

Illinois

R.E.N.

RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS

NOVEMBER 1963



National News Notes

Atomic power plant serves rural areas

■ The first atomic power plant serving rural America was recently dedicated at Elk River, Minn., 35 miles northwest of Minneapolis. The 22,000 kilowatt plant, operated by the Rural Cooperative Power Association, will furnish power through interconnected transmission lines to six local electric cooperatives.

The official inauguration of the reactor was performed by James E. Ramsey, commissioner of the Atomic Energy Commission, with officials of the Minnesota federated generating co-op.

Clyde T. Ellis, general manager of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, hailed the new plant as a "courageous performance" and as a "meaningful contribution" of rural electric co-ops to the peaceful use of atomic energy.

"We fought long and hard for the right of electric cooperatives to participate in the new atomic energy program . . . and to keep the atom in the public domain where you and all consumers might more readily share in its blessings," he told the group.

Council urges power charge investigation

■ An investigation should be made of "the level of electricity charges under state regulation," according to a report released by the President's Consumer Advisory Council.

The recommendation was one of six areas in which the council believed there was a need for investigation.

The report, the first submitted to the White House by the council, had in it a recommendation that "steps be taken to assure federal regulatory jurisdiction over extra-high-voltage transmission facilities." It also urged that appropriate government agencies study "the possibility of reduced charges to consumers of electric utilities' service when federal income tax liabilities of the companies are reduced."

Dr. Helen G. Canoyer, dean of the New York State College of Home Economics at Cornell University is chairman of the council. Other members include educators, representatives of consumer organizations and state officials concerned with regulation. The council was established in 1962 and has had its headquarters in the office of the President's Council of Economic Advisers.

REA chief defends ski resort loan

■ Norman M. Clapp, administrator of the Rural Electrification Administration, went before a special House Agriculture Subcommittee recently and apparently resolved doubts of the chairman about the propriety of a Section V REA loan for electrical equipment for a Pennsylvania ski resort.

Rep. Paul C. Jones, Democrat of Missouri, chairman of the Agriculture Subcommittee on Governmental Oversight, told newsmen after the hearing that "I had many reservations on the loan before this hearing, but my opinion has changed. They've shown justification that I was not aware of."

Administrator Clapp, in discussing the \$110,000 loan, said it was a sensible business approach to aid an economically distressed area—Bedford County—and to increase the electrical output of the rural electric system involved, the Valley Rural Electric Cooperative.

He noted that not only will the loan increase the receipts of the cooperative, but it also will benefit the private power company from which the co-op receives its electricity. He said the area will attract skiers and give winter business to the hotels and motels in and around the area which are now open only during the summer.

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Two Sides to the Coin

"What are you doing to fight government hostility toward business?" asks an advertisement in a recent issue of Business Week.

The advertisement assumes "an underlying distrust of business on the part of government" during this administration and during previous administrations, regardless of party.

"This government suspicion of business needs to be checked or the businessman will someday be the most regulated of all Americans, and without cause," says the advertisement by a public relations firm.

We submit that government mistrust of business does, unfortunately, exist—but that this reflects a distrust of business on the part of the public. We do not believe that this distrust is as widespread or as threatening as the Business Week advertisement might indicate. But it is there. We wish it weren't.

We wish also that there were no cause for it, but the cause exists.

THIS CAUSE is not that government, or people, object to profits or free enterprise. Far from it! These are basic to our way of life.

But Americans generally are convinced that profits should be reasonable, that the public interest comes before selfish interest and that free enterprise must be really free and not constricted to meet or protect the desires of, for instance, monopolistic industries.

Let's take the regrettable conflict that exists today between commercial utilities and electric cooperatives. Commercial utilities regard themselves as examples of free enterprise, and they are. They imply that electric cooperatives, being non-profit organizations, are somehow unpatriotic and may even be socialistic or—whisper!—communist. What utter nonsense!

Electric cooperatives are indeed among our finest examples of free enterprise. They have a record of achievement in the field of economic development and service that is second to none!

On the other hand, commercial utilities by their greedy grasp for unreasonable—yes, unreasonable—profits, invite a public demand for more effective regulation.

THE ST. LOUIS Post-Dispatch recently pointed out in an editorial looking at utility earnings:

"Why are the stocks of most privately-owned electric utilities selling at twice their book value or higher? Why are the 35 major electric utility companies' earnings on invested capital, in a risk-free legalized monopoly under rate regulation, running almost as high as those of the 500 largest industrial firms and the 50 largest merchandising companies operated without price regulation and taking the normal risks of a competitive market?"

"The utilities' millions of customers have a substantial interest in getting the answers to these questions. They have been paying rate increases since 1952 which, according to a study by the Electric Consumers Information Committee, had cost them an added \$1,033,000,000 by 1960.

"Were all these increases justified, or are consumers now paying rates which yield more than a fair return to the companies, necessary to attract needed capital?"

A thought-provoking question indeed!

OUR COVER—A few of the news men and women and cooperative leaders who recently participated in Press Day at the Southern Illinois Power Cooperative plant near Marion. The plant is one of the finest and most modern in the nation. It provides electricity for some 23,000 member-owners of distribution cooperatives at Eldorado, Steeleville and Dongola.



Golf at midnight can be fun. From left are Roy and Mickey Dobrinich, Joe Robeza and Ray Mlekush at Lake of Seven Fingers near Staunton.

Who Said It Couldn't Be Done?

Let's be realistic. You know you can't take a couple hundred beat up acres of brush and pasture land in the middle of nowhere and in a few months convert it into a sleek recreation area.

You know it can't provide work for 26 people and attract more than 60,000 visitors from several states during its first summer of operation.

We all know it. But a trio of Staunton area businessmen didn't. So they did it.

The three are Bill Jones, operator of a flourishing grain elevator at Staunton, and Mickey and Roy Dobrinich, farmers and excavators.

Starting a year ago, they've carved the Lake of Seven Fingers into a play and fun area with a diversity of entertainment, the like of which you've seldom seen.

THERE'S the lake itself—two of them really—16 and four acres in size and stocked with more than 50,000 channel cat and eager bass. Some of those cat already weigh 20 or

more pounds and they're mean enough to pull a determined fisherman right out of his boat. It happened.

And there's an 18-hole golf course, lighted by 128 1,000-watt mercury vapor lamps so, if you wish, you can shoot from 6 a.m. until 1 a.m.

"Great!" say Joe Robeza and Ray Mlekush of Staunton who play several nights a week.

Seven Fingers also boasts a ten-unit electrically heated motel, a plush cocktail lounge with dining facilities where a smart combo provides nightly entertainment. There's a clever, intriguingly lighted miniature golf course, a driving range and inviting camping and picnic areas.

And under construction now is an olympic size swimming pool, with two smaller pools scheduled for next spring.

THE LOUNGE quickly proved too small so a gleaming all-electric

kitchen, more dining and storage space were added this summer, doubling the original size.

Plans are being pushed for another motel, this one of 50 or more units, all electrically heated.

In the lounge and dining area waitresses swirl to and fro, dressed in elaborate "western saloon" costumes. A Miami chef presides at the stainless steel kitchen. And the pro shop does business day and night.

All this in what a year ago was a pasture surrounded by brush so thick you could see no more than ten yards ahead.

Lake of Seven Fingers is a half mile off Highway 66 south of Staunton, 40 miles northeast of St. Louis. It's a playground designed to appeal to toddlers and oldsters alike and everyone in between. It's the area's newest and boomingest business.

IT'S ALSO the biggest single customer of M.J.M. Electric Cooperative, Inc., of Carlinville, whose management and staff worked closely

with the owners to bring the project to reality.

"Seven Fingers is meeting a real need for enlarged recreational facilities in this section of western Illinois, Charles W. Witt, M.J.M. manager, told Illinois REN. "It has terrific plans for expansion including operation of its lounge and motel on a year-round basis."

"We used to raise about 3,000 hogs a year," said Roy Dobrinich, looking happily around the crowded dining area. "But things have changed, and we like it. People are a lot more interesting than hogs." His eyes twinkled.

"It's amazing how this project has grown," said Mickey. "The need for better recreational facilities has been here, unnoticed, for years. Government representatives kept saying more farmers should convert more of their land to recreation and we finally took that advice. It was the best move we've made."

"**THIS PROJECT** opened only this spring and is far from complete," said Mr. Jones. "Our monthly electricity bill has been running around \$1,000 or a little more. Of course it will go much higher and we're glad. It's a bargain. We would never have been able to operate without the cooperative, its power supply and its encouragement."

In its early stages the project gained approval for two special loans, one an Area Redevelopment Administration loan of \$61,100, the other a Section Five loan of \$21,000 from the electric cooperative.

But these were not used. Their availability, however, helped encourage private investment.

Already Seven Fingers has 26 em-

ployes and that number will increase next summer. "On that basis we've already made a major contribution to the economy of our area," Mr. Jones said. "Government experts figure that for every new employe you make six more jobs in your area. We're certain other businesses and residents in this territory will benefit greatly through the years as a result of the creation of Seven Fingers.

"One man and his wife from Wisconsin spent a day here, then reserved all ten of our present motel units for a meeting next summer. Other visitors have come for week ends and have made reservations for next summer's vacations."

MICKEY SHOOK his head in pleased amazement.

"I never knew there were such things as camping clubs," he said. "But these groups are beginning to come with their trailers to spend week ends or longer. They have a ball—and pass the word along to other clubs. And they're all, wonderful, friendly people.

