive this paper, those folks living in the northwest part of the project; that is, the northwest part of Union County, will also notice the change, as we will have the Jonesboro substation cut into the line. It was just energized from C. I. P. S. during the first part of January, and some change in the line is being made so that we can hook this part of the line on to this new substation which will further improve the service in the north part of Union County.

Just as fast as conditions permit, additional changes will be made in the line where the whole north part of Union County will be served from the Jonesboro station, thereby relieving the load on the Dongola station.

Plans call for the construction of an additional substation in the Pulaski area to serve the lower part of Pulaski and Alexander Counties next year. The material for these is on order and we hope it will be here during the latter part of 1949. To help alleviate the voltage condition in Massac county, regulator stations have been ordered and we hope to receive them by the time you receive this issue. They were supposed to have been shipped in the last part of 1948, but due to manufacturing difficulties, they were not. This particular station will be located at Crossroads Store in Johnson County, which will take care of the lower end of our project.

### Mobile Radios

Four additional radio units have been added to the Cooperative equipment, further increasing the efficiency of your Cooperative.

A Portable electric ventilator has been devised to provide fresh air for workers in confined places.

## NEWS FROM Southeastern

Harrisburg, Ill.

**A. F. LENTZ, Supt.**

We greet our membership at the beginning of the new year, and wish for all of you a happy and prosperous 1949.

As we reflect back over the year just closed and check up on our accomplishments we are very gratified in that three of the aims of management and board for 1948 were accomplished.

First, we proposed to close up the acquisition program involving the purchase of the assets of the Pope-Hardin County Power Company serving the two towns of Golconda and Elizabethtown, which was completed as of May 1, 1949, and your cooperative has been serving these two communities since that time.

We completed a three-phase line from the Humm "Y" to Golconda and now have the new substation to serve Golconda completed, but as of this writing we are still operating the steam generating plant, but we recently received three 500 KVA transformers for our Ledford substation and as soon as weather conditions permit us to get these transformers changed and installed, we hope to be able to carry this additional load on our Ledford station and close down the steam generating plant.

We have completed some 175 miles of our "D" section together with a great number of other "force account" extensions and have hooked up a total of 1550 new services on our rural lines in addition to the 690 which were included in our acquisition of the service to the two towns.

In checking we find that this number averaged some 128 new services built and connected each month thru the year. We tried to break all records in the month of December, and had set a goal of 175 new services energized in that month and by "shaking the bushes" we find that we made it a total of 177 and if any of our fellow managers can show a better record than that we would like to know about it.

### NEW CONSTRUCTION

Our "D" construction program is moving along nicely, however, we have been slowed up somewhat due to weather and ground conditions, but expect to complete all "D" section lines by spring, together with a considerable number of other short extensions in the general area of these "D" lines.

### TRANSMISSION STAKING

Staking is under way on our 30 mile of 69 KV line running down State Route 1 from Ridgway to Elizabethtown. And it is our intention to ask for bids on this construction by spring. There is to be three substations on this line, which will relieve the load on our present Ledford station and permit us to more adequately serve the fluor-spar mines in Cave In Rock area, as well as revamping our entire system in the East and South part of our project.

Plans are complete for relocating our galatia substation at a point about one-fourth mile West of our location and out of the bottom which overflows at every heavy rain. This station is being increased from 600 KVA to 1,000 KVA. Then we are building an entirely new substation in Franklin county located between Thompsonville and Benton at a point where our line crosses State Route 34 and C. I. P. S. steel pole line. This station is planned for completion this spring and will divide the load now carried by the present Benton

## NEWS FROM Wayne-White

Fairfield, Ill.

**OWEN J. CHANEY, Mgr.**

### TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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 Chalton Carter, Phone No. 123, Norris City, or Everett Phillips, Phone No. 38 J, Norris City.  
For all of Edwards County, all of Wayne County, Crossville, Calvin and Phillipstown, in White County, call Cloyd Musgrave, 60M, Norman Davis 639J, Charles Mann 451 M or Bill Fleming, 11F23, all of Fairfield.

We have closed the books for the year 1948 and find that your Cooperative enjoyed a very successful year. For the month of December, 1947, we billed 6,165 consumers and in December of 1948 we billed 6,575 consumers. In other words, we added 410 new users during the year. A large percentage of these new connections are farms located on or within 1,000 feet of our existing lines.

The average KWH consumption of the members increased from 72 to 83 KWH per month and the average bill increased from \$4.31 to \$4.77. This is a healthy condition and points out that people are more and more realizing the value of electricity on the farm and in the home.

Our financial condition is sound. We have been able to pay all of our operating expenses, out of our operating revenue, meet all of our interest and principal payments, when due, and have set up a substantial reserve from our operating margin, the difference between our operating costs and operating revenue.

We increased our maintenance and construction forces during the year and now have about 50 men carrying on the work.

It has been necessary to add to our equipment and we are now operating 15 trucks. Three of these are equipped with power hole diggers.

All of this increase in the use of electricity has brought on an overloaded condition. We have pointed this out before and many of you are aware of this fact. The work to relieve this condition has been somewhat slowed down during the past few weeks, because of weather conditions; but it is progressing and we expect relief soon.

The board of directors and employees are proud of the work we are doing and of what has been done to electrify this area and we know that you as members are proud of your Cooperative. Let us all keep up the good work.

### CONVALESCENT

Some of you who are acquainted with George Deem of Geff, might be interested to know that he is in the McCleary Clinic at Excelsior Springs, Missouri. He is convalescing from an operation. George has been a member of our board of trustees for several years and has been a hard worker and booster for the Cooperative. We are looking forward to the day he gets back on the job.

### CLEAN FENCE ROWS

Every so often we have to say something about cutting brush, out of the fence rows, growing up under the line. We know you probably get tired hearing about it but it is a problem we are constantly fighting and every time someone takes time to cut the brush under the line everyone concerned profits by it. Many of our outages are caused by limbs blowing into the line or by trees falling on the line. So everytime one is cut close to the line a future outage is eliminated.

substation, which is steadily building up in volume and must have some relief and the plans are for an additional substation, which should improve the service greatly.

## 20,000 Outages As Sleet Storm Strikes Rural Co-ops

No where in the history of rural electrification in the state, has the destructiveness of trees been more violently emphasized than during the sleet storm which crippled the lines of five electric cooperatives last month. Two other systems on the fringes of the storm suffered minor effects.

The sleet struck co-ops in west, central Illinois, and virtually every member of Adams Electric of Camp Point, Illinois Rural of Winchester and Spoon-River of Canton, were without service from several hours to four and five days. Menard Electric of Petersburg reported 75 per cent outages during three days, while McDonough Power of Macomb reported about 65 per cent of its membership was without electricity for from two to four days. In all about 20,000 members were affected.

Most discouraging aspect of repairing the "ice-blitzed" systems, was the necessity of redoing much of the work when ice-laden trees or limbs toppled into the lines after repairs had been made. This accounted for intermittent service to many farms during the outage periods.

All available crews, augmented by crews lent by other co-ops, worked straight through for from three to six days stopping only for a few hours rest when exhaustion made it necessary.

Managers of all of the co-ops hit by the storm, emphatically agreed that trees were responsible for more than 90 per cent of the damage. They said that conductor held up well under the coating of ice—in some cases 2½ inches round—but trees and limbs crashing into the lines caused the unparalleled havoc. Brush that had been allowed to grow too high also accounted for its share of the outages. Lines in many cases sagged under the weight of ice into the too-high brush and burned in half or short-circuited.

Another point on which the managers unanimously agreed, many of whom experienced a severe ice storm a year ago last month, was that "members will have to choose between electricity and trees. They can't have both." This was further proved by the very few breaks which occurred on sections of lines where complete clearance had been obtained.

Besides the grueling work of restoring the service on the part of crews, the financial loss to the co-ops is expected to be well over \$50,000. In addition, thousands of members went heatless for from a few hours to several days. Water systems stopped working as did electric ranges while oil lamps were again resurrected. Fortunately, little spoilage of frozen foods in deep freezers occurred.

Throughout the effected area, telephone communications were generally entirely crippled. The two-way radio systems of co-ops were credited with "invaluable assistance" and service might not have been restored for weeks had it not been for the communications systems.

When members realized the extent of the damage, hundreds of them helped their co-ops in every way they could from patrolling lines to sawing trees.

Though the co-op linemen worked themselves into exhaustion, only two men suffered injuries and they were minor. Crews were sent to the beleaguered areas by Shelby

Electric, Coles-Moultrie, Corn Belt, Rural Electric Convenience, Jo-Carroll Electric, Illinois Valley, and Edgar Electric cooperatives.

All of the systems struck by the storms had restored service completely within five days except for a few service drops. However, many of the repairs were temporary and extensive reworking will be necessary to replace twisted cross arms, hardware, and strength weakened lines.

### 600 Consumers Are Added to Lines Of Norris Cooperative

A total of 600 new users were made possible by the energizing of the Norris Electric Cooperative, Newton, No. 4 substation two miles west of Dieterich recently. A total of nine such substations have been planned to take care of the ultimate needs of the cooperative. The substations are now being added at about the rate of one a year.

Norris Electric Co-op serves nine counties in the southeast section of Illinois and has more than 1,500 miles of line under construction. Postwar shortages of materials and labor have hampered expansion at many points. Electric energy will be supplied to the various farm homes that have been wired and are ready for service as rapidly as transformers and meters can be installed.

Merle D. Yost is manager of the cooperative.

### New Position



Fred E. Darr

Fred E. Darr of Petersburg has accepted the newly created position of public relations director of Illinois Valley Electric Cooperative of Princeton according to an announcement by Manager Floyd I. Ruble.

Darr has been with the Menard Electric Cooperative of Petersburg for the past nine years as power-use adviser. He recently resigned. He will be doing the same type of work in his new post.

As the first power-use adviser in the state, Darr has pioneered the field. He also has had many years of experience with electric utilities in personal contact programs.

#### To Direct Program

He will organize and direct a program for Illinois Valley aimed at better understanding of rural electrification and efficient utilization among co-op members and the general public including farm and home advisors, 4-H Clubs, and community groups. He will take over his duties at Princeton on February 1.

## Rural Co-op Leaders Meet In Shadow of Wall Street

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Jan. 31—Rural electric co-op leaders from every part of the nation, convened here today for the opening of the 7th annual convention of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

These co-op representatives of the non-profit power systems serving two and a half million rural consumers are giving to the world's largest city a dramatic display of the "people's power" for in nearby Wall Street are the offices of the private power interests which a few short years ago were failing to brighten rural America.

Recognition of the growing significance of the rural electric co-ops, is pointed up by two cabinet officers and a personal emissary of President Truman who are to appear at convention sessions.

#### Cabinet Officers

The two cabinet officers, Charles Brannan, secretary of Agriculture, and Julius A. Krug, secretary of the Interior, are scheduled for main addresses.

Representing the President of the United States, according to the present program, will be John Steelman, aide to the President, who will give a message from the President and an address of his own. Steelman is acting head of the National Security Resources Board.

On Tuesday, February 1, Claude R. Wickard, administrator of the Rural Electrification Administration, will address the convention.

T. E. Craddock, president of NRECA, will preside at most of the business sessions. Delegates will hear reports by Executive Manager Clyde T. Ellis, Secretary-Treasurer Avery C. Moore, William S. Roberts, managing editor of RURAL ELECTRIFICATION.

and the association's general counsel, Robert D. Tisinger.

The annual convention banquet will be held tomorrow evening.

#### Press Meetings

Yesterday, prior to the convention opening, the annual meeting was held by the National Rural Electric Press Association, representing 13 statewide publications and RURAL ELECTRIFICATION. On January 27 and 28, the group met in Washington, D. C., at which time a full schedule of business was undertaken and special interviews held with government officials.

A new feature of the 7th annual meeting of NRECA is the introduction of five panel discussions that will bring together outstanding leaders in public relations, generation, construction, insurance and legal fields. Resolutions will be presented to the convention at the final session.

## Budget Request Is \$50 Million Less Than 1949 Funds

(From Page One)

the Rural Electrification Administration lies in a single, very simple fact—there are still nearly two million farms and rural establishments in the United States without electricity. While nearly 2,500,000 rural families are already getting power off REA-financed lines, there still remains a long and difficult job ahead for the farmers who are seeking to serve themselves through REA lending activities.

While that one justification is sufficient, there are other urgent reasons for demanding that Congress provide fully adequate loan authorizations. They are concerned with the item of dependable and maximum service for the 2,500,000 farms already connected.

#### Slowed Down

Rural electric systems throughout the country have been slowed down in their new connections and plagued in their service by a general shortage of capacity for generating electricity. Approximately 10 per cent of the power distributed over REA-financed lines is generated at plants which were financed by the Rural Electrification Administration. But statistics show that the farmer is finding more and more uses for electricity in his productive operations. New uses in tobacco curing, heating, and insect control are being developed even now, which will further increase the load on rural power lines.

Not only is more generating capacity urgently needed by systems that borrow money from REA, but the oldest systems face the necessity of adding heavier distribution lines throughout their service areas to carry the bigger kilowatt loads.

Congress will probably not get around to acting on the loan authorization for REA or administrative funds for 1950 until March—possibly April.

## Two and a Half Million Are Now Served By REA Co-ops

More rural people used more electric power for more purposes during 1948 than in any previous year.

Figures recently released by the Rural Electrification Administration, based on operating reports from REA borrowers for the first nine months of the year, show that use of electricity along REA-financed rural electric lines increased on an average of 15.1 per cent per consumer during the year. The number of consumers served by REA borrowers was almost one-fourth greater.

Practically all of the REA estimates showed new records established during 1948. REA-financed systems in operation, owned and operated by local rural people, reached 952, an increase of 41. A total of 54 others had received loans, but were not yet in service. The operating systems added 147,000 miles of line and 469,000 consumers during the year, bringing the totals to 750,000 miles in operation and 2,515,000 consumers getting services.

Commenting on the progress, Rural Electrification Administrator Claude R. Wickard said:

"Electric power is remaking rural America. More than any other single factor, it is eliminating the difference between rural and urban standards of living. Farmers are living better, and their labor is more profitable and less burdensome. Rural young people are encouraged to stay on the farm, and the establishment of rural industrial plants brings new employ-

ment and prosperity to rural communities.

"These benefits are coming through the efforts of the rural people themselves, with the assistance of their Government. The principal help which REA provides is to furnish the capital required to install electric utility properties for serving rural people. The capital is provided as interest-bearing loans, which are being repaid on or ahead of schedule.

"The progress during 1948 would have been even greater except for shortage of construction materials, which retarded the connection of new consumers, and the shortage of power, which held down the use of current."

Much of the construction the REA borrowers completed during the year was for the purpose of increasing the capacity of their systems to keep pace with the greatly increased demands of rural people for electricity. Power consumption figures show the necessity for this "heavilying up" of the systems.

The total amount of power sold from REA-financed lines increased 40.7 per cent during 1948. One 12 per cent of the total amount of power used came from REA-financed generating plants, but their output increased 60 per cent. The installed capacity of REA-financed generators increased only 17.9 per cent, to a total of 217,000 kilowatts.

The average amount of power sold from the lines to both new and old consumers, including both whole-

sale and all classes of retail consumers, amounted to 2097 kilowatt-hours, up 275 kwh from the 1947 average. This is an average increase of 23 kwh a month. That amount of power would pump all the water an average farm needs, shear a thousand sheep, or milk 10 cows twice a day. Yet the average bill paid increased only 41 cents a month.

The power shortage, increasing in severity throughout the closing months of the year, prevented even more remarkable increases in power use.

Shortages of construction materials, especially aluminum conductor wire, kept the record number of miles of line and new consumers from being far greater. At the end of the year the REA borrowers had about 23,000 miles of line with poles set in place, awaiting the stringing of conductor.

Rising construction costs made more difficult the extension of lines into some sections of sparse population or unfavorable terrain. The average cost of distribution lines erected by REA borrowers in 1948 increased 12.2 per cent to \$1,366 per mile; the cost per consumer connected was up 12.3 per cent to \$447.

The annual REA survey of electrified farms as of July 1, 1948 estimated that 1,800,000 American farms, and about as many non-farm rural establishments, still lacked electric service. As of that date approximately seven out of 10 American farms had central station electric service as compared with one out of 10 when REA was established 13 years ago in 1935.

## NEWS FROM Menard

Petersburg, Ill.

A. E. BECKER, Mgr.

Saturday, February 26, 1949, is the date of the Eleventh Annual Meeting for members of the Menard Electric Cooperative. The meeting this year will be held in the Petersburg High School gymnasium, Petersburg. It will convene at 12:30 p. m. for the purpose of transacting necessary business, the election of a new board of directors and taking action on any matters that may come before the meeting. You are urged to attend.

### SPECIAL PROGRAM

John Strohm, nationally known traveler, who visited the continent and Arabia during the past summer has been secured to present an illustrated lecture of his trip. Mr. Strohm will appear at several Illinois cooperative annual meetings this month.



A. E. Becker

His down-to-earth description of contacts and conversations with people, to whom he actually talked regarding conditions in their own counties is a real revelation.

The colored slides used in his illustrated talk are of actual photographs Mr. Strohm made during his visit of people whom he contacted.

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL MEETING, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1949.

### SUBSTATIONS

Weather has delayed work on the two new substations planned to increase power to the areas served by your Cooperative. Concrete bases have been poured for the substations to be built east of Mason City. The transformers are on hand but the delay in receipt of steel necessary to complete it will cause another month's delay. The substations site near Virginia has been laid out and work will start on it as soon as weather permits.

### EMPLOYEES PARTY

Employees and directors of your Cooperative held their annual party in the Legion Home at Petersburg, Friday evening, last month, with practically all employees, directors and members of their families present.

The occasion was also a farewell party for Manager A. E. Becker, who resigned several months ago to become manager of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives. Mr. Becker's resignation became effective January 1, but he will continue as manager of the Cooperative till his successor is secured.

Following a delicious turkey dinner with all the trimmings, Homer T. Brown president, extended a sincere welcome to all present. Several guests were present including Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Collier, Assistant Regional Head, REA Management Division, and Mayor and Mrs. J. Colby Beekman of Petersburg.

Both Mr. Collier and Mayor Beekman, when introduced, expressed their pleasure at being present. They also spoke highly of their association with Mr. Becker and wished him success in his new position.

