



*Illinois*  
**R.E.N.**  
RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS  
December, 1964

# National News Notes

## League opposes any hampering of cooperatives

■ A resolution strongly opposing any move to rewrite the Rural Electrification Act so as to hamper electric cooperatives in their work has been adopted at the biennial Congress of the Cooperative League of the USA.

The resolution, passed in Chicago by some 400 cooperative representatives, just as strongly supports changes tending to strengthen the rural electric system.

At the same meeting, William S. Roberts, editor of Rural Electrification magazine, declared that need for improvement in conditions and opportunities in rural areas was the main reason for development of rural electric cooperatives 30 years ago—and that it remains today the main reason for their continued existence.

Electric cooperatives, Mr. Roberts said, also provide “a vital, established counterforce or alternative to the public irresponsibility that is the natural consequence of a monopolistic industry.”

## Major problem: deficiency in rural education

■ The No. 1 farm problem “now and in the future” is the widespread deficiency in rural education, Undersecretary of Agriculture Charles S. Murphy said in a recent Washington address.

He pointed out that half of the nation’s poverty is in rural America although this area contains less than one-third of the total population. (This blight is far less widespread since the coming of member-owned electric cooperatives.)

Mr. Murphy said lack of resources is the chief factor which has kept rural America from providing the educational, health and other public services necessary to develop the skills and talents of its citizens. “And because the lack of skills has kept earning power low,” he added, “rural America has been unable to accumulate the resources it needs.”

The undersecretary said the first step in coping with the problem of low income in rural areas “is to give our rural youth a chance to compete successfully for a decent income, either in the city or in the country.”

## One reason for victory of Johnson

■ “Hostility to all segments of the electric power industry—except the one that is privately owned and operated for profit—was unquestionably among the regressive policies which earned defeat for the Goldwater ticket,” the St. Louis Post-Dispatch said in a recent editorial that has attracted national attention.

Citing the unpopularity in rural areas of Mr. Goldwater’s plan to sell TVA and to dissolve REA, the newspaper observed that “The country part of the country plainly wasn’t buying the Goldwater brand of economics.”

“Millions of Americans,” the newspaper asserted, “identify their fortunes with those of public power developments and rural electric cooperatives. This is true of urban and rural voters alike.”

## Cooperatives fought for rights: Ellis

■ And in Washington, Clyde T. Ellis, general manager of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, declared:

“While rural electrics represent many shades of political opinion, the vast majority of them put support of the rural electric program above partisanship. This election demonstrated this fact more emphatically than ever before. . . .

“As much as our systems desire to maintain non-partisanship, I think this election should serve as fair warning that we would again throw all the resources at our command into preventing the election of a candidate—whether Republican or Democrat—who threatened the existence of the rural electrification program. This program is a crusade to which thousands of individuals have given many years of their lives.”

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DECEMBER, 1964

# Planning Greater Achievements

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Another year has passed and a most promising one looms ahead. Our electric cooperatives generally are in splendid shape. They're blessed with good management, loyal, appreciative and informed members and tremendous opportunities for the future.

No one can look into the future and picture precisely the role of the electric cooperatives 25 years hence. But of one thing we can be certain: the cooperatives still will be rendering splendid service to their member-owners. They won't be standing still.

**MANAGERS** such as Damon Williams of Norris Electric Cooperative, Newton; Charles C. Youtzy of Jo-Carroll Electric Cooperative, Inc., Elizabeth, and H. G. Downey of Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Inc., Mt. Vernon, foresee a great future for Illinois cooperatives and the more than a half million men, women and children they serve.

Mr. Youtzy, for instance, is manager of one of the smallest of Illinois' distribution cooperatives. But he estimates that the time is coming when his members will consume an average of more than 3,000 kilowatt hours of electric energy per month. And Jo-Carroll is preparing to meet that demand.

Think what this means in increased prosperity for members of Jo-Carroll Electric Cooperative—and for the businessmen who will supply the appliances, motors and complex equipment that will consume this electric energy.

**JO-CARROLL**, which has just completed its first 25 years of service, is by no means alone in planning for a bright future. All 27 Illinois distribution cooperatives are busy with long-range planning. From one end of the state to the other forward-looking leaders are preparing to meet the increasing needs for electricity on the part of their membership.

And this, of course, is the basic reason why electric cooperatives, after a quarter century of successful service, still have not paid off all their loans to the Rural Electrification Administration.

Most systems were built originally to supply only a few member-owners with a small amount of electricity. Many of the first users consumed no more than 50 kilowatt hours per month. This compares with, for example, an average of 687 kwh last year for members of Clinton County Electric Cooperative, Inc., of Breese.

