

Illinois

Rural Electric News

In This Issue:

*Your Electric Bill
May Soar!*
Page 2

Planning a Pond?
Page 4

*More Time For
Hobbies*
Page 5

*Co-op Electricity
To Serve World's
Largest Cross*
Page 6

*More Money, Less
Work*
Page 8

Free Patterns
Page 11

*And Many Other
Interesting Features*



The Voice of 128,000

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MONMOUTH ILL

Illinois

Rural Electric News

VOL. 12 NO. 10

APRIL—1955

Published Monthly By
Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives
Publication Office: 200 South 7th St.
Columbia, Missouri

William E. Murray, Editor
Kay Conlan, Assistant Editor
Harold G. Marx, Field Editor

EDITORIAL ADDRESSES
Illinois Rural Electric News
416 S. Seventh Street
(or)
Box 1180
Springfield, Ill.

Advertising Representative
Richard M. Hausler, Director
Rural Electric Consumer Publications
Shoreham Building, 15th and H Streets
Washington 5, D. C.

Members, Per Year, 60 cents
Postmaster: In using Form 3579, address to Illinois Rural Electric News, Box 1180, Springfield, Ill. Please do not clip off key number.

Non-Members, Per Year, \$1.00

Washington Report

By William S. Roberts

THE Hoover Commission report on Federal lending agencies, including REA, reflects some of the statistical juggling performed by the Commission's task force. There are actually two drafts of the Commission's report. The first was never made public but was in more detail and showed more clearly the viewpoints and prejudices of the authors.

However, even the final report, which was submitted to the Congress by the (Hoover) Commission on Reorganization of the Executive Branch would abolish REA and provide for a quasi-private lending corporation and double the interest rates for rural electrification and telephone loans.

Back of both reports, however, was the Commission's task force report prepared under the direction of Theodore Herz, an employee of Price, Waterhouse and Company. Price, Waterhouse and Company is a major New York accounting firm doing a great deal of work for private power companies. In addition, Price, Waterhouse and Company audits the books of the National Association of Electric Companies, headed by \$65,000 a year Purcell Smith, the nation's highest salaried lobbyist.

Deleted Some

In the report submitted to Congress, some of the most obvious anti-REA propaganda was deleted from the task force report, but the Commission's proposals for revamping REA retain strange, questionable accounting methods used by the task force.

The Commission's first recommendation is that REA be made "self-supporting." It already is. But to alter that fact, the Commission told Congress, "The actual rate of interest now being paid by the Treasury on comparable long term loans is about three per cent," compared with REA's two per cent interest rate.

The Commission thus pointed out only the highest cost money borrowed by the Treasury, rather than the overall cost of Federal borrowing. In this respect, the Commission distorted the REA picture to Congress even worse than the task force. The task force report clearly showed that REA's borrowers have paid interest rates exceeding the average cost of Treasury borrowings almost every year since the program was created.

Was Misguided

The Commission was guided in its second recommendation that REA "secure its financing from private sources" by the private utility accountants' argument that government lending programs are "hindering successful enterprise."

Before REA was created, power companies served only about 500,000 farms. Since that time, with the impetus of the competitive example set by REA-financed cooperative systems, they have connected several

times that number of farms. REA-financed systems serve 54 per cent of the nation's electrified farms, commercial power companies, 46 per cent.

"Where the government lends to fill such a credit gap as this, it is assisting unsuccessful competitors," says the Hoover Commission regarding lending programs such as REA provides. Continuing, the Commission's report says, "... the government assumes responsibility for launching the projects which the borrowers could not launch through their own contacts in the private economy, and it does so without curing the defects which stood in the way."

Unrealistic and Insulting

Applied to REA, this reasoning of the Hoover Commission is unrealistic and insulting. The "defect" of rural areas being more sparsely settled than cities is pretty incurable, and the "unsuccessful competitors" have overcome the handicap to a greater extent than the commercial power industry, as the statistics on electrified farms amply demonstrate.

Other criticisms of REA borrowers contained in the Hoover Commission report are equally galling to rural electric leaders. "The financial set-up of the cooperative does not make adequate provision for such rates for power and telephone service to allow them adequately to build up reserves and provide for extensions or replacements," according to the Commission's report.

The fact is that rates paid by co-op members provide the adequate reserves expected of any ordinary business. The additional financing for extensions of service are obtained from REA, just as power companies would obtain their financing on Wall Street.

But, the depreciation reserves of REA's borrowers mount into the millions of dollars already and they have provided themselves with an additional cushion of \$78 million in prepayments of the principal on their REA loans in advance of the due dates.

What the Hoover Commission wants to saddle REA borrowers with in addition to amortization of their loans, which commercial power companies do not have to do with their refinancing, amounts to making the co-op members build up a financial pool out of retail electric rates to build any more lines or power plants.

Subsidy Charge

The badly-worn "subsidy" charge is also leveled at the REA program in the Hoover Commission report. The first subsidy is the interest rate on REA loans compared to the selected highest cost of interest paid by the Treasury, rather than the average cost of government borrowings.

The second subsidy allegation is based on a five-year deferment of interest payments, a provision which enables rural electric systems to build

(Continued on page 12)

Your Electric Bill May Soar!

THE Hoover Commission's recommendations on the Rural Electrification Administration, which it sent to Congress last month, pose a serious threat to farmer-owned electric cooperatives.

The report, of which the recommendations are a part, is full of misstatements, and anti-REA propaganda. For example, the report states that, "The financial set-up of the cooperatives does not make adequate provision for such rates for power or telephone service to enable them (the cooperatives) adequately to build up reserves and provide for extensions or replacements."

Co-op rates were set up to do all those things. Here in Illinois, there isn't a co-op that's delinquent in meeting its repayments on REA loans. Nationally, the repayment record of REA co-ops is near perfect. And the repayments come out of rates paid by co-op members. The financial records of co-ops here in this state show they are building up reserves for plant replacements.

Another misstatement, among numerous others, contained in the anti-REA Hoover Commission report, says co-ops get a subsidy by not having to pay interest on REA loans for the first five years after the loan has been made. It is true that there is a five-year moratorium period, but the co-ops must eventually pay all the interest that accumulates in this period. Co-ops have paid \$192-million in interest to REA to date.

The report also points out that co-ops are granted exemption from Federal taxes, and calls it a subsidy. The reference is to corporate profit taxes, which co-ops naturally do not pay, because they don't make profits—they are non-profit corporations.

Among the recommendations are: That REA be abolished and a private lending corporation be set up in its place; that interest rates on loans be hiked, and that loan money be secured from private sources.

Should Congress adopt the Hoover Commission's recommendations, the future of the rural electrification program will be in jeopardy. Farmers' electric bills will soar, their use of electricity diminish, and their standard of living decline.

Any co-op member interested in the preservation of his rural electric co-operative, should lose no time in asking his Congressman to oppose the Hoover Commission recommendations.

What Our Readers Say

I read the article "What Rural Homemakers Think About Home Freezers," and want to say that a home freezer is wonderful. I have a total of 42½ cubic feet of freezer space in three separate units. I have a 20-foot upright, a 19-foot upright and a 3½-foot unit, combination with my refrigerator. I freeze a lot of fruit and vegetables, meat, bread, cakes, pies, ice cream, etc. Our family certainly eats better for less since we have our freezers.

Mrs. Irvin Tennis

Browns

Enjoy your paper very much.

Mrs. Roy Hickenbottom

Bushnell

* * *

I enjoy the pattern ideas and recipes and news in general.

* * *

Mrs. Delbert Elliott

Fairfield

* * *

This magazine is enjoyed by the entire family. We will be looking forward to the next issue.

Mrs. Norman Boatman

Millstadt

Illinois Co-op Leaders Discuss Their Problems With Congressmen

Eighty-seven directors and managers of 24 Illinois rural electric cooperatives went to Washington, D. C., March 28, to inform their Congressmen about the needs and problems of rural electrification in Illinois.

At a dinner meeting held in the Hotel Washington, nine Illinois representatives and two senators, heard the views of their Illinois constituents on the REA telephone program, the need for eliminating the lending formula from the REA act; the effects of the Hoover Commission recommendations, and the stake co-ops have in the development of atomic energy.

Congressmen attending included Senators Paul H. Douglas and Everett M. Dirksen, and Representatives William E. McVey, Mrs. Marguerite Stitt Church, Leo E. Allen, Leslie C. Arends, Sid Simpson, Peter F. Mack, Charles W. Vursell, Melvin Price and Kenneth J. Gray.

Scores Phone Program

First speaker of the evening, William Lipe, manager of the Egyptian Telephone Cooperative of Steeleville, delivered a blistering criticism of the present REA telephone program. He declared that the progress of rural telephones was being hampered by an increasing number of "roadblocks." Delays in getting loans, and higher equity requirements, were two of the "roadblocks" he mentioned. He laid the blame with Congress and with the REA administration.

"The rural telephone program won't get underway until these roadblocks are removed," Lipe asserted. "It looks like an effort to turn the telephone program over to giant commercial companies."

Lipe charged that Congress was listening to Wall Street interests instead of the people. He made a plea that Congressmen help the farmers get good telephone service.

Take Exception

Several Congressmen present took exception to Lipe's remarks and called his charges unfounded. Congressman Vursell, for one, quoted REA Administrator Nelsen's testimony to the effect that the last year saw record progress in telephone loans.

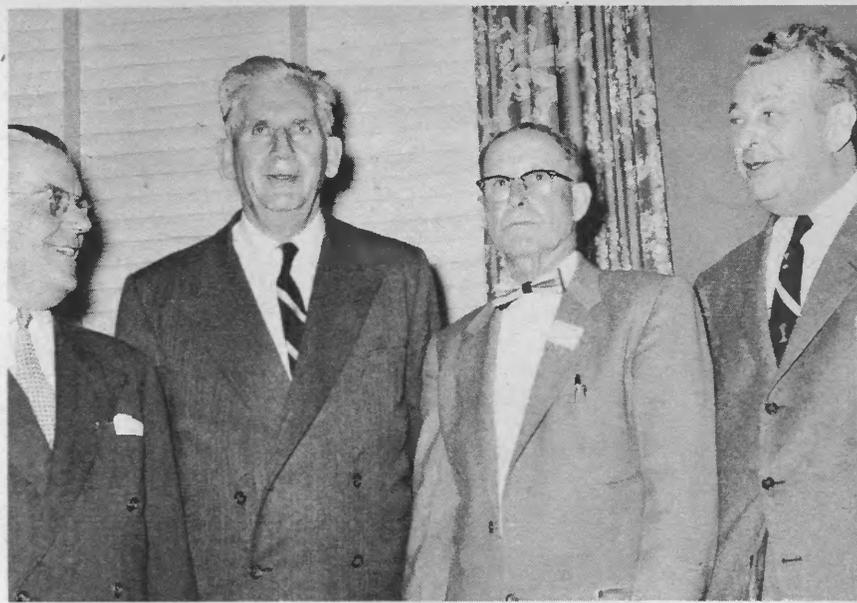
Congressman Simpson denied that there was any pressure from Wall Street to stall telephones. He added that he had never received any suggestions for amending the REA telephone act from anyone in Illinois. He said he would welcome any such suggestions for improving the act and pledged his full support in trying to get appropriate legislation passed.

A brief appeal that co-ops' interests be protected in the development of peacetime uses of atomic energy was made by F. J. Longmeyer, state association director and president of Illinois Rural Electric Co., Winchester. The development of atomic energy has been made by the expenditure of \$15 billion in taxpayers' money. Therefore, the benefits of this new type of energy should be spread as widely among the people as possible, Longmeyer said.

For Formula Elimination

Raymond Pitchford, director of Tri-County Electric co-op of Mt. Vernon and executive committeeman of NRECA, explained why the formula for lending money should be taken out of the REA act. Under the formula, REA would not be able to make a large enough loan to Illinois for a proposed generating plant. The plant would be integrated with those of the two power companies which now sell wholesale power to 25 of 27 electric co-ops in Illinois.

The request that the formula be eliminated has been made by the



STATE ASSOCIATION leaders pictured with Senators Paul H. Douglas and Everett M. Dirksen at dinner meeting in Washington, D. C., March 28. Eighty-seven managers and directors of 24 Illinois electric co-ops met with Illinois Congressmen to discuss important issues affecting rural electrification. Shown, left to right, are: State Manager A. E. Becker, Senator Douglas, State Association President William L. Bradley, and Senator Dirksen.

Co-op Management Clinic Set For April 13, 14, 15

A clinic for Illinois co-op managers and directors will be held April 13, 14, 15, at the Hotel Leland, Springfield. This was announced by State Manager A. E. Becker at the regular monthly meeting of the State Association board, March 17, at Springfield. The three-day course will acquaint managers and directors with the latest management techniques and will feature experts from a New York City business consultants firm.

present administration and is being supported by all major farm organizations.

John Sargent, president of Adams Electrical co-op of Camp Point, spoke on the Hoover Commission's recommendations for changing REA. He asked that Congress "not disturb REA in its present form."

Senators Praise REA

Senators Douglas and Dirksen both praised the rural electrification program and assured that Congress is going to continue to support the program which has, as they pointed out, done so much to raise the standard of living of farm people.

"REA has been a very great success. It hasn't cost the government any money. We have nothing to apologize for," Douglas declared.

Dirksen assured the group, "that Congress is behind REA. We couldn't chuck REA or impair it, even if we wanted to, which we don't. You need have no anxiety. Congress will take care of providing for every need of the rural electrification program."

Presiding at the dinner meeting was W. L. Bradley, president of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives.

A motion adopted by the board called for the State Association to outfit all future Illinois entries in the national Miss Rural Electrification contest. A letter of congratulations was sent to this year's winner, Bonnie Bunch of Kampsville.

A report on a group liability insurance program for personnel of Illinois electric co-ops, was presented by Herman Koeller of Employers Mutual Insurance Co. The plan was taken under advisement by the board.

A report by John Sargent, member of NRECA legislative committee, informed the board that the amount of loan funds found to be needed nationally by NRECA was within about 1 per cent of the sum determined by REA's survey. However, there is a divergency of about 35 per cent between what NRECA and REA is asking Congress in funds for co-op generation and transmission loans.

Sargent said that there are three bills in Congress designed to change the loaning formula of the REA Act. He said it was doubtful at this time whether the formula could be removed from the act. Electric co-op leaders, generally, support a change in the formula since at present it serves to seriously restrict the REA administrator in the amount of funds he can loan in any one state.

Other reports heard by the board included: Power use advisers' meeting, March 2; the state Managers' meeting, March 2; congressional dinner program, Illinois job training and safety committee activities, and district meetings.



SEATED AT speakers' table at dinner meeting with Illinois congressmen, are, left to right, William Lipe, manager Egyptian Telephone Co-op; Raymond Pitchford, NRECA director; Senator Douglas, State Manager A. E. Becker, State Association President William L. Bradley, Senator Dirksen, John Sargent, president, Adams Electrical co-op, and F. J. Longmeyer, president Illinois Rural Electric Co.



Planning A Pond?

*Then Make Sure You Know What You're Doing Or
You May End Up With A Mudhole*

HAVE you been thinking about building a pond on your place? Let's talk it over and see what problems you are faced with.

First of all there are many places in Illinois where ponds can't be built. Your farm might be in one of these areas. If it turns out that you can get a good pond, several questions have to be answered: What are you going to use the pond for? How much water do you need? Where should you locate the pond? How do you get a good design and construction job? What will it cost?

Because the most common use of a pond is to water livestock the table below should be used to calculate your needs. The following are yearly needs measured in acre-feet (one acre-foot of water is a volume one foot deep and one acre in area, about 326,700 gallons):

100 cattle—1.1 acre-feet or 360,000 gallons.

100 hogs or sheep—0.22 acre-feet or 72,000 gallons.

100 hens—0.01 acre-feet or 3,270 gallons.

All ponds must allow for a maximum of 36 inches of evaporation off the top of the pond.