Special entertainment included music by the Gorsek Trio of Springfield and 20 minutes of magic by Eugene Simmons, Petersburg. These features were thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

At the close of the program, Albert L. Hinrichs presented Mr. Becker with a wristwatch, a gift from the employees and directors, as a remembrance from those with

## Hay Driers Becoming More Popular With Co-op Farmers

George W. Richter of Breese says he has the best hay this year that he ever had and credits it to the electric hay drier which he installed during the summer. It's the first hay drier in Clinton County.

With a herd of 24 Holsteins, Richter wanted to be certain of saving his hay crop. Then, too, chopped hay would mean that he could store a lot more in his shed.

The hay drier installation is an unusual type and was specially engineered for the hay shed which doesn't have a floor. The Meissner Brothers of Breese, who did the job, admit that it was something of an engineering innovation.

Unlike the duct system used in barn mow with the main duct running down the center and lateral ducts shooting off to the sides, the main duct in Richter's shed was built along one side over a dirt floor. The smaller lateral ducts were built to within a few feet of the width of the shed. Lathe cover the laterals with spacing between them to permit the circulation of the forced air.

A seven and a half horsepower motor runs the air blower which is located outside the shed. The blower has a 21,000 cubic foot capacity. Though Richter's shed is constructed of board slates, there is very little air loss, he says.

Richter put his first load in the shed the same day he cut it. He admits that the hay was too green and he worried for awhile as to how it would turn out. He allowed the following cuttings to dry more than the first, but the initial load produced the best hay of all. With the shed nearly full, Richter let his blower operate for 10 days straight and then ran it by an automatic time switch for a couple of hours a day until the right dryness was obtained.

Richter is well satisfied with the results and believes that the initial cost will be more than offset in his particular case by insuring his hay crop and in giving him the extra hay storage space that he now needs. Otherwise he might have had to build a barn. He put 53 loads in the shed this year, when previously it only held 26 of uncut hay. He is a member of Clinton County Electric Co-op of Breese.

A different kind of hay drier was installed by Roy Schmitt last summer in the mow of his barn. His farm is at Strasburg

and he is a member of Shelby Electric Cooperative of Shelbyville.

Schmitt has a 36 inch fan to circulate the air through the conventional type of duct installation in his loft. The loft is nearly 30 feet square. The ducts came in completed sections and took a day to install.

Schmitt put up 25 tons and figures it cost him about 60 cents a ton to dry it using the fan 24 hours a day for 11 days. William S. McKown of Sullivan made the installation.

Because he has been losing part of his hay crop for the last two years, Schmitt, like Richter, wanted to take the chance of risk out of hay making as he feeds cattle and a few milking cows.



BEST HAY HE ever had, is Richter's claim for the results of his hay drier. The leaves remain intact and it smells as sweet and fresh as the day it was cut. Here he shows a sample to Robert Vander Plym (left), power-use adviser of Clinton County Electric co-op which supplies the electricity.



GEORGE W. RICHTER of Breese greases 7½ h. p. motor which runs the blower for his hay drier. It's the first installation in Clinton County.

most of whom he has been associated for nearly 10 years.

### FARMERS INSTITUTE

Member Arthur L. Knuppel who serves as president of the Mason County Farmers Institute has announced that the Institute will present their programs, this year, at Easton. The dates of the Institute will be Wednesday, February 16 and Thursday, February 17, with programs being presented each afternoon and evening. The meetings will be held at the Baptist Church. The Menard Electric Cooperative has been invited to present the program the first afternoon. The theme of the first afternoon program will be Water Systems. In addition to a special film on this subject, there will be a talk on plumbing and installations.

The program will start each afternoon at 2:15 p. m., and in the evening, 7:45 p. m. All members and the public is cordially invited to attend.

### EXPRESS THANKS

The following statement was written on a Christmas card received by your column editor.

"I have never seen anything given to a neighborhood that has brought more pleasure and happiness to everyone as has our

electricity." Mr. and Mrs. Donald Bierhaus.

Note: I'm sure Don expresses the sentiments of our entire memberships.

### SLEET STORM DAMAGE

The sleet storm which hit most of the area served by your Cooperative, the afternoon and evening of January 10, caused more serious damage and loss to Co-op property and lines than all previous storms in its history, put together.

The major contributions to all the outages were Trees and Limbs. Ice forming on trees and limbs along the existing lines caused the limbs to fall on the lines taking wires and poles to the ground. The results of this sleet storm is definite proof that where trees are located within falling distance of the distribution lines, this same storm damage can happen again.

Every member is urged to report any trees that are near the lines that are decayed or in anyway look like they can cause trouble by falling into our lines.

### CREWS DESERVE CREDIT

While it is the duty of every man connected with maintenance to do his work, those making up the crews of your Cooperative deserve

a sincere vote of thanks from management and members for their untiring efforts to get service restored as soon as possible. They worked untiringly and around the clock to get the job done.

### AID WORK

Telephone-mobile units installed in the maintenance trucks proved their worth by speeding up reports to the crews at work and getting assistance where needed.

Manager Becker and Line Foreman Hinrichs were constantly in touch with each crew and many hours were saved and miles of travel eliminated because of the telephone mobile unit system of communication.

### SEND AID

Three neighboring Cooperatives lent trucks and men to help your Cooperative in combatting damages inflicted by the worst sleet storm in your Co-op's history. Sincere thanks is expressed to John Waggoner, manager and his board of directors of the Coles-Moultrie Electric Co-op, Mattoon; J. E. Hardy, manager, and his board of directors, Edgar Electric Co-op, Paris; and Ralph V. White, manager, and his Board of Directors, Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative, Divernon; and to the

crews from each co-op for their cooperation.

## Aluminum 'Bottleneck' Seen Broken

(From Page One)

to the rural systems on a non-profit basis and passing on the savings arising from a centralized operation.

The aluminum shortage, which threatened to seriously hamper rural electrification, stems from a national power shortage. Aluminum requires large amounts of low cost electricity. Paving the way to successful negotiations with Reynolds, were the efforts of REA and NRECA in providing the company with adequate power.

### Turn For Worse

A turn for the worse came last November when General Cable Co. announced cancellation of orders several years standing. Then Canada, plagued by a power shortage, halted shipment of pig aluminum cutting off a yearly supply of 130 million pounds. Next ALCOA, world's largest distributor, announced no more orders for aluminum transmission conductor would be accepted. Government stockpiling starting in December further reduced the supply.

The Reynolds Company has two pot lines at Jones Mill but has not been able to keep two others in operation because of the power shortage.

REA will not permit borrowers to cancel orders with present producers declaring that the rural electric and public power market for electric wire is more than large enough to require the full output of electric cable in rural sizes by all present producers of aluminum and copper cable in addition to the new Reynolds output.

The contract was executed by W. V. Thomas representing WEC and Walter Rice, vice-president of Reynolds Metal.

All-night lights are preferred by some poultry men because it permits the birds to feed and eat at will any time during the night.

Individual drinking cups in the dairy barn have been credited with a 20 per cent increase in milk flow when other recommended dairy management practices are followed,

**NEWS FROM  
Illinois Valley**

Princeton, Ill.  
F. I. RUBLE, Mgr.

Mailing Address: 430 South Main Street  
Telephone: 135  
Office ours: 8:00 A. M. to 5 P. M. (Monday through Saturday)  
Telephone Numbers for Outages:  
In case of interrupted service at any time other than the regular office hours, call one of the following numbers:  
Milford Jontz, General Foreman, Phone 288, Princeton  
Floyd Christiansen, Maintenance Foreman, Phone 2889, Princeton

"Thank You" to the many consumers who extended Christmas and New Year Greetings through notes on the December 20 meter cards. Your thoughtfulness was one of the things which made our holiday season happy, and the many kindnesses shown by all of our consumers during the past year gives us assurance that the same kindness will continue through 1949 and make the New Year happy.

The new billing cards required for the posting and billing machine installed last month, resulted in to our consumers. In determining the amount due each month, refer to the "Net Bill" and pay the last amount in that column. The first amount in some confusion



F. I. Ruble

this column is the charge computed on the number of KWH reported according to the established scale of rates. Immediately under this figure, with the code letters "TX" is the amount of Illinois Utility tax, being 3 per cent of the net bill. The total of these two amounts is designated as "TOT" and is the amount to be paid. In cases where a balance was carried from the previous month, such balance will appear above the total figure and will be designated as "AR" if an amount in arrears, and "CR" if a credit balance.

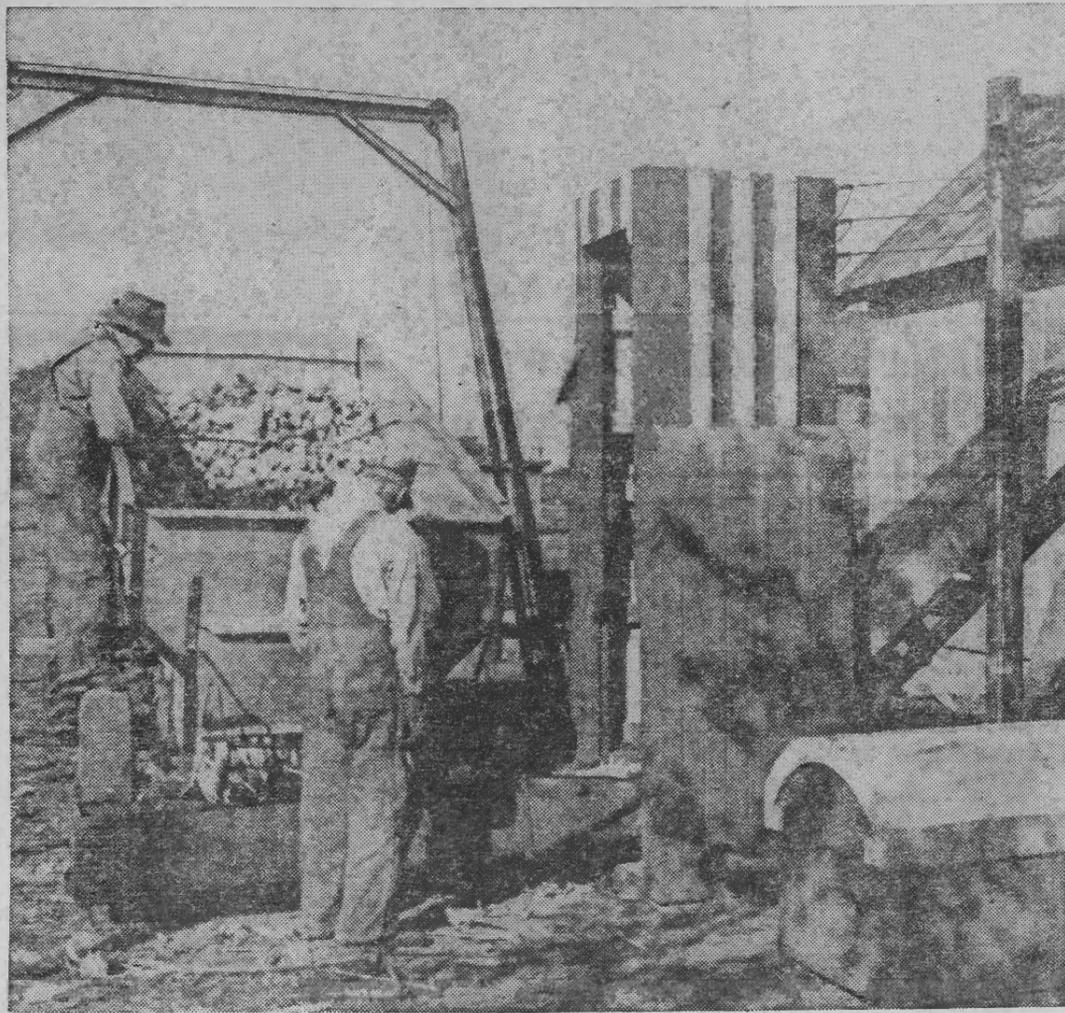
Because of the misunderstanding in the reading of the statements, a number of February 1 bills will show arrears amounts.

We apologize for the late billing on December accounts. The new machine was installed on December 20 and our billing clerks worked up to a speed of 70 bills per hour, which we have been told is exceptionally good for untrained operators.

However, numerous adjustments were necessary on the machine which required the services of maintenance men from LaSalle and Peoria, and resulted in the loss of much billing time.

The last of the bills were mailed out on January 4. We believe the new machine is a step forward, and is one of the things necessary for your Cooperative to maintain its position with the most up-to-date business firms in the area.

To Members of the D and E Lines: We wish to advise that the interruption from 9 o'clock until 11:20 on the morning of December 24 was caused by a failure of the Illinois Power Company's feeder line into the substation at Wedron. We are advised by the Power Company that some one drove a derrick into one of their lines and broke the wire. This is an unfortunate occurrence and we are sure that the Power Company restored service as soon as possible. In the meantime, your Cooperative had two trucks and crews standing by to check the



**AN IDEAL ARRANGEMENT** for weatherproofing a corn dump is this one made by Clyde E. Wallace of Rt. 4, Bloomington. The neat aluminum box at right provides safety and protection for three horsepower motor which powers elevator and dump. The elevator is completely enclosed and the dump leg, when not in use, folds into upright housing which is fitted with a cover.

Double belted to the motor is a truck transmission and shaft which drives elevator and dump. Wallace is shown with the compact motor box unit. By means of magnetic switches, elevator can be controlled from either the ground or from a switch at the top of the corn crib.

Safety and ease of operation are the special features of this electric corn dump arrangement.

—Pantagraph Photos



**Cooperatives side of the substation.**

Storms during the present winter have not resulted in the extent of damage which could be expected from the wind and ice accompanying. The damage from the wind storm early in January was easily and quickly repaired. The storm of January 9 and 10, in which ice formed following rain, apparently was labeled "Illinois Valley Electric Cooperative."

Motorists reported that the first ice to the east was noted just beyond Ottawa, near our eastern border, and to the west the heaviest ice was encountered in the Cambridge and Bishop Hill and Galva Districts. To the north our neighboring Cooperative, Jo-Carroll Electric at Elizabeth, reported snow but no ice. To the south, our neighboring Cooperative at Macomb, reported ice about the same as we had here.

Note to our consumers: Those aren't woodpeckers you may have noticed at the top of our poles. Our maintenance men seem to have acquired a taste for bright red wind-breaker caps.

Proper feeding of the pregnant cow or heifer is important in assuring a strong husky calf at birth.

In bovine society, real beauty calls for a large waistline, not a small one.

**NEWS FROM  
Adams**

Camp Point, Ill.  
DEAN SEARLS, Supt.

Our recent severe ice storm greatly demonstrates the need for adequate tree clearance along the electrical lines. About 80 per cent of all of our line troubles are due to trees crashing through our lines.



Dean Searls

Two co-ops, Jo-Carroll of Elizabeth, and Illinois Valley of

Princeton, lent two crews to assist in the repair work which continued for six days.

Camp Point was also hit by the "black-out." Our motor generator kept our two-way radio communications in operation. The two-way radio really proved its worth during the storm.

Excellent cooperation was displayed by members who helped our crews, drove long distances to report outages, patrolled the lines, and, in many instances, furnished overworked linemen with coffee and sandwiches.

Most of the system will require reworking to strengthen it. Many of the repairs were of a temporary nature in order to restore service promptly. This work will have to be redone in many cases.

A few members have been sending in their payments without sending the cashier's stub. This makes it difficult to determine the consumption or the present read-

ing which we must know in order to put it on the next months meter card bill. Also a number of members have been disappointed in not being able to pay their bill at the cooperative office because they forgot to bring their bill with them and did not know their meter reading.

If a member desires to pay his bill at the cooperative office, he must either bring his stub with him or must know the meter reading as of the reading date. If the member knows the meter reading, we can figure his bill while he is in the office and accept payment.

Under the self-billing plan, the only record we have toward figuring the member's bill is the last meter reading. Therefore, it would be impossible for us to figure any bill unless the member brings the new reading with him. It is preferred that if the member pays his bill at the cooperative office that he bring both parts of the meter card bill. This will save us having to make out an extra receipt for the member.

In paying by mail, be sure to include the cashier's stub of the meter card bill and be sure that the cashier's stub is completely filled out.

Due to the extra work involved in changing over to the self-billing plan, your cooperative has been unable to post each member's balance on the new bill, if he has a balance. Therefore, if you have paid in advance and received a bill, all you have to do is read the meter, subtract from the last meter reading to get the consumption and get the amount of the bill from the rate chart and mail the cashier's stub to the office without any payment. This applies only to those members who are sure that they have enough advance payment to pay the current bill. As soon as the self-billing plan has been in effect for a month, each member's balance will be posted on the meter card bill when it is sent to him with his last meter reading.

**Washington Report—**

From Page Two  
farms in the United States without electricity.

Ex-President Herbert Hoover's Commission on the Reorganization of the Government was supposed to make a report on its recommendations to the Congress on January 13. The Commission asked for a delay in making those recommendations.

Observers in Washington have been pointing out various disagreement within the Commission which have to be resolved before all of the recommendations can be made. One of the most serious of the disagreements seems to be on the question of public power.

Members of the commission range all the way from those that would eliminate Federal Transmission lines to distribute wholesale blocks of Federal hydro power, to those who would create a Department of Natural Resources and Conservation to combine all Federal power activities.

Editors of 12 statewide newspapers published by groups of rural electric cooperatives voted last month on what they considered the most significant news in the rural electrification program during 1948. By a wide margin they rated the attempt of private utilities to swallow up rural electric cooperatives as the top story of the year. That story reached a climax in New Castle, Va., last May when members of the Craig-Botetourt Electric Cooperative pushed aside Appalachian Power Company representatives and voted down a proposal to sell their co-op to the company.



# Home-makers' Page

Edited by Kay Conlan

## Colorful Plastic Materials Offer Many Inexpensive Ideas For Home Decorating

### Plastic Curtains Are Easy To Make, Just As Simple To Clean

Plastic materials—sparkling, shimmering colorful plastics—can mean many bright hours of leisure in your homemaking.

Not long ago they were used only for shower, bathroom, or kitchen curtains, venturing no farther from the back of the house. Today, the smart homemaker uses them in every room and in many ways besides curtains.

If you haven't before thought about using plastics, visit your department store and ask to see their plastic materials, or scan your catalog. Their crisp, clean freshness will tempt you to curtain every window with inexpensive, easy-to-make, easy-to-clean plastics.

#### No Basting

In making curtains, there's no basting, nor hemming of sides and bottoms. Simply measure, mark with chalk or pencil, and cut. Fold the top hem and sew with longest machine stitch. Paper-clips or bobbie pins will keep the hem folded. You can use pinking shears or not, according to your preference. In jig time your curtains will be finished and hanging. Your home will have undergone a pick-up almost too good to be true.