VISITORS come chiefly from St. Louis, Springfield, and points in between. But they also come from Chicago, Quincy, Mattoon, Effingham, Macomb, Salem—and Cairo.

Among visitors are business men interested in starting similar projects in their own areas.

"We welcome them," said Mr. Jones. "We learned much from others and we're more than willing to pass along any knowledge we've gathered.

"Probably there are three essentials to a project like this. One is a good location. In this we've been fortunate.

"Another is, a diversity of entertainment and activities. We're trying for a family patronage and we want something for everyone, young and old. If you want to spend money here and dine in a most attractive setting, enjoying professional entertainment, your can. If you want to bring the children and camp, you'll be welcomed, warmly. If you want rest, it's here. If you want exercise, this is the place, also. We already have room for club and business meetings and will enlarge these facilities.

"The third essential is good planning. In this we obtained professional advice. Westinghouse engineers planned our lighting, in cooperation with Morris Deul, the cooperative's member services director, and others. They did such a splendid job that we expect to add only about three new lights for next summer."

MR. JONES divides his time between Seven Fingers and his grain elevator. Mickey and Roy, of course, have given up farming and they've no time left for their excavating business. They're too busy building improvements at Seven Fingers.

"All this just goes to show what a good idea, hard work and cooperation can do to help develop an area and make it a more attractive place in which to work and live," observed M.J.M. manager Witt.

"I don't doubt but that Seven Fingers will make our area even more attractive to industry. After all, one of the ingredients of a good industrial location, in addition to labor, schools, water and electricity, is the presence of recreational facilities. And Seven Fingers provides these abundantly."

Their new recreation project, privately financed, helps strengthen Staunton area economy. From left are owners Bill Jones, Roy and Mickey Dobrinich.

Miami Chef Harold Whitehouse calls all-electric kitchen at Lake of Seven Fingers resort "the most modern in Illinois."





Students found the floor of this prehistoric Hopewell house at Apple Creek dotted with circular holes which were used for storage chambers and roasting pits in which fish, deer and other foods were cooked. Material from the pits was carefully screened and helps reveal the story of life in Illinois about the time of Christ.

Life Along Apple Creek—2,000 Years Ago

What did the average resident of Greene County have for breakfast 2,000 years ago?

A ridiculous question? Not for Stuart Struever of the University of Chicago's department of anthropology. Mr. Struever and groups of students from several universities have spent the past two summers exploring the ruins of an ancient Hopewell Indian community southwest of White Hall in western Greene County to find answers to such puzzling questions.

"The site, located on the banks of Apple Creek, is some 40 miles upstream from where the Illinois River flows into the Mississippi," said Mr. Struever. "The purpose of the study was to probe into the daily life and habits of the Hopewell culture that made the Illinois Valley its home in the centuries immediately preceding and following the time of Christ."

STRANGE as it may seem, Mr. Struever estimates that during Hopewell days there was a larger population in Greene County than lives there now. But because the early people had no form of writing their history is lost except where archeologists can recover bits and shreds of it from the soil.

The group first made test samples of the entire site area, and then made large scale "block" excavations of selected areas. They set up headquarters near the town

of Eldred, and became a member of the Illinois Rural Electric Co. of Winchester. Lights burned late each night as the staff worked over tons of material recovered from the site.

In addition to the normal excavation process, the Apple Creek team used large sieves similar to those used by placer gold miners in the old west to salvage particles of bone and vegetable matter from the more than 630 storage and roasting pits and fireplaces which were uncovered.

"We found many clues to the everyday life in the community," Mr. Struever said. "Spear heads, scrappers, and knives of flint point to a strong dependence on hunting. Studies of bone fragments from the prehistoric refuse dumps



Fine meshed screens were used to recover seeds, nuts and other remains that tell scientists the diet of the Hopewell people 2,000 years ago.

indicate white-tailed deer was a meat staple, though they also hunted wild turkey, raccoon and migratory waterfowl. The large variety of sizes of fish bones seems to indicate that nets or some similar technique were used by the Hopewell.

ACCORDING to botanists who are studying material from the site, other food staples included hickory nuts, hazelnuts, acorns, pigweed and lamb's quarter.

Mr. Struever pointed out that not a single corn cob or other evidence was found that would indicate the Hopewell knew and cultivated the plant.

Although the excavation is completed, study of material from the Apple Creek site will continue at several universities. Samples of charred wood have been sent to the University of Michigan where scientists will be able to date the community, with a margin of error of only 50 to 75 years.

Mr. Struever urged farmers and all landowners to protect any camp sites or mounds on their land against vandalism, particularly against the unqualified digger who is simply out "to get what he can" from the soil.

"Only by means of the fast-growing array of scientific techniques can such a forgotten community as Apple Creek yield its story of early life," Mr. Struever added.

Automation Ends Dairy Drudgery

Modern automatic equipment and adequate low-cost electric power are revolutionizing dairy farms in Illinois.

The Clifford Crawford farm near Villa Grove is a good example. Mr. Crawford, with a herd of 84 Holsteins, is milking 57 cows at a rate of more than 40 head per hour. The feeding, cleaning and milking operation takes only about two and a half hours.

"We're just getting started and already we're shipping more than 3,000 pounds of Grade A milk every other day," Mr. Crawford said.

After successful careers ranging from fur trapping to home building, Mr. Crawford bought the 80-acre farm about a year ago. He spent more than two years studying dairy farms before deciding to go into this business.

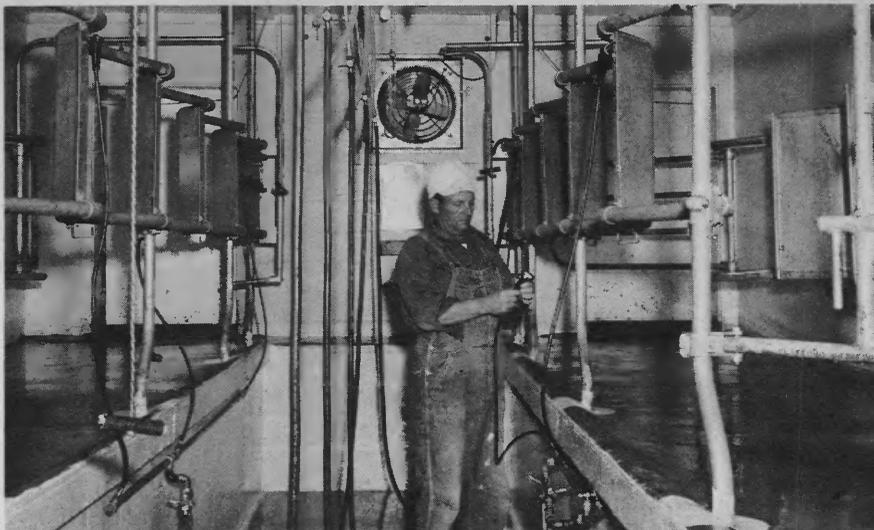
THE MODERN milking parlor at the Crawford farm is but a part of a feeding, cleaning and milking complex which extends more than 200 feet.

"Haylage is automatically fed from the Harvestore through the use of a 62-foot auger," Mr. Crawford said. "From 60 to 65 cows can feed at the same time on haylage.

He explained that both hay and haylage are fed, along with ground feed. The hay feeder is only a few feet from the auger and includes a large storage area.

"We have 40 acres in alfalfa this year, and plan to put in another 20 next year," Mr. Crawford pointed out. "The other 20 acres is in permanent pasture."

From the enclosed feed lot, cows move through a holding area and



Clifford Crawford can milk more than 40 cows an hour by using modern, automated equipment. Entrance and exit doors are controlled automatically from the milking pit.

then into the milking parlor.

"I can handle ten cows at a time, working alone," Mr. Crawford said. "Five are cleaned while the other five are being milked."

"He explained that a normal one-man operation includes eight stalls, instead of the ten used in his parlor.

AFTER A COW enters the parlor, a measured amount of feed is automatically fed into individual mangers in each milking stall. Working in a pit similar to that once used to service autos, Mr. Crawford is able to control the entire operation.

An individual spray hose is used to clean the cows. The milkers feed into a glass piping system which funnels the milk into a separate room where it is stored in a 435-gallon stainless steel bulk cooler.

"The milk is held at 38 degrees until the tank truck arrives every other day," Mr. Crawford said. "The milk is then pumped directly out of the cooler into the stainless steel tank truck.

The milking system is cleaned automatically and flushed with water

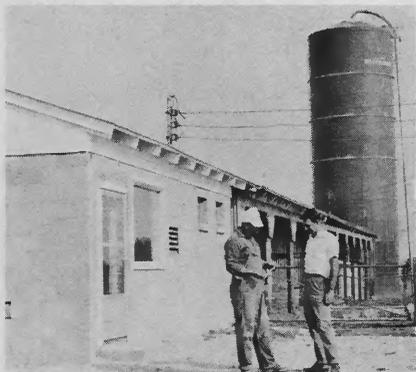
surging through the pipes at up to 30 miles per hour.

THE CRAWFORDS have been members of the Illini Electric Cooperative at Champaign since they bought the farm. Howard F. Schweighart, operating superintendent of the cooperative, has worked closely with Mr. Crawford to assure an adequate supply of electricity.