If the consumption of electricity and the membership had remained the same as in the early days of the cooperatives, all would long since have been out of debt.

But, fortunately, consumption increased, and with it the benefits to the consumers and to businessmen of Illinois.

**LOUIS H. HAUG**, a director of Jo-Carroll Electric Cooperative, pointed out recently that his electric bill last year was more than \$1,300. Several farmers in that area now are using up to 6,000 kilowatt hours of energy in a month.

Electricity certainly has meant vastly increased prosperity for these men and their families, just as it has meant vastly increased prosperity for the businessmen of the area.

Illinois electric cooperatives are making regular and substantial payments, both principal and interest, to their government and many are ahead of schedule. But all of us are fortunate the cooperatives have been able to continue borrowing, when necessary. Everyone has benefitted, and these benefits will continue.

**OUR COVER**—Merry Christmas from Lance Alan Dunham, grandson of Lyle E. Dunham, director, member services, and all members of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives staff, to all Illinois REN readers everywhere. And Happy New Year, too! Lance is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jon Dunham of Springfield.





Ralph E. Heinhorst prepares to cut a Scotch pine tree on his farm near Forest City.

## Christmas Tree Uses Vary in Mason County

Shopping for a Christmas tree amidst falling snow and to the tune of Yuletide carols is one of those pleasant tasks which take the chill from the air and brighten the heart.

Selection of a tree takes careful deliberation before the right one is found for lending a festive air to the home. Many persons will choose artificial trees, others prefer to have evergreens.

Many of these freshly cut trees are native to Illinois, with some coming from Mason county, a rolling countryside south of Peoria on the east banks of the Illinois River.

**RALPH E. HEINHORST** of Forest City, one of that area's larger and more successful growers of Christmas trees, in a recent interview said, "We're proud of our

trees. We also think they give game a nice habitat, help control soil erosion and make a nice appearance for the area."

Mason county farmers started planting evergreens in the early 1940's under the direction of the Soil Conservation Service for the preservation of the area's sandy soil, an easy prey for erosive elements.

Hundreds of acres were planted with various types of pine trees; Scotch, jack, red and white were the principal ones. Mr. Heinhorst hand planted 500 of these trees in 1942 and now has extended his tree crop to 75 acres by planting another 7,500 each spring. He gets the foot-high seedlings from the Mason State Tree Nursery at nearby Topeka.

**HOWEVER**, the dry springs experienced the past few years have

drastically reduced the number of surviving seedlings. These losses have caused Mr. Heinhorst to shift from a large wholesale business to the retailing of 750 to 1,000 trees each Christmas.

"I probably have lost 50,000 trees since 1943 because of drought conditions," Mr. Heinhorst, the president of Illinois Christmas Tree Growers Association, Inc., said. Irrigation is gaining in use as a means of combating dry weather.

Dry weather also has thwarted growth of those trees which do survive planting. The Scotch pines normally require seven years to reach a height of four or five feet. The jack pine, one of the faster growing pines, will mark a foot a year.

**THE MORE** attractive Christmas trees, Mr. Heinhorst said, are a result of careful shearing. Trees should be pruned once each summer the previous three years before they are cut, he explained. This attention gives the tree a better shape, size and density.

In addition to selling the natural tree, Mr. Heinhorst and his wife, Alberta, provide other attractive Yule decorations. Some people prefer flocked trees which are prepared by being mounted on a base and coated with a fine mist of water before the colored flocking material is applied.

Mrs. Heinhorst delights in turning out beautiful and imaginative centerpieces, work which is done in their shop along U.S. 136 east of Havana.

"You can easily see why we just couldn't do without the electric coop," Mr. Heinhorst said while showing the many uses made of electricity in preparing and displaying the Yule decorations. A member of Menard Electric Cooperative at Petersburg, he said he is grateful for the fine electrical service he receives.

A service minded person, Mr. Heinhorst works to keep his customers happy. Pausing while cutting undesirable trees from his fields, he explained that the culled trees are not all waste because boughs are trimmed and given away "as an incentive for people to buy our trees."

This attention is one of the reasons why many of Mr. Heinhorst's customers represent repeat business. Delighted people drive considerable distances each year to seek out a Mason county tree which is to be the focal point in their gaily decorated home.

# Public Good Inspires AIEC Chief

Dedication to the task of improving life for future generations distinguishes the new president of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives.

Raymond W. Rusteberg of Valmeyer looks upon his many activities with a sense of community spirit and modestly states he is "only doing what I can so other people's children can have the good things in life and the same opportunities graciously provided me."

His associates in the electric cooperative movement have long recognized these qualities and called upon him last September to lead their statewide organization after Robert R. Wagner of Burnside decided to step down as president, a post he had held six years.

