Rural Electric News
February 1959



## Rural Electric News

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## Ike's proposals

Three proposals made by President Eisenhower in his budget last month would put most rural electric cooperatives out of business

REA program

within a few years, if they should become Would doom law. It is inconceivable that Congress will approve the President's suggestions concerning the rural electrification program.

The President proposed: (1) Electric co-ops be sent to private sources for future loans; (2) Hiking the rate on REA loans to perhaps as high as six per cent; and (3) Imposition of punitive taxes on co-op refunds.

The President would make available some REA loan funds during the next fiscal year (starts in July), but would expect the co-ops to seek the balance of their borrowing needs from the open money

Even if most rural electric systems could borrow money from the open market, and it is doubtful that they could, the interest rate would be so high that the survival of co-ops would be seriously jeopardized.

Here in Illinois, for instance, few investors would want to loan money to rural electric co-ops since they are restricted to serving people who live outside of towns of more than 1500 population. Moreover, no Illinois co-op has a franchise or a protected service area, and all of them, with two exceptions, must buy the electricity they distribute.

President Eisenhower simply does not understand the fact that most electric co-ops are at best marginal businesses. They do not and cannot come close to making the return on their capital investment which is guaranteed to commercial power companies.

As for hiking the interest rate from the present two per cent to four or six per cent, it might appease the critics of rural electrics, but it would be a high price to pay for appeasement. Co-ops, by direction of Congress, operate under economic handicaps, one of which forces them to provide electricity to many rural establishments at a loss.

And the imposition of taxes on rural electric co-op's capital credits, would be a staggering blow. At the present, most co-ops use their margins to repay their REA loans and credit this amount to members' accounts as contributed capital. Eventually member capital will replace borrowed capital. However, few co-ops will be in a position to make cash refunds until 40 or 50 per cent of their loans are paid off.

In brief, if the President's proposals were enacted into legislation, they would put an end to most rural electric co-ops. Thousands of rural people would have to give up their electricity, while those the commercial power companies would agree to serve would undoubtedly have to pay extremely high rates.

Fortunately, too many Congressmen realize the value of the rural electrification program not only to rural people but to the nation as a whole, to vote for proposals that would destroy it.

## Our Cover

Cat pictures have a special attraction all of their own, even for people who can't stand felines. Picturing kittens in a basket is an old idea, but it's never lacking in appeal as our cover photograph demonstrates. Getting up close and shooting from eye level are two of the secrets of this picture. Another is to do something the instant before you snap the photo to gain the animals' attention.

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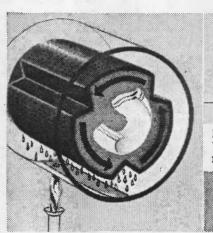
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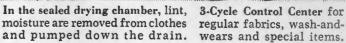
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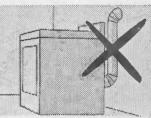
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## Watch Your Wallets, Folks!

## by Jerry Anderson

All rural and surburban residents—especially those who live on rural electric lines—will be wise to keep an eye and an ear cocked toward Washington where the brand new 86th Congress cranked up and went into action last month

For, if the Administration has its way and the REA interest rate is hiked, rural light bills are bound to go up. This is not hearsay. These are two very real possibilities. Both are tightly tied in with the REA interest rate question, which now disturbs rural electric leaders from one end of the country to another. Here's why:

Believe it or not, (and despite the great benefits rural electrification has brought to America), there are folks in the Nation's capital who are putting on a big propaganda drive, and trying to pressure Congress into raising the REA interest rate—right away—and from now on!

New Legislation Ready

In fact, long before Congress returned to Washington, the high command in Secretary Benson's Department of Agriculture prepared legislation which would put the interest rate hike into effect. These bills are sure to be introduced, and may have been before you read this.

Why should you be interested in this legislation? Simply because you and your neighbors will have to foot the bill, if Benson and his powerful allies can pressure Congress into raising the interest rate.

Jerry Anderson is editor of Rural Electric Minuteman, a newsletter to which electric co-ops in nearly every state in the union subscribe. It is published by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. Formerly, Mr. Anderson was editor of the Carolina Farmer, a monthly, state rural electrification magazine in North Carolina. He is intimately acquainted with the entire REA program.

Since it's your money they want to spend, you have a right to know the full story. And the full story contains some curious items that the Benson men would just as soon you didn't know.

**Background on Interest Rates** 

Briefly, here's the background of the interest rate dis-

pute

The rate on 35-year loans made by the Rural Electrification Administration to the non-profit rural electrics has been a flat 2 per cent since 1944. Prior to that time, the rate varied according to the amount of interest the government paid on maturities of 10 years or longer.

Between 1936—when the REA rate went into effect—and 1944, the rate ranged from 2.46 to 3 per cent.

In 1944, Congress made a decision, one that affected the livelihood and prosperity of everyone living in rural America!

Your congressmen and senators decided that everyone living out in the country who wanted electricity should have it! This was an important decision for all rural Americans. This new plan was given a name—used to this day—"area coverage."

And area coverage was a concept that most of the private power companies had dismissed as impossible—be-

fore the days of REA.

Basic Changes Needed

To make area coverage possible, Congress made some basic changes in the REA Act. For one thing, it set the interest rate at 2 per cent. Congress reasoned that 2 per cent was fair to both the government and the rural people. Over the years, the government should just about break even, and all rural people would obtain the benefits of electricity.

The result was a moral covenant—REA would provide 35-year loans at 2 per cent and the rural electric systems

would serve everyone in their area who wanted service. This plan has worked out almost exactly as Congress hoped. Over 95 per cent of the rural homes in America have been electrified. The co-ops and other borrowers have paid REA over \$1-billion dollars in principal, interest and advance payments on their debt. Past due notes are so small as to be considered negligible by astute bankers. Rural electrification is a financial success.

During the 23 years of REA's operation, the 2 per cent rate has been higher than, or substantially equal to, the "average cost of money" except for four recent years. The other years reflect the temporary tight money policies of the present Administration which have driven interest

rates up to the great benefit of the big money lenders.

Judged by any standard, then, the REA program has been one of the most helpful and successful ventures the government has ever undertaken.

**Big Business Thinking** 

There's just one catch. The cooperative nature of the program does not jibe with the "big business" thinking of many politicians and special-interest pressure groups. These people have bitterly opposed the program since its beginning, just as they opposed other ventures that operate on a non-profit basis.

## You'll pay the bill if interest rates are hiked

In the past few years, these attacks have become sharper and more frequent. There's no getting around the fact that the present Administration has thrown punch after punch at the REA program. Some of them landed, some missed. Many of them could have crippled or killed the rural electric cooperative's program.

This does not mean that the REA program has become a party-line issue. Many Congressmen, of both parties, are staunch supporters of rural electrification. On many occasions they have stood shoulder to shoulder in fighting off the Administration's attacks.

Deadly Attacks in Past

These attacks have taken many deadly forms. Last year, for example, the Administration sent to Congress proposed legislation which would have doubled or trebled the REA interest rate. A companion proposal would have sent the rural electric systems to private bankers for part of their loan needs.

These proposals were blasted by rural electric leaders from one end of the country to the other, and they were repudiated and condemned by Congressional friends of the program from both parties. As a result, Congress never

considered them.

Rural electric officials believed that the Administration proposals would have put many rural electrics out of business. Most of the other co-ops would have had to increase rates to their consumers. This means rural electric consumers would pay the bill-right out of their hip pockets-one way or another!

For months now, high-ranking officials of the Department of Agriculture have been lining up support. They've held secret meetings with officials of the general farm organizations and they've tried to curry the favor of some local rural electric leaders. A complete propaganda and

legislative program has been laid out.

Recently Ken Scott, a top Benson aide, who now makes the decisions on important REA loans, was cornered by a Washington newspaperman. He admitted that interest hike and private-financing legislation were just parts of the new Administration package for REA.

Scott said the ultimate objective was to do away with REA as it exists today, and set up a bank of some sort to make loans to the co-ops.

Part of Master Plan

What do rural electric spokesmen think of all this? The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, which represents most of the country's borrowers, says it is part of a master plan to destroy the rural electric program

What does this mean to rural electric consumers? That depends a good deal, of course, on the financial position



of each local rural electric system. Where systems serve sparsely-settled areas and operate at the break-even point, an increase in the interest rate might very well put the system out of business. Studies show that some rural electrics just can't pay any more interest—and continue the area coverage job they were set up to do.

Systems operating in more prosperous territory might survive by raising rates, and hitting you right in the pocketbook. Some very fortunate systems might make the grade by cutting further into margins, and reducing the equity-ownership the consumers have been acquiring each year.

In any case—and as usual—the small fellow loses, the big boy gains. It is your money—included in your "light bill"—that pays off interest and principal on REA loans. And it's a mighty big part of your rural electric system's cost of doing business.

There will be a big fight in Congress on this interest rate and private financing business. It will start in the committees where your congressmen and senators can

fight for or against this legislation.