Another Use

Another use for pond water is in supplemental irrigation. If you are going to irrigate, the pond must be a great deal larger than for watering livestock. For example, in a dry year you will need to put on 10 to 12 inches of water. If you irrigated 40 acres of field crops this would mean that a capacity of 30 to 40 acre-feet would be required. Compare this to the requirement of 1.1 acre-feet for 100 head of cattle.

Recently many farmers have been thinking of using a pond to supply water to the farm house. For this you must meet the specifications of the

State Sanitary Engineer for safe drinking water. This calls for installing a filtering device and chlorinating the water. All this is set forth in Circular No. N820 entitled "Pond Water Treatment." It is free upon request to the State Sanitary Engineer, Springfield.

Recreational Uses

Finally don't overlook the recreational use that can be made of your pond, for fishing, swimming and boating. The State Department of Conservation at Springfield can give you advice on how to stock and manage your pond for good fishing.

After you have decided how large to make your pond the next step is to choose the site. You must have a soil that is impermeable to build the dam. The "clay pan" area of southern Illinois is generally good for pond building. In the rest of the state, borings of the subsoil will have to be taken to find out if the soil is impermeable enough for building a dam. These borings also must be made deep enough to determine if there are suitable foundation conditions for a dam.

Though a dam may be impermeable, sand or gravel in the foundation will allow water to seep underneath it. The type of soil determines whether or not the pond will hold water.

You must get soil samples so that an engineer or soil scientist can determine the soil properties. It would be well to contact your conservation district office and talk to the soil scientist or engineer to learn how to take and arrange the samples so that they will be of the most use.

Large Enough Watershed

The pond must be located where you will have from three to five acres of watershed above the pond for each acre-foot of water stored in the pond. Avoid a site with continuously flowing water for this type of site would involve too large a watershed.

The watershed must be controlled to prevent

By W. F. Lytle
Instructor of Agricultural Engineering
University of Illinois

erosion or the pond will become filled with silt in a short time. Certainly you should have at least 9/10 of the area in permanent grass or a good terracing system on the land.

When you have followed through on these necessary preliminary planning steps you are ready to seek engineering advice on detailed plans. Engineering help at this point will protect the investment you are going to make.

Where To Get Advice

Engineering advice can be secured from your county soil conservation district office or your county farm adviser. Extension Bulletin No. 369 "Farm Ponds" of Purdue University is available at the Agricultural Engineering Department, University of Illinois, Urbana. This gives some good general advice, but does not take the place of an engineer on the site to make detailed plans.

Why do we keep repeating the need for engineering advice? Because there are numerous failures of ponds where good advice would have saved the farmer's money. For example, a farmer in Pike County built a pond that appeared to meet the specifications, but soon after the first water flowed into the pond it disappeared into the ground. A check of the dam site revealed a tile line going through the foundation of the dam causing the leak.

Another pond failure was experienced by a farmer in Macoupin County. Soon after he had completed his pond a heavy rain caused the water to rise above the level of the dam and washed a large gully through it. The only spillway was a four-inch concrete tile which would not carry enough water to prevent overtopping.

Get Engineering Help

And then the hundreds of dry ponds around the state emphasize the need for engineering advice. Of course, the last two years have been very dry, but these dry ponds should have been proportioned to provide the minimum necessary water in even the driest years.

These failures could all have been eliminated with good planning and engineering help.

Although the engineer you contact can tell you much about construction features, it may be helpful for you to know about them.

These can be listed as follows:

(1) Spillway capacity must be provided so that if the pond is full and a storm comes the "flood water" may be carried through the pond without overtopping the dam. The spillway capacity is usually provided for in a "tube and riser" outlet for normal flows of water and a sod waterway for emergency high flows. The design of the spillway capacity is the job of the engineer. Inadequate spillway capacity is the most common cause of the failure of ponds.

(2) All trees and vegetative growth should be removed from the dam site and the pond area before construction starts.

(3) A core trench four feet wide and two to three feet deep should be cut into the dam site to provide for stability and prevent seepage losses under the dam.

(4) Concrete anti-seep collars should be placed around the "tube and riser" and around any pipes that may pass through the dam.

(5) The dam should be constructed with a top width of six to eight feet. The slope on the water side of the dam should be three to one, or

(Continued to page 18)

More Time For Hobbies, Thanks To Rural Electricity

Looking For A Good Way To Spend Your Spare Time? Here Are Examples Of What Other Rural Co-op Members Are Doing



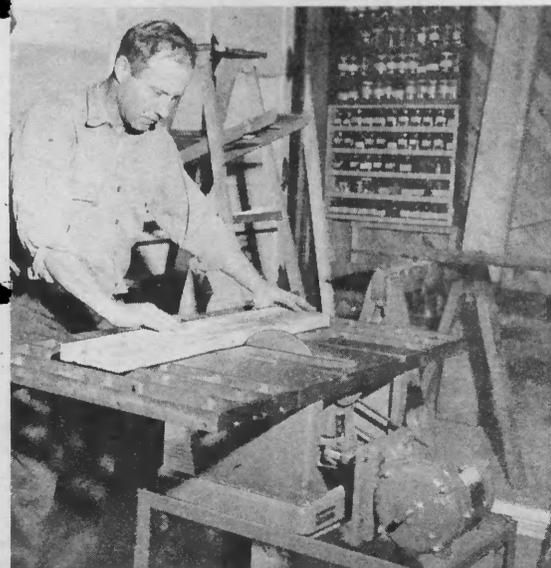
TEXTILE PAINTING takes up most of Mrs. Anton Hoselhort's spare time. She paints pillow cases, sheets, towels, and handkerchiefs, which make beautiful gifts.



WORKING WITH wood helps Frank Newman while away his spare moments. Frank specializes in making knickknacks, like this mirror shadow-box.



MRS. CHARLES GARNETT crosses canary breeds for color and song. She also raises a few parakeets, like this one in her hand.



LARRY STONEBURNER turned his leisure time pursuit into a major production. He's building his own home with power equipment like this electric saw.

WITH co-op electricity making life easier, rural people are finding they have more leisure time to pursue enjoyable hobbies. Here are some examples:

Down in south-central Illinois, Mrs. Anton Hoselhort of Breese, spends her spare time painting textiles. She paints pretty floral patterns, animated cartoons, and figurine paintings on pillow slips, towels, handkerchiefs, and tablecloths.

Mrs. Hoselhort says she has been doing this for the past two years. And, she has had only one lesson. The rural homemaker says the painted textiles make wonderful party gifts, or wedding presents.

Helps Fill A Void

"What I like best about this work is that I can make pretty and useful objects in a short time." She says she can complete a towel in an afternoon. "Yet," she adds, "you can still do a little creative painting by mixing the patterns."

Mrs. Hoselhort says her hobby helped to fill a vacant spot after her children got married and left home. "I had to do something to keep busy." She is a member of the Clinton County Electric Cooperative of Breese.

Woodworking Shop

From the man's point of view, Frank Newman's hobby is probably more interesting. He works with wood in his small workshop.

Frank lives on the highway, outside of Savanna, in northern Illinois. He works at the local ordinance plant on the night shift. He has time during the middle of the day to devote to his hobby.

"I don't make anything out of the ordinary," he explains. "I just putter around, with knickknacks, jewel boxes, picture frames and tables." He also built the kitchen cabinets in his home, and added a bathroom.

But Frank regards his hobby as "a good way to spend my spare time. I just enjoy working with wood. It keeps my mind occupied and I don't have time to worry about the rest of the world."

Depends On Electricity

However, at times the hobby has been profitable. "I like to refinish furniture," he explains. And, as a result, his friends call upon him frequently to do some work for them.

Newman relies on electricity for power. "I did have a gasoline engine on my table saw, but it was too troublesome," he points out. He is a member of Jo-Carroll Electric Cooperative of Elizabeth.

A little more unusual is Mrs. Charles Garnett's favorite pastime. She crosses canary breeds for color and song. She has red, white with a touch of red, orange, and orange and black canaries.

Mrs. Garnett has been doing this since 1946. She says the small song birds provide her with a lot of company when her husband is away, or working in the fields. "They make excellent companions for shut-ins," she points out.

The rural homemaker says she got the deep red color, which is rare, by crossing a red Siskin with a hen canary. "I got the color I wanted the first cross." She explains that she lets her canaries raise two broods a year, usually in the fall.

"I raise between 35 and 40 birds." According to Mrs. Garnett a hen canary will lay from four to six eggs. It takes 13 days to hatch them. And to one, who doesn't know much about canaries, only the male can sing, the female can't carry a note, she explains.

The Garnett farm, near Nauvoo, is located on the lines of the Western Illinois Electric Cooperative of Carthage.

Building His Own Home

Larry Stoneburner of Roseville turned his leisure time pursuit into a major production. He's building his own home in his spare time.

With the tools in his woodwork shop, Stoneburner is constructing a six-room, ranch-type home, complete with two-car garage. Says Stoneburner, "If you want something and can't afford to have it built, do it yourself."

Of course, he admits, it is much easier to work with the right tools. That's why he has two drills, shaper, grinder, sander and saw in his shop. Each has been helpful in the construction of the house.

Stoneburner has been working on his home for the past three years. "I'm not in a hurry. I don't let the work interfere with my farming," he explains. Also, the longer he takes, the better job he believes he'll accomplish.

After he finishes his home, Stoneburner says he intends to refinish furniture in his spare time. The Stoneburners are members of the McDonough Power Cooperative of Macomb.

Several Hobbies

For Mrs. H. B. Gammon, a hobby is anything which is relaxful. This rural homemaker, a former schoolteacher, has several hobbies to keep her busy. Besides that, she is president of the local chapter of the home bureau.

She weaves baskets, makes glo-candles, costume jewelry, paints textiles and has done some upholstery. The latter hobby helped her to save \$40 too.

"I wanted to refinish my front room furniture. A man in town wanted \$100 for the job. I did it for \$60," she explains, after she had had two lessons in upholstery. However, she admits, "I wouldn't want to do that for a living. It's hard work."

She covered her couch and chair in a couple of weeks with the help of a neighbor. She even changed the shape of the arm rests from rounded to triangle. "I used plywood for that," she explains.

The Gammons' are members of the Clay Electric Cooperative of Flora and they receive the co-op's service at their farm near Louisville.

Co-op Electricity To Serve World's Largest Cross

A DRIVE aimed at raising \$3,000,000 was launched in Washington, D. C. this month to provide for the construction of a mammoth, 500-foot cross, the World's largest, dedicated to greater unity of Christian thought and effort, atop Bald Knob mountain in southern Illinois near the population heart of America.

The story of The Cross, as it will be known, is the story of a devout rural mail carrier whose interest in humanity and in God is a legend in the 7,500 square-mile area in which The Cross will be visible.

The mail carrier, Wayman Presley, a native farmer from the hills of Union County, near Cobden, has long been known for his interest in nature, and for his enthusiastic participation in youth activities.

Conceives Idea

One Sunday in the spring of 1937 he was walking down a country road with a friend after services in the little Methodist church at Oak Grove. He had walked many times with this friend, and the two had spent pleasant hours strolling alongside the streams and the wandering Mississippi which flows not too far off.

Often on these walks they had discussed the need for closer unity in thinking and effort among the many Christian denominations. Gradually the idea evolved that there should be some place where people of all denominations could meet occasionally for united worship.

Highest In Area

As the two pondered this idea, their attention centered on the more prominent and impressive of the nearby mountains, Bald Knob. This, one of the highest and most scenic mountains in the Midwest, they agreed, would be an ideal site for such a meeting place. Thus it was that a previously obscure mountain, 70 miles from the population center of the nation, became truly the heart of an inspired religious activity.

Invitations were sent out, and a small but enthusiastic gathering of 250 people attended the first Easter sunrise service on Bald Knob in 1937.

THE gigantic 500-foot cross atop of Bald Knob Mountain will be lighted each night with electricity from Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative of Dongola. It will be visible over a 7,500 square-mile area.

The present 50-foot neon cross is being served by the Dongola co-op. When the rural electric co-op built four miles of line to Bald Knob four years ago, it had little expectation that the installation would justify the cost, according to William Planert of Unity, a trustee of the Bald Knob Christian Foundation.

The co-op will now have to rebuild from single to three-phase for a distance of 10 miles to serve the new cross and numerous other electrical facilities planned for the site.

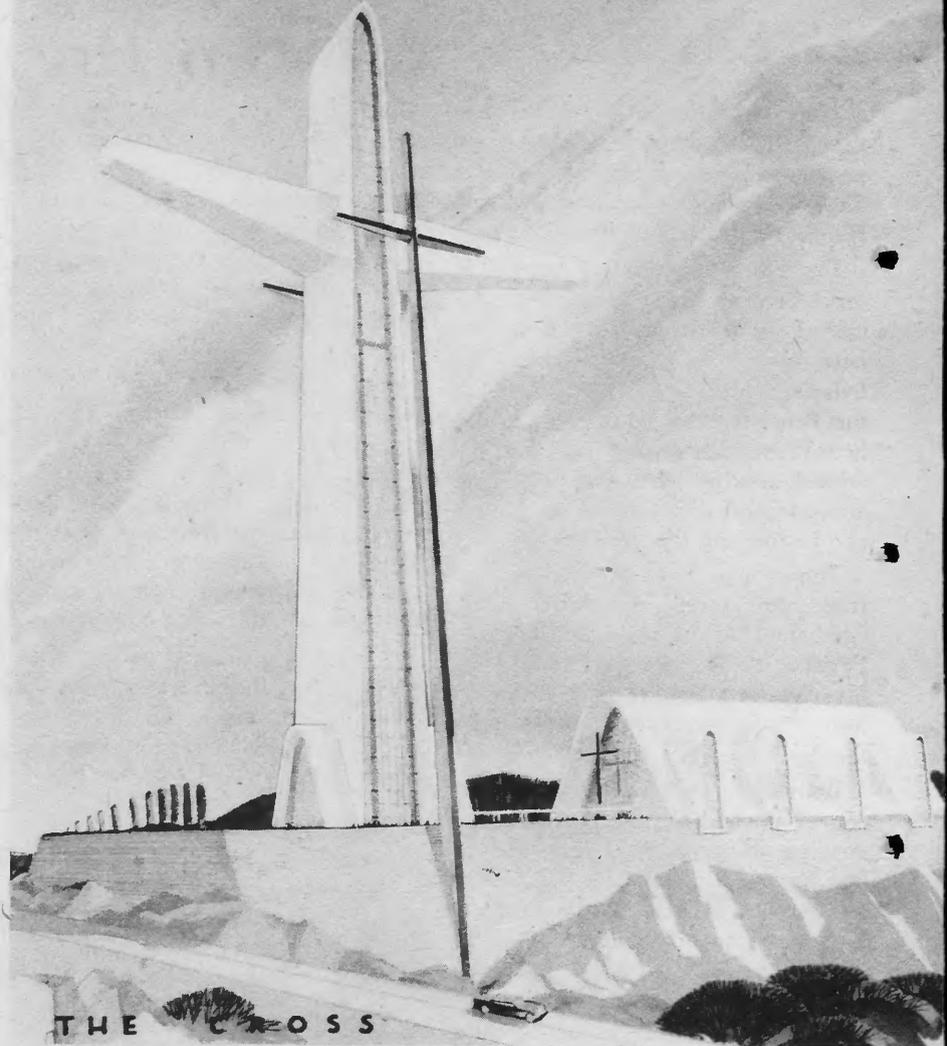
For this service three crude crosses, fashioned from railroad ties by members of the CCC from a nearby camp, were the only adornment the mountain boasted. Those crosses still stand.

For the second meeting a small electric cross was provided, power for which was supplied by a noisy tractor-driven generator. By the fifth year crowds of 10,000 were attending the sunrise services, and the local facilities were so overtaxed that publicity had to be curtailed until such time as land could be purchased and accommodations expanded.

A Heartwarming Story

The story of the initial fund-raising effort (for the original land purchase) among the not-too-rich members of the Bald Knob Foundation is heartwarming in itself. One farm woman sold a litter of pigs, and another made patch-work quilts to raise money. Presley, in order to meet a deadline on his option to buy the property, secured a "faith" loan of \$10,000 from a Cairo bank, a loan that has been fully repaid.

