

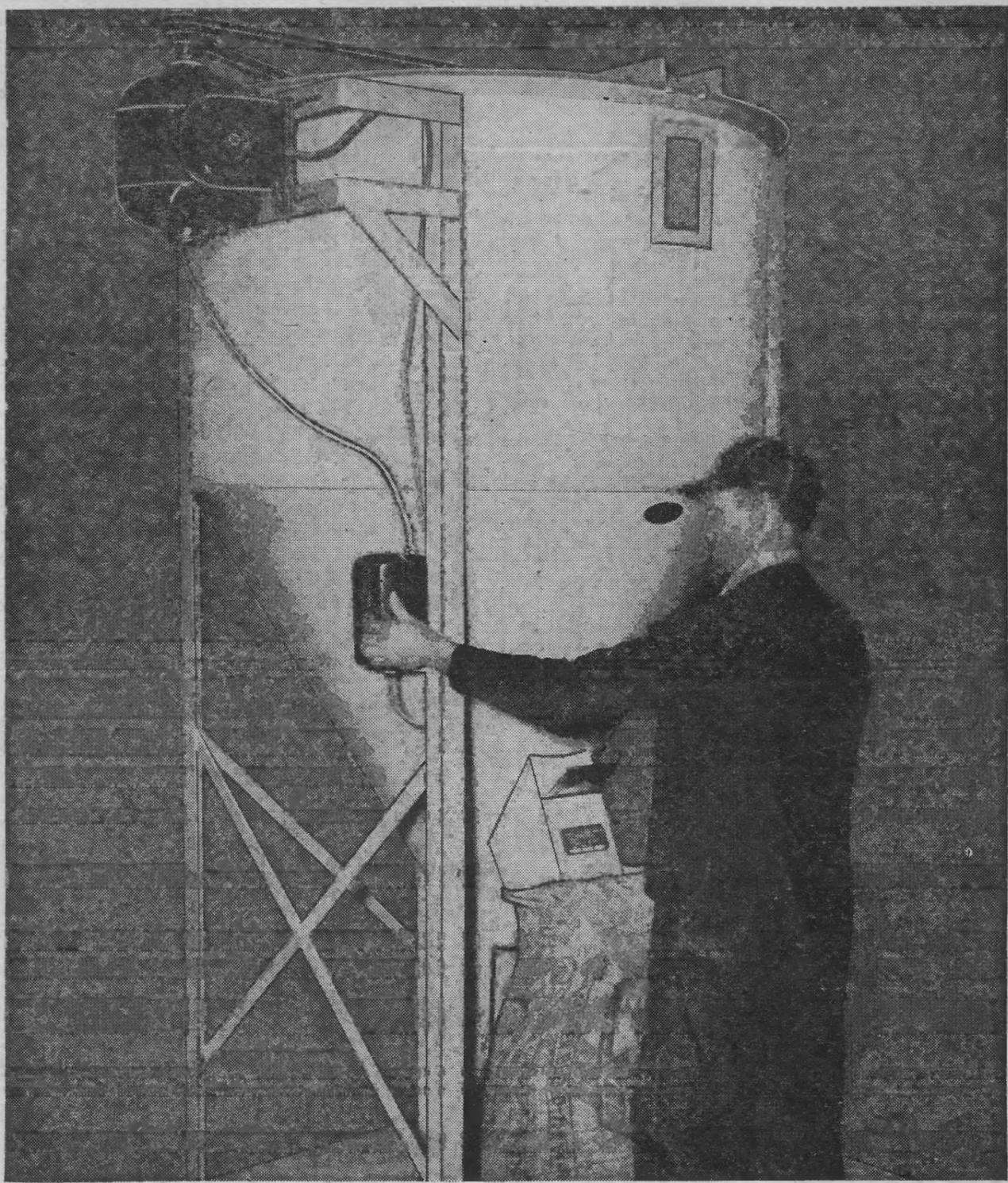
Illinois

W. J. FORMAN COMPANY  
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# Rural Electric News

January, 1954



FEED MIXER SAVES TIME AND LABOR

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IN  
THIS  
ISSUE

*The Voice of 128,000 Members*

Rural Electric News

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Why They Oppose TVA

MAIN REASON why private power companies are opposed to TVA is that it has served as a "yardstick" for electric rates. Without such a "yardstick" power companies could charge much higher rates.

In their attack on TVA, the power companies attempt to disguise their selfish motives by making it appear that they are trying to save the country from socialism. TVA is socialism they say. What they want, is for the government to turn TVA over to them. What would it be then? The same thing as it is today, a monopoly. The difference would be, however, that the benefits of TVA would go to a few stockholders, instead of to the people of the nation who paid for the project. Moreover, the public would pay millions of dollars more in electric charges if the power companies owned TVA.

The power companies call TVA "socialism" because it is owned by the government. But, they have not as yet opposed public education as "socialism." Most Americans don't believe that public schools should be sold out to private interests. They think government ownership of schools provides the widest benefits to the most people. However, if the power companies attack TVA as "socialism," to be consistent they should also be against public education. The fact that so far they have not taken any full page ads to denounce the public school system as socialism is because, unlike TVA, mass education does not offer them competition.

The truth of the matter is that TVA has been a boon to the nation in many ways. Without it, this country would not have been able to assume leadership in the development of atomic energy.

The charges that the power companies hurl at TVA out of spite and selfishness, are irresponsible and designed to mislead the public.

They claim TVA doesn't pay taxes. But last year, TVA paid \$8,300,000 in taxes or in lieu of taxes to state, county and municipal governments. That is \$5,000,000 more than property taxes on all reservoir lands and on all privately-owned power properties acquired by TVA and the distributing agencies. And yet, TVA's electric rates are very low.

Not only has TVA's low wholesale and retail rates, meant lower power rates for the entire nation, but it has saved the people millions in the cost of their atomic energy program. An increase of just one mill per kilowatt hour to atomic plants, would cost the government between \$25 and \$50 million extra a year.

Since 1947, TVA has repaid into the U. S. Treasury \$61,000,000 net revenue from power proceeds. Within 40 years, every cent that TVA has borrowed from the government will be repaid. This is required by law.

As of July, 1952, the government had a total of \$595-million invested in TVA. At that time gross revenue from the sale of power was \$590-million and \$207 million net from the "yardstick" rates. This has meant an annual return of 4 per cent on the government's investment.

While the government gets back its investment, TVA continues to shower numerous benefits on the nation. Besides cheap electricity, the TVA has harnessed the destructive forces of the rivers which once wrought death and ruin and rendered much land useless.

Is it any wonder the power companies would like to take TVA away from the people? And this selfish motive, is the reason why they stoop to slander as the main weapon in their campaign against TVA.

What Our Readers Say

EXPRESSES THANKS

I want to thank you very much for choosing my letter to win the prize. I was so excited and happy about it for I have written in to contests so many times about different things, never even heard anything about them.

So I was so overcome with joy for it was truly a big, pleasant surprise, and it was such a great pleasure to write about such a sweet little lady. Her name is Florence Wright of our city. She was in the Unit Journal office for about 30 years and is a very important person in our little town. Everyone loves her. She writes poetry and does so many interesting things. She has so many friends because of her kindness. She always welcomes any newcomer to our little community

until they are acquainted with other people, as my husband and I are now. But she will always be a great person to me . . .

Mrs. Effie Mason  
 Lexington

COMMENTS

I appreciate the news very much. I always look for the "What's New" items and I was especially interested in the article about the kitchen exhaust fan which Mrs. George Weber of Reno had installed in her modernized kitchen . . .

Mrs. Golda G. Shepherd  
 Mt. Auburn

Enjoy the Illinois Rural Electric News very much.

Ethel Stephens  
 Salem

Washington Report

By William S. Roberts

IN THE fanciest tradition of the power trust lobby, a group of nine newspapermen who write for a substantial number of city papers and business journals throughout the country, have just been brought back from an air tour of selected power projects. What they were shown included some focal points in the struggle of the private power industry to wrest the benefits of Federal hydro power developments from rural electric co-ops, municipalities and other small non-profit distributors. The air junket was organized and paid for by the National Association of Electric Companies, last year's top spending registered lobby in the nation's capital.

At every stop, one of the junket's members noted, the newsmen were greeted by top power company executives, assigned by their national lobby to present the picture of the power projects the power companies wanted the writers to see.

Starts At Niagara Falls

They started with Niagara Falls, where a group of New York Power companies are fighting both the Federal government and New York state for the right to grab off the site for redevelopment of one of the biggest sources of low-cost power remaining in the nation. From there they proceeded to San Francisco, home and center of Pacific Gas & Electric Company's empire. Recently a national magazine wrote an article titled and based on the boast that "PG&E Is California."

From there the group flew to the Pacific Northwest, where more power company executives stressed private development in the face of the gigantic development brought to the area by the Bonneville Power Administration. They took the journalists to the Canyon site for proposed Federal Development, but spent most of their time trying to sell Idaho Power Company's proposals for three smaller dams in the area.

The final stop was at Denver, Colo., where power company executives put on a flössy "celebration" of the connection of Denver's 250,000th meter.

Obvious Objective

The objective of the power company lobby was obvious — to gain favorable influence over reporting of news on private—Federal power controversies. The results are questionable. In the first place, the taint of power trust influence peddling efforts of the past is well known, and the free junket for the newsmen revived some older memories of the Insull-Hobson heyday of the power trust.

Secondly, none of the three major wire services nor the nation's most powerful newspapers from the standpoint of circulation, were represented. Only one, the Christian Science Monitor, could be placed in that latter category, and in the case of the Monitor there is every reason to believe that the tour was undertaken with a lot of the salt of objectivity.

The Hearst, Scripps-Howard and Gannett newspaper groups were represented, as well as correspondents for some West Coast papers and some 18 in the Southwest. But the only

others were two New York business-financial journals and McGraw-Hill's Electrical World. The latter reflect the thinking and philosophies of the groups they are published for, and it is doubtful if it changed any firmly implanted viewpoints in favor of the private power lobby.

Deciding Factor

In the final analysis, public opinion will determine whether the National Association of Electric Companies' air tour was a success or not. The same public opinion will have a long range effect on farmers' electric rates, since the power lobby has one objective — monopolization of low-cost Federal hydro power sources. They want to be the middle man at the toll gate, levying a bounty on any public resources before they are available for distribution by farmers' non-profit rural electric co-ops and residents of towns with municipally-owned utilities.

NO COMFORT

Rural electric cooperatives got no representation on a "task force" to study Federal power and generation policies for the (Hoover) Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch. Now another task force to study matters directly related to REA financing for rural electric cooperatives presents the same unfavorable outlook for REA programs.

As a result of these and other task forces named by the Hoover Commission to study and make recommendations on policies of the Federal government, an investigation will almost certainly be demanded by some members of the Senate. The latest task force to be named by the Commission is the one to study the policies of "lending agencies" — such as REA, which finances rural electrification facilities — with a primary view of eliminating "government competition" with private business. Private electric utilities have, without justification, in fact or law, jealously regarded rural electric cooperatives as competitors because the private power companies seek a complete monopoly over distribution as well as generation of electric power throughout the nation.

Task Force Make-up

The lending agency task force is composed of seven business executives, three bankers and the former dean of Agriculture of a land grant college. The businessmen include two insurance executives and two publishers, one of the latter the business manager of probably the outstanding anti-Federal power publication in the nation. Even the retired agriculture dean, H. P. Rusk, of the University of Illinois, provides no comfort for the rural electrification program. He has long been a critic of Federal power program supporters. He served on the last Hoover Commission task force on agriculture, which decried REA financing for distribution of electricity in sparsely settled sections on an area coverage basis.

Chairman of the task force is a partner in an accounting firm with private utility clients, who also served on the previous Hoover Commission which studied only the economy aspects of organization of the Federal government, rather than policy of Federal programs.

## Interior Dept. Defends Policy Before Judiciary Subcommittee

(CNS) — Interior Department spokesmen revised their policy for selling federal electric power when they faced a Senate judiciary subcommittee last month.

Fred G. Aandahl, Interior's assistant secretary for water and power, again denied that the new policy will injure electric co-ops and public purchasers of federal power. Rural electric co-op leaders in the Missouri valley, invited by the subcommittee chairman, William Langer (R. N. Dak.), took exception.

Aandahl conceded that 20-year contracts might be cut to three years to help electric co-ops. Co-op leaders insisted they wanted the regulations spelled out completely, not just promises.

### Co-ops Want Rules

A North Dakota state senator, Carroll E. Day, said the co-ops aren't willing to accept Aandahl's policy of leaving room for "administrative discretion." The co-ops, Day said, want the rules in black and white.

Langer had at first called the hearings to look into the Interior's Missouri valley power marketing policy,

but he later broadened the inquiry to include all federal power policies.

In the Missouri valley, Interior demands that the co-ops estimate their power needs for the next 20 years, committing themselves to heavy purchases in the earlier years so they'll have enough reserved later on.

### 'May Bankrupt Co-ops'

Co-op leaders contend that this may bankrupt some co-ops. The earlier policy of the Department was to give co-ops and public groups frequent chances to contract for more federal power as their loads grew.

While Interior is contracting with co-ops, it will also be contracting with private power companies, also for 20 years. The former policy was to include a withdrawal clause in such contracts—a clause reserving the power only so long as it isn't needed by co-op, municipal, and public districts. This clause has been dropped.

Aandahl said this wouldn't make much difference — that these co-op and public customers would take most all the power anyway. But, Vance Austin, manager of Colorado Association of REA Cooperatives, said it would be 10 or 15 years before these preferred customers use all the available public power.

### 'Fits A Pattern'

Austin also gave the subcommittee a four page statement showing similarities between Aandahl's speeches and private power company propaganda. "This all fits into a pattern," Austin said. "It's a pattern we think is again aimed at private monopoly of the electric power business."

Interior Undersecretary Ralph Tudor said that all the interpretations of the department's power marketing policies brought out by Aandahl during the hearings will become a part of established policy.

William C. Wise, former deputy rural electrification administrator, now a spokesman for Missouri Basin Electric Consumers Association, said that group would attempt to enjoin Interior's power marketing policies before it went into effect on January 1.

### Called A Violation

He said Interior's policy is "a flagrant and very obvious violation" of federal reclamation and flood control acts. Interior officials' testimony, he said, shows "a pattern within the department to increase power costs,

(Continued on Page Fifteen)

## Cover Picture

A feed mixer is another great labor and time-saver made possible by rural electricity. Home-grown or bulk-purchased grain can be easily and quickly mixed as needed assuring fresh feed at all times.

Time-consuming trips to town are eliminated and there is no need for storing large quantities of ground grain when you have a mixer. Also a farmer can follow any feeding formula he wishes to.

There are many different feed processing setups. In some, the grain is scooped into the bottom of the mixer or it is gravity-fed or elevated into the mixer.

Manufactured models are available in sizes from 250 to 4000-pounds capacity and require motors from one-fourth to 7½ horsepower. The mixing time for each batch is from 5 to 15 minutes. Mixers sell for \$100 and up. They use about a half a kilowatt hour for each ton of feed mixed.



## Electric Pipeline Cleaner Does Awkward Job Quickly

PIPELINE milking is a boon to the dairyman, but cleaning pipelines is often a problem. Pipes are awkward to handle because of their length and it takes a lot of work to get them really free of germs.

Andrew Roth of near Troy has the problem licked. When he built his milkhouse two years ago, he installed special equipment to do the job quickly and effectively.

Above, Roth is shown demonstrating his electrically-powered pipe cleaner. The milk pipe is slid over a twirling, nylon brush. The brush is mounted at one end of an 11-foot brass pipe, which can be seen in the picture below.

As the brush rotates at high speed, a jet of water-detergent solution is sprayed inside the pipe. The run-off goes into the 12-foot washing trough

specially built for handling milk pipe.

"It takes about five minutes to clean our pipes," Roth says. "I don't know how other dairymen handle this chore, but we couldn't clean pipes very well with wire brushes. It isn't just a question of time either. You just can't get them clean enough with hand brushing."

The equipment has other uses too. Roth uses it for cleaning other pipeline fixtures and for teat cups.

Roth has a four-stall milk parlor. Each stall has a water spray for rinsing teat cups. He milks 65 cows twice a day and ships about 300 gallons of milk. Two men do the milking in two to two and a half hours. That includes cleaning up also.

Roth is a member of Southwestern Electric Cooperative of Greenville. He uses 3,000 kilowatt-hours of co-op electricity a month.



## State Board Hears Report On Electric Consumers Conference

Following a report by State Manager A. E. Becker on the Electric Consumer's Conference, held in Denver, Colo., December 10 and 11, the State Association board of directors instructed the manager to send a copy of "the statement of principles and position" which came out of the Denver meeting, to directors and managers of Illinois rural electric systems. The board took this action at its regular monthly meeting in Springfield, December 17.

The Denver meeting was attended by 650 delegates from 30 states representing farm organizations, rural electric cooperatives, municipalities, labor and civic organizations. The statement which Becker reported on, was highly critical of the power companies and said, they "are today again deep in the unethical, immoral, and evil political and propaganda practices of a quarter century ago."