**MR. RUSTEBERG** had been serving as secretary-treasurer on the AIEC board of directors. A delegate to the state board for four years, he has been a director of Monroe County Electric Cooperative, Inc., at Waterloo since the mid 1950's and has been that cooperative's president the past three years.

His interests in rural electrification are deep rooted and date back to the mid 1930's when he sought electricity for his Monroe county farm which eventually was to be serviced by one of the state's 27 distribution cooperatives.

That service was rewarded with Mr. Rusteberg's gratitude and has prompted his devotion to public service because "I need to help provide for the people that follow me."

After graduating from the Walnut Grove country grade school and the Valmeyer Community High School, he attended the University of Illinois for two years before he had to return home following the death of his mother.

**HE AND HIS WIFE, Adeline,** were married in 1933 and started work on a farm which they have increased from 80 to 230 acres. Aided by electricity, he has been in the poultry business since 1940. Mr. Rusteberg and some neighbors banded together to form a corporation which now has 40,000 laying hens and 45,000 pullets.

Looking to the future with confidence, he believes rural Illinois could not have prospered without the electric cooperatives and he asserts that "We shall continue to im-



AIEC President Raymond W. Rusteberg and his wife, Adeline.

prove the economic prosperity of the entire country."

He quickly adds that such a role is completely dependent upon an alert and active membership. "There is no limit to what a good member can do for us, even on a statewide basis. He can be so helpful to us in his hometown."

**THE TWO MOST** pressing needs of the state's electric cooperatives as seen by Mr. Rusteberg are territorial integrity and public awareness of the accomplishments realized because of rural electrification.

"The cooperatives have furnished the membership with power, built the lines and distributed electricity with no idea in the past that they had to formulate for their protection, steps which should have been started 10 years ago."

Mr. Rusteberg continued: "The cooperatives are working to supply low-cost electricity and their state as-

sociation is trying to give them the best possible service and do what they want done.

"The state association is vital to the existence of the cooperatives and it's most necessary that a medium of communication exists across the state to make mutual problems known and to work toward their successful completion."

He said he is especially proud of the electric cooperative leaders who are "the best leadership in my point of view because of the things that are being done. They are doing things that just can't be done in an eight-hour day, but they are dedicated to taking this extra time to do the things that are necessary."

Mr. Rusteberg said he was pleased to be a part of this team effort, and he added that the task is a rewarding one because of the obvious interest and enthusiasm generated among the cooperatives' members.



Don Mefford holds shrunken heads of South American Indian man and woman.

## Farmer Gains Relics, Opens Own Museum

Many delightful experiences await the tourist traveling across Illinois. One of the more unusual attractions is a museum located off the beaten path in the Embarras-Wabash River bottomlands in the southeastern part of the state.

Tens of thousands of items dating back to the eighth century and relating the history of the world's people have been accumulated by a Lawrence county farmer and are now on public display.

Don Mefford began amassing artifacts of various civilizations when he found an Indian arrowhead on his father's farm 41 years ago. These

relics, including current items, are displayed in the Prairie Heritage Museum on Mr. Mefford's farm five miles southeast of Lawrenceville.

MR. MEFFORD opened his 40 by 100-foot museum a year ago last September and he said recently that an estimated 5,000 persons have since viewed his collection. Future plans call for excavating an Indian mounds which archeologists have located on his farm.

"Historically, money couldn't buy any of these items," Mr. Mefford said. "I want to keep my museum pieces and let people see items from many different civilizations without having to travel all across the country.

"You can't put an exact value on something like this, but collectors have estimated the worth at up to \$800,000." The collection is heavily insured.

THE TASK of accumulating such a vast and varying collection has taken Mr. Mefford and his "scouts" all over the globe. He is assisted by geologists and archeologists who identify and authenticate his rare items.

"I've never sold any of my museum pieces and I would have to be awful darn hungry before I would part with anything," he said. "It took me 20 years to find an Indian peace medal, a presidential gift to Indians before the War of 1812.

"I'm still looking for a Chinese clock that runs by water. I've never seen one, but I've read that they were made 200 to 300 years ago."

A MEMBER of Norris Electric

Cooperative at Newton, Mr. Mefford supports the preservation of his area's heritage through the Lawrence County Historical Society. His family has been caught up in his interest with his wife, Betty, and their four sons, Eddie, Mike, Paul and Roger, also leading tours and explaining what is displayed.

There are items to interest most anyone—fossils, Aztec pottery, the first coin operated music box, precious and semi-precious stones, a hand carved clock of Italian marble, old currency, chinaware, an experimental television set which projects pictures on a wall, a White House cook book, firearms and John Rogers statuary, to mention just a few.