Following the November election, all congressmen are more aware than ever of the problems of the farmer and of all rural America. We're sure your representatives in Washington would like to hear from you about this important subject. If you agree that keeping your costs for electric service down to a minimum is important, you might want to write to ask your congressmen and senators to be alert to the danger of this new concerted attack on the nonprofit rural electric systems.

\$40,000

## A YEAR

FROM EGGS?

This young farmer says that he's investing \$130,000 to prove that he can do it

A year ago, young Richard Ortmann of near Martinton, in Iroquois County, decided that he wanted to make \$40,000 a year from farming. How to do it? That was the big question that absorbed his close attention for several months. He is now convinced that he has the answer; namely, EGGS!

The 29-year-old farmer believes that he can achieve his five-figure income by producing quality eggs on a mass basis—about 1,000 dozen a day eventually. He plans to have 20,000 caged layers working for him within five years.

him within five years.

Whether he realizes his ambition or not, remains to be seen, but he's betting \$130,000 that he will. That's the amount he's investing to get set up with a modern egg laying plant which will include five laying houses, each containing 4,000 to 4,600 caged hens along with all the latest, labor-saving, poultry equipment that goes with an operation of this magnitude. There will be another five buildings where he will raise replacements.

Ortmann expects to have the first of his five "egg factories" in full operation by next month. He has spent \$26,000 so far. He plans to add another unit

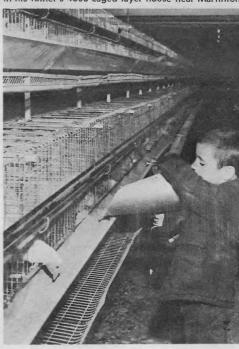
each year until 1964.

Originally, Richard had set his sights on being a farm manager. That's why he studied agricultural economics at Purdue University from which he graduated in 1950. He was going to manage his father's 1,040-acre farms in Iroquois County. However, the Korean War forced him to change his plans.

Ortmann joined the air force in 1950, and spent the next six years as a flying officer. Upon his discharge in 1956, he signed up with the Indiana Air National Guard. Then he 1957, he became a pilot for American Airlines, flying commercial planes.

Meanwhile, Richard's father died and left the farm

Seven-year-old Steve Ortmann helps with feed chore in his father's 4600 caged layer house near Martinton.



Time switches control four rows of 80 fluorescent lamps, each set to go on at five-minute intervals thus conditioning birds to light.



to his sister and him. They sold 640 acres and Richard kept 400. Last January, he decided to give up piloting so he could devote himself to reaching his goal of \$40,000 a year income from farming.

At first he considered going into the hog business, but discovered that to make \$40,000 a year from that specialization, he would have had to invest nearly a quarter of a million dollars. Besides, part of his farm had been infected with a serious hog disease.

Nor did the cattle business appeal to him as a venture that would meet his requirements for a five-figure annual return. As he saw it, there was too much competition from the cheap western meat market. "There's only one calf crop a year. A man can make more money from an acre of corn than he can from a cow and a calf," Ortmann contends.

Next he investigated the possibilities of laying hens.



RICHARD ORTMANN OF NEAR MARTINTON HOPES TO NET \$40,000 A YEAR FROM EGGS PRODUCED BY 20,000 CAGED LAYERS.

Richard dug deeply into the statistics. "I discovered that during the past 10 years, laying hens in large scale operations, netted \$2 a year each."

"Also, I found that only once during the last decade did egg prices fall below 30 cents a dozen, and then only to 29 cents," he points out.

Ortmann figures that he should be able to average at least 60 per cent production with caged layers and that his eggs should bring him at least 30 cents a dozen the year-round. On as big a production basis as he has in-mind, he set his costs, excluding labor, at 14½ cents per dozen eggs.

While Ortmann's cost figures might be disputed, he defends them as realistic." Besides, he thinks 30 cents for his eggs will prove a very conservative estimate. He has a signed contract to sell all his eggs to a national food chain at New York prices plus a bonus of 4 cents a dozen for guaranteeing year-round production, possible with the caged system.

The first laying house, completed a few months ago, will be the model for the other four. It is 210 feet long and 32 feet wide with space for a maximum of 4,600 cages hung in four double rows. There are no windows. Light is furnished by 80, 40-watt fluorescent fixtures operated automatically by time clocks set to provide the hens with 17 hours of light a day.

A modern ventilating system changes the air in the laying house every eight minutes. It takes seven electric motors to power the fans, which are controlled by both thermostats and humidistats. Proper ventilation and moisture control are essential not only to the health of the chickens, but also insure longer life for the expensive metal equipment.

Ortmann uses an electrically-powered cart to keep the feed troughs in front of the cages filled. The specially-designed cart is loaded by auger at a seventon capacity feed bin built alongside the laying house. The cart is guided down the aisles filling the troughs as it goes.

Ortmann purchases 12-week-old birds from a nearby hatchery and keeps them in the holding house next to the main building until they are 18-weeksold. Then he cages them. Hens whose output drops below 60 per cent are culled and sold. Those that maintain an average higher than this, stay for as long as 17 months. Generally, his program calls for replacing a third of his flock every four months.

The caged system makes it possible to keep a daily check on each layer's output. Each hen must earn her keep to stay in the flock.

Ortmann is counting on 200 dozen eggs a day per laying house. That's 2400 eggs from 4,000 layers, or 60 per cent production. He estimates that he'll net \$30 daily as a minimum from each house. He feels 60 per cent production is a safe figure since there are no low producers in caged flocks. He won't be

surprised if average is five or 10 per cent higher.
Ortmann has also provided washing and refrigeration facilities. His contract requires that he clean and crate the eggs. The buyer will pick them up at the farm, and will grade and package them.

Though young Ortmann has set his goal high, he is convinced that he's going to get rich in the egg business. If he does, he'll have to give a vote of thanks to co-op electricity, without which his enterprise would be unthinkable. He is a member of Eastern Illinois Power Cooperative of Paxton.



FOURTEEN YEARS AGO, MRS. HAROLD HELANDER LEFT AN OHIO CITY TO BEGIN A NEW LIFE AS A FARMER'S WIFE.

How does a city girl adapt to the life of a farm wife?

"It's hard at first, but if you love your husband and have faith in him, nothing else matters." At least that's the way, slight, 34-year-old, Mrs. Gladys Helander of near Abingdon, now feels about settling in the country.

"I'm glad I married a farmer," says Mrs. Helander, who lived in Vandalia, Ohio, a city of 5,000, before she became a farmer's wife. "The country is the only place to live and raise a family."

However, 13 years ago Mrs. Helander thought otherwise. In fact she says that if her parents had lived closer she would probably have gone home. But they lived 375 miles away and Mrs. Helander says she's thankful they did. "Everything worked out fine and I couldn't be happier."

A war bride, Mrs. Helander met her husband at a serviceman's dance in her Ohio hometown. "Harold was stationed at a nearby Air Force base and I had been dating his buddy. I went to that dance with his buddy. But after I met Harold, we danced and I came home with him. I never dated his friend again," the farm wife relates.

The Helanders kept company for nearly six months before they married in May, 1945. "Neither one of us proposed. It seemed that from the first it was understood that we would get married," says Mrs. Helander.

Six months later Helander received his discharge from service and he took his young wife home to his parents' farm south of Galesburg. There the young bride set up temporary housekeeping in her in-laws' home for three months until her husband found a 120-acre farm to rent.

This was a new experience for Mrs. Helander who had never been on a farm before. "My husband told me a little about farming when we dated. But like most young girls in love I didn't give such things much thought."

And as a young bride, Mrs. Helander dreamed of a home of her own. "It would be an attractive, comfortable one with a large yard and all the modern conveniences, I imagined," she says as she recalls the home she had pictured in her mind. So she had a rude awakening when she first set eyes on the house that went with the farm her husband had rented.

It was a tall, two-story frame house with six rooms, four down and two up. It was old and bare and had high ceilings. "The windows were large and drafty." The electric light fixtures in each room provided the only modern conveniences. "I was speechless," she says remembering her first glimpse of her "new" home.

"All the water had to be carried in and then out of the house. I became very discouraged looking at dirty water," Mrs. Helander points out. "It was almost enough to make me go home, no matter how far away it was."

But she didn't. "I still had faith in my husband and there was too much work to do. I didn't have time to worry about how bad things were." She busied herself cleaning up the house and converting the downstairs into a comfortable home. They didn't need the upstairs.

Besides, it was a hard enough job trying to heat the downstairs. A coal range did a dual job in the kitchen, while a coal stove provided some warmth in the other rooms.

Mrs. Helander mothered four sons in that home during the 11 years she and her family lived there. And she saw some of her dreams eventually come true. Her husband installed a water pump, a heater, and a kitchen sink. The latter did [continued on page 15]

## This young, married couple is determined to succeed at farming despite lack of capital

VIRGIL FROMAN, 20 years old, and his young wife are proving that it takes more than money to start farming today. For money is one thing this young couple doesn't have much of. What they have, though, is determination to succeed and a willingness to sacrifice

The Fromans had been married less than four months when they decided to risk their entire savings of \$1,000 to get a start in farming. It was a year ago that Virgil quit

his job in town and rented a 160-acre farm near Carlock in McClean county.