The idea of the united mountain-top worship center had by this time



THE CROSS
FIVE-HUNDRED-FOOT Cross, World's largest, atop of Bald Knob Mountain in Southern Illinois, will be visible at night over a 7,500 square-mile area.

inspired men and women in the area to the task of developing it even beyond the hopes of the two men who had originated the idea. One hundred and sixteen persons from 34 towns and five states, representing nearly every denomination and walk of life in the Midwest, contributed \$100 each to a purchase fund, and now comprise the Bald Knob Christian Foundation, Inc., a non-denominational, non-profit, state-chartered corporation whose purpose is to erect a cross and a worship center on top of Bald Knob.

Turned Down Offers

The little group has since managed to collect funds to build a foundation for The Cross, and only recently 200 tons of concrete were poured to provide a foundation for a 2,000-ton structure.

Though a number of offers have been made to finance the building of The Cross, or to raise funds ranging from a quarter of a million to \$2,500,000 the Foundation found most of them tainted with personal interest or other undesirable aspects. In order to avoid losing control of The Cross, and to protect it from any type of commercialization, all offers were rejected.

Finally Presley went to Mrs. Chapman, of Jerseyville, president of the General Foundation of Women's Clubs, the world's largest women's organization, to solicit her aid in obtaining responsible backing for The Cross. After investigating his story, and learning of the wonderful work

the Bald Knob group has been doing for almost two decades, she was able to pledge the interest and cooperation of the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

World's Largest Cross

Through its 15,000 clubs, donors in every part of the free world will be reached. But Mrs. Chapman urges anyone who wishes to contribute directly to mail his contribution to: The Cross, Cairo.

Present plans call for construction of a 500-foot cross, the tallest religious symbol in the world, in which shrines will be provided for all denominations. At the top of the cross, but so planned as to preserve the continuity of design, will be a Forest Ranger lookout post and an observation tower for visitors.

The east and west faces of The Cross are to be brilliantly illuminated so that it will stand out as a landmark for miles around. An elevator and stairway will provide access to the various levels where shrines and religious exhibits will be installed.

Stones From Holy Land

Paths leading up to The Cross from parking areas and roads will be paved with stones from the paths where Jesus walked in the Holy Land, and cedars from the Forests of Lebanon will dot the landscape.

Long range plans call for a huge amphitheatre on the slope of the Mountain where the terrain conforms ideally to such usage. A seating ca-

(Continued on page 9)

New Directors Are Elected At Edgar Annual Meeting

Four new directors were elected at the Edgar Electric Cooperative annual meeting, February 26, at Paris. They were: Dale Fonner, F. L. Cook, Harold P. Newlin and Harry Murphy.

However, Newlin was unable to serve because his residence was outside of the district from which he had been elected, contrary to the co-op bylaws. Therefore, incumbent director, Bruce Buckler, will remain on the board from this district until the next annual meeting when a duly elected and qualified director will be named, as provided by the by-laws.

Fonner and Cook were elected to three year terms and defeated incumbents Earl Winans, and Clayton Perisho, who sought re-election. Murphy was elected to a two-year term filling the vacancy caused by the death of Zollie Marrs.

Retiring President Perisho welcomed the members to the all-day meeting. He reported that during the past year a new manager was hired, an audit made, and that the co-op is in a sound financial condition.

Manager's Report

Manager Maurice Johnson briefly reviewed the history of the co-op and its growth in membership and kilowatt-hour consumption. In 1940 there were 706 members, using less than 70 kilowatt-hours of service a month. Today, there are 3700 members using 220 kilowatt hours per month.

"We constructed better than 28 miles of new line last year, and extended service to 135 new members," Johnson explained. "This construction is being kept current, so that those who apply for service will get it as early as possible."

Johnson reported that a continual program of line maintenance is being conducted to insure the members of continuity of service. Brush was sprayed under the lines, trees were cut, and substation fuses were increased in size.

Future Plans

"To further improve on continuity this coming year, plans are under study to cut in air-break switches at each substation to facilitate optional feeds from our power supplier," Johnson pointed out.

In closing his report the manager thanked all the members for the fine cooperation they gave last year. "Many of you reported troubles on the line, which saved many hours of outages. You, also, made notations on your meter cards that helped us a lot."

Bylaw amendments to change the annual meeting time from February to August, and to limit the number of proxies a member can vote from three to one, were defeated. Amendments, which fixed the meeting place

of the board of directors at the co-op office and another which allows them by a two-thirds vote to join other organizations, along with a third amendment which limits active membership in the co-op to those persons now being served by the co-op, were passed.

Gets REA Loan

The Rural Electrification Administration has approved a \$400,000 loan for the M.J.M. Electric Cooperative of Carlinville. The money will be used to construct 82 miles of line to serve 330 consumers, for system improvements, 16 miles of tie line, and for new headquarter facilities.

Hoover Commission Proposal To Kill REA, Sharply Criticized

By Co-op News Service

The Hoover commission's proposal to abolish the Rural Electrification Administration brought sharp dissent, not only from power co-op leaders, but from within the commission itself.

Only seven of the 12 members endorsed the 48 recommendations, dealing with government credit, that went to Congress March 13. One of these is "that REA be organized on a self-supporting basis and secure its financing from private sources."

Said the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, "REA doesn't have to be reorganized to be self-supporting. It's already self-supporting. The loans it makes

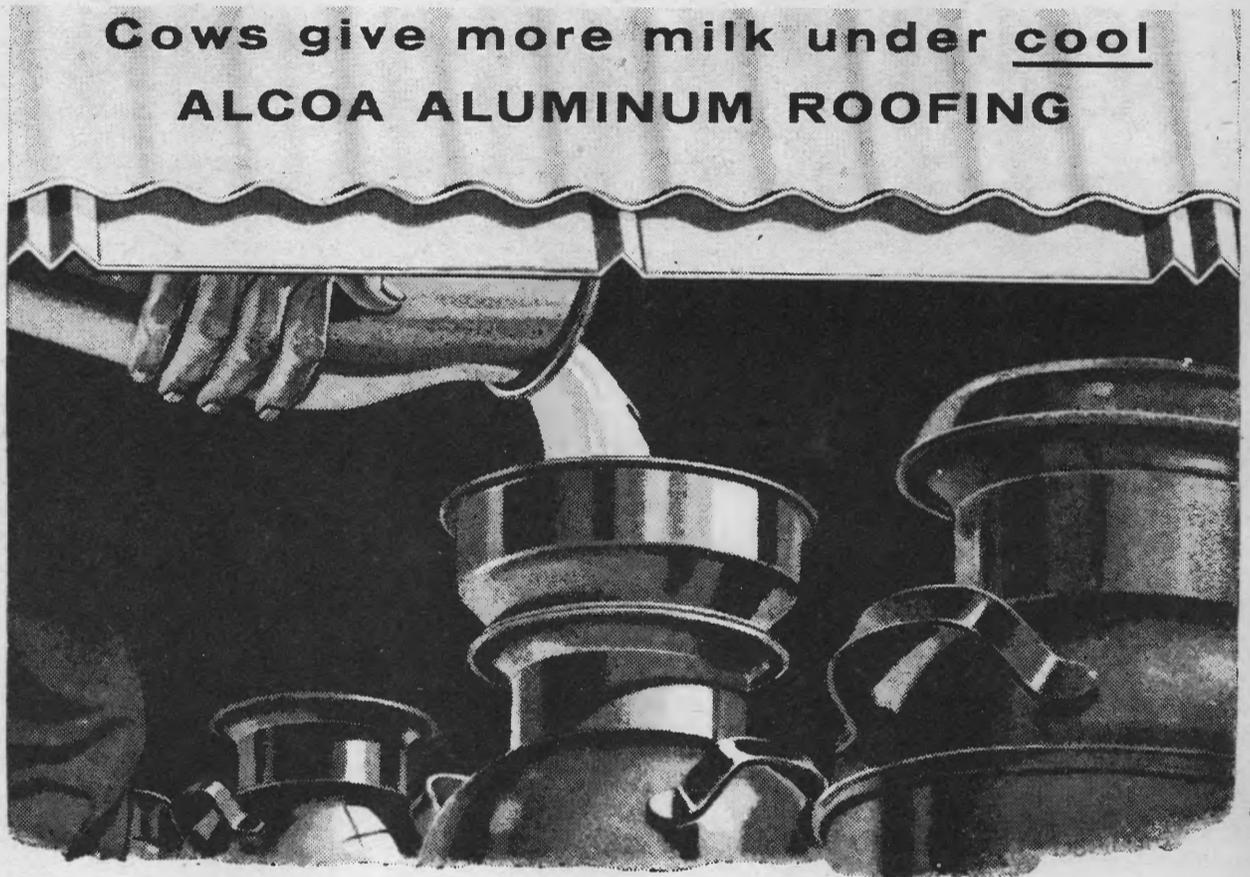
to power co-ops are being repaid with a rate of default that private banking might envy."

Three Dissenters

Three commission members—Congressman Chet Holifield (Calif.), ex-Postmaster General James A. Farley, and Attorney General Herbert Brownell Jr.—dissented from the Hoover proposal.

Said Holifield, "The recommendations point in the direction of tighter farm credit, a slow-down in housing construction, restrictions on rural electrification, and limiting other direct and indirect aids provided by the federal government."

(Continued on page 12)



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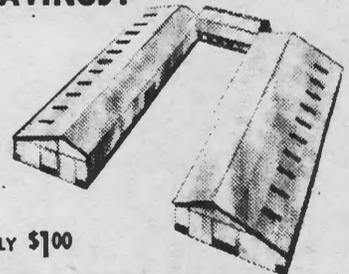
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VIRGIL JOHNSON credits automatic water bowls with increasing his monthly milk check by \$100. He and Virgil Miltenberger (right), Southern Illinois Electric power use adviser, inspect one of the bowls in loafing shed.

More Money, Less Work

Dairyman Johnson Credits Watering Bowls With Boosting Monthly Milk Check \$100

DAIRYMAN Virgil Johnson of Dongola says that automatic waterers have increased his herd's daily milk production by 12 per cent, or about one can a day. That's about \$100 increase in his monthly milk check.

Before he installed the watering bowls last Fall, his cows used to have to walk a quarter of a mile to get a drink. "During bad weather, they'd only make the trip when they were really thirsty," he explains.

He went to his local co-op, Southern Illinois Electric, for advice on a watering system. The co-op power use adviser recommended three, pressured water bowls hooked-up with plastic pipe. Total outlay for the job was \$261.

Installed Three

Johnson comments that the water bowls have already paid for themselves a couple of times. He put two bowls in his loafing shed which is attached to the barn and elevated milk parlor. The third bowl was placed in the bull's pen.

"Right away, I noticed a change in the cows," Johnson claims. "They drank water until their sides bulged. My milk checks started getting fatter too," he adds.

The third bowl in the bull pen makes life a lot easier. "I used to carry water to him at least once a day, usually after I had finished all my other chores. Sometimes I'd come in so tired I could hardly walk and then I'd remember I still had the bull to water.

Waters Himself

"What a relief it is now to know that the bull can do the job himself. He can have all the water he wants whenever he wants it."

Johnson credits electricity with providing him with more income with less work. "We couldn't get along without co-op kilowatts. My wife and I just couldn't manage to run this place."



ANOTHER LABOR-Saver is this steam cleaner for teat cups. The cups are sterilized in a jiffy and with little effort.



NO MORE carrying water to bull. Automatic waterer does the job and rids Johnson of a daily chore he always disliked.

Besides automatic watering, Johnson has a modern milking installation including pipeline milking and several other labor-saving devices. A hydraulic hoist lifts milk cans into the cooler. Steam fountains in the milking parlor steam-clean each teat cup.

"We have a milking system that even a youngster could handle," Johnson points out. "Of course, electricity has made it possible."

"We'd be lost without power. If it went off, we couldn't operate. But that doesn't happen very often." In the seven years Johnson has been getting electricity from Southern Illinois Electric, "We've missed only three milkings. That happened during a terrible ice storm. That's a pretty good record, I'd say."

Corn Belt Members Use Average Of 4664 Kwh. During Past Year

As an experiment, this year's meeting of the Corn Belt Electric Cooperative of Bloomington was held in the spacious garage of the co-op's new headquarters building outside of Bloomington.

Manager T. H. Hafer reported that, "Our reports are short and to the point. We don't expect you to remember everything we say. We hope you take the highlights of our reports home with you."

He reported that the members last year used an average of 4,664 kilowatt-hours during the whole year. This is enough power for a tractor to plow 300 acres of land, he explained. Cost of the power to the members was over \$130.

"Many people say they pay a light bill. But, you can see you are paying a power bill. Just count the number of electric motors on your place," he told them "and you will see where your electricity is being used."

Location Numbers

He called upon the members to give their location numbers when reporting outages. This will speed restoration of service, he explained. The location number is located on the meter cards and bills.

Last year the co-op built two new substations and 9½ miles of multi-phase line. "We expect to build 21 miles of heavier lines this year for the purpose of tying all of our substations together."

Hafer reported that the electric meters on the members' farms are very accurate. "They are tested every five to seven years and are very seldom found off more than two, or three per cent. Mostly, they are slow."

Co-op President Frank Simpson welcomed the members to the afternoon meeting and Treasurer Mrs. Ruth Otto, presented the financial report.

Directors John Alpers, Frank L. Simpson and Franklin Allen were re-elected for three-year terms. Mrs. Edward Kinsinger was also elected for a three-year term. She fills the vacancy created by the death of Walter Risser.

What's New?



Pictured above is a new aid for starting gasoline engines. It's the new "No-Rope" starter which utilizes an electric hand drill for power. The device consists of two units, one mounted on the engine and the other on the drill. Simple to install, it replaces the rope starter on power mowers, and garden tractors. The Flint Engineering Co., P. O. Box 605, Flint, Mich., is the manufacturer.

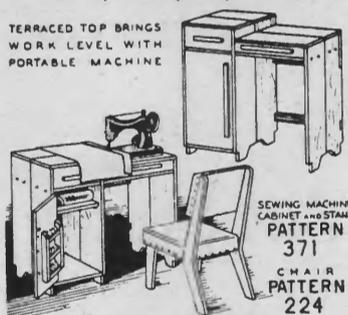


Operating a farm welder can be almost as easy as turning on a light switch with a new self-welding process recently developed. The developer, Lincoln Electric Company of Cleveland, Ohio, claims it makes welding possible for a person without experience or training the first time he tries. The farmer above is welding on a plow point with the special electrode, electrode holder and small AC welding machine.

IN THE HOME WORKSHOP

with RUTH WYETH SPEARS
Workshop Patterns
by Ruth Wyeth Spears

TERRACED TOP BRINGS WORK LEVEL WITH PORTABLE MACHINE



SEWING MACHINE CABINET AND STAND PATTERN 371
CHAIR PATTERN 224

TERRACED STAND

This terraced stand is another case where necessity was the mother of invention. It is the result of a vain search for a ready-made stand for my portable sewing machine. It had to be the right height for the machine and have a terrace that provides a broad surface on a level with the machine foot to support the work smoothly. When typing the terrace holds the copy at easy reading distance. There is storage space for one machine as well as a shelf and two easy-to-make drawers for materials. The patterns are so complete that any week-end cabinet maker can build these pieces with ordinary hand tools. Order patterns by number enclosing 25c for one or 50c for both chair and desk.

Order Patterns From
WORKSHOP PATTERN SERVICE
Illinois Rural Electric News
Bedford Hills, New York

World's Largest Cross

(Continued from page 6)

capacity of 50,000 is anticipated, along with a stage large enough to accommodate an elaborate pageant.

