

Illinois

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Our Cover

The wonderment and anticipation of the little child as he gazes at the many colorful tree ornaments, brings back memories of the excitement, delight and expectation which the Christmas season brings to each and everyone of us as we gather around the tree to open presents. It's also a time to wish each and everyone, a very Merry Christmas.

Photo: Courtesy General Electric

Pirating threatens co-ops

Recently the Colorado State Supreme Court ruled that a rural electric cooperative must turn over 1600 of its customer-members in a growing suburb near Denver to two commercial power companies.

The co-op had been serving the area for the past 20 years with the approval of the Colorado Regulatory Commission. Back in 1940, the section was thinly-settled and of little interest to the commercial power firms. But now it is a mushrooming suburb and the power companies won out in their battle to take the co-op's customers. This is a hard blow for the co-op to sustain, since it will lose 1600 of its 4600 members and presumably most of its \$1-million investment in the area.

This is not an isolated case. The invasion of co-op territory is going on in many states. Here in Illinois, co-ops are facing the same problem over protection of their territories as cities and suburbs expand and power companies look with envious eyes upon areas that they had no desire to serve 10 to 20 years ago.

The way the power company propagandists tell the story, however, is that the co-ops are invading their territories, when the exact opposite is the truth. They claim that the rural electric co-ops should limit themselves to farm customers only, despite the fact that the Rural Electrification Act clearly provides that REA loans are to be used to serve both farm and non-farm customers in

the public interest

OUT IN THE COLD...



rural areas including residential and industrial loads.

The co-ops pioneered service in the rural areas outside of cities. With the availability of reliable electric service, people from the cities and industries moved out in the co-op areas.

Rural electric co-ops deserve protection in these areas which they pioneered and in which they have invested millions of dollars. Moreover, many rural electric co-ops in Illinois would go broke if they were forced to turn over all except their farm customers to the power companies.

As the Colorado case demonstrates, however, while electric co-ops are morally entitled to protection from the pirating of their customers in areas that they pioneered and which the commercial utilities refused to serve, they apparently don't share equal legal rights with the power companies.

The need for legislation in Illinois to insure co-op service areas from invasion is urgent and of vital importance to the future of the 27 rural electric systems in the state.

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Martin Burrus examines an ear of seed corn grown by the Burrus Brothers Seed Company, Arenzville.



COMBINE SEED

CORN WITH HOGS AND BEEF

■ Visitors to the home plant of the Burrus Brothers Seed Company, near Arenzville, discover that seed processing is but one part of a large 963-acre farming operation, managed by Martin and Robert Burrus, sons of the two founders of the farm enterprise.

Only half of the farm is planted in seed corn, the balance is farmed by two tenants, former employees of the seed company. They rent the land, and raise around 2,000 hogs a year on a stock-share arrangement with the Burrus family. The hogs are fed a ration which includes Burrus hybrid corn.

A beef herd of 125 grade Hereford cows is also a part of the hybrid seed corn operation. Border rows and male seed rows are converted into silage, which together with hay crops, form the basis of the winter cattle feed.

Martin points out, "Ever since the firm was established in 1939, our aim has been to do a good job of farming and also to produce seed corn of the highest quality at a moderate cost."

Martin's father and uncle got into the seed corn business back in 1935. They raised one acre of Illinois 960, hybrid variety developed by the University of Illinois. They sold a little, but used most of the

crop for their own seed. "They gradually planted more, and then in 1938, they built a processing house," Martin explains.

"Today, we raise about 500 acres of hybrid seed corn on our own farm, and another 500 acres is grown for us by cooperating farmers. We merchandize eight varieties of corn, and we normally handle from 60,000 to 75,000 bushels of corn a year in our plant," Martin says.

"Our company is one of the largest of its type in Illinois. We are also one of the few hybrid seed corn producers in this country who deals only in corn. We don't have the time, nor the inclination to get into field seeds, grain sorghums, legume seeds, fertilizers, insecticides and other phases of business which might divert us from our prime goal—producing the very best seed corn, year after year."

Helping with this large operation is the electric service of Illinois Rural Electric Company, Winchester. "We get three-phase service from the co-op," Martin explains, and "it has permitted us to be more flexible in our operation. For one thing, three-phase motors require less maintenance. For another, our insurance rates



Electricity from Illinois Rural Electric powers a 54-inch fan which helps to condition the corn.

have dropped because the motors are completely enclosed and are less likely to start a fire."

Martin points out that electric power handles the processing of the corn from the time it is brought to the plant until it is sacked. Electric-powered conveyors and augers take the corn into the large batch dryers where huge 54-inch fans blow 80,000 cubic feet of heated air per minute through the corn. "Our dryers can handle 10,000 bushels of corn a week," Martin adds.

The seed plant usually operates from the middle of September until the first of November with the help of 25 employees. During the rest of the year the firm employs 13 persons to handle the plant and also the farming chores.



ED MILLER IS HAPPIEST WHEN WORKING ON HIS ELECTRIC LATHE. MILLER SPECIALIZES IN MAKING FURNITURE.



The rural craftsman designed this combination wood and leather 3-legged stool, which is popular with small fry who use it for a TV seat.

Turns Hobbies

Four years ago Ed Miller of near Milford, Iroquois County, was stricken by a heart attack. His doctor advised him to quit the cattle feeding business and to take it easy. "I was at a loss as to what to do," healthy-looking Miller recalls.

Active all of his life—feeding 60 steers a year in addition to farming 260 acres—Ed sought the counsel of his old friend, the doctor who had brought him and his three children into the world.

"He said to me, 'Ed, you can't quit, you have too much energy to sit down and stop living. Why don't you expand your woodworking hobby and make it a part-time business.' And that's what I did," Ed points out.

Today, besides a successful furniture business, Ed fashions leather items, like purses, hand bags, bill-folds, key cases, and gun cases. The 58-year-old Miller also raises and sells Christmas trees and he helps his wife run a "Farm Vacation for City People" business. The heart condition? "Never felt better in my life," says robust-appearing Ed.

When the family doctor advised Miller to expand his woodworking hobby, Miller says, "It was the easiest decision I ever made." He had been making furniture,

—beds, dressers, and tables—in his spare moments for over 25 years. On occasion he sold some of the items, or gave them as gifts.

Ed made practically all of the furniture in his two-story farm home. This includes four complete sets of bedroom furniture, a walnut secretary in the living room and many stands, tables, chests, lamps, bowls, and other pieces of wooden furniture.

His favorite woods are walnut and cherry, though he does use some birch and maple. In recent years, Ed started specializing in making reproductions of antiques. He takes orders for these custom-made pieces, and builds them in his modern electrical wood-working shop, located behind the garage.

"I do most of my woodworking between Christmas and Spring. I still cultivate the fields and harvest the crops. The doctor didn't tell me to quit farming completely," Ed explains.

Ed doesn't use sketches, plans or drawings to work from. "I usually only have a picture to go by. I figure the rest out in my mind as I go along. That way, my copies have a little originality in them, too," he adds.

Ed takes orders for furniture from far and near. He has shipped items as far away from his home as Florida, Canada, California and areas along the Eastern coast. And, apparently his electric lathe is his favorite tool, for he seems to get his greatest pleasure from shaping rough wood into lamps, bedsteads, etc.

Normally it takes Ed about two weeks to finish a bed set, which he usually sells for \$150. A dresser he can complete in a week and it sells for around \$100.

Into Business

"The prices vary according to size and wood," Ed explains.

"I don't realize as much as I did feeding cattle," Miller points out, "But I don't work as hard either. And, I work at my leisure. I'm not worrying about market prices. In fact, I've never felt better."

A couple of years ago, Miller added leather work to his part-time business. "I needed something else to fill in between orders," he says. Besides, with leather work, Miller gets a chance to get off of his feet. "I stand all the time I work with wood. With leather, I can sit down."

According to the rural craftsman, "I can make a lady's purse in three days." Purses sell from \$6 up. He buys whole leather from wholesalers in Chicago and does the hand carving and sewing in his workshop. He uses alligator, calf, pig and English Morocco leathers.

Most of the leather items are made on orders only, though Miller does make some for friends as gift items. Lately, he has been busy making large orders of key cases, and coin purses for use by business concerns as advertising novelties.

Miller also designed and made a combination wood and leather, three-legged camp stool, which has been



Miller also raises and sells Christmas trees. He has five acres planted in 11,000 evergreens. Customers select and cut down their own trees.

a popular item with the small-fry. "Children like to sit on them and watch television," Miller explains.

Christmas trees are another item in Miller's take-it-easy program. Ten years ago he set out 3,000 evergreen seedlings as a windbreak for his farm. But, the trees grew so fast, that he decided to sell some as Christmas trees. Five years ago he sold his first batch of 400 trees.

He's been selling Christmas trees ever since. Miller has over 10,000 trees planted on five acres. "The Christmas tree business doesn't require a lot of work," he says. "I do a little pruning and that's it. The customers pick out their own trees and cut them."

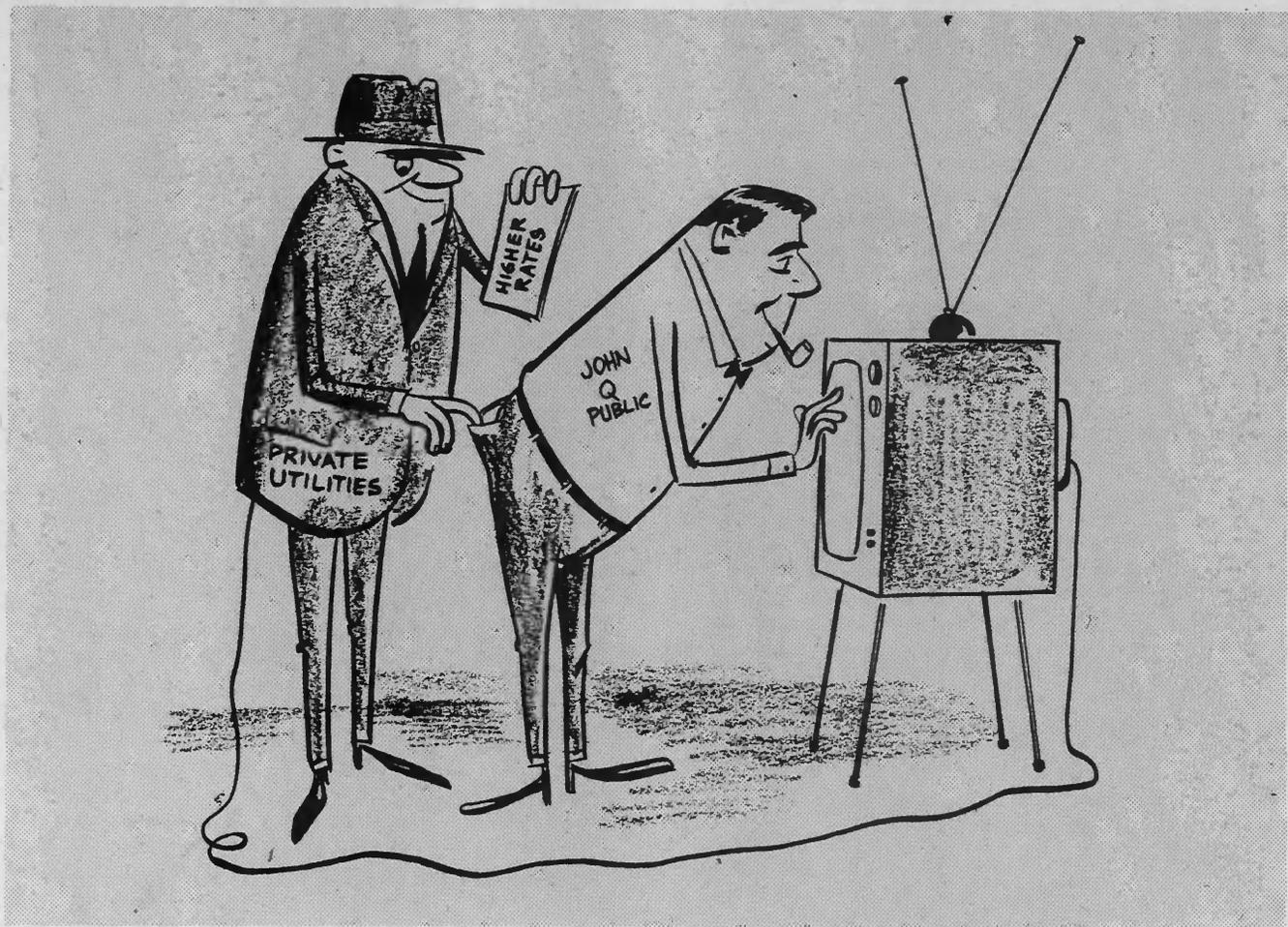
This program of diversification of farm interests has affected Mrs. Miller too. Two years ago, she opened her home for "Farm Vacations for City People." She placed an ad in a vacation magazine and during the first summer had 20 different persons spend weekends and full weeks at the farm.

So far this year over 14 families have come to the Miller farm to spend a weekend, or to stay for a week's time. The city vacationers are housed in the Miller's home, in a trailer and in a bunk house. "Mother does most of the work, on this project," Miller says.

The Millers offer their guests room and board, which includes three meals a day. "They eat with us and they have what we have," Miller explains. The vacationers also have the run of the farm. Their children can ride the Miller's pony. There's a nearby river for fishing and boating.

However, most of the people just sit on the front lawn and relax, Miller says. "We enjoy having these people here, and we hope they enjoy us." The Millers charge \$35 a week for adults and from \$20 to \$25 for children.

Miller is looking forward to many more years of "forced retirement." He's thankful for the advice his family doctor gave him. "I just don't know what I would ever had done if I had quit completely." Miller is a member of Eastern Illinois Power Co-op, Paxton.



Why America needs **Federal Power**

Why does the country need an effective program of Federal power development? Some recent actions of the nation's commercial power companies may supply the answer.

Consumers paid private utilities \$1-billion more for electricity from 1953 through April, 1960, thanks solely to rate increases granted over that period.

This billion dollar figure was recently compiled and published by the Electric Consumers Information Committee, a research organization sponsored by rural electrics and other consumer organizations. The ECIC drew all of its figures from industry sources themselves. Even so, the staggering total of a billion dollars caught many by surprise, including those who make it their

business to watch the utility field closely.

And it's easy to see why surprise would be the reaction. Unfortunately rate increases usually come quietly, creating little stir outside of their immediate area. Only rarely does an aroused public really kick up a meaningful protest. And, the rather apathetic air of government agencies who jot down the single rate changes as simply "further slight increases" add to the general public unawareness.

But, \$1-billion is a lot of money. In fact it might be enough to shock an American public into questioning some of the propaganda which holds that the private utilities should be left alone to run the whole show in power development.

Economy, like mother, country and flag, has always been a favorite word of the propagandists. And the power companies have used it to the fullest.

Of course, no one is opposed to economy. But a look at some of these billion dollar rate increases raises a question about just what kind of economy the power companies are promoting for the American public.

In effect, the private utilities have been telling the American taxpayer for years that he and the country simply could not afford to pay for any more Federal development of our power resources—even if this development means more and cheaper electricity.

In other words, if you follow the line of the power companies, the taxpayer—who also is a consum-

Federal power provides a yardstick for the comparison of rates

er—can't afford investment in resource development; but he can keep on paying millions to commercial utilities in the form of rate increases.

Faced with round after round of rate increases, the American public may start asking, "How long can we afford not to develop our power resources?"

Take this last round of rate increases that has accumulated into the \$1-billion figure since 1953.

What if the country had invested this sum in hydroelectric power development, rather than in rate increases for the private utilities?

In terms of hydroelectric power a billion dollars is a huge sum. It would have been enough to build more than two big multi-purpose projects like the proposed Nez Perce on the Middle Snake River. It's a third more than TVA's total investment in multiple-use dams as of June 30, 1960. And a billion dollars is more than double the average annual Federal expenditure for power and related development during the past five years.

In short, a billion dollars would have bought the American people a tremendous investment in self-liquidating projects which serve to bring electric rates down. Instead the billion dollars went to private utilities for rate increases—increases which apparently produce little more than a basis for higher rates next year and the next year.

Let's look at what's happened since 1952:

Year	Annual Rate Increase	Cumulative Annual Cost to Consumers
1953	\$ 20-million	\$ 20-million
1954	54-million	74-million
1955	25-million	99-million
1956	6-million	105-million
1957	59-million	164-million
1958	79-million	243-million
1959	55-million	298-million
1960*	30-million	328-million
Totals	\$328,000,000	\$1,033,000,000

*January through April

Actually the cost of electricity has been rising steadily since 1947. In that year, Bureau of Labor Statistics retail index on electricity was at an all-time low of 99.1.

Here's the way the BLS index has skyrocketed since that time:

1948—100.0	1954—104.7
1949—100.9	1955—106.1
1950—101.2	1956—106.5
1951—102.0	1957—106.9
1952—103	1958—108.2
1953—104.3	1959—109.8

Obviously the power companies'

theme of "you've never had it so good" falls a bit flat in the face of these figures.

But, these rate increases represent the cost to the consumers of the private utilities. Why should the consumer member of a rural electric cooperative be particularly concerned?

What happens to the price of electricity produced and sold by the private utilities is of vital importance to a tremendous number of rural consumers. Today about half of the nation's rural electrics must depend on private power companies for their source of power. And the cost of wholesale power is the largest single item that goes into the electric bill the consumer pays each month.

A look at some of the wholesale power cost figures for fiscal year 1958 shows dramatically what private power costs the rural electric consumer.

In that year, rural electrics bought 9.1 billion kilowatt hours of wholesale power from Federal power developments. The cost: \$45-million.

That same year other rural electrics were forced to buy a like amount—9.1-billion kilowatt hours—from private sources. The cost: \$72.5 billion.

The direct savings for the rural electrics using Federal power: \$27.5-million. And this doesn't include other big savings resulting in lower rates for cooperatives in areas adjacent to the Federal power projects.

In fiscal 1959, the rural electrics got a slightly larger portion of their power from public sources. That year rural electrics purchased 55 per cent of their wholesale power from public sources. But, this 55 per cent cost them only 45 per cent of their total outlay for power. Private utilities furnished the other 45 per cent of the power, but their charges represented 55 per cent of the rural electrics' power costs for fiscal 1959.

Private power companies have spent millions trying to hide from the American public the real benefits of Federal power. Fortunately it appears to be a losing cause.

One of the big giveaways of the power companies' position is a little Federal Power Commission

publication, "Typical Electric Bills", which is published annually.

Presented in a straightforward manner, the figures contained in the booklet plainly point up the tremendous benefits derived by the taxpayer-consumer from Federal power projects.

Two big points stand out in the FPC study:

1. Where Federal power projects provide a yardstick for electric power costs, rates are among the lowest in the country.

2. Where areas are far from Federal power yardsticks, rates are among the highest.

For example, in the State of Washington where a plentiful supply of public power exists, the average monthly bill is only \$4.52 for 250 kilowatt-hours—nearly \$3 below the national average.

The same trend applies in the Tennessee Valley area. There consumers using TVA power are estimated to have saved more than \$120-million on their electric bills last year. Since TVA came into being, consumers have pocketed something like \$1-billion in savings compared to what they would have paid at the national average rate.

Of course, cooperatives, likewise, get benefits from TVA. According to figures compiled earlier this year, rural electrics using TVA power were serving their customers at an average rate of 1.17 cents per KWH while the average nationally for the cooperatives was about 2.65 cents.

But, it isn't just the big projects like Bonneville and TVA that result in big savings for the consumer. Take the benefits which have resulted from the U.S.-Canadian hydro plant at Massena, New York, a part of the St. Lawrence Project. It is estimated to be saving consumers more than \$4-million annually, including some \$543,000 in savings for rural electric cooperative and municipal systems.

Unfortunately these and many other benefits of Federal power development have been hard to get over to the American public.

But, if the power companies persist in continuing their rate hikes, they may sell the idea all by themselves.



Hybrid sorghum
averages over
10 tons an acre

DALE SCHLICHTER, 21-YEAR-OLD DAIRYMAN, IS PIONEERING IN THE USE OF A HYBRID SORGHUM, CALLED SUDAX.

■ Something new in the way of silage is being fed to the dairy cows on Dale Schlichter's 160-acre farm in St. Clair County. The 21-year-old dairyman is pioneering in the use of a hybrid sorghum, called Sudax in his area. Sudax is a cross between sudan grass and sorghum and it has been used by dairymen in northern Illinois for several years.

"It outproduces alfalfa almost six to one," the young farmer explains. "I only planted 30 acres of it, cut it once and put 325 tons in the silo. The yield averaged over 10 tons to the acre. I think alfalfa would produce two tons to the acre."

When young Schlichter and his wife moved to the farm, near Mascoutah, earlier this year, they brought with them a 50-cow dairy herd. This created a problem—How was Schlichter going to get an early silage?

"I thought about planting oats and making silage out of them," Schlichter points out. "But, I thought it would be too much of a gamble. There are only three days when you can cut oats, between the milk and dough stage, and, put them in the silo. I didn't want to take a chance on the weather."

Then Schlichter heard about Sudax from a salesman. "If it did just half as well as the salesman said it would, I figured I would have enough silage," the young farmer recalls. "So I decided to plant some. The results were amazing."

On April 10, Schlichter planted 20 acres of the new legume with a grain drill. A few weeks later he planted 10 more acres with a broadcast seeder. By the middle of August stalks were eight feet high and Schlichter was faced with another problem—How to harvest the abundant crop?

He rented a cutter and field-chopped the silage,

which he blew into his upright silo. "I had planned on using two cuttings," Schlichter says, "but one was more than enough." He plowed the crop under and reseeded in alfalfa.

Though Schlichter still plans on raising a few acres of the hybrid silage each year, like most other dairymen, he's depending more on alfalfa. "Sudax is a fast crop, and its yield is high," he points out, "but it lacks energy."

However, Schlichter found that by adding 300 to 350 pounds of ground corn to each ton of Sudax, the silage had the same feed value as a ton of alfalfa. "I tried molasses at first, but it isn't as good as the ground corn for the milk cows."

Schlichter is convinced that the hybrid silage crop has a place in dairying. "It can come in mighty handy if you should happen to have an alfalfa failure. It also makes an excellent and cheap heifer feed. I put 50 pounds of molasses to two and one-half tons and feed it to my young stock."

In planning his farm program for next year, Schlichter figures on seeding 10 acres in Sudax, 30 acres in alfalfa, 30 acres in wheat, 50 acres in corn, and the rest in beans. "I intend to broadcast the seed instead of planting it with a drill," he points out. "I noticed that it does better when it's planted that way."

The young dairyman is milking 30 cows now, but he aims to have 45 in his milking herd within the next year. The milk production now averages around 9,000 pounds per cow. Schlichter hopes to raise it to 14,000 pounds. He's milking in a 27 by 27-foot concrete block, four-stall elevated parlor, using the pipeline and bulk tank system.

He is a member of Clinton County Electric Co-op, Breese.

President-elect John F. Kennedy will enter the White House in January firmly committed to all-out support for rural electrification, the federal power program and natural resources development. During the campaign, Kennedy spoke out more firmly on these issues than any Presidential candidate in history. Since the philosophy of the Administration sets the tone and policies of administrative agencies, Washington observers expect significant changes in the electric power area.

In view of the Kennedy statements and the Democratic Party platform, rural electric people can expect the following:

- An early push to start new multiple-purpose projects which have already been authorized, but for which no funds have been appropriated. These include projects in Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Missouri, Montana, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Washington.

- Legislation to authorize the initial steps in the development of giant power transmission grids. These grids would ultimately interconnect the major power regions of the country, and would be a joint endeavor by federal, public, cooperative and commercial utilities.

- Restoration of REA to "its former role of pre-eminence, freeing it from constant concern over political interference." This seems to mean the REA Administrator will no longer have to get the approval of a political appointee in the Secretary of Agriculture's office before approving major loans. Kennedy was a co-sponsor of the Humphrey-Price Bill which would have returned complete loan-making authority to the Administrator.

- The REA Administrator will no longer be expected to lobby for changes in the REA Act, and the drive for private financing and higher interest rates will no longer be supported by the Administration.

- Reinstatement of REA's former policy of promoting and supporting cooperative borrowers, particularly in the telephone field.

- Substantial changes in the power marketing policies of the Interior Department.

- Increased emphasis on REA's generation and transmission loan program.

How well will Congress cooperate with the new Administration on power and resource legislation?

An important question

That is a key question for Representative Howard Smith (Va.), chairman of the powerful House Rules Committee, said in Washington last month, that the new Congress will be more conservative than the last one. Most people agreed with his judgment. Many strong supporters of rural electrification, particularly in the Middle West, were defeated. For the most part, they were Democrats elected in 1958 in normally Republican districts.

Many other tried and true friends of the program were re-elected. It is significant, also, that in all rural areas the candidates of both parties professed their devotion to REA. In some cases their voting records made their pledges suspect, but nobody ran on a platform which called for a weakening of the REA program.



WASHINGTON ROUNDUP

There is speculation that David Hamil, administrator of REA, may resign when the new Democratic Administration takes office. Speaking before a meeting of REA division chiefs and area directors, Hamil said: "I will definitely be here until January 20 and perhaps longer. If and when my resignation is requested, I will not suffer writer's cramp. I am a political realist and I recognize the facts of life."

Admin. Hamil's statement

Deputy Administrator Ralph J. Foreman also made a similar statement, saying he expected to leave when Hamil left.

Hamil was appointed to a 10-year term in 1956 to replace Ancher Nelson who resigned to campaign for the Republican nomination as governor of Minnesota. He is from Atwood, Colorado, where he and his brother operate a cattle feeding ranch and is former speaker of the Colorado House of Representatives.

The only other change of party control of the national Administration since the REA program was started came when President Eisenhower took over in 1953. After the then REA Administrator Claude Wickard, a Democrat, showed intentions of finishing out his 10-year term, his resignation was demanded. Wickard then resigned and was replaced by Nelsen.

Final census figures revealed that farm states were heavy losers in Congressional apportionment. What then will a new Congressional alignment mean to rural electrification? That question can't be fully answered until the states officially redistrict, but a number of points are already plainly evident:

Farm states heavy losers

1. Farm states where rural electrics have their greatest number of consumers will lose representation in Congress.

2. Western states will gain a greater influence in Washington.

3. As a result of a loss of representation in the farm states, rural electrification must depend to a larger extent on the cooperation and support of Congressmen from the urban and industrial states.

Some observers feel that the shift in population to the Western states may provide greater Congressional impetus for water and general resource development. California will be the biggest beneficiary of the new census, picking up eight House seats. Arizona, Texas and Hawaii all pick up one extra seat.

Small Mill Produces Barrel Staves

■ A few miles north of Springfield, near the little town of Sherman, Menard Electric Co-op serves an unusual enterprise. It is a barrel stave mill.

A subsidiary of the National Distilleries, Memphis, Tenn., the small saw-mill cuts white oak logs into wooden staves ranging in sizes from 40 inches long to between 12 and 14 inches wide. The mill also fashions barrel heads, 20 to 24 inches long and 14 inches wide.

Producing at the rate of 7,000 staves and heads a day, the plant operates six days a week, the year-round. Yet, explains Herpel Warren, an employee, "Our total yearly production of 2,184,000 staves is only enough to operate our main barrel plant for one week."

According to Warren, the barrels are used to age whiskey. "So far as anyone knows, white oak barrels are the only casks that will age whiskey. Our company has tried metal and plastic barrels,



Barrel staves are produced at the rate of 7,000 a day at the small saw-mill, located near Sherman, Sangamon County, and served by Menard Electric Co-op, Petersburg.

but the whiskey will not age."

Warren explains that logs for the mill are purchased as far away as 80 miles. "They have to be as near-perfect as possible. We rough out the staves and heads, then stack them on the lot to season for 90 days, then we ship them to Memphis where they are made into the finished barrels."

Warren says it takes about 30 staves and two heads to make an average barrel of 25-gallon size. "At the home plant they put the barrels together, then they char the inside of them. This seals the seams and helps age the whiskey," Warren adds.

It costs around \$32 to make one

barrel. "And, it can only be used once. That is the law. We can store whiskey in them up to 20 years, then we have to discard the barrel. That's one reason why we are continually making barrels. We sell the used barrels to pickle factories for 50 cents each."

The mill has been in its present location for three years. It occupies 15 acres. "We will probably be here until we exhaust our supply of white oak, then we will move on," Warren adds. "Until man can come up with something else that will age whiskey, we will continue to do it in the way it's been done for centuries, with wood."

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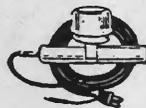
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The best heating tape to prevent freezing of pipes, pumps, etc., in coldest weather. Easy to apply, no tools needed. Costs as little as a penny a day to operate. Both regular and Automatic Line-O-Heat with built-in thermostat will give dependable, safe service for years because **LINE-O-HEAT IS BUILT UP TO A STANDARD**, not down to a price. Line-O-Heat is available in 10 lengths from 4' to 80'; regular from \$2.40 to \$12.95; automatic from \$6.20 to \$16.95.



HOME and BARN



POULTRY



STOCK

THE **SMITH-GATES** CORP. FARMINGTON, CONN.

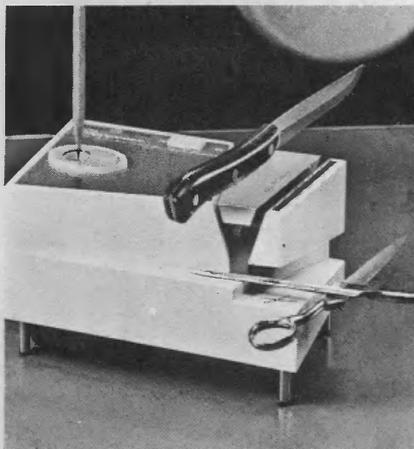
What's New?

● PORTABLE DISHWASHER



Here's a portable dishwasher, which is compact, light in weight, and requires no electrical or special plumbing connections. The operating power comes from the water pressure at the faucet connection. There is a detergent cup for controlling distribution of liquid detergent during the wash cycle. Wash and rinse water empties into the sink by means of a drain lip. Pots and pans can be washed with the hot suds water flowing into the sink. The dishwasher weighs 11 pounds and it retails for \$69.95. More information can be obtained from Bayuk & Co., 704 Pennington St., Elizabeth, N.J.

● KNIFE SHARPENER



Just in time for the Christmas market is this new General Electric knife sharpener, which hones knives, scissors and pencils. Compact, easy to operate and clean, the sharpener makes an ideal gift. UL-listed, the sharpener is priced at \$19.95.

DECEMBER, 1960

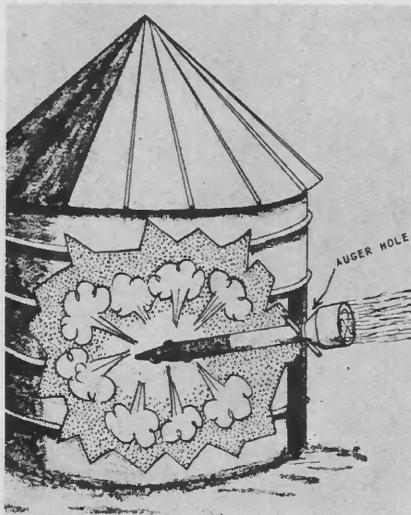
● CEILING HEATER

Only 10 inches wide and extending six inches from the ceiling, this radiant heater is installed like any light fixture. Since there is no thermal overload, the heater may be connected directly to the lighting circuit. No separate circuit is required. The guard is removable for cleaning. UL-approved, the heater is priced at \$19.95. An accessory one-hour timer is available for \$6.95. This low-wattage heater—660 watts—is made by Market Electric Products, Inc., Buffalo 3, N.Y.

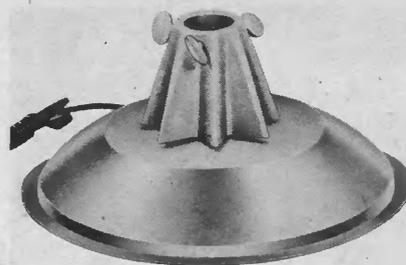


● GRAIN AERATOR

This new aerator screws into grain in the metal bin and is capable of conditioning up to 5,000 bushels at a time. The six-foot steel pipe portion of the machine has an auger point which permits it to be screwed into the grain. The bottom three feet of pipe is perforated, allowing air to move up the pipe. The air is pulled through the pipe by a 12-inch electric fan. Cost of this versatile aerator is \$89. It is made by B & W Manufacturing Co., Columbus, Neb.

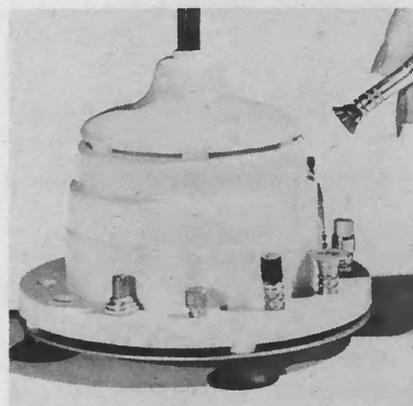


● TREE ACCESSORY



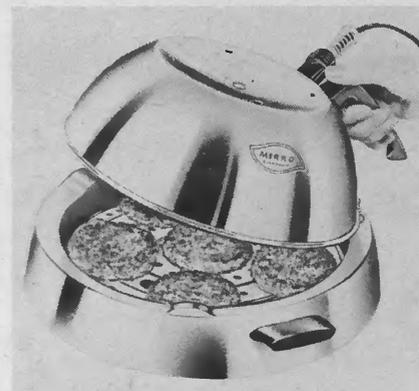
This electrically-powered table-tree turner takes up to a four and a half foot tree. It retails for \$9.95. Two other models are designed for larger trees. They are priced at \$14.95 and \$19.95. The higher priced turner also has a rotating electric outlet for tree lights. UL-approved the turners are products of the Paty-Q Corp., 601 West 26th St., New York 1, N.Y.

● ELECTRIC MANICURIST



Fine for fingernails and also for erasing corns and calluses from the feet is this Spruce Electrical Manicurist. Precision-made and fully warranted, the appliance is sold direct by Abar Manufacturing Co., 880 Woodland Ave., Cleveland 4, Ohio.

● PORTABLE BROILER



This easy to store broiler prepares food quickly and uniformly on the spot where the food is to be served. Ideal for family or lone dweller the portable broiler also features a cover which is detachable. (A brick-type heating element is in the cover and assures uniform heat dispersal. The broiler is made by Mirro Aluminum Co., Manitowoc, Wis., and sells for \$9.95.

During January and February, your cooperative will hold a series of informal meetings throughout the cooperative service area.

Meeting Purpose

The purpose of the meetings is to give members a greater knowledge of their electric cooperative. An interesting program explaining the cooperative aims, purposes, policies and operation will be presented.



Ralph White
Manager

Following these discussions, an informal question and answer period will be held where members may discuss with their directors or manager any problems or questions concerning their co-op or electric usage.

We hope every member-consumer of the electric cooperative will attend and participate in these special programs. All meetings will start at 7:30 p.m.

Awards and Refreshments

At each meeting some members will be presented valuable awards. In addition there will be refreshments served to those in attendance. Please plan to attend the meeting in your district. If that is not convenient for you, you may attend any of the meetings at any time you desire.

Schedule of Meetings

- District 1, January 9 —
Farmersville High School Gym
- District 2, January 12 —
Chatham Community Building
- District 3, January 16 —
Kincaid Grade School
- District 4, January 19 —
Virden American Legion Hall
- District 5, January 23 —
Waverly American Legion Hall
- District 8, January 26 —
Raymond High School, new cafeteria
- District 7, January 30 —
Glenarm Methodist Church
- District 6, February 2 —
Morrisonville High School, Pine Room
- District 9, February 6 —
Modesto Community Building

The districts and the townships included in each district are as follows:

- District 1: Townships, Bois D'Arc, Pitman and Harvel.
- District 2: Townships, New Berlin, Island Grove, Curran, Loami, Chatham and Auburn.
- District 3: Townships, Rochester, Cotton Hill, Buckhart, South Fork and Taylorville.
- District 4: Townships, Virden, Girard and Nilwood.

District 5: Townships, Franklin, Maxwell, Waverly and Alexander.

District 6: Townships, King, Bear Creek, Rich and Johnson.

District 7: Townships, Ball, Divernon and Pawnee.

District 8: Townships, Lanesville, Raymond, Rountree, North Litchfield, Honey Point and Butler Grove.

District 9: Townships, Scottville, North Palmyra, North Otter, South Palmyra and South Otter.

Members are invited to attend the district meeting of the district in which they reside. If this is not convenient, then any district meeting may be attended. All members should plan to attend their meeting for worthwhile facts concerning their cooperative.

All meetings start at 7:30 p.m. All members should plan to attend at least one of these meetings. You will receive awards, refreshments and information pertinent to your cooperative business.

Winter Comfort

Now that winter has started in earnest, have you found that your present heating system just isn't doing the job of heating that you are entitled to?

If you need a completely new heating system or have some hard-to-heat areas, get in touch with your electric cooperative on how you can have the ultimate in winter comfort with electric space heating.

"Electric heat can't be beat". To prove it ask the folks who are enjoying it. Drop a card, phone or come in. We're very happy to discuss your heating problems with you.

Shelby

As we write this article it is easy to say only 26 more days till Christmas. However, when you read our remarks from Shelby Electric Cooperative and the other articles in this magazine it will be Christmas time for sure.



W. L. Walker
Manager

Isn't Christmas a wonderful time of year? We think of our many friends, spend hours addressing greeting cards, wrapping Christmas presents and decorating the tree, which we enjoy.

It is now that we rush out to buy that last minute present. As a sug-

gestion, you might want to make it a new waffle iron, toaster, egg cooker, an extra electric blanket, or possibly a new steam iron.

There are also so many new and interesting presents for the children. Toys are best buys when we consider something that is durable as well as educational. Then, as they play, they learn.

As a warning to all when putting electric lights on your Christmas tree, be sure the wiring is safe. Insulation should be checked. Do not use too many lights on one circuit. Do not use a bunch of extension cords which are only heavy enough for a 60 watt lamp. Small Christmas tree lights get very hot, so keep flammable materials away from them.

"MERRY CHRISTMAS"

The Shelby Electric Cooperative Board of Directors, management and employees wish all members a Merry Christmas and a most pleasant New Year.

M.J.M. Electric

The 20th annual meeting of the M.J.M. Electric Cooperative was held at the Carlinville High School Gym on Nov. 12, with between 500 to 600 persons in attendance. Three trustees were re-elected for three year terms. They were: Carl Bloome, Carlinville, District 4; Oscar Bunte, Bunker Hill, District 5; and Louis Niemann of Litchfield, District 7.

The by-laws of the co-op were amended so that it could become a member of the Western Illinois Power Cooperative.



Ora Snider
Manager

Special recognition was given to Claud McAfee of Brighton for his 20 years as lineman and trouble shooter for the co-op. Mac was presented with a pair of chrome pliers on a plaque. Earl L. Hanold, also of Brighton, was presented with a pen and pencil set for his 20 years of service as a member of the Board of Trustees. Our hats are off to these two fellows for their fine work in the interest of the cooperative.

We have received many good comments from members on the message carried by Rev. Charles H. Willey, principal speaker. His topic, "The

American Education received and thought on the American education.

Receiv

Members of fine program. S were given Mrs. Charles F. and Elwyn Per received the Sun Sidney Vogel, P Litchfield, and Wood River, re

Elmer Clark of the electric blan perman of Nok member attending received a free lig

Other persons ty who were awards were: Llo colator; Rura sauce pan; John Monti, saber sa telephone index; hair dryer; Co Chism, William Harms, Herbert Hartke, Blaine Bouillion and C trouble lamps; C ing tape; E. F. Robert Miller, H heat lamps; Ed fry pan; Robert and Enrico Libb

Montgomery C took home award percolator; Wayn pan; M. Gro Klekamp, teleph mentrout, gift o Trouble lamps w rell Eichen, Elm Niemann, Leo M Church, Homer A ta, Guy R. Mye Heating tape; l lamps; Reiner Ba eran Church, O. Klekamp and T Canady got an Willard Butler, a

Jersey County John Welsh, p Brooks, sauce clock; S. A. Powe telephone index; Trouble lamps; B mings, W. F. Eise Wm. Bauer, Stew Griesemer, A. J. Gettings; E. H. tape; Heat lamps; man Bur, Har Isringhausen; F. fry pan; J. Fessle Smith, auto floor

YOUR CO-OP

Clinton County

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Office hours—8 A.M. to 5 P.M., Monday through Friday. Closed on Saturdays and Holidays. Telephone Lambert 6-1631.

To report outages and other emergency calls after office hours, call:

Ernest Becker—Breese—Lambert 6-1754
Bob Vander Pluym—Breese—Lambert 6-1278

Bob Hintz—Shattuc—Capitol 6-3303
Stan Feldman—New Baden—Churchill 8-3461

Always check your fuses, and with your neighbor before reporting an individual or line outage.

The Board of Directors, manager and employees of the co-op want to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We also want to thank all the members for your fine cooperation during the past year, and hope this same cooperation will continue during the years to come.

Electric Heat

There's a new quartz electric heater on the market that will have many uses on the farm. We found this heater to be an ideal piece of equipment in the milking parlor, especially where the member has the elevated stalls. The heater provides instant heat, and can be turned on and off if desired, with a wall type switch. The cost of operating this type of heater is very small compared to the comfort it will provide, especially on cold winter days. For further details contact your local co-op office.



Joseph Heimann
Manager

The co-op now has 90 homes that are heated electrically. Some of these homes are old existing homes that had been insulated for maximum comfort; others are re-modeled, but the majority are new. Many different types of electric heat are installed in these homes. Some have heat pumps, which provide heating and air conditioning, others have hot water baseboard, resistance type baseboard, wall type heaters and ceiling cable. The majority of the new homes have ceiling cable.

Electric heat, as most of us now know has many advantages. It's clean, requires no flue, no duct work, gives you control over the temperature in every room of the house, and is efficient and economical to operate.

Old homes can be heated electrically, provided they can be insulated.

If there's no brick lining in the walls of your present home insulation can be blown in to meet the standards required for heating electrically. If you're planning to build or remodel see us for a free estimate on heating electrically.

Support Your Co-op

Remember, the electric co-op can not survive unless it has the support and cooperation of all the members. Half of the members can't make the organization a success. It needs the support of each and every one at all times.

The electric cooperatives have helped raise the standards of living on the farm to that of their city cousins during the past 20 years. Without the electric co-ops, most of the people in the rural areas would still be without electric power. Can you imagine just what it would be like to live on a farm without electric power? Most of us would be ready to quit because of the low standard of living.

The electric co-op is your business. It's owned and controlled by you, the member, and not by big financiers or Wall Street. Since it's your business, and owned and controlled by you, the member, doesn't it make good sense to support it? Using fuels other than electric is not supporting your co-op. Support your business, go all-electric.

Norris

Damon Williams, Manager

OUTAGE CALLS

Office hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Closed on Saturday. Telephone 404—Newton.

To report an outage after Office Hours call Mrs. Wilma Bever, Newton; Joe Ware, John Tabb, or Gene French, at Newton; Francis Smith at Claremont, or Cloyce Johnson at Lawrenceville.

About this time of year we always experience a great deal of trouble by thoughtless people who shoot insulators off of our lines. In a dry normal time a broken insulator will continue to carry electricity. But, after a rain, which could happen days after the actual shooting, the insulator breaks down, electricity flashes to the ground and your line is out of service.

Sometimes the insulator has a crack so small in it that it is impossible to see from the ground. This means that the whole line must be sectionalized to the point where each pole

has to be climbed by the lineman and carefully checked for evidence of flash-over or burn. Usually the insulator will not flash-over until it is raining which means that the lineman must sometimes spend hours working in the rain and usually after dark.

His work is only a small part of the hardship that hundreds of people must undergo because some selfish person had the silly and mistaken idea that shooting an insulator off of a line somehow made him look like a Matt Dillon or some other gunman.

Frankly, to the people such as you and I, who have to do without electricity, or to the lineman who has to climb so many poles and work many, many hours, the person, who shot at the insulator looks more like a stupid idiot instead of a gunfighter and that's what he is.

Corn Belt

Our power use adviser, Joe Crosno, and lineman, Frank Stevens, have taken an evening course in residential lighting. This course was sponsored by the Illinois Power Company. The course provides the fundamentals of planning lighting in the home for use and decoration. We congratulate these men on their desire to improve their knowledge. Any member who would like to have help in electrification problems should notify the office so his request can be given to our power use adviser.



T. H. Hafer
Manager

YOUTH BUS TRIP

The Board of Directors has again approved sending two students on a week-long bus trip to Washington, D.C. This project was carried on in 1959 and the lucky trippers were Joan Sanders of LeRoy, and Marvin Alwes of Bloomington.

The winners will be selected on the basis of an essay to be written on the subject, "The Contribution of the Electric Co-op to My Community." Those interested should watch for further announcements early in 1961.

NAPKINS

The co-op has a supply of 25th REA Anniversary place mats and napkins. If you would like some for a special party or for your church dinner let us know and they will be available without charge in limited quantities.

* * *

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

Smile Awhile

NEEDS STATION WAGON

Then there was the tearful matron who phoned the reducing salon to wail that her husband had just given her a lovely present, and she couldn't get into it.

The operator gave her an appointment, and then added soothingly: "Don't worry, Madam, we'll have you wearing that dress in no time."

"Who said anything about a dress?" she sobbed. "It's a Volkswagen!"

A SPECIALIST

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."

WHO'S BOSS

A gingery little grandpa who had just celebrated his golden wedding, was told by a crony: "I heard all the women-folk at your reception talking about how good you are to your wife."

"Well, it's just been the last 49 years," confessed grandpa, "that I've been that way. The first year I was ornery. Once I even raised my hand against her, and then couldn't look her in the face for a week. By then, I could see a little out of one eye."



"July 2, 1928 . . . I'm too busy right now, but as soon as harvest is over, I'll fix the front porch."

PARENT TROUBLE

As a World War aide to his famous father, Second Lieutenant John Eisenhower took an oral message to a front line colonel.

"My father wants you to reinforce your right flank," John said.

"Izzat so?" the colonel retorted. "And what would your mommy like me to do?"

TOP IT

Two farmers were discussing the poverty of the hay crop, owing to unseasonable weather.

"Mine was so short it was hardly worth cutting," said one.

"Short?" queried the super grumbler. "Did you see mine? I had to lather it to mow it."

SAVES WASHING

It was baking day and the busy farm wife was being assisted by her 10-year-old daughter.

"Paula," she said, "open the oven and see if that coffee cake is baked. Just stick in a knife and see if it comes out clean."

Paula returned in a few minutes and said, "Mom, the knife came out so clean I stuck in all the other dirty knives."

RESPONSIVE

A small sports car coming down the street suddenly leaped into the air, came down, glided smoothly along for a short distance, then leaped into the air again. Down again, then up. A startled traffic officer signalled the driver to the curb. "What's the matter with this car?" he demanded.

"Nothing, sir," replied the embarrassed driver. "I've got hiccups."

PAYMENT

An efficiency expert received a large check for services rendered and discovered it was one cent short. A stickler for perfection, he insisted that the difference be paid. In a few days he received a check for a single penny, and presented it for payment at his bank.

The teller examined it closely and sneered, "How would you like this, sir? Heads or tails?"

GOT STUNG

One day Winston Churchill was being bothered by a persistent critic, who loftily declared: "I am a firm believer in fighting the enemy with his own weapons."

"Really?" Mr. Churchill replied, puffing deeply on his cigar. "Tell me, how long does it take you to sting a bee?"

LEARN THE LANGUAGE

In Chinatown, the minister's wife was charmed by the alphabetical characters on the menu. Later she wove them into the design of a knitted sweater, and it wasn't until she met a visiting missionary that she learned why so many strange orientals had tried to befriend her.

She had skillfully knitted into the wool: "This dish is cheap but most delicious."

SONG AND DANCE ACT

The indignant customer complained to the pet shop proprietor: "That canary you sold me has a broken leg." The proprietor answered: "So what? You didn't tell me you wanted him to dance. I sold him as a singer."

THREE DIMENSIONS

Magistrate: "How did you manage to run over that little sports car?"

Driver: "Your honor, I looked right and I looked left, but I plumb forgot to look down."

THINKS FAST

Boss: "All right, who scribbled those pictures on the new office wallpaper?"

Clerk: "It was your little boy, sir." Boss: "Talented, isn't he?"

SLOW FALL

In a certain government office, the boss set a great store by punctuality. One day an employee showed up an hour late. He came in limping, was bruised and battered about the face, and carried his arm in a sling. His boss glowered at him and glanced meaningfully at the clock.

"I fell out of the window," the timid worker explained.

"And that took you an hour?" his boss roared.

PREFERS POPULAR MUSIC

A couple had waited almost a year for tickets to a popular musical show in New York. Finally, the big night arrived and they were in their seats promptly at 8:30. In the seat adjoining theirs sat a woman, but the seat beyond hers was empty. As curtain time approached one of the couple whispered to the woman, "Whoever has that seat-is going to be late."

The woman shook her head. "It's my husband's seat, but he can't be here."

"What a shame!" gasped the other. "With these seats so hard to get, too. Couldn't you have invited a relative or a friend?"

"I'm afraid not," was the solemn reply. "They're all at his funeral."



"I'll take this one if you'll fill it with electricity. The electric co-op isn't in our area yet."

Retired carpenter keeps busy thanks to co-op electricity

When Eli Smith retired two years ago he merely changed his residence from the city to the farm. He brought his trade along with him. A cabinet-maker, Smith says, "I do just enough work to keep active and to add to my pension."

Smith, 68-years-old returned to the same rural area he had left nearly 30 years ago, near Mariette, Fulton County. "I was born on a farm near here and until I left the place I was a farmer." The crash of 1929 forced Smith out of farming. "I lost everything."

That's when he decided to become a carpenter. "I had studied woodworking when I was in school. And I had done all the building on the farm. It was the only thing I knew how to do besides farming." Later, Smith learned cabinet-making and made it his specialty.

According to the elder craftsman, cabinet-making requires more skill than other types of carpenter work. "You must be somewhat of an artist for its creative

work," he says. Besides, Smith points out, a cabinet-maker needs more equipment than a carpenter does.

"I have over \$4,000 worth of tools," he explains. He has a 10-inch table saw, an 18-inch band saw, a six-inch jointer, a shaper with cutter, a drill press, a hollow chisel for mortising, a dovetail machine for making drawers, and four sanders.

The elder craftsman and his wife live in an all-electric, modern, two-bedroom home on Smith's son-in-law's, 310-acre farm. "You can see we are very dependent on electricity," he adds. Besides providing current for the heat cable, embedded in the ceilings of the home, power from Spoon River Electric Co-op, Canton, runs all of the woodworking equipment.



Eli Smith, 68-years-old, used to live in the city but now enjoys all the comforts of rural life.

THE END OF THE RAINBOW, YOUR POT OF GOLD,

may be within easy reach, if you happen to advertise in the Rural Exchange of the Illinois Rural Electric News. Our readers—your customers—are waiting to hear from you.

DON'T DELAY—Send your ad today to Rural Exchange.

KILL POWER FAILURE with your TRACTOR!

NOW You Can RENT or LEASE A Winpower Tractor-Driven Generator. Cheaper Than Insurance; Fully Tax-Deductible.

Protect your farm and family against power failure NOW with a dependable Winpower Tractor-Driven Generator, PTO or belt-driven. Supplies FULL power for lights, radio, tv, motors, heating system, water pump, milker, brooder, milk cooler, automatic feeders, etc. Lowest in cost. 20 year warranty.

WRITE FOR FREE FOLDER TODAY! **WINPOWER** NEWTON, IOWA

LAND BANK LOANS

are available for

PART-TIME FARMS



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.

SEE OR WRITE YOUR NEAREST FEDERAL LAND BANK ASSOCIATION

AMBOY	DECATUR	JOLIET	OTTAWA
BELLEVILLE	DEKALB	KEWANEE	PITTSFIELD
BLOOMINGTON	EFFINGHAM	LINCOLN	PRINCETON
CARLINVILLE	EUREKA	MACOMB	QUINCY
CARROLLTON	FREEMONT	MONMOUTH	SPRINGFIELD
CHAMPAIGN	GALESBURG	MORRISON	WATSEKA
CHARLESTON	HARRISBURG	MT. VERNON	WOODSTOCK
DANVILLE	HILLSBORO	OREGON	

By Judy Parker

from our cooky jar to

Cookies are popular with everyone—from your junior cooky-jar raiders to your church group members. And what easier and friendlier hospitality could you offer when friends drop in than a plate of freshly-baked cookies with fragrant coffee or tea or chilled milk.

So take down the flour and sugar canisters, get out the spices and nuts, and bake a batch of cookies. Be certain that the family is around to kibitz and sample when you pull the cooky sheet out of the oven. You may want to bake an old favorite or try something new. The field is wide—crisp rolled cookies, rich little bars, handy refrigerator goodies, delicious tea cakes.

Every country has its distinctive cookies. America has adopted the favorite recipes of many lands, carried long ago in sailing ships and covered wagons to cozy pioneer kitchens. To these old-fashioned treasures, our cooks have added their delicacies, stamped with a New World flavor.

OATMEAL COOKIES

- 1 cup sifted flour
- ½ teaspoon soda
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ cup shortening
- ½ cup brown sugar
- ½ cup white sugar
- 1 egg
- ½ teaspoon vanilla
- 2 tablespoons milk
- 1½ cups rolled oats
- ½ cup nuts (if desired)

Sift together flour, soda and salt into bowl. Add fat, sugars, egg, vanilla and milk. Beat until smooth. Fold in oats. Drop from a teaspoon onto greased baking sheet and bake at 375 degrees 12-15 minutes.

VARIATIONS

ORANGE POLKA DOT OATMEAL COOKIES: Follow recipe above and increase vanilla to one teaspoon; substitute one-third cup orange juice for milk and add one tablespoon grated orange rind and one-half cup semi-sweet chocolate pieces.

GUMDROP OATMEAL COOKIES: Follow recipe and increase vanilla to one teaspoon and add three-fourths cup finely cut mixed spiced gumdrops.

MINCEMEAT OATMEAL COOKIES: Follow recipe and omit white sugar, vanilla and milk. Add one cup prepared mincemeat.

APPLESAUCE OATMEAL COOKIES: Follow recipe and increase flour to one

and one-half cups. Add one teaspoon cinnamon, one-half teaspoon nutmeg and one-half teaspoon cloves to dry ingredients. Sift once. Omit milk and add one cup sweetened applesauce and one cup raisins.

CHOCO-NUT OATMEAL COOKIES: Follow recipe and add two squares melted chocolate to fat, sugar and egg mixture or six tablespoons cocoa to flour. Beat well. Increase vanilla to one teaspoon and milk to three tablespoons, and add one cup coconut.

ORANGE RAISIN OATMEAL COOKIES: Follow recipe and substitute three tablespoons orange juice for milk. Add two tablespoons grated orange rind and one cup raisins.

DATE MACAROONS

- 4 egg whites
- 1½ cups sugar
- 1 cup chopped nuts
- 1 lb. pitted chopped dates

Beat egg whites until stiff but not dry. Add sugar gradually; continue beating until mixture will hold its shape. Fold in nuts and dates. Drop from teaspoon onto well oiled cooky sheets. Bake at 350 degrees 20 minutes.

MAPLE-NUT REFRIGERATOR COOKIES

- ½ cup shortening
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1 egg
- ½ teaspoon maple flavoring
- 1½ cups sifted flour
- 1½ teaspoon baking powder
- Dash salt
- ½ cup chopped walnuts

Sift dry ingredients together. Cream shortening, sugar, egg and flavoring. Add dry ingredients, then nuts. Shape dough in roll, wrap in waxed paper and refrigerate. When ready to bake, slice cookies thin, place on ungreased cookie sheet. Sprinkle tops with broken walnuts. Bake at 350 degrees eight to 12 minutes. Remove from pan at once. Makes about four doz.

LEMON LOGS

- 1 cup butter or margarine
- ¾ cup brown sugar
- 1 egg yolk
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon grated lemon peel
- 2½ cups sifted flour
- 1 slightly beaten egg white
- 1 cup chopped nuts

Cream butter, sugar, and egg yolk together. Add salt, lemon peel and juice, and flour; beat well. Shape into fingerlike rolls. Dip in egg white; roll in nuts. Bake at 375 degrees 10 minutes. Makes 10 dozen.

DUSTY MILLER COOKIES

- ¾ cup shortening
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 beaten egg
- ¼ cup molasses
- 2 cups sifted flour
- 2½ teaspoons soda
- 1 teaspoon ginger
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- Confectioners' sugar

Cream shortening and sugar; add egg and molasses. Sift flour, soda, and spices together; stir into creamed mixture; chill. Form into balls the size of a walnut and

roll in confectioners' sugar; place two inches apart on greased cooky sheet. Bake at 400 degrees 10 minutes.

LEMON PRALINE COOKIES

- ¾ cup margarine or butter
- 2 cups brown sugar
- 2 eggs, well beaten
- 2 teaspoons grated lemon rind
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 2 cups sifted flour
- 1 cup chopped pecans

Cream butter and sugar together; add and blend eggs, rind and juice. Stir in flour and pecans. Mix well. Shape into small balls; place on baking sheet and flatten to one-eighth inch thickness. Bake at 375 degrees about 10 minutes.

PEANUT-BUTTER PIN WHEELS

- ½ cup shortening
- 1 cup sugar
- ½ cup chunk-style peanut butter
- 1 egg
- 2 tablespoons milk
- 1½ cups sifted flour
- ½ teaspoon soda
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 (6 oz. pkg.) cup chocolate pieces

Cream shortening and sugar, beat in peanut butter, egg and milk. Sift dry ingredients together, stir into creamed mixture. Place dough on lightly floured waxed paper, roll into 15 by eight rectangle. Melt chocolate, cool slightly, spread over dough. Roll like jelly roll, lifting waxed paper slightly with each turn. Chill 20-30 minutes (dough should be firm, but chocolate must not get so hard it breaks with slicing). Slice one-fourth inch thick. Place on ungreased cooky sheet. Bake at 375 degrees about 10 minutes.

HONEY COOKIES

- ½ cup butter or margarine
- ¾ cup sugar
- ¾ cup honey
- 1 egg
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 2 cups cake flour
- 1½ teaspoons baking powder
- ¼ teaspoon baking soda
- 4 teaspoons dry instant coffee
- Grated rind of 1 orange
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 cup chopped nuts

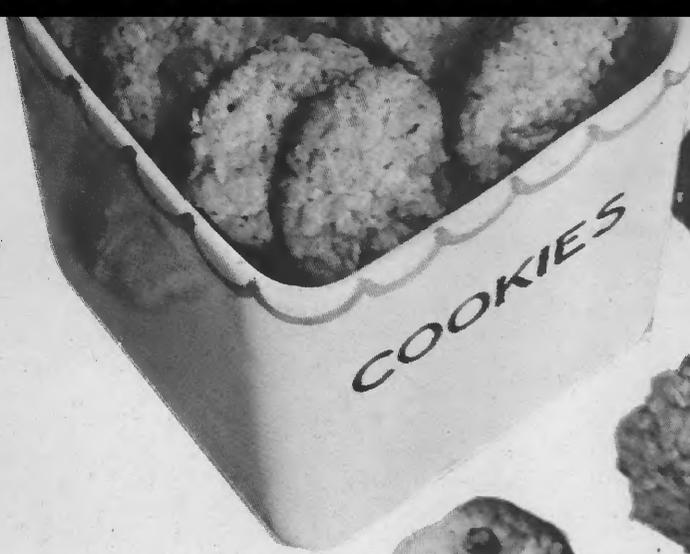
Cream butter and sugar well, mix in honey. Add egg and salt beaten together, blend. Mix in dry sifted ingredients quickly but thoroughly. Last, fold in orange rind, vanilla and nuts. Drop batter from half teaspoon onto greased and floured baking sheets, making sure not to place cookies too close together—they spread. Bake at 350 degrees about 12 minutes or until golden. Cool on wire racks.

PINEAPPLE DROPS

- ½ cup shortening
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1 egg, well beaten
- ½ teaspoon vanilla
- 1 cup crushed pineapple, drained
- ½ cup raisins
- 2 cups sifted flour
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon soda
- 1 teaspoon baking powder

Cream shortening and sugar, add egg, vanilla, drained pineapple and raisins. Sift dry ingredients together and add to creamed mixture. Drop by teaspoon on

yours



greased baking sheet. Bake at 350 degrees 15 minutes.

WASH BOARDS

- ½ cup shortening
- ½ cup butter or margarine
- 2 cups brown sugar
- 2 eggs, well beaten
- 1 teaspoon soda dissolved in ¼ cup hot water
- 1 cup finely cut coconut
- 4½ cups sifted flour
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 1½ teaspoon baking powder

Cream shortening, butter and sugar, add eggs. Stir in water and soda with coconut. Sift dry ingredients together and add. Form into small balls. Place on greased baking sheet. Flatten with tines of floured fork to give appearance of wash boards. Bake at 375 degrees 10 minutes.

TOFFEE BARS

- ½ cup brown sugar
- ½ cup granulated sugar
- 1 cup shortening
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup sifted flour
- 1 cup uncooked oats
- 2 pkg. chocolate pieces
- ½ cup chopped walnuts
- ½ cup shredded coconut

Cream sugar, shortening, vanilla, salt and eggs together. Add flour and oats, stir until well mixed. Pour batter into greased 11 by seven by one and one-half inch baking pan. Bake at 350 degrees 55 minutes. Remove from oven, set on cake rack. Melt chocolate pieces, pour over baked layer, spread evenly. Place waxed paper over one half of pan and sprinkle nuts over uncovered half; remove paper and sprinkle coconut evenly over other chocolate half. When layer is cool and chocolate set, cut into 24 bars.

SCOTCH SHORTBREAD

- 2 cups sifted flour
- ¼ teaspoon baking powder
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 1 cup soft shortening
- ½ cup confectioners' sugar

Sift together first three ingredients. Mix shortening and sugar until creamy. Add flour mixture, mix. Chill until easy to handle. On lightly floured board, roll dough to one-fourth inch thickness. Cut into desired shapes. Place on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake until done. If desired, sprinkle cinnamon and sugar mixture on cookies before baking.

SWEDISH NUT COOKIES

- ¼ cup shortening
- ¾ cup sugar
- 1 egg, well beaten
- 2 tablespoons milk
- 1½ cups sifted flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- ½ cup chopped nuts

Cream shortening, add sugar gradually

and continue creaming. Combine egg and milk; add to creamed mixture. Sift dry ingredients together, add to cream mixture and blend. Add vanilla. Spread evenly on bottom of inverted oblong pan 13 by nine and one-half inches, that has been lightly greased. Sprinkle with chopped nuts. Mark in strips one-inch wide and mark through center of pan. Bake at 325 degrees 12-15 minutes. Cut in strips and place over rolling pin. Press down so cookie will conform to shape of rolling pin. Work quickly before cookies become crisp. Place strips the length of rolling pin and let remain until they hold a semi-circular shape. Remove carefully. Don't try to shape the cookies after they are cold because they are brittle. However, it's simple to reheat them in the oven, and then they will behave beautifully for you.

CHOCOLATE MINT WAFERS

- ¾ cup shortening
- ¼ cup sugar
- 1 egg, beaten
- 2 cups sifted flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- ½ teaspoon soda
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ¾ cup cocoa
- ¼ cup milk

Cream shortening and sugar until light. Add egg, mix. Add sifted dry ingredients and milk alternately, blend thoroughly. Shape into rolls one-inch in diameter. Wrap in waxed paper, chill several hours. Cut in one-eighth inch slices. Place on ungreased cookie sheets. Bake at 325 degrees 10-12 minutes. Remove from cookie sheet while still warm. When cool, put cookies together in pairs with mint filling.

CINNAMON CRISPS

- 1 cup shortening
- 1 cup confectioners' sugar
- 1 egg, beaten
- 4 cups sifted flour
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon
- 2 cup coarsely chopped blanched almonds

Cream shortening and sugar until fluffy. Add egg, mix well. Sift dry ingredients together, add. Stir in almonds. Mix well. Form into rolls. Wrap in waxed paper, place in refrigerator overnight. Slice thin and bake on greased cookie sheets at 350 degrees 10-15 minutes.

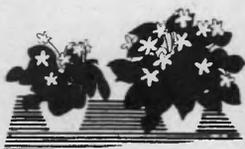
MINT FILLING

- 2 cups confectioners' sugar
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ¼ cup cream
- ¼ teaspoon peppermint extract
- Green food coloring

Combine confectioners' sugar and salt. Add cream and stir until well blended. Add flavoring and just enough coloring to make a light green.

HOUSE PLANTS THRIVE

**Their vitality
depends on attention
you pay to light
water, air, dust
and humidity**



1. **LIGHT:** The proof that many plants simply won't survive without adequate light is that your hardiest specimens will weaken in a dark cellar or continuously darkened room. Most plants won't flourish without some full sun. So keep plants where they'll get the most sunlight. If they're becoming pale, shine a 100-watt bulb on them, fairly close up (but be careful not to burn plants) for a couple of hours as twilight sets in. The green will usually come back in a hurry. Remember that your house plants are heliotropic—they grow toward the sun. So, set a day each week to turn the plants halfway around, lest they grow heavily one-sided and look like the leaning flowers of Pisa. There are several exceptions to the "lots of light" rule: most fern varieties prefer no sun; begonias, caladium and fuchsia need only a little sunlight.

2. **WATER:** Water your plants every few days, and learn to judge how much water they need by the way they seem to respond. If water collects and appears swampy, use less—too much water may sometimes be almost as harmful as too little. If you're in an area where the water from your tap is heavily treated with chemicals, watch for ill effects on your plants. If tap water is too "hard," leave a bucket outside to collect rain water. And here's something very few people stop to think about: the rains that fall during the best growing seasons are never icy cold. So don't ever use icy water on your indoor plants or you may shock them out of growth.

3. **HUMIDITY:** Excessive dryness indoors is even worse for your plants than for yourself. Moisture in the air is as necessary to radiant foliage as water in the earth is to proper feeding by roots. Air moisture

■ Nearly everyone enjoys the deep satisfaction of bringing nature's radiant colors inside the home, but few of us stop to think of one basic truth: plants grown indoors are growing under unnatural conditions. The key to success, in raising the thriving house plants you want, is to duplicate the natural environment as much as possible.

Aside from trying to duplicate natural conditions with your own setup, here are the major guides to success with house plants, granted that you start with healthy plants and good fertile soil and that you protect them when necessary against insects and disease.

4. **AIR:** The foliage of plants separates carbon dioxide from the air by a process still a mystery to scientists. But one thing is clear: if fumes such as gas or fresh paint are in the air, or if the air is heavy and stale continuously, this delicate process breaks down. Plants become weak and sickly. Better make sure your plants get fresh air daily, but never keep your plants in a draft. Be careful not to let a cold blast of air shock your plants' normally warm stems and foliage. Opening windows slightly from the top—or opening windows in the next room (like for your baby)—will keep the atmosphere airy and your plants cheery.

5. **DUST:** As further proof that most of gardening, indoors or outdoors, is just good sense, think a second about the dust problem. Outdoors, there's always enough breeze to keep dust and dirt from settling on plants. But indoors, with little movement of the air, dust collects on plants—although not always visibly. When dust settles on foliage, the leaf pores become clogged. The miraculous process of photosynthesis is impaired, and the plant stops manufacturing starches for energy and growth. You can keep plants dust free with a very soft brush or cloth—but an even better way is to use refreshing light water spraying every few days. However, never spray and go away leaving drops of moisture if sun is shining directly on the foliage; the drops of water act like a magnifying glass, concentrating the sun and sometimes causing brown spots from burns.

All this may sound like a lot of fuss at first, but once you get into the habit of proper house plant care, it won't take you more than a few minutes a day at most. And forming the habit will pay off. By paying proper attention to light, water, humidity, air and dust, you'll add vigor and beauty to your house plants, enjoy still more satisfaction from bringing nature's radiant colors inside your home.

You can also bring your gardening environment in with you by setting up a very simple electric light-nurtured garden in your cellar, attic or spare room. Just choose a location where the temperature won't go too high or too low—about 65 to 70 degrees is best. Your setup can be as simple as a table made of boards placed on a few wooden sawhorses. On top of this, you can set some watertight flat pans to hold as many little pots or flats of plants—the species you enjoy most. Above it all, install cool, strong light. One of the most satisfactory lights is a double 85-watt fluorescent fixture, placed about 15 inches above the plants but adjustable to varying heights as plants grow. An automatic timer is necessary for the fixture as the lights should be on about 14 hours out of each 24 and you shouldn't take chances with your own handling of switch. Tend the plants like other indoor plantings, in regard to proper water, fertilization, protective and corrective spraying, air and humidity.

6. **STARCHES:** Keeping natural starches in plants from drying out, helps prevent leaves from going dry and brittle. An easy method of humidifying, good for your health as well as your plants', is to keep trays of water on or behind radiators. Another good method is to place the plant in a saucer or tray of some sort, keeping some water in the tray and elevating the pot or other container above the level of the water, with stones or rods, so that moisture rises around the plant. This is particularly desirable if you keep your plants on a hot radiator.

7. **STARCHES:** Keeping natural starches in plants from drying out, helps prevent leaves from going dry and brittle. An easy method of humidifying, good for your health as well as your plants', is to keep trays of water on or behind radiators. Another good method is to place the plant in a saucer or tray of some sort, keeping some water in the tray and elevating the pot or other container above the level of the water, with stones or rods, so that moisture rises around the plant. This is particularly desirable if you keep your plants on a hot radiator.



Length—run finger along inner side of shoe just above sole from heel to ball of foot—shoe should fit arch snugly **1.**



Width—to provide support without pressure the widest part of foot must coincide with the widest part of the shoe **2.**



Ball of foot—must meet ball of shoe resting at junction of arch and sole where sole begins to curve under arch **3.**



Heel—must neither slip nor pinch. The heel should be just snug enough to cling to the foot during walking . . . **4.**



Grow room—result of the five-way fitting system—margin of safety for grow room ranges from six to 16 weeks **5.**

—Photographs by THOM McAn

■ If they knew, they'd tell you. But they don't, so they won't.

That's the story when it comes to asking children whether a new pair of shoes seems to fit—or if an old pair is still comfortable. The fact is that young feet are so soft that they can be deformed without pain or discomfort—and then it's too late. But selecting your child's shoes needn't be a guessing game, for there's much you can do to assure a proper fit—and help him stride into adulthood with his best foot forward.

First step is seeing that your child gets a perfect fit. Nothing less will do. It will help you if you bear in mind what the shoe must do; the young foot, in a shoe, must be able to flex and grip without harmful pressure on any part of the foot. Next you must make sure that the salesman measures both feet, length and width, for a child's two feet are seldom identical in these respects. He'll take the longest and widest measurement as his guide. Always have your child try on both shoes—unless, of course, the first shoe he puts on is obviously the wrong size.

Testing the fit of the shoes is easy using this five-way fitting system. A good many shoe salesmen use this convenient and effective method, but—should you come across one who doesn't—it's a simple matter to perform the five-way test yourself. With the child standing, check these points:

1. Length—shoe must be long enough at all points of the foot. Shoe length is not merely a matter of toe-room or grow-room; correct length also depends on the relation of the shoe to the arches of the foot. To test: run your fingers along the inner side of each shoe just above the sole, from heel to ball. If the shoe fits the curve of the arch with reasonable snugness, it is a good length fit. Don't press the shoe over the toes. You can't get a reliable impression through the toe-cap, and you'll only end by damaging the cap and the shoe. It's all right to press your thumb against the upper leather just ahead of the little toe. If you feel a little slack in the leather between the toe and the cap, the length is probably right.

2. Width—shoe must be wide enough to furnish support without pressure. If the shoe is too tight, it is too narrow by far. It must be wide enough so that it exerts no molding force on the soft bone and tissue of the young foot. To test

for width, first look to see if the child has enough width across the ball of the foot. Now reach down and pinch thumb and forefinger slowly across the ball. The shoe should feel snugly filled without apparent tension, and the leather should slide smoothly under the hand. If the leather wrinkles under the pressure of the fingers, the shoe is too wide. If it feels tense and bulging and the fingers slip across it too easily, the shoe is too narrow. Test both shoes.

3. Ball—the ball of the foot must meet the ball of the shoe. The test: the ball of the foot should rest at the break of the shoe—that is, at the junction of the arch and the sole. This point, the ball of the shoe, is where the sole leather begins to curve in under the arch and where the upper leather begins to curve to support the arch. Observe the inner side of both shoes and note whether the ball of the big toe rests immediately above this point of the shoe.

4. Heel—it must neither slip nor pinch. The heel of each shoe must be wide enough to give the child a firm base with ankles straight and weight evenly distributed. It should not pinch at the back or under the ankle. At the same time, it should be snug enough to cling to the foot as the child walks. Perform this test: run thumb or finger along the upper edge of the back part of both shoes to be sure of a snug fit. The heel and the ankle should fit with comfortable snugness. Ask the child to walk away from you so that you can see the shoes in motion and make sure they don't slip at the heel.

5. Grow-room—the assurance that the shoes will fit adequately for six to 16 weeks, depending on the child's age (the younger the child, the faster he outgrows his shoes). The grow-room test? A mental review of the four test steps you've already followed. If you're fully satisfied that the shoes fit in these respects, then you can buy them confident that they provide enough grow-room.

Now that you've bought the shoes with the best possible fit, there remains the final step in protecting your child's feet: checking up from time to time on the condition of his footgear. About every two weeks—on the first and fifteenth of each month, say—check the wear on heels and soles. If they're worn through, your youngster not only has less cushioning for his active feet, but is a likelier candidate for wet feet—and colds.

Feel the inner sole periodically; if it ripples or curls, your child's shoes are considerably less comfortable than they might be. And children can't be depended upon to tell you when their feet hurt.

Every now and then, notice how your child ties his shoelaces. If they're too loose, the shoes aren't giving his feet the necessary support. If the laces are too tight, the resulting pressure may be deforming his feet.

Every six to 16 weeks—depending on your child's age—check the fit of his shoes with the five-way method. If the shoes fail to meet any of the five requirements, it's a sure sign that "baby needs a new pair of shoes".

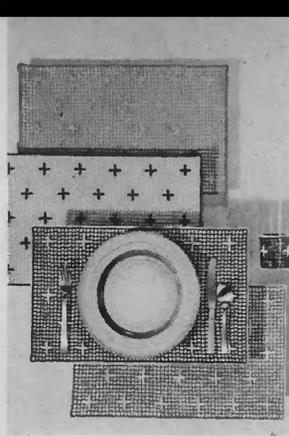
How to tell when baby needs a new pair of shoes



1. Colorful Accessories
Swedish weaving adds to aprons, pillows, towels and placemats.



2. Greek Key Afghan
Patterned squares are joined not more than one color in row.



3. Crocheted Placemats
They're embroidered with flowers and a glass jacket to match.



4. Gingham Dog Apron
Two favorite fabrics—red-and-white checked gingham and white terrycloth—achieve an unusual effect in combination. The dog's head serves as a bib and his paws as pockets. Cover your own button eyes and nose, floppy ears and a somewhat askew gingham tongue contribute to a mischievous expression that's irresistible to youngsters.



5. Crocheted Jacket
Afghan stitch is used with a variegated yarn, solid border.



6. Pineapple Centerpiece
Just simple stitches — loops and clusters required for this.



7. Hairpin Lace Hat
Rows of lace linked by single crochet, chain, slip stitching.



8. Dresser Set
Each piece is made in motifs, adapt to a size that suits you.



9. Tea Trolley
This dainty piece doubles as a centerpiece for a larger table.

FREE PATTERNS

*A
worthwhile
way
to while away
your
wintertime
leisure
hours*

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS

Judy Parker
Box 1180
Springfield, Illinois

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

- 1—Accessories
- 2—Greek Key Afghan
- 3—Placemats
- 4—Gingham Dog Apron
- 5—Jacket
- 6—Pineapple Centerpiece
- 7—Lace Hat
- 8—Dresser Set
- 9—Tea Trolley

My name is

Address

Comment (if any)

This coupon expires Jan. 20, 1961. Orders must be postmarked by that date.



PEN PALS

Hi Pen Pals,

In our August issue, we ran a picture and letter from Hartmut Schmeisser of Sulzbach - Rosenberg, Buehlgasse, Germany, in which he requested American Pen Pals. This month we received a very nice letter from Hartmut in which he wishes us to extend his sincere thanks for all of the letters he has received. However, he has received such an overwhelming amount that he isn't able to answer all of them. In fact, he is sending some of his newly acquired friends, who haven't received an answer from him, an address of another German friend, who also wants Pen Pals. So those of you who have written will receive letters from either Hartmut or his friend. This is wonderful that all of you Pen Pals have responded so warmly to this German friend and he is more than grateful to each and all of you. Send any letters for publication to Judy Parker, Jr. Rural Electric News, Box 1180, Springfield, Ill.

P.S. To each and everyone of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Judy

* * *

ENJOYS COOKING

I am 17 years old and my birthday is June 28. I have dark brown hair and light brown eyes. I am five feet, seven and one-half inches tall. My hobbies are cooking, sewing and writing letters. I would like to hear from boys and girls between the ages of 15 and 17. I will try to answer all letters I receive. — Sereda Joyce Davis, Mill Creek, Ill.



* * *

LIKES OUTSIDE WORK

I am 11 years of age and my birthday is December 31. I will be 15. I have blonde hair and greenish eyes. My hobbies are sewing, cooking, playing piano and doing outside work. I am five feet, three inches tall. I live on a 400-acre farm. I would like to hear from boys and girls between 10 and 13. I promise to answer all letters I receive.—Sylvia Dean Douglass, R. R. No. 1, Broughton, Ill.

PLAYS TENNIS

I am 14 years old and have blonde hair and light green eyes. I am five feet seven inches tall and weigh 130 pounds. I enjoy Rock n' Roll music, dancing, swimming, tennis and baking. I live on a farm. I would like to hear from girls and boys from 14 to 17. Send a picture, if possible. I promise to answer all the letters I receive.—Judy Ordner, R. R. No. 1, Teutopolis, Ill.

* * *

ROLLER SKATING FAN

I am 10 years old. My birthday is May 10. I will be 11 in May. My hair is brown and my eyes are blue. I would like to hear from girls and boys between the ages of 11 and 14. I have two sisters and one brother. Susie Hasick, P.O. Box 683, Rosiclare, Ill.

* * *

LIKES TO READ

I am 11 years old. My birthday is April 10. I have three cats. I attend Merriam Grade School and I am going to be in the sixth grade. My hobby is reading. I have light brown hair and blue eyes. I would like to hear from boys and girls between 10 and 13. I will answer all letters.—Eunice Greene, R.R. No. 2, Fairfield, Ill.



* * *

RICKY NELSON FAN

I will be 13 years old. My birthday is August 20. I have blonde hair and brown eyes. I have a Ricky Nelson Fan Club. My hobbies are ice skating, roller skating and swimming. Would like to hear from girls and boys of all ages. I will try to answer all the letters I receive.—Carole Wyss, R. R. No. 2, Danforth, Ill.

* * *

PLAYS CLARINET

I am 12 years old and will be in the seventh grade at the Coulterville Public School. I live on a farm. I play a clarinet in the school band. I have one brother, who is 19, and goes to school. My birthday is January 3. I belong to a 4-H Club. I would like to hear from boys and girls between the ages of 12 and 14.—Melba Lorraine Meyer, R. R. No. 2, Coulterville, Ill.

* * *

ENJOYS DANCING

I am 16 years old and a Junior in Marion High School. I have light brown hair and brown eyes. I am five feet, two inches tall. My hobbies are dancing, swimming, reading and skating. I would like to hear from boys and girls from 16 on up.—Violetta Cretes, R.R. No. 4, Marion, Ill.

PLAYS WITH NURSE KITS

I am nine years old and in the fourth grade. My birthday is August 21. I go to Scovil School, in the country. Our teacher is Miss Harris. My hobbies are playing with nurse kits, riding my bike, cooking and playing house. I would like to hear from boys and girls from nine to 12.—Judith Lynn Johnston, R.R. No. 2, Glasford, Ill.

* * *

COLLECTS PICTURE POSTCARDS

I am 10 years old and in the fifth grade. I have light blue eyes. My birthday is September 13. My hobbies are collecting dolls, comic books, picture postcards and roller skating. I would like to hear from girls between 10 and 13. I promise to answer all the letters I receive.—Peggy Goble, Kansas, Ill.

* * *

WANTS PEN PALS

I am five feet, two and one-half inches tall. I have blondish colored hair and greenish-blue eyes. I live on a farm. I would like to hear from boys and girls over 12 years of age. I would also like to have a picture if possible. — Janet Wolff, R. R. No. 1, Mason, Ill.

* * *

RIDES BICYCLE

I am 11 years old and have blonde hair and blue eyes. My hobby is riding my bicycle. My birthday is May 20. Would like to hear from boys and girls from 10 to 14 years of age. I will answer all letters.—Carol Winters, Box 65, Cave-In-Rock, Ill.

* * *

WATCHES TV

I am 13 years old. My birthday is January 17. I have brown hair and green eyes. I am about five feet, two inches tall. I go to Webster Jr. High School and I am in the eighth grade. I listen to the radio and watch TV a lot. I like Rock n' Roll music very much. Would like to hear from boys and girls between the ages of 13 and 16.—Joan Hale, R. R. No. 1, Collinsville, Ill.

* * *

ENJOYS SINGING

I am 16 years old. I have blonde hair and blue eyes. I am five feet, two inches tall. I enjoy hillbilly western style music and really love to sing about any type of music. I live on a 17-acre farm and have seven sisters and four brothers. I have had a heart operation. I would like to hear from boys and girls between the ages of 16 and 18.



—Gellaine Smith, R. R. No. 1, c/o Ira Smith, Sr., Chandlerville, Ill.

* * *

LIKES TO DRAW

I am 13 years old. My birthday is September 17. I have brown wavy hair and blue eyes. I am five feet, three inches tall. I live in the country. My hobbies are swimming, listening to records and drawing. I have four brothers and one sister. I would like to hear from boys and girls between the ages of 13 and 18. Send pictures if possible. I will answer all letters.—Sandra Hough, R. R. No. 1, Noble, Ill.

LIKES HILLBILLY MUSIC

I will be 16 years old. My birthday is November 4. I have blonde hair and blue eyes. I weigh 99 pounds. My hobbies are listening to hillbilly music, dancing and skating. I would like to hear from boys and girls. Send picture, if you have one. I will answer all letters. — Marie Tucker, Goreville, Ill.

* * *

LIKES TO HUNT

I am 13 years old. I have brown hair and brown eyes. I am five feet, three and one-half inches tall. My hobbies are hunting, fishing and baseball. I live on a farm. I would like to hear from boys and girls between the ages of 13 and 15.—Billy Lawhorn, R. R. No. 1, Box 101, Hoyleton, Ill.

* * *

RIDES BICYCLE

I am 12 years old and in the seventh grade. I have brown hair and brown eyes. I am four feet, eight inches tall and weigh 96 pounds. I live on a 40-acre farm. My birthday is June 11. Do I have a twin? My hobbies are skating and riding my bicycle. I would like to hear from boys and girls between 11 and 14.—Judy Spencer, R. R. No. 2, Grayville, Ill.



* * *

ROLLER SKATES

I am 17 years old and a senior at Johnston City High School. I have black hair and brown eyes. I am five feet, eight inches tall and weigh 146 pounds. My hobbies are roller skating and all outdoor sports. I would like to hear from boys and girls between the ages of 15 and 17. — Fred Aaron, R. R. No. 1, Johnston City, Ill.

* * *

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY

I am 14 and my birthday is November 28. I have dark brown hair and gray eyes. I am five feet, six and one-half inches tall. I like to cook, sew, skate and several other things. I will be a Sophomore at Anna-Jonesboro High School. I will try to answer all the letters I receive and I would like to hear from girls and boys between the ages of 14 and 18.—Ladonna Jean Davis, Mill Creek, Ill.

* * *

LIKES TO SEW

I am nine years old and I am in the fourth grade. I have brown hair. My hobby is sewing. My birthday is April 13. I am 57 inches tall. I have three sisters and four brothers. I promise to answer all letters. I would like to hear from boys and girls of all ages.—Elaine Sheible, Cache, Ill.

* * *

HAS TWIN BROTHER

I am 11 years of age. My birthday is August 12. I have a twin brother. I have several pets. My hobbies are swimming, riding my bicycle and watching TV. I would like to hear from boys and girls between the ages of 11 and 13. I promise to answer all letters.—Paula Russell, R. R. No. 3, Carmi, Ill.

LIKES TO FISH

I am 11 years old. I have brown hair and blue eyes. My birthday is August 12. I have a twin sister. My hobbies are fishing, boat riding and swimming. I would like to hear from boys and girls of all ages. I promise to answer every letter.—Paul Russell, R. R. No. 3, Carmi, Ill.

* * *

COLLECTS ROCKS

I am 10 years old. My birthday is November 18. My hair is light brown. I go to school at Eaton, and I am in the fifth grade. I would like to hear from boys and girls from 10 to 11. I would like to have pictures if possible. I live on a farm. I am the baby of the family. My hobbies are collecting rocks and riding my bike.—Linda Evelin R. R. No. 2, Robinson, Ill.

* * *

ENJOYS OUTDOOR SPORTS

I am 14 years old. My birthday is November 28. I have brown hair and brown eyes. I enjoy the outdoor sports. Reading and music are my pastimes. We have a Cocker Spaniel named Blondie. I like to hear from boys and girls between the ages of 14 and 16.—Betty Crawford, Girard, Ill.

* * *

PLAYS CORNET

I am 11 years old. My birthday is January 9. I will be in the sixth grade. I have reddish-brown hair and gray eyes. My hobbies are reading, cooking and playing a cornet. I have one sister. I would like to hear from boys and girls between 10 and 13. I will try to answer all letters.—Lois Godier, R. R. No. 2, Prairie du Rocher, Ill.

* * *

TAKES PIANO LESSONS

I am 10 years old. I am in the fifth grade. I have blonde hair and grayish-green eyes. I weigh 65 pounds and I am four feet, nine inches tall. My hobby is riding bicycles. I am taking piano lessons. I would like to hear from girls between nine and 11.—Sandra Lee Murgage, R. R. 1, Rinard, Ill.



* * *

COLLECTS PICTURES OF HORSES

I am nine years old. My birthday is July 22. I go to school at Bishop Hill Grade School and I am in the fourth grade. I have blonde hair and blue eyes. I am four feet, nine inches tall. My hobbies are reading and collecting pictures of horses. I also like to ride horseback. I wish to hear from girls between the ages of seven and 12.—Carol Anderson, R. R. No. 1, Altona, Ill.

* * *

LIKES TO WATER SKI

My birthday is January 17. I don't have a twin. I have blonde hair and blue eyes. I am five feet, six inches tall and weigh 115 pounds. Some of my hobbies are water skiing and dancing to Rock n' Roll music, horseback riding, boat riding, etc.—Rose Lea Church, R. R. No. 1, Cave-In-Rock, Ill.

LIKES DOGS

I am 12 years old and my birthday is December 20. I have brown hair, blue eyes and I am about five feet, two inches tall. I go to the Victoria Grade School. I am in the sixth grade. I enjoy playing with all kinds of animals, especially dogs. Also I enjoy cooking and sewing. I would like to hear from boys and girls of all ages. Please include a picture if possible. I will next time I receive a letter from a Pen Pal.—Dorothy Tanner, R. R. No. 1, Victoria, Ill.

* * *

COLLECTS STAMPS

I am 12 and my birthday is October 23. I have brown hair and brown eyes. I weigh 105 pounds. I am four feet, 10 in. tall. My hobbies are fishing, swimming, playing my cornet and collecting stamps. I will be in the eighth grade when I go back to school. I would like to hear from boys and girls between the ages of 11 and 13. Fill the mailbox guys and gals. — Andy Hall, Mulkeytown, Ill.



* * *

LIKES SPORTS

I am 12 years old. I have dark brown hair and brown eyes. I weigh about 90 pounds. I am just about five feet tall. I go to Hazel Dell Grade School. My hobbies are doing and playing sports. I would like to hear from boys and girls from 12 to 16. I will answer all letters I receive.—Shirley Ann Hanners, R. R. No. 3, Greenup, Ill.

* * *

OCTOBER BIRTHDAY

I am 12 years old. My birthday is October 19. I am five feet tall. I have brown hair and hazel eyes. I go to Flatts School. I will be in the eighth grade. My hobbies are playing the piano, reading, riding my bicycle, and listening to Rock n' Roll music. Come on Pen Pals, fill my mailbox.—Carol Jean Adams, R. R. No. 1, Benton, Ill.

* * *

PLAYS ACCORDION

I am 13 years old and my birthday is September 27. I will be a Freshman at Potomac High School. I have blonde hair, blue eyes and I am five feet, four and one-half inches tall. I play the clarinet, the piano and the accordion. My hobbies are sewing, reading, and writing letters. I am a 4-H member in both Home Economics and Agriculture. I would like to hear from girls and boys of any age. I will answer all letters.—Margaret Andrews, R. R. No. 1, Potomac, Ill.

* * *

LIKES HOUND DOGS

I am nine years old. I have blonde hair and blue eyes. I weigh 75 pounds. I am four feet, 10 inches tall. I will be in the fifth grade at Downs Grade School. I like to collect stamps and to fish. I would like to hear from anyone. Send a picture, if possible. I will answer any letters written to me.—Stevie Cary, R. R. No. 1, c/o W. H. Cary, Downs, Ill.

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