Though he had been reared in town, Virgil had worked summers and in his spare time on farms. He had even taken four years of vocational agriculture in high school to prepare himself for the day when he would farm. "It's all I ever wanted to do," he declares. His wife, raised on a farm, wholeheartedly agrees. "I wouldn't be happy any place else."



Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Froman, both in their early twenties, started farming last year on a shoe-string savings of \$1,000. They got most of their equipment at auction-sales.

# TAKES MORE THAN MONEY TO FARM TODAY

But with so little capital to begin with the young couple faced a big problem at first: "How to get enough machinery to operate the farm? "We had to spend our money very carefully," Virgil explains. "We attended every farm sale we heard of and fortunately were able to pick up second-hand machinery at very low prices." For example, their first tractor cost only \$125. "Though it's 17 years old, it still runs as good as new and does the job," Virgil points out.

Since then the couple has purchased another tractor, a two-row picker, a four-row cultivator, a combine, a three-bottom plow, a seven-foot mower, and a 48-foot elevator. Virgil already had a box wagon he built in ag classes.

In order to buy groceries while they waited for their first harvest, Virgil and his wife bought seven dairy cows and set up a grade B dairy operation. They're planning on increasing the herd to 15 and someday to switch to grade A. Virgil hopes eventually to have his own dairy farm.

## Work As A Team

As in everything they do, the young couple works together. Mrs. Froman helps her husband with the field work. Last spring she drove a tractor during planting season and hauled the grain to town when harvesttime came around.

Because of her assistance, Virgil has been able to get by without having to hire any help. He's proud of his wife and is grateful for her contribution to their farming business.

"If we are successful much of the credit will belong to my wife," the young husband explains. "She's gone without many of the necessities of modern homemaking so that I could have a start in farming."

For example, most of the furniture in their home is second-hand. "We don't even have a complete water system to help out. But, we do have an electric range, though it's quite old," Virgil points out.

When there's a decision to be made, the Fromans hold a family council and consider all angles before they come to any conclusion. "We're partners in everything we do," Virgil explains.

The only new appliance they have is a home freezer. And they got it to store home-killed meat in order to save the expense of having a locker in town. They figure [continued on page 22]

## WASHINGTON ROUNDUP

President's budget message proposes

several drastic changes

in rural electric program

■ President Eisenhower sent his proposed budget for fiscal 1960 to Congress last month, and, as expected, it called for a decrease in REA loan funds. It requested \$136-million for electric loans and \$79-million for telephone loans with a \$25-million contingency fund for each program.

The budget message noted this request was lower than the one for 1959, "primarily" because of "the President's legislative proposal to assist borrowers to obtain private financing."

This statement was reminiscent of last year's request for \$150-million in electric funds, when the Administra-

tion admitted \$300-million would be needed. The balance was to have come from a smiliar "private financing" scheme. Congress ignored the proposal and appropriated \$317-million, with a \$25-million contingency

The President said legislation would also be submitted to raise the REA interest rate. The President made it clear that the Administration is not desirous of an interest rate based on the overall "cost of money to the government"—now set at 2.4 per cent by the Treasury. Instead, he called for a rate that would include "the current cost to the Treasury of equivalent long term borrowing" plus "other reasonable costs."

This would mean an interest rate of at least four per cent on loans made directly by REA. The budget says the cost of long-term money is now "about 33/4 per cent." To this would be added other costs, presumably a figure to take care of administrative expenses and possible losses.

And, if the co-ops are forced to borrow on the open market, the rate of interest could be as high as six per cent.

The President's budget message also contained two proposals which have raised storms of protest among co-op leaders. First, Mr. Eisenhower proposed that co-ops pay income tax on refunds they make to their customers if the co-op's members choose to invest these refunds in the co-op for more than three years or at less

than four per cent interest.

Eisenhower's second proposal called for open market financing of electric co-ops. It was denounced as "a fraud" by Clyde Ellis, manager of National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. Ellis said: "The co-ops simply couldn't borrow the money they need from the money market." Few investors would consider lending to a utility that, (1) can't serve towns with more than 1,500 people, (2) can't serve anyone who has service, (3) must serve everyone in its area who doesn't have service, (4) has no franchise, and (5) must buy all the electricity it distributes.

Eisenhower's tax-the-co-ops plan was embellished in a letter Treasury Secretary Robert Anderson sent to Congress. The President didn't indicate how much money his tax proposal would bring in, or whether it would bring in any. He said this and other tax changes would yield \$50-million in added revenue.

An interesting sidelight on the overall budget the President sent to Congress is that the one big increase will go for interest charges. Interest on the public debt will rise from \$7.6-billion in this fiscal year to \$8.1 billion in the next.

This stagger- [continued on page 22]

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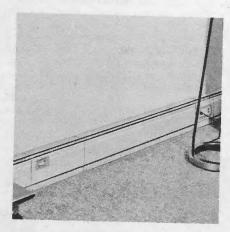
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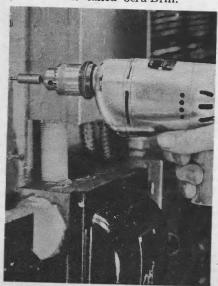
### ELECTRIC BASEBOARD

Here's a fully electric baseboard which features a heating unit as well as outlets. It can easily be installed in new or old homes without cutting into walls. This baseboard is available in 32-inch or 48-inch sections. UL-approved a 48-inch heating section is priced at \$25.64 and has an electrical output of 200 watts per lineal foot. The unit is made by Cavalier Corporation, Chattanooga 2, Tenn.



## COMBINATION DRILL

This drill can be used for drilling and screwdriving. It also features a locking collar that permits quick conversion to direct drive for all-purpose drilling. It is capable of drilling holes up to three-eighths-inch diameter in steel. It can handle Number 10 wood screws, or Number 12 self-tapping metal screws. Black and Decker Manufacturing Company makes this tool, which retails for \$49.95. It is called Scru-Drill.



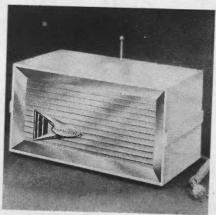
FEBRUARY, 1959

## TABLE-TOP WASHER



Delicate or small pieces of clothing can be washed easily in this little table-top washing unit. It consists of a nine-pound agitator, a hand-opera nine-pound agitator, a hand-operated wringer and a portable, fiberglass case which converts into the laundry tub during washing. The whole unit was developed by A.M.I. Incorporated, 1500 Union Ave., S.E., Grand Rapids, Mich. It sells for \$89.95 \$89.95.

### HUMIDIFIER



Maintaining proper humidity helps to prevent colds, sore throats and other respiratory infections. Powered by an electric-blower, this humidifier will increase the relative humidity of air in a room and maintain it between 40 to 50 per cent. Estimated operating cost is less than one cent a day. Rooms are made more comfortable at lower temperatures. Fuel costs are cut and dust and pollen filtered out. Made by Safeguard Corporation, Lansdale, Pa., the Humi-Zon lists at \$24.95.

## Learn How To Make More Profits With

CHICKS! Before you buy, get the full story on worldfamous Carter's Champions . . . Chicks from blood lines producing from 275 to 356 eggs a year, eggs weighing from 24 to 30 ounces per dozen. Your choice of White Leghorns, Brown Leghorns, White Rocks or New Hampshires. Carter's Champions have 43 years of breeding and know-how behind



## FREE CATALOGUE AND PRICE LIST

For all the facts on more profitable poultry fill out the coupon below. You'll the coupon below. You'll receive Carter's big, four color catalogue, twelve page booklet on The Care of Baby Chicks and 1959 Carter's price list absolutely free. Don't delay. This can be the start of more profitable poultry raising for you!

Department RN, Carter's Chickery El Dorado, Illinois Please send catalogue, booklet and price list to Address City & State

KILL POV	VER FAILURE with your TRACTOR!
ator. No extra en	and family against power a Tractor-Driven Gener- gine to buy. Operates engine. Supplies power c system, water pump, tilk cooler, etc.  20 YEAR WARRANTY
Page 1	IND

## SPECIAL! EARLY ORDER **DISCOUNT** "Huskie" Baby Chicks

U. S. APPROVED - PULLORUM CLEAN -- PULLORUM CLEAN \$2.00 per 100 Discount for orders booked
by Feb. 15, 1958, for delivery on date
wanted.

Broiler Chicks
White Rocks
White Rocks
New Hampshires
Brown Leghorns

Brown Leghorns

Austra-Whites
Gray-Leghorns

and many others

95% Livability Guaranteed Write for details, and free descriptive circular and price list.