When it comes to cleaning, plastics are a whiz. you can whisk over them with damp or dry cloth. Or, perhaps once a year, you'll want to douse them in warm suds, rinsing without wringing, and wipe dry, or hang on line for few minutes. Presto—fresh, clean curtains without starching stretching, or ironing. It's almost magic.

Frosty white curtains with colored valances are charming for living or bedroom. Use soft cool colors for summer valances, and change to rich warm tones for winter. The whole atmosphere of your room will be altered in keeping with the seasons.

#### In the Bathroom

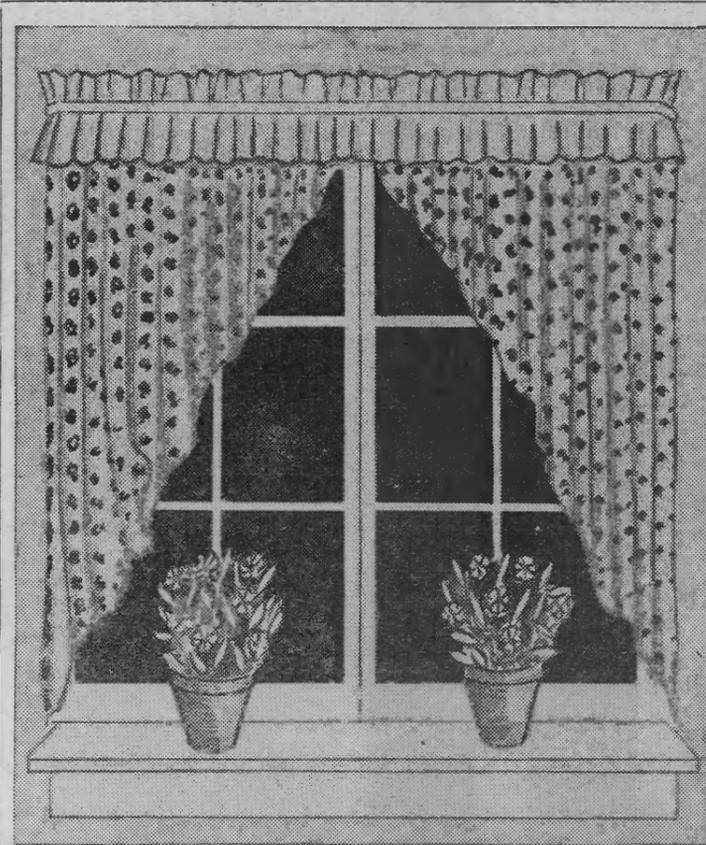
Flushbox and stool covers to match window curtains will give a lift to the bathroom. For these you can make your own patterns in a jiffy.

Cut a piece of plastic two inches longer and wider than flushbox top. Lay this right side up on top of flushbox and mark lightly with a pencil along the edges of both ends and front. Two-inch ready-made plastic ruffling sewed along this mark will shape your cover. Then stitch down outer edge of ruffling and pull the threads, like gathering-strings until cover fits snugly over box-top, then fasten threads.

For the toilet-lid cover, cut a pattern by drawing its size and shape on newspaper. Make two of them—one of upper side and one as the lid stands open. Lay these on your material and cut, allowing one-half inch for seams. To stitch, place right sides together and sew from widest part of one side around front, and to widest part of other side.

#### Binding Side-openings

Bind the two side-openings separately with either plastic or fabric binding tape, leaving three inches of tape on each end to tie. Turn



In making curtains, there's no basting, nor hemming of sides and bottoms. In short time your curtains will be finished and hanging. Your home will have undergone a pick-up too good to be true.

cover to right side and sew on one and one-half inch ruffling to match flushbox cover, placing ruffling along top of seam and across back.

It's to be hoped that you have plastic and to spare left over, for you'll find no end of other uses for it. Cover a few potholders. Make bibs for your babies. Whip up aprons for the small-fry, and try a frilly one for yourself. Perhaps a lampshade to match the curtains will touch up a room. And remember,—useful gifts are always welcome.

Whatever it is, if you make yours plastic, you are bound to be happy with it.

## Baked Smothered Pork Chops, Tasty Cold Weather Dish

Sharp, bitey days, February certainly has a good share of them. Just the time to have an oven meal with something spicy and fragrant adding extra appeal to the kitchen's cozy warmth. A baked meat dish like this one will get approval from the whole family, and baked potatoes, a cabbage and carrot salad and gingerbread cake will just fill out the menu.

#### Smothered Pork Chops

6 pork chops, 1 inch thick  
 1/4 teaspoon salt  
 1/4 teaspoon sage  
 3 tart apples, cored  
 3 tablespoons molasses  
 3 tablespoons flour  
 2 cups hot water  
 1 tablespoon vinegar  
 1/4 teaspoon salt  
 1/3 cup raisins

Sprinkle chops with one quarter teaspoon salt and sage. Sear slowly in hot skillet, browning on both sides. Place in large baking dish. Slice apples in one-quarter inch slices or rings and arrange on chops. Pour molasses over them. Add flour to fat in skillet and cook until brown, stirring constantly. Add water and stir

## Where Mildew Has Started, Sun And Air Affected Area

A damp house can bring mildew to furniture and other household goods. Often this can cause permanent stains and the material affected may rot.

No matter where mildew has begun, the first thing to do is to try to air and sun the area it has attacked.

Here are some additional ways to treat mildewed household goods.

Upholstered articles, mattresses and rugs should be treated first to a rub-over with a vacuum cleaner attachment to help draw out mold. If the cleaner is not available, brush with a whiskbroom over moldy area, working outdoors to prevent scattering mildew in the house. Wipe with a clean, damp cloth, or with a cloth wrung out of diluted alcohol—one cup denatured alcohol to one cup water—and dry well.

When leather is affected, wipe off mold with a cloth wrung out of diluted alcohol. If this does not do the job, wash with thick suds of a mild neutral soap or saddle soap, then wipe with a damp cloth. Dry in an airy place. Polish shoes or luggage with wax dressing.

After drawing a chicken, duck or a turkey, or after opening a fish, cleanse by washing thoroughly with a baking soda solution—a handful of soda to two quarts of water. Then rinse with clear water, dry at once and store in refrigerator.

until mixture boils. Add vinegar, salt and raisins. Pour this sauce over chops and apples. Cover and bake in moderate oven (350° F.) about one hour, or until apples are tender. Serves six.

## Helpful Hints

You can save chocolate and avoid soiling a pan when melting baking chocolate by placing it in waxed paper before putting it in the pan. When the chocolate is soft, simply scrape it off the paper with a knife.

Gloves can be marked for identification by writing or printing your name on strips of mending tape, and apply the strips with a warm iron just inside the cuffs.

An ordinary shoe buffer is fine for polishing furniture, especially pieces with curves and molding. The soft pad adapts itself to such uneven surfaces.

When threading the needle on a sewing machine, place a sheet of white paper under the presser foot. The white background will provide a contrast for the eye of the needle, making it easy to see.

A quick way to remove ink stains from hands is to use nail polish remover. Do not use this method for ink stains on clothing.

## Pin-Up Wall Lamps Find Many Uses In Brightening Home

"Brighten the corner where you are." That's a saying well worth following right now when there's less natural light and more of a load on home lighting.

A pin-up wall lamp is one of the best investments you can make to improve lighting. There's a wide selection of these lamps in stores, and they are moderately priced.

Because this lamp can be "pinned up" at whatever height is best, it will be useful in many rooms. Some handy places for it are just above a couple of easy chairs, in the kitchen over a work center, or in the bedroom over the dressing table or bed.

#### Mounted High

It should be mounted high enough to shed full light on the work being done under it and close enough to give good illumination. A lamp placed at the right height will not cause glare in the user's eyes. In general, a good height is about 50 to 60 inches above the floor.

When you select a pin-up lamp, get one that has a bowl to diffuse the light, as well as a large enough bulb and shade. If the lamp is to be hung fairly low, choose one with a shade that measures eight to ten inches across at the lower edge and has a 75 to 100-watt bulb.

For hanging in a higher place, choose a lamp with a shade that measures 12 inches or more across at the lower edge; and use a 100- to 150-watt bulb.

#### Stuffed Potatoes

Bake medium size potatoes. When done, cut in half lengthwise and scoop out potato into a warm bowl. Add butter, salt and pepper and just enough hot canned tomato sauce so they will beat smooth and fluffy (about four to five tablespoons per potato.)

Fold in an equal amount of flaked crabmeat as you have potatoes. Pile back into potato shells. Reheat in moderate oven 15 to 20 minutes or until golden brown. Garnish with sprigs of parsley.

## Gingersnaps Take On New Appeal For A February Party

No need to wonder why February is so popular with children. One glance at the calendar tells the tale. The twelfth, the fourteenth, and the twenty-second, stand out in bold print as red letter party days—days not to be overlooked.

Of course, you aren't expected to celebrate them all, but at least one of them rates a bang-up party.

When it comes to refreshments let them be the "less-work" variety—definitely less work. You know that cookies, ice cream, and punch always bring shouts of joy from the small-fry, so why not trot them out again? Doing them up in party dress for the occasion.

The old favorite, Gingersnaps, take on new appeal when cut in fancy shapes and splashed with tinted icing. A batch of these are guaranteed to please big and little appetites alike.

#### Gingersnaps

1 cup shortening  
 4 1/2 cups sifted flour  
 4 teaspoons ginger  
 1 teaspoon baking soda  
 1 teaspoon salt  
 1 cup molasses  
 1 egg, unbeaten  
 1/4 teaspoon lemon extract

Melt shortening in three or four-quart saucepan over very low fire. Remove from fire; let cool. Mix and sift dry ingredients. Add molasses, unbeaten egg, and lemon extract to cooled shortening; mix well. Add sifted dry ingredients and stir until smooth. Chill dough until firm enough to roll. Roll about one-eighth inch thick, cut in fancy shapes and bake on a greased cookie sheet at 375° F. 12 to 15 minutes or until brown. Makes about five dozen cookies.

## Wool Has Tendency to Shrink Should Be Washed Carefully

Wool, as most homemakers know, must be washed very carefully, because it is sensitive to alkali and has a tendency to shrink. It deserves the same good care when it comes to the drying, and should be dried quickly and away from heat.

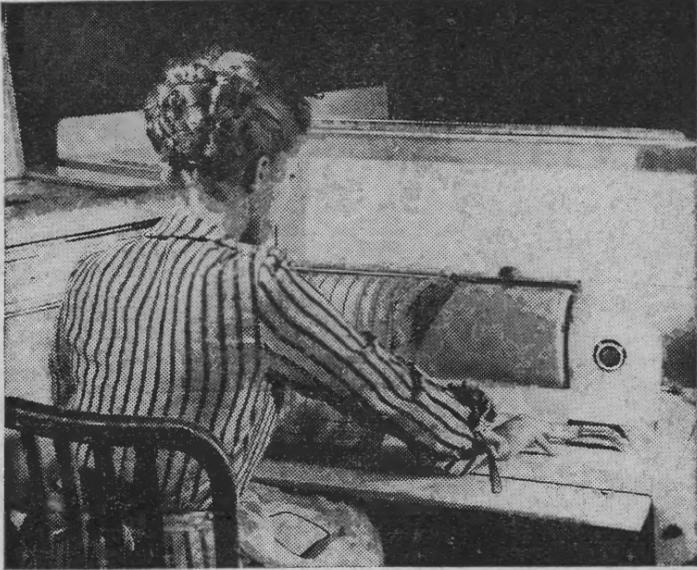
On the other hand, do not allow wool to freeze, as freezing tends to weaken and break the fibers. In handling large wollen articles, distribute the weight evenly and this will keep them from stretching and sagging.

## Pineapple Vanity Set



The center doily of this three-piece vanity set makes a graceful setting for your jars and perfume bottles. At either side, under twin lamps, are pineapple doilies of the same design. Crochet a matching runner, too. A direction leaflet for making PINEAPPLE VANITY SETS may be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Kay Conlan, Illinois REA News, Petersburg, Ill.

## Electric Ironer Reduces Ironing Time And Lets You Sit Down While Working



An electric ironer saves time and cuts down muscle work.

An electric ironer can reduce ironing time one-half. With practice, it can even be cut to one-fourth.

It not only saves time but cuts down muscle work. The ironer does the ironing; you have only the garment to move and not the ironing surface as with a hand iron. Also, you sit down to iron, which in itself cuts down the labor of ironing.

With practice, nearly everything can be ironed with an ironer. Nearly 80 per cent of ironing is flatwork. Skill in using an ironer increases if one thinks of the curved ends of the shoe as the point of the iron and the padded roll or press board as the ironing board. Learning to use a hand iron to best advantage took practice, too, just as learning to use an ironer for ruffled curtains and men's shirts does.

### Two Kinds of Ironers

There are two kinds of ironers, rotary and flatplate.

The flat-type ironer has a flat padded ironing surface with a flat heated shoe which lowers onto it. This type requires more handling of clothes since the ironing surface does not move and is not used much in homes. It may be easier for a slow worker to manipulate, however.

The rotary ironer has a padded roll which revolves against a curved heated shoe. It comes in full size or smaller portable types, and in open or cabinet models. The rotary type requires less lifting of clothes.

In most ironers, the roll turns upward against the shoe; in a few, downward against the shoe.

A rotary type ironer should provide a presser control. Location of motion controls varies with different models; it may be controlled by hand, elbow, knee or foot. Choose which is easiest for you to use.

### Purchasing Pointers

What should you look for when you go to buy an ironer?

**LENGTH OF IRONING SURFACE**—from about 26 to 32 inches is most satisfactory. At least one end should be open.

**SHOE AND "BOARD" CONTROLS**—that respond immediately to touch so that pressure will be released quickly. Release lever should be within easy reach of the operator. Emergency release should be provided to lift shoe or roll should current go off or motor stop.

**PILOT LIGHT**—serves as warning signal to show that current is on.

**HEAT CONTROL**—thermostatic control should be adjustable to at least three heats. Many give the heat according to fabric name. Switches for heating or for starting motor should be easily reached when sitting. A thermostat control on each end of shoe is a convenient and economical feature. It also eliminates possible burning of ironer cover when using only one end, as with ironing many ruffles—as well as conserving electricity.

**SHOE**—of smooth, rust-resistant, stainproof metal.

Some have a specially designed cup

underneath the board to collect condensed moisture from ironing.

### How About Cost?

An ironer will take about 10 kilowatt-hours a month to operate, according to home management studies at Ohio State university.

Ironers retail for from \$50 to \$200. A medium price buys a good one.

### Wiring Needs

Check on wiring needs for installation. For best results, because of its high wattage, an ironer should be used on a special appliance circuit. If you do not have this type and must use your ironer on an ordinary house circuit, do not use any other appliance on that circuit at the same time or you may overload your wiring and blow a fuse.

Wattages of ironers range from 1,000 to 1,250 watts. The average circuit can safely carry only 1,320 to 1,650 watts.

## TIME TO CHECK THE HOME-CANNED FOODS STILL IN STORAGE

Home-canned foods have been in storage now for several months. It's time to check them, unless you have taken care of the job recently.

Place of storage is very important. Warmth may cause canned food to lose quality—even to spoil. Hot pipes behind a wall sometimes make a shelf or closet too warm for storing food. Overhead heating pipes may make it necessary to move food that you stored during the canning season.

Low temperature may cause spoilage. Freezing may crack a jar or break a seal and let in bacteria that will cause spoilage. If the storage place is unheated, you can give the canned food some protection by covering it with a blanket or wrapping the containers in paper.

Freezing will not make canned food unsafe to eat if it does not damage the jar or seal. However, freezing may cause undesirable changes in flavor and texture, making the food unpalatable and unattractive in color and appearance.

### Tasty Casserole Dish To Use Up All The Leftover Tongue

How can that small amount of leftover tongue be used up! Try it in a tasty casserole with vegetables and sauce. Combine strips of tongue with cooked peas, sliced raw celery, grated cheese, and white sauce, and top with buttered crumbs. Bake in a 350° F. oven for 30 minutes.

Or for that hearty late snack, here's a sandwich filling idea for using up leftover tongue. Grind tongue and combine with horseradish, and mayonnaise. Spread on white or whole wheat bread, top with thin tomato slices, a crisp lettuce leaf, and another slice of bread.

## Pattern List

It won't be too long now before housecleaning, gardening and the numerous other farm chores will be upon us, so you'll want to take advantage of what spare moments you have now to get some of that fancywork done. If you need directional leaflets, just let us know. All patterns listed below are free. Send a STAMPED SELF-ADDRESSED envelope for every FOUR leaflets you want to Kay Conlin, Illinois REA News, Petersburg, Illinois. Order as many as you like.