Other targets of the "statement" were the federal authorities' failure to maintain adequate power generation in the TVA area; slowdown and elimination of already authorized

government hydro-electric projects; change in the government's preference policy; federal opposition of Hells Canyon dam; cutback of REA generation and transmission loans, and repudiation of electric co-ops' contracts with Southwestern Power Administration.

### Annual Meeting Caravan

The manager also reported on the activities of the annual meeting caravan committee. He said that work is progressing on a booklet to present to prospective caravan advertisers; that a tractor-driving contest will be an added feature, along with General Electric Company's House of Magic show.

In a resolution, the board asked member cooperatives to consider adopting resolutions asking the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association to hold its 1955 convention in the midwest.

A report on the effect that a proposed postal bill in Congress would have on second class postal rates of state publications was submitted by William E. Murray, editor, Illinois Rural Electric News.



WATER SYSTEMS in permanent pastures are one of the biggest labor and time-savers a stockman can have. Max Wilson of Ridgway, whose cattle are pictured, says he couldn't farm 990-acres and keep stock too, if he had to haul water.

# Electricity Does The Watering Job For These Two Farmers

*Costly To Install Water Systems In Permanent Pastures? Yes, But These Stockmen Think The Investment Pays Big Dividends*

"IT'S a great satisfaction to know that the stock have plenty of water, anytime they want it," declare two southern Illinois farmers, Joe Hanson of Belle Rive and Max Wilson of Ridgway.

Both of the men let electric power handle the watering chore and have found it to be "more dependable than gasoline engines," and, "a whole lot less troublesome than pumping by hand."

On Hanson's 537-acre farm, there are seven water systems handling the needs of 140 head of cattle and 180 hogs. Two of these systems are located out in the fields, where the cattle are pastured.

#### Co-op Built Line

This arrangement was a little expensive because the Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative had to build a half-mile of line to the pumps and charged Hanson \$75 a year minimum for service.

"Of course this is more electricity than we probably will use in a year's time," he points out, "but we figure it is still money well spent. Where could you get a man to do as much work for \$75 a year?" he asks. "I'm sure I wouldn't!"

Hanson says these two water systems eliminate around three or four hours of work a day. Figuring his time is worth at least a dollar an hour, he says, "This is enough to more than pay the electric bill."

#### Tried Gasoline Pumps

Before he converted the water systems to electric power, Hanson used gasoline engines on the two field pumps. And, "I would make as many as three trips a day to the pumps. That was time I could have spent doing something worthwhile," he adds.

Sometimes the cattle did without water when Hanson was too busy to fill the tanks. "You can't expect gains, if you don't give them plenty of water."

Though he doesn't have facts and figures to back him up, Hanson nevertheless is convinced he lost money because of this old, unreliable system of watering. He says, "Cattle can get along on a lot less feed if they have plenty of water."

#### Typical Farm

The whole Hanson farm is an example of the progress electrical power is making in improving

farm conditions. Today, it is a major tool in farm production, as indispensable as field equipment.

In addition to insuring plenty of fresh water for the livestock, electricity helps Hanson keep his machinery in tip-top repair, stores his grain with ease, and in general makes farm work a pleasure instead of a chore, the farmer proudly points out.

Another big help is Hanson's machine shop. Equipped with an electric welder, grinder, emery wheel, drill press, the shop permits on-the-farm repairs with a minimum of time and labor. "We can come in here with a broken piece of equipment and have it repaired before we could get to town and back," he explains.

#### Quite Handy

And, "If we need anything, we make it. Why buy it, if you can make it?" Hanson has made stands for the drill, vice and emery wheel, in addition to a large motor hoist, "which comes in handy when we want to overhaul one of the tractors." He also made all of his water tanks.

This past summer, he used an electric motor on the grain elevator because he believes it is more practical than either the tractor, or gasoline engine. "You only have to turn it on and you get the job done. Before, I would have to start the tractor, watch the pulley, then shut it off. Sometimes, it was hard to start too."

If there is one thing which is used sparingly on Hanson's farm, it isn't electricity. He says, "That's one thing you can't use enough of." In fact, he believes that for every dollar's worth of electricity, a farmer can realize as much as nine dollars profit.

#### Makes Work Pleasant

When it comes to making the work pleasant, electricity has no equal, this farmer declares as he points to the many electrical lights in his barns and other outbuildings. "Those lights are a lot better than lanterns."

Max Wilson feels much the same as Hanson does about the value of electricity in modern farm operations. Besides taking the work and worry out of stock watering, "It has done much to cut expense, while increasing profits," he explains.

On his 990-acre farm, power from the Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative, pumps all the water for his 100 head of cattle and his 30 sows and their litters. He also has an electrically-

equipped farm shop, where he can make fast minor repairs.

#### 'Best Advantage'

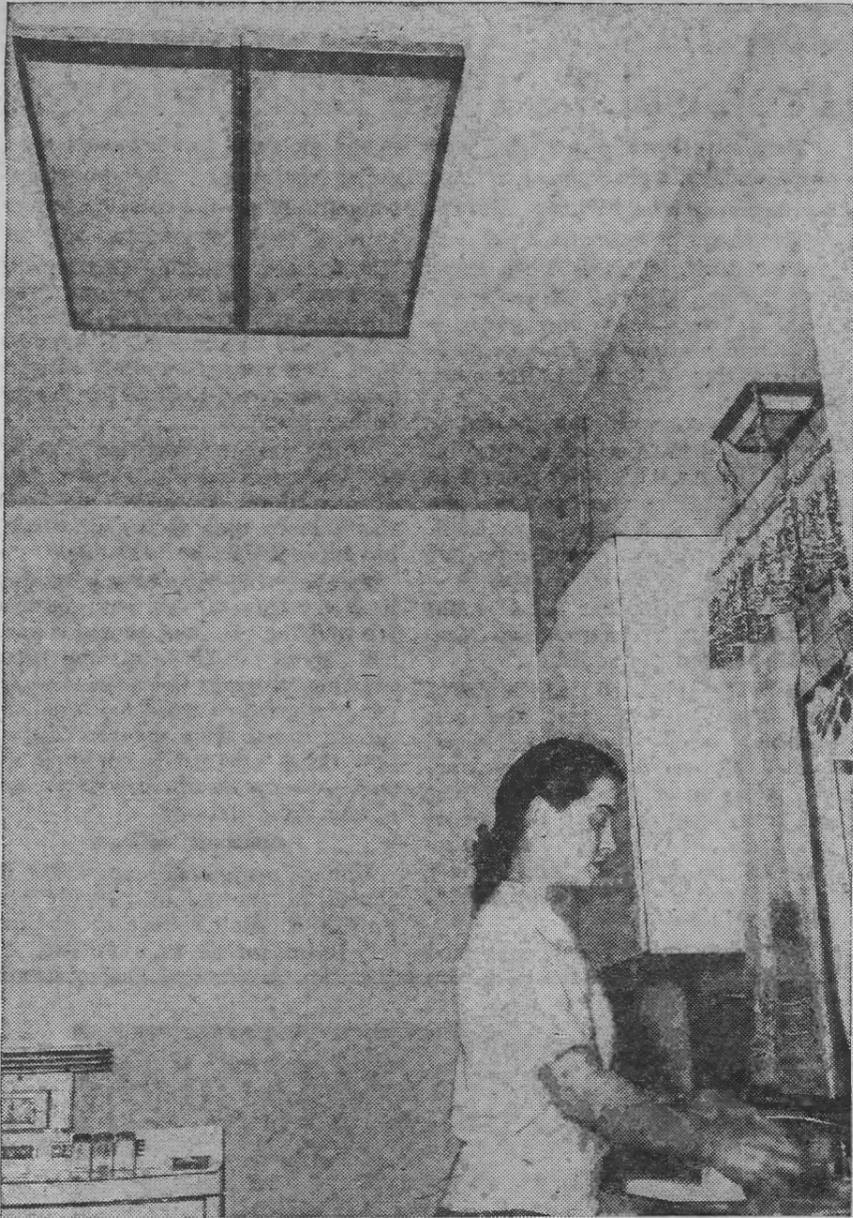
Of all the advantages of electrical power, Wilson believes his water system provides the best. It cost \$300 to install, but the "livestock have all the water they need. I don't have to be there when they take a drink."

He adds, "I couldn't carry all the water they drink everyday and still tend to my other jobs around the farm." Just the thought of it, is enough to make a fellow's back ache, he remarks.

Wilson believes electricity on the farm is an incentive "for tenant-farmers to do the best work possible. And with all the electrical equipment on today's market to aid the farmer, electricity is also a must from an economical standpoint. You can do the work quicker, and cheaper."



JOE HANSON of Belle Rive, has electric water systems in pastures and feedlots eliminating most of the work of watering stock.



MRS. HARVEY J. DOLL of Bushnell likes the draftless floors that electric heat makes possible. A double ceiling panel heats her kitchen. Baseboard panels were used in the living and dining room, and wall panels in bedrooms.

**A** FORD and a Cadillac will both get you to where you want to go, but the latter will deliver you to your destination in more style and comfort.

A similar comparison can be made between electric radiant heat and other kinds such as gas, oil and coal. All these heat sources will do the job for which they are intended, but electricity will do it in style and comfort.

And just as the fellow who wants a Cadillac knows, it's going to cost more for the extra comfort. From the numerous evidences on the road today, it is apparent that many people are willing to pay the extra cost. To a lesser extent, this is true also of electric heat.

#### Number of Users Growing

In the areas served by rural electric co-ops in Illinois, several hundred people have switched to electric heat. Proportionately the number is small, but there is a growing interest in it and many people some day hope to be able to enjoy the plus values of this new type of home heating.

Take the case of Harvey J. Doll of Bushnell, for example. He recently completed the installation of radiant glass panels in his nine-room home.

According to the engineers who estimated the job, the yearly cost for electricity to heat his home, will be about \$240. How accurate an estimate this is, remains to be seen.

But Harvey isn't too worried about the cost. He wanted electric heating because of the extra convenience and comfort it provides.

#### Influence Decision

"Even if it costs \$300 a year," Doll comments cheerfully, "we think it would be as cheap as heating this big house with oil."

Here again is a statement which

cannot be tested very satisfactorily. Because each room has an independent thermostat, Doll does not plan to heat the upstairs bedrooms often since they are not usually occupied. With oil or coal, these rooms, and others that are seldom used, would probably be receiving heat.

Faced with the need for a new heating system last year, Doll decided that he'd switch to electricity. The experience of friends who had installed panel heat, had much influence on his decision.

#### Disliked Coal Furnace

Doll and his wife were disgusted with their ancient hand-firing, coal furnace. Mrs. Doll wanted automatic heat. She disliked shovelling coal and the dirt and grime that went with it. There were times when she had to tend the furnace in her husband's absence.

Though Mrs. Doll had her doubts about electric heat, primarily about the cost, she and her husband put off the final decision until they found out what it cost their friends.

Though the installation of electric heat panels compares favorably with central heating plants when the cost of ducts, chimney and furnace are figured, it is a different type of comparison in an old home where a furnace can be converted to gas or oil utilizing existing ducts.

#### Had To Insulate

Like many homes of its age, the Doll home wasn't insulated. This had to be done and naturally added to the expense of the electric heating installation.

Doll saved a considerable amount by installing the heating panels and thermostats himself. This included much of the wiring. Bob Yeast, pow-

# Electric Heat, Not The Cheapest Kind, But It's The Best

*You've Got To Be Willing To Pay More If You Want Advantages of Dirtless, Uniform, Healthful Electric Heat*

er use adviser of the McDonough Power Cooperative, drew up wiring plans for Doll to follow.

Doll used three varieties of panels. He put baseboard panels in the living room and dining room, a double ceiling panel in the kitchen, and used standard wall panels in the bedrooms.

"One of the things I especially like about electric heat," Mrs. Doll commented, "is that it keeps the floors warm. You don't get cold drafts on your legs. And I like the clean heat without dust and dirt."

#### More Uniform Heat

"The heat's more uniform and steady," her husband added. "And it doesn't dry you out like hot air systems do."

Another user of the same kind of electric radiant heat is Ralph E. Wilson of Industry. He put it in a five-room house he built a little over two years ago.

His sons, Mark, 36, and Lloyd, 34, who farm with him, built the house for him and Mrs. Wilson. He said he paid \$1200 for the panels and wiring. His boys supplied the labor.

The first 12 months of operation cost \$172. That's higher than coal, oil or gas, would cost to heat a five-

room home, but not beyond the price that many are willing to pay for the extra convenience and comfort that electric heat gives. The electricity which Wilson gets from McDonough Power Cooperative costs him 1½ cents a kilowatt-hour.

#### House Well Insulated

The house was well insulated. Insulation bats were placed in both ceiling and walls. In addition, aluminum foil was nailed over the sheathing.

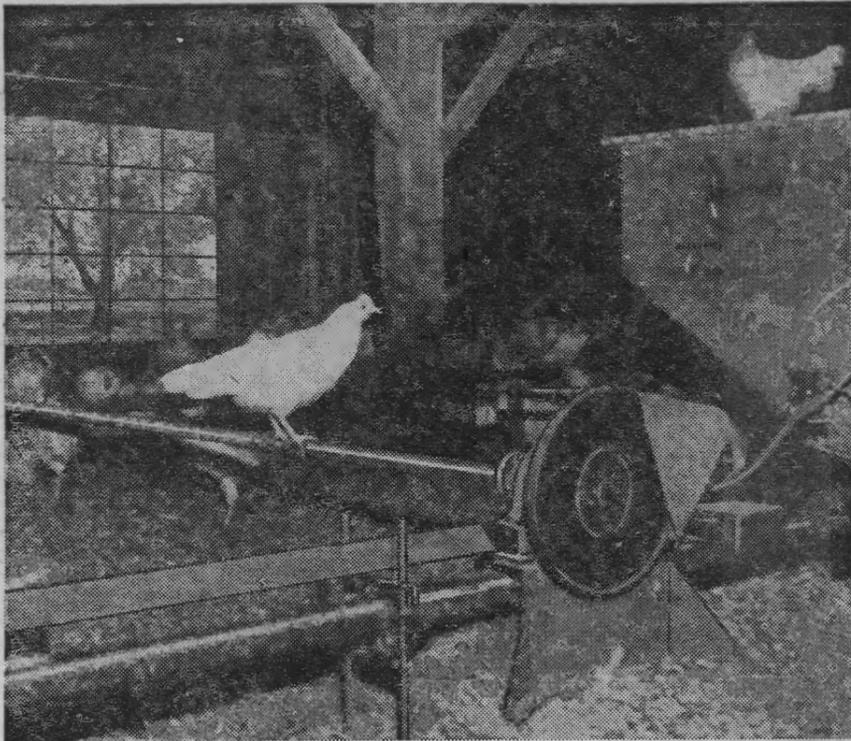
Wilson said he is very satisfied with electric heat. He likes the convenience of it and the comfort. "We don't seem to catch as many colds as we used to," he says. He thought that might be because the radiant heat didn't dry the air out like hot air systems do.

If he were doing it over again, he says, he would use baseboard panels throughout. He thinks the wall panels which he used are too conspicuous and rather unattractive.

As far as the cost of operation, he has no complaints. He thinks it's a superior heating system and just right for his wife and him living by themselves. "If it cost twice what it does, I still think it would be worth it for what you get," Wilson adds.



**ELECTRIC HEAT** panels were recessed in the baseboard when Ralph E. Wilson's of Industry house was built. He used some wall panels too, but says he would use nothing but baseboard if he had it to do over again. He thinks they make a better looking job.



ONE MOTOR operates dual drive, which moves the feed simultaneously in two troughs running parallel to each other in Lewis Manahan's new chainless poultry-feeder. The new type feeder also has trough covers, which serve as perches and prevent the feed from getting dirty.

## New Poultry Feeder Does Away With Jamming, Overflowing

HERE'S an automatic poultry feeder without chains or other devices in the trough to cause jamming, or overflowing of feed. This feeder literally shakes the feed from the hopper the length of the troughs.

According to Lewis Manahan of Saybrook, who recently installed two of these poultry feeders in his father-in-law's poultry house, "There are no movable parts to wear out, or breakdown and give trouble."

And, if a poultryman is using ground cobs for his litter, "This type of feeder prevents the cobs from interfering with its operation," Manahan explains. "There's a continuous flow of fresh feed in front of the birds."

### Simple Operation

Action of the feeder is comparatively simple. An electric motor powers a drive unit, which causes a shaking, or vibrating action as it moves the trough back and forth three-fourths of an inch. This action moves the feed 10 to 12 feet per minute.

In this system, the hopper may be placed at any point in the feed line, since it does not operate in connection with the drive units. On Manahan's place, one hopper supplies 200 feet of trough.

Feed is metered from the hopper into trough in controlled amounts, set by the operator. Electrically-controlled gates open and close, allowing the feed to flow into the trough at the desired level.

### Provides Adaptability

Manahan points out that the set-up can easily be adapted to two, three, four, five, or six troughs. Special scoring in the trough bottom allows feed to flow up short inclines, where it can be discharged into another line, going at right angles to it.