G. M. GREEN HATCHERY

DEPT. 5914, CARLYLE, ILLINOIS

## Clinton County

From 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, call Breese, Lambert 6-1631.
To report line outages or any other emergencies before or after office hours call; Ernest Becker, Breese, Ill. Lambert Robert Vander Pluym, Breese, Ill. Lambert 6-1278 Feldman, Breese, Ill. Lambert

Before reporting a line outage, check with your neighbors first. If he doesn't have service, report as a line outage. 6-1586 Robert Hintz, Shattue, Ill. 2423

operative will sponsor a trip to Washington, D. C. for some lucky boy or girl from this area this summer. The winner will be se-The Clinton County Electric Co lected by an impar-tial panel of judges from the number of essays entered. This

Manager ceive service. Heimann contest is open to any boy or girl who is school junior and in high

More information on this contest parents are members of the electric co-op from whom they re-

the high schools in the very near future. If you're a junior in high school and are thinking about entering this essay contest, begin by collecting as much material as you can on your electric co-op and what it means will be published in all the newspapers in this area and will be sent to all

This trip is being sponsored by several co-ops in the state. There will be approximately 30 to 35 boys and girls, all about the same ages, from all parts of the state, on the bus trip. It will last approximately eight days, from June 20 to June 28. All expenses

The average monthly kilowatt-hour usage is still on the increase. More and more co-op members are realizing the benefits of being all-electric. Electricity is the easiest and safest way of doing farm chores.

ELECTRIC HOUSE HEATING

We would like to remind you once again that if you're planning to build a new home, see us first about an allelectric heating system before you decide on any other type of heating equipment. We're positive that you will be entirgly satisfied with an allelectric heating system and that you'll also agree it's the finest heating available on the market today.

More than 50 members of the coop are now heating their homes electrically. Electric heat is today's modern licat. Just think—no duct work, no messy furnace, no chinney, and each room is controlled by its own thermores.

stat. There is less painting and cleaning to do and no hot or cold spots, or open flame burning the oxygen out of the air and making breathing much more difficult and harder to rest and sleep comfortably. There's just no heating system on the market

# News

TROM

that can compare with modern elec-tric heat.

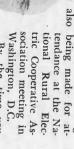
## WANT ADVICE

project he is planning for his personal use. If you're planning on building a farrowing house, drying your hay or grain, or grinding and mixing your feed electrically, or any other project, see us for any information you need to get the project started. We'll be glad to assist you in any way we can. The cooperative is willing to help any member with any kind of advice he wants or needs on some electrical

The average kilowatt-hours used per farm in our area last year was 575 per month. Next year's average, we hope, will be 650 kilowatt-hours per

## Corn Belt

When this column was written, your co-op office personnel were busy preparing for the annual meeting and the Booster Committee meeting. Plans were also being made tendance at the meeting. de for at-



Washington, D. over. But you can this, you Our cooperative was fortunate in that we did not experience the ice trouble that many co-ops in the state did last month. Your maintenance men did a good job in keeping our lines clear of trouble. We want to con-

Y

F. I. Ruble Manager

of snow was good for the winter wheat.

and didn't appear to suffer much. Also, the heavy covering

stock seemed to take

However, the live-

the weather in stride

Manager at your co-op office because of these meetings and also because there are fewer working days this month. see that February

## RECORDS CO-OP STORY

gratulate them for doing a good job.

DOES A LOT

n.

to any small community group which may be interested in seeing the co-op story. It takes approximately one-half hour to show all the slides. corded the co-op story on colored slides. He showed these slides at the Booster meeting. They are available Co-op Director Ivan Snow has re-corded the co-op story on colored

cooking and helps with the cleaning. Outside, it milks the cows, sep-

It is simply amazing how many things electricity does on today's farms. In the house, it does the

house,

it

does

arates the cream, stores grain, feeds livestock and does a number of other

If you are interested in seeing these slides, notify the co-op office and arrangements will be made to bring them out to your meeting. Someone from our office will bring them and explain the history of the co-op as explain the history the slides are shown.

Electricity is so convenient and handy that we wonder how we ever did without it. During this past winter

we had an opportunity to really preciate electric service at its best made winter more bearable

to really ap-

We feel that many of you older members, who remember the days before we got electricity, will enjoy recalling how the co-op was formed. For you new members, it would enable you to have a better understand-

able you to have a better understanding of why we have an electric co-op. Since you members own the 'co-op we in the office are glad to spendany amount of time required to explain your co-op to you. Feel free to ask us. safe wiring practices and safety on the farm at an adult farm class at the Spring Valley High School.

The program consisted of motion pictures. There was also a talk on first aid practices by Jontz. He is first aid chairman of the Bureau County chapter of the American Red Cross. The meeting was well-attended. Sev-On Thursday evening, January 29, M. M. Jontz, acting manager, and Fred E. Darr, presented a program on

# Illinois Valley eral of the class members helped with the program.

# Mailing Address—RFD No. 5, Princeton, Illinois. Telephone 3-1331. Your headquarters building is located at the west edge of Princeton on U.S. Highways 6-34, one mile west of Princeton Post Office on South Side of highways. "OPEN LETTER"

Office hours — 8:00 A.M. — 5:00 P.M. Monday through Friday. Closed all day Saturday and Holidays.
Reporting interruptions in service:
Princeton Area—Monday through Friday 8:00 A.M.—5:10 P.M. Phone 8:13\*11.
After hours Milford Jontz, Assistant Manager and Line Supt., phone 2-2072:
Floyd Christiansen, Maintenance Foreman, 3-2605; Leonard Sifford 3-2753; Lesile Noe 8-2501, and William Greenbach 2-5134. travel along your lines. Two of us work

and to keep lines clear. We are well-equipped to serve you and we hope you will cooperate with us in keeping outages to a minimum. "Our job is to build new lines, to enlarge other lines, to prevent outages

"In our spare time we cut and trim trees along the line to keep them out of the line. If you happen to see us on your premises, you may feel sure we are working to provide you with better

"You can help us by caning the office when you spot some potential trouble spot. Give us the location if you can as it will save us time in lo-

"We are always glad we are working for you. We are proud of our part we play in this locally-owned and democratically-controlled, rural electric cooperative, which serves you."

ary had many of us wishing for more

December and

## Jo-Carroll

Office: Monday through Fridays from 7:30-4:00 p.m. and Saturdays till NOON Elizabeth 10. TELEPHONE NUMBERS FOR OUTAGE CALLS:

Evenings, Sundays and Holidays: Robert J. Wand—Mt. Carroll 7442. Ralph J. Smuck—Elizabeth 171. Harry W. Ehrler—Elizabeth 168. The washer and dryer promotion

which your cooperative co-ronsored, was a big success. It is not nown at this time how many were installed. Watch your Illinois Rural Electric promotion to this spring. News for another

blankets, coffeem ers, and fr vans. You s time to vantage of our low prices on electric blankets, coffeemakstill take \*

Manager

Yf you had an increase in your electric bill for the months of December and January, don't think it only happened to you. Almost all of you members used more electricity in those two months. On the characteristic processes were also as a second of the contraction of the contraction of the contraction. checking past records we found that we sold more electricity in December than we sold in the entire year 1943.

Our maintenance men have been very busy checking meters and line voltage. These voltage checks will give

us some idea of the type of conversion work needed to be done this summer.

"We are your servicemen and we have been with your cooperative a long time and are familiar with our work. You see us in our trucks as we together and we wish to take this opportunity to say Hello to you.

Galva area—Stanley Ballard, telephone, Webster 2-3432; Robert Lewis, phone Webster 2-3893, Call local members before calling Frinceton, Ottawa area — Jack Lewis, telephone 2987-R3, and Farrell Brooks telephone 2428 L.

cating it.

We are nearing spring now but this is one winter we shall remember for a long time because it has been very cold. The near-zero temperatures in

CALL LOCAL NUMBERS BEFORE CALLING PRINCETON.

which probably accounted for this increase usage of electricity. The first is the weather. December was colder and probably more heat lamps were used, or lights turned on.

rate structure.

## HELPS HOG RAISERS

record it is difficult to determine reason unless we have an it is used. Your co-op will help you to determine how and why your use of power has increased. Because of the many possible causes for such an increase, of your equipment and how the real

year. increase in the number of electric clothes dryers in members' homes, We expect that many more co-op members will purchase dryers this

## Clay Electric

send us the reading along with your new address whenever you move. This information is very important in order that we may keep our billing records up to date. Don't forget to read your meter and

One boy and one girl from the junior classes of the Flora, Clay City, or Louisville High Schools will be among the bus load of young people making a guided tour of Washington, D. C. next June 20. They will be the

M.J.M. Electric

Rural Electric Cooperative's Contribution to my Community" now being conducted by the Clay
Electric Cooperative.
Eight additional awarded to contestprizes will also

you are a junior in one of the schools and plan to enter the

high

Our power requirements increased 20 per cent in December over what they had been the same month in 1957. This increase was reflected also by an increase in co-op members' power bills.

watt-hour consumption, were a little skeptical of this increase since they were certain they ment. had not added any new electrical equip-Several of our members, who had an increase in kilo-

We want to list several It is for this reafactors

majority of our members realize they are increasing their electric loads and that they are purchasing this electricity in the lowest bracket of the co-op We would like to point out that a 7.6 per cent increase in use of elecoperative. We also know that the

Many of you are using electricity in ever-increasing amounts to condition livestock during the winter months. Many hog raisers are putting swine production on a year-round program and consider electricity a must in helping them.