### Ideas for Fun

- February Party Ideas
- Valentine Party
- Decorating Bottles With Wax
- Birthday Party Decoration
- Decorations For Bride's Tables
- Wedding Tips

### Toys

- Cock Horse
- Stocking Dolls
- Horse
- Bunny
- Crocheted Pompon Cat and Kittens
- Crocheted Elephant and Scottie

### Items to Crochet

- Double Ruffle Doily
- Rose Fillet Tablecloth
- Rose Fillet Chair Set
- Diamond Panel Bedspread
- Tulip Tablecloth
- Pineapple Luncheon Set
- Pineapple Buffet Set
- Pinwheel Bedspread
- Hanger And Pin Cushion Tree
- Lacy Table Doily
- Mosaic Chair Set
- Lace For Linens
- Bathroom Rug and Seat Cover
- Petal Lace Mats
- Handkerchief Edgings
- Pineapple Chair Set
- Irish Crochet Tablecloth
- Hot Plate Mats
- Crocheted Party Dress
- Daisy Tablecloth
- Peach Tree Street Bedspread
- Men's Slippers and Scuffs
- Tray Cloth
- Lacy Pineapple Centerpiece
- Black and White Handbag
- Star-Studded Bedspread
- Eight-Point Star Doily
- Striped Bed Socks
- Red and White Potholders

### Items to Sew

- Snow Man Ear Muffs
- Tea Apron
- Evening Hood And Bag
- Quartet In Leopard Cloth
- Felt Slippers
- Felt Handbag
- Pilgram Slippers
- Embroidered Pillow
- Cable Stitch Afghan
- Sweaters
- Children's Sweaters (size 6-8)
- Little Boy's Sweater
- Infant Sweaters
- Smock-Yoked Cardigan (size two)
- Child's Coat Sweater

### Items to Knit

- Heelless Socks



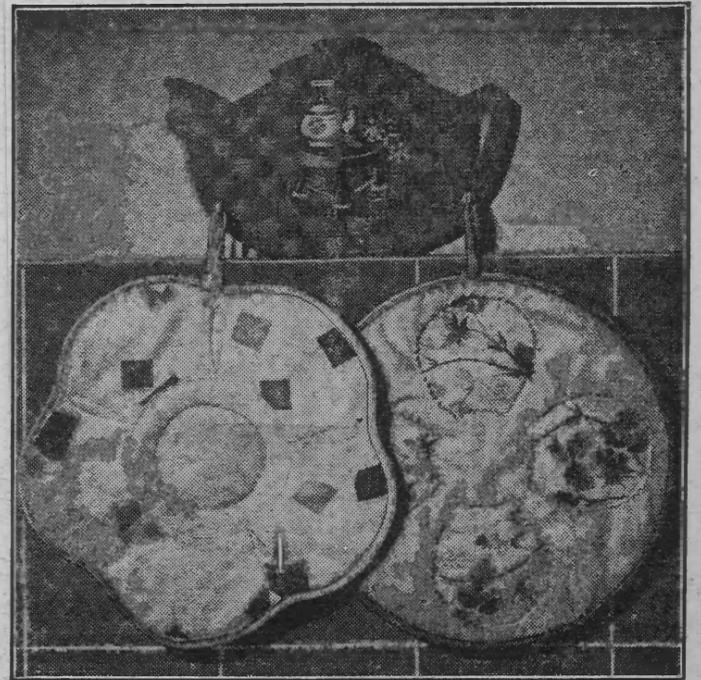
### Sweater, Hat Skating Set

Baby's Sacque and Kimono

### Helpful Hints

- Good Grooming For You
- Selecting Fabrics For Sewing
- Lengthening Skirts
- Ideas on Suit Making
- Judging Fit in Dress
- Makeover Tips
- Sewing Tips

## Home-made Potholders That Add A Personal Touch To Your Kitchen



Though kitchens are becoming more modernized every day, certain old standbys are an integral part of the room equipment. Your collection of potholders adds the personal touch to your kitchen as well as making the cooking chores easier. Plain and patterned chintzes are combined attractively to make potholders. Your direction leaflet for cutting and making TWO CHINTZ POTHOLDERS may be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Kay Conlan, Illinois REA News, Petersburg, Ill.

## Electric Range Requires New-Fangled Cooking For This Old-Fashioned Dish

By Mrs. Minor Kelly

With the wonderfully efficient electric ranges replacing the coal and wood ranges in our farm kitchens, the pleasant method of setting a crock of sour milk at the back of that range to slowly ripen into cottage cheese, it just about passe.

After acquiring my new electric range, this all favorite dish became a lost art at our house. With the burner turned back to WARM, the cheese was stringy on the bottom, sloppy on top—the mixture a mess! Using the deep cooker proved no more successful. Then I started experimenting with the oven. Success at last!

With the controlled heat turned back as far as possible, the oven set at PRE-HEAT for even heat, both top and bottom, I left the crock of sour milk in the oven for an hour and a half. Results were perfect! More exact, than I ever accomplished with the old hap-hazard method on my coal range.

### Consistency

With a little experimenting, you can get it exactly the consistency, you desire. If you like it a little grainy, then two hours is better.

And for the benefit of brides to whom the art of making delicious cottage cheese might be a mystery, to go on from there: let the cheese drip in a cotton bag overnight, then place in bowl, flake with a fork, salt and mix in all the thick cream.

## Group Work Centers If Kitchen Is Large

If you feel like you've been on a 20-mile hike at the end of the day, maybe it's because your kitchen is too large.

Study your kitchen equipment and how it's lined up around the room. Is there more than enough space between the range, refrigerator and sink? Too much room means extra steps for you.

If your kitchen is too large, there are ways to improve it. One way is to group range, sink, refrigerator and work counters close together in a compact working space.

Sometimes you can bring the work centers close together by moving one piece of equipment from a far wall out into the room near the other pieces.

If your kitchen has several doors, see if you can't close up at least one or more to provide more wall space. This may allow you to move work centers closer together.

it will take up, adding just a pinch of sugar.

Let it set in the refrigerator, at least six hours, then flake again, and pour in more cream. Mmh, good! You'll be surprised how much cream, the cheese will soak up. It will be even tastier if you don't serve until the next day.

## Vacuum Cleaner Is More Efficient With Proper Care

One of the main rules for keeping a vacuum cleaner in good condition is to use it according to the manufacturer's directions. Here are a few other rules that can add life to this valuable piece of cleaning equipment.

First, pick up pins, string or thread from the floor before using the vacuum, and keep the brush free from hair.

Second, empty the bag frequently, preferably after each use. In any case, never let it become more than one-third full. Rub or brush the inside often, but do not wash it.

The belt must give sufficient tension to drive the rotating brush at the correct speed. When the belt becomes too loose, it should be replaced.

For effective cleaning, keep the tips of the brush extending just past the tips of the nozzle.

And last, keep the name, address and telephone number of the local service dealer so that repairs can be made when necessary.

## Meats Seem Extra Good When Broiled

You know there's something special about a broiled steak, and there are other meats that seem extra good when broiled. Here are a few simple rules for perfection when you broil meat.

Let the meat stand at room temperature about 30 minutes before broiling so it won't be thoroughly chilled. It's best to preheat the broiling unit five to 10 minutes, but do not preheat the pan. Set the temperature control at the position for broiling and place the rack where meat will broil best—usually where meat will be three inches from the source of heat.

The meat should be turned only once—broil it half the required time on one side, half on the other.



## HANDY TOTER SOLVES PROBLEM OF MOVING MOTOR TO FARM JOB

Make one motor do the work of several. Your larger motor can be a jack-of-many trades if you can move it from place to place and use it properly.

A cart will enable your heavier motor to work for you on lighter jobs. Larger motors work efficiently on tasks requiring only a fraction of their power. A motor never uses more than just enough current to operate the machine it is driving.

While it is true that a motor will not be quite as efficient on tasks below its horsepower capacity as on the heavier tasks, the slight increase in current costs usually will not justify purchase of a variety of motors to do a variety of tasks.

### Get Large Motor

Select one motor that will do the heaviest task you need done. On most farms this will be a five horsepower, single-phase 1,750 RPM motor. Use this motor to do all work requiring more than three-quarter horsepower, up to and including five horsepower.

You can do so by building in your spare time a simple, easy-to-make motor cart to move your motor from place to place. The drawing and bill of materials will enable you to build a motor cart. This cart is so designed that it can be made of wood, and pieces of steel and iron from unused machines on your farm.

**Yoke:** The yoke, attached to the front of the cart, provides a quick and easy way to fasten the cart frame rigidly in position to permit proper belt alignment. It also incorporates the principle of using the motor's weight to maintain belt tension.

Holes in the yoke fit, over properly-spaced bolts permanently embedded in the floor next to the machine to be driven. The bolts may be either sunk in a concrete floor, or thrust upward through a two-by-four nailed to a wooden floor. Put the yoke in place over the tie bolts and use wing or thumb nuts to fasten it quickly and easily.

**For Frame Mounting:** In some cases it may be desirable to mount the motor directly on the frame of the driven machine, as with an ensilage cutter. When this is to be done, drill holes corresponding to the yoke bolt holes in the frame at the proper height. Bolts may then be inserted clamping both yoke and frame together.

### How To Mount Motor

To put the motor in position to drive the machine, push down on the handles of the cart until the yoke is at proper height to slip easily into the bolts.

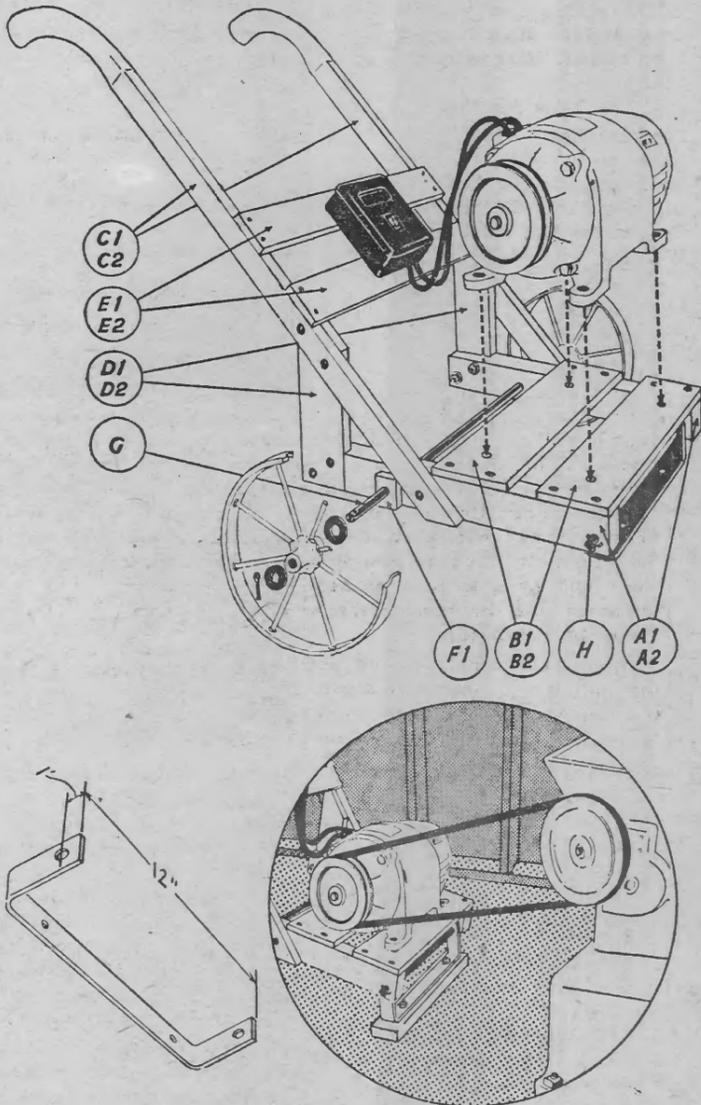
Fasten the yoke, raise the handle until the belt or belts can be slipped over the motor pulleys. This permits the motor and cart to pivot around the yoke shaft, using the weight of the motor to maintain belt tension.

By trial and error in mounting the yoke to the frame, you will find the proper tension. Too great tension will wear out both machine and motor bearings and the belt. On the other hand, the belt must be tight enough to prevent slipping.

### Most Powerful Eye

An electric eye that can see a thousand feet, nearly four times as far as present equipment, has been developed to expand such robot activities as the counting of cars on highways, operation of burglar and fire alarms and the patrolling of prison yards and other restricted areas.

## MAKE ONE MOTOR DO ALL YOUR WORK



By means of the practical motor "toter" pictured above and described below in detail, Oklahoma farmers can make one large motor do the work of several small ones. For grain elevator, ensilage cutter, feed mixer, wood saw, corn sheller, hay hoist, feed grinder—and hundreds of other farm uses, this motor toter is the answer.

### MATERIALS

Key No.	No. of Pieces	Items	Dimensions	Use
A1-A2	2	Lumber	2"x4"x26"	Side rails
B1-B2	2	Lumber	1"x6"x16"	Base for motor
C1-C2	2	Plow handles	60" long	Handles
D1-D2	2	Lumber	1"x4"x18"	Brace for handles
E1-E2	2	Lumber	1"x4"x18"	Handle Ties
F1-F2	2	Lumber	1"x2"x3"	Spacer between wheels and side rails
G	1	Pipe	1/2"x25"	Axle
H	1	Pipe	3/2"x18"	Yoke Axle
	4	Cotter pins	3/16"x1 3/4"	Axle ends and hinge pin
	4	Flat washers	3/8"	Axle
	12	Carriage bolts	3/8"x5 1/2"	Fasten 1"x6" to side rails
	14	Carriage bolts	3/8"x2 1/4"	Fasten handle to brace
	6	Carriage bolts	3/8"x3 1/2"	Fasten handle to side rails
	4	Carriage bolts	1/2"x2 1/4"	Fasten Motor
	32	Flat washers	7/16"	Fasten Motor
	2	Wood or steel wheels	2" tread, 3/4" bore, 12" diameter or larger	
	1	Bar iron	2"x3/8"x20"	Yoke

### Some Suggestions for Material Sources:

Handles may be obtained from a worn-out walking plow; the wheels from the tongue trucks of a horse-drawn disc and the yoke may be made from any piece of 3/8" x 2" bar iron. The frame can be made of 2" x 4" lumber.

## Fluorescent Lamps Finding More Favor In Home Lighting

New developments in fluorescent lighting will mean substantial savings in electric light bills for many farm families. The new fluorescent lights are filled with the inert gas Krypton in place of Argon gas which is now commonly used in the lamps.

The new Krypton-filled fluorescent lights combine the longer-life of such lamps with increases in light output, thereby reducing operating costs. Of particular interest is the new 25-watt lamp, which is described as

the "most efficient lamp ever developed for the kitchen, producing 50 percent more light than a 20-watt fluorescent lamp for only 25 per cent more electricity."

Fluorescent lamps, now commonly used in offices and factories, are finding more and more favor in home lighting.

Fluorescent lights convert ultra violet and near ultra violet light rays which are invisible to the eye to visible light rays by the use of "phosphor" coatings on the inside of the glass tubes. Light rays which would ordinarily be lost are thus made available for lighting.

## Good Light Saves Not Only Sight But Also Helps Farmers Do Work Right

Light and good workmanship go together. And farmers, to be successful, must be good workmen. Whether it be in or out of doors, therefore, good farmers are careful to see that they have sufficient "light on their work" for the job at hand.

This includes satisfactory, non-glare illumination of all farm buildings and those outside areas where later chores are performed. It means, too, that driveways which may be used after dusk by farm vehicles or the family automobile should be properly lighted—for accidents as well as poor workmanship thrive in hard-to-see farm yards and buildings.

In addition to the correct placement, number and types of lights for various locations on the farm, there is another factor to be considered. That is a wiring system which is planned for adequacy. An efficient wiring system will provide your lights and electrical equipment with all the electricity required for maximum operation.

### Lighting Outlet Guide

A recommended guide provides the following information as to lighting outlets needed for satisfactory illumination of some typical buildings:

**DAIRY BARN**—Outlet every 12 feet on center line of alley, or slightly off center, if necessary, to clear manure carrier. In the feed alley, install lights every 20 feet on center line of alley. Each group of lights should be controlled by separate wall switches.

**MILK HOUSE**—Outlet for every 100 square feet of floor area, including one in the center of the ceiling and one or two in each work area.

**POULTRY HOUSE**—Outlet for every 200 square feet of floor area, installed according to individual practices in providing laying hens with 13 hours of light in every 24 hours. Use of a time switch will relieve farmer from turning lights on and off at required periods. Dim light outlets should be on separate circuit.

**BEEF CATTLE BARN**—Outlet for every 250 square feet of open pen area.

**SHEEP BARN AND LAMBING SHED**—Outlet every 20 feet on center line of feed alley.

**HOG AND HARROWING HOUSE**—Outlet for each pair of

hog pens. Locate lights over partition line.

**HAYMOW**—The following three ideas are suggested: One light near peak of roof, floodlight located high at one end of mow, or two floodlights placed at diagonally opposite corners of mow.

**FARM SHOP**—Outlet for every 200 square feet for general lighting. For local lighting, it is suggested that one light be installed to illuminate each permanently



Satisfactory "light on your work"—in the feed room, as in the above picture, or elsewhere—pays dividends in efficiency.

placed piece of equipment and each 10 feet of bench length.

**MACHINERY SHEDS**—Outlet for every 400 square feet of space.

In all cases, lights should be controlled by switches. Power suppliers and dealers can provide additional lighting and wiring information. They also can help in planning the best location for yard lights and other outdoor lights.

tanks in buying or building septic tanks.

1. The smallest size for the first chamber below the outlet opening must be at least 500 gallons for a small family—five to seven persons—and more than 500 gallons for a larger family.

2. The tank should be durable and watertight. Concrete is probably the best material for building your own tank. You can get precast concrete tanks, but check them for size and quality of material first.

3. If your tank is cylinder-shaped, it must be at least 54 inches, inside diameter, and 500 gallon capacity to meet state board of health specifications for small families.

4. The tank outlet must be connected to a properly designed disposal bed with closed ends. If you connect it to a field drain or open ditch, you'll probably have no better sanitation than before you put in your septic tank.

5. Install your septic tank at least 50 feet down the slope, away from the well.

6. Use four or six-inch watertight sewer tile sloped about one inch in five feet to the tank, and about one inch in 25 feet for the open joint tile disposal bed. Generally 40-50 feet of four-inch disposal tile per person, laid 18-20 inches below the surface, is all right. If the soil is very tight, you may want to bed the tile in gravel.

7. Keep the disposal lines at least 75 feet away from the well, and don't lay them through the vegetable garden.

## 500-GALLON SEPTIC TANK RECOMMENDED FOR SMALL FAMILY

If you're putting in a septic tank you'll save yourself plenty of trouble, expensive cleanout operations and eventual expense in replacing your septic tank if you get a 500-gallon size to start with.

A septic tank should never be smaller than 500-gallon working size in the first chamber, regardless of how few people use it. This volume is needed to prevent disturbing bacterial action in the tank each time the plumbing is used.

A 500-gallon septic tank would be roughly 10 times larger than the familiar 55-gallon oil drum.

Frank Andrew, agricultural engineer, University of Illinois College of Agriculture lists these cau-

Are You . . .

# Planning A Bathroom?

by Amy Karine Barstad

★ ★ ★

Now is the time for you to plan the bathroom in your farmhouse. Some of you have not had the bathroom installed because you were unable to get bathroom fixtures during the war, while those of you who built houses after the war, perhaps faced the many shortages not only of the fixtures but of labor. Don't delay any longer, now that materials are available.

Since you are going to plan your bathroom, please don't make the common mistake in thinking that a bathroom can be installed in any left-over space in your house. And don't make the mistake of thinking that it is a routine matter of ordering fixtures haphazardly and placing them in the smallest space possible.

First consider the size of your family and its particular needs. If Grandma and Grandpa live with you, it might be wise to have this bathroom on the first floor to save steps. This arrangement is also satisfactory in case of illness or where there are many young children. You want to have space in your bathroom so that you can bathe the baby. Then, too, you want to have a place convenient for Dad and the boys to wash up when they return from work.

### Question Arises

Having thought over the needs of your particular family unit, the question arises whether you want the bathroom on the first or the second floor. If you have a one-story house, that question is already answered. But if you have a two-story house, it is found to be most convenient to have the bathroom on the second floor. Should this be your decision, then it is suggested that you include a washroom on the first floor. This should be placed below the upstairs bath or next to the kitchen to economize on plumbing.