One of his more unusual items is a pair of carved teakwood chairs which came from a Chinese emperor's palace. (A Hollywood movie director once wanted these for a movie set.) Another rare find are the heads of a man, woman and child shrunken by the Jivaro Indians of South America.

FOR CIVIL WAR historians, Mr. Mefford has an old hand press once thrown in the Wabash River by an anti-Lincoln mob aroused by the publisher of a Vincennes, Ind., newspaper who favored the President. On the lighter side, there are some fleas individually dressed in clothing by Mexican prisoners.

These things and many more can be viewed in this extensive collection of a man who delights in letting the public share his intriguing hobby.



A brilliantly colored piece of French bisque.



The famous "Checkers" sculptured by John Rogers.



Armor worn by Japanese in the 14th century is outfitted on a mannequin.



# Ski Resort Opening In Co-op Area

By John F. Temple

Visit JoDaviess county this winter and you'll see some of the nation's top ski jumpers flying through the air with the greatest of ease—and you might even try a few jumps yourself, if you're good enough — and brave enough.

There's a catch, though. The Terrapin Ridge Ski Area, with its "launching pad" a 90-foot tower perched on a high hill above a breathtakingly beautiful valley, is major league stuff. You can't even mount the tower for a lower level takeoff unless you're pretty good.

That won't interfere with your fun, however. No one begins by jumping the 200 to 225 feet permitted by this newest ski area in JoDaviess county. You can have a barrel of fun speeding down the ski slopes that vary from 1,200 to 2,000 feet, with a vertical drop of 280 feet. There's a large beginners' area and some really challenging runs for intermediate and expert skiers.

**TERRAPIN RIDGE** Ski Area is just outside Elizabeth five miles off U. S. Highway 20 on Derinda Road in the beautiful, rolling country served by Jo-Carroll Electric Cooperative of which Charles C. Youtzy is manager. It's 35 miles east of Dubuque, Iowa, and 33 miles west of Freeport.

"This is the first jump and second ski area to be located in JoDaviess county," Mr. Youtzy said recently. "Our cooperative is delighted to service its facilities including the beautiful lodge, the outdoor lighting and the equipment for making artificial snow.

"We've done and are doing all we can to promote recreational facilities in our area because we think this will help not only our cooperative and its members but all businesses and all residents in the broad area we serve.

"We know that Chestnut Mountain Ski Resort, with its spacious lodge, its 60-unit electrically heated motel and its fine ski runs, is attracting thousands of visitors to our area every year. Terrapin Ridge will do the same."

Terrapin Ridge is brand new. The corporation was formed early this year when a group of ski



Wendell Chapin, Charles C. Youtzy, Thomas H. Moore and John Balfanz (from left) discuss start of Illinois' newest ski resort in JoDaviess county. Mr. Youtzy is manager of Jo-Carroll Electric Cooperative and Mr. Moore is general manager of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives. Mr. Chapin is president of the new resort corporation and Mr. Balfanz is manager.

enthusiasts started looking for an ideal location in northwestern Illinois and discovered it in JoDaviess county.

Incorporators are Wendell Chapin of Elizabeth, Robert Bauer of Stockton, Warren Harrison and Lyle Naylor of Freeport and Mrs. John Balfanz of Stockton. Mr. Chapin is the president, Mr. Naylor the vice president and Mr. Bauer the secretary-treasurer.

Manager of the resort is Mr. Balfanz, one of the finest skiers in the United States and a member of the United States Olympic team that competed last year at Innsbruck, Austria.

"There is a tremendous resurgence of interest in skiing and jumping in this nation," Mr. Balfanz said in a recent interview, "and Terrapin Ridge is certain to play a leading role in its development.

"One reason is that the jump area is one of the finest to be found anywhere. Another is that this spring we expect to install plastic mats on the chute and landing area so that top quality skiers may train here the year round.

"This plastic equipment is even faster than regular snow. Ours will be the first jump area so equipped in the United States, although there are several in Japan, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, France, Russia, Austria, Finland and West Germany."

**MR. BALFANZ** has discussed a summer training program with the United States Ski Association and expects to have most of the ten mem-

bers of last year's Olympic jumping team on hand then, plus perhaps 30 other outstanding jumpers.

"Previously jumpers were limited in this country to no more than three months of practice a year," Mr. Balfanz said, "and in order to get this they had to circulate throughout the country. Now practice will be available all year.

"This will not only be fine for the skiers but it will provide a splendid spectator sport for thousands upon thousands of visitors to the JoDaviess county area. Think of sitting in the shade of big oaks, in shirt sleeves, watching some of the best jumpers in the country going through their paces. It will be something very special."

**MR. CHAPIN**, who also is owner of Terrapin Ridge