This arrangement eliminates corners, where the grain can overflow, or jam. Feed retains its original form. It is not churned up, powdered or shredded. "The poultryman is able to get a more accurate distribution of feed," Manahan says.

With a special attachment, the return trough can be done away with, and the birds can regulate their own feed. It is a control pan at the end of the trough, which when filled with feed activates a switch turning

off the feeder. Manahan has one of these units.

### Float Controls Feed

After the birds have consumed the feed in the trough and in the control pan, a float drops down and turns on the feeder again. To insure that his birds will consume the feed in the pan, at night, Manahan has installed a small light in his control pan.

"I put a seven and one-half watt bulb in the pan to attract the birds at night," he explains. "That way I know the birds will have plenty of feed all the time. That's the secret of success," he adds.

The automatic poultry feeder is called "Magic-Flow" and is manufactured by the James Manufacturing Company of Fort Atkinson, Wis. According to Manahan, they sell for between \$350 and \$450, depending upon size of trough.

The bird control pan is called the "Bird-O-Matic" feed control and is also manufactured by the James Company. Besides making the birds control their own feed, it saves electricity, Manahan points out. He receives his service from the Corn Belt Electric Cooperative of Bloomington.

## REA Administrator Denies 'Slowdown' In Loan Approvals

Last month, Rural Electrification Administrator Ancher C. Nelsen denied he's trying to slow loans to rural electric co-ops. Earlier, Senator Estes Kefauver (D. Tenn.) had charged that if REA keeps making loans at its present rate, the agency will only use \$120-million of the \$205-million loan authorizations Congress approved.

Kefauver said that REA had only loaned \$29.1 million in the period from July to October, while a year ago \$51.3 million had been loaned in the same period, and that REA had a \$216-million backlog of loan applications.

Nelsen replied that REA actually loaned \$39½ million in the four-month period, but that it canceled \$10.4-million in approved loans when it found the borrowers had "no valid use" for them. Nelsen said the \$216-million in loan applications is "deceptive." It includes, he said, many applications not granted in previous years.

## Jo-Carroll President Scores Proposal To Hike REA Interest

"Despite private power company propaganda, the government has not lost any money on its loans to rural electric co-ops because of a 2 per cent interest rate." This is what President Clayton Dittmar of Jo-Carroll Electric co-op told the capacity crowd which attended the co-op's annual meeting in Savanna, December 5.

Dittmar's remarks were directed at the proposal in Congress to raise interest rates on REA loans from 2 to 4 per cent. He pointed out that the same 2 per cent loans were available to private power companies just as they were to electric co-ops.

Raising the interest rates would jeopardize many electric co-ops' financial position, he added.

Dittmar emphasized that the aim of the co-op was "to give the best possible service at the lowest costs." He cited brush spraying, the addition of a sub-station, and the heavying-up of lines, as some of the things the co-op is doing to provide reliable service. "The quality of your service is being improved all the time," he said.

Manager Charles Youtzy explained

to the members just how each co-op dollar was spent. He also gave a comparison of the past two fiscal years of co-op operations. He said that average monthly consumption per member had gone up from 289 to 313 kilowatt-hours. Only 86 members out of 1677 were minimum users last year. The average monthly bill was \$11.15 compared to \$9.88 for the preceding year.

While revenue increased, Youtzy said, it was offset by increased costs of operations. However, the co-op was able to show a modest surplus for the first time in its history.

Spraying the right-of-way resulted in fewer outages, the manager said. He told the members that the co-op had spent \$10,000 on the brush spraying program last year. Another factor which will mean more reliable service is the tying together the co-op's three substations enabling the co-op to serve members from any one of the three stations.

### Constant Voltage

Voltage regulating equipment installed at substations recently will provide constant voltage at all times

(Continued on Page Fifteen)



Mr. Ed Collison, Manager, Columbia Basin Electric Co-op, says:

## "Kaiser Aluminum has never let us down!"

"In all the time we've worked with Kaiser Aluminum," says Mr. Collison, "they've never let us down. They have made all deliveries on time, and the information they furnish is always accurate and helpful."

"This kind of service is especially important to us today, because we now are using aluminum on all services and plan to use it on all future construction."

"One of our recent jobs consisted of hooking up over 400 horsepower for irrigation pumps ranging from 15 to 75 horsepower. We built 40 miles of conversion over very rough terrain in about three months. Using #4 7/1 ACSR, we spanned from 450 to 1700 feet!"

"It's another job where Kaiser Aluminum service was extremely helpful."

### Make better installations at lower cost with Kaiser Aluminum!

Our complete Field, Engineering and Laboratory services are available to you at no obligation when you specify Kaiser Aluminum conductor. Contact any Kaiser Aluminum office in principal cities, or one of our many distributors. Request free folder giving advantages and applications of Kaiser Aluminum Triplex Cable. Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Sales, Inc., Oakland 12, Calif.

# Kaiser Aluminum

setting the pace—in growth, quality and service

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SELF-SUPPORTING TRIPLEX CABLE • ACSR • ALL ALUMINUM CONDUCTOR

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ALL ALUMINUM (Neoprene Covered)		TRIPLEX (Neoprene Covered)	
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Stranded:	#4-7 . . . . . } #2-7 . . . . . } #1/0-7 . . . . . } #3/0-19 . . . . . }	3/64" 4/64"	AWG SIZE
<b>ACSR AND ALL-ALUMINUM</b> All sizes and constructions.			

# Three Different Ways Farmers Are Using To Keep Water Flowing

HERE are three different ways cooperative members are keeping water flowing on their farms this winter with the aid of co-op electricity.

Bryon Kotter of Rushville is using an electric heat lamp in his pump house to keep the pump from freezing. "I had to do something," he explains, "I had three pumps freeze up and break on me."

Kotter's pump is a quarter of mile from his farmstead, but it supplies all the water to his 350 head of hogs, and 25 milk cows. "You can see I need a lot of water," he points out.

## Worth It

The Schuyler county farmer says it cost him around \$15 to install the heat lamp plus a mercury switch, "But it was worth it. It cost me \$45 to repair the broken pumps."

The lamp is thermostatically controlled by the mercury switch and is set to turn on when the temperature drops below 54 degrees. Kotter receives his service from the Adams Electrical Cooperative of Camp Point.

Chris Herrman of Raymond installed an automatic, electrically-heated combination stock tank to relieve himself of the worry of frozen

stock tanks. "I wanted something I could depend upon no matter how cold it gets," he explains.

## No More Ice

"I spent enough winters breaking the ice on the tanks," he adds. He previously had used the standard type water tank with an oil heater attachment, but it caused him a lot of trouble. "Everytime the wind blew hard, it went out and the water froze."

This new, automatic stock waterer does away with this problem. It is insulated and can water either hogs, or cattle, or both. It has swinging doors over the head holes where the hogs water. This reduces radiation loss, saving current.

There are also covers for the two, top cattle water troughs, which Herrman can put in place when the waterer isn't in use. Two thermostats keep the water in the troughs around 45 degrees.

## No Worrying

The central Illinois farmer said the unit cost him \$122 installed. He believes it will more than pay for itself. "I won't have to worry this winter about seeing if the stock has plenty of water. And, I won't have to chop any ice."

A member of the Rural Electric



HEATING TAPE keeps the water pipe from freezing, inside of Harold Botts' milk house. His son, John, checks the tape to see that it is working properly.

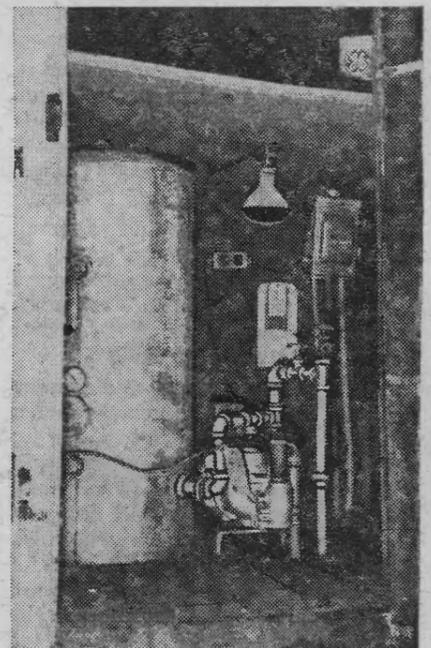
Convenience Cooperative, of Divernon, Herrman declares, "Electricity is the best thing that has happened to us farmers. I just don't know what we would do without it."

## Botts' Problem

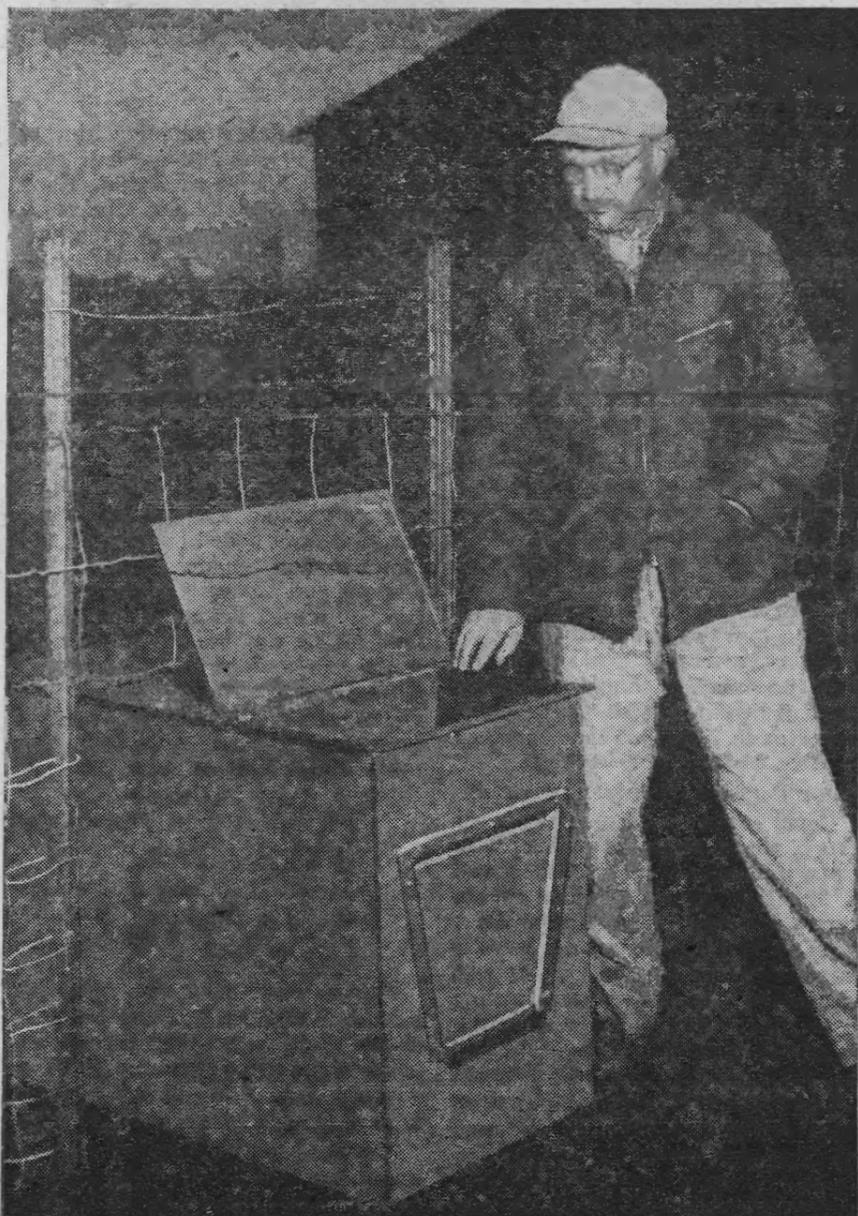
Harold Botts of Camden had a problem in his milk house. He was having trouble keeping his water hydrant from freezing. However, he was able to solve it by putting heating tape around it.

And, says Botts, "I haven't had any trouble with it since." A Schuyler county dairyman, Botts says he installed the heating tape because it was cheaper than putting a heater in the building.

He paid around \$5 for the tape and the connecting thermostat, which is set between 40 and 45 degrees. "A heater would cost seven times that," says Botts. He is a member of the Adams Electrical Cooperative of Camp Point.



The PUMP house on Bryon Kotter's place near Rushville. Kotter installed an infra-red heating lamp above the pump to prevent it from freezing. The lamp is controlled by a thermostat.



CHRIS HERRMAN of Raymond inspects his electrically-heated stock waterer. He says it saves him the trouble of "having to chop ice, or to relight the oil burner." Herrman says he needed a water tank he could depend on.

## Notice To Users of Concrete Silos

### Cumar Rubber Base Silo Preservative

We have developed and make here in our factory at Bloomfield, a **PRESERVATIVE PAINT** for use in the inside of **CONCRETE SILOS**. It has proven to be a great help in protecting the walls of silo against damage from freezing, thawing and acid action. It also helps to retard the absorption of juices into wall of silo and stops air leaks through the walls. It is easy to apply, with your own labor, while emptying your silo. After you have fed down two or three doors, simply clean the wall of loose substance and with a wide brush apply two coats of the **PRESERVATIVE**. It dries quickly and the second coat can be applied in a short time. This should preserve your silo wall for several years to come at very little cost to you. The **PRESERVATIVE** sells for \$3.50 per gallon in five gallon lots f.o.b. Bloomfield, Indiana, or will be available through any of our dealers in the states of Indiana, Illinois and Kentucky. Shipment will go out same day we receive your order. Place your order today and be ready for next season's fill. One and one-half gallons will cover approximately one hundred square feet of wall surface, two coats. **Mail your order to**

## CONCRETE SILO COMPANY, INC.

Mill Street

BLOOMFIELD

INDIANA



# Home-makers' Page

Edited by Kay Conlan

## Braising—To Cook Less Tender Meat Cuts

**B**RAISING in a tightly covered pot or pan combines browning with steaming and stewing and develops rich flavor in meat—and it's a good way to cook all the less tender meat cuts which are so often pushed aside in favor of choice (and more expensive) steaks and chops.

It is the slow and easy method that makes Grandma's pot roast a memory, a method that's as simple as one, two, three.

1. Brown the meat by dry heat—baking, pan-broiling or frying—to develop flavor and color. Coat the meat with flour, if desired, for a better color, and be sure to brown on all sides. Most important of all, don't hurry the process, for a slow brown stands up better than a quick brown during the simmering that follows.

2. Add seasonings and a small amount of liquid (water, broth or vegetable juice), adding more if needed as the meat cooks. Too much liquid dissolves that good outer brown layer, so be sparing!

3. Cover pan closely and simmer on top of range until meat is tender. Or, cook in tightly closed pan or casserole in the oven. The steam will soften the connective tissue and make the meat tender as a filet mignon. Remember that simmering is cooking just below the boiling point, with little bubbles that form slowly and break beneath the surface of the liquid. Sauce or gravy are made from the drippings, which contain valuable meat flavors.

### Oven-Cooked Beef Stew

- 1 pound beef stew meat
- Salt, pepper, flour
- 3 tablespoons lard
- 2 medium onions
- 1 1/2 cups water
- 1 can condensed tomato soup
- 1 small bay leaf
- 2 whole cloves
- 1 stalk celery
- 4 carrots
- 3 medium potatoes
- 1 cup canned peas (8-ounce can)

Cut meat into one-inch cubes; sprinkle with salt and pepper and dredge with flour. Melt lard in skillet and in it brown meat thoroughly. Transfer meat to a two-quart casserole. Lightly brown chopped onion in the hot lard; add to meat. Heat water with tomato soup and pour over meat. Add seasonings and sliced celery. Cover and bake in a 325 degree F. oven for one and one-half hours, or until meat is nearly tender. Add sliced carrots, potatoes cut in eighths and peas; sprinkle with salt and pepper and mix in with beef and gravy. Cover and continue baking for 45 minutes. Four servings.

### Braised Short Ribs

- 3 pounds beef short ribs, cut into individual squares
- 3/4 cup uncooked rice
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 1/2 cup chopped celery
- 1/2 cup chopped green pepper
- 1 tablespoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon thyme
- 2 1/4 cups water
- 2 teaspoons vitalox
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce

Brown short ribs on all sides in heavy kettle without added fat, allowing 25 to 30 minutes for browning. Remove meat, add rice, onion, celery and green pepper and cook until rice is lightly browned. Place rice mixture in large casserole and top with short ribs. Combine remaining ingredients and pour over meat. Cover and bake in 325 degree F. oven for two hours. Makes four to six servings.



Oven-Cooked Beef Stew

### Braised Stuffed Shoulder of Veal

- 4- to 6-pound shoulder of veal
- 1/4 pound suet or mild salt pork
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 4 cups soft bread crumbs
- 1/4 teaspoon thyme
- Salt and pepper to taste

Remove the bones from the shoulder. Save the bones for broth.

For the stuffing, cut the suet or salt pork into small pieces and fry crisp. Add the onion and cook for a few minutes, stir in the bread crumbs and seasonings. Mix well and continue cooking until hot.