And Mr. Crawford is taking advantage of the many benefits of low-cost electricity. Motors range from the large horsepower unit on the Harvestore to a small electric pump used in the twice-daily cleaning operation.

"I installed the pump on the water line in the milking area," Mr. Crawford said. "By flipping a switch I can boost the normal water pressure up to more than 80 pounds. This cuts clean-up time almost in half."

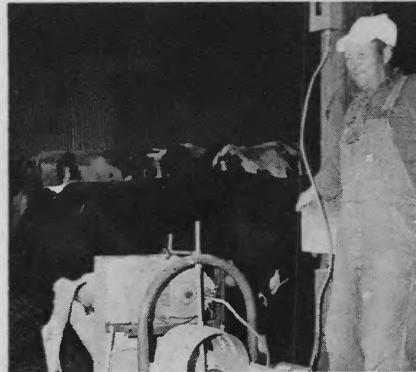
The use of the electric pump is typical of the entire Crawford operation. Every practical time and work saving device has been engineered into the system.



Howard F. Schweighart of Illini Electric Cooperative worked closely with Mr. Crawford on wiring plans.



Mrs. Crawford is pleased with her husband's new business and often helps him in the milking parlor.



Electric motors are used throughout the operation, including the automatic auger feeding system.

How Farmers Union Supports Co-ops

Wholehearted support for the electric cooperative program came recently from state and national Farmers Union leaders during a joint meeting in Springfield of Illinois Farmers Union and Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives directors.

AIEC directors normally have separate annual meetings with directors of Illinois Farmers Union and the Illinois Agricultural Association, the statewide Farm Bureau organization. The IAA meeting was held earlier this year.

"Both our organizations have many common problems, each related to the preservation of the family farm and the raising of farm income," John W. Rees, Illinois Farmers Union president, told the latest meeting.

"We have never asked for Farmer Union support without getting full cooperation," answered Robert R. Wagner, AIEC president. He reviewed legislative efforts of the co-operatives during the last General Assembly and predicted another battle would occur in the next session in 1965.

TONY T. DECHANT, secretary treasurer, National Farmers Union, Denver, declared that two major coalitions today are operating "in opposition to our joint interests."

One, he said, is the coalition based on Big Business. The other is composed of the radical right wing, most of which is also associated with other groups.

"The Big Business-Professional coalition is as dangerous as the Radical Right Wing movement itself," Mr. Dechant continued. "It's against anything that might help our nation move forward, and it is the financial heart of the Far Right."

Mr. Dechant pointed out that opponents of electric cooperatives work through innocent appearing organizations with high-sounding names that actually are controlled by big business interests, including some public utilities.

HOW DOES Farmers Union stand on questions affecting ability of the cooperative to continue rendering efficient, economical service to their members?

Mr. Dechant reported these answers he had given during an interview, one of a series conducted by private utilities "to determine



Discussing mutual problems from right are Robert R. Wagner, AIEC president; John W. Rees, Illinois Farmers Union president, and Tony T. Dechant, National Farmers Union secretary-treasurer. Board members of the two Illinois organizations recently held their annual joint session in Springfield.

public attitudes toward the private utility-REA struggle":

Question: "What is a private utility?"

Farmers Union answer: "A government-protected monopoly. Its territory is protected from competitive encroachment. Its rate structure and profit margin is guaranteed by public utility commission action. No other 'free competitive' enterprise has such government protection."

Question: "What is an REA?"

Farmers Union answer: "The purest form of free, private enterprise—a group of folks banning together to secure and construct a service they needed which they otherwise could not secure."

(After showing an anti-electric cooperative advertisement.) Question: "How does this advertisement make you feel?"

Farmers Union answer: "I don't like it because it indicates that REAs, which are free, private enterprises, are having to defend themselves against political attacks, which no free enterprise should be forced to do in America."

(The interviewer showed a copy of a commercial power company advertisement depicting a widow with a baby, harassed by bills.)

Question: "How does this advertisement make you feel?"

Farmers Union answer: "I don't like it. First, private utilities should not be either defending themselves

or attacking another private enterprise politically. And furthermore, the ad is corrupt and immoral because of its dishonesty of content."

QUESTION: "If an REA developed its services into a rural area and that rural area has since become a suburban area, shouldn't the REA turn this service over to a private utility?"

Farmers Union answer: "What is happening to us in America when we advocate that the benefits gained from taking a risk should later be turned over to interests that refused to take the risk? Isn't this a basic tenant of free enterprise?"

Question: "Do you feel that REA interest rates should be increased?"

Farmers Union answer:

"America has grown strong by its traditional policy of underwriting its railroad system, its air transportation system, its water and resource development, its highways, its system of newspaper and magazine education. Why should it turn its back on one unit of its national development, the REA, and attempt to penalize it?"

"No group has contributed more toward strengthening rural America, enhancing businesses engaged in supplying electrical equipment, supplies, etc., and in strengthening America basically, than have the REA's. The interest rate hullabaloo is totally irresponsible in terms of the real needs of further strengthening America."



New Tri-County officers are, from left, Reuben Young, president; William Groennert, secretary-treasurer, and E. C. Champ, vice-president. With them is H. G. Downey, co-op manager.

Tri-County Electric Co-op holds 26th Annual Meeting

Tri-County Electric Cooperative's present wholesale contract with a commercial power supplier places undue restrictions on the cooperative's efforts to serve all residents within its territory.

Raymond Pitchford, cooperative president, told more than 600 persons at the organization's 26th annual meeting recently this is but one of the challenges of the future.

In his annual report he praised H. G. Downey, starting his 20th year as manager, and announced plans for the distribution of \$70,452 in capital credits to members next year. Some \$62,000 was distributed last year. Next year's payment will be for the years 1943 and 1944.

Directors re-elected were: Pitchford, Nashville; Reuben Young, Odin, and E. C. Champ, Woodlawn.

Directors elected Young as president, succeeding Pitchford; Champ as vice-president, succeeding Young, and William Groennert, Addieville, as secretary-treasurer, succeeding David Hanes of Mt. Vernon.

Speaking briefly were State Senator Dwight P. Friedrich and State Reps. Wayne Fitzgerald and Fred Branson.

Kenny McMillan, Bushnell, immediate national past president of the Future Farmers of America, congratulated the co-op on its quarter century of service. He was accompanied by Kent Slater, Augusta, president of the Illinois FFA.

Twenty-five year service awards were presented Philip Heggemeier and C. Glenn Jones, directors, and Charles Swain, line foreman. Also honored were Roger Young, Salem, Martin Schaeffer, Hoyleton,

both incorporators, and Mrs. C. Walter Clark, Blufford, whose husband was an incorporator.

In the talent contest, first place honors went to Shirley and Mary Kay Witges, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Witges, of Sheller.

Miss Sandra Breeze of Mt. Vernon reported on the co-op sponsored Youth-to-Washington bus trip last summer.

'Subsidy Immoral,' But...

Edwin P. Neilan, the Delaware banker and president of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, has been making speeches to the effect that loans for area redevelopment programs are in reality "subsidies" and, therefore, they are "immoral."

Yet Rep. Wright Patman of Texas, chairman of the House Banking and Currency Committee, disclosed the government has \$17-million in interest-free money on deposit in Neilan's own bank.

"The taxpayers are paying an interest rate of 3.46 per cent on this money, or \$590,000 a year," says Patman, who adds:

"This is the same as an interest-free loan which this bank can invest in government securities at a profit of \$590,000 a year (a subsidy), or invest in other securities at an even higher profit."



Will He WET THE BED AGAIN TONIGHT?

With school just starting again, allow your youngsters freedom from the tension bed-wetting creates. Is it really worth the bother and embarrassment to you and your child when bed-wetting can be corrected so easily?

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"AN ACCREDITED PERSONAL SERVICE"

Wade blasts cooperatives at Kiwanis meeting

By John F. Temple

The most vicious attack this reporter has heard delivered against any organization in 25 years of civic club attendance was loosed recently before the Springfield Kiwanis Club by J. Paul Wade, spokesman for the Central Illinois Public Service Company.

Object of the blistering, 35-minute attack was the electric cooperatives of Illinois and their representatives both in Illinois and in Washington.

At an earlier meeting, Thomas H. Moore had spoken briefly and shown the movie, "Good for All Illinois." The picture illustrates how Illinois electric cooperatives were created by Illinois rural area residents, working together to provide themselves with a vital service available from no other source. Mr. Wade was a guest at that meeting.

UNSMILINGLY and in bare-knuckle style, the CIPS spokesman launched his most recent attack by accusing representatives of Illinois' 140,000 electric cooperative member-owners of conducting a "malicious publicity campaign" against commercial utilities.

He failed to mention that he and his company initiated a bitter publicity campaign against Illinois' 27 electric cooperatives to which the cooperatives have reacted with restraint.

In 1961 CIPS widely publicized its "facts" pamphlet charging that the cooperatives are participating in a "government take-over of the electric industry."

The pamphlet called this a part of a "massive effort to socialize the nation."

MR. WADE in his Kiwanis address did not point out that electric cooperatives are neither owned nor controlled by the government.

They are owned by their members. Members elect their own directors. If members are dissatisfied with cooperation management they can—and do—change directors.

SCATHINGLY Mr. Wade asserted that electric cooperatives are profitable businesses that have amassed millions upon which they

pay no income taxes. He said freedom from federal income taxes gives electric cooperatives an unfair advantage over commercial utilities.