During the last year, we noticed an

co-op office whenever you purchase a high-wattage dryer, or a fast recovery hot water heater. By calling us you may prevent an outage. can be avoided if you will notify the A lot of trouble and inconvenience

Homes (Night or Weekend)
E. A. Cates, Flora NO 2-5390
James Erwin, Flora NO 2-8100 Telep 12:00 Noon—1 P.M. to 6126

Elmo Cates Manager

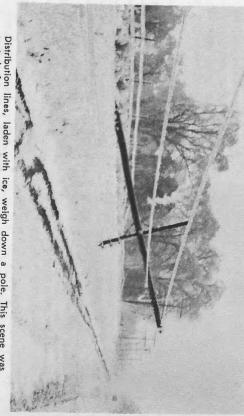
ants.

winners of an essay

vents backaches too.

For Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, or wedding gifts, leisure time can be bought in packages at any electric

# 0 e Storm Hits Co-ops Hard



Distribution lines, laden with ice, weigh down a pole. This scene was typical of many such caused by the severe sleet and ice storm last month.

24,000 ing rain and sleet teamed up to wreck havoc with electric lines of nine central Illinois electric co-ops, last month, disrupting service to approximately A MIXTURE of heavy snow, freezmembers.

The storm, considered to be the worst in the history of electric coops, hit on the night of January 20, and continued through January 21.

areas by po of supply. or supply. Private power company transmission lines serving rural ele-tric co-op substations were down and the co-ops had to wait ...... iately Restoration of service began immedby power failures at the source but was

contest contact your cooperative office at once.

## LEISURE TIME

finest gift he can find for his wife. Where can you buy leisure time? There's not a husband in the land who doesn't want an answer to that question, for leisure time is obviously the

electric appliance store and with easy payments. The lucky lady who gets an electric appliance gift actually gets a package of leisure time, time to spend The answer is surprisingly simple. Leisure time can be purchased at any enjoyably with family

The mother who owns a modern electric freezer saves hours in preparation of meals. An electric dishwasher automatically cleans up after meals.

A modern electric washer-dryer combination saves hours of work and pre-

unbelievably automatic. Put the meal in the oven. Set the clock-timer and forget it. Small electric appliances, frypan, sauce pan, toaster, coffeemaker, saves hours of time and pot-washing. Electric cooking, today, is almost

extent of their own damage.

Co-ops affected by the storm included: M.J.M., Carlinville; Illinois Rural, Winchester; Rural Electric, Auburn; Menard Electric, Petersburg; Corn Belt, Bloomington; Shelby Electric, Shelbyville; Edgar Ectric, Paris; Eastern Illinois, Paxton; and Illini, was reconnected to determine the

help co-ops not hit by the storm lp to those troubled areas. areas,

cording to co-op managers most of the damage was caused by trees and limbs falling into the lines. By the end of the week, January nearly all services were repaired. hasten restoration of service. the week, January 24,

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS

## HOW TO BUY A SUIT



This is Samuel Bubes, famous clothes designer, who gives expert advice in accompanying article on complicated problem of suit buying.

A man's appearance
depends more on
what he knows about
color, fit and styling
than on amount he
has to spend
on his clothes

A man's appearance depends less on what he spends for clothing than on what he knows about color, fit and styling. With the right knowledge, he can look better, feel more comfortable, and save money at the same time.

What's there to know? According to Samuel L. Bubes, president of the International Association of Clothing Designers, the first thing to look for in choosing a new suit is the stitches. It's important that the armhole ends of the jacket and the sleeve linings be sewed by hand. Moreover, all stitches should be relatively small. Hand sewing is essential for comfort.

Another thing to watch for in buying a suit is its fiber. Except for tropicals, most suits are made of wool fibers either worsted or regular wool. Worsted is made of long wool fibers and it's stronger and lasts longer and has a finer appearance than regular wool made from shorter fibers.

And fully as important as fiber and tailoring qualities, is the way the suit fits. Few men know all the items to check for, like the collar, sleeve length and trouser-fit.

For example, the jacket collar should be low enough to show about half an inch of the shirt collar. Jacket sleeves should be long enough to expose half an inch of the shirt sleeves. And jacket length should reach the end of the thumb when the arm hangs relaxed at the side.

The trousers should always hang straight from the hips just brushing the tops of the shoes. Make sure that the jacket doesn't wrinkle across the back or where the sleeves are attached. It shouldn't be so snug as to cause a pull at the buttons, either.

When selecting the model of suit with the best value, avoid extremes. The single-breasted, long straight line, "Ivy Look", is now modified in the "American Natural Silhouette" type suit, said to be more comfortable.

A nother thing to consider in purchasing clothes is the reputation and reliability of the merchant. Consistent newspaper advertising can mean the merchant is trying to build up his reputation and does not offer clothes of inferior quality.

This is more important than many realize for there are a host of value characteristics that only the merchant and manufacturer know about

Take shrinkage, for example. "London shrinking" is a process used by many manufacturers and consists of immersing a fabric in cold water so that the material is fully shrunk (about five per cent smaller than before) before being cut and sewn into a suit.

Another, cheaper process shrinks the goods only two per cent. And some material isn't shrunk at all! There's no way you can estimate shrinkage when buying and so you rely entirely on the integrity of the merchant—on your confidence that he buys only from careful manufacturers. (Inadequate shrinkage will make itself known to you though, if repeated pressing causes your suit to shrink in different places).

By choosing the small items in your wardrobe—shirts, ties, hats—as carefully as you select your suits, you can make the best of your features. For instance, if you're tall, lean and narrow-faced, you'll increase your apparent breadth by wearing a wide-spread shirt collar, and a hat with a low crown and a medium-width brim.

If you are slightly-built and thin-faced, you can look huskier in a narrow-brimmed hat with a tapered, height-adding crown and a wide band. Short collars, either pointed or rounded, are good to wear.

But, if excessive poundage is your problem, steer clear of narrow neckties. You'll look slimmer in a slightly wider tie and a long, pointed collar. Trim your facial contours with a full or square-brimmed hat of moderate height, with medium to wide brim.

However, if you're full-featured, then request a somewhat wider

brim snapped full from side to side.

. What's the single biggest mistake you, as a male shopper, make? Clothing salesmen say: You leave your wife at home! Your better half can help you get a better buy, for she knows more about fabric, fit and styling than you do—and she's amazingly good at telling the real bargains from the bogus. Take her along the next time you go shopping.

## She's glad she married a farmer

(From Page 8)

away with the water carrying chore. A new electric range and a refrigerator soon replaced the outmoded coal range and icebox. Life in the country became more enjoyable for the city-girl.

Two years ago the Helanders moved to their present farm, 185 acres. This house, though not as old as the first home, still is not completely modern. For one thing it lacks a bathroom. "But it's a good place and it's home to us. It will do until we can get something better."

Looking back upon her life as a farmer's wife, Mrs. Helander says there have been many ups and downs and adjustments made by herself as well as her husband. "I believe we both have grown a little more as a result."

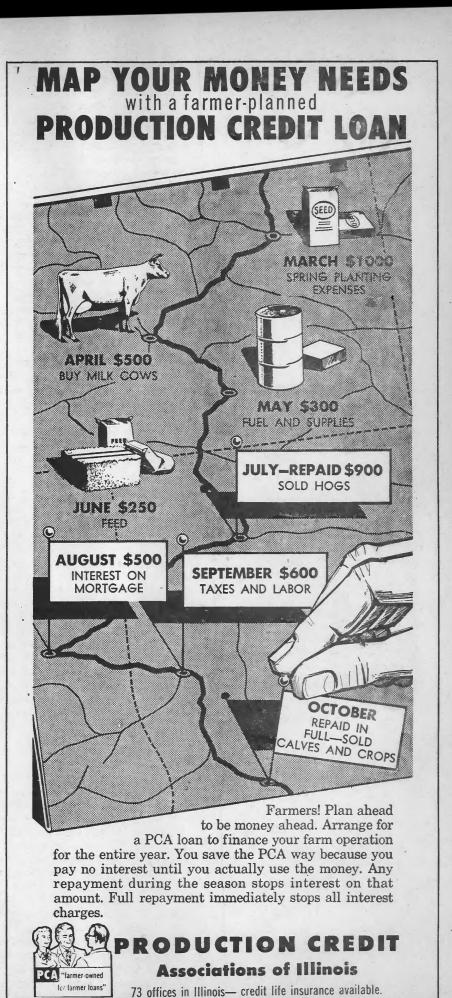
As the youngest child in a family of five girls, Mrs. Helander had little or no responsibility during her childhood and adolescent days. "Keeping house in the country matured me and made me a woman," she comments.