Sprinkle the inside of the meat with salt and pepper. Pile in the stuffing. Roll the stuffed shoulder compactly, sew or tie in place, and sprinkle with salt and pepper, and if desired with flour also. Place the roll on a rack in a roasting pan, and put several pieces of suet or salt pork on top. Cover the pan, cook in a moderately hot oven (about 375 degree F.) until the meat is browned and tender—about two and one-half hours. Make gravy with the pan drippings. Remove the strings before serving.

### Braised Lamb Breast Squares

- 2 pounds lamb breast, cut into individual squares
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- 1/8 teaspoon pepper
- 1/8 teaspoon marjoram
- 1 clove garlic
- 2 cups hot water

Brown lamb pieces in hot kettle without added fat, allowing 25 to 30 minutes and browning meat evenly on all sides. Pour off excess fat, add remaining ingredients, cover and simmer gently for one and one-half hours, until meat is tender. Remove garlic and meat and thicken liquid in pan with paste made of three tablespoons flour and one-half cup cold water. Serve meat on hot fluffy rice and pour gravy over top. Makes four servings.

### Beef Roll-Ups

- 2 pounds round steak, cut 1/4 inch thick
- 1/4 cup finely minced onion
- 1/4 cup prepared mustard
- 4 strips bacon, cut in half
- 1 large dill pickle, cut in 8 lengthwise strips
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 1 1/2 teaspoons salt
- 3/8 teaspoon pepper
- 2 to 3 tablespoons lard
- 1 (8-ounce) can tomato sauce
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1 teaspoon vitalox
- 1 cup hot water

Cut meat into eight pieces, about two and one-half by four and one-half inches. Spread meat with mixture of mustard and onion to about one-half inch from edges. Top with half-strips of bacon and then with pickle strips. Roll each piece of meat jelly-roll fashion and tie securely with cord. Coat in mixture of flour, salt and pepper and brown slowly on all sides in hot lard. Add remaining ingredients, cover and simmer for one and one-quarter hours. Thicken sauce, if necessary, with a little flour-water paste. Serve on hot buttered noodles. Makes eight servings.

### Sour Beef with Gingersnap Gravy

Cover three to five pounds of chuck, rump, or round of beef with equal parts of vinegar and water. Add a few bay leaves, a dozen whole cloves, a teaspoonful of whole black peppers, and a peeled onion. Let the meat stand in the vinegar for one to three days in a cool place, turning it so that it will pickle evenly. Remove the meat from the liquid and brown in hot fat in a heavy kettle. Then slip a rack under the meat to keep it from sticking to the pot, add one cup or less of the pickling liquid or water, cover with a close-fitting lid, and cook slowly for two to two and one-half hours, or until the meat is tender. Make gingersnap gravy and serve with the meat.

**Gingersnap gravy:** Blend two tablespoons of flour with two tablespoons

of drippings. Add gradually with constant stirring one and one-half cups of cool or lukewarm liquid. Cook slowly until smooth and thickened. Add two or three gingersnaps broken into small pieces, and stir until smooth; strain the gravy, if desired. Or season the gravy with a little ginger and sugar instead of the gingersnaps.

### Oxtail Casserole

- 1 oxtail, separated at joints (1 1/2 to 2 pounds)
- 1 cup canned tomatoes
- 1 medium onion, sliced
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1 (12-ounce) package frozen lima beans

Brown oxtail sections in heavy kettle without added fat for 25 to 30 minutes. Add tomatoes, onions, salt and pepper. Cover and simmer for two and one-half to three hours. Add lima beans the last 30 minutes of cooking time. Thicken mixture with paste made of two tablespoons flour and one-half cup cold water. Serve in large or in small individual casseroles. Makes four servings.

### Herb Pot Roast

- 5-lb. blade or round bone chuck pot roast
- 1/4 cup lard or drippings
- 1 1/2 tablespoons salt
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 2 medium onions, chopped
- 1/2 teaspoon basil
- 1/2 teaspoon thyme
- 4 celery stalks, with leaves
- 1 teaspoon Vitalox
- 1/2 cup hot water

Brown meat thoroughly on all sides in heated fat in heavy kettle or skillet. Add remaining ingredients, cover tightly and simmer for three to three and one-half hours, until meat is tender. Makes eight servings.

To make gravy, skim off most of excess fat and add enough water to liquid in pan to make three cups. Mix four and one-half tablespoons flour with one-half cup cold water to make a smooth paste and stir into liquid. Cook until thickened, stirring constantly. Makes three cups gravy.

# If You Like Crocheting and Sewing . . .

## Here Are A Group Of Free Patterns To Keep Needles, Hooks Busy

Another group of patterns which are yours just for the asking! And at this time of the year when most homemakers have more free time, handiwork projects are in full swing.

To get your patterns, here is what you have to do:

1. Check the patterns you wish on the pattern order coupon below and include your name and address.

2. Send with your order a clearly SELF-ADDRESSED and STAMPED envelope (the larger size, if possible) for every THREE pattern leaflets you are requesting, so that we may mail your patterns to you.

3. Mail your order on time so that it will be postmarked on or before the expiration at the bottom of the coupon. You will notice that the postmark expiration date on this coupon is January 31, 1954.

On our list this month:

1. SHAGGY RUG—can be made in whatever size you desire. It is made of 12 inch squares and each square is formed by making a base of single crochet and covering the surface with loops.

2. FELT SLIPPERS—which can be made up in a jiffy. A pair of men's insoles covered on one side with felt is used for the soles. Trim the band covering the instep with brass curtain rings and coin dots of colored felt.

3. CROCHETED DOG—a pooch who carries his two favorite accessories around with him—pointed hat and two-tone ball. Button eyes lend a comical expression.

4. LINEN-LACE TABLECLOTH—made of alternate squares of linen and crochet and measures 90 by 110 inches. You can make a smaller one by eliminating some of the squares.

5. CASSEROLE JACKETS, and potholders—a set to delight the heart of a happy homemaker. The oblong design is crocheted in canary yellow in the shell pattern with brown trim and the round jacket combines aqua and white.

6. MONOGRAMMED TOWEL TRIMS—a crocheted trim in a color to contrast with that of your towel. Pattern leaflet also includes instructions for adding crocheted edging or fringe border to your towels.

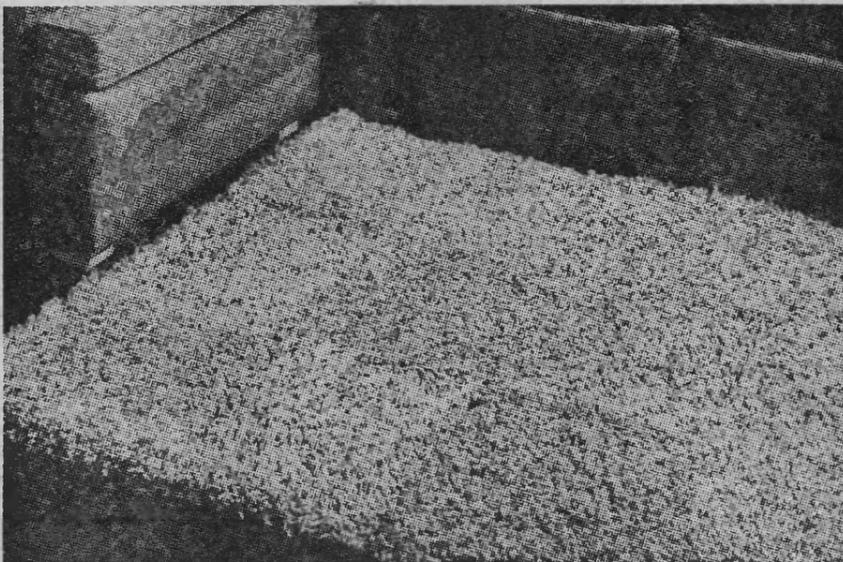
7. HIGHLAND HOME AFGHAN—crocheted in a bonnie Clan tartan, has yellow cross bars striping the scarlet and black squares. It is fringed with wool of the same three colors.

8. CHECKERBOARD HAT with bag to match, originally made in red and white, but make your own color choice. The hat has a little turned-up brim and the drawstring bag is made of crocheted strips interwoven to form the checkerboard effect.

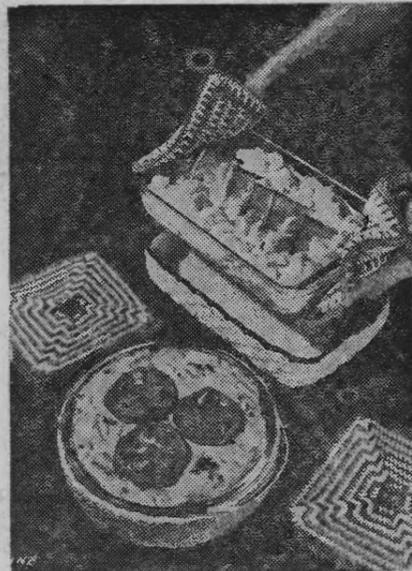
### Candlewax Stains

When it comes to doing up the good linens after the holiday season, that old question about how to remove candlewax drippings from table linens pops up. Wax stains should not be difficult to remove at home, but it pays to use the best method on expensive tablecloths or mats.

The first step is to scrape the hardened wax from the surface of the cloth gently with a dull knife. Then sponge the stain with cleaning fluid, as you would treat any grease spot. This is easier than the familiar method of laying the stained fabric on a blotter and pressing with a warm iron. If any traces of color are left, they usually can be removed by sponging with a cloth dipped in a mixture of two parts water to one part rubbing alcohol.



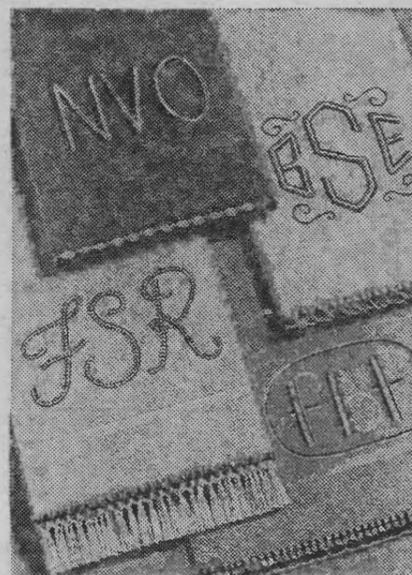
1. Shaggy Rug



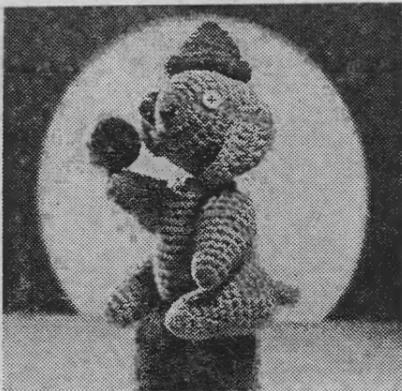
5. Casserole Jackets



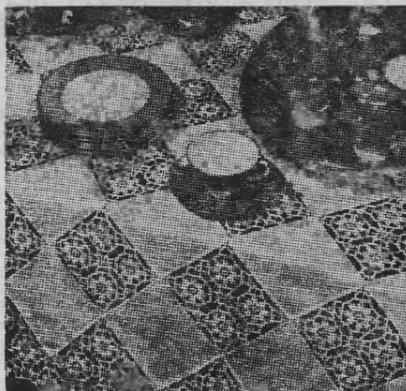
2. Felt Slippers



6. Monogrammed Towel Trims



3. Crocheted Dog



4. Linen-Lace Tablecloth



7. Highland Home Afghan

## Pattern Order Coupon

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Please send me without charge the pattern leaflets which I have checked below. I am enclosing a STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED envelope for every THREE patterns requested. (If possible, the envelope which MUST accompany all pattern orders should be of the larger size.)

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|--------------------------|----------------------------|
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| 2. Felt Slippers         | 6. Monogrammed Towel Trims |
| 3. Crocheted Dog         | 7. Highland Home Afghan    |
| 4. Linen-Lace Tablecloth | 8. Checkerboard Hat        |

My name is.....

Address.....

Comment (if any).....

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This coupon EXPIRES January 31, 1954. Orders must be postmarked by that date.



8. Checkerboard Hat

# Co-op Leaders Ask For Power From Federal Atomic Plants

A bid for power from the federal government's proposed atomic energy electric plants will be made by the rural electric cooperatives in the Ohio Valley area. This decision was reached in November at the annual meeting of the Ohio Valley Power Committee at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel in Springfield.

The committee comprises rural

electric cooperative leads assigned to power procurement in seven states including Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Michigan, West Virginia and Pennsylvania. Over 600,000 rural consumers, served by 153 local electric cooperatives in the seven-state area are represented on the committee.

The group was formed in 1950 for the purpose of correlating the efforts of the distribution cooperatives in the seven states in securing adequate sources of wholesale power at the lowest possible cost.

### Ask Preference

The federal government was asked to give preference to cooperatives, municipalities and public bodies in the sale of power from its proposed atomic energy generating plants. The request was contained in a resolution unanimously adopted by the 40 delegates present.

Explaining the purpose of the resolution, Chairman H. W. Eaton of Martinsville, Indiana, said "electricity produced at federal atomic generating plants should fall into the same classification as power produced at hydro and other federal installations and therefore should be governed by the same general policies."

### Power Policies

The existing power policies to which Eaton referred specify that non-profit cooperatives and public bodies receive first chance to purchase power from government power facilities. After such power requirements are met, sales are then made to commercial utilities.

"We do not intend to sit back and allow the commercial power companies to pre-empt the cooperatives' rights to first call on electricity generated by atomic facilities bought and paid for by all the people of this country," Eaton declared.

The committee directed that copies of the resolution be sent to President Eisenhower, Interior Secretary Douglas McKay, REA Administrator Ancher Nelsen and members of Congress from the states represented.



**TURKEY FARMER** Leo Hager of Victoria relies on co-op electricity to help him increase efficiency and keep down costs. Just before the big Thanksgiving rush, he installed this electrically powered, vacuum packing machine.

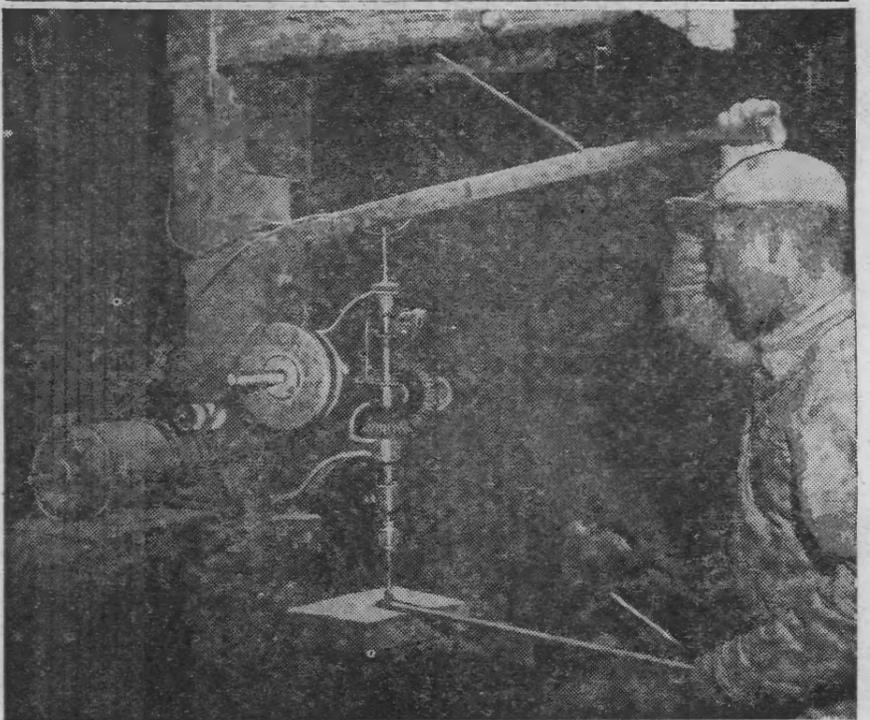
Made from a milking machine vacuum tank and a trailer truck diaphragm, the machine sucks the air out of the plastic bag in an easy operation. The suction does most of the lifting. The operator can seal two turkeys a minute, a lot quicker than formerly when Hager relied on an

ordinary vacuum cleaner to do this job.

After Betsy Sornberger vacuum packs the turkeys Mrs. Carol Hager, left, weighs and boxes them. The birds are then quick frozen in Hager's walk-in freezer.

With an annual production of about 25,000 turkeys, Hager is constantly adding electric equipment to speed up the processing of the turkeys and to maintain high quality.

Illinois Valley Electric co-op of Princeton supplies the electricity.



**AN ANTIQUE** becomes useful again with co-op electricity.

This ancient hand drill press, which its owner, Byford Drennan, believes may be 50 years old or more, was converted to a serviceable power drill. He fashioned a wooden handle with a switch on the end of it so he could turn off the half horse motor without reaching over his work. He attached the safety handle after nearly getting wound up in the press one time.