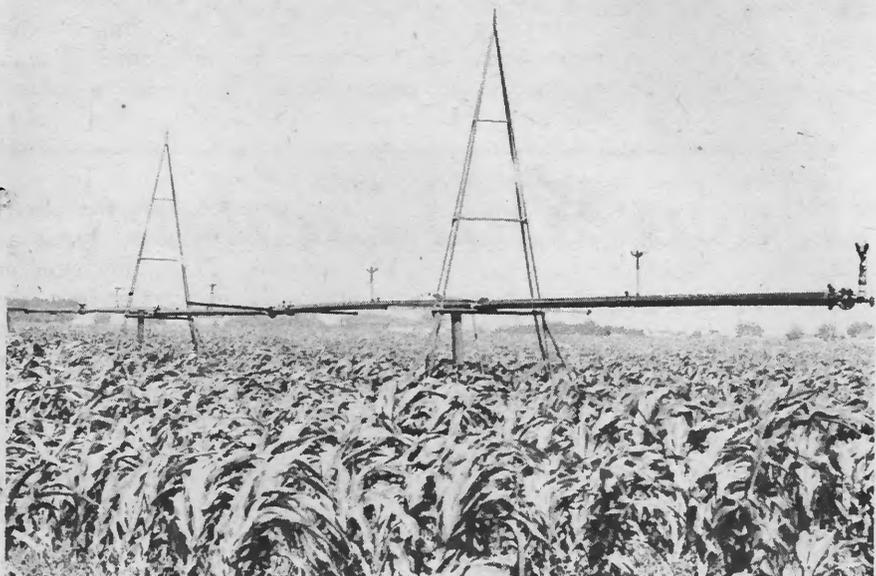
Facilities providing for year-round use for church conventions and other religious gatherings are also being contemplated.

Present Cross 50-Feet

At present the site is marked by a 50-foot neon cross mounted on a U. S. Forestry Service lookout tower.

Each night The Cross blazons its message across 7,500 square miles to those who have already found that men can worship side by side in a common shrine, regardless of what their differences in belief may be.

The site for the cross, 187 acres in the Shawnee National Forest on the summit of Bald Knob, is owned by the Foundation. The surrounding acreage is owned by the Forestry Service which has been completely cooperative in maintaining the road to the summit.



AUTOMATIC SELF-propelled irrigation at work in corn. This unit is irrigating 40 acres at a single setting on the farm of William Thiele at Columbus, Neb.

Takes Work Out of Irrigating

A SELF-PROPELLED sprinkler irrigation system can handle up to 160 acres with practically no labor cost. This automatic sprinkler is mounted on wheels which are propelled by water pressure. Normal line pressure is converted hydraulically to a force of 3,000 pounds.

The entire system pivots from one end and moves in a slow circle around the field. A gun-type nozzle on the outside end of the pipe is designed to distribute water to the corners of the field.

Set in the center of a 40-acre field, the system can put a two-inch rainfall on the entire field in 30-48 hours without relocating its pivoting end. Other types of sprinklers would have to be moved every four or five hours over a period of seven to 14 days to provide the field with the same amount of water.

According to the manufacturer the system is designed to irrigate both low and high crops on either gradually rolling, or level land. Corn can be irrigated just as easily as alfalfa.

Causes Minor Damage

The six-inch wide wheels cause minor crop damage, less than one per cent, the company states. All of the damage is done on the unit's first trip around the field, because on subsequent rounds the unit tracks perfectly.

Regulation of water flow is possible through a master adjustment valve.

This valve allows regulation from a fraction of an inch up to four inches.

Water requirements are far less than for flood irrigation. A 200 gallon per minute well is adequate for 40 acres, the company points out.

With reduced labor cost, and the ability to cover greater acreage in less time, the company figures the self-propelled system will pay for itself in savings on labor.

The unit will be on the market this year. Full information can be secured by writing the manufacturer, the Valley Manufacturing Company, Valley, Nebr.



A MODERN kitchen is an indescribable pleasure, says Mrs. Philip Balzer of Liberty in western Illinois. With built-in features, like sink, cabinets and refrigerator nook, the Balzer kitchen saves the homemaker many steps each day.

She says "I planned the kitchen to be small and compact when we remodelled our home." Both the electric stove and refrigerator are within easy reach. The Balzers are members of the Adams Electrical Cooperative of Camp Point.

Selection of replacement heifers and a sound breeding program both depend greatly on keeping accurate records and studying them.

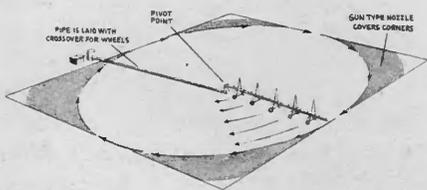
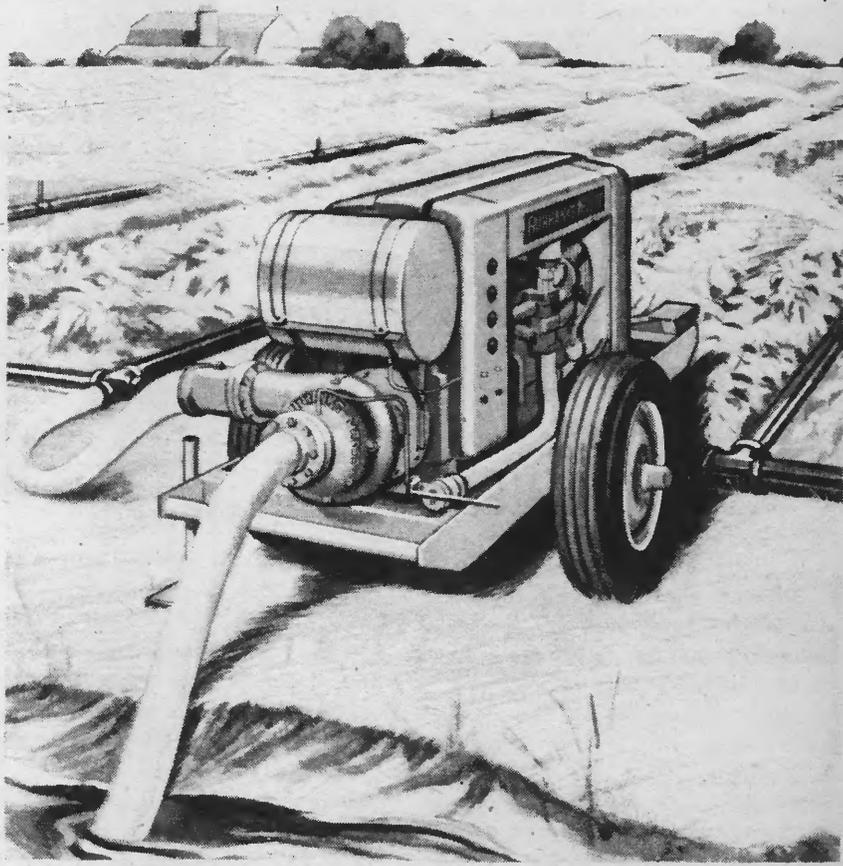


DIAGRAM shows the method of operation of the self-propelled sprinkler irrigation system. Unit moves in a circle and special gun nozzle covers all but small areas in corners of the field.

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Home-makers' Page

Edited by Kay Conlan

Making Use Of Your Deep Well Cooker?

THE deep well cooker, or thrift cooker, as it is sometimes called, remains idle on the back of many a kitchen range—yet it is a money, time and work saver.

This well cooker is ideal for such budget items as the less tender cuts of meats, dry beans or whole-grain cereals, for example, which need long, slow cooking. In the insulated well these foods can cook to delicious tenderness without the need of frequent watching to prevent scorching.

By cooking a whole meal together, or by using the well cooker to pinch-hit for the oven when baking a few potatoes or heating up a few rolls, there is a saving in electricity, too. It is ideal for simmering soups or for steaming puddings, brown bread or custard. The depth of the kettle also makes it convenient for steaming bulky vegetables like corn on the cob or kale or other leafy greens.

Steam From Kettle

As long as a steady stream of steam rises from the kettle, several different foods may cook in it together without mixing flavors. Thus a pot roast or stew with vegetables may simmer in the lower half of the kettle while above—on a trivet or rack—a pudding may steam cook.

To keep flavors separate, don't turn off the heat until the food is removed from the kettle. If the cooker must be opened during cooking, turn up the heat for full steam.

When meats and vegetables are to be browned in fat before adding water for long, slow cooking, it saves time and eliminates another pan to wash, if the cooker pan is lifted to one of the top-stove units and the browning is done right in the deep pan. The well cooker is not suited, however, to any cooking which calls for bringing the water to a boiling point fast. Some people have recommended its use for blanching vegetables for freezing. It does not give enough heat to keep the water boiling when a succession of vegetables cools it off.

Here are recipe suggestions for use in your deep well cooker:

Irish Stew—Fruit Dumplings

- 2 lbs. beef (chuck) or pork
- 6 potatoes
- ½ green pepper
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce (or 2 tbsp. tomato catsup)
- 1 large onion
- 6 carrots
- 1 cup peas
- Flour
- 2 cloves
- 1 bay leaf



Cut meat into two-inch cubes, roll in flour, and brown well with onions in small amount of fat in bottom of cooker. Add seasonings and two and one-half cups hot water. Turn switch to High until steam comes from vent. Turn to Low and cook one hour, then add potatoes and carrots, cut in halves, and chopped peppers. Cook 40 minutes, then add dumplings made as follows:

Dried Fruit Dumplings

- 1½ cup flour
- ½ tsp. salt
- 2 tsp. baking powder
- 2 tbsp. shortening
- ¾ cup milk
- ½ cup chopped raisins (or 1 cup cooked dried fruit)

Sift dry ingredients, cut in fat, add raisins or fruit and milk all at once, stirring barely enough to mix. Drop with tablespoon on top of stew and cook 20 minutes. Serve hot. Attractive dumplings are made using a colorful fruit, such as apricots; tint milk with red and yellow cake coloring.

Jiggs Special

- 1 head cabbage
- 1 can tomato soup
- 1 slice from large onion
- ½ lb. corned beef
- 13 potatoes (peeled)
- 10 onions (peeled)
- 10 small carrots
- 2 tsp. salt
- ¼ cup water

Wash and trim cabbage and cut cavity down from top through center within one inch of bottom. Place corned beef and tomato soup mixture in cavity, placing slice from large onion on top. Pare and wash potatoes, onions and carrots. Put carrots, potatoes, onions in bottom; cabbage on top in well cooker. Start cooking on High. When steaming, turn to Low and time 45 minutes.

Veal and Vegetables with Noodles

- 1½ lb. veal or beef shoulder
- ½ cup fat
- 2 tbsp. chili sauce
- ½ cup celery, chopped
- 2 cups noodles
- 6 medium-sized onions
- 6 medium-sized carrots
- ½ cup diced peppers
- 1 cup green peas
- 1½ tsp. salt
- 2 cups broth or water

Cut veal in one inch cubes, season with salt and pepper. Brown in fat (rub pan with garlic if desired). Add vegetables and seasonings and broth. Turn switch to High heat. When steaming, add noodles, being careful to moisten with broth. Turn switch to Low heat and cook for 45 minutes. (Switch may be turned off for the last 15 minutes of cooking period.) Cook in well cooker, frying pan or skillet with close-fitting cover.

All-American Brunswick Stew

- 3 lbs. chicken
- 4 tbsp. fat
- 1½ cups canned tomatoes
- 2 onions, peeled and sliced
- 1 cup coarsely diced cooked ham or beef
- ¼ tsp. paprika
- 1½ cups canned corn
- 1½ cups canned green lima beans or peas
- ¾ cup hot water
- 1 tsp. salt
- ¼ tsp. pepper
- 2 tbsp. flour
- 4 tbsp. milk

Cut chicken into pieces, as for frying. Dip each piece lightly in flour and brown in fat in well cooker or deep frying pan with close-fitting lid. Add tomatoes, onions and seasonings. Turn switch to High until steaming, then turn switch to Low and cook for one hour. Remove chicken, cool slightly and cut from bones and return to pan. Add ham, corn, beans and hot water. Mix flour with milk and add to stew while stirring. Return cover and continue cooking on Low heat for 30 minutes. Serves six.

Hot Potato Salad and Frankfurters

- 6 cups raw sliced potatoes
- 1 cup diced onions
- 4 tablespoons chopped parsley
- ½ cup diced bacon
- 2 tablespoons salt
- ½ teaspoon pepper
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1 teaspoon dry mustard
- 1½ teaspoons celery seed
- ¼ cup cider vinegar
- ¼ cup water
- 2 pounds frankfurters
- 2 sliced hard-cooked eggs

Mix all ingredients except frankfurters and eggs and place in deep well cooker. Cover. Cook on high heat until steam escapes from vent. Turn to a low temperature and continue cooking one hour. Thirty minutes before finished cooking, place frankfurters on top of potato salad. Re-cover. Turn unit to high heat for five minutes and then to a low setting for 30 minutes. Garnish potato salad with sliced eggs. Serves eight.

Boston Brown Bread

- 1 cup rye meal or white flour
- 1 cup corn meal
- 1 cup coarse whole wheat flour
- ¾ tsp. soda
- 1 tsp. salt
- ½ cup molasses
- 2 cups sour milk (or 1½ cups sweet milk)
- 1 cup seedless raisins
- ½ cup chopped nuts

Mix and sift dry ingredients, add and stir raisins and nuts, then add molasses and milk and stir until well mixed. Fill well-greased mold two-thirds full, cover closely, and place in well cooker. Turn switch to High heat until steaming, then turn to Low heat and steam for three hours.

New Patterns For The Needlework Fan

OUR readers write in from time to time—"There are so many patterns in your group this month that I'd like to have, I hope you don't consider me a hog because I've asked for them all." Far from it! We're delighted to know that you find our patterns helpful and want you to feel free to order as many patterns as you wish, just as often as you wish.

To order your patterns, just enclose a STAMPED and SELF-ADDRESSED envelope for every THREE patterns you request and mail your order so that it is post-marked before the postmark expiration date listed on the Pattern

Order Coupon.

1. BLOSSOM DOILY—the center of each doily is a soft pink or yellow blossom circled by green leaves. Swirling out from this is white, treble crochet mesh and bands of blossoms and greens.

2. HOT PLATE MATS, NAPKIN HOLDER—the centers of each piece are crocheted of watermelon pink cotton and the seeds are embroidered with black floss. The inner rind of each slice is white, then chartreuse, with dark green rim.

3. SPRING HAT—is shaped to fit snugly and made of wool jersey. Easily made by covering frame and trimming with beads. Direction leaflet also includes instructions for a Striped Taffeta Sailor and ascot.

4. CROCHETED BOOTEES—As soft and tiny as baby himself, these bootees are crocheted of wool in a single crochet and shell stitch pattern. Satin ribbon laced through beading at ankle makes them almost "kick-proof".

5. HANDKERCHIEF EDGINGS—dainty edgings of crochet and hairpin lace to make lovely gift handkerchiefs. All three designs are done with colorful cotton worked into delicate patterns.

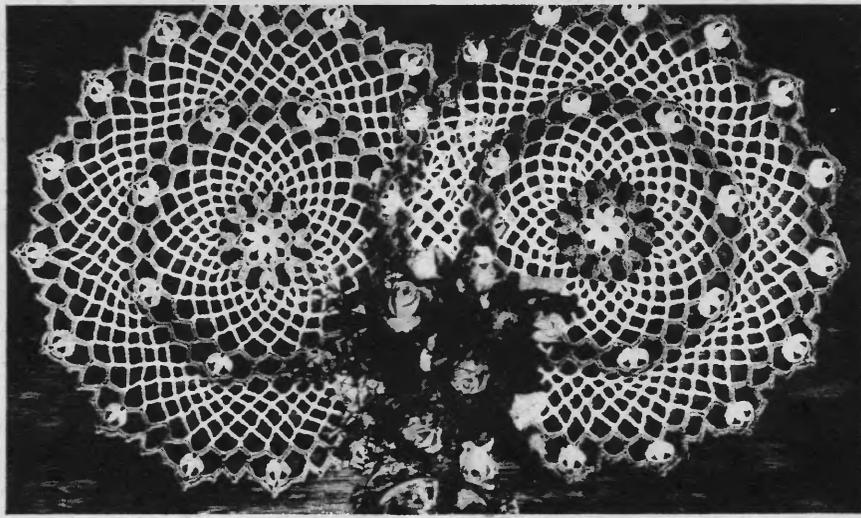
6. CROCHETED COLLAR—A popular accessory for a sweater outfit. The good-looking little collar is made in a shell stitch pattern.