"It was lonesome at first, but a farmer's wife is usually too busy to stay down in the dumps too long. And if she needs help her husband is nearby. It's a real comfort to have him working close to home."

Now that the children are all in school (their ages are 13, 12, 10 and seven), Mrs. Helander finds time to help her husband with outside chores. She is especially proud that she helped sow oats last year. Her husband says she's a willing farm worker, but that she still lacks experience.

Mrs. Helander is quick to point out that though her family is not rich in material things, it has two important things that money can't buy—health and happiness.

Her only regret is that her elderly parents live so far away, preventing her from seeing them as often as she would like. "That's a small thing to worry about, though," she says. "I found out long ago you can't solve anything by worrying about it." The Helanders are members of Spoon River Electric Co-op, Canton.



for the homemakers By Judy Parker

Food for Lent

With the Lenten season on hand some families will be needing many recipes for fish, egg and cheese dishes. Don't let your menus become montonous because it's necessary to repeat these foods so often. There are many new ways of using them. Why not try one of the following recipes for a new taste treat or to serve the family and old favorite? Even if you are not observing Lent, fish, eggs and cheese provide a fine main dish packed with food value and give relief from your usual meat dishes.

Watch your family sail into Sea Fare Chowder. It's a breeze to fix and so good that it's practically guaranteed to turn a family that doesn't like fish into chowder hounds. The ingredients for this chowder can be kept on your pantry shelf and you can have it ready to serve unexpected guests in 20 minutes flat.

Sea Fare Chowder

can cream of tomato soup

1 can cream of tomato soup
1 can mushroom soup
1½ cups milk
2½ cups milk
2½ cups cooked potatoes, quartered
1 cup English peas, drained
1 can (7 oz.) tuna or salmon,
drained and flaked
1 can (6½ oz.) crab meat
drained and flaked
2 tablespoons grated onion
1 cup light cream
Blend tomato soup, mushroom soup
nd milk Add potatoes peas tuna crab and milk. Add potatoes, peas. tuna, crab meat and onion; heat thoroughly. Just before serving, add cream; heat well, but do not boil.

To top this meal try this superb chiffon pie laced with variety of

Watch your family sail into Sea Fare Chowder.

fruit and low on calories. You can make it early.

Golden Fruit Pie

1 envelope unflavored gelatin ½ cup cold water 1 can (1 lb.) fruit cocktail 1 can (6 oz.) frozen orange juice,

undiluted

3 egg whites 1 baked 9-inch pie shell

Sprinkle gelatin over cold water; let stand five minutes. Drain fruit cocktail, serving syrup. Measure three-fourths cup syrup, adding water if necessary, bring to boil. Pour over gelatin, add sugar, stir until gelatin and sugar dissolve. Blend in orange juice, chill until thick and syrupy. Beat egg whites until stiff but not dry with mixer, beat in gelatin mixture thoroughly, chill until almost firm. Fold in drained fruit, turn into cool pie shell, chill until firm. Garnish with almouds and whipped cream.

There are innumerable ways of cooking fish wrapped in foilsolves cleaning problem. Here are two with flavor to remember:

Haddock Florentine

2 large haddock fillets, fresh or frozen (any white fish will do, we used a pkg. of frozen halibut)

of frozen halibut)

1 pkg. chopped frozen spinach or 2 cups
fresh cooked spinach, chopped

1 teaspoon grated onion

4 tablespoons butter or margarine

4 tablespoons flour

2 cups rich milk

½ cup grated American cheese
Pepper

4 hard-cooked eggs

½ teaspoon prepared mustard

2 teaspoons cream
salt and pepper

(A fillet is a large or small piece of fish freed from skin and bones.) Thaw fish if frozen or if a package is used, split lengthwise while frozen. Place one fillet in center of large piece of foil on shallow baking dish. Cook frozen spinach one minute or if fresh until it wilts. Drain. Chop spinach and season with onion, little butter or margarine, salt and pepper. Spoon it over the first fish fillet and cover it with second fillet. Prepare white sauce from butter, flour and milk. Add grated cheese, salt and pepper. Pour over fish fillets. Bring the foil over fish sealing edges with double folds to make a package. Be sure to have seal about two inches above bottom of pan so juices will not leak out.

Place in 425 degree oven for 30 min-utes. During this time hard cook eggs, remove yolks and mash with mustard, salt and pepper and cream. Fill egg whites with yolk mixture. Remove fish from oven and fold back foil. Arrange eggs around fish. Spoon a little sauce over each egg. Return to oven with foil open for 10 minutes to brown very lightly. Serve at once from foil.

Fancy Free Fillets

1 lb. pkg. haddock
Thinly sliced onions
Sliced currots
Melted butter
Lemon Juice
Seasonings

Thaw fillets, cut in three portions, place one each in center of three squares of foil and pour a spoonful of melted butter and a teaspoon of lemon juice over each portion. Season with salt, pepper and herbs if available. Add vegetables, season. Bring foil up over fish and seal tightly. Place on shallow pan

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS

and bake at 425 degrees for 40 minutes. Eat right from foil. No dishes to wash. This is a variation of the "en papilotte" made famous by restaurants such as Antoines in New Orleans.

#### Broiled Stuffed Fish Fillets

medium onion, grated fillets (2 lb.)

6 fillets (2 lb.)
1 teaspoon salt
Pepper
1/2 cup chopped celery
1/2 cup melted butter
1 teaspoon savory
4 cups soft bread crumbs
2 teaspoons Accent

Grate onion over surface of fish fillets; sprinkle with salt pepper and Accent. Combine celery, melted butter, savory and bread crumbs; spread over fillets. Roll up or tie or secure with wooden picks. Broil with surface of fish four inches below heat for 15-20 minutes. Do not turn. Serve with Creole Sauce

CREOLE SAUCE: Cook 2 tablespoons minced onion and 1/4 cup minced green pepper in 2 tablespoons butter until tender. Add 2 tablespoons flour, 1/2 teaspoon salt, few grains pepper and ½ teaspoon Accent, blend. Add 1 cup canned tomatoes. (If desired, 6 stuffed sliced olives may be added.) Simmer 15

If fried fish is a favorite at your house, tartar sauce and hush puppies are musts. And how did hush puppies get their droll name? According to legends fish fries were popular in the deep South. And as the fragrant odor of the frying fish was wafted on the evening breeze it would set the hound dogs to howling. One night, to quiet them, one of the fishermen added bits of onion to the corn-meal mixture that the fish had been rolled in, fried it in the same fat, then threw it to the hungry hounds with the admonition, "Hush, puppies." And so hush puppies were born!

## **Hush Puppies**

cups corn meal tablespoons flour tablespoon baking powder teaspoon soda teaspoon salt cup finely chopped onion

1½ cup finely chopped onion
2 eggs, beaten
1½ cups buttermilk
Mix together dry ingredients; add chopped onion. Combine eggs and milk; add to dry ingredients. Stir just enough to combine. Drop by teaspoonsful into deep hot fat (375°) and cook about five minutes or until nicely browned. Drain on absorbent paper. Serve with fried

### Tartar Sauce

teaspoons mineed onion teaspoons chopped pickle teaspoon chopped green olive tablespoon minced parsley cup mayonnaise tablespoon vinegar

Drain first four ingredients thoroughly and fold into mayonnaise. Add vinegar. Makes one cup.

### Sunshine Macaroni

tablespoon fat tablespoon flour cup milk

cup misk
cup grated cheese
teaspoon salt
teaspoon pepper
cups hot cooked macaroni

4 eggs Melt fat and stir in flour; gradually add milk and cook five minutes, stirring until smooth and thickened. Add cheese



Broiled Stuffed Fish Fillets - Creole Sauce.

and seasonings, and cook until cheese is melted. Place macaroni in buttered baking dish; cover with cheese sauce, make four hollows and drop an egg in each depression. Bake at 350 degrees about 15 minutes or until eggs are set. Serves

For Easter breakfast, how about serving spicy Hot Cross Buns? With their white frosting crosses, these plump little rolls are a Lenten tradition—like fruitcake at Christmas. Brimful of currants and fragrant with cinnamon, they are at their best if eaten warm.

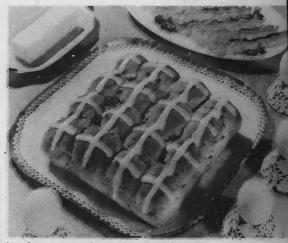
## Hot Cross Buns

And the constraint of the cons bine milk, oil, sugar, and salt; cool to lukewarm. Sift together one cup flour and the cinnamon (some folks like to add a dash of nutmeg along with the cinnamon); stir into milk mixture. Add eggs; beat well. Stir in softened yeast and currants. Add remaining flour (or a little more or less to make a soft dough). Cover with damp cloth and let rise in warm place till double (about 11/2 hrs). Punch down. Roll or pat out to half-inch on lightly floured surface. Cut in rounds with 21/2-inch biscuit cutter; shape in buns. Place on greased baking sheet about 11/2 inches apart. Cover and let rise in warm place till almost double (about one hour).