Byford says the hand drill press was already venerable when his father, A. E. Drennan, bought it second-hand many years ago. He farms in partnership with his father, who is a director of Tri-County Electric Co-op of Mt. Vernon.

Byford has a natural mechanical bent which is evidenced by the numerous handy, homemade gadgets he has produced in his workshop. Another of these is the small cart on wheels which he made for his compressor for a cost of about \$3. It makes the compressor portable allowing him to service tires on his equipment anywhere in his large machinery shed or to paint outbuildings with the compressor-operated spray.

Byford does most of his own repairs and relies on his electric welder as much as any tool he owns.

Byford is now specializing in polled Hereford breeding stock. He has a herd of 50 head on the 460-acre farm near Ina.

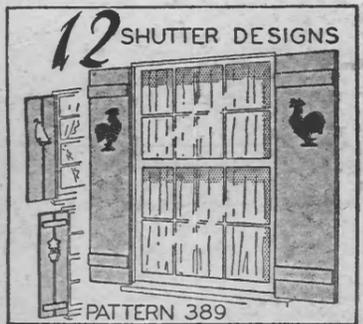
## IN THE HOME WORKSHOP

with RUTH WYETH SPEARS



### WALL BRACKETS

These beautiful leaf - scroll brackets may be cut from any one-quarter-inch wood with jig or fret saw. They make a perfect setting for figurines and small antique objects. Make a pair or a set of three with pattern 339. Price of pattern is 25c.



### SHUTTER DESIGNS

Shutters add to the appearance of your home. They may be used for decoration or may be hinged to open and close easily. The wide variety of designs on pattern 389 are not only for the cut-out figures but the construction of each of the 12 designs is different. The pattern sells for 25c.

Order Patterns From—  
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## SINGER Sewing Machine Modernized and Electrified

Rebuilt by VET'S with VET'S Parts

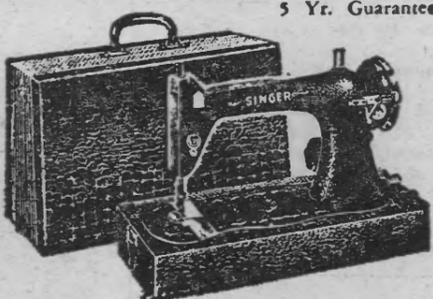
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New Control  
New Case

For Demonstration Mail Coupon



VET'S Sewing Machine Co.  
Box 2, Peoria Heights, Illinois

Gentlemen: I am interested in a free home demonstration of a Singer.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

(If rural route, please give directions)

# YOUR Co-op NEWS COLUMN

## NEWS FROM Tri-County Electric Co-op

Mt. Vernon, Illinois  
H. G. Downey, Manager

When you receive this issue of the Illinois Rural Electric News, the new year will have already been under way and the old year a memory of the past.

Your board of trustees and the employees of your cooperative would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very prosperous new year. May the forthcoming months be filled with happiness and good will toward all mankind throughout this troubled world.



H. G. Downey

### Hep And His Power Bill

"I've always considered myself somewhat of an orator and a pretty good arguer. I got plenty of practice sitting around the stove in the old cross-roads store, but my little woman sure told me off the other day.

"I picked up the electric bill from the mail box, took one look at it and beat it for home to give my wife the dickens, I stomped into the kitchen, slammed the bill down on the table, squinted my eyes, threw out my jaw, deepened my voice and bellowed: Woman, what's the meaning of this electric bill?"

"My wife was busy baking bread, roasting chicken and getting some pies ready for the oven. That part was fine with me, but I got a little peeved when she just ignored me and kept on with her work.

"Hep, she said (she always calls me Hep cause I don't like my first name), shut up, I'm getting a little tired of this monthly habit of you barging into my kitchen with that electric bill!"

"I didn't have much to say about that, didn't get much of a chance to say anything cause she had a lot to tell me and she tells it kind of fast when she gets going.

### WHAT TO DO

"Hep, she said, I'll tell you what we're going to do. You're going down to the Tri-County Electric Cooperative office and tell them to unhook the power—then you're coming back here and take the old wood stove out of the basement and bring it up here in the kitchen.

"Then you're going out and put the old pump handle in order and pump me about 80 gallons of water to wash dishes tonight and for some clothes washing.

"Then you're going to heat that water on that wood stove and wring out those clothes with the old hand wringer—Then you're going to get the old kerosene lamps down out of the attic and sell that new radio of ours.

"Then you're going to get that old coal stove out of the shed and set it up in the living room again, and fill the coal box—Then, Hep, you'd better make arrangements to eat in town from now on cause I'm never going to cook on that old wood stove again—then—

### HEP RETREATS

"Right about here she took a breath and I retreated with great speed out the kitchen door. She was still talking when I left the yard in the old flivver, and I was glad I couldn't hear her any more.

"You know, until she put it the way she put it to me, I just thought of that electric bill as something else that had to be paid every month. Today you are listening to a converted man, a man who really knows when he's well off and a man who isn't about to start doing all those chores over again—those things that had to be done by hand before we got electricity.

"Well, when I left the yard in the flivver that day, I went in to the Tri-County Electric Cooperative office and paid the electric bill. And you know, for the first time I actually smiled at that young girl who takes my money from me every month."

### MAKES YOU THINK

After reading the above story, I think we all should stop and think just a few moments just what our electricity means to us and how helpful it is in so many ways.

That electric bill each month is a must but so is your electricity a must when you flip that switch and it goes to work for you.

We, the employees of the cooperative,

would like to give a special thanks to members who pay their electric bills on time, year in and year out.

We would also like to thank those members who always deal with us in a cordial and friendly manner on all their billing problems. To all our members we say a thousand times "thank you."

### METER BOOKS

The employees of your cooperative are busy getting the meter books ready for mailing. You should already have your new meter book or it will be coming to you in the near future.

This year, along with your meter book will be an appliance survey card. Don't forget to mail this card in promptly so that you may be eligible to receive an award.

The appliance survey card is our way in determining that you have adequate service and this study will give us a means of planning our future construction program to give you adequate continuity of electric service.

### NEW APPLIANCES

Television, 16; Home freezer, 15; Water system, 11; Water heater, nine; Range, eight; Refrigerator, seven; Sewing machine, seven; Washer, five; Sweeper, one.

### OPERATING STATISTICS

	Oct. 1952	Oct. 1953
Miles energized	2,080	2,118
Revenue per mile	\$25.23	\$26.51
Connected members	7,073	7,072
Density per mile	3.4	3.34
Average bill	\$7.27	\$7.85
Average kwh.	229	256
Kwh. sold	1,653,791	1,827,262

## NEWS FROM Menard

Petersburg, Illinois  
Howard O. Bell, Mgr.

To keep the cost of reporting as low as possible, we will accept collect calls from only one member on each telephone exchange. This not only reduces the amount of telephone charges but it also saves time by eliminating the duplication of reports.

Learn who the member is who reports trouble in your area and report your outage to him. Give him all the information you can and he will report it to your service man. If the member on your exchange does not answer, call the nearest of the following numbers:

- Petersburg—2-2239—Menard Electric Cooperative Office.
- Petersburg—2-2682—Albert L. Hinrichs.
- Petersburg—2-2311—Physicians Exchange (the Exchange to be used when office does not answer).
- Mason City—116W—Robert W. McLean.
- Mason City—234W—Roy I. McDaniel.
- Kilbourne—13X—Alvin C. Bertram.
- Kilbourne—15X—Charles H. Cowin.
- Virginia—190—Ray Logan.
- Virginia—302—Harold Brunk.
- Buffalo—4-4133—Guy Sanford.
- Buffalo—4-4607—Elwin E. DeLong.

Please keep in mind that the above personnel will not accept long distance calls unless you cannot get in touch with the trouble reporter in your area. Please cut out the above and insert in your phone book. It may save you considerable delay at some future time.

### MOVING TIME

Moving time will soon be here and it is never a pleasant job. We would like to cooperate with all you members who are faced with this disagreeable task, but before we can do so it will be necessary that you notify us of the proposed move. Please read the meter at the place you are moving from and also read the meter at the place you are moving into.

If you do not do this or have no way of knowing how much energy you should be charged for at each location, we will be forced to make an estimated distribution of the total energy at each place.

This is never satisfactory and the little precaution of taking the readings as mentioned above, will insure you of being charged for only the electricity you have used at each location.

Another point to remember is, that if the electricity has been disconnected at the place you are moving into, please do not wait until the day you move to notify us. It may not be possible for us to have the service reconnected on that

day. This is especially true if you plan to move on Saturday or Sunday.

## NEWS FROM Southern Illinois

Dongola, Illinois  
George Endicott, Mgr.

Office Hours—7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, also the first two Saturdays of each month. Outage reports during office hours should be made to Dongola 79-R-3, after office hours to Dongola 39-R-20 or 74-R-30. Members in Metropolis area call Metropolis 3100 or Tom Willis Round Knob Exchange.

Co-op members are gradually becoming aware and making use of the sales, replacement, and installation services now available. The program was set up by your board of directors and approved at your annual meeting last fall.



We have made several mailings to the membership about this program, yet every day in our member contracts we find two or three who know nothing about it. We ran into one of them while back who was having trouble installing a water system. We got word of his predicament from his neighbor.

When we arrived at his place we found he lacked adequate tools (he was doing the job himself), some pump fittings, and there was about 300 feet of trench to be dug through dry and hard soil.

We loaned him the necessary tools, supplied him with pump fittings, and rented him the co-op ditch digger. What a relief that was to him. He dug his trench in less than three hours.

Your cooperative just hasn't the personnel to run around over the area and hunt up you members that desire help in planning, buying, installing, and servicing. Read the notices and correspondence your cooperative sends out.

Write or call V. E. Miltenberger, power use adviser, Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Dongola, and he will see to it that the help, or information you want gets to you immediately.

### CONVERSION PROGRESS

During the last month, the construction crew has been working on the two miles of line feeding west from the Massac substation. At present, this is a two-wire feeder line and they are converting it to a three-wire. This work necessitates changing to larger poles and wire sizes.

The poles have been set and as soon as weather permits they will install the heavier conductor. This will then give your cooperative a three-phase tie-in with the Dongola substation.

The next conversion work will be the construction of two and one-half miles of three-phase line north from the Forman substation, located on Route 145. This will then give a three-way tie-in with the Massac, Dongola, and Forman substations.

This type of work is very costly to your cooperative but is necessary from the standpoint of taking care of the increased loads resulting from greater usage of electricity by you co-op members. It will also provide a better continuity of service which the members are rightfully due. It is the intent of your cooperative to give you members the best electric service that is possible.

During the past year, your cooperative has constructed lines to 381 new consumers. This also includes the short extensions. At the present time, your cooperative has a very long list of applications which are over 1,000 foot extensions.

Your cooperative has applied for funds from REA to build these extensions. Several inquiries have been made as to when we will construct these extensions. This, your cooperative personnel cannot answer for we do not know when, or if these funds applied for will be granted. It is our hope that it will be during the coming year.

### PERSONNEL NEWS

Violet Benson, Anna, formerly a Dongola resident, has been employed as bookkeeper for the sales and service department. Doris Groves, Anna has replaced Mrs. Ferguson as our office secretary.

New arrivals among co-op employee families reached a new high this month: To Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Brown, a baby girl. To Mr. and Mrs. James Cummins, a baby boy, John Creighton. To Mr. and

Mrs. Jim Sloane, a baby boy, Charles Franklin.

Seemed like every few days a proud papa came strutting through the office lugging a box of candy under one arm and a box of cigars under the other.

Joyce Brown, the co-op bookkeeper, became the bride of Don Churchill of Perks. Our office Christmas tree was a beauty this year. Harold Hart, foreman of one of the maintenance crews, brought in the tree for the office. The night when Harold came in from work he had a big grin on his face and a tree in tow.

It seems that Harold and his crew had to go up to Charley Elkins place near Cobden to do some work and he told Charley his troubles. Charley relieved Harold's anxiety by offering to donate a fine tree off his farm. Thanks to you Charley from the co-op employees.

On behalf of all co-op employees and the board of directors, I want to extend our best wishes to all co-op members for a prosperous and happy new year. We know if you will go all electric in your way of living and really put 'Willie Wire-hand' to work, your new year will be a much happier and prosperous one.

## NEWS FROM Wayne-White

Fairfield, Illinois  
Owen J. Chaney, Mgr.

In case of trouble before 8:00 a.m. and after 5 p.m. call the following—  
For White County call Norman Davis, Carmi, Phone 2175.  
For Norris City area call Chalton Carter, Phone 123 or Everett Phillips, Phone 38-J. Norris City.  
For Edward County call Weldon Galier, Phone 151-M or Bill Bennett, Phone 217-VX, Albion.  
For McLeansboro area call Alfred Venters, Phone 474, McLeansboro.  
For west part of Wayne County call Wm. Fleming, Phone 3131, Wayne City, or Dee Vaughan, Phone 3141.  
For eastern Wayne County call Cloyd Musgrave, 4294; Charles Mann, 7157; George Harper, 3184; all of Fairfield; Carl Merritt, Phone 6397.

Here we are at the beginning of a new year. Will it be just another year or will we set up a goal and strive to reach it? Most days, weeks, months or years are what we make them, let us strive



to make this year a good year not only for ourselves but for those we live and work with.

Your electric cooperative is here to serve you in the best way it can and we think it will be to everyone's advantage

Owen Chaney to use this service to the fullest extent possible. May the year be a happy prosperous year.

### METER READING

Again we feel that it is necessary to call your attention to meter reading. In order to send you an accurate bill for your monthly use of electricity, it is important that we have an accurate reading of your meter on the 15th of each month.

Meter reading cards are mailed to you on or about the 13th of each month. As soon as you receive this card, read your meter and return the card so we can properly calculate your bill and have it ready to mail to you the last day of the month.

It only requires a certain amount of time to do this and a prompt reading enables us to bill properly and largely eliminates errors and misunderstandings.

### APPRECIATIVE LETTER

We recently completed a line to serve Ellis Mound School and the children sent us the following letter of appreciation:

Dear sir: We the undersigned students at the Ellis Mound School thank you and your line crew for connecting our school with the high line.

George Harper promised us a speech. Please let him come back and make the speech. Sincerely,

Doris Richards, Dorothy Downen, Audrey Hutchcraft, Roselind Jean Smith, Donald Downen, Robert McCormick, Clifford Pennington, Sue Yarbor, Alma Lea Hutchcraft, Betty McCormick, Beverly Downen, Russell Downen, Paul A. Gish, Butch Rowes, Jerry Lee Waters, Brenda Kay Downen, Larry Richards, Larry Yarbor, Morris Smith, Delmar Ray Shorb, Linda Kay Yarbor and Judith A. McCormick.

We think this is an interesting letter, but think the thanks should go to the parents in this school community.

## NEWS FROM Southwestern Electric Co-op

Greenville, Illinois  
V. C. Kallal, Manager

### TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Bond County—Office, Greenville, Tel. 1025.  
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; Jack Compton, 984-W. or  
V. C. Kallal, Greenville 379.  
Fayette County—W. E. Jones, St. Elmo 326.  
Madison County—Ed Barnes, Edwardsville  
1087.

Last year's average usage on the farms served by the cooperative was 3,350 kwh. compared with 3,066 in 1952, and 2,306 in 1949. An annual consumption of 3,350 means approximately 280 kwh. per month for the average farm compared with an average of all classifications of service of 309 kwh. for last year.



V. C. Kallal  
kwh. per month.

Approximately one-half of all farms served by the cooperative use less than 200 kwh. per month and a large part of these use under 100 kwh. per month.

Thus, we see that many of the farm cooperative members are not making the best possible use of their electric service and are thereby denying themselves of many benefits in the way of improved living conditions and reduced production costs.

### ECONOMICAL

Industry was slow to replace other forms of energy with electrical energy until in the very recent years. However, since World War II the increase has been many times and the cost of production decreased accordingly.

A similar increase in the use of electric power by the farmer is necessary if he is to meet the demands of an ever-increasing population and meet the competition of substitutes for food, feed and fiber.

It is true that the farmer has done much to mechanize many farm operations. However, too many are using antiquated methods of doing things in the home and about the farmstead. The time consumed in doing the daily chores is valuable time and must be shortened to the greatest possible degree if the farm operator is to be successful, or in many cases, is to stay in business.

### STUDY ADVERTISEMENTS

During this year, you will be exposed to much advertising of electrical equipment. Study this information carefully. It is quite possible that many of these electrical devices could be profitably put to use on your farm.

A large part of the equipment offered for sale at first seems like worthless gadgets. Remember that not too long ago, farmers received the farm tractor, truck and automobile in about the same manner.

Needless to say that competition and increased cost of production forced all farmers to accept these new pieces of equipment. The same will hold true of electrically-operated chore equipment now offered by many manufacturers.

Many farm operators could profitably use 1,000 to 2,000 kwh. of safe, convenient, dependable electrical energy per month.