7. LOUNGING SLIPPERS—made of double thick crochet cotton in two colors, a light shade for the uppers and darker for soles.

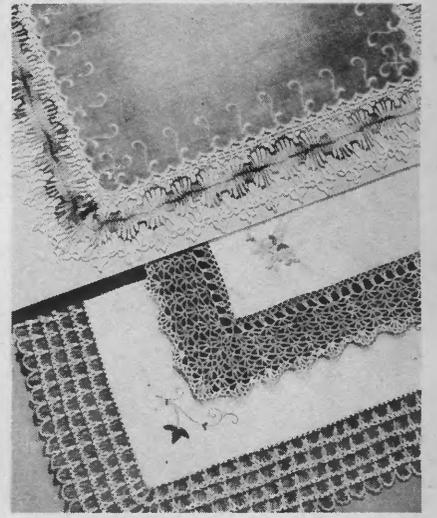
8. EMBROIDERED AFGHAN—made with an afghan hook in nine-inch square blocks joined together with single crochets in a contrasting color. Gay flowers are embroidered in wool on the border blocks.

Stretchy Sweater

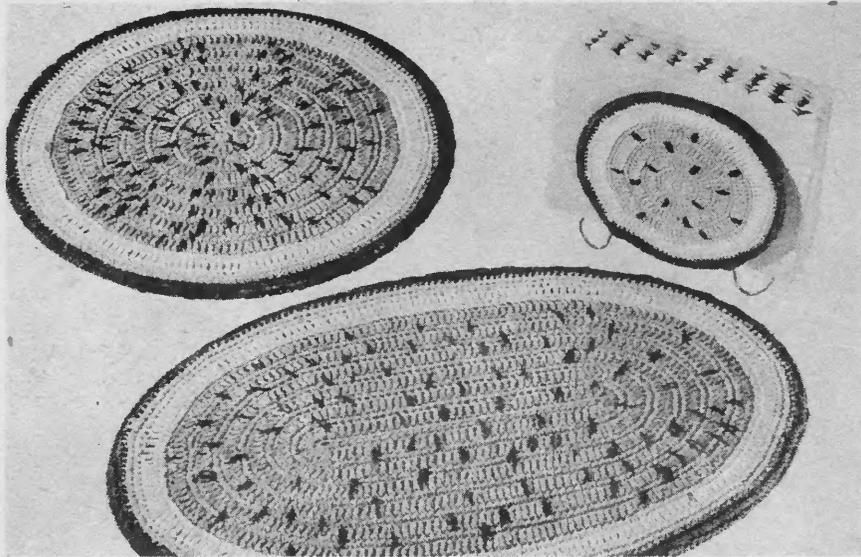
Do you have a sweater that is still in perfect condition except that the neck of it has stretched so that it no longer looks, or feels just right on you? Here's a cure for it that you may want to try. Run two or three rows of elastic thread through the neck ribbing, to more or less reshape the neckline of the sweater.



1. Blossom Doily



5. Handkerchief Edgings



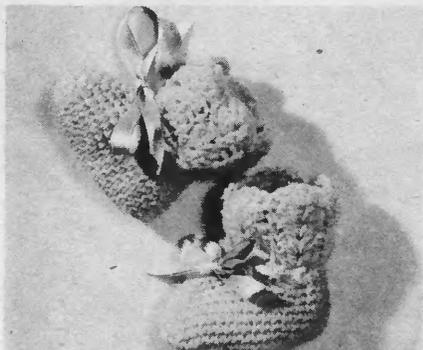
2. Hot Plate Mats, Napkin Holder



6. Crocheted Collar



3. Spring Hat



4. Crocheted Bootees



7. Lounging Slippers

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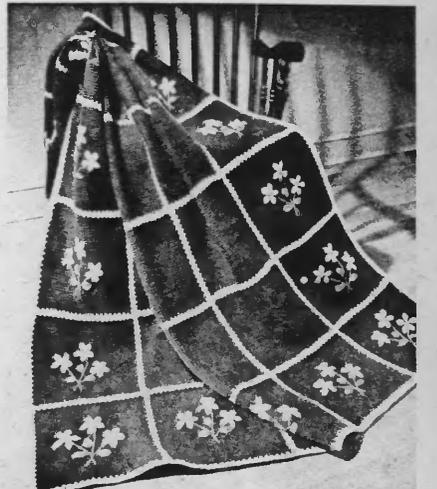
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8. Embroidered Afghan

Another Year of Continued Progress For Paxton Co-op

Members and their families attending the 18th annual meeting of Eastern Illinois Power Cooperative, March 15, at Paxton Community High School, learned that their cooperative experienced another year of outstanding progress.

Manager T. M. Brady reported that gross income for 1954 was \$918,886, or \$64,704 more than in 1953. He said that the co-op purchased 35,141,400 kilowatt-hours of electricity, an increase of 3,428,910 over the previous year. The co-op paid \$296,607 for the electricity.

During the year, \$92,619 was paid on its REA loans. In addition, Eastern Illinois Power has made prepayments to REA totalling \$443,462. Interest payments of \$54,372 were made to REA bringing total interests payments to date to \$402,545, the manager reported.

Increase of 233%

Last year the average monthly use of current per member was 233 per cent more than 10 years ago, Brady said.

The manager urged members to make improvements in their wiring systems to keep pace with the expanded use of electricity on the farm. "Many of our members' wiring was put in 15 to 18 years ago, and they have added much equipment since that time and have overloaded their wiring," the manager pointed out.

He praised the loyalty and devotion of line personnel, citing their round-the-clock work last December repairing service after a sleet storm.

Making Improvements

The cooperative is continuing to increase the capacity of the system to provide good service to its members. New substations, heavier lines, and automatic switching equipment, were named by the manager as improvements being added.

Vice-President William Ringler, who presided at the meeting in the absence of President William B. Lyon, expressed the hope that "We can maintain the good record we have made in the past."

An amendment to the by-laws, which was passed, changed the date of the annual meeting from February to the third Tuesday in March.

I.A.A. Speaker

I. E. Paret, public relations director of the Illinois Agricultural Association, spoke of the development of Eastern Illinois Power Cooperative. He said electricity has brought better living to the farmer. He had high praise for the co-op's financial and service record.

Paret predicted that farm business would always have its "ups and downs." He said that a stable dollar would help the entire economy, while inflation and a big national debt were harmful.

The entire board of directors was re-elected: They were: Clarence Grosenbach, R. L. Stanford, Gerald Hodge, Carl Irving, William Lyon, Arthur Speckman, A. B. Hirstein, William Ringler, Ferdinand Landau, Holly Ludwig, and Ore Ross.

Washington Report

(Continued from page 2)

adequate reserves out of which the deferred interest as well as principal and other accruing interest is paid. The third alleged subsidy is the so-called "exemption" of cooperative organizations from Federal taxes, which of course are based on profits commercial industries retain; And the fourth is the administrative expense of REA. Other government agencies exist for the benefit of commercial business. Tariffs provide an example of the tremendous "subsidies" other industries are given by the Federal government.

Utility Write-offs

But the biggest government subsidy of all does not appear in any of the reports of the Hoover Commission. That is the tax writeoff benefits, which commercial power companies have shared in to a generous extent. During 1951-1953, commercial power companies obtained more in these rapid tax writeoff subsidies than REA loaned to its borrowers, and the REA loans are repayable with interest rather than being outright tax write-offs.

During the same years, commercial power companies obtained accruing benefits from these tax writeoffs exceeding \$3-billion, more than the total loans made by REA since 1935 to electrify 4,100,000 farms and rural establishments in this nation.

Favoritism towards commercial power interests in the report on REA is most noticeable in the task force report, on which the Commission's recommendations are based.

The task force noted a statement by rural electric officials that REA's loans for generating plants and transmission lines provide a "bargaining lever" farmers are able to use to obtain adequate power at reasonable costs.

"The task force does not believe that it is proper to use Federal appropriations for an instrument of duress in private negotiations," the first of the reports says, and continues ". . . as a matter of sound lending policy, loans should not be authorized for generation and transmission where adequate power supplies are already available." There is no mention of the cost at which "adequate power" is offered, as a consideration.

They're Sold On Electric Heat

THE Wayland Bonnells of Owaneco believe there's nothing finer than electric heat. They installed heat panels in the ceiling of their new home they built three years ago.

The panels, known by the trade name, Uskon, consist of thin sheets of rubber sandwiched between layers of plastic and aluminum foil. The rubber has been made a conductor of electricity. There are no heating wires in the panels.

Mrs. Bonnell says this type of heating has many advantages. One of which, she points out, is that "there is practically no dust."

No Air Movement

"Because there are no vents, there is no air movement and nothing to carry dust around the rooms," she explains. "That means there are no wall stains. And the house stays much cleaner."

The Bonnells used to heat their old home with oil. "There's just no comparison between oil and electricity," Mrs. Bonnell adds. "Besides an oily film which got on everything, we never felt warm enough."

Each room of their new home has a thermostat. There are no ducts, pipes, fuel storage, or chimneys in the ranch house.

Requires Insulation

"When we decided on our new home, we thought we'd try electric heat," Mr. Bonnell says. "We started from the ground up. This system requires plenty of insulation," he points out.

Before the foundation was poured 50 tons of rock were dumped into the excavation. On top of this was spread two layers of roofing material, to moisture-proof it. Then, a four-inch, reinforced concrete slab was poured.

"Just feel the floors now," Bonnell

Under the law setting up the present Hoover Commission, it will next submit a bill with provisions for carrying out the recommendations which would result in abolishing REA and doubling the rates for financing rural electric and telephone lines.

After being referred to a committee, there would be hearings on the bill. The committee and Congress will find rural electric leaders solidly opposed to the Hoover Commission's recommendations, tearing its report and that of its task force to shreds.

Hoover Commission

(Continued from page 7)

Farley said, "This report fails to give adequate reasons for changing certain government functions and policies that have served to good purpose—especially in fields where private enterprise in the past failed to meet the needs."



THERMOSTAT is only visible evidence of electric heating system in Wayland Bonnell's home near Owaneco.

says. "They are warm as toast." According to him, the insulation is the key to success with a heating system of this type. "That's why we had the job engineered."

Cost Comparison

Compared to oil heat, the Bonnells figure electric is only a little more expensive. "Last year, the average cost for electric was around \$1.50 a day. We used to use 10 gallons of oil a day. And, oil costs 14 cents a gallon." The floor space in the two houses is about the same.

As for maintenance and breakdowns, "There just isn't any trouble. If the power goes off, naturally we would be without heat, but so would other folks, who depend upon electricity to run their stokers, or oil burners."

Bonnell is a director of the Shelby Electric Cooperative of Shelbyville. He is also a director of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives.

A farm windbreak makes an excellent shelter for wildlife.

REA Administrator Ancher Nelsen, quoting Brownell's dissent, said, "If any legislation relating to REA is proposed as a result of this report, I assume we will be called by the appropriate congressional committee to express our views."

Clyde T. Ellis, executive manager of National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, said if REA financing is turned over to private firms, interest rates will be higher, power rates "will soar beyond reason," and "rural electrification will be seriously jeopardized if not destroyed."

If the Hoover commission were interested in saving taxpayers' money, Ellis said, it should halt "rapid tax write-off subsidies given private utilities. These benefits already exceed REA's total electric loans since 1935." Whereas REA's loans are repaid with interest, "these tax write-offs are funds lost to taxpayers forever."

1955 Refrigerators Offer More Convenience, Efficiency

REVOLUTIONARY changes in home refrigerators are a good many years away. The 1955 designs are based on familiar types. However, many improvements in appearance, convenience, and efficiency are available in the new models.

There is a definite trend towards more generous use of color. Even in the conventional, white-finished cabinets, interiors frequently are lavished in gay pastels.

Another trend is the placement of ice-freezing compartments at the bottom, instead of at the top. The theory is that storage shelves rate a higher convenience "priority" than the ice cube compartment.

Separate Sections

Combination refrigerators-freezers feature separation of the two sections by doors built in the cabinet.

While single refrigerator units are still available, nearly all of the manufacturers are emphasizing the combination unit incorporating a good size freezing compartment.

More systematic use of space and more convenience is seen by such features as roll-out shelves, revolving shelves, cheese and butter holders, bottle shelves, frozen juice racks, ice cream storage space, and fruit trays. The trend toward door storage continues with many new adaptations of this basic idea.

Of course, automatic defrosting has now become standard with nearly all manufacturers as well as have labeled sections.

ROLL OUT shelves, visible hydrator, special storage sections, and 4.8 cubic-foot frozen storage space, are features of this 1955 Frigidaire. Model is offered in white, yellow, green.

★ ★ ★

KELVINATOR'S "Foodrama" is a combination freezer and refrigerator including a host of new features to make food storage easier, more convenient and more efficient. It's available in eight colors.



HOW TO have a tight dairy barn, and yet have proper healthful conditions for the cows was solved for Virgil Schave of Savanna with this electric fan. Says Schave, "Before we put the fan in we always had trouble with moisture."

"Seven of our cows got pneumonia and died," he points out. At the time the loss cut the milking herd one-third, or close to three cans of milk a day, he explains. In dollars that was a loss of around \$11 a day.

The fan, with its thermostatic control, cost \$80. Schave believes this is one use of electricity which definitely pays. He is a member of the Jo-Carroll Electric Cooperative of Elizabeth.

Increase the amount of grain fed to dairy cattle if your winter supply of roughage is running low, or buy hay, or plant a cereal grain for early pasture.

Newest In Built-in Cooking Units

THE trend towards built-in cooking units continues to grow in popularity. Latest developments are surface burners that fold back into the wall when not in use and an automatic wall oven with two vertical doors. The equipment is made by Frigidaire.

Styled in matching stainless steel finish, the surface units and oven can be installed quickly. The cost, according to the manufacturer, is comparative with prices of modern electric ranges.

The surface sections are 30 inches square and contain two fast heating units, six and eight inches in size. They can be mounted on the back of any 30-inch base cabinet. The units are hinged at the bottom and swing down to the counter-top individually as needed. They swing back and out of the way leaving the cabinet top free as a work area. The current is automatically shut off, regardless of the switch position, when the units are swung back against the wall.

Controls are contained in an illuminated, vertical panel. The heat

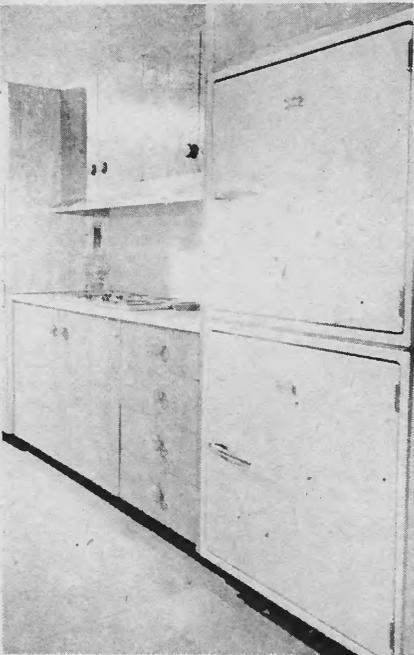


indicator slides up or down depending on which one of the five heats is desired. The new units offer unusual flexibility since they can be installed in any part of the kitchen.

The wall oven includes automatic controls insuring correct temperatures at all times. The homemaker can take the afternoon off and return to the kitchen to find a meal, hot and ready to serve.

The oven controls are located above the oven, out of the reach of young children. An oven clock, two-speed electric time signal and thermostat gauge, are included.

The twin doors both open whenever one is opened. The oven is 17 inches wide, 18 inches high, and 20½ inches deep.