The location of the bathroom is the next matter to consider. In the case of a one-story house, locate the bathroom near the back door so that the men folks coming in from work won't have to disturb anyone by going through the other rooms. By having the bathroom opening into a central hallway, no bathroom fixtures would be visible from the living room in case the door is left open. Figure (1) shows a good location of the bath in a one-story house.

But whether the bathroom is on the first or the second floor,

a central hallway is advisable because it can be easily reached from any of the rooms, and one does not disturb people by going through the other rooms. Figure (2) shows the location of the first-floor bathroom, and figure (3) gives a good floor plan for the upstairs bathroom.

### One Door

Have only one door to your bathroom, for with two doors not only is more space required, but also, one often neglects to unlock the other door.

Having determined the location of your bathroom, the next consideration is the amount of floor space that you can afford to utilize.

The minimum amount of space that will be required for a bathroom is 5 by 6½ feet as is shown in figure (4). This allows space for the average sized bathtub and takes into consideration the amount of space needed for the door to open into the room. Remember though, that this minimum floor space is only large enough for one person and if you can possibly allow for more space, it will provide more working space when cleaning the fixtures, as well as being more convenient when there are small children who need assistance.

A more desirable small-sized bathroom would have a floor space of 7 by 8 feet as is shown in figure (5). This will provide ample space for the baby's bath table and also for a floor-to-ceiling cabinet for supplies. There will also be more space allowed between fixtures and in front of them. Also, you can use the bathroom as a dressing room.

### Save Money

The economical phase is one that is important to all of us, regardless of the size of house we build. You will find that much money can be saved by placing the bathroom next to or above the kitchen or wash-

room where there is other plumbing. And be sure to locate your bathroom on the side of the house nearest the disposal system.

As ventilation is another consideration the bathroom should have one outside wall. The outside window provides both the ventilation needed and the necessary light. If an outside wall is not possible, then, of course, you will need to provide an exhaust fan or some other type of ventilator.

Space should be included for the radiator. If you have steam or hot-water, you can save space by using a radiator recessed under the window. If you use an electric heater, get the wall panel type or have a built-in heater.

For safety precautions, avoid using a portable heater. And be sure to place heaters where the curtains, clothing or towels will not catch fire from it. Place a shield over the heater for further safety.

### Safety Measure

To prevent danger of shock from defective wiring or cord improperly grounded, locate switches out of reach of anyone in the tub and away from pipes and similar metal objects. Hence wall switches are preferable to pull chains. It is so easy to touch both water and metal while using electric equipment in the bathroom.

When buying bathroom fixtures, consult your local plumbers and consider such items as safety measures and whether the material is easily cleaned. For example, it is important to have a flat bottomed tub to lessen the danger of slipping.

As to cleaning considerations, you will find that fixtures made of vitreous china are preferable. Although they are the most expensive type, yet they do not stain easily and are very resistant to both acids and alkalies. The enameled steel fixtures are cheaper than the enameled iron and both sometimes have an acid-resisting finish.

While you are buying the bathroom fixtures, why not remember the tiny tots and place a low-set cabinet for their use. This should be placed 30 to 36 inches from the floor and here they can keep their toilet articles. Whenever the children outgrow this cabinet, the family will find it handy to place their shoe-shining equipment and other supplies in the cabinet. And be sure to have a little footstool handy so that they can reach the lavatory.

So with these highlighted considerations in mind, why not begin planning your bathroom today?

All animals are healthier and make better gains when they have a constant supply of fresh water available.

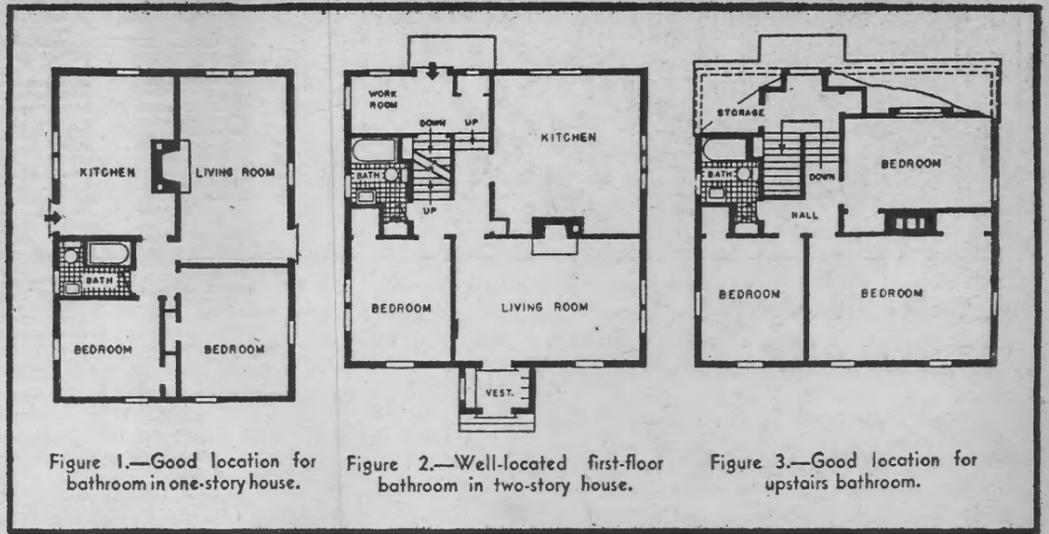


Figure 1.—Good location for bathroom in one-story house.

Figure 2.—Well-located first-floor bathroom in two-story house.

Figure 3.—Good location for upstairs bathroom.

## NEWS FROM Corn Belt

Bloomington, Ill.

T. H. HAFER, Supt.

Your 1949 co-op annual meeting will be held beginning at 12:30 at the Lutheran school in Bloomington.



T. H. Hafer

We have confirmation from John Strohm that he will be here with his talk and pictures on "The People Behind the Iron Curtain in Russia and Other European Sections." This is to be the most outstanding program we have had and we know many members will want to attend.

The regular reports and election of directors will be held and two changes in the by-laws will be recommended by the directors to be voted on by the members.

Watch for your letter calling this annual meeting February 12th.

### TEACH CO-OP PRINCIPLES

Several high school ag teachers were invited and did attend the annual Power Use Advisers Training Conference for co-op employees at the University of Illinois in December. It was brought out there that some time in the ag classes in high school is spent studying co-op principles and we are glad that these boys are getting some of these fundamentals while they are in school. J. R. Bridges, vocational agricultural instructor in the LeRoy high school, represented the teachers from the area served by your cooperative. Many of these ag teachers also

have evening courses for farmers and where the farmers desire a session on electric power on the farm the cooperative manager and wiring inspector are glad to help out with this program. This has been done in quite a number of schools in the past and this year we are doing it in Bellflower and Deer Creek. We have also been asked to help with a session of the farm woman's evening course at Bellflower to discuss and demonstrate the subject of electricity in the home.

Mrs. Arthur Paullin, one of our Booster Committee members from Bellflower Township, is the first one to start using an electric clothes drier. We have been informed that she got the first one sold in Bloomington. This electric drier and also the automatic washer are two more items of electric equipment which will really help take the drudgery out of a woman's work. We are glad to see more of this equipment going into operation.

We have heard of lots of funny things happening when people first get electricity. Here is the latest. One of our new members recently received electric current one afternoon and it is said that the next morning the man of the family came down and lit the kerosene lamp from force of habit instead of flipping the switch.

Remove cellophane from a lamp shade as soon as it's put to use. Otherwise the heat from the bulb and varying weather conditions cause the cellophane to shrink, bending the frame and wrinkling the silk.

Night lights in poultry or livestock buildings tend to reduce panic and injury to stock.

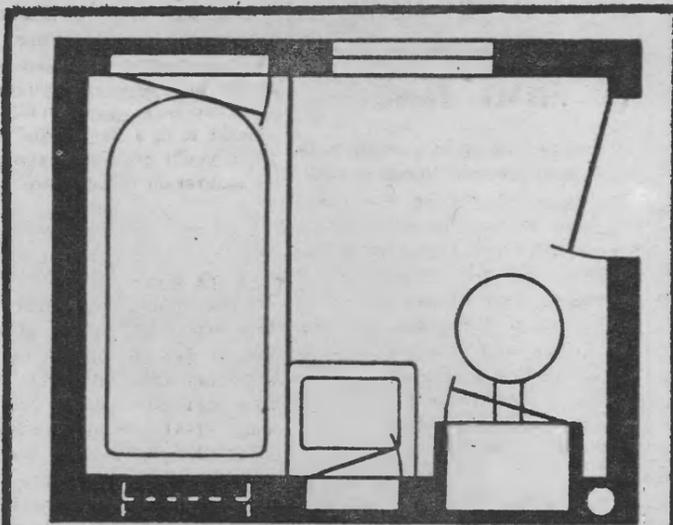


Fig. 4.—Bathroom, 5 by 6½ feet, has space for door to open into room.

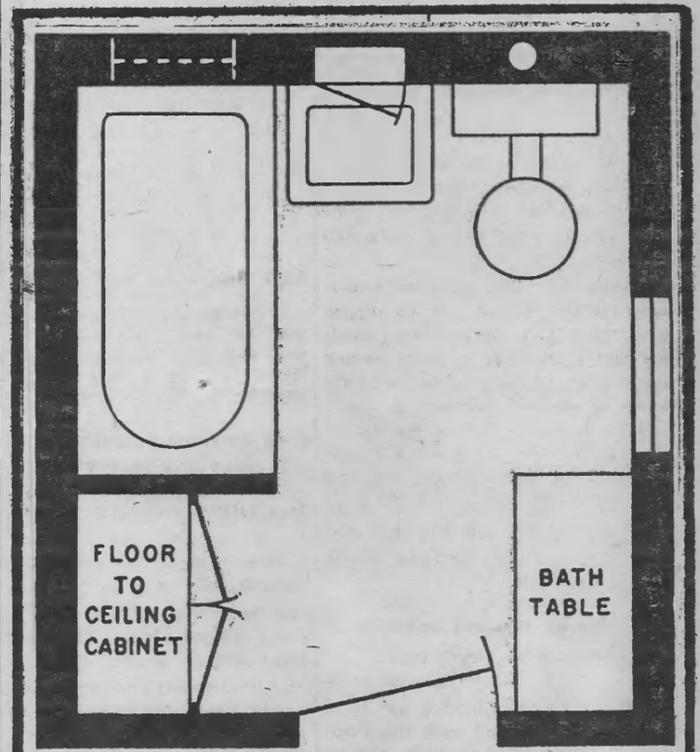


Fig. 5.—Bathroom 7 by 8 feet has plenty of space for dressing and for baby bath table.



# JUNIOR REA NEWS

**Lincoln's Birthday, Valentine's Day and Washington's Birthday—** yes, February is a month of holidays, and it calls for parties. We hope you get your share of them.

We hope, too, that you'll take time out to join our letter-writing fun, boys and girls! We're off with flying colors to make 1949 our biggest Pen Pal year yet. We want to hear from all the BOYS as well as the girls. Write to the new Pen Pals in this issue of your Junior REA News, and remember our March mailbox is just crying for mail. We'll be looking for a letter from you, so write it now and address it to Kay Conlan, Junior REA News, Petersburg, Ill.

**Collects Pictures**

I am a girl 16 years old and my birthday is August 14. I have blond hair and brown eyes. I weigh 95 pounds and I am five feet four and one-half inches tall. I am a sophomore in high school. I have a brother, Ronnie, eight. I live on a 160-acre farm. My hobby is riding a bicycle. I also like to collect movie star pictures. I will answer all letters and exchange snapshots with both boys and girls between the ages of 13 and 19. So come on Pen Pals and fill my mailbox.—Imogene Saathoff, c/o Arnold Saathoff, R. R. 1, La Prairie, Ill.

**Has Halloween Birthday**

This is my first letter to the Junior REA News. I am a girl nine years old. My birthday is on Halloween. I have light brown hair and gray eyes. I am four feet, seven inches tall and weigh 75 pounds. I go to the Garrison School and I am in the fifth grade. I have a twin sister, two older sisters and a younger brother. My hobby is riding a bicycle and listening to the radio. I also like to write letters. I want girls between the ages of 8 and 10 to write to me.—Thelma Coil, Keenes, Ill.

**Jean Weaves Rugs**



This is my second letter to the Junior REA News. I am a girl of 20 and I am five feet, seven inches tall and weigh 137 pounds. I have brown hair, blue eyes and a fair complexion. I have three younger brothers who are home; two sisters and a half-brother who are married; and three nieces and a nephew. I am doing the housework at home while my mother weaves rugs on our new loom. I also weave rugs once in a great while. My hobbies are reading and writing letters. I would like boys as well as girls between the ages of 20 and 25 to write and I'll answer everyone.—Jean Evelyn Hopps, R. R. No. 1, Chandlerville, Ill.

**Peggy Likes School**

I am a girl 12 years old and I go to the Logan School, District 41. This is my first letter to the Junior REA News. I have brown hair and brown eyes. My hobbies are riding a bicycle and roller skating. I like to go to school very much. I like dogs and cats. I have one dog and two cats. I have one sister, Marsha Jane, who is seven. I am about five feet tall. I would enjoy having boys as well as girls between the ages of 10 and 17 write to me. So fill my mailbox Pen Pals. It will only take a few minutes to write and I will exchange photos.—Peggy Dawn Thomas, Cisne, Ill.

**Plays Basketball**

I am a girl 15 years old. I have big blue eyes and brown hair. I am four feet nine inches tall. I am a sophomore. I play basketball and baseball. I would like for girls and boys between the ages of 14 and 18 to write to me. I will answer all letters and exchange pictures.—Charlotte Batteau, R. R. 1, Box 65, Elkhart, Ill.

**Favorite Sport Is Swimming**

This is my first letter to the Junior REA News. I am 15 and my birthday is November 4. I go to Steeleville High School. I am five feet, three inches tall, have brown hair, blue eyes and a nice tan. My favorite sport is swimming which I do quite a bit.



I have two sisters and two brothers. I also like any sort of sport, like ice skating. Mary Ethel Bixby, Box 358, Steeleville, Ill.

**Has 14 English Pen Pals**

This is my third letter to the Junior REA News. I am a girl 12 years old. My birthday is July 7. I have blonde hair and green eyes. I am five feet, one inch tall and weigh 120 pounds. I live on a 80 acre farm. My father is a farmer in the summer and a oil worker in the winter. He has rented 285 acres of land this year. I have one bull dog and four cats. I have 14 Pen Pals in England and three here. I would like to have more so come gals and guys, start filling my mailbox.—Glenda Ann Pyle, R. R. 4, Carmi, Ill.

**Janie Wants 100 Pen Pals**

I am 15 years old and have blue eyes and red hair. I am five feet tall and weigh 110 pounds. I am a junior in high school. My hobbies are collecting pictures of movie stars and writing letters. I am trying to get 100 Pen Pals. I would like to write to foreign boys and girls between the ages of 14 and 20. So come on Pen Pals and help me reach my quota. I will also exchange photographs.—Janie Batteau, R. R. 2, Box 65, Elkhart, Ill.

**Goes To Knott School**

I am a girl 11 years old. My birthday is July 22. This is my first letter to the Junior REA News. I go to the Knott School in Hancock County. I am in the seventh grade. I have brown hair and brown eyes. I am four feet seven inches tall. I have one brother and one sister. I would like to have girls between the ages of 10 to 15 to write to me.—Betty Junk, R. R. 1, West Point, Ill.

**Ella's Hobby Cooking**

This is my first letter to the Junior REA News. I am a girl 13 years old. I had a birthday on December 9. I have blond hair,

blue eyes and a light complexion. I am four feet 10 inches tall and weigh 88 pounds. I am a sophomore at the Equality Township High School. My father owns and operates a coal mine. I live on a 100 acre farm. I am a christian. I enjoy singing and listening to the gospel. My hobby is cooking. I would like to hear from boys and girls 13 years old and older. I will exchange pictures and try to answer all letters. Come on gang and fill my mailbox.—Ella Laverne Miligan, R. R. 2, Equality, Ill.

**Mary Ellen Sings**



This is my first letter to the Junior REA News. I am 13 years old and my birthday is October 27. I have brown eyes and blonde hair and I am a singer. I love pets. I would like to hear from girls and boys, so come on and write, Pen Pals.—Mary Ellen Roser, Box 117, Maunie, Ill.

**Nina's First Letter**

I am a girl 12 years old and my birthday is October 27. I have brown hair and gray eyes. I weigh 115 pounds and I am five feet four inches tall. My hobby is riding my bike and listening to the radio. I have one sister, Gloria, and three brothers. This is my first letter to the Junior REA News. So Pen Pals lets write.—Nina Louise Hoake, R. R. 4, Centralia, Ill.

**Lucille Will Exchange Photos**

I am a girl 11 years old. My birthday is August 31. This is the first letter I have written to the Junior REA News. I am in the seventh grade at Britt School. My teacher's name is Miss Norma Bird. I am four feet eight inches tall

and weigh about 100 pounds. I have brown hair and brown eyes. I have a light complexion. My hobbies are reading books, riding bicycles and letter writing. I have two sisters and one brother. I would like to hear from boys as well as girls. I will answer all letters that I receive. I will exchange pictures, so come on Pen Pals and fill my mailbox.—Lucille L. Iberg, R. R. 1, Box 6, Pocahontas, Ill.

**Mary Loves Horses**

I am a girl 14 years old. My birthday is May 4. I weigh 110 pounds and I am five feet five inches tall. I have brown hair and brown eyes. I love horses. I have a roan-colored horse. I call him Roannie. I also have a young colt. I have a sister 11 years old. She has red hair. Come on Pen Pals, write to me. I will answer all letters promptly.—Mary Lee Prine, Godfrey, Ill.

**Has Pen Pal In Holland**

I am a girl 14 years old. My birthday is August 22. I have brown hair and blue eyes. I am five feet, four inches tall. This is my first letter to the Junior REA News. I have a Pen Pal in Holland. I got her name through our 4-H Club. I have been writing to her for almost a year. I am in the eighth grade at the Moweaqua Grade School. I have one sister, Anita, age nine, and one brother, Clare who is only one and one-half years old. My hobbies are collecting pencils and pictures of my friends. I also like to play the piano and clarinet. I enjoy all sports. My favorite sports are playing softball and volleyball. Come on boys and girls, fill my mailbox.—Barbara Lambdin, R. R. 2, Moweaqua, Ill.