### ELECTRIC BROODING

Poultry production cannot be said to be of major importance in the cooperative. However, on many farms poultry provides a source of fresh eggs as well as a source of excellent meat.

Electric brooding, poultry house lighting and electrically operated ventilation fans have made this sideline much easier and more profitable for the average farmer.

It makes no difference whether you are raising some chicks for earlier fryers or later ones to replenish your laying flock—you will find that your electric service will be a great help in assuring your success.

### A REMINDER

We must remind you, however, to be sure that your wiring is in good repair. Approved materials of sufficient size and properly installed will do much to prevent fire.

So be sure that your wiring is in good repair. It is well to check the wiring to the brooder house as well as the entrance and protective equipment. Lastly, carefully check the brooding equipment itself.

Whether it is the conventional type brooder or a group of heat lamps, the elements of the weather or mechanical damage may make the equipment unsafe.

### OPERATING STATISTICS

OCTOBER, 1953	
Miles energized .....	2,152.28
Revenue per mile .....	\$ 28.17
Total connected members .....	6,735
Total members billed .....	6,774
Average bill .....	8.90
Average kwh. used .....	280.95

Per cent minimum bills .....	9
Kwh. sold .....	1,903,182
<b>OCTOBER, 1952</b>	
Miles energized .....	2,103.20
Revenue per mile .....	\$ 27.03
Total connected members .....	6,496
Total members billed .....	6,659
Density per mile .....	3.11
Average bill .....	8.49
Average kwh. used .....	261.78
Per cent minimum bills .....	11
Kwh. sold .....	1,743,180

## NEWS FROM McDonough Power

Macomb, Illinois  
Arthur H. Peyton, Mgr.

Another year has drawn to a close and it becomes history. To some of us it has meant success, to others, disappointments and still to others it will be that another year has slipped by and the things they desire to do did not materialize.



Arthur Peyton  
welfare of the cooperative are carefully considered, and as they are passed by the board, they are put into effect by the management.

We hope that we can all look forward to this year when we can do things a little bit better than we have done them last year.

### RATE CHANGE

We have publicized in our last several issues of Watts New, as well as in this newspaper, that it was necessary to review our rate structure and make our first adjustments in the rates to our members. In our first 14 years of operation, there has been no increase in rates.

The rate structure extended to the 250 members in the first section has remained uniform. The value of property and other commodities that we purchase and use has increased to such an extent that they are hardly recognized at a price level that you were paying for them when this cooperative energized its first lines.

After all the publicity on raising these rates and the notice that we have been giving the last four months, we are happy that all of you have carefully considered this rate and seem to understand that we are doing it for the benefit of the cooperative and its future existence. There have been less than five complaints made to the management about this increase.

The members who questioned the advisability of raising the rates are probably now more aware of the problems that face the cooperative and the necessity for this increase. We have made every effort to make individual explanations by letter.

### NEW RATE CHARTS

Approximately on January 10 through January 13, you will receive through the mail, an envelope containing your new rate chart. At this time you will start an entire new self-billing system.

This system is practically the same as the one that you have been following the past two years with the exception that no reading card will be sent out to you each month. The new self-billing system consists of the same chart and policies with minor changes that you have been using for two years.

However, inside are inserted eight sheets on which are three bills, an exact replica of the card system that you have been using. You merely look over onto your stub, which is in the order of a check stub, to find out what your previous month's meter reading was and transfer it onto the present month and read your meter and figure the bill as you have been doing.

We have pointed out to you that it is necessary to keep your December reading so that you will have your previous month's reading when you receive your new rate charts in January.

In case you have overlooked this reading, or have misplaced it, you will find a number on the front of the envelope in which you receive your new rate chart which will correspond to your previous month's reading, and if you use this figure, you will calculate your bill properly.

### CALENDAR ENCLOSED

We have also included a small calendar that we would suggest you hang in a prominent place. Three dates are set out in red on this calendar. One is the 15th of the month, reminding you that it is now time to read your meter and send in your remittance to cover the past month's consumption of electricity.

A week later you will notice another date in red which says, "last day for paying without penalty." In event

that you have failed or overlooked sending in your remittance, this is your last opportunity to do so without the addition of a 50-cent penalty for a late reading.

This is one of the minor changes that has been made in our policy. Previous to this time, five per cent was added for delinquent bills. This has now been changed and a flat 50-cent penalty has been adopted in the place of five per cent.

In event that you read your meter after the final discount date, simply add 50 cents to your total bill and send your check in the regular manner. Proper credit will be given to you.

Your final date to pay your bill without cutoff is the end of the month. On that date all outstanding accounts that are not paid will be subject to the disconnection of the electric service without further notice.

It is urged that you read very carefully all the policies that are set forth in this new rate chart so that you may familiarize yourself with any changes that have been made. Watch carefully the dates for the next several months that you do not overlook your meter readings.

### DIRECTORS

During the past year, your directors have been loyal in their attendance at board meetings and district meetings that periodically occurred throughout the year. The fourth Monday of every month is set aside for board meeting dates.

The regular board meetings start promptly at 10 a.m. and proceed in a routine manner throughout the day. There is a brief adjournment for noon lunch and then the board again goes into session and sometimes does not adjourn until 6 or 7 p.m., or until the entire agenda of the business of the day is completed.

About one week ahead of this board meeting date the management sends a complete written report to each director setting forth all the problems that have come up during the month and any situations that need study by the board. By following this agenda of business, the board member has an opportunity to read and study the situation very carefully and be prepared to come to the board meeting with suggestions and answers to those many problems.

### HAVE GOOD BOARD

The management feels that we have one of the best informed board of directors of any electric cooperative. We have a working board, a board that is sincere in its efforts to give careful consideration to problems, whether they are large and involve decisions that effect the outcome of the cooperative, or whether they are a simple matter that needs only a few moments of careful counsel.

Anytime that any member feels that he has not had the proper consideration through the office personnel, they are most welcome to contact the manager and make arrangements to bring their problems to the board.

Several times during this past year, it has been necessary to consider individual problems and have individual members appear before the board so that satisfaction could be obtained.

There are many times when our members think that matters of policy are merely whims of the office, or of the operating personnel of the cooperative. However, we must not lose sight of the fact that policy is carefully set by the board of directors.

Each and every rule and regulation that is in existence in your cooperative at this time, has at some time had the scrutiny and careful consideration of the board and adopted as basic policy of this cooperative.

### VACATION

Your power use adviser and assistant manager, Robert Yeast, enjoyed a two week's vacation from his duties at the cooperative. Yeast returned to his job on December 28 and is again available for all power use problems throughout the cooperative.

During the period of time that he was vacationing, questions that came into his department were answered by the various members of the staff to the best of their abilities.

During the past two months, there has been a series of classes conducted in a school for foremen of the operating crews. This school has been conducted at Canton for a number of cooperatives in the north area of the state and has been participated in by John Hund, our operating superintendent, as well as Francis Scott and Eldon Snowden of the cooperative.

The latter two men are foremen and have had considerable experiences in electric cooperative work. From their comments, a good deal of good information was obtained by them while in these classes.

### CHRISTMAS PARTY

On Friday night, December 18, the employees and their families were entertained by the board of directors and their families at a Christmas dinner in the cooperative headquarters. Turkey and all the trimmings were served at the dinner and the evening was spent socially by the

enjoyment of a suitable sound movie portraying Christmas programs, as well as comedies for the kiddies.

Needless to say, some of the oldest kids enjoyed the comedies most. Bingo, dancing and cards were enjoyed by the various people who attended the party. Approximately 100 people were in attendance.

\* \* \*

Plans were discussed at our December board of directors' meeting to have representation at the forthcoming National Rural Electric Cooperative convention which will be held in Miami, Fla., from January 11 through January 14.

At these conventions problems pertaining to the electric cooperative management, directors and policies affecting legislation and other important matters to the cooperative will be thoroughly discussed and worked out on the most equitable basis for all cooperatives concerned.

### RADIANT HEAT

During the past three months your cooperative has sponsored an auxiliary radiant heat program whereby our power use adviser has counseled and advised people on how the use of electric glass radiant heat may be beneficial to them in their homes and in commercial applications.

Several members have taken advantage of the auxiliary panels for heating that hard room to heat or for use in the milk house during the winter months.

Another full house heat load will be completed in the near future. Dexter Emory, a member of our cooperative, living in the vicinity of Walnut Grove, has added 9,000 watts of panel heat to his house, and it is in complete operation at the present time. Numerous other individual panels have been installed.

Stanley Welsh, residing near Sciota, has recently installed a milking machine and has built an addition to his barn for handling of milk. This milk house is equipped with the radiant glass panel thermostatically controlled to maintain a temperature of 40 degrees at all times and the heat may be increased to a comfortable working temperature by merely changing the thermostat.

In addition to this, he has installed a special high temperature hot water heater to maintain 185 degree hot water for the processing of his milk equipment and sterilization that is so needed in the handling of milk. Suitable milk cooling equipment is also installed and will be in use at this date.

## NEWS FROM Edgar Electric

Paris, Illinois  
J. E. Hardy, Mgr.

Mailing Address: 219 N. Main St., Tel. 3-4145.  
Office Hours—8 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Office closed on Saturday.  
In case of interrupted service at any time Dial 3-4145.

Your cooperative has some very nice electric stoves, refrigerators, home freezers, washers, dryers and water heaters that can be purchased at a great savings. It will pay you to check these prices at your cooperative office.

During the past, large appliances have been installed in members homes without working satisfactorily. The dealer or electrician sometimes has said the cause was low voltage, and the blame was put on the cooperative because the appliance wouldn't work.

We will admit in some cases we had changes to make, like changing the transformer to a larger one, but most of the time we found that it has not been installed properly.

### GIVE NOTICE

We believe it would be wise to drop us a card or call in plenty of time so we can keep our wiring inspector in the office and then you can talk your problems over with him. Most of our complaints have been caused by adding on electric clothes dryers and on checking, we find the old wiring system was not adequate to carry all the load.

Another thing we would like to caution you about is electric pig brooders. In the past there have been quite a number of fires caused by the lamps setting the straw used for bedding on fire. Caution should be used to protect the straw from becoming too close to the bulb.

### CLOSED ON SATURDAYS

We still have a lot of members trying to pay their bills at the office on Saturdays. Your cooperative office has not been opened on Saturdays for business for three years, due to labor regulations.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members for their seasons' greetings and thank them for their cooperation during the past year. We hope your Christmas was merry and that this year will be even brighter than last.



J. E. Hardy

## NEWS FROM Norris Electric Cooperative

Newton, Illinois  
Damon Williams, Manager

### OUTAGE CALLS

Office hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Closed on Saturday. Telephone 404—Newton.  
To report an outage after Office Hours call Mrs. Harry Beavers, Newton; Joe Ware, John Tabb, James Thompson, or Gene French, at Newton; Francis Smith at Claremont, or Freeland Swarens at Lawrenceville.

During the last two years we have had many applications for three-phase power. These applications have come mostly from oil companies operating through the eastern part of our cooperative area from Casey, on the north to Bridgeport on the south.



Damon Williams

Several of these applicants have signed an agreement for the purchase of power which is made out in accordance with set rules and regulations adopted by this cooperative and approved by REA in Washington.

All large power applications are handled in the same way regardless of whether the applicant is an oil company, business man, or any other company or individual in need of power.

Generally speaking, any three-phase power is considered as large power and must be handled according to these approved regulations. There can be no deviations as long as our cooperative owes such a large debt for the construction of lines that has been and is still being done.

Most consumers receiving electricity have a minimum monthly bill of \$3, but some may be considerably more, depending upon the construction costs of extending the service to them and the transformer capacity required.

As \$3 is the minimum cost per month for single-phase service, so is \$25 the minimum cost for large power service. These minimum charges have been set up by REA and adopted by our cooperative and cannot be decreased, although certain conditions frequently require that they be made higher.

### DEPOSIT REQUIRED

Since the cost of providing a three-phase large power service usually amounts to at least \$1,500 and may in some cases amount to several thousand dollars, a deposit by the applicant is required to cover most of the expenses involved.

Except in the most extreme cases this deposit is 100 per cent returnable to any consumer who makes adequate use of the power provided for him. A specified per cent of each monthly electric bill is given in the form of a credit as stated in the contract and such credits continue until the total amount of the deposit has been reached, or the contract has terminated.

In this way the cooperative is protected against loss from those services where little or no electricity is used, and the consumer who uses the power is assured of complete return of his deposit.

### ACCEPTED PRACTICE

This practice has met with no opposition with the larger and more reliable companies. Such companies usually have their own engineers and executives who understand why it is not practical to expect others to finance their operations without any guarantee of the security of such investments.

But small operators and individual businessmen sometimes feel that they are being treated unfairly when asked to make a deposit. We know of no other way to be fair to the consumer and at the same time eliminate the risk of great losses for the cooperative.

### BROKEN INSULATORS

The opening of a hunting season for some people seems to mean that anything that moves and some things that don't move should be shot. If no one is in sight, it makes no difference whether it is a chicken, turkey, hog, cow, horse or a power line insulator.

With the opening of squirrel season, dove season, or rabbit season, the results are the same. It is easy to understand why so many farmers do not permit others to go hunting on their farms.

As long as we have people among us who are careless or do not think in terms of safety first, we are sure to hear of accidents. But it can hardly be considered an accident when a farmer has a horse and a cow shot during the same afternoon, nor when four power line insulators in a row are shattered by bullets.

### APPEARS DELIBERATE

In view of the fact that rabbits neither fly nor climb poles, all outages caused by broken insulators since November 11, seem to have been caused by deliberate

attempts to destroy property that belonged to others. By no stretch of the imagination could a rabbit have been near the insulator when it was broken. And almost any hunter will tell you he saw very few, if any quail.

On Saturday, November 28, about 11:15 a.m. such an outage was caused on line C-1E, northwest of Newton. During the year, nine outages in which more than 800 consumer-hours were lost were caused by broken insulators. Let's hope that there will be much less trouble of this kind during this year.

### BEST WISHES

Our cooperative directors, manager, supervisory personnel and other employees wish each and every member and consumer a very successful year.

## NEWS FROM Eastern Illinois Power Co-op

Paxton, Illinois  
T. M. Brady, Manager

### TELEPHONE NUMBERS FOR OUTAGE CALLS

Office—8 p.m. to 5 p.m. except Saturday. Report all outage calls during office hours to 185 Paxton. After office hours, call the following nearest number:  
Tony Barbier, Paxton 595.  
Kenneth Slater, Paxton 576.  
Arthur J. King, Paxton 271-J-X.  
Donald Sharp, Paxton 740.  
Jesse Fiets, Gilman 159.  
Don Allison, Hoopston 462.  
John Dorsey, Cropsey 56.  
George Popejoy, Cropsey 59-R-3.  
Virgil Farris, Watseka, 1227.  
Howard Gustafson, Watseka 614.  
In case of an outage, check to see if your neighbors have service. If not call collect 185 Paxton. 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.

Dear member: A happy and prosperous new year to all is the first wish of the board of directors, the manager, and the employees of Eastern Illinois Power Cooperative. We hope that everyone also enjoyed the Christmas holidays, and that all of you were richly blessed during this festive season.



T. M. Brady

As we begin this new year, many people will make a list of new year's resolutions. More power to those who do—and keep them! Your friends at your cooperative have made some resolutions too.

For one thing, they will continue to bring you the very best electrical service possible—that one item means an awful lot. Because of rural electrification, farmers around here are able to save time, energy, and money too.

And they are able to produce more food and fiber for national defense. This increased production means a sounder American economy as well.

### ALL NEED IMPROVEMENT

We all have made mistakes in the past, so there is much room for improvement in all of us. We in the cooperative office are no exception. Some mistakes were simple little things done wrong because of haste, or plain carelessness; others were more serious.

We are constantly striving to improve the flow of work in the office by providing checks and counter-checks in connection with each employee's duties, with the aim of catching mistakes before they leave the office and reach any of you members.

One type of error over which we have no control and for which we cannot take the blame is the incorrect meter reading. This is one of the worst problems with which we must cope—and the cause of a great deal of expense to you members, for you are the Eastern Illinois Power Cooperative.

### METER READING

Let us trace the process of meter reading and the work involved. First of all, the Eastern Illinois Power Cooperative is no small peanuts outfit. Remember, all records are maintained, all bills are figured, all accounts are kept in the office at Paxton.

This includes members living not only in the Paxton area, but also those living as far southeast as Alvin and Bismark, north along the Indiana State line beyond Papineau and Beaverville, west to Chebanse, then to Cullom, Chatsworth, and even west of Fairbury, south to Saybrook, and then back toward Gibson City and Paxton.

In this huge area are nearly 7,000 members being served by this cooperative. About half of these 7,000 members are billed in any single month, since we have adopted a bi-monthly billing schedule.

But that means that we send out approximately 3,500 meter reading cards each month. The majority of the 3,500 members who receive cards each month will promptly read their meters correct-

ly, mark their cards accurately, and get them in the mail immediately.

But if only two per cent of the 3,500 members involved fail to send in their cards, or their correct meter readings, that means 70 readings must either be estimated for that billing period, or we must go to the added expense of sending a man in a truck anywhere from 10 to 50 miles to obtain the information so badly needed in our work.