IN LUXURY class, yet pointing trend toward "tomorrow's" refrigerator is this built-in refrigerator-freezer. Revco, Inc. of Deerfield, Mich., makes the units. They are available individually and come in colors.

YOUR Co-op NEWS COLUMN

News From

RURAL Elec. Conv. Co-op

Auburn
Ralph V. White, Manager



Office Hours—7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The office is closed all day Saturday. Telephone number—Auburn 3205. After office hours call Divernon 19. Make trouble calls to the outage reporter on your telephone exchange. The outage reporter will notify the cooperative office.

We want to thank those of you who returned the appliance survey card. Your cooperation is appreciated. There are still several members that have not returned the cards to the cooperative office.

If you have misplaced your card, or did not receive one, kindly let us hear from you and you will be sent another. A 100 per cent return is desirable to insure an accurate survey.

ADEQUATE WIRING

We notice from the appliance survey cards that you are adding electrical equipment rapidly. We wonder how many of you have improved your wiring to keep pace.



R. V. White

Many wiring systems were designed for lighting and small appliance loads. These systems were never intended for the demand that electricity has placed on them.

Your cooperative has spent thousands of dollars making adequate electric service available to your farmstead. You needed this power.

Yet all the substations, distribution systems, transformers and services will not insure you dependable electric service, unless you maintain the wiring on your own farmstead. This wiring must be adequate to take care of your electrical needs.

A competent electrician will help you plan a wiring system that will be adequate for your needs now and in the foreseeable future. Your co-op stands ready and willing to discuss your wiring problems with you and make recommendations so that you may fully enjoy the benefit of low cost electricity that is available to you.

CROP DRYING

Agricultural colleges and agricultural engineers are placing a great deal of emphasis on artificial drying of hay, grain, and corn crops. The experts agree that a crop drying system is a profitable investment on the farm.

Mow cured hay, loose, chopped or baled can save you the money you may ordinarily pay out for proteins. Mow cured hay retains the original color and therefore much of the carotene content.

With ordinary drying methods as much as 75 per cent of the food value of hay is lost due to the high shattering of the leaves. The leaves, which contain most or all of the food value of hay are virtually all saved if the crop is removed from the field at between 30 per cent and 40 per cent moisture content.

Small grains, shelled and ear corn may be artificially dried. This means more profit by getting the crops out of

the field before they are damaged by the elements. Corn can be picked in "shirt-sleeve" weather, thereby getting more of the crop, making it easier on the equipment and reducing accidents around the picker.

4-H CLASSES

Your cooperative is conducting classes in the electrical project of the 4-H clubs in the various counties served by the cooperative.

The electrical project consists of a series of night meetings for instructions on electricity. Fundamentals of electricity and electrical applications are stressed. Using electricity for light, heat, and power are discussed.

To complete the project the 4-H members must complete the course, finish their project book, and build an exhibit to enter at the county 4-H fair.

Last year over 100 young men completed the 4-H electric project in the counties served by your cooperative.

As electricity is used more and more in our farming operations, the better we understand it, the better we can use it to profitable advantage.

Your cooperative serves areas in Sangamon, Montgomery, Macoupin, Christian and Morgan counties.

News from

SOUTHWESTERN Electric Co-op

Greenville
V. C. Kallal, Manager



The average farm-member of the cooperative used over 350 kilowatt-hours in February. This is an increase of 36 kilowatt-hours over January, and an increase of 45 kilowatt-hours over February of last year. Another comparison is that the February usage by the farm-members is almost 100 kilowatt-hours more than that recorded for October.

This is encouraging in that it indicates, we believe, an increase in the use of heat lamps and brooders for pigs, lambs and baby chicks. It may indicate, too, that a generous number of electrical appliances found their way from the dealer to the farm homes during the past three months.



V. C. Kallal

As someone has said, the members are finding that electricity does not necessarily cost but pays its way in reduced cost of production and increased, worthwhile conveniences in the home.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Bond County—Office, Greenville. Tel. 1025. Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. except Saturday, Sunday or Holidays. Before or after office hours call: Paul G. Morgan, Greenville 796; Jack Compton, 984 or V. C. Kallal, Greenville 379. Fayette County—W. E. Jones, St. Elmo 326. Madison County—Ed Barnes, Edwardsville 1037.

MANY USES

Heat, light and power can all be furnished by electric service. The farmer and his family have many uses for this versatile type of energy. As members of your rural electric cooperative, you are fortunate in that you are receiving the benefits of electric service at 1939 prices.

The continued and increased use of electric service furnished by your own cooperative will help insure an adequate supply at a reasonable rate. The wider use of electricity on the farm and in the farm home means more profitable farming and more pleasurable rural living.

The all-electric farm is a boon to the farm owner, the community and to the nation.

INTERRUPTIONS

Two major projects to be undertaken soon by the Illinois Power Company, from whom your cooperative buys its power, will result in power interruptions.

First of all, there is a switch located just east of Brownstown. This switch connected a transmission line belonging to the Illinois Power Company to a similar line belonging to Central Illinois Public Service Company. This switch is to be changed out and we are told that this will necessitate a service interruption of about four hours on your substation located near Sefton Corner.

The Illinois Power Company also plans to rebuild and generally relocate their 28 miles of transmission line between Greenville, and the above-mentioned air-break switch near Brownstown.

SERVICE OUTAGES

This means several interruptions in service to your substation located near Smithboro and possibly one or more interruptions on the substation located at Confidence.

However, it must be realized that little can be done by the cooperative except to suggest to the power suppliers and their contractors that the work be planned and executed to cut the power interruptions to a minimum.

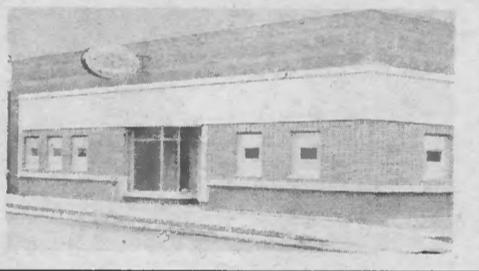
OPERATING STATISTICS

February, 1955	
Miles energized	2,196.19
Revenue per mile	\$ 33.65
Total con'ctd. mbrs.	6,857
Density per mile	3.14
Average bill	\$ 10.77
Average kwh. used	391.48
Per cent minimum bills	9
Kwh. sold	2,672,632
February, 1954	
Miles energized	2,159.62
Revenue per mile	\$ 30.71
Total con'ctd. mbrs.	6,734
Density per mile	3.13
Average bill	\$ 9.92
Average kwh. used	340.88
Per cent minimum bills	9
Kwh. sold	2,267,165

News From

MENARD Electric Co-op

Petersburg
Howard O. Bell, Manager



To keep the cost of reporting outages 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 in your area, who reports trouble, and report your outages to them. Give them all the information you can and they will report it to the service man in your area.

If the member on your exchange does not answer, call the nearest of the following numbers. State that you cannot get in touch with your

trouble reporter and your call will be accepted.

Petersburg 2-2239 Co-op Office
Petersburg 2-2580 (To be used when office does not answer.)

Petersburg 2-2682 Robert W. McLean
Petersburg 2-2933 Roy I. McDaniel
Mason City 116-L Alvin C. Bertram
Mason City 234-W Charles Cowin
Kilbourne 27-X Ray Logan
Kilbourne 376 Harold Brunk
Virginia 190 Elwin E. DeLong
Virginia 302 Guy Sanford
Buffalo 4-4607
Buffalo 4-4133



H. O. Bell

News From SOUTHERN ILL. Electric Co-op

Dongola
R. T. Reeves, Manager



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 74-R-30. Members in Metropolis area call Metropolis 3100 or Tom Willis Round Knob Exchange.

During the cold spell the first part of February, I visited several members who were using electric infra-red heat lamps to brood pigs or lambs. One farmer I visited was very unhappy, and all because he was trying to save a few pennies on his light bill by trying to outguess his brood sows, as he stated it. He had used heat lamps the year before and knew how effective they were.



R. T. Reeves

This member has individual farrowing pens with a heat lamp properly installed for each sow. He had checked his sows just before retiring this particularly cold night and all seemed well. No indication of any pigs arriving before morning, so no heat lamps were turned on.

One sow fooled him. A litter of 11 pigs was born during the bitter cold dark hours after midnight. Next morning when this farmer checked his maternity ward, he found four shivering baby pigs huddled close to their mother. Seven pigs lay scattered around the farrowing pen chilled to death.

TURNED ON

From then on, all heat lamps went on. The other five sows produced litters of not less than nine pigs during this February cold snap. Out of these, only two pigs were lost. One pig was stepped on and the other was born dead.

"Seven more pigs sent to market would have paid for a lot of light bills," said this member. "Next year the lamps will be turned on in time, even though it's two or three days before any pigs arrive!"

A properly-installed heat lamp costs little, is safe and dependable, and will operate for as little as nine cents for a 24 hour period. A pig saved means that much more income for the farmer.

INCREASED AVERAGE

The national average for pigs per litter to reach the market is six and one half. The use of a heat lamp will increase this to seven or more. Today's farmer must consider all angles for the lowering of production costs and the increasing of production without greatly increasing expenses. There are hundreds of on-the-farm operations where the use of electricity can do the job safer, cheaper and easier. The present or the future successful farming operation is dependent upon electrified farming.

IRRIGATION RATES

The drought of the past two summers has developed a lot of interest in irrigation in this area. Many families had hooked-up their home water systems for home garden watering by running pipe or hose to the garden and to this, fastened sprinkling heads or perforated hose.

In this manner, they kept their gardens producing. I know several who kept their garden strawberry patches from burning out. Many that weren't watered did burn up.

These small irrigation projects didn't involve any serious problems. The source of water and power supply was ready to tie onto. The cost was added to the household light bill.

FIELD IRRIGATION

But, these same farmers had pas-

tures and other crops that were burning up. Usually the water and electric power to run pumps were far apart and that meant building more power line.

Most farmers whom we contacted preferred electric motors because they are cheaper to operate and less trouble to maintain, and asked what arrangements the co-op could formulate to help them.

The co-op board of directors adopted the following policy: On large scale irrigation projects, the co-op will build up to four spans of line. All over that the farm owner will be billed \$100 per span.

Minimum charge for power will be governed by the size of the transformer it takes to run the motor or motors doing the pumping. A 10 hp. motor is the maximum size motor to be run on a single phase line.

Transformer Size	Span Lgth.	Min. Chg. Per Yr.
5 KVA	4 Spans or Less	\$36
7½ KVA	4 Spans or Less	54
10 KVA	4 Spans or Less	72

For each additional span over four, a charge of \$100 per span will be assessed.

LINE LOCATIONS

Line B-388C.
G 4-1F Pole 19B.
B 3 Pole 4B.

News From WESTERN ILL. Electric Co-op

Carthage
Lee Leonard, Manager



Office Hours—8 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Friday; 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday. Telephone 84—Carthage. In case of interrupted service, outside of regular office hours, call one of the following numbers:
Lee Leonard, Carthage, 560.
Clarence Hutchins, Carthage, Black 495.
Luther Bennett, Carthage, Black 416.
Roger Goetz, Carthage, Red 360.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our members for the fine cooperation which they gave us in filling out and returning the survey forms. If it had not been for this fine cooperation the information which we will compile from them would not be very accurate.

Over 2,700 forms were sent out with the meter reading cards on February 23. And, 2343 of them had been returned by March 3. Then 2456 survey forms, or over 90 per cent, had been returned by March 14.



Lee Leonard

We feel this is an exceptional record and our members are to be highly commended for their fine cooperation.

We wish to thank those members who took time to write a comment on their survey forms. We are attempting to acknowledge each comment individually.

WATER SYSTEMS

A water system appears to be the most wanted piece of electrical equipment according to our survey. We can furnish you with engineering information and help you design an adequate system if you desire this service.

We know of several members who

News From NORRIS Electric Co-op

Newton
Damon Williams, Manager



Have you noticed anyone in your area climbing each pole on the line that runs close to your home. If you have, it means that your line is being carefully checked by our linemen. The management of Norris Electric Cooperative is trying to assure you of having continuity of service and the elimination of any TV or radio troubles caused by our power lines.

During the past few months we have inspected around 8,000 poles, checking for decay, loose connections, resagging services and in general, taking care of our lines. The inspection of our poles is exceedingly important. It insures us all that in the years to come we will maintain the good records for service we have established in the past.



Damon Williams

A pole line is exactly the same as any other man made piece of equipment. It is subject to wear and tear and action of the elements. Poles will be hit by lightning, wood will decay, and connections work loose.

Because of this we have started a preventive maintenance program where

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. Wilma Bever, Newton; Joe Ware, John Tabb, or Gene French, at Newton; Francis Smith at Claremont, or Freeland Swarens at Lawrenceville.

our lines will be checked periodically in order to prevent future outages.

STORM TROUBLE

Speaking of outages, this is the time of year when Thor, the mythical god of thunder stalks across the sky hurling his lightning bolts and causing us a lot of trouble. Norris Electric Cooperative lines use the latest and most modern equipment to protect you from the disastrous and savage attacks that come with the spring storms.

But, in spite of this, there will be outages as no man-made device has been manufactured that will keep lightning from doing its dastardly work. You can rest assured that when trouble does strike, our linemen and groundmen will be in there doing all that is humanly possible to get the power back on.

HONESTY

For a pleasant change let's talk about you, the consumer of Norris Electric Cooperative. What kind of people are you? You, the people, who are the users and members of our cooperative. You are farmers in the majority of cases, sometimes an oil worker, sometimes a school teacher, sometimes a business man.

One thing for sure is your inborn sense of honesty that is so much a part of the personality of you people. How do we know? It is simple. Our cooperative's success is based on that very thing.

You, as part of this group of people, are honest in reading your meter and paying your electric bill. This is the very heart of our cooperative and it is easy sometimes to make a statement without figures or facts to back them up.

In this case, it is easy to prove. Last year for every dollar that we received in payment from our members' electric bills, we only lost through non-collectable accounts six-tenths of one mill.

Just think of that, six-tenths of one mill. Isn't that something to be proud of? I doubt if there is another organization in the country that can boast of a record which proves so avidly its members' honesty.

USE OF ELECTRICITY

Our cooperative is growing. We are using more electricity all the time. That is the thing for all of us to do. Any time that we can use or purchase electricity in the one and one-half cent bracket, very few forms of energy can compare with it.

Last month, you averaged 239 kilowatt-hours per farm consumer, and the overall consumption was 360 kilowatt-hours—the highest in the cooperative's history. When we mention overall consumption, that includes the oil wells, stores, and many other users that are not actually classified as farm homes.

This use of electricity is one way of insuring the future success of our cooperative because the revenue pays our loan obligations to REA, and at the same time gives us reserve funds to take care of any emergencies that might arise.

NEW SUBSTATION

The energization of our Flat Rock substation cannot be accomplished until Central Illinois Public Service Company completes their work on the hook-up to it. Our work has been completed and as soon as their part of construction to the substation has been completed, we will energize it. This should result in better voltage and service to our consumers in that area.

have already installed systems this spring. These folks have relieved themselves of many hours of hard work, thus allowing more time to be spent in the field.

It doesn't cost as much as you might think either. New plastic pipe has reduced the cost a great deal.

CROP DRYING

Hay dried artificially can take the worry and work out of hay-drying. Hay can be handled successfully with your field chopper and blower at 40 per cent moisture content without excessive separation of leaves and stems.

This will allow the complete mechanization of your haying operation. Getting your hay in the barn at this high moisture content and blowing air through it to cool and cure it will save many dollars in protein costs.

In fact it has been proven that a drying unit can pay for itself in one to three years, depending on the amount of hay cured. Many times a whole hay crop can be saved from rain by getting the hay in faster.

GET MORE TONS

In addition to the increased protein content of the hay, it is more palatable and you get more tons of hay per cutting. Many times you will get 20 per cent to 30 per cent more hay and this additional hay is all leaves. Remember, alfalfa has 50 per cent leaves and these leaves contain 75 per cent of the food value of the plant.