If desired, cut shallow cross in each bun with sharp scissors or knife. Brush tops with egg white. Bake at 375 degrees about 12 minutes or till done. Add powdered sugar (about ¾ cup) to remaining egg white. Use this as frosting for piping crosses on warm buns. Makes about two dozen.



Fish is first-rate fare on many tables during the Lenten season. Haddock Florentine has a wonderful flavor, is easy to prepare and there's no clean-up problem when it's cooked and served in foil. You'll repeat this dish.



Hot Cross Buns-Who needs an introduction to these rich rolls of "one-a-penny, two-a-penny" fame? They were adopted along with England's Mother Goose rhymes. For Easter season, snip crosses in tops of buns before baking. Afterward, fill in the lines with frosting.

## THE ELECTRIC FLOOR POLISHER

With only fingertip guidance, it will wax and polish floors or clean wall-to-wall carpeting, each with the skill of a professional



Many polisher-scrubbers have rug-cleaning attachments. Cleaning rugs at home, on floor, is practical, money-saving venture.

If you use a vacuum cleaner, you can operate and enjoy an electric floor machine. And there's not a floor in the house that won't look better and last longer. It weighs no more than your vacuum and takes up even less space. It's so easy to handle that a child can guide it as it "floats" across the floor. Snap on its brushes or buffer pads, flip the switch, and this versatile machine is ready for a variety of jobs.

In one-tenth the time it would take to scrub a floor or polish it, a floor machine will do the job and do it more expertly. Rotating brushes at high speed almost magically erase the spots and scuff and heel marks that are so difficult to remove by hand. Even rugs can be cleaned or shampooed with an attachment which is optional equipment on most machines.

Reconditioning kits with steel wool and sanding pads are also available for refinishing worn spots on floors. One make even has, as accessories, side handles and special brushes designed for polishing fine furniture.

Standard and optional equipment should be compared when buying a floor machine, since this may account in some cases for price differences. Designs include single, twin-brush, triple-brush models, at prices ranging from \$20 to \$120. If you're in the market for a polisher, shop around; run polishers yourself; get the feel of steering them and putting on the attachments. You'll find the polisher that suits you.

Most polishers are provided with two sets of brushes—one for waxing and scrubbing, the other for polishing and buffing. For waxing, you can use the waxing brushes alone or place steel-wool pads over them to spread the wax.

To apply paste polishing wax, spread a small amount of paste wax thinly on waxing brushes (or steel-wool pads) with a knife. Guide polisher back and forth (on wood, follow grain) until wax is spread evenly. Apply more wax as needed, but keep the film thin.

Two thin coats are better than one heavy one. To apply liquid polishing wax pour pools of wax about the size of a half dollar about a foot apart over a six-foot-square area. With waxing brushes, slowly draw polisher through wax, spreading it evenly. Continue until all of floor is waxed. Let wax dry half hour before polishing.

The scrubbing brushes on a polisher can be used to suds-scrub any type of floor except wood, which should never, of course, be scrubbed with water. Here's the easy procedure to follow:

1. Using detergent or floor cleaner, make up a small quantity of solution. 2. Pour on floor a small pool of solution—enough to moisten an area about four feet square. Let the scrubbing brushes whirl until suds are dirty. If there's any splashing, too much solution has been used. 3. Turn off polisher and wipe up dirty suds with a mop and warm water. This prevents suds from drying on the floor. 4. Move from section to section until entire floor is cleaned. Then swish a well-rinsed mop over the floor quickly, to remove last traces of suds and water.

## 100000



Keep lingerie lovely longer with needlework. Shorten slip by taking tucks above hemline.



Every skirt needs even hem to be really becoming. Have someone measure with yardstick.



Narrow seams pull out easily with wear or washing. Strengthen with machine stitching.

## A Stitch in Time



If fabric frays, do rapid overcasting by hand and reinforce seam with row of stitching.

Just a few stitches that reinforce a new garment often pay dividends in making it wear longer and keep its good looks. What's more, they save lengthy, difficult mending jobs later. Check over women's and children's clothes before wearing. If they need reinforcing, the efficient time to do it is when they are new.

Remember the times when you put off a minor mending job until it became a major operation? Or, even more aggravating, the dress that you forgot needed fixing until you reached for it on a special occasion? If you're interested in saving temper, time, and trouble, make a place for clothes repair on your schedule. Time it to coincide with a television program you enjoy, or make it a regular date with a good friend.

Of course, you need to assemble your own sewing box if you don't have one to include assorted threads, needles, a pair of scissors, and a thimble finishes the list. Here are suggestions to check when you buy a new garment:

Seams: Narrow or loosely stitched seams pull out easily with wear or washing. Strengthen by machine-stitching a seam about

1/16 inch deeper than the original seam. Set the machine for 14 to 16 stitches per inch. If fabric frays, another row of stitching near the cut edge helps hold it. Or you can do some rapid overcasting by hand. A zig-zag attachment for the sewing machine can help reinforce edges against fraying or pulling out.

Underarm seams of raglan or kimono sleeves get extra strain. You can reinforce them with tape. Open the seam, press out flat, baste 1/4-inch tape on top, and tack along the seam line with tiny stitches. The tape fastened on this way won't show but will keep this seam from tearing out with wear.

The slim skirts now in style may pull out at the seam if they are too narrow for their wearer's stride. Save these seams by stitching about four inches of tape flat against the hem on the underside of the skirt.

Dangling threads: Fasten thread ends by pulling to the inside and tying securely. Or run them through a needle and fasten with a few over-and-over stitches. This will save raveling and later restitching.

Plackets: Strengthen the ends of

packets with extra stitches, or even with a tape stay sewed on the end of the underside. Overcast or stitch down any loose or fraying edges that might catch in a zipper. It helps to tack zipper tape and seam edges securely to the waist band because zippers get some pull at this point.

Pocket corners: Any pocket that is for use rather than decoration should benefit by reinforcing at corners where it is most likely to pull out. Pockets in children's clothing especially need to be strong. Reinforce with narrow tape stitched on the underside of the garment in line with the pocket top. Stitch it in with the corners.

Fastenings: Obviously, it doesn't pay to wait until loose buttons drop off or buttonholes pull out. It takes only a jiffy to resew loose buttons with strong thread secured by a final over-and-over stitch on the underside. If buttonholes look frayed and weak, reworking prevents them from pulling out. Sometimes all a buttonhole needs is a few extra stitches at each end. Check snaps, hooks and eyes, too, so that they can be secured by a few stitches before they drop off.



#### SIMILARITY

A new psychiatrist at a mental asylum was approached by a patient. "Dr. Jones," he said, "we like you much better than the last doctor."

"Well, thank you," beamed the doctor. "But, why is that?"

"Oh, I don't know," replied the patient. "You just seem more like one of us."

#### **DEFINITIONS**

Middle age: When you want to see how long your car will last instead of how fast it will go.

Man: That irrational creature who is always looking for a home atmosphere in a hotel and hotel service around the house.



"Thank goodness you're home. Mother can nag YOU now!"

#### NOT DRIVING

During a drive to round up unlicensed dogs, a policeman whistled an automobile to the curb, pointed to the dog on the seat next to the driver, and inquired:

"Does your dog have a license?"
"Oh no," the man said quickly.
"He doesn't need one. I do all the driving myself."

### SICK CALLS

It seems that a pretty young nurse and her doctor fiance had just broken their engagement and the young nurse was pouring out her woe to a friend.

was pouring out her woe to a friend.
"Do you mean to say," exclaimed her friend, wide-eyed, "he actually asked you to give back all his presents?"

"Not only that," sniffed the young Florence Nightingale, "but he just sent me a bill for 36 visits!"

### WISDOM

"If you could have two wishes," a girl said to her friend, "what would they be?"

"Well," answered the friend, "I'd wish for a husband."

"That's only one wish," said the first girl.

"I know," said the friend, thoughtfully, "but I'd save the other wish until I saw how he turned out."

#### CULPRIT

Oftentimes, it's the mink in the closet that is responsible for the wolf at the door.

#### SILENCE

One way to stop people from jumping down your throat is to keep your mouth shut.

#### VIEWPOINT

He: "Why does a woman say she's been shopping when she hasn't bought a thing?" She: "Why does a man say he's

She: "Why does a man say he's been fishing when he hasn't caught a thing!"

#### JUST THINK

Don't worry if your job is small Or your rewards are few: Remember that the mighty oak Was once a nut like you.

### **GIVES ALL**

On St. Valentine's day an eightyear-old coed received a beautiful heart-shaped box of chocolates from her current boy friend. On the enclosed card was this tender inscription: "To Helen—with all my allowance."



"Maybe I'd better dunk him again, just to make sure he's ours."

## **LAND BANK LOANS**

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These farms do not provide full employment chiefly because of size. Federal Land Bank loans on these properties take into account the excellent home advantages and the availability of dependable outside income.