To estimate a member's kwh. consumption requires much more time (and time is expensive) than it would to merely enter a correct reading, subtract the previous reading, and calculate the bill.

### ESTIMATED BILLS

When a bill is estimated, the member's previous bills must be reviewed in order to arrive at an average kwh. consumption and billing. Seldom, if ever, is the estimated bill found to be accurate.

If the estimate proves to be too high, the next bill will automatically be lower, to compensate for the high estimate (assuming, of course, that a meter reading is sent in for the next billing).

If the foregoing was all there is to estimating a bill, the task would not be too involved or time consuming. But all too frequently members write in complaining that their bills were estimated too high, and requesting an adjustment, a new meter, or what have you.

This, of course, means more checking, a letter to be written, and possibly a trip to the member's premises by a lineman. We hope that all members will put forth every effort to read their meters promptly and correctly—this year and in the years to come.

### TWO TYPES OF METERS

In case there are members who may be confused by the circles and squares on the backs of the meter reading cards, we want to explain that this cooperative has two different types of meters in service.

One type has the standard dial with pointers; the other has the cyclometer dial, which is similar in appearance to your automobile speedometer register.

If your meter is of the dial type, you should mark your card in the circles, being sure to mark the exact position of the hands on the card as they actually are on the meter.

If your meter has the cyclometer dial, please mark the numbers on the right side of the card, in the squares provided under "For Direct Reading Meters."

### KEEP RECORDS

As a means of checking your readings yourself, may we suggest that you keep a record of your previous readings. By doing so, you will be able to determine your own kwh. consumption, and will know whether or not an error has been made before returning your card.

Any addition of major appliances during the period involved should, of course, be taken into consideration when comparing your present consumption with past periods. The appliance should also be noted on your card in the space provided for that purpose.

If all members will make a special effort to read their meters accurately and promptly, the billing work can be performed equally accurately and promptly.

### MAIL EARLY

We all know that mail service is not as swift nor as frequent as it formerly was, so we suggest that you do not wait until the deadline to take your readings and mail them in.

Allow a couple of extra days and avoid a possible estimated bill or a forfeited discount. We appreciate the cooperation that has been given by the great majority of the members, and we know that we can expect even better cooperation in the future.

### YOUR COMMENTS?

We hope that you members will bear with us through all of the foregoing comments concerning meter cards and readings. What other items would you be most interested in reading about in these columns?

Is it news of your neighbors, unusual uses of electricity that some of you have found, past history of your cooperative, dangers to avoid in using electrical appliances?

Why not drop us a note or inform us the next time you are in the office about your choice of subject matter?

\* \* \*

At the time this article was written, one of our linemen, George Popejoy, of Cropsey, was a patient in the Fairbury Hospital, suffering from inflammatory

rheumatism. We all wish him a speedy recovery.

The wife of Howard Gustafson, of Watseka, (he is another lineman employed by this cooperative) was also a patient at the same hospital recently, after being a victim of an automobile accident near Chatsworth the latter part of November. At this writing she is recuperating at her home in Watseka.

## NEWS FROM Clinton County

Breese, Illinois  
Joseph Heimann, Supt.

### IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS TO REMEMBER

Keep This List Near Your Telephone At All Times  
From 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays, call the Office—Breese 76.  
In case of an outage or for any other emergency after 5:00 p.m. call—  
Ernest Becker, Breese 69.  
Robert W. Vander, Pluym, Breese 278.  
Robert Hintz, Shattuc.  
Joseph Huelsmann, New Baden 69-R.  
Paul Huels, New Baden 108-R.  
Cut this list out of the paper and put it near your telephone or paste it in your directory where it will be available at all times. In case of an outage check with your neighbors first to see if they have lights before reporting line or individual outages.

Effective this month, the new date for reading your meter and paying your bill is from the 15th to 25th of each month, instead of from the 20th to 30th as has been the policy in the past. Remember these new dates as they are important.



Read your meter on the 15th of the month and make remittance to the office on, or before the 25th of the month. If the bill is not paid by the 26th a five per cent penalty will be added.

J. H. Heimann Any bill not paid by the 5th of the following month will be classified as delinquent and service will be disconnected. If an account is disconnected because of a delinquent bill, a reconnection fee plus the delinquent account must first be paid before service will be restored.

More information regarding the above policies will be sent you by letter in the very near future. The new books will have a two years' supply of pages instead of the usual one year.

This book will be mailed to you sometime during the first part of January. If for any reason you do not receive your book please notify the office before the 20th of January.

### TELEVISION ANTENNAS

Television antennas have to be properly installed to give you the best picture your set is capable of producing. Before your antenna is installed make sure the dealer from whom you buy the set makes a number of tests with a test antenna.

This will insure you of a correct antenna installation, in regard to the height and location of it. If these tests are not made by the dealer chances are that you will have a weak signal and possibly some interference. TV antennas must also be properly grounded to insure you against any possible lightning damage.

### DRYER INSTALLATION

The free installation of electric clothes dryers sponsored by the electric co-op ended December 31. No dryer purchased after this date will be installed under this free installation program.

Many of the co-op members took advantage of this program and are now enjoying the benefits of an automatic electric dryer.

### OPERATING REPORT

Nov. 1953  
Miles energized ..... 733  
Revenue per mile ..... \$28.40  
Connected members ..... 2055  
Density per mile ..... 2.8  
Average kwh. per farm ..... 320  
Average bill per farm ..... 9.01

### NEW APPLIANCES

Water heater: Phil Santel, Clinton Beckmeyer, Otto Bollmeier, and Alvin Bitterburg.  
Home freezer: Fred Hartman, Clemens Griesbaum, Henry Nolte, and Alphonse Schomaker.  
Televisions: John Maibaum, Otto Bollmeier, Anton Jansen, and Lester Monken.  
Water system, Alvin Bitterburg.  
Milk cooler, Ralph Richter.  
Stock tank heater, Roger Plaab.  
Mixer, Wilfred Burmeister.  
Toaster, Anton Jansen.  
Washing machine, Clarence Dickhaut.

## LARAMORE AND DOUGLASS, INC. — ENGINEERS

POWER PLANTS DISTRIBUTION AND TRANSMISSION LINES  
SYSTEM STUDY SURVEYS

79 East Adams Street, Chicago 3, Illinois  
REA FIELD OFFICE—586 South Rosewood Ave., Kankakee, Illinois

## NEWS FROM Jo-Carroll

Elizabeth, Illinois

Charles C. Youtzy, Mgr.

### TELEPHONE NUMBERS FOR OUTAGE CALLS

Office—Mondays through Fridays, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays till noon—Elizabeth 10  
Evenings, Sundays and Holidays: Linemen—Robert J. Wand, Elizabeth 83-R-27; Ralph J. Smuck, Elizabeth 120-R-7; Harry W. Ehler, Elizabeth 168.

Our 14th annual meeting was held at the Savanna High School on December 5, and was the largest annual meeting held by this cooperative. Over 750 box lunches were served at noon. The three



directors, Morris Birkbeck, Clayton Dittmar, and Earl Walker were re-elected for three-year terms. Officers remained the same for the next year: Clayton Dittmar, president; Everett R. Read, vice-president; Berniece Moore, secretary; and Morris W. Birkbeck, treasurer. The movie "More Power To You" which covered the planning and construction of substations and transmission line from Spooner, Wis. to Savanna, was presented. The Savanna substation, of course, is the southern end of the transmission line. Our members showed much interest in this movie and now have an idea of the problems involved in supplying power to each individual member.

### THANK INSTRUCTORS

We want to thank C. M. Scott, and Glen Strong, safety instructors, for putting on the wonderful hot line demonstration. We also want to thank the safety and job training officers for letting these men take part in our annual meeting.

We think this demonstration helped to show our members actually some of the hazards and dangers that our linemen go through to keep electric service on during storms and bad weather.

### WARM WELCOME

Glen Strong told us it was worth the 160 mile trip up just to hear Glen Law's Orchestra that played during the noon hour. Special comment was made that without a doubt the welcome given by the mayor of Savanna was the warmest welcome cooperative members had ever been accorded in our 14 years of operation.

The entertainment was put on by local talent. We are always happy to hear from our members and are interested in receiving comments, (both favorable and unfavorable), in order to help plan meetings that will be of interest to our members.

The following notes were received in the mail. We also got numerous compliments from members at the meeting and afterwards.

### MEMBER COMMENTS

Dear friends: As individual members of your cooperative, we feel it our duty to write and thank each and every one of you, including the office force, directors, manager, and your efficient linemen, so considerate and efficient in keeping all lines in perfect working condition regardless of sleet or electrical storms.

We are never without electricity very long after a storm, which we appreciate so much. We attended your meeting last year for the first time and enjoyed every minute of it, including reports, dinner, entertainment, and the beautiful display of awards.

We planned to attend this meeting, Saturday, December 5, to show our appreciation for your untiring efforts in making Jo-Carroll Electric Cooperative, Inc., tops in performance every day in the year. Sincerely, Fred and Mabel Handel, Savanna.

We thought you had a very nice box lunch December 5. Enjoyed it very much, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Weber, Savanna.

### TRANSMISSION LINE

On December 9, during the severe snow storm the high winds blew the transmission line phases together causing lights to blink on and off. Reports had just started coming in on this blinking when one of our very thoughtful members, Raymond Speer, Hanover, came in to the office to report that while driving toward home on Route 20, he noticed a terrific flash on our transmission line.

Realizing the danger and trouble this could cause, he immediately turned around and came into the office to report the flash. Upon checking, several more flashes were located and Dairyland Power Cooperative was notified, whereupon a crew started down to remedy the situation, fighting the snow, slippery roads, and traffic congestions.

The Savanna substation had to be cut off for a little over one and one-half hours to remedy the line. The linemen were dressed like eskimos and still were

soaked thru after hanging on the tops of the poles working against time in the wind and driving wet snow.

We are very grateful to Speer for taking the interest to report the trouble spot. We also received calls from Dwight Miller, Hanover appliance dealer and Mrs. Florence Berlage (served by a utility) who lives near the location of the trouble.

The members who witnessed the demonstration at the annual meeting will realize more fully the hardships the linemen endured. We want to wish all our members a very happy and prosperous new year.

## NEWS FROM Clay Electric Cooperative

Flora, Illinois

Elmo A. Cates, Mgr.

### TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Office—(8 a.m. to 12 noon, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.) 78-R.  
Homes—(Nights or Sunday)  
E. A. Cates, Flora 389-J.  
James Erwin, Flora 312-J.  
Henry Mix, Flora Rural 8-F-31.

In this world of the jet plane many homes and farms have electrical wiring comparable to the old Jennie that Eddie Rickenbacker flew in World War I. Many homes and farms were wired years ago when rural electrification was brand new and many that were wired recently were done with economy in mind rather than the ultimate load.



Elmo A. Cates

With the tremendous increase in the number of new pieces of electrical equipment from barn cleaner and dryers to electric heating and electric ranges being added, most farms are as out-of-date as a B-17 bomber.

What are the signs of an overload? If the lights dim when a heavy wattage appliance goes on, or if the refrigerator seems slow to start, your system is probably overloaded. Have you acquired many new appliances which were not included in your original wiring system plan?

Are you finding that the milking machine, or water pump is barely operating, due to low voltage? Are your fuses blowing out occasionally? These are all evidence of possible circuit overload.

### DROP IN EFFICIENCY

If your loads are larger than the capacity of your wiring system the operating efficiency of your equipment drops. When appliances operate on voltages that are even 10 to 12 volts less than that for which they were designed the following things happen:

Lights deliver only about 70 percent of their rated output; ranges put out only 20 per cent as much heat as they should; vacuum cleaners lose 10 per cent of their cleaning ability; and coffee makers require 20 per cent more time to make coffee, and even toasters take a third more time to one slice of bread.

In one of the largest agricultural states it has been found that less than two per cent of the farms have safe wiring. Some of the reasons given for unsafe wiring are that not only are the systems overloaded but that improper wiring materials have been used and that self-installations have been made incorrectly. In many cases materials in city homes are not good enough for the farm.

### SAFE WIRING

State laws vary in what constitutes safe wiring. However, if you did your own wiring, or hired an unlicensed man to do the job, then an inspection is necessary. If you've added more appliances since the original inspection you should have your system reinspected.

You can save money and be on the safe side by having a proper inspection job. Preventable fires resulting from electrical causes in one of the large mid-western states caused losses of over \$3 million.

Fire losses from other causes amounted to a great deal more than that, but these electrical losses never need have happened. Approved wiring, is that which is acceptable to the local authority which is enforcing the National Electrical Code.

### STEPS TO TAKE

What steps should I take? Extensive use of electricity on the farm is often hampered because the main wires from the transformer to meter pole and from meter pole to the farm buildings are too small to carry adequate electricity to do the job.

The best way is to plan well before the system is installed. In most cases this isn't possible, because the wiring is already in. A yard pole is often used as the best way of getting adequate electricity to every farm building.

Your farmstead should have three wires, 115/220 or 230 volts for entrance equipment. From the yard pole feeder

lines can easily be run to all farm buildings using the proper size wire to handle the various loads.

There is no time like the present to look over your wiring system. Prepare for that jet-propelled future with wiring that is as up-to-date.

For further information write for these pamphlets: "Adequate Farm Wiring", Circular 373, Penn State College, School of Agriculture, State College, Pa.

"Planning Your Farmstead Wiring and Lighting" Number 597, REA, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

### NOW IS THE TIME

Now is the time to make those resolutions, plan on a bigger and better power use year . . . incidentally the U. S. Parcel Post Service began on January 1, 1913 . . . the whole month of January is the March of Dimes campaign for polio patients . . . And the 13th was the date on which the first dynamo in the United States was built in 1875, at Cornell University in New York State.

The Civil Service Act was passed in 1883, on January 16, and old Ben Franklin was born on the 17th, in 1706. January is also the month that politics will start again for the Congressional elections will be this year. President Eisenhower will give his State of the Union Address and Congress will convene this month. But most of all best wishes to you all.

### APPLIANCE USERS

Hollie Fancher, home freezer.  
Wm. Dawkins, home freezer.  
Ralph R. Smith, water heater.  
Earl Gill, water heater and range.  
Fay Varner, range.

## NEWS FROM Illinois Valley

Princeton, Illinois

F. I. Ruble, Mgr.

Address: 430 S. Main St., Tel. Princeton 3-1331  
Office Hours—8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

TO REPORT OUTAGES AFTER HOURS—  
Princeton Area: Milford Jontz, Line Supt., Telephone Princeton 2-2072, or Floyd Christiansen, Maintenance Foreman, Telephone Princeton 2-4792; Stanley Ballard, Maintenance Lineman, Telephone Princeton 3-5813; Leonard Sifford, Phone 3-3562, Princeton.

TO REPORT OUTAGES AT ALL TIMES IN—  
Galva Area—Lester Register, Maintenance, Telephone Galva 504-J.

Ottawa Area: Jack Lewis, Maintenance, Telephone Ottawa 2987-R-3; Farrel Brooks, Phone 2423-L, Ottawa.

NOTE—Members in Galva and Ottawa areas please try to report trouble to your maintenance man before calling Princeton.

Dear member: New Year's greetings and may the entire year be prosperous and successful to you and yours happy new year. It is traditional for all good neighbors and friends to wish each other well at this time of the year.



F. I. Ruble

This is a fine tradition and it is only natural that the directors and employees join together in wishing you the best this year and in all the years to follow. We trust the past year has been successful and you are looking forward to greater accomplishments in the year ahead.

Looking back on 1953 your cooperative made definite progress. A total of 41 more members were added, a substantial increase in kilowatts used per month was shown, and a constructive program was maintained to build for the future of our cooperative. Let each member feel his responsibility as part owner: in this member-owned organization. Our goal is to bring the best possible electric service at the lowest possible cost to each member.

### APPRECIATE ELECTRIC

Now is the time of the year to really appreciate what electricity means in bringing real joy and convenience to the home. From the spotless kitchen with its gleaming electric range, good lighting and conveniences made possible with electricity, to the front room with the brightly lighted Christmas tree in the corner, electric power means a happy secure feeling all winter long.

Good lighting in the living room burns brightly for our boys and girls to enjoy their study during the long winter evenings. Radio and TV also add to the enjoyment of the farm house which, thanks to rural electrification now has all the conveniences of our urban relatives and friends.

Washday doesn't mean drudgery when there is an electric washer and perhaps even a dryer to make it a pleasant task. Ironing hours are cut to a minimum and are cleaner and safer with an electric ironer. The new lightweight automatic hand irons are a boon to hand ironing.

While bathtime comes as often as in the old days, now there is a constant, steady source of hot water. It is a pleasure even for the youngsters to turn the faucet and hop into the bathtub or under the shower.

Just take time to count up the ways elec-

tricity is helping out in the house. From the clocks to coffeemaker and sewing machine to house appliances you'll find electricity is on the job making things hum in your home.