Small grain and corn drying can help you get your crops in the bin earlier and reduce your chances of hail and wind damage. You can start harvesting earlier each morning and continue later each evening. This will speed up that all important harvesting operation.

If you like more information, please inquire at your co-op office in Carthage.

News From TRI-COUNTY Electric Co-op

Mt. Vernon
H. G. Downey, Manager



Like our own annual meeting that comes once a year, your cooperative, which is a member of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, has to attend an annual meeting. Without the other cooperatives we would not have the national organization.



H. G. Downey

Believing that participation is the best way to get the full benefit of our national organization, your manager and four board members attended the NRECA meeting in Atlantic City, February 12-17. This year the theme of the meeting was: "Where Do We Go From Here?" Our National organization is our watch dog for all the cooperatives and its members. It makes sure that our God-given rights are fully protected and that the public is fully informed with the current facts of our wonderful democratic cooperative organization.

Annual meetings should be a must for any person who is a member of a cooperative organization. Remember, our annual meeting is coming up next fall.

We're sowing the seed this spring so

you can harvest it next fall—at your annual meeting.

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS

"Sorry I'm so late, I'm going to make a special effort to get this on time from now on."

"This morning I opened a drawer to get an envelope to mail a personal letter in, and found the enclosed envelope. Some way it had gotten picked up and put in the drawer instead of mailed. I know it is late and I am very sorry, but it was done unintentionally. If there are additional charges because of its being late please send a bill. Thank you for the prompt service two weeks ago Sunday, after the storm. The men were up here and removed the limb from the wire very soon after I telephoned."

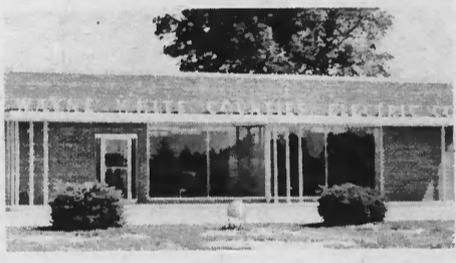
"Please excuse us for not sending in our reading for February 20, as we've mis-placed our book. The reading for February was 9415. Thanking you for past favors."

"As it is necessary for me to mail my payments each month, I would appreciate it if you would send me a supply of envelopes."

"I would be pleased to receive your envelopes for mailing as you have offered."

News From WAYNE-WHITE Electric Co-op

Fairfield
Owen W. Chaney, Manager



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 Galihier, Phone 151-M or Bill Bennett, Phone 217-WX, Albion.
For McLeansboro area call Alfred Venters, Phone 209 JX 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 6276; Charles Mann, 7264; George Harper, 3184; all of Fairfield, Carl Merritt, Phone 6397.

Many of us have been using electricity for 15 years or longer but there are many things about this wonderful servant that we do not know or understand. Some have made an effort to learn everything they can about it.

They have asked themselves many questions such as: Is my wiring safe and adequate to do the job I am asking it to do, and if not, why not? Does my electrical equipment meet my needs? Am I using it in the most economical way? Would it be to my advantage from an economical and satisfaction view point to replace some of my hand-operated equipment with electric powered equipment?



Owen Chaney

And also there is the old question of gas versus electricity for cooking and water heating. Many have decided this question and have gone all-electric.

OFFER SERVICE

Your electric cooperative is here for one purpose and that is to serve you not only with electric power but to help with your electrical problems.

We have a power use adviser. His name is Roy Morris and his job is to help the members with their electrical problems. Do not hesitate to tell us about it and we will be glad to help you find the answer.

Electricity is no longer thought of by the progressive farmer and homemaker as a luxury but as a necessity and an economical means of accomplishment.

MONTHLY BILLS

We still have a large number of members who, we are sorry to say, think only of this monthly bill without any thought as to what service has been rendered for this monthly cost.

What do you think it would cost to operate a home if we had to buy coal oil for the lamps, bottled gas, coal or coal oil for the cook stove, ice for the ice box, gasoline for the iron and motors on the washing machine and water pump, rent on a frozen food locker, cost going to the locker plant, and fuel for the brooder stove?

Well, we don't have the answers because no two families live alike and because of this there would be a large variation in cost. But we are sure of one thing, electricity will do all of these things and more for considerably less money and in a much more satisfactory manner.

APPLIANCE SURVEY

Your response to our recent appliance survey request is very gratifying. Large numbers of the cards are coming in every day and being tabulated.

"Please mail me some envelopes, as I'm completely out."

"Please send me some self-addressed envelopes so I can mail my monthly bills in to Mt. Vernon office."

Thanks to all who took time to send us a comment. We appreciate them very much.

YOUR BIG ASSET

One of your big assets on the farm is electric power for labor saving and productive uses. Due to the drought that we had last year, the farmer can readily see that a well planned water system for his farm is a must, if he wants to live comfortably and have a productive farm.

Electricity can help you have this modern convenience and increase your production of the farm. Did you know that it would only cost you two cents or less a day for pumping all the water used on the farm, both for home and farm chores.

Attention farmers: it has been proven that when water is made available to milk cows at all times, milk production will increase from 10 to 22 per cent. Beef and pork production will increase and egg production may increase by more than 10 per cent.

READY SUPPLY

It is also well to remember that a ready supply of running water may sometimes mean the difference between a small fire, quickly extinguished, and a very costly and destructive fire that cannot be controlled.

In riding through the country we noticed that a lot of farmers are getting ready for another drought by building small ponds. We sincerely hope that we don't have another drought. But, while it could be, we suggest that you give careful consideration to supplementing your ponds with a good water pumping system, either from your pond

or a deep well.

HAVE ENOUGH

Remember, buy an adequate capacity pump. Also, be sure that your water pipes are large enough to carry water the required distance without too great a decrease in pressure.

To close our story, remember with a good water system, you need a water heater. The use of electricity for heating water is convenient, safe and dependable and the cost is very reasonable. Electricity is your cheapest servant, use more of it.

Your March 20, 1955 electric light bill is past due. Please pay on time, and save.

SUPERINTENDENT RESIGNS

Effective March 18, Operating Superintendent Paul Vursell, resigned his position. Paul has been with the cooperative since 1939. We are all going to miss Paul for he has been a faithful and dependable employee.

At the present we do not know what his future plans will be. However, we would like to state that we wish him all the success in the world for his future endeavors.

Since Paul Vursell will be leaving us, we would like to inform all our members that they should not call him for any outages. Please disregard the phone No. 182 in the Bluford-Mt. Vernon telephone book.

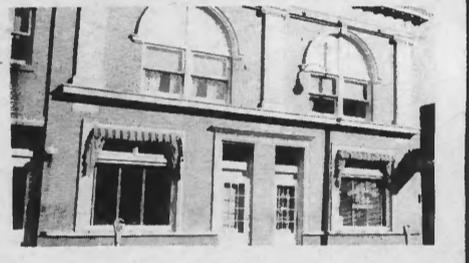
Phone number to call in case of outage in Jefferson county, is F. Wittenbrink, Mt. Vernon, Phone 1981-W. If no answer call 3795.

OPERATING STATISTICS

	Jan. 1954	Jan. 1955
Miles energized	2,126	2,148
Revenue per mile	\$29.36	\$31.14
Connected members	7,130	7,367
Density per mile	3.35	3.43
Average bill	\$9.01	\$9.01
Average kwh.	318	322
Kwh. sold	2,202,180	2,393,320

News From SHELBY Electric Co-op

Shelbyville
W. L. Walker, Manager



Office Hours—8:00 to 5:00 Monday through Friday. Telephone 1540. To report outages after 5:00, Saturday, Sunday and holidays call—Shelbyville 1227, 855, 1038. Assumption 291, 16. Stonington 4195. Pana 4333. Mode 513. Shelbyville 891. Shelbyville 589.

When we have the final results, we will be in a better position to estimate our needs to supply the demands of the members. Thanks to all of you who returned your appliance survey card.

April, the month of religious observances, brings us

Palm Sunday on the 3rd, Good Friday on the 8th and Easter Sunday on the 10th. Birthdays for April are Jefferson's on the 13th. Confederate Memorial Day on the 26th, and Grant's on the 27th, plus the birthdays of many of our electric cooperative members.

The outlook for a normal crop production year has been much improved after several long looked-for rains of the past month. Whether we have adequate sub-soil moisture is yet to be determined. Farm ponds which have been dry for the past two years now seem to have an ample supply of water.

There will no doubt be many new pressure water systems installed over the area of your cooperative this spring and summer. Once again, we know of no one addition, except electricity, that will make life more pleasant in the rural area. It means that you can have water in the home and at the farm

buildings by merely opening a faucet.

ADDED PROTECTION

We suggest that, if at all possible, you install the pump and pressure tank at the well, running underground electric wires from the meter pole to pump. Then connect and leave in the pump house at least a 100-foot piece of three-quarter inch garden hose. This will be your added protection in case of fire.

It is a known fact that 17 per cent of all farm fires start on the roofs of buildings. Many of these could be put out if water were available. An automatic electric pressure water system with eight to 10 gallons per minute at 30 pounds pressure would put water to the top of most any farm building.

DRYING HAY

While we are talking of water systems and farm fires, we think of hay-making time. There will no doubt be several barns destroyed through spontaneous combustion.

Hay that is not dry enough when put in the mow will heat, and then poof! This fire hazard which has been a problem for years at hay-making time can now be completely forgotten by using an 'A' frame or slatted floor in the mow and forced air through the new hay for a few days.

Hay dried by forced air does away with the fire hazards and, in addition, can be put in the mow at a higher percentage of moisture, thus reducing the high loss of leaf and nutritional value which occurs through field dried hay.

Should you be thinking of some method of hay and grain drying and need help, please call or write Len W. Seaman, your power use adviser. His services are free to members.

News From M. J. M. Co-op

Carlinville
A. C. Barnes, Manager



News From EGYPTIAN Electric Co-op

Steeleville
R. S. Holt, Manager



TELEPHONE NUMBERS FOR OUTAGE CALLS

Office Hours—8:00 a. m. to 5:00 p. m. except Saturday and Sunday, holidays. Carlinville 136.
John Scroggins, Carlinville 577-Y.
Aerio Balestri, Hillsboro Co., 8506.
Claude McAfee, Brighton 40.
Charles W. Witt, 803 Sumner St., Jerseyville 296-W.
B. W. Bandy, 830 School St., Hillsboro 830-K.
Delmar Miller, Nichols St., Carlinville 669-Y.
Howard Bloomfield, Carlinville 153-L.
William Hensen, Jerseyville 437-R.
James Hopper, Carlinville 321-X.
Ralph Sides, Carlinville 687-X.
If lineman does not answer and for any other business aside from trouble, call A. C. Barnes, Carlinville 565-L.
KEEP THIS LIST NEAR YOUR TELEPHONE. CHECK with your neighbors to see if their lights are out before calling. Then report the line outage. COOPERATION INSURES BETTER SERVICE

SCHOOL DISTRICT

Quite a large number of our members in Macoupin county belong to Unit School District 2. This district, on February 26, voted a \$500,000 bond issue to cover the cost of providing a new building for the unit.

This new building will possibly be located on a cooperative electric line and possibly in an area adjacent to one of the towns in that district.

We mention this as evidence of the increasing standards under which our rural youth are receiving their education. It fits in quite well with the increase in standard of living of our rural areas which has been somewhat influenced by the development of cooperative electricity to over 99 per cent of the farms in this cooperative's territory.

4-H ELECTRIC SCHOOLS

Last month you were informed that 4-H classes in electricity would again be held in Macoupin and Jersey counties. We are pleased to inform you that definite dates have now been set up for these classes.

We hope that the 4-H boys and girls in these counties will avail themselves of the opportunity to study electricity and to become better acquainted with the fundamentals of electricity, which will be of great help to them in the future.

In Macoupin county, the schools will be held at the Farm Bureau office in Carlinville, beginning at 7:30 p.m. of the following dates: April 21, April 28, May 5 and May 12. There will be classes for both, beginners and advanced students at each school.

In Jersey county, the schools will be held at the Jersey County Farm office, beginning at 7:30 p.m. on the following dates: April 1, April 8, April 15, April 22 and April 29. Classes will be held for beginners and advanced students at each school.

For further details in regard to the program for each school, we suggest that you consult with the 4-H leaders in your particular county.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS FOR OUTAGE CALLS

Call Office at Steeleville, 2311 between 8:00 a. m. and 4:30 p. m. except Sundays and holidays or if closed.
Call office at Murphysboro No. 830 between 8:00 a. m. and 4:30 p. m. except Sundays and holidays.
After Office Hours call the following nearest telephone—

Egyptian Telephone	3811
Nagel	2141
Muench	3211
Huddleston	2496
Holt	3471
Snider	2443

CARBONDALE AREA

Carl Reeves, Carbondale 50-F-14.
Herber Dailey, Murphysboro 1337.
In Case of an Outage, check to see if your neighbors have service. If not, call the nearest telephone listed collect. If your collect call is not accepted you will know that the outage has already been reported and is being taken care of.

Haying time will soon be here again. Over 100-million tons of hay are grown in the United States, but about one-half of the food value is lost before it is fed to livestock.

The American farmer is the loser, because he loses the proteins, vitamins, and leaves to the sun and weather. Costly supplements have to be bought to make up for these losses. Over 300 progressive farmers in Illinois have realized these losses and changed their haying methods.

If a dairy farmer spilled half of his milk each milking, he would certainly try to do something about it. But it is hard to see the alfalfa leaves left in the field as they shatter off.

CUT LOSSES

It is impossible to see the spilled protein, but these losses are there just the same. The only way to cut down on these losses is to handle the hay when it is green and shatter proof.

When green hay is put up, it is necessary to use fans to dry it for

safe storage. Long, chopped, or baled hay can now be fan-cured.

The cooperative is planning some hay-curing demonstrations this spring. If you are interested in trying this new method without being obligated to buy the equipment, please contact our office.

ELECTRIC COOKING

We have just completed a survey and find that over half of the co-op members cook electrically. When you consider that these housewives have had electricity for only eight to 10 years, it means that the modern farm homemaker chooses electric cooking.

Several of our members are going to buy a range this spring. If you are in doubt as to what kind to buy, why not see your neighbor who has a new electric range. She can give you the facts on electric cooking.

IRRIGATION

For the past two seasons the drought has hurt us tremendously in this part of the country. Many young farmers have had to quit because of drought. We know that only a few farmers are fortunate to live by a water source that is big enough to furnish irrigation water. These few are fortunate indeed.

Right here in Illinois several farmers last season raised 100 bushel to the acre by irrigating whereas their neighbors raised 20 to 40 without it. This is enough to make any corn grower sit up and take notice. Irrigating farmers are here to stay in the midwest. The cooperative office is prepared to advise with you on irrigating.

NEW APPLIANCES

Heat Lamps: Herbert Korando, Jacob; Herbert Ahner, Gorham; Charles Enzenauer, Baldwin; Lester Hanft, New Athens; Wendell Bicket, Sparta; Norman Heins, Gorham; Edwin Misselhorn, Campbell Hill; Henry Ruscher, Campbell Hill; Otis Wegener, Evansville; Paul Huggins, DeSoto; Hurd Johnson, Chester; A. L. Whisler, Ava; August Wolters, Steeleville; Clyde Burns, Sparta; Allie Bryant, Steeleville; Karl Morgenstern, Murphysboro; Harry Heins, Cora.

Television—Alvin Steele, Percy; Amos Ebers, Welge; Louis Kelley, Murphysboro; Orval Tuenhafel, Jacob; Herman Kuhnert, Pinckneyville; Ralph Eastwood, Carbondale; Lester Slaven, Sparta; Frank Bower, Ava; Ronald Penrod, Makanda; C. E. Frazer, Rockwood; Flora Caruthers, Ava; Bert Kellerman, Pinckneyville; Clifford Brantley, Murphysboro; Ray Snyder, DeSoto.
Home Freezer: H. D. Stroud, Murphysboro; Robert Fulton, Sparta; S. F. Hiser, Ava; Herbert Kessel, Jacob; Louis Schuetz, Sparta; W. E. Springer, Carbondale; R. L. Bigham, Cutler; Roy Higginson, Oraville; John Taylor, Ava; Albert Vosse, Sparta; James Roe, New Athens.