**Eileen Likes Summer Sports**

I am a girl 14 years old. I have dark brown hair and blue eyes. I weigh 120 pounds and I am five feet, three inches tall. My birthday is July 15. I am a freshman at Pinchneyville Community High School. I like all summer sports and best of all I like swimming. I also like answering and receiving letters from boys and girls 12 to 20 years of age. So come on, Pen Pals, send the letter. I will also exchange photos.—Eileen Smith, R. R. 1, Pickneyville, Ill.

**Velma, A Twin**

I am a girl nine years old. I have brown hair and blue eyes. I

am four feet six inches tall and I weigh 76 pounds. I go to the Garrison School. I have a twin sister and two older sisters and a younger brother. My hobbies are riding a bicycle, listening to the radio and reading comics. I would like to get letters from girls between the ages of 8 and 10. I will try to answer all letters.—Velma Coil, Keenes, Ill.

**Collects Picture Postcards**

I am a girl 13 years old and I am four feet nine inches tall. I weigh about 76 pounds and have light brown hair. My birthday is June 27. My favorite pastimes are bicycle riding and swimming. I enjoy all sports. My hobby is collecting picture postcards from all over the world. I will enjoy receiving letters from girls and boys about my same age.—Jean Halley, R. R. 2, Coulterville, Ill.

**Likes Bicycling**

I am a girl 12 years old. My birthday is December 30. I go to Town Mount school. My hobbies are playing ball and bicycling. Please write to me.—Darlene Owsley, R. R. 2, Box 141, West Frankfort, Ill.

**Betty Jean's First Letter**



I am 16 years old and will be 17 on April 30. I am five feet, two and one-half inches tall and have brown eyes and brown hair. I weigh 106 pounds. I have two brothers, 12 and six, and two sisters, 15 and eight. I would like to hear from boys and girls between 17 and 18.—Betty Jean Mullen, R. F. D. No. 2, Greenville, Ill.

**Goes To Rowery School**

I am a girl 12 years old. I am five feet tall and I have brown eyes and black hair. I go to Rowery School. My birthday is October 7. I will answer all letters so come on Pen Pals fill my mailbox.—Linda Wilson, R. R. 1, Keenes, Ill.

**Margary Rides Horses**

I am a girl 10 years old. My birthday is December 23. I am four feet eight inches tall. I have brown hair and brown eyes. I have a brother, Mackie, six and a sister, Mary Linda, four. My hobbies are riding the bicycle and riding horses. I would like girls to write to me. I will answer all letters.—Margary Withrow, R. R. 1, Sims, Ill.

**Donna Has Green Eyes**

I am a girl 14 years old. My birthday is January 25. I am five feet four inches tall and weigh 130 pounds. I am in my second year of high school at Athens High School. I have brown hair and green eyes. I have two brothers and one sister. I will write to boys and girls between the ages of 14 and 18. Let me hear from you.—Donna Garmes, Box 61, Cantrall, Ill.

**Has A Big Pond**

I am a girl 12 years old. My birthday is October 24. My hobbies are playing the piano and writing letters. I have two brothers and two sisters. We have a big pond to go swimming in. I would like to have a lot of Pen Pals.—Phyllis Moslew, Cypress, Ill.

## The President Who Played Marbles

By Carrol C. Hall

Young Abe Lincoln back in his New Salem days was quite a marble player. Of course, Abe was then a fellow past twenty-two years of age, but as the story goes: "he wasn't above playing marbles with the youngsters of the village."

Lincoln during his leisure moments from the store where he was clerk would join the kids at their game. And—"how his long fingers could make the marbles roll!"

According to tradition, he was the best. Good at plumping them from taw and knocking "ole boler" from the ring.

So much for marble playing back at New Salem.

**In Springfield**

Later, when Lincoln was practicing attorney in Springfield he stopped one afternoon at the home of Judge Logan for a visit. The Logan children were playing marbles on the floor.

Seeing them at play, Lincoln came into the room where they were and said, "Give me a taw."

He then sat on the floor and finished the game with them.

Many years later, as President, Mr. Lincoln played at marbles again.

One day he was walking from the White House over to the army telegraph office where he received military news. He was accompanied by a telegraph clerk and one of his sons.

**Sent Pebble Spinning**

As they went along the street, Lincoln reached down and picked up a pebble that was shaped much like a marble. He sent it spinning off his thumb.

That act started a game!

The three companions picked up pebbles and a game of "follow-up" was started.

Each in turn tried to hit the pebble farthest ahead. The game was continued until the war office was reached.

The winner? The President, of course!

By playing again at the game of marbles, the war-harrassed Lincoln found a few moments of relaxation.

### NEWS FROM Southwestern Electric Co-op

Greenville, Ill.

V. C. KALLAL, Manager

#### TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Bond County—Office, Greenville, Tel. 366. Office Hours: 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. except Sundays or Holidays. Before or after office hours, on Sundays, call Paul G. Morgan, Greenville 796, or V. C. Kallal, Greenville 379.  
Fayette County—Maurice Ketten, Vandalia 982.  
Madison County—Ed. Barnes, Edwardsville 1087.

Very often remarks are made concerning the farmer's ability as a manager. Sometimes the remarks are made jokingly and many times seriously and are of a belittling nature. However, those who are informed realize that managing a farm either as a tenant or owner-operator requires a large amount of skill and ingenuity.



V. C. Kallal

Your cooperative records show that you, as members, are steadily increasing the use of electric energy and decreasing the amount of manual energy in the operation of your farms.

On many of the modern farms, mechanization has reached a point comparable with the most modern factory. On other farms, plans are made to reach this point of efficiency and mechanization at the earliest possible date.

For these reasons we find that although 800 new connections were made during the year 1948, the monthly kilowatt hour consumption will be near 190 compared with 171 for the year 1947. This would indicate that the consumption was increased on many farms probably 50 to 100 kilowatt hours per month.

The reason for the yearly increases in the use of electrical energy is that it is just plain good management to make every possible practical use of a reasonably priced source of power.

#### HOME IMPROVEMENT

Now some of the good farm wives will agree with what has been said above on farm management and ask "where do we come in?" Well, many of you too are to be complimented on modernizing your homes. Many of you have plans to make many improvements as soon as possible. Others of you will have to wait until that business man husband of yours makes enough profit on some outside use of the current. Then you, too, will be operating a modern mechanized home and will have time to come to town with him on rainy days.

You will remember that the new tractor, etc., were always more important to him from a businessman's viewpoint than the new automobile or other luxuries not contributing to the lowering of the cost of production of farm crops and livestock.

With continued favorable prices for farm products, you should not have to wait long to make such improvements as running water together with all the trimmings—a bathroom, modern kitchen sink, and hot and cold water in the laundry.

All these things will put a greater demand on your electric cooperative for continued and adequate electric service. You have entrusted your board of directors and managing personnel with that problem and you may be assured that it will be carried out to the best of their ability.

#### SAVES TIME

No one likes to wait to pay a bill and once again you are being asked to fill out the meter reading sheet before you come to the co-

operative office to pay your bill. When you read the meter, take time to fill out the sheet completely. It will save the time of the cooperative personnel and those waiting to pay their bills. Your cooperation is asked.

The system of self-billing reduces overhead cost to your cooperative and is one of the reasons that low-cost electricity is available to you.

Mr. Jesse Bartimus of St. Elmo wrote us that he has purchased a deep freeze and the following have reported the purchase of ranges:

Rudolph Hoffman, Bingham; T. M. Goodson, Brownstown; Floyd Merry, Mulberry Grove; Otis E. Parkison, Brownstown; Harold Gruner, Greenville; Charles Riggs, Dorsey; Ayres Buzzard, St. Elmo; Howard Y. Sybert, Collinsville; Robert Niemetz, Worden; Willard Maden, Troy; Wm. Geiger, St. Jacob; Wm. Bohnenstiehl, Marine; Otto Anschutz, Worden, and Lester May, Edwardsville.

### NEWS FROM Eastern Illinois Power Co-op

Paxton, Ill.

T. M. Brady, Manager

#### TELEPHONE NUMBERS FOR OUTAGE CALLS

Office—8 p.m. to 5 p.m. except Saturday, Sunday & holidays Paxton 185  
Tom Barbien, Paxton, 595  
Kenneth Slater, Paxton, 576  
T. M. Brady, Paxton, 633  
W. S. Nelson, Paxton, 409L  
Jesse Fiets, Gilman, 159  
W. H. Kamm, Hoopston, 586  
Don Allison, Hoopston, 7144  
Walter Gott, Cropsey, 56  
In case of an outage, check to see if your neighbors have service. If not, call collect one of the above numbers. If your call is not accepted, you will know that the report of the outage has already been received and that it is being taken care of.

The contractor is progressing as rapidly as he possibly can, considering the weather conditions, with the construction of our R, S, & T lines and we are doing everything we possibly can to complete these lines as soon as possible.

We wish to again advise all of the people who have not completed their wiring to do so immediately so they may be ready for the electric service when the line is completed.

If the yard pole has been set at your farm, please complete all of your wiring and send our office a postal card advising us you are ready for inspection of your wiring. Where the meter stake has been installed in your yard and no poles set as yet, please complete all of the wiring other than the wiring on the yard pole.

If you have not cleared all of the trees, brush, and hedge along the route of your proposed line, this also must be done immediately so the poles can be set and the wire strung on your particular extension. We assure you that our Cooperative is most anxious to complete these lines immediately.

#### ANNUAL MEETING

Don't forget that the annual membership meeting of your Cooperative will be held at the Paxton Community High School, Paxton, on Tuesday, February 15, 10 A.M. We expect to have the Prairie Ramblers who will furnish us with some fine music and entertainment. We will also have a speaker whom I know all of you will enjoy, and there will be a large number of electrical appliances to be given away. In case you cannot attend the meeting, please send us your proxy or give it to some member who will attend the meeting so you will not lose your vote.

The membership meeting will acquaint you with the activities of your Cooperative for the past year and with the proposed activities for the next year. At this time 11 directors will be elected to the Cooperative. We hope that everyone that possibly can get away will attend this annual meeting. We are sure you will all enjoy it.

#### SAFETY TIPS

1. Never touch switches, outlets or

connected appliances and cords when your hands are wet.

2. Keep radios and small appliances away from bathroom. They may fall into tub while you are taking a bath.

3. Keep wiring and electric cords in good repair.

4. Never touch high voltage lines or transformers.

5. Always disconnect joints when pulling well pipe near line.

6. Do not cut trees near line without supervision from Co-op personnel.

7. Do not use insulators for target in pistol or rifle practice.

Storms often blow trees and branches through electric lines causing dangling wires. Dangling wires are dangerous things. They look innocent enough yet may be charged with killing current. Whether it's a wire near your home or a 100 miles from home remember that electricity travels fast—hits hard—and you can't see it.

So don't touch a fallen wire but call us at once. Experienced service men who have spent years dealing with electric wires know what to do—and they will respond to your call immediately.

#### ILLINOIS REA NEWS

We wish to thank the following people who have written to us about the ILLINOIS REA NEWS and this is just a few of the responses we have received and will ask that if you enjoy the magazine, drop us a postal card and let us know if you wish us to continue sending the ILLINOIS REA NEWS. The board of directors is anxious to know if you wish to have this to continue in the future.

"Enjoyed your paper, keep it coming." Louis Moury, Rossville, Illinois.

"Received your REA NEWS and have enjoyed it very much. Will be glad to keep on getting it. There are many things one can learn from it." A. H. Stam, Sheldon, Illinois.

"We would like very much to have the Illinois REA Magazine. Thanking you." Henry J. Hartke, Buckley, Illinois.

"We like the ILLINOIS REA NEWS, keep it coming." C. E. Braden, Woodome Farm, Sheldon, Illinois.

"Just noticed your request in the ILLINOIS REA NEWS for an expression as to whether we like the paper. Found both issues very interesting and informative as to the progress of electrification in the state.

Having come from a farm 4½ years ago, which was electrified, we felt the lack keenly and want to express our appreciation to everyone who in any way helped to get it thru here and are anxious that all the rest of the farms have a like chance. Mrs. Carl L. Anderson, Gilman, Illinois.

"We received the second issue of your ILLINOIS REA NEWS and we enjoy it very much as it is interesting. Aksel Thuesen, Herscher, Illinois.

"We received our ILLINOIS REA NEWS and we enjoyed it very much. Is very interesting and helpful. Hope to receive more of them. Thanking you. Sam P. Zimmerman, Strawn, Illinois.

#### MEMBERS MOVING

There is always a certain amount of confusion in regard to our members moving from one farm to another about this time of the year.

We will ask that you please advise us when you expect to move from your present location and to send in a final meter reading at the time you move and, if possible, advise us the name of the new person moving into the farm home you are vacating. In that way we will bill you only for the KWH used up until the time you move and then the person moving into your farm will take the meter reading from that period on.

Every person receiving electric service from the Cooperative must have a membership with our Cooperative and a meter deposit. Memberships cannot be transferred or sold.

### ANNUAL MEETINGS



John Strohm, editor, author and world traveler, will be the principal speaker at seven annual meetings of rural electric cooperatives including, Western Illinois, Carthage; Corn Belt, Bloomington; Coles-Moultrie, Mattoon; Norris Electric, Newton; Tri-County Electric, Mt. Vernon; Menard Electric, Petersburg, and Illinois Rural, Winchester.

Strohm, who is associate editor of COUNTRY GENTLEMEN, has traveled in more than 60 countries including Russia where he received the permission of Joseph Stalin to travel unhampered and take uncensored pictures behind the Iron Curtain. His talk is illustrated with colored pictures.

Annual meeting dates are as follows:

- February 1— Illinois Electric Cooperative, Champaign.
- February 5— Monroe County, Waterloo.
- February 7— Rural Electric Convenience, Divernon.
- February 8— Western Illinois Electric, Carthage.
- Clay Electric, Flora (at Louisville).
- February 12— Corn Belt Electric, Bloomington.
- Southern Illinois Electric, Don-gola.
- February 15— Eastern Illinois Power, Paxton.
- February 19— Tri-County Electric, Mt. Vernon.
- Norris Electric, Newton.
- February 24— Coles-Moultrie Electric, Mattoon.
- February 26— Menard Electric, Petersburg.
- March 12— Illinois Rural Electric, Winchester.

#### Wickard Lauds President

(From Page One)

to be "directly and vitally" affected by the answer. "In the first place, there are certain areas in the country where complete rural electrification is difficult, if not impossible, without the full development of these hydro sites and the transmission lines to deliver the power from them, "Wickard went on to say. "In the second place, every present and future rural electric system member's opportunity to get the most benefit from his electric service depends on whether his cooperative is able to get an abundance of reliable, low-cost power. That, in turn, depends in no small measure on our decision on these public power developments."

Pointing out that the standard of living of the country is directly affected by the quantity of production, Wickard mentioned specifically the benefit the country has derived from the Tennessee Valley development, Bonneville and other Federal flood-control-power developments. "If there are times when we have no reserves of generating capacity," he declared, "those are times when consumption of electricity and general business activities will be retarded. Right now, despite all of the prophecies of those who opposed TVA and other similar developments-prophecies

### NEWS FROM Rural Electric

Divernon, Ill.

RALPH V. WHITE, Mgr.

The important day is almost here! We are referring, of course, to your annual meeting day. It only happens once a year—so why not come! Urge your neighbors and friends to attend with you—help us to make this the best meeting we have ever had. An interesting entertainment program is in store for those who come. Lunch will be served during the noon hour.



Ralph White

ALL YOU MEMBERS REGISTERED BEFORE 10:15 a. m. will be considered "Early Birds." There will be a "Early Bird" award. Other awards will be made. We want to see all of you on February 7, at the High School Gymnasium, Divernon.

#### OUTAGES

We are happy to report there have been very few outages during the past two months up until January 15. Our "boys" do their best to restore service at your premises as quickly as possible. With the use of our two-way radio considerable time and mileage have been saved. In several instances they have found that the members have not checked their fuses or there is some fault in the wiring.

We ask our members to bear with us in the months to come—winter storms cause considerable damage as many have discovered from the past years. When your lights go out—it may not be our fault—follow the steps listed in your last Illinois REA News—then call us.

#### CONSTRUCTION

We are indeed happy to report that our construction is nearly finished. By the time of your annual meeting we will probably have the "M" section completed.

#### NRECA CONVENTION

Two representatives from your Cooperative are to attend the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Convention in New York City, January 31st to February 3rd. We know they will have many interesting reports to make when they return.

#### IT'S YOUR CO-OP

You should attend your Annual Meetings because your co-op will never be successful unless you and your fellow-members are active in it. At your annual meeting you have a voice and vote in saying how you want your co-op run. Four directors will be elected at your annual meeting on February 7th. Three directors will be elected for three-year terms and one director will be elected for one year to fill the unexpired term of George Sloman who resigned in 1948.

A nominating committee was selected and met at your co-op office on January 6th and nominated the following men:

Otto Otten, for three-year term; Joe Dowson, for three-year term; Emil Hueschen, for three-year term; Lester Draper, for one-year term.

The men listed above are all capable men and have the interest of your cooperative at heart. They deserve your consideration in selecting your next Board of Directors. You also have the right to nominate from the floor at the annual meeting if you so desire.

that these projects never would be needed—we are in the midst of an acute power shortage. The economic growth of the country is being severely hampered by this shortage."

## NEWS FROM Western Illinois

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

Monday, Jan. 10, marked the ninth anniversary of the energization of the first section of rural electric lines in Hancock County. The Board of Directors held its regular monthly meeting, making special note of this anniversary, with a dinner at Mainwood at noon.

L. L. Norton, farm advisor of Hancock County for the past 13 years who will leave Carthage about Feb. 1, to accept another position, was a



guest of the cooperative. Mr. Norton was instrumental in the formation and organization of the Western Illinois Electrical Cooperative, which brought electricity to the unserved areas of Hancock and Henderson Counties, in the early part of the year of 1938.

### NOMINATIONS

Plans for the 1949 annual meeting were completed by the directors, and the annual meeting committee. This meeting will be held Feb. 8. John Strohm, former Prairie Farmer editor and now on the staff of the Country Gentleman, has been secured as the guest speaker. Mr. Strohm will show pictures which he took in Russia, behind the Iron Curtain, and which he was allowed to bring out of the country undeveloped and uncensored.