Its many conveniences are also appreciated outside on the premises, through the use of motorized equipment about the milk house, barn, workshop and other buildings, where it has shortened tasks and time. Also, let us not forget lighting. Yes, electricity is the modern miracle that has brought a new life to our rural America.

### SEASON OF SHORT DAYS

This month and next are among the season of short daytime and longer nights. All members need the use of their electric service almost 24 hours, each day.

During the past few years there have been several lengthy outages caused by damaged insulators, damaged through carelessness of thoughtless hunters who have used them as targets. Now this may seem strange as not too many people will be out hunting during these two months, yet the damage was done during the preceding year.

Insulators will not always break down at the time they are hit, but will hold until rain or snow shorts them out causing them to fail. Should this happen during the night or during a heavy snow fall, these damaged insulators are difficult to locate.

It also causes our members the inconveniences of being without electric service. The pity of it is that it was probably caused by a thoughtless act of some irresponsible person. Please report anyone you may find shooting at insulators on your co-op lines to the maintenance man in your area. See the box at top of column.

### ELECTRIC BLANKET

Last month in this column we talked to you about the convenience and gave you some solid facts on electric blankets. We wish to repeat that sleeping under an electric blanket or sheet is not only restful but relaxing. More and more people are learning through using them that they are the real answer to sleeping comfort.

They offer controlled warmth without weight, even in the coldest weather. It is also possible to have a pre-warmed bed by turning on the control a few minutes prior to retiring. Electric blankets are safe and economical. They are wonderful.

You will not want to give one up once you have tried one. With an electric blanket you have the choice of dual control, or single control. The single control may be had for a double bed or single bed. This maintains even temperature or warmth over the entire bed area.

Dual controls regulate the warmth of each half of the bed, independently. Your co-op office will appreciate your request for information, or you may make inquiry from your appliance dealer.

### OFFICE PARTY

Thursday evening, December 17, members of your board of directors and employees held their annual Christmas party in the cafeteria at the Princeton high school. A delicious fried chicken dinner was served with all the extras by the cafeteria staff.

The tables and walls were decorated in keeping with Christmas tradition with a large potted poinsettia on each table. A gift exchange was held at the close of the dinner. LeRoy Hard served as toastmaster as talks were made by President Upton Craig and Manager F. I. Ruble.

Members of the committees included: Food: Bill Noe, Maxine Chelina, Charles Greenback, Fred Darr; Decorating: Carl Husser, Leonard Sifford, Alyce Cole, Wilbur Clay, Robert Joines, Charles McFarland; Entertainment: Floyd Christiansen, Grace Fahlberg, LeRoy Hard, Stanley Ballard, Milford Jontz; Get Acquainted: Jack Lewis, Lester Register, Farrel Brooks, Ralph Martin, Bob Lewis.

### CO-OP NEWS

Miss Barbara Kuepker who has been employed as secretary and record clerk recently accepted a position with the Capitol air lines as a hostess. Barbara spent several weeks in Washington, D. C. in training before being assigned to a regular flight.

Miss Kuepker made many friends as an employee through her courteous and pleasant manner in meeting the public. The best wishes of her co-workers are extended Barbara in her new position.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lewis, (Bob is on maintenance) are the proud parents of a daughter born December 11, at Perry Memorial Hospital, Princeton. This is their second child.

We were all sorry to learn of the fire which destroyed the premises of Miss Nina Long, north of Ottawa. Miss Long lost practically all her personal and household belongings.

Member John Kays, near Ottawa, suffered severe injuries when a collision occurred between a truck and the tractor upon which he was riding. Kays is recovering in a satisfactory manner.

Our cooperative's program service continues to bring talks and sound motion pictures to groups throughout the area served by your cooperative. These programs are both informative and entertaining. Let us help provide your school or community program. Write your co-op office for information.

# JUNIOR RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS

## PEN PALS

Hi Pen Pals!

We're off for another year—and resolved to make 1954 the biggest and best Pen Pal year ever! Every boy and girl on the hi-line is invited to join our letter writing fun, and it is so easy. All you have to do is write to one or more of the Pen Pals whose letters appear on this page—someone who has a hobby similar to yours, for instance. The girls and boys are anxious to hear from you and you can expect letters in return.

Letters for publication should be addressed to Kay Conlan, Junior Rural Electric News, Box 1180, Springfield, Illinois.

### LIKES SPORTS

I'm a girl 16 years old and my birthday is July 2. I'm five feet five and one half inches tall. I have brown hair and blue eyes. I like most any kind of sports, and I like movies and like to read. I would like to hear from girls and boys from the ages of 16 to 20.—Gail Jordan, Box 248, Caney, Okla.

### PLAYS VOLLEYBALL

I am 13 years old and my birthday is April 27. I have light brown hair and blue eyes. I am five feet one inch tall and weigh 85 pounds. I have a photograph album filled with movie star photos. My hobbies are roller skating, dancing and riding my bicycle and playing volleyball. I am in the eighth grade at Beecher City Junior High School. Would like to hear from boys and girls of all ages.—Betty Doty, Beecher City, Ill.



High School. Would like to hear from boys and girls of all ages.—Betty Doty, Beecher City, Ill.

### YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

I am 16 years old, five feet, 11 inches tall, and have brown hair and eyes. I am a junior at Welcome High School where I play clarinet in the band. I am president of the Youth Fellowship and also a 4-H member. I also belong to the Welcome Student Council. I live on a 160 acre farm in south central Minnesota. We raise purebred Angus cattle and Hampshire hogs. I have some of both as 4-H projects. I also have a horse named Pat. I would like to hear from boys and girls between the ages of 14 to 17.—Robert L. Mensch, Truman, Minn.

### OCTOBER BIRTHDAY

I am 15 years old and my birthday is October 28. I have brown hair and brown eyes. I am five feet, five inches tall and weigh 128 pounds. Have I a twin? My hobby is roller skating. I would like to hear from boys and girls 14 to 16. I would like to have pictures, if possible.—Ginger Fisher, c/o Mrs. Robert P. Cavitt, R. 1, Box 17, Anna, Ill.

### CHRISTMAS BIRTHDAY

I am a girl 15 years old and weigh 102 pounds. I have red hair and brown eyes and I am five feet, two inches tall. My birthday is December 25. My hobbies are swimming and playing basketball. Do I have a twin? I promise to answer all letters I receive.—Shirley Robertson, R.R. 3, Creal Springs, Ill.

### EIGHTH GRADER



I am 13 years old and I am in the eighth grade. My hobbies are reading and riding a bicycle. I would like to hear from boys and girls between the ages of 12 and 15.—Lyle Moore, R. R. 1, Benton, Ill.

### DECEMBER BIRTHDAY

I am 15 years old and am a sophomore in Shelbyville High School. I have reddish brown hair and blue eyes, am five feet four inches tall and weigh 122 pounds. My birthday is December 26. My hobbies are baseball, basketball, volleyball and reading. I would like to hear from boys and girls between the ages of 15 and 17.—Dixie Atteberry, R.R. 1, Shelbyville, Ill.

### RUSSELLVILLE SCHOOL

I am 11 years old and my birthday is August 6. I have brown hair and grey eyes and I am in the seventh grade and go to Russellville School. My hobbies are playing piano, playing ball, singing, reading baking and going to school. I would like to hear from boys and girls in all countries. Do I have a twin?—Nadine Wilber, R.R. 2, Vincennes, Ind.

### ENJOYS TELEVISION

I am a girl 11 years old and my birthday is March 15. I am four feet, five inches tall and weigh 67 pounds. I have blonde hair and blue eyes. I have a brother and sister, Lois and Carl. I like to watch television, go to movies, listen to the radio and dance. Would like to hear from boys and girls between 10 and 12.—Bonnie Doty, Beecher City, Ill.



### A DECEMBER BIRTHDAY

I am a boy 12 years old and my birthday is December 9. I weigh 80 pounds and I am four feet, eight inches tall. My hobby is playing a trumpet. I would like to hear from boys and girls between 12 and 14.—Billy Hudson, R. R. 1, c/o Howard Jourdon, Calhoun, Ill.

### A JULY BIRTHDAY

I am seven years old and my birthday is July 9. I weigh 55 pounds and I am four feet, two inches tall. I would like to hear from boys and girls between six and 10. Joy Ruth Bramlet, R. R. 2, Marion, Ill.

### PLAYS GUITAR

I am a boy 14 years old and I have brown hair and brown eyes. I am five feet three inches tall and my hobby is playing a guitar. I have a pet dog. I go to high school and would like to hear from boys and girls between 12 and 14.—Robert O. Stark, Rinard, Ill.

### COLLECTS STAMPS

I am 11 years old and my birthday is February 22. I have blond hair and blue eyes. My hobbies are collecting stamps and coins, reading, writing letters, riding my bike and watching T.V. I am five feet, two inches tall and I have a sister two years old. Would like to hear from boys and girls between the ages of 11 and 16.—Patricia Andres, R. R. 1, Hillsboro, Ill.



### HAS PET DOG

I am a girl 11 years old and I have brown hair and eyes. I have two brothers. I have a pet dog and his name is "Boots". My hobbies are playing piano and collecting stamps. I would like to hear from boys and girls of all ages. I will answer all letters.—Jean Kueka, Box 167, Percy, Ill.

### 4-H CLUB

I am 12 years old and I am five feet two inches tall and weigh 102 pounds. My birthday is February 12. My hobbies are playing the piano and belonging to 4-H Club. I would like to hear from boys and girls of all ages. I promise to answer all letters.—Judith Ann Spires, R. R. 1, Kempton, Ill.

### 4-H CLUB MEMBER

I am 14 years old and my birthday is March 29. I have light hair, blue eyes and am five feet tall and weigh 102 pounds. I am a 4-H Club member. I love outdoor work and sports. Would like to hear from boys and girls of all ages.—Beverly Carson, R.R. 2, Findlay, Ill.

### PLAYS ORGAN

I am 15 years old, have brown hair and blue eyes and my birthday is November 5. My hobbies are horseback riding, reading and singing and learning to play the organ. I would like to hear from boys and girls of all ages.—Phyllis Shelton, Vienna, Ill.

### BABY SITTER

I am 12 years old. My birthday is October 26. I have blond hair and blue eyes. My hobby is baby sitting, skating, collecting movie stars, and baking. I would like to hear from boys and girls ages 12 to 15.—Shirley Ann Hill, R.R. 2, Plymouth, Ill.

## Jo-Carroll President—

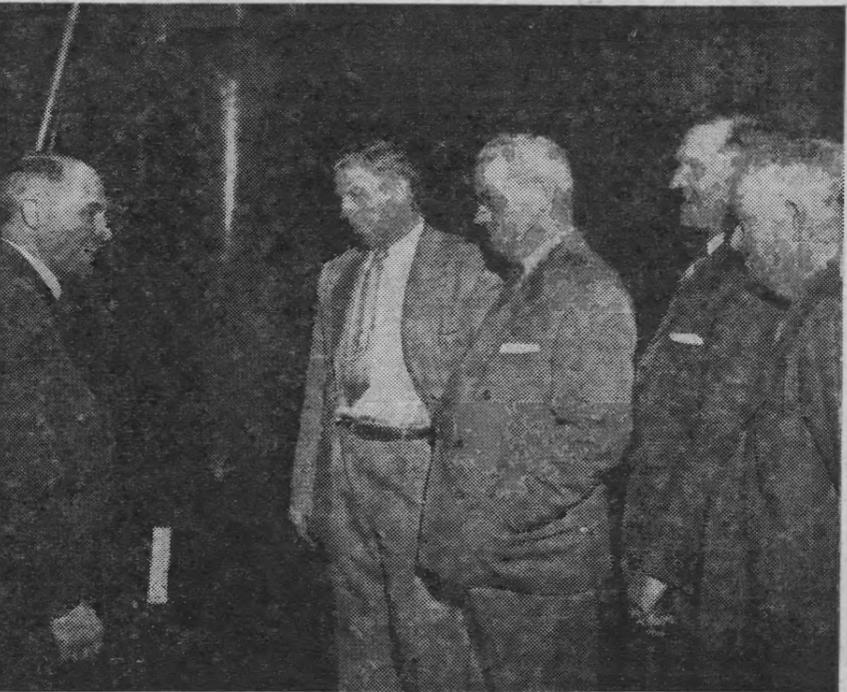
(From Page Six)

and will provide improved service, Youtzy said.

The manager said that the co-op is not going into the telephone business. He said that co-op was working with existing telephone companies to help make phone service available on an area-wide basis.

Re-elected for three year terms as directors were Clayton Dittmar of Elizabeth, Earl Walker of Chadwick, and Morris Birkbeck of Galena.

Included in the program was a high-line demonstration by Illinois safety instructors, Glen Strong and C. M. Scott. A box lunch was served by the Jacobstown Community Club.

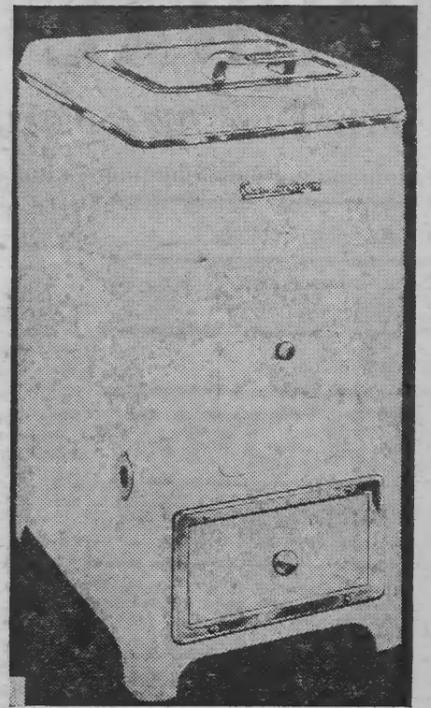


MORE THAN 40 directors and managers of rural electric cooperatives in central and western Illinois, inspected Central Illinois Public Service Company's new generating plant at Meredosia, December 16. The C.I.P.S. supplies wholesale power to over half of the co-ops in the state.

Shown at left, is D. A. Arm-

strong, a company engineer, explaining the workings of plant machinery to one of several co-op groups that made the tour. They are, left to right, Lee Leonard, manager, Western Illinois Electric co-op; A. E. Becker, manager, Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, and George Simon and Frank Caruthers, directors, Rural Electric Convenience co-op.

## What's New?



This electric incinerator provides a simple and odorless way of disposing of garbage and trash. Called the Electric Calcinator, it can be plugged into any regular outlet. A flue connection is also required.

The appliance is UL approved. It operates during three, one hour-periods a day and has a capacity of 1½ bushels. The main care is occasional removal of a fine ash residue which has a fertilizer value. The unit has an electric input of 600 watts.

The calcinator is manufactured by the Calcinator Corporation of Bay City, Mich. Standard model sells for \$149.50. The deluxe, porcelain model, pictured, retails for \$169.50.

## Interior Department—

(From Page Three)

not only in the Missouri Valley, but in other parts of the country as well."

Aandahl defined Idaho Power Company as a "local interest" under the new policy. Asked if he knew it was a Maine corporation, he said he "heard some rumors" that it was, but it would still be regarded as a "local interest" in Idaho. He also applied the interpretation to Montana Power Company, another eastern-owned corporation.

Senator Edwin C. Johnson (D. Colo.) told Tudor and Aandahl that Congress wouldn't permit them to put into effect a power policy that jeopardizes rural electric co-ops. The policy, he said, "is so unreasonable Congress is never going along with it."

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PUPPIES: LASSIE type collies, A.K.C. registered. They are the best; nicely marked, farm raised. Pure-bred Dalmatians, excellent puppies. Henry Kruger, R. 2, Effingham, Ill.

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TOY TERRIER puppies from tiny parents. Full blood English Shepherd female puppies, heel driving parents. Clyde H. Parr, Elmwood, Ill.

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## • Poultry & Fowl

FOR SALE: Pure bred Pilgrim geese. Mrs. Lawrence W. Paul, R.R. 3, Bloomington, Ill.

PEAFOWL, SWANS, Pheasants, Guinea, Bantams, Geese, Ducks, Yokohomas, Polish, thirty varieties Pigeons. Stock, eggs, free circular. John Hass, Bettendorf, Iowa.

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\$10.00 FO. certain Lincoln pennies. Indianheads \$50. Send 20c for new booklet listing prices paid. Lincoln Coins, D-236, Glendale, Arizona.

WATCHES WANTED. Any condition. Also broken jewelry, spectacles, dental gold, diamonds, silver. Cash sent promptly. Mail articles. Satisfaction guaranteed. Lowe's, Holland Bldg., St. Louis 1, Missouri.

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DISTRIBUTORS, SALESMEN — Introduce Barton's Cannibalism Remedy, hatchery feed stores. Results guaranteed. Exclusive territory. Generous commissions. Lyles Products, Galesburg, Ill.

EARN \$12-\$15 dozen sewing new, different "Tu-Tone" baby shoes. No other quite like them. Details free. Thompson's, Leganville 1, Wisconsin.

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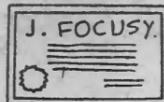
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