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## For Free

These patterns are yours just for the asking! Send a stamped, selfaddressed envelope for every THREE patterns you wish. Please use coupon for ordering.



3. Leisure-Time Knitwear-Leotards have come into a popular new life in fashion for teenagers—knit these in striking red.



8. Socks-Nothing can equal hand-knitted socks worked up in nylon yarn and suitable for men and women. Here's four varieties.

FEBRUARY, 1959



1. Jacob's Ladder Afghan-Afghans have gone modern in this contemporary design with simple stitches. Make a matching pillow.



4. Long-Liner Sweater-Bulky knits are tops in fashion and this one features a removable shawl collar and dolman



6. Hat, Scarf and Mitten Set-Made with white knitting worsted, each item is trimmed with gay artificial daisies for



2. Sequinned Stole - This loosely kill stole is a practical addition to your wardrobe made glamourous with sequins or



5. Jersey Knit Stole-Smart to wear belted or unbelted with your favorite straight skirt. Collar and pockets made of jersey.



7. Knitted Shrug—The way to a young girl's heart is through her wardrobe. She will delight in having this grown-up ver-

ľ	ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS
t	Judy Parker
t	Box 1180
F	Springfield, Illinois
ľ	Please send me without charge the pattern leaflets which I have
h	checked below. I am enclosing a STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED
	envelope for every THREE patterns requested. (If possible, the
i	envelope which MUST accompany all pattern orders should be of

5Jersey Knit Stole
6
7Knitted Shrug
8Socks

This coupon expires March 31, 1959. Orders must be postmarked by that date.



## PEN PALS

Hi Pen Pals.

We have another group of interesting letters this month—so let's get right into them. Remember the girls and boys are waiting to hear from you. You are missing a lot if you don't join our letterwriting fun. Address any letters for publication to: Judy Parker, Jr. Rural Electric News, Box 1180, Springfield, Ill.

ENJOYS SKATING

I am 16 and my birthday is March 10. My hobbies are skating, dancing, and listening to Rock'n'Roll music. I have brown hair and brown eyes. I would like to hear from boys and girls between the ages of 15 and 19.—Bonita Branham, Hardin, Ill.

LIKES TO RIDE GOATS

I am 10 years old and my birthday is December 4. I have brown hair and brown eyes. I am four feet, eight inches tall. I weigh 68 pounds. My hoppies are riding goats and playing basketball. I am in the fifth grade at Oak Park School at Salem. I would like to hear from boys and girls of all ages.—Harry Dean Crossman. R.R. No. 4. Iuka, Ill.

CAMP FIRE MASCOT

I am just a little girl, five years old.



I am in kindergarten in the Oblong Consolidated Grade School. My birthday is March 25. Do I have a twin? If so, I'd love to hear from them. My mother would help me to answer. I am mascot for my sisters' Camp Fire group. — Billie Mehler, 103 North Wash-

ington, Oblong, Ill.

LIKES TO DRIVE CAR

I am 15 and my birthday is December 26. I have blonde hair and blue eyes. My hobbies are driving the car and listening to the radio. I have three brothers and one sister. I would like to hear from boys and girls between the ages of 14 and 18.—Charlene Kreke, Teutopolis, Ill.

LIKES TO COOK

I am eight years old. My birthday is January 25. I have dark brown hair. I have hazel eyes. My hobbies are cooking, sewing, drawing, and writing letters. I have two sisters and one brother. I would like to hear from girls and boys of all ages.—Barbara Utley, R.R. No. 4. Albion.

LIKES ELVIS PRESLEY

I am 15 years old and a Sophomore at the Harrisburg Township High School. I am five feet, three inches tall, and weigh 110 pounds. I have blue eyes and long dark brown hair. My birthday is September 11. Do I have a twin? I love to listen to Elvis Presley and Pat Boone records. I would like to hear from girls between 15 and 18.—Sandra Roberts, P.O. Box 39, Harrisburg, Ill.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY

I would like to have a Pen Pal. I am 14 years old and in the eighth grade at Shelby High School. My favorite sports are playing baseball and writing to Pen Pals. I would like to hear from boys and girls between the ages of 13 and 18.—Sandra Canada. R.R. No. 3, Shelbyville.

\* \* \*

LIKES TO FISH

I am nine years old. My birthday is



November 5. Do I have a twin? I have brown hair and blue eyes. I am four feet, four inches tall. I weigh 83 pounds. I go to Cissna Park Grade School. I will exchange pictures and try to answer all letters I receive. I would like to hear from boys and girls

between the ages of nine and 12. So come on Pen Pals and fill my mailbox.—William Turner Yarbrough, Jr., R. No. 1. Box 19, Cissna Park, Ill.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAY

I am 14 years old and my birthday is October 26. I have brown hair and brown eyes. I am a Freshman at Assumption High School. I am five feet, six inches tall. I would like to hear from boys and girls between the ages of 14 and 17. I have several hobbies of all different kinds.—Donna Heiter, R.R. No. 2, Assumption, Ill.

PLAYS BASKETBALL

I am 13 years old and in the eighth grade at Buncombe Grade School. I live on a farm. I like to sing and play basketball. My favorite subject is spelling. I would like to hear from boys and girls of all ages.—Barbara Elaine Casey, R.R. No. 2, Buncombe, Ill.

LIKES BASKETBALL

I am 15 years old. I am five feet, six inches tall. I have dark brown hair, brown and light green eyes, and I weigh 100 pounds. My hobbies are basketball and Rock'n'Roll music. I would like to hear from boys and girls from the ages of 14 to 16. My birthday is September 15.—Lela Ashby, R. R. No. 1, Box 130. Milford, Ill.

COLLECTS PICTURES OF ELVIS

I am 15 years old. I have dark brown hair. I am fair complected. I weigh 105 pounds. I am five feet, five inches tall. My birthday is January 29. My hobbies are dancing, listening to Rock'n'Roll music, and collecting pictures of Elvis Presley. I will answer all letters. I would like to hear from boys and girls between the ages of 15 and 17. Please send a picture if possible.—Carole Parker. R. R. No. 1 Belknap, Ill.

COLLECTS SHAKERS

I am 11. My birthday is May 28. I am



in the sixth grade and go to St. Elmo Grade School. My hobbies are collecting salt and pepper shakers and listening to Rock'n'Roll and Hillbilly music. I also like to type. I have brown hair and brown eyes. I am five feet, one inch tall. Would like to hear

from boys and girls of all ages.—Sharon Williams, R. R. No. I, Beecher City, Ill.

## Roundup

(From Page Ten)

ing increase is due solely to the increase in interest rates encouraged by the Administration's "tight money policy."

This high-level toying with the interest rate has sharply inflated the "cost of money" to the government. This, in turn, has resulted in the much-heralded criticism of the two per cent rate on REA loans.

It is also interesting to note that newly-elected Congressman Ancher Nelson of Minnesota, a former REA administrator under the Eisenhower Administration, is opposed to any increase in REA interest rates at this time.

## Money

(From Page Nine)

they'll also save on food bills by being able to freeze homegrown vege-

The Fromans rent their land on a 50-50 basis with cash rent on the hay and pasture. There are 95 acres in corn, 25 in oats, 25 in hay and the rest in pasture. Though last fall's corn harvest averaged better than 80 bushels an acre, Froman is not satisfied. With manure from his stock for fertilizer he hopes to do even better this year.

Besides the dairy cows, the young couple keeps six sows and seven sheep. They plan on having 10 sows farrow twice a year as a permanent part of their livestock program. The Fromans are members of Corn Belt Electric Cooperative, Bloomington.

## 

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### • Farms, Real Estate

40 TO 400 ACRE Farms. With or without personal. Average price improved farm and buildings \$125.00 per acre. Liberal terms. Palmer Vinger Realty, Greenwood, Wisconsin.

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## Livestock

FOR SALE: Six purebred Hereford and Polled Hereford bulls, two years old. Good types ready. Dodd Gibson, Elizabethtown, Illinois.

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ENGLISH SHEPHERD pups. Guaranteed heelers. Males or spayed females. Nicely marked. Elmer B. Scherbring, Route 2, Earlville, Iowa.

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EMPIRE BIRDSFOOT Trefoil Seed-Excellent purity and germination. Inoculant included with each order—\$105 per cwt. Eugene F. Dietz, Box 121, Mason, Wisconsin.

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#### Sellers

FOR SALE: New Certified Blight and Scab Resistant seed potatoes, Plymouth, Merrimae, Huron, Saco and Kennebecs. Also Certified Katahdins. Thompson Farms, Clymer, New York.

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## **New Early Tomato**

An extremely early tomato, often ripening big red tomatoes by July 4th, has been developed at the Jung Farms in Wisconsin. You can obtain a trial packet of this tomato by sending 10c to the Jung Seed Co., Box 30, Randolph, Wis. They will not only send you this tomato seed but also a packet of the glorious Giant Hybrid Zinnias and a copy of their 52nd catalog, America's most colorful 1959 seed catalog.



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