More details of this meeting will be mailed to all members with the regular notices. The nominating committee selected the following members whose names will be submitted at the annual meeting and who will be voted on as directors of the cooperative for the coming year, Lloyd Dickson, Mrs. Ruby Hurst, H. A. Allen, Lee Junk, Chas. Siegrist, Robert Wagner, Tressler Shinn, and Lee Murphy. Nominations may also be by petition or from the floor of the annual meeting.

### NEW READING DATE

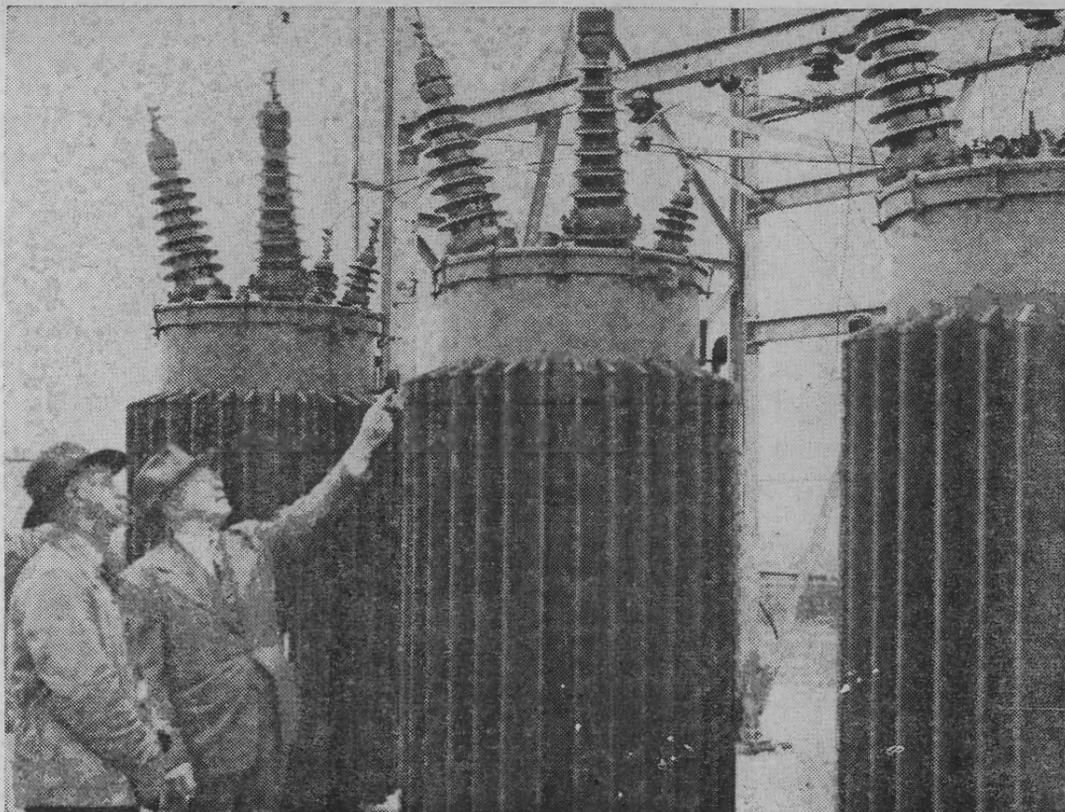
Starting with the January reading, all members will read their meters on the 25th of each month instead of on the 29th. The penalty date for all unpaid bills will be the 15th of the month instead of the 20th. Mail your readings as soon as the meter is read. This change is necessary to expedite work in the office.

### CONSTRUCTION

During the month of December 13 miles of poles were hauled to points of construction; poles were set on 19.85 miles; 15.41 miles of wire were strung and line energized. A total of 28.69 miles remain to be staked on the "M" Section, and 72 miles on which poles are to be set and construction completed for energization. One-hundred and eighty-one members are signed on the 72 miles of line remaining to be completed on the "M" Section.

With the two-ton truck, which we recently purchased and which the cooperative had been much in need of, construction of the remaining 72 miles will be greatly speeded up. This additional transportation equipment has also made it possible to hire additional men for construction. The cooperative also purchased a business car, which releases a light truck for maintenance work.

Service interruptions and outages during December were few. There were four individual service outages and four line outages. One line outage was caused by a car striking a guy wire and one by an airplane going through the line.



**TO MEET THE** rapidly increasing demands of members for electricity, Eastern Illinois Power Cooperative is engaged in an extensive rehabilitation program. One phase of heavying up the system to provide more power, is the addition of five new substations.

Two 1,500 KVA stations, at Woodland (shown above) and at Sibley, are in operation, while others will be constructed at Gilman, Paxton and Hoopston.

Shown inspecting substation are Co-op Director J. B. Hayes

and Manager T. M. Brady. The three giant 500 KVA transformers take the high voltage electricity from the power supplier's transmission lines and reduce it to voltage which can be used by the cooperative's lines.

This is the second line outage, within the last two months, caused by an airplane crashing through the electric lines, which caused considerable damage and inconvenience to those members deprived of service.

### NEW APPLIANCES

Water Heaters or Water Systems: Elbert Lambert, Hubert L. Brown, Ben Siegrist, Earl Ford, Clarence Marshall, Wm. Vance (also range). DEEP Freeze: Dale Christy, Alfred Kunz (also range), Misc.—Edw. Foresman (range), Arthur Jacobs (stoker).

### IMPROVE VOLTAGE

The cooperative has negotiated and has signed a contract for a joint-pole agreement in Henderson County with the Illinois Power Company. Also, the cooperative has negotiated for a temporary power contract with the Illinois Power Company for the furnishing of power from the Stronghurst substation of the utility company, to feed the north part of the cooperative's service area in Henderson County. The supply of this power should relieve the low voltage conditions existing at the present time in that part of the Henderson County area, until the cooperative completes the line conversion extending into Henderson County.

### CONSTRUCTION OBSTACLES

The cooperative is still experiencing some difficulty in obtaining right-of-way on some of its incomplete extensions; also there still remains to be done a considerable amount of tree clearing. We have requested those applicants desiring service to assist us in our construction by clearing out all trees, hedge or brush. This time of the year would be the best time for such work to be performed.

### MEMBER LOSES LIFE

Stanton Prox, 29-year old farmer living in the Colusa area, came to his death on Christmas morning when his light plane crashed in a field near his home. Mr. Prox is survived by his wife, and son, Stan; a sister, Mrs. Lynn Barrett, and his mother and father, Carrie and Carl Prox.

The Prox family has been a member of the cooperative since its first incorporation, and Carl Prox is a director of the Hancock Frozen Foods Cooperative, besides being

active in other farm community projects.

The sympathy of the entire community was extended to the bereaved family. This cooperative also expresses to the family its sympathy.

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Wendell and Adelaide Carey, Carthage; Eber A. and Ethel A. Graft, Niota; Carl and Lulu Johnson, Niota; Fred G. and Rose M. Smith, Niota; School Dist. No. 233, Sutter; John H. and Inez Bolton, Nauvoo; Virginia and Walter C. VanPappelendam, Warsaw; Clarence and Mayme Hutson, Jr., Niota; Clarence Hutson, Sr., Niota; Frank and Susie Brown, Niota; Arthur and Alma Hufendick, Sutter; Sam and Cathel Wilcoxon, Warsaw.

Wayne W. and Iva Martin, Warsaw; Elmer H. and Julia A. Meyer, Warsaw; William E. Meyersick and Hildreth, Warsaw; Ethan and Frieda Foley, Warsaw; Alex F. and Doris Yuskis, Warsaw; Ed. Jumper, Warsaw; Oscar and Addie Hinman, Niota; Harry E. and Myrtle L. Northup, Niota; Clem Ballinger, Niota.

Roy C. and Ivy M. Sparrow, Niota; Russell Schneider, Niota; Hazel Sparrow and Roy C. Dallas City; Floyd and Kathryn Hutson, Niota; Martin and Virginia Erinkschroeder, Niota; Vern and Erma Hopkins, Carthage; Clarence J. and Rosa I. Brewer, Plymouth; Frances F. and Maurice E. Ellison, Burnside; Alta Frances and Floyd I. Wood, Colchester; Hollace G. and Winifred W. Rice, Carthage.

Morris and Juanita Magill, Augusta; Gillroy and Arvilla Wilson, Niota; R. G. and Marjorie Cambre, Niota; Mamie C. Kohler, Plymouth; Kenneth and Irene Bigelow, Nauvoo; Chester A. and Edith Butler, Brooks, Stronghurst; Guy and Lena Brooks, Blandinsville.

Harold R. and Marjorie A. Boote, Blandinsville; Mrs. Ida Foster, Nauvoo; Hubert A. and Irene E. Guyman, Carthage; Guy and Margie Leebold, Carthage; Harold L. and Peggy Ferzely VanBeck, LaHarpe; Harold P. and Elberta Kunz, Warsaw; Herman and Dorothy Kerberick, Sutter; Ethel G. Adams, Tennessee; Orville and Carmilee Larson, Tennessee; Providence Baptist Church.

## Power To Be Top Issue In 81st Congress

(From Page One)

interests, are waging a two-front campaign; one in the Congress and the other influencing the general public.

### Miller Bills

Considerable movement is afoot to prevent the revival of the so-called Miller bills which made their appearance during the 80th Congress. Introduced by Representative William Miller (R-Conn.), the bills in effect would relax the FPC regulations over private utilities. Miller was not returned to Congress by his district.

The trend of thinking in the 81st Congress as reflected by the conservative business publications is that the new Congress will give rural electrification more momentum than it experienced in the past two years. They also predict that there is a 50-50 chance of the St. Lawrence Seaway becoming a reality. Of the regional power projects, they predict that only the proposed Missouri Valley Authority (MVA) has any chance of passing.

The professional business writers may be emulating the recent pollsters by underestimating the Democratic strength in the western states. Voting in the West, it will be recalled, appeared to have been influenced by the Republican attitude in the 80th Congress toward public power, conservation and water project developments.

### Other Fields

In other fields of legislation, farmers can expect continued price supports and adequate provisions for storing surplus crops.

The appointment of Den Acheson as secretary of state may spur Congress to give considerable attention to the recommendations of the Hoover Commission for Executive Governmental reorganization. Acheson has been serving as a member of that committee.

Since the Democratic platform committee in the national convention opposed state control of the tidelands oil resources, it is not likely that legislation to put these in the hands of private companies will make any headway in the 81st Congress.

### Current Reports

Reports are current that legislation will be introduced to remove restrictions, imposed by the last Congress, which would have the effect of bar-

## NEWS FROM Clinton County

Breese, Ill.  
JOSEPH HEIMANN, Supt.

If you have signed an application for membership and the Board of Trustees has accepted you as a member in this cooperative you are a member for life unless cancelled by the board of trustees at your request or for some other reason. This membership entitles you to receive electric service at any premises served by this cooperative. Anyone who is not a member cannot receive electric service from this cooperative. When a member moves to town he cannot sell this membership to the succeeding tenant or owner. The membership fee is \$5.



We have completed six miles of two phase line in the area South and West of Trenton and North and West of New Baden. This work was completed on December 31st and will correct the voltage condition in that area. This line extends to the Summerfield Road. The cooperation we received from the members in that area was certainly most gratifying.

### NEW APPLIANCES

Water Heaters: Lawrence Ratermann, August Ratermann, Herman Wildhaber, Ralph Hemminghaus, Walter Hester, Howard Richter, Hy. Goldschmidt.

Water Systems: Lawrence Ratermann, Donald W. Baer, Otto Bollmeier, Aloys Feldmann, Ralph Hemminghaus, Henry Frerker, Hy. Goldschmidt.

Ranges: Leo Winkler, Robert Harting, Marnen Granberg, Herman Wildhaber, George Brandmeyer, Ben Ripperda, Leroy Kunz.

Furnace Blower: Hy. Gerardi.  
Milk Cooler: Vincent Korte.  
Iron: Louis Mugele Jr.  
Grain Elevator: Hy. Rakers.  
Home Pasteurizer: Victor Tebbe.  
Mix-Masters: Steven Litteken, Wm. Huelsmann, Wayne Conrad, Geo. French.

Deep Freeze: Ben Hilmes, Ernest Reuter, Leon Lippert, Hy. Lueking, Herman Wiegmann, Hy. Goldschmidt, Steven Litteken.

Sweepers: George Brandmeyer, Lawrence Goebel, John Skambraks, Louis Mugele Jr.

Hot Plate: Elza Harp.  
Wash Vat: John Niemann.  
Food Mixer: Roy Sapp.  
Ironer: Hy. Rakers.  
Drill Press: Hy. Rakers.

Refrigerators: Ben Middeke Jr., Lawrence Monken, Marnen Granberg, Harold Huffman, George Brandmeyer, Paul Hempen, Ben Wilken, Henry Rakers.

Television Set: Hy. Goldschmidt, Harvey Klingelhofer.

Clothes Dryer: Norbert Friederich.  
Toasters: Lawrence Goebel, Elza Harp.

Welder: Oliver Kaufmann.  
Sewing Machines: Ben Trame, J. H. Bechtoldt.

Kitchen Heater: J. S. Huey.  
Fan: Hy. Rakers.  
Emery Wheel: Hy. Rakers.

### OPERATION REPORT

Miles Energized	625.80
Members Served	1674
Average Bill	\$6.74
Average KWH	178
KWH Sold	297,168

ring Reclamation Commissioner Straus and Regional Director Boke. These men were made targets of the 80th Congress.

Farmers will have the sympathy and understanding of the new Congress. It can be reasonably expected that legislation in their behalf, will for the most part be favorably acted upon during the sessions of the new Congress.

# Farming News Notes

## PROSPECTS FOR 1949

Farm income will be smaller in 1949. Crop surpluses plus decline in consumer spending, all point to less income. But, even so—farm incomes are expected to be four times greater than the average of the pre-war years. Farmers are now getting 11.4 percent of the national income.

There is a decline in the world demand for products from this country. Yet market prospects at home remain high. The national income hit a record clip in the third quarter of 1948. The momentum started by this has not yet run down.

Mail order houses are showing a slight decline in catalog sales. To compensate for this drop, they are expanding their lines of less expensive merchandise.

Military spending and foreign relief will absorb some of the decline. At home other factors will come into play. The drop in farm income will be balanced by reduced prices in some lines—say automobiles. The gray market in cars is almost out of the picture; new cars will be easier to get.

On the average, farm families will fare better than most of the city dwellers. The University of Michigan research center reporting to the Federal Reserve Board reports that about one-fourth of all families are now dipping into their past savings or borrowing. Car dealers and others are asking that credit restrictions be liberalized.

There is one sobering thought from this period of general national prosperity which we are experiencing. It is: two-thirds of America's farm homes are without running water and four-fifths of them lack modern bathrooms.

There is yet much to be done in our country.

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Charles B. Shuman, president of the Illinois Agricultural Association, recommends that each person in the United States should eat at least four more pounds of meat a year.

Shuman argues that there would be no surpluses of either livestock or grain if his plan was followed.

A major business publication says, "scientific farming is too efficient!" The publication warns that modern methods of farming are producing more and still more surpluses.

Scientific farming is defined as methods that are concerned with getting "fertility, soil and cultivation all placed together in the right combination to give bumper crops. Potatoes were the first crop to respond to the scientific method.

It is predicted that the living habits of people are to change with the coming of Television. The contention is that TV will make us a nation of stay-at-homes. The Video program will keep us glued to our sets rather than leaving our homes to attend various events. The idea is worrying the promoters of various forms of mass entertainment.

A Department of Agriculture expert warns midwest corn farmers that if they do not stop depletion of their soil fer-

tility that in the future the nation will look to the southern states as the corn-producing region. Conditions in the South are ideal for this crop—longer growing season, more abundant rainfall, large areas for mechanized farming. Southern farmers are reported having more interest in corn growing during recent years than the traditional crops of cotton and tobacco.

## FROM USDA

Loans approved by the REA for the first week in January, will result in central station service to 6,823 farms in 13 states and in addition finance a transmission system to deliver low-cost hydro-electric power to 65,000 rural customers in South Carolina.

Four out of five farm families were helped by extension work in 1947. Better methods of marketing, home-making, and other problems of farm life were learned.

The world output of major food products in 1948 was about 6% above 1947. Favorable weather pushed up production in Europe, North American and Australia. Several European countries have been able to increase the rations of most essential foods and remove some foods from rationing entirely.

## FROM U. OF I.

Consumers change their spending habits according to the availability of other products than food. During price controls spending for meat kept prices down, while consumer incomes soared. When OPA was abolished consumers increased their spending for meat more rapidly than their incomes went up. With the arrival of more normal conditions the per cent of the consumers' dollar spent for meat will decline.

Written farm leases are recommended for good landlord-tenant relations. A written record is preferred to an oral agreement. A written lease protects the interest of the estate and the tenant or landlord in case of death of either party.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The most effective method of controlling erosion and runoff is with thick-growing vegetation.

When corn is ground for cattle, coarse to medium-fine grinding is better than fine grinding.

Soybeans are grown almost exclusively in the eastern half of the U. S.

Weeds will keep more than 2 million acres out of production in the U. S. each year.

## PAPER FROM STRAW

A Cleveland, Ohio company claims it has licked the old problems of producing paper from straw. Newsprint will be the principal use of this paper.

## HIGH INCOME ACREAGE

One Henry, Illinois farmer makes approximately \$2,500 gross profit from three acres of rolling land taken out of pasture, and does it almost without working. He sells Christmas trees from his land.

Another one of the numerous producers in this new Illinois industry sold \$2,000 worth of

trees during the recent Christmas season.

## RANDOM NOTES

Don't let your cows eat fermented apples or they will go on a binge. That was the experience of a British Columbia farmer when he found his cows so plastered that they had to be milked lying down.

Farmers in the United States have produced the equal of 10 years' normal corn crops in the past seven years.

## NEWS FROM Egyptian Co-op

Steelville, Illinois  
R. S. HOLT, Mgr.

## TELEPHONE NUMBERS

In case of an outage on your farm, check to see if your neighbors have service. If not call one of the following telephone numbers immediately and report any information you may have on the outage such as—Lightning, Storm, Strong Wind, Tree in Line, Broken Insulator, etc.  
Murphysboro and Carbondale Area call:  
Warehouse, Carbondale, 25-F-12.  
Alvin Long, Carbondale, 30-F-11.  
Richard Robinson, Carbondale, 26-F-5.  
All other area call:  
Main Office, Steelville, 68 Commercial.  
John Shriver, Chester, 544-R.  
Robert Huddleston, Steelville, 43-F-41.  
William Muench, Steelville, 82-R-12.  
R. S. Holt, Steelville, 101-F-21.

We have started to move our office and warehouse to the completed portion of our new headquarters building, located at the west edge of Steelville. This moving together with our year end reports has kept the employees pretty busy. The office portion of our new headquarters building is not yet complete so we are moving the office temporarily into the warehouse building.

Labor and material cost figures are now being compiled on all projects for submission to Washington. This up to date cost data is required so that we can determine whether any additional funds might be needed to complete construction which has already been approved. The cooperation of many of our new members in cutting their own brush has helped a great deal in cutting down our labor cost.

The completion of our Elkhart Substation together with the installation of several regulating devices has improved the voltage on our lines considerably.

**BROODERS**  
The chief advantages of electric brooding are operation without personal attention, automatic controls, economy and safety. The newest and most efficient electric chick brooders are equipped with engineered air circulating systems which provide uniform distribution of heat, fresh air and low moisture conditions.

Brooders should offer 7 to 10 square inches of space for each chick. Brooder houses should be properly ventilated and have tight, warm floors. Deep litter is recommended. The cost of operation averages about 1/2 kilowatt hour of power per chick per six weeks.

Pig brooders are constructed by boarding off a corner of the farrowing pen to a height of approximately 16 inches. A roof is placed over the triangular enclosure and a 2 x 4 inch board nailed across the front opening about 8 inches above the floor.

The front cross piece gives the brooder added strength and provides a satisfactory opening for pigs to enter and leave the hover. Heat is provided by a 150 to 300 watt lamp, the size depending on weather conditions. The lamp should be placed in a suitable reflector.

A hole is cut in the brooder roof and the reflector bolted securely over it so that the heat from the lamp will be directed into the interior. Pig brooders consume an average of 36 kilowatt hours of power per litter.

Lamb brooders operate on the same

# Cong. Patman To Push Probe Of NTEA Financial Records

Washington, D. C.—(CNS)—The day of accounting for the National Tax Equality Association (NTEA) is here.

Congressman Wright Patman, who will be chairman of the House Committee on Small Business if he is not advanced to a higher post, announced recently that he would renew his demand for an investigation of NTEA. With Patman established again as one of the outstanding leaders in the Congress and a powerful influence in the House Committee there is no avenue of escape for NTEA. Incidentally, Patman has already been assured of fighting support from many members of the House who were angered by the political campaigns launched against them by NTEA.

"I am going forward with that investigation," Patman said. "There need be no doubt on that score. The investigation will be made."

Patman forced through the Committee when the former Congressman Walter Ploeser was its chairman, a resolution directing Ploeser and the Committee to get the

financial records of NTEA. Ploeser surrendered when he could not stop the Patman resolution but then he pocketed it and ignored the demands that he act.

Patman called attention, repeatedly, to the fact that the Committee had asked for and had gotten all the financial records of cooperatives and that NTEA had frantically sought for protection from publicity. Ben McCabe, then president of NTEA, insisted that he feared that contributors to NTEA might be made victims of "reprisals" if their identity with NTEA were disclosed.

Patman contended that many small business men were being misled by NTEA. He said he thought an inquiry would reveal that big monopoly interests were the powerful influences which were supporting NTEA and using the small business men to attack cooperatives. Patman once linked "the big insurance interests" with the fight on cooperatives. Ploeser once admitted to newspaper men that at least one big oil company was a part to the fight and the identity of that company is known.

principle as pig brooders, being essentially small heated pens. They are used for starting lambs only.

**DOES A METER LIE?**  
Yes! But, 99-50/100 per cent of the time it is in the consumer's favor. Why? Because they are similar to a watch—after a number of years of usage, they slow down from dirt and wear in the jewels and bearings.

About the only thing that will make it run fast is a short or ground caused by lightning, or a surge of high voltage—which very seldom happens.

Out of 100 meters tested after being in service two years, one was found to be 2 per cent fast; 73 were correct to 3 per cent slow; 25 were 3.1 per cent to 5 per cent slow; and 1 was 8 per cent slow—usually the fast meters are found to be from the liberal use of appliances and lights, yet one does not realize the KWH used over a 30-day period.

## NEWS FROM McDonough Power Macomb, Ill. Arthur H. Peyton, Mgr.

The annual meeting will be held in accordance with by-laws between the 1st and 15th of February at the headquarters building on West Jackson St. Road. It will be strictly a business meeting held in the afternoon only. A date will be set later and notices will be sent out to each member.

## SITE FOR SUBSTATION

A new site for our substation No. 3 was purchased from Mr. and Mrs. Everette Shenbarger. All members, especially those living on the north end of our project should extend a vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Everette Shenbarger for their true cooperative spirit. This new site is located in Tompkins Township, section 24, in Warren County.



As soon as material is received construction will start immediately.

It is hoped that all members living in the area where it will be necessary to construct new three phase lines, will cooperate with us in helping remove trees and obtaining a clear right-of-way. When the new sub-station is energized, the low voltage experienced in the past will be eliminated.

**"K" CONSTRUCTION**  
Construction is progressing very

rapidly on "K" section. During the months of October, November, and December, 41 miles of primary line was constructed serving approximately 82 new members. "K" section is being built by force account procedure with all of the construction being done by our own crews. Approximately 63 miles is involved in our "K" section which will serve 122 members. Weather conditions have been very favorable in the last three months but at the time this is going to press construction has been shut down due to the sleet storm.

**METER READING**  
Don't forget to read your meter the first of every month. As you undoubtedly know, you are allowed only one failure to read your meter a calendar year, the second offense will result in a \$1 penalty which will be added to your bill.

**UTILIZATION HINTS**  
Young pig mortality has always been a problem to the farmer, especially when sows farrow in cold months. The young pigs often die of exposure, or they are crushed by the sow when they "burrow in" for warmth.

This problem can be solved with a little carpenter work and inexpensive infra-red heat lamps.

Five foot boards can be nailed across one corner of the farrowing pen, starting about eight inches above the floor and continuing up for two feet. The top of the closed off corner can be covered with a triangular shaped board, in the center of which a six-inch hole can be cut.

A projection type R40, 250-watt heat lamp can be hung in the hole about 18 inches above the straw bedding. One corner of the farrowing pen then becomes a pig brooder.

Another method that may be used along the radiant heating type, is to use a heating cable. A 400-watt 60 foot heating cable can be buried in the finish coat of cement and a thermostat attached to control the heat. This is a very effective method and the total cost of cable and thermostat is about \$17.50.

## KEEPS CHICKS WARM

In the chickery, three 250-watt R-40 infrared lamps may be used for hoverless brooding of 325 chicks. The big advantage is that an inexpensive, single wall brooder house without insulation may be used. The lamps heat the chicks rather than the air that surrounds them. There is no problem with condensation. The chicks are normally well distributed over all the floor space and consume approximately 15 per cent more feed.

## Co-ops Must Inform Public, Official's Article Warns

Editor's note: F. V. Heinkel, vice president of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives, wrote the following article for the 1948 Blue Book. Official publication of that organization. Credit is cheerfully given for permission to reprint this timely and worthwhile article.

BY F. V. HEINKEL

The agricultural population today is only about 19 per cent of the national population. Farmers are definitely in a minority, and that minority seems destined to narrow down still more in the years ahead since the trend is toward larger farms and fewer farms.

The influence of agriculture in the Congress and in many state legislatures has always been and is today strong and effective. But will it remain so in the future? A steadily declining farm population means a corresponding diminishment in agricultural representation at the national and state legislatures.

This situation emphasizes the need of stepping up the public relations program, not alone for cooperatives, but for the whole of agriculture. Unless this is done farmers stand to lose many of the economic gains they have won through their organizations during the past twenty years or so.

Indeed, I can well imagine that unless the general public more clearly understands the problems of agriculture it may not continue to support such programs as parity prices, or federal aid for soil conservation or funds for agricultural research.

### Know little of Farm

Some thirty-five or forty years ago most city people either came directly from the farm or had close relatives living on farms and naturally understood agriculture.

Today there are millions of city people who know virtually nothing about farm life. And when people know little or nothing about a subject, it naturally follows that they are not much interested in it.

There are some recent developments that should make us pause and contemplate our present situation. Let's first take the Steagall Amendment. As you know it was provided by Congress so that farmers could go ahead with confidence in an all-out effort to produce food which would "win the war and write the peace."

But just as soon as the war ended consumers began to complain about the high cost of food, and this notwithstanding farmers were receiving much less than their fair share of the national income.

### High Prices Blame

That farmers did not fall heir to more of the blame for the (relatively) high food prices which were the inevitable consequence of the war is most remarkable. I think this was the result of a public relations job well done by men in agriculture. But this experience shows that city people, not comprehending the problem of the farmer, are not disposed to support prices at even 90 per cent of parity.

Not understanding the situation, they naturally cannot appreciate the fact that all through the war

American farmers fed them better than any people on earth have ever been fed before, and fed the Allied armies as well.

I worry particularly about the subject of soil conservation. It is of course the farmer's primary interest to save the soil and maintain soil fertility. But there's a point beyond which the individual farmer cannot go, a point beyond which his physical and financial resources cannot reach. There's where the public's responsibility begins, because the public, and posterity, must eat!

### Appropriations Aid

So we have appropriations for the Soil Conservation Service and the Production Marketing Administration through which the public aids agriculture in saving the soil, our basic natural resource.

Lately there has been a tendency on the part of Congress to cut down on these appropriations in the face of a continuing soil depletion that will one day, unless arrested, make food permanently scarce and high priced.

None of us knows at what stage that point will be reached for the nation as a whole or how long it will be arriving. But when that day comes, I wonder if the public won't point its finger at the farmer and say, "There's the culprit! It was he who allowed the soil, to wash away. He is incompetent to properly manage the soil, so let's nationalize the land, and hereafter control his activities."

### Co-ops Attacked

All of us are, of course, familiar with the tirade levelled against cooperatives. Notwithstanding the falsity of the charges, our enemies have made several untruths stick in the minds of tens of thousands of people.

One of these falsehoods is that cooperatives don't pay taxes; another is that we have a pipeline into the Federal treasury; still another is that we unfairly compete against private businesses; others foolishly assert that cooperatives are some kind of communist outfit that would take over all business in this country!

From here onward if agriculture is to survive as an important segment of the free enterprise system, as a wholesome way of life for American families that have always been the backbone of our Republic, then we must make the general public understand our problems.

The public must understand why farmers are entitled to parity prices why the public has a responsibility in the soil erosion problem; why it is equitable and important that farmers are permitted to market their products and obtain their supplies on a cooperative basis.

### How To Tackle Job?

How can we get at this most important task? I believe that, as Abraham Lincoln said, we should first "do the best we can with what we've got." Many of our cooperatives and the farm organizations have been doing a creditable job, but I think that every cooperative association should, this year, redouble its efforts toward improving public relations, not alone for its respective association, but in the interest of agriculture generally as well.

I think our colleges of agriculture should help, and so should the numerous industries which are founded upon agriculture. We should send out such a barrage of factual information to the public that consumers generally will understand what the situation is.

If we work harder at the job of public relations in the years ahead, we can safeguard the economic gains farmers have made and move forward toward a higher standard of living for the entire nation.

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

### TELEPHONE NUMBERS FOR OUTAGE CALLS

Office—8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.  
except Sat. & Sunday holidays  
.....Carlinville 136  
Homer Virden—Carlinville 326-L  
John Scroggins—Carlinville 577-Y  
Aerio Balestri .....

Hillsboro County 2005  
Claude McAfee ..... Brighton 40  
Charles W. Witt .....

Jerseyville 663W1  
Wayne Bandy, 830 School st.,  
..... Hillsboro 830 KX  
Delmar Miller, 432 E. Arch st.,  
..... Jerseyville 688 W2

If lineman does not answer and for any other business aside from trouble calls—Call A. C. Barnes, Carlinville 565-L.

### KEEP THIS LIST NEAR YOUR TELEPHONE. Check with your neighbors to see if their lights are out before calling. Then report the line outage.

### COOPERATION INSURES BETTER SERVICE

Your Cooperative has for sale a pickup body with fenders removed from a one-half ton Dodge truck. This body has been used very little and is in perfect condition. We feel sure that there is some member on our project which could use this body for making a trailer. Since we are quite anxious to dispose of the body, we are offering it at a sacrifice. If you have any use for such a pickup body you may contact this office for the price and it can be seen in our warehouse at the rear of the office.

### LIST APPLIANCES

We would like very much to have each of our members send in a list of all their electrical appliances with their next month's bill. By appliance we mean equipment which is attached to your electrical wiring system by cord or solidly connected by a disconnect switch.

We do not mean to have you include your pole light or any lighting fixture permanently installed in your home but you can list portable lamps. Also, include all motors which are in your machine shops or barns. When listing your motors give us the H.P. rating.

From this information we will be able to determine whether your transformer is overloaded and it will be of great help to us in making up certain reports as to the amount of overload on our lines. This will not involve a great amount of work on your part if you will be sure to mail this information along with your next bill.

### "N" CONSTRUCTION

Perhaps, many of your neighbors who are going to receive service under the "N" allotment have been wondering when this contract will be completed and therefore we wish to present a few of the statistics showing the progress of this allotment.

This allotment was originally set up for 180 miles and as of December 15th we had staked 151 miles and hauled poles on 135 miles; 85 miles of poles already framed have been set. We took advantage of the good weather during the greater part of December to get as many poles set as possible before the ground is frozen. Therefore, we proceeded with mainly the setting and framing of poles and did not string very much wire. However, 18 miles of the entire allotment have been entirely completed and energized. On this 18 miles we connected 43 members and since the date of energization several members have been connected since they were not ready at the time the line was turned on.

If the weather remains favorable

## 'TVA After 15 Years'

(The following is a recent editorial reprinted from the NEW YORK TIMES, one of the nation's leading newspapers. Editor's Note.)

In a little over fifteen years the Tennessee Valley program has grown from a dream to a great achievement. Under TVA the Valley now produces 15 billion kilowatt hours of electricity, as contrasted with about one-tenth of that amount in 1933; per capita income in the Valley has risen from 40 per cent to 60 per cent of the national average; the people of the Valley now pay 6.3 per cent of the individual income taxes of the nation, as contrasted with 3.4 per cent in 1933; the Tennessee River has been made navigable to Knoxville; improved fertilizers and farming practices have helped to save the wasting land; new industries, big and little have come in; the initiative of the people has had a chance to show itself. These are some of the gains of which TVA has a right to boast in its fifteenth annual report, made public on the last day of the old year.

There may never be unanimous agreement as to the financial aspects of TVA's operations. The Authority pays sums in lieu of taxes, but it does not carry all the burdens of a private corporation. On the other hand, it is now earning a net return of 4 1/4 per cent on the average net power investment of \$405,000,000. It is doing this by selling power at reasonable wholesale rates. The great savings to private consumers are found in the low rates made available by municipalities and cooperatives using TVA power. Yet these distributing agencies have a combined net income of 20 cents on each dollar of revenues. If we assume that the Tennessee River had to be developed as a unit, and that no private agency could or should have done this, we must admit that a great and necessary task has been accomplished, efficiently, honestly, and without deliberate or careless waste.

TVA had a heavy load to carry during the Second World War, and it carried that load superbly. We now know that when its facilities seemed insufficient during the final war years this was because a huge block of power was being diverted into the secret atomic project of Oak Ridge. This one service alone, made possible by the record-breaking construction of new dams, would have justified TVA. Now we face the problems of other possible river authorities—and they are not simple. What TVA has done is to show that they can be solved in a democratic way, with few or none of the evils of a centralized bureaucracy.

for work, we hope to have the entire allotment completed in the spring.

### CLEARING

We would like to call your attention to the article on trees on page 5 of the January issue of the ILLINOIS REA NEWS. We hope that all of our members read this article. This is the time of the year we feel that your cooperation can be of great help to your Cooperative. If you have any bad trees or underbrush which is along your fence rows and under our line we would appreciate your cutting them now that it is a slack time in your farm work.

If each member would clear along his property it would save considerable amount of operation costs as well as help prevent outages from trees falling on the line. Such outages not only interrupt your own service but may be several hundred other members down the line from your farm.

In cutting trees we ask that you watch closely that they do not fall onto the line and if you have a tree which might do so we would suggest that you contact the office and we will offer our assistance.

This article on trees bears your consideration and we hope that if you have not destroyed the January issue of the NEWS you will read the article. Your cooperation in clearing under the line along your property will be greatly appreciated.

### MEMBERS' LETTERS

Dear Sir: We now have a new electric radiator, razor and coffee maker. Thanks again for the lovely desk set. I use it all the time. R. Christy Beatty, Jerseyville.

Gentlemen: Thanks again for splendid service the past year.—Emery and Lula Willis, Jerseyville.

Dear Mr. Barnes: We have purchased a new electric refrigerator. Woodrow Lewey, Hillsboro.

Dear Sir: We have a new Home Freezer since November. Sure do like it fine. We are thankful we have M. J. M. so we can use so much

electrical equipment. Wishing you all a happy and prosperous new year. Mrs. Albert Grichnik, Carlinville.

Dear Mr. Barnes: I want to thank you very much for the correction made on our December bill. It seemed to me a big jump from the previous month, but we have just installed an automatic electrically operated oil furnace and I had attributed the increase to the operation and installation of the same. And by the way, we enjoy our new furnace very much. Thanking you again, I remain, Fred C. Thornton, Litchfield.

### NEW APPLIANCES

Water Heaters: Elbert Pointer, Shipman; Henry Kuethe, Gillespie; Edward Vahle, Fieldon; Roy Sawyer, Mt. Olive; Glen Mabus, Carlinville; Shirley Varner, Raymond; Karl Messner, Macoupin.

## Illini Substation To Double Power In One Section of Co-op

The Illini Electric cooperative, Champaign, has placed into operation a new substation located near Sidney. The installation doubles the current through southeast Champaign county served by the cooperative.

The project involved the building of 20 miles of transmission lines carrying 69,000 volts, and is part of an expansion program started three months ago to reduce overload throughout the system.

Heavy transformers were removed from the old substation near Ludlow for installation at Sidney. These transformers will be replaced by new equipment at a later date.

All of the work was done by the Illini maintenance crew and equipment.

Early hatched pullets receiving a total of 13 hours of natural and artificial light will lay heavily in the fall and winter months, provided other recommended poultry management practices are followed.

**Pensacola  
Creosoting Co.**  
Incorporated  
★  
Producers of Creosoted  
Dense Southern Pine  
Poles  
★  
PENSACOLA, FLORIDA

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79 East Adams Street, Chicago 3, Illinois  
REA FIELD OFFICE—154 North Market Street, Paxton, Illinois