Sewing Machine: Paul Holder, Carbondale; Joe Rath, Vergennes; Sylvester Welsch, Pinckneyville; W. M. Holliday, Carbondale.
Water heater: Howard Pinkerton, Murphysboro; Geo. Ederer, Ellis Grove; Gus W. Ditzler, Ava; Edward Adams, Ava; Erwin Fritsche, Ava; Benton Smith, Cutler; Frank Breithaupt, Walsh; Archie Hamilton, Cora; Gerald Kettman, Prairie du Rocher; Joseph Mathews, Prairie du Rocher; Authanlie Hicks, DeSoto.

Milk cooler: Howard Pinkerton, Murphysboro.
Range: Herman Clausen, Campbell Hill; Lloyd Vaughn, DeSoto; Henry Rodewald, Campbell Hill; Earl Bradley, Carbondale; Frank Harris, DuQuoin; Robert Van Clooster, Murphysboro; Henry Waltemate, Welge; S. V. Dickerson, Carbondale.

Refrigerator: Joe Rath, Vergennes; Charles Hopp, Pinckneyville; Jesse King, Dowell.
Fryer: Geo. Beasley, Carbondale; John Levan, Ava; John Dale Davis, Makanda.
Cooker: Geo. Beasley, Carbondale.
Clock: Leo Cyrulik, DuQuoin; Charles Bolen, Sparta; Fred Beshears, Jacob; Paul Holder, Carbondale.

Blanket: Harlan Graeff, Murphysboro; Grover Mifflin, Jacob; Wm. Wood, Sparta.
Stock waterer: Raymond Leinicke, Cora.
Toaster: Henry Stueve, Cora.
Water system: P. E. Talbott, Ava; Walter Koehn, Ava; Robert Cole, Sparta; Fountain Tripp, Cobden; Ralph Hille, Walsh.
Vacuum cleaner: Edgar Schilling, Jacob.
Steam iron: Wm. Spinney, Evansville; Walter Cottom, Ava.

Food mixer: Raymond Thies, Campbell Hill; Lavern Hicks, DeSoto; Edgar Schilling, Jacob.
Popcorn popper: Albert Varsa, Marissa; Lester Slaven, Sparta; Lester Caraway, Murphysboro.
Washer: Howard Wisle, Vergennes; Jesse King, DeSoto.
Drill: Norman Rickenburg, Campbell Hill; J. L. Snider, Gorham.

A return to normal rainfall in this cooperative area has been most welcome to our members who had such a long siege of water hauling. The present normal rainfall has encouraged the continued building of ponds and lakes.

We use the word lakes advisedly since the size of some of these reservoirs of water would certainly bring them into that category.

We noticed one in particular at the James Whitfield farm, northeast of Bunker Hill, which not only impounded a large amount of water, but was so designed as to afford a beautiful view from the residence as well as from the road approaching the property.

As we looked at this pond, as it was filling with water from the recent rains, we could only feel that this would become a future place of recreation far superior to the old mill ponds so much storied in our literature.

Several other ponds in the Bunker Hill and Carlinville area have come to our attention and we hope to visit them and possibly work them into a feature article in the near future.

OFFER SERVICE

We would like to call attention to the wonderful service that our Soil Conservation Department is giving in the planning of these ponds as well as to any other soil conservation problem which our members have.

It is impossible to talk with these boys very long without feeling the tremendous enthusiasm that they have for anything that reflects good soil conservation practices.

We trust our members are taking full advantage of this service since, as we understand it, is provided at a very nominal charge.

WATER SYSTEMS

A few years ago we would have been satisfied if all of our members would have anticipated just one water system. As it has turned out, most of our members have one water system and many of them have as many as three and four.

These water systems cannot be overlooked in efficient planning of any livestock program where more than one source of water is available. The present trend, particularly in hogs, is to rotate the animals from one pasture to another to eliminate disease, as well as use them as a means of improving the ground on which they have fed.

This system has become increasingly possible as the number of hogs raised per farm has increased during the past year.



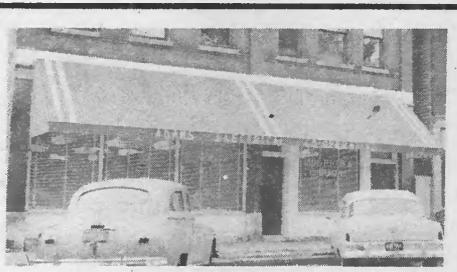
A. C. Barnes



R. S. Holt

News From ADAMS Electrical Co-op

Camp Point
Dean Searls, Manager



At the March 11 board meeting the board of directors approved a new program which will be of interest to members of the cooperative.

Effective April 1, and continuing for a 30-day period, new users of electric ranges, electric water heaters, or electric clothes dryers will have an opportunity to receive a "brand-name" Electric frypan absolutely free.

In order to qualify the appliance must be installed during the 30-day period and it must be an efficient, late model. Water heaters must be of at least 30-gallon capacity and must have two elements controlled by interlocking thermostat.

HOW AWARDED

The free frypan will be awarded to

the member after the equipment has been inspected and approved by a representative of the cooperative.

Enjoy the safe, clean, and most dependable service of these electric appliances. You will economize by going all-electric. Use more co-op electricity and secure rock bottom rates. All this can be yours, plus the bonus electric frypan which almost overnight has become one of the most popular electric appliances.

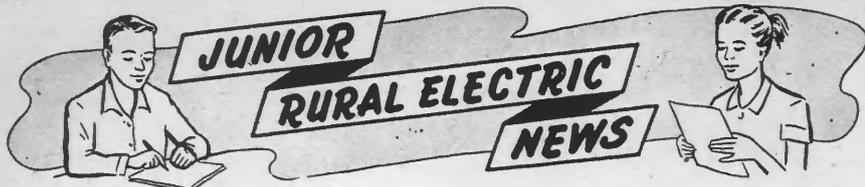
ADVANCE PAYMENTS

From time to time members have requested that we accept an advance payment for their power bills. We will gladly comply with this request if it is more convenient for the member.

However, the member is still obligated to read his meter every month. By receiving the meter reading each month we will be able to figure and deduct the amount of the bill, and notify the member of his credit balance on his next month's bill.



Dean Searls



Electric Farming

By BOB PEART

Agricultural Engineering, University of Illinois

Did you ever figure up how many tons of feed you carry in a basket in a year? Just two 50-pound baskets a day equals over 18 tons a year. If you carry them only 100 feet, two round trips a day means over 28 miles a year.

More and more farmers are planning their feeding arrangements to eliminate this hard, inefficient method of moving feed. Self-unloading wagons, self-feeders, conveyors, portable augers and blowers become more popular each year as tools to cut down time and labor in feed handling.

We have estimated that at least 200 farmers in Illinois are blowing ground feed for distances up to 300 feet. The estimate of the number of systems is probably low.

R. W. Kleis, agricultural engineer at the University, has done a thorough job of testing electrically-powered blowers for moving ground feed. He has found that a blower with an electric motor of from one to five horsepower is very practical in a great many situations. His tests show you can move up to 3,500 pounds of feed an hour 300 feet with four-inch pipe and a five horsepower motor and blower.

Kleis lists these advantages of a blower system over other types of conveyors:

1. The mechanism is simple. Only one moving part means little servicing and maintenance.
2. The pipe can easily make turns.
3. Sheet steel pipe is easy to get and inexpensive.
4. The pipe is light and can be suspended overhead and out of the way.
5. The system can be made waterproof.

Where the feed must be delivered farther than the blower on the grinder will send it, farmers spout the ground feed directly into the blower. The air intake on the blower must not be restricted. Most blowers have one intake for the feed and an extra intake for air. A 16 to 19-inch blower is used.

A blower system using six-inch pipe will handle up to 5,500 pounds an hour. A four-inch system will take up to 3,500 pounds an hour. This means that for an electric-powered grinder of 7½ horsepower or less, a four-inch pipe will handle the feed. Six-inch pipe is needed for a tractor-driven grinder. It takes less horsepower on the blower to move feed through a four-inch pipe than through a six-inch pipe.

Less total air is needed to maintain the required air speed in smaller pipe, so less power is needed.

A 3/8-inch cable supports the pipe for overhead runs. This is solidly fastened at least six feet above the pipe on each end.

A six-inch system with a five

horsepower motor to deliver feed 200 feet away could be installed for around \$750 or less. A four-inch system with a two horsepower motor for delivering feed 100 feet would cost about \$450 or less.

Kleis has just finished a one-sheet leaflet that gives illustrations and more details about how to install a blower system. It is Leaflet No. 6 titled, "Blowing Grain From Storage to Feed Area." You can get a free copy by writing to the Agricultural Engineering Department, College of Agriculture, University of Illinois, Urbana.

Planning A Pond?

(Continued from page 4)

a rate of three feet horizontally for one foot of rise, and two to one on the dry side, or two feet horizontally for one foot of rise.

(6) The minimum depth of water around the edge of the pond should be one foot to control weeds and cattails. The deepest part of the pond should be eight to 10 feet with at least 20 per cent of the area deeper than six feet.

(7) The dam should be seeded to give a heavy growth of grass but no trees.

(8) If livestock are to be watered from the pond, the pond should be fenced and livestock watered at a tank below the dam. This will keep the pond water clear and sanitary.

Of course you want to know how much the pond will cost. It is hard to even make a good estimate until the pond is staked out ready to start construction. The minimum cost of a good, usable pond is about \$500 and might easily go to \$1,000. Some Illinois farm ponds have cost as much as \$3,500. A pond to irrigate from will go way beyond this cost. Play it safe and get an estimate of cost from a good contractor after detailed plans have been made.

A former University of Illinois farm economist says that higher meat prices have resulted from increased consumer demand rather than from government action or from pressure groups.

Classified Display

CHICKS Very Special \$2.90

Hayes Grade AA chicks! Excellent quality—both for meat and eggs. Bred for high livability. Grow faster, live better, produce more eggs. 95% sexing guarantee. Cash in full—we pay postage. C. O. D.'s, you pay postage. ORDER TODAY! Prices subject change without notice. Orders under 100, add 1¢ per chick. AAA Grade Chicks— from our best laying flocks only 4¢ per chick more, all AAA grade losses first 2 weeks replaced free.

GRADE AA	Str.	Hatch	Males	Pullets	
Austra X Whites, Min X Legs					Per 100 Per 100 Per 100
White Leghorns					10.90 3.90 22.90
New Hampshire, Barred					
White Rocks, White Wyandottes, S. C. Reds					10.90 10.90 15.90
Mixed Heavies, No Leghorns					8.90 7.90 13.90
Special: Wh. Rocks, Barred Rocks, N. H. Reds					7.90
—our choice of breed and sex, per 100.....					
Light breeds for broilers, mostly males, per 100...2.90					
Free Circular. Send today. Free Almanac with order.					

SCOTT HAYES CHICKS

Dept. K Vandalia, Illinois

PEN PALS

Hi Pen Pals!

We've been limited on space for our Junior Rural Electric news these past few months, as I am sure you have all noticed. All of the Pen Pals who have written in will be happy to know that we have the letters and they will appear in the future issues. In the meantime we hope you will keep your pens and pencils busy writing to your Pen Pal friend and to all the girls and boys whose letter appears in this issue. Letters for publication should be addressed to Kay Conlan, Junior Rural Electric News, Box 1180, Springfield, Illinois.

FAN CLUB

I'm president of a Tony Bennett fan club. There are 21 members in our club and we would like to have more. My hobbies are baseball, collecting records, swimming and I would like to be a singer myself. Have blond hair and blue eyes, am five feet, four and weigh 130 pounds. Would like to hear from boys and girls between 10 and 18.—Lyle Snodgrass, Jr., R. R. 2, Bloomington, Ill.

COLLECTS COINS

I am 13, weigh 98 pounds and I'm four feet, 11. I go to Washington Grade School and my hobbies are swimming, hunting and collecting different kinds of coins. Would like to hear from boys and girls between 11 and 14.—Fred Aaron, R. R., Johnston City, Ill.

4-H CLUB MEMBER

I am 11 and my birthday is April 11. I'm four feet, 10, have black hair and dark brown eyes. I like to embroider and I am a 4-H Club member. I go to St. Mary's school and I'd like to hear from boys and girls between 10 and 13.—Mary Margaret Meyer, R. R. 2, Carlyle, Ill.

HILLBILLY MUSIC

I am 15 and my birthday is October 1. Do I have a twin? I have light brown hair and I'm five feet, eight inches tall. I live on a 164 acre farm and my hobbies are listening to hillbilly and western music. I also like all outdoor sports, especially swimming. Would like to hear from boys and girls between 15 and 18, and I promise to answer all letters.—Mildred Dean, R. R. 1, Olney, Ill.

ARKANSAS PEN PAL

I am 14 and my birthday is March 15. Do I have a twin? I have light brown hair and blue eyes and I'm five feet, three and weigh 110 pounds. My hobbies are basketball, horseback riding and riding a bike. Would like to hear from boys and girls of all ages.—Priscilla Williams, Kirby, Arkansas.

JANUARY BIRTHDAY

I'm 13 and my birthday is January 26. I have brown hair and blue eyes and I'm five feet, two. My hobbies are sewing, swimming, horseback riding and bicycle riding. I have five sisters. Would like to hear from farm boys and girls between 11 and 15.—Joyce O'Neal, Rt. 3, Amity, Arkansas.

STAMP COLLECTOR

I am 14 and my birthday is February 27. I have brown hair and eyes and I'm five feet, three. I go to Hoyleton Grade School and my hobbies are writing letters, collecting stamps and baking. I have been a 4-H member for four years. Would like to hear from girls between 12 and 15 and would like to have a picture, too.—Mary Huck, R. R. 1, Hoyleton, Ill.

COLLECTS POSTCARDS

I'm 10 and my birthday is June 17. Have light brown hair and blue eyes and I go to Cissna Park School and I'm in the fifth grade. My hobbies are collecting postcards and movie star photos. Would like to hear from boys and girls between nine and 13.—Patricia Sue Behrens, R. 2, Milford, Ill.



LIKES BABY-SITTING

I am 10 and my birthday is January 13. I'm four feet, eight and have dark hair and blue eyes. My hobbies are reading, writing letters and listening to the radio and baby sitting. I weigh 79 pounds and I have a brother and a sister. Would like to hear from boys and girls between 10 and 13.—Sharon Marsh, Ursa, Ill.

PLAYS FLUTE

I am 15 and would like to receive lots of letters from girls and boys between 15 and 17. I play piano and the flute. Olney is the home of White Squirrels and I'll send pictures of White Squirrels to all who write. I go to high school.—Pat Smith, R. R. 6, Olney, Ill.

PARRISH GRADE SCHOOL

I am 12 and my birthday is July 28. I am four feet, two and weigh 63 pounds. I have brown hair and brown eyes. I'm in the eighth grade and go to Parrish Grade School. My hobbies are riding a bicycle, playing the piano and singing. Would like to hear from girls and boys between the ages of 10 and 13.—Ruby Marie Bowen, R. F. D. 3, Thompsonville, Ill.

I am 14 and my birthday is May 1. Do I have a twin? I have blue eyes and brown hair and my hobbies are playing the piano and singing. Would like to hear from all girls and boys between 12 and 17. Would like your picture, too.—Fay Davis, R. R. 3, Elizabethtown, Ill.

RIDING HORSES

I am nine years old and my birthday is August 3. My hobbies are riding horses and milking.—Carolyn Sue Hill, R. R. 1, Annapolis, Ill.

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RURAL EXCHANGE

(Continued from page 19)

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1 PACKAGE of painted daisies; 1 package of Oriental poppies; 1 package of Real Gold Marigolds; 1 package of Wilt-resisting Asters; 1 Atea shrub—Rose of Sharon; 1 package of radishes—Cherry Bell, the finest grown. \$3.00 value for \$1.35. Kenny's, Box 443, Bloomington, Illinois.

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