He did not mention that these "profits" belong to individual cooperative electricity users and are earmarked to their individual accounts. After sufficient reserves for emergencies are built up, and other sound business practices complied with, these margins (not profits), or capital credits, are distributed to members.

More than one million dollars has been distributed by nine Illinois cooperatives in recent months. Other cooperatives, as they are able, will make like distributions. But not all have been able to build up adequate reserves.

Mr. Wade did not point out, either, that as members receive capital credits checks, they have the responsibility of paying federal income taxes on these funds.

HE DID NOT add that electric cooperatives are not singled out for favored income tax treatment. The same laws apply to all non-profit organizations.

Mr. Wade pointed out that there was rural electrification before electric cooperatives, and this is true. Not much, but some.

He said that during the depression, before electric cooperatives, commercial utilities had little money for expanding, in cities or rural areas.

But there are no electric cooperatives in most of northeastern Illinois because the Commonwealth Edison Company many years ago provided the necessary service.

MR. WADE indicated that Rural Electrification Administration (REA) officials originally rejected efforts of commercial power companies to borrow REA funds—and encouraged creation of electric cooperatives in some kind of sinister scheme.

REA did encourage electric cooperatives—but only after it became apparent the commercial utilities, who had first chance, were unwilling to provide needed electricity.

The CIPS spokesman was emphatic in criticism of the 2 per cent interest rate at which electric cooperatives now borrow from REA. This rate was not always 2 per cent.

When REA was established in 1935 as an emergency agency the rate was fixed at 3 per cent. Under the REA Act of 1936 the rate ranged from 2.88 to 2.46 per cent.

In 1944 Congress passed the Pace Act which set the rate at 2 per cent,

but there was a string. In return, cooperatives agreed to bring service to every resident of their areas, no matter how remote—or costly.

Even today commercial utilities could borrow from REA under the same terms and conditions as do the electric cooperatives.

MR. WADE told Kiwanians that he believes cooperatives have done a fine job of bringing electricity to rural area customers. He emphasized that 98 per cent of rural area residents now have central station service.

This is true. But cooperative members recognize that the job of their organization is far from finished. Their needs for additional service are doubling every seven to ten years. This necessitates major new investments in new and heavier lines and in related facilities.

Mr. Wade criticized generation and transmission of electricity by various cooperatives. He said plenty of power is available through his commercial utility.

He called the Southern Illinois Power Cooperative generating plant near Marion a "boondoggling project" and a "monster."

He did not tell his listeners that the power cooperative was formed only after failure of repeated efforts by its members to obtain electricity from CIPS or any commercial source at a fair price and without unreasonable restrictions.

THE SPEAKER was vehement in his attack on Clyde T. Ellis, general manager of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. And Mr. Wade made it plain also that he has scant respect for ideas of Illinois electric cooperative leaders.

As so often happens in such situations, those who would destroy electric cooperatives maintain that they know best what is desirable for the cooperatives . . . that they, in their impartial omnipotence, are more reliable judges of what the cooperatives should be doing than are the cooperative members themselves.

Such people in the name of free enterprise are apt to maintain that electric cooperatives should turn over to the commercial power companies the most profitable segments of their territory.

But electric cooperative members know they cannot continue serving all their remote members if commercial utilities are permitted gradually to take over their more thickly settled territory. They want to continue serving all the territory they developed. They firmly believe this is in the best interest of all of Illinois.

More Co-ops Paying Capital Credits

Capital credit refunds totaling nearly a third of a million dollars were being distributed this month to some 10,400 member-owners of two Illinois electric cooperatives.

Thomas H. Moore, general manager of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, said this action demonstrates once again the advantages of electric cooperative membership.

Not only do members get electricity at a low cost; they get it at actual cost to the cooperative after all expenses are paid.

Dennis L. Tachick, manager of Eastern Illinois Power Cooperative, Paxton, announced that at least 4,695 checks totaling \$171,000 were sent early this month to cooperative members who used electricity during all or some portion of the years 1943 through 1946.

OWEN J. CHANEY, manager of Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative, Fairfield, announced that 5,764 checks ranging in size from one dollar to \$150 were being sent to members who used electricity during the period 1941 through 1945. The total is \$148,000.

This \$319,000 in capital credits brings to well over a million dollars the amount distributed thus far by nine Illinois electric cooperatives.

Raymond Pitchford, president of Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Inc., of Mt. Vernon, told his organization's annual meeting recently that Tri-County expects to distribute \$70,452 next year in capital credits for the period 1943 and 1944.

Last year, Tri-County manager H. G. Downey pointed out, the cooperative distributed some \$62,000 in capital credits to members who used electricity during the four years 1939 through 1942.

"Such capital credit payments represent, in effect, an actual reduction in electric assessments for the years in question," Mr. Pitchford said. "They represent the difference in income and expenses during the years involved, including payment of taxes and establishment of prudent reserves for emergencies."

Mr. Chaney pointed out that it is not only cooperatives members who benefit from Wayne-White's payment of \$148,000 in capital credits.

A tremendous portion of that

total will be spent by cooperative members with merchants in the trade area served by the cooperative. Some of it will go into savings accounts. All of it will result in an economic stimulus for the area.

G. N. HODGE, president of Eastern Illinois Power Cooperative, said payment of his group's \$171,000 in capital credits "indicates one of the important differences between a cooperative and an investor-owned company."

He continued:

"In a cooperative such as EIPC, all income above the cost of rendering service belongs to the members who are the users of the service and have paid such excess income in the first place.

"In the case of an investor-owned company, the excess of income over expenses does not belong or get refunded to its customers, but is a profit for the benefit of its stockholders.

"We have no quarrel with this, but the record shows that the majority of the local power companies' stock is held and controlled by financial interests outside the state of Illinois, so a substantial part of the profits of these so-called local companies is drained from the local communities.

"We know that the refund checks being mailed to our members will, for the most part, be spent with local merchants and business places, thus improving the general economy of our entire service area.

"This refund is the result of a group of rural people who, through the cooperative, are serving themselves with a service that no one else would provide. It is the finest example of private enterprise operating in a democratic society."

BUT ONE THING should be made clear: not all electric cooperatives are financially able to make capital credit payments. And none are assured that such payments can be made every year.

Payments depend on the financial strength of the individual cooperative. This is governed in part by continued use of growing quantities of electricity by its member-owners and in part by its freedom from harassment by commercial utilities.

Nine of Illinois' 27 electric cooperatives now have made capital credit payments and several others

probably will be in a position to do the same in the not distant future.

Electric cooperatives both in Illinois and elsewhere have been bitterly criticized by commercial utilities for failure to pay federal income taxes on capital credit funds held by the cooperatives as necessary reserves.

The simple truth is that these credits are not profits and that no non-profit corporation pays federal income taxes. But federal income tax payments become the responsibility of the member-owner when distribution is made.

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Tri-County

MOUNT VERNON, ILLINOIS

The great concern being expressed by industrial giants in our nation, as to the threat to their security being presented by electric cooperatives, who sell a small 3 per cent of the electricity sold in our nation, is an amazing development of our era.



H. G. Downey
Manager

Electric cooperatives were created to supply electricity to those unable to secure same from existing sources. They desire no socialization of the electric industry. They want to serve, at the lowest possible cost, their consumer members and future customers that may develop along their lines.

The present programs of utilities constructing sections of lines along roads where there are no present consumers and where there may never be any future consumers indicates the utilities feel they are not very secure in their position as an electric supplier.

Your cooperative views with dismay this practice of spending investors money in facilities that provide no revenues and as a large customer of a utility we wonder how our rates can be lowered with such actions of increasing investment, but not increasing income.

The greatest obstacle in good relationships between suppliers of 3 per cent of the nation's electricity sales, and the giant utilities appears to be one of philosophy. Utilities serve for profit to absentee stock-holders who are interested only in a return on their investment, whereas cooperatives are interested in rendering service at the lowest possible cost to their consumer members.

Your cooperative has tried over the years to maintain good electric supplier relationships. The job is becoming more difficult.

Corn Belt

BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

With considerable added work for your cooperative engineering and line crews it has been necessary to add some employees during the past summer. We have been fortunate to secure four people who are all acquainted with our cooperative operations and the reasons for its being here. Lyle Hinshaw is the son of Deane Hinshaw, co-op member living just west of Bloomington. Rodger McKeon is a co-op member living east of Bloomington and is the son of Rodger McKeon, who



T. H. Hafer
Manager

retired from the co-op line crew about a year ago. These two men are both married and have families. They are starting as groundmen in the line crew.

Cliff Williams is a co-op member living just southeast of Bloomington and comes to work in the engineering department. He has had several years of experience with similar types of work, although not

Current Lines From

connected with an electric cooperative. Mrs. Dorothy Scott and her husband are members of our co-op living just south-east of Bloomington. She will help with general work part time in the office. Mrs. Williams, Mrs. McKeon, and Mrs. Scott are all daughters of co-op members.

MOVES COMING

As we get into the period of the year when many hundreds of our co-op members move it will help our office very much if you will let us know ahead of time. We will send you "move" cards which provide a place for you to mark your final meter reading the day you move and for the new occupant to mark the reading when he moves in. Thanks to all of you movers—it is better for you as well as better for the office to have full information promptly.

METERS RUNNING

The more miles you drive the longer you expect the gas pump to run when you fill your car. The more hours you use your lights and appliances the more your meter will run. We don't usually complain about this because we know we get more miles or more service and the meter records this.

So as we move into this winter and Christmas season we can expect our electric bills to be higher. Let's remember when you get a bill it covers the period between the last two meter readings which started 2½ months before the date of your bill.

McDonough

MACOMB, ILLINOIS

Our annual meeting was a huge success, as the members who attended are well aware. The inspirational address by the Rev. Charles Willey will be long remembered. Many members will remember this annual meeting for their free electric bill for September, which was awarded by a name drawn a minute. If the member's name drawn was registered at the annual meeting, he received a free September bill.



Arthur H. Peyton
Manager

Many others will remember the annual meeting for the exceptional values they obtained on dryers, water heaters, and ranges. Still many more will remember it by the super values of special prices on the percolators, heaters, fans, and light bulbs. The grand prize was awarded Clifford Coker—this was a Kelvinator electric dryer.

At the first board meeting of the new year, the board was reorganized. President Harvey Doll, who has so ably filled this position for several years, informed the board he did not care to be re-nominated and felt the responsibility of the president's job should be passed around among the board members. Charles F.

Miller of Industry, was elected president to succeed Mr. Doll. Mrs. Blanche Noper was reelected to fill the position of secretary and Harlan Monroe moved up from the office of treasurer to vice-president. Mr. Clair Butcher, r.r., Macomb, was elected as the new treasurer.

ESSAY CONTEST

The association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives will again sponsor an essay contest. McDonough Power Cooperative will again participate in this program and announcements of the rules for the contest will be made shortly. The winning contestant will be awarded an expense paid week's tour of Washington, D. C. in June, 1964.

Wayne White

FAIRFIELD, ILLINOIS

Your cooperative lost one of its staunch supporters by the death of Irvin Yohe of Mount Erie, September 23, 1963.

Irvin, as he was known by his many friends, was one of the organizers of the co-op, he was a charter member of the Board of Directors, served as a member of the board until his death, and was treasurer the past two and one-half years.



Owen J. Chaney
Manager

ment.

He was proud of this electric co-op and had a continuing and increasing interest in its growth and development.

The Board of Directors on behalf of the members and employees of the co-op express their appreciation and gratitude for the loyal, sincere, and valuable service rendered to this cooperative and to the rural electrification program.

* * *

On November 1, 1963, your co-op mailed checks to members who were getting service during the period from January 1, 1941 through December 31, 1945. The amount of these checks represents the difference between the cost of operation and operating income during this period and is the amount of capital contribution made by the members. This capital contribution was used to replace capital borrowed from the Rural Electrification Administration to build our plant. Our by-laws provide that when the member's equity in the company reaches a certain per cent of cost, capital contribution or capital credits can be retired in part or in full by refunding this capital on a patronage basis.

There has been a great many changes in our membership since 1945 and some of the checks have been returned marked "forward address unknown". We will need the help of every one concerned to make a complete distribution of this patronage capital refund and we solicit your cooperation.

Co-op Managers!

Norris

NEWTON, ILLINOIS

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.

One of the things that everybody is concerned about is his electric meter and rightly so, for that is the instrument that measures the electricity that flows through the house, barn and the many other places where electricity is used.



Damon Williams
Manager

What is a meter? A meter is a very precise electrical instrument, somewhat similar to an expensive electric clock. However, instead of measuring time, the electric meter measures the amount of electricity that flows through it. All of the meters on our lines are regularly removed, cleaned and calibrated with expensive equipment that tests them to the point where they are as near perfect as is possible. At times we have a "sneaking idea" that our meter is probably too fast and our neighbor's too slow, but alas, such is not the case. Over 95 per cent of meters that we test are slow. We would probably be better off if we didn't complain, and if we left our old meter in before going and comparing it with our neighbors.

SLOW UP

Meters, as they are used, have a tendency to slow up rather than speed up. This is due to the fact that they have many precise parts and jewels which become dirty and dusty. This retards the moving parts.

In order that the cooperative does not have to pay line loss to the power company from whom we purchase our power, it is very necessary that these meters give as honest measurement as possible.

One of the things we are all prone to forget is that every bit of current that we use must be paid for to the power company, which measures our electricity with another meter. That is one of the reasons for line loss on our system.

Meters are complicated instruments. On our system we have a great many different types. Some measure voltage on the primary side while others measure the 110-220 voltage used in homes.

Stockholders of 33 power companies collected \$102-million in "tax-free" dividends in 1962, according to the Electric Consumers Information Committee.

This non-taxable windfall now totals a whopping \$618-million in nine years, ECIC reports, adding that both the Federal Power Commission and the Internal Revenue Service disclaim any responsibility for this obvious injustice to the rate-paying public.

Senator Rapped For Telegrams

An anti-REA movie being shown by private power companies is beginning to produce the expected letters on Capitol Hill but it has also resulted in at least one interesting sidelight.

A Denver woman who viewed the movie and sent a letter to Washington protesting the REA, has criticized one of her Senators for what she apparently thinks is a double-standard of government economy—one for the Senator and the other for REA.

Mrs. Robert Fleming said she received a \$1.65 telegram from Sen. Peter H. Dominick (Colo.) in reply to a letter she mailed a month ago. She checked with others who sent communications and found that they, too, had received a telegram from the Senator which essentially agreed with their complaints and which indicated that a letter would follow.

Mrs. Fleming says she thinks a five-cent letter from the Senator would have been sufficient and she wonders who paid the bill for the telegrams.

Dominick is one of several Senators who have introduced legislation to raise the interest rates on REA loans.

Aside from the Senator's problem of trying to placate the Denver housewife, the disturbing fact remains that the power company "Project Action" program against REA is beginning to make itself felt in Washington.

According to Mrs. Fleming, about 200 persons attended the Chamber of Commerce luncheon where the movie was shown and they all signed letters to all members of the Colorado congressional delegation. The letters urged the legislators to look into what the movie deplores as unfair competition between "investor-owned" utilities and the rural electric cooperatives.

A large portion of the movie, entitled "The Power Within," centers around the "unfair competition" theme. It claims that if certain REA and federal power functions are not curtailed, the American free enterprise system is doomed.

While the movie's prediction of an ultimate "backdoor federal takeover of the investor-owned companies" may appear somewhat exaggerated—or even ridiculous—it obviously had appeal to the Colorado group. It spells trouble ahead for rural electric members.

Utility Earnings Provoke Warning

In an article in the Oct. 21 issue of Electrical World, two high officials of the nation's largest investor-owned utilities maintained that the federal government's role as a wholesale power supplier inhibits the growth of the investor-owned industry.

Robert O. Marritz, electrical engineer for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, answered the charge in a letter-to-the-editor to the publication.

Marritz cited a report from the investment firm of Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Smith which, he said, "provides an interesting counterpoint" to power company complaints.

"For as far ahead as almost anyone would dare to look," the stock exchange firm's report stated, "the investor-owned electric utility industry should maintain its pre-eminence as the most consistently growing business in the United States.

"Other industries have grown faster in shorter periods of time," it continued, "but over a period of 60 years none can match the remarkable record of the electric utilities. This historic growth rate has been about 6 per cent a year, one year after another.

"Even more impressive," the report declared, "is the fact that since 1950 there has been an acceleration of this pace to a point where some utilities match or surpass the records of pace-setters in other industries."

Mr. Marritz also said in his letter to the power company magazine that the federal role in power generation has dropped from 20 per cent of the nation's total installed capacity in 1960 to only 13 per cent today. "It is the publicly-owned generation, not the investor-owned, which is diminishing," Mr. Marritz declared.

Mr. Marritz suggested that rather than worry about a "backdoor federal takeover," power companies ought to heed a warning from one of the utilities' own consultants who recently wrote:

"When 75 per cent of all electric utility stocks are selling at two times book value or higher, the market is signalling that earnings are high and possibly too high. . . . When the market prices to book value ratio gets so far out of line, as it is right now, it is time for a good, hard look at the level of utility earnings.

"Excessive earnings, which lead to stock prices out of all reasonable relationship to rate base values," the consultant, David A. Koch, warned, "pose a real threat to the continuation of private ownership of our public utilities. . . ."

This range doesn't make oven cleaning easier



It eliminates it!

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To replace the linings, you merely slip in standard aluminum foil from your grocery store. Only Kelvinator makes it possible for you to get a spanking clean oven this easy, no-scrub way.

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You get so many conveniences because of the Kelvinator Constant Basic Improvement program. It's another way American Motors brings you more *real value*, as in Rambler cars.

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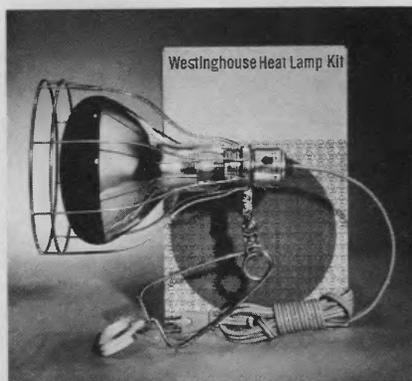
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B. F. Goodrich Co.

NOVEMBER, 1963

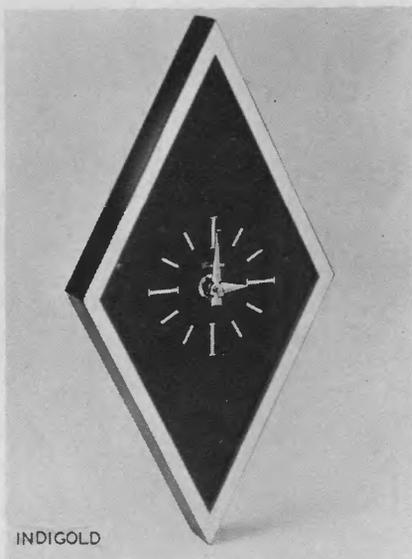
What's New?

● Heat Lamp Kit

New Westinghouse infrared heat lamp kit. Features red bowl reflector lamp, adjustable lamp holder, six foot cord and metal safety guard. Special Heat-Ray lamp will not shatter if accidentally spattered with water. For home or farm use. About \$5, including bulb.



● Decorator Clock

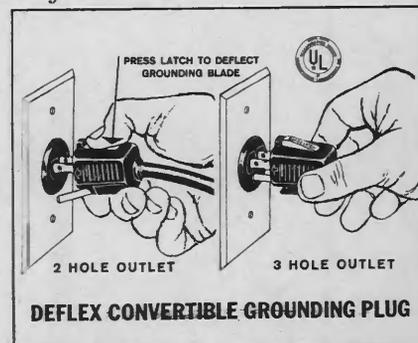


Indigold decorator clock by Sessions. Ebony open-faced dial, gold hour markers, brass hands, surrounded by diamond-shaped wood frame. Two inches deep, 15 inches high, 8 inches wide. Model 49423, electric, \$10.95. Model 79423, eight-day keywound, \$15.95. Sessions Clock Co., 65 East Main St., Forrestville, Conn.



● New Hair Dryer

Busy housewives can "wear" this new Ronson hair dryer like a shoulder-strap bag while doing house chores. Features an exclusive brush and comb drying attachment. Ten-foot power cord. Four heat ranges. Can be used in its care as a tabletop unit. \$29.95. At your Ronson dealer or write Ronson Corp. One Ronson Road, Woodbridge, N. J.



● Grounding Plug

Deflex convertible grounding plug for use in either two or three hole wall outlets without adapters or pig-tails. Grounding blade deflected for use in two hole outlet. UL approved. Rated at 15 or 20 amps at 125 volts. By mail 98 cents plus 12 cents postage and handling, or three for \$3, all charges paid. Morse Designs, Box 472, Fort Lee, New Jersey.

Smile
Awhile

JUST GOIN' FISHIN'

A vacationer stopped at a country store and saw this sign: "This store will be closed August 20 on account of the weather."

As it was then only August 15, the traveler asked the proprietor how he could know what the weather would be in five days.

"Well," he said, "if she rains light, I'm goin' fishin'. If it's a heavy rain, I'm goin' to stay home and work on my tackle."

"But how do you know it's going to rain?" asked the visitor.

"Don't care if it rains or not," he snapped. "If it's sunny, I'll go fishin' or work on my tackle anyway. All depends on the weather."

NEVER ALONE

A man was on trial for an offense, and his sanity was being questioned.

"Have you ever noticed if the accused was in the habit of talking to himself when he was alone?" asked counsel.

"I have no idea."

"No idea! But surely you are his closest friend?"

"Yes, but I was never with him when he was alone."



FLYING TENT

An army camp in Texas, located on a wide open plain, was exposed to howling winds. One day during maneuvers, a young soldier came floating down into camp. He was rather bruised but didn't get much sympathy:

"What do you mean coming down in a parachute with this 100-mile-an-hour wind blowing?" asked one of his superiors. "It's a wonder you weren't killed."

"I'd like to explain, sir," replied the private weakly when he had pulled himself together. "You see, I didn't come down in a parachute—I went up in a tent!"

NO INTEREST LOST

The little old lady confidentially told her neighbor that she kept her money hidden at home in a coffee can.

"You know, of course," said the neighbor, "you are losing on your interest."

"Oh, no, I'm not," twinkled the little old lady. "I'm putting away a little extra just for that."



GOOD QUESTION?

"How many times must I tell you," said Mother to Billy, "to keep your eyes closed during prayers?"

"Yes, Mom," answered Billy, "but how did you know I didn't?"

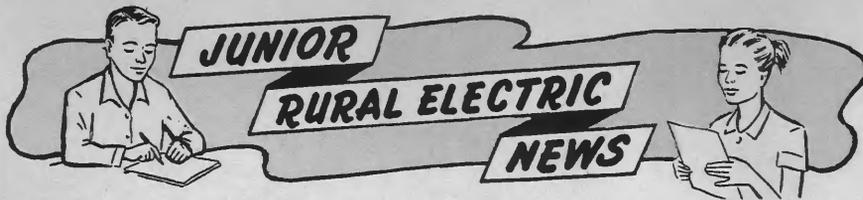
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CHAMPAIGN	GALESBURG	MORRISON	WATSEKA
CHARLESTON	HARRISBURG	MT. VERNON	WOODSTOCK
DANVILLE	HILLSBORO	OREGON	



PEN PALS

Hi Pen Pals,

As the Thanksgiving season approaches, let's not forget all the many blessings we have had bestowed upon us during the past year and also remember to be just a little more appreciative every day of our wonderful friends, relatives and other associates we have.

Address any letters for publication to: Judy Parker, Jr. Rural Electric News, Box 1180, Springfield, Ill.

LIKES 4-H WORK

I am 12 years of age and my birthday is October 14. I am in the seventh grade at St. John's Catholic School. I have completed my second year in 4-H sewing, and was chosen as second alternate to model at the State Fair. I am also taking baking and party a month projects. My hobbies are roller and ice skating, swimming, sewing and cooking. My hair is long and dark brown. I have blue eyes. I am nearly five feet tall. I would like to hear from Pen Pals between 11 and 13 years of age. Send picture, if possible.—Marilyn Godar, r.r.2, Carrollton, Ill.

LIKES MODEL CARS



Richard Paisley, r.r.2, Rushville, Ill.

I am 11 years old and in the sixth grade. My birthday is June 13. I like model cars and airplanes. I play the saxophone. I am four feet, six inches tall. I would like to hear from boys and girls between ten and 12 years of age. Please send pictures.—Richard Paisley, r.r.2, Rushville, Ill.

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Choice of appropriate sentiment. Send your negative and 15c for sample Black & White Card.

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Envelopes included. FREE CIRCULAR!
UNIVERSAL PHOTO DEPT.
LA CROSSE, WIS.

NOVEMBER, 1963

TWIRLS BATON

I am 14 years old and my birthday is December 15. I am five feet, six inches tall and weigh 124 pounds. My hobbies are baton twirling, writing letters, listening to radio and playing records. I'm a Freshman at Watseka High School. I am a majorette there. I will answer every letter I get.—Pat Tibbetts, r.r. 4, Box 123, Watseka, Ill.

RIDES HORSES



I am 11 years old and in the sixth grade at West Liberty School. I weigh 72 pounds. I am four feet and eight inches tall. I love to ride horses but have none. My birthday is September 11. I would like to have Pen Pals. Please send pictures, if possible. I will try to answer every letter. I have blonde hair and green eyes.—Esther Wilson, r.r.1, West Liberty, Ill.

COLLECTS STUFFED ANIMALS

I am 12 years old and my birthday is May 18. I have green eyes and brownish blonde hair. My height is five feet, two inches. I love to collect stuffed animals. I would like to hear from boys and girls between the ages of 12 and 14. I will answer all letters. Come on and fill my mailbox.—Christina Heathman, r.r. 3, Galatia, Ill.

LIKES DOGS

I am 13 years old. My birthday is January 5. I have brown hair and blue eyes. I am five feet, one inch tall. I weigh 101 pounds. My hobbies are swimming, cooking, and all kinds of dogs. I would like to have boys and girls between the ages of 12 and 14 to write. I promise to answer all letters. Please send a picture, if possible.—Donna Hobbs, r.r. 3, Decatur, Ill.

COLLECTS STAMPS

I am 12 years of age. I am in the seventh grade. I have brown hair and hazel eyes. I am five feet, one and one-half inches tall. I weigh a little over 98 pounds. My birthday is January 30. My hobbies are building models of all kinds, collecting stamps and coins, and like to hunt snakes. I would like to hear from boys and girls between 11 and 13 years of age. Please send pictures, if possible. I will try to answer all letters I receive.—Brian Derrick Newman, r.r.1, Mackinaw, Ill.

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HAS INDIAN PONY

I am 16 years old. I am five feet, two inches tall. I have dark blonde hair and blue eyes. My birthday is January 20. I live on a farm and have my own Indian pony, a Shetland pony, and a week-old colt. I also have a few other pets such as, a parakeet, two finches, three dogs, and, last but not least, 10 cows, one bull and six calves. Some of my hobbies include horseback riding, swimming, skiing, boating and cars. Almost anything you can name which includes animals, water and wheels, I like. I would very much enjoy a mailbox full of letters from Pen Pals from all over and I promise to answer them all. —Cherrie Irwin, Box 421, Springfield, Ill.

BELONGS TO 4-H

I am 11 years old. My birthday is June 17. I am in the sixth grade at Giant City School. I am in my second year of 4-H. I like to listen to hit songs and dance. I would like to hear from boys and girls between ten and 14. Send a picture, if possible.—Sharon Vancil, r.r.1, Makanda, Ill.

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for the homemakers

By Judy Parker



Make Chocolate Spritz, Spritz and Pepparkokar, and fruit cake, serve with Frosted Egnog

Christmas Merry Makings mean goodies from your kitchen for family festivities, holiday entertaining and those prized "gifts from the kitchen" that everyone loves to receive. Eyes light up and noses sniff the air as the happy aroma of Christmas baking wafts through the home, filling all with anticipation of the good eating to come. We hope these easy-to-do recipes add happiness to your holiday entertaining.

FRUIT CAKE

- 2 cups butter or margarine
- 2 1/4 cups sugar
- 6 eggs, well beaten
- 4 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 1/2 cups applesauce
- 1 teaspoon soda dissolved in 1 teaspoon hot water
- Grated rind and juice of 1 lemon
- Grated rind and juice of 1 orange
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 teaspoon lemon extract
- 1/2 pound raisins
- 1/2 pound candied pineapple
- 1/2 pound candied cherries, cut
- 1 pound dates, cut up
- 1 pound pecans, chopped

Cream butter and sugar. Add eggs, blending well. Sift 3 cups of flour with salt, spices and baking powder. Add to creamed mixture alternately with applesauce. Add soda, water, fruit juices and rind, vanilla and extract. Dredge fruit in other cup of flour, fold into batter. Add nuts, mixing well. Pour into large greased and floured tube pan. Bake at 300 degrees about 3 hours. Place rack in center of oven, cool in pan.

FROSTED HOLIDAY EGGNOG

- 8 eggs
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 quarts milk
- 1 cup whipping cream
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

Beat eggs well with electric beater. Add

sugar and salt, blend well. Add milk, mix thoroughly. Chill before serving, top with mounds of whipped cream to which vanilla has been added. A dash of nutmeg adds color and spice.

CHOCOLATE SPRITZ

- 2 squares chocolate
- 3/4 cup butter or margarine
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 egg
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon milk
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 1/2 cups sifted cake flour

Melt chocolate and cool (substitute 6 level tablespoons cocoa). Cream butter, add sugar, mix well. Beat in egg, then salt, chocolate, milk and vanilla. Gradually blend in flour. Put in cookie press, form desired shapes on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake at 375 degrees 8-10 minutes. If desired, frost with mint frosting when cool, top with nuts.

PEPPARKOKAR

- 3 cups sifted flour
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon ginger
- 1 teaspoon cloves
- 2 teaspoons soda
- 1 cup butter or margarine
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 1 tablespoon dark corn syrup
- 1 tablespoon warm water
- 1 egg

Sift flour, spices and soda together. Cream butter. Add sugar and mix well. Beat in corn syrup, warm water and egg. Gradually add sifted ingredients, mix well. Chill dough 3-4 hours. Roll very thin on lightly floured board. Cut into shapes with cutters. Place on lightly greased sheet, put small almond in center of each. Bake at 400 degrees 6-8 minutes. Remove from sheet to cool.

DATE HONEY CHEWS

- 1/4 cup butter or margarine
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 1 egg, separated
- 1 cup sifted confectioners' sugar
- 1/4 cup chopped dates
- 1 1/2 cups sifted flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 cup uncooked oats



Honey Pumpkin Pie for unexpected guests

for The

- 1/2 cup shortening
- 1/4 cup milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

Cream butter and honey, add egg white, mix. Add confectioners' sugar gradually, stir in dates. Sift flour, baking powder, salt and sugar together. Add oats. Cut in shortening until mixture is crumbly. Beat egg yolk, add milk and vanilla. Add to flour mixture, stir until flour is well moistened. Spread half of dough in bottom of greased, paper-lined pan, 7x11 inches. Spread date honey filling over dough, cover with remaining dough. Bake at 400 degrees about 25 minutes. Cut into bars.

SPRINGERLE

- 2 eggs
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon anise extract
- 1 1/2 cups sifted flour

Beat eggs and sugar over warm heat 10 minutes. Remove from heat and continue beating until cool. Add anise extract. Fold in flour to make a stiff dough. Turn out on generously floured board. Sprinkle top of dough with flour. Roll out gently to 1/4-inch thickness. Press in design with springerle rolling pin or board. Brush off excess flour. Cut dough, place on greased and floured baking sheets. Bake at 300 degrees 10 minutes. Turn off heat, allow cookies to remain in oven 5 minutes longer. Cool on rack.

COTTAGE SPOON BREAD

- 1 3/4 cups milk
- 1/2 cup corn meal
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 3 egg yolks
- 3 tablespoons butter
- 1 cup small curd cottage cheese
- 3 egg whites

In a medium-sized saucepan, scald milk, add corn meal, cook, stirring constantly until thickened. Mix in salt and sugar. Blend in small amount of hot corn meal mixture with egg yolks, return to pan, mixing thoroughly. Stir in butter and cottage cheese. Beat egg whites until stiff but not dry; then, fold corn meal mixture into them. Pour into 1 1/2 quart buttered



Cottage Spoon Bread, Cranberry Canadian Bacon and fresh fruit compote make a tasty buffet



Date Honey Chews invite you to enjoy another



German Springerle have the look of Christmas

Merry Making season

casserole, bake 35 minutes at 350 degrees. Serve immediately with plenty of melted butter.

For a tasty buffet serve Cottage Spoon Bread flanked by a cranberry glazed Canadian bacon log, fresh fruit compote and mugs of piping hot chocolate. Canadian Bacon Log is simple to make by spreading cranberry sauce, straight from the can. It adds a fruity flavor and glaze that subtly brings out the bacon flavor. Fresh fruit compote boasting fresh winter fruits is even more enchanting when served from a brandy snifter.

HONEY PUMPKIN PIE

- 1 1/4 cups shredded coconut
- 1 1/4 cups cooked pumpkin
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup honey
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon mace
- 1/2 teaspoon allspice
- 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
- 3/4 teaspoon cinnamon
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 cup milk, scalded
- 1 unbaked pie shell

Combine 1 cup coconut and remaining ingredients; mix thoroughly. Pour into unbaked pie shell. Bake at 425 degrees 10 minutes, then reduce to 325 degrees until done.

EGGNOG PIE

- 4 eggs, separated
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup hot water
- 1 tablespoon (1 envelope) unflavored gelatin
- 1/4 cup cold water
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1 tablespoon rum flavoring or 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/2 teaspoon almond extract
- 1 cup heavy cream, whipped
- 1 9-inch pie shell (baked)
- 1/2 cup chopped toasted almonds

Beat egg yolks slightly; add 1/2 cup sugar, the salt, and hot water. Cook over low heat until thick. Soften gelatin in cold water; add to hot custard, stir until dissolved. Cool. Beat egg whites until foamy; add remaining 1/2 cup sugar gradually, beat to soft peaks. Add nutmeg and fla-

vor. Fold meringue mixture into cooled cooked mixture. Turn into baked pie shell. Chill. Spread whipped cream over pie. Top with toasted almonds. Try this eggnog pie as a change from the usual mincemeat pie.

UNBAKED FRUIT CAKE

- 1 lb. package vanilla wafers
- 1 lb. shelled pecans
- 1 lb. raisins
- 1 lb. candied cherries
- 1 can condensed sweetened milk
- 1 lb. shelled English walnuts
- 1 lb. dates
- 1 can coconut (3 1/2 oz.)
- 1 lb. candied pineapple
- 1 lb. package marshmallows

Grind or crush vanilla wafers. Cut candied pineapple into pieces; leave other fruit and nuts whole. Mix all ingredients except milk and marshmallows. Melt marshmallows in milk and mix with other ingredients. When well mixed, pack in buttered angel food cake pan or small loaf pans. When cool, remove from pan, wrap in waxed paper. Store covered at room temperature.

MERINGUE NUTS

- 1 egg white
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- pinch salt
- 2 cups whole pecans or walnuts

Beat egg white until it holds a shape; then gradually beat in sugar, cinnamon, salt; continue beating until mixture holds definite peaks. Stir in whole nuts gently. Drop from teaspoon onto greased cookie sheet. Bake 35 to 40 minutes at 300 degrees. Remove from pan with spatula; cool on wire rack. Perfect way to use a left-over egg white.

FROZEN FRUIT SALAD

- 1 cup diced pineapple
- 1/2 cup diced peaches
- 1/2 cup white cherries, halved
- 1/4 cup maraschino cherries, quartered
- 1/2 cup diced pears
- 1/2 cup pecans, chopped
- 12 marshmallows, quartered
- 1/4 cup orange juice
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup Fruit Salad Dressing

- 1/4 cup confectioners' sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon grated lemon peel
- 1 cup heavy cream

Have fruit well drained. Combine fruit, nuts and marshmallows. Combine juices, mayonnaise, salad dressing, sugar and lemon peel. Whip cream until stiff. Fold into salad dressing, then fold this into fruit mixture. Put in molds or paper cartons, freeze. Unmold, cut into slices, serve on lettuce leaf. Garnish with Fruit Salad Dressing to which whipped cream has been added (about a teaspoonful to each salad). Top with mint leaf and half a maraschino cherry for color.

FRUIT SALAD DRESSING

- 1/2 cup orange juice
- 1/2 cup pineapple juice
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 2 eggs, slightly beaten
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup heavy cream, whipped

Mix fruit juices; add to beaten eggs and add sugar and salt. Cook on low heat for 3 to 5 minutes or until thickened. Cool, fold in whipped cream. Serve on Fruit Salad.

GRENADINE PUNCH

- 2 cups orange juice
- 1 cup lemon juice
- 1 cup grenadine
- 1 1/2 quarts dry ginger ale

Mix juices and grenadine, pour over block of ice. Just before serving add chilled ginger ale. Use Bing cherries, slices of orange and limes to garnish punch bowl. About 20-24 servings. The deep red of grenadine gives punch a holiday color.

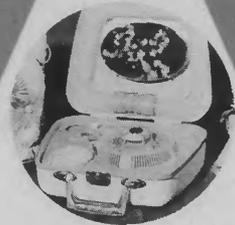
ORANGE SUGARED WALNUTS

- 3 cups sugar
- 1/2 cup water
- 1 cup orange juice
- 1 teaspoon grated orange peel
- 1 pound shelled walnuts

Cook sugar, water, orange juice to soft ball stage (238 degrees). Remove from heat, add peel, walnuts; stir until cloudy. Before mixture hardens drop from spoon onto waxed paper or greased surface. Separate into smaller pieces.

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Topping the list for gals on the go is hair dryer with beauty bonnet, nail buffer and dryer, perfumer, all in a case



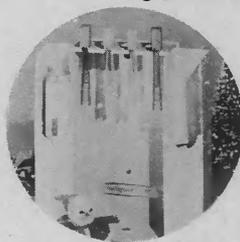
Three way appliance is this can opener, bottle opener and knife sharpener. Stops and holds cans until ready for use



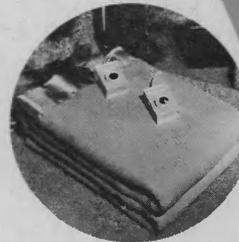
Anytime is springtime with this electric little garden, everything you need is included. It makes ideal growing conditions



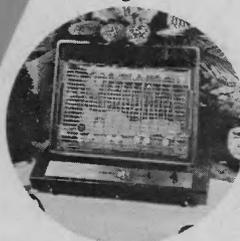
Prepare complete meals in buffet fry pan. Control is removable; pan and lid can be immersed in water for cleaning



You can take the cordless toothbrush when you go, mount it on the wall or set it on the counter. Has four brushes



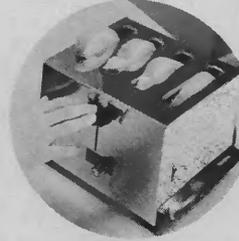
Anyone would thrill to find this electric blanket under the tree Christmas morning. Comes in twin to king sizes



Six features for comfort, convenience and safety are built into this portable electric heater—quick dries articles



Delight the kids with a corn popper that does double duty heating soups, stew, vegetables—lots of fun



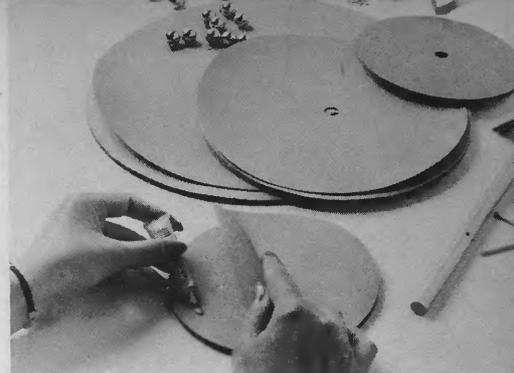
Accommodating about toasting is a four-slice toaster which permits you to toast from one to four slices



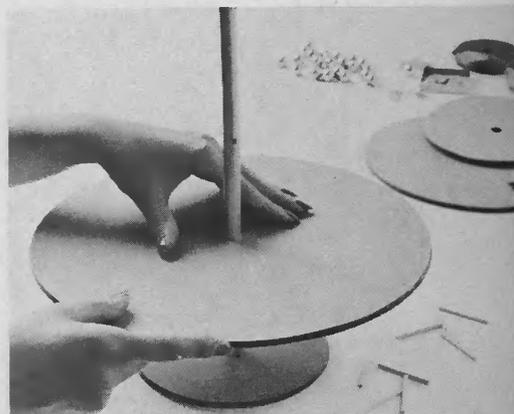
Added conveniences on this new-this-Christmas steam 'n sprinkle iron is refill indicator, wash 'n wear settings

a sweetmeat tree

CHRISTMAS isn't Christmas without the symbolic tree, and no matter what its size or shape, it's still the most important part of holiday decorating. There's no need to limit yourself to one large tree in your living area; children will be delighted to help make smaller ones for several rooms in the house. Perfect for a dining room is a sweetmeat tree loaded with candy. Simple to put together, it consists of a dowel rod for the trunk, circles of cardboard covered with art paper for branches, colored balls, stickers, and ribbon for trimmings. Squares of homemade fudge and caramels, wrapped individually, provide the packages although they'll probably need to be replaced many times throughout the season. When finished, the tree is an attractive centerpiece for a party table, an occasional table in the living room, or a breakfast bar in the kitchen. Materials which you'll need to make a Sweetmeat Tree are: Heavy cardboard; Green art paper; 1 dowel 12 inches long (or rod from wooden coat hanger); 8 small dowels 2 inches long (or sucker sticks); 24 feet of green crinkled ribbon $\frac{1}{2}$ inch wide; 1 large gold metallic star for top; Small gold metallic stars for trim; Tiny colored balls; Glue; and Gilt paint for center dowel. To assemble the tree, follow steps.



1



2



3

1 Gild large dowel rod for trunk of tree. Bore $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch holes through two sides of dowel, $3\frac{3}{8}$ -inches from top and $8\frac{1}{4}$ -inches from top. From cardboard, cut one circle 12 inches in diameter, one 9 inches, and two 6 inches. One 6-inch circle forms base. Cut tiny circles in center for each dowel rod. Cut three circles of matching size from art paper; glue on top of cardboard circles. (Base circle does not need to be covered).

2 Glue large dowel into base. Slip 12-inch circle over dowel and glue to base.

3 Dab glue on ends of four short dowels and fit into bottom holes for braces; then glue on 9-inch tray circle. Follow same procedure with remaining braces and tray as shown.

4 Glue strip of green ribbon around edge of each circle; pin or glue on tiny gold stars, balls, and ribbon bows. Glue large star on top; trim with candy squares or packages—and your tree is finished!



1. Apron



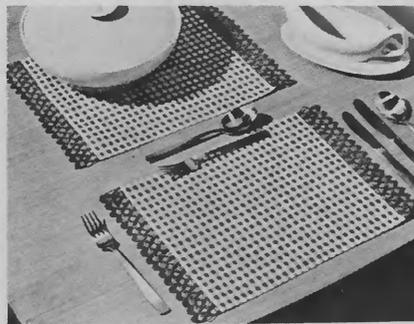
2. Nightgown Case



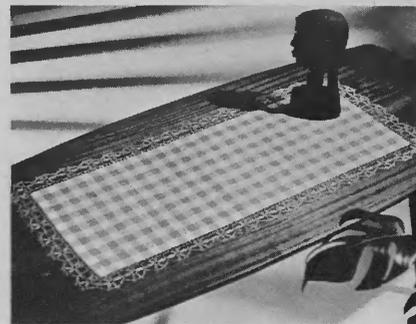
3. Luncheon Set Edging



4. Curtain Edging



5. Place Mat Edging



6. Floral Edging for Runner



7. Cushion Edging

gingham gaieties

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- 2.....Nightgown Case
- 3.....Luncheon Edging
- 4.....Curtain Edging
- 5.....Place Mat Edging
- 6.....Runner Edging
- 7.....Cushion Edging
- 8.....Peacock Apron

My name is

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Comment (if any)

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7. This crochet-trimmed pillow is a real charmer! Large gingham checks are inviting, the frosty edging makes them even more so. Crochet this in a cluster and loop pattern

8. With head erect, and ful plumage, here's a peacock that is proud indeed. It's design is especially suited for the wide band and gathered waist style of most hostess aprons—easy to achieve with cross stitch on gingham



8. Peacock Apron

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS

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Figure out the proposition you want to make, whether it is something you want to buy, sell or swap.

Write the words in the spaces above. If you fill all the spaces that will be 18 words. Price for 18 words (or less) is \$4.50 for each time you want your ad run.

If your message takes more than 18 words, add 25 cents for each additional word. Remember, each initial or group of figures count as one word. (Don't forget to count your name and address in the ad.)

Fill in your name and address below, attach correct amount for ad and mail to RURAL EXCHANGE, Illinois Rural Electric News, Box 1180, Springfield, Ill. Your ad will appear in the earliest issue possible.

YOUR NAME.....

YOUR ADDRESS.....

Tear Off and Mail Promptly



“SHORT
CUT...”

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...to better living!

Sounds good, but there is no real “short cut” to a better way of life. It takes hard work, and sometimes many years to attain.

It was so with the Electric Cooperatives of Illinois who, a little over a quarter of a century ago, set out to provide dependable electric power for ALL the then power-starved rural areas of Illinois.

These investor-owned, tax-paying, local Illinois businesses are a vital part of our economic structure, seeking only to continue to provide the best possible service for Illinois citizens.

They are fulfilling this continuing need for which they came into being. They are providing low-cost, dependable electric power for over 500,000 of your fellow Illinois citizens, maintaining service in the highest standards and meeting their responsibility of providing the increasing power needs of the people they vowed to serve.



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Good For All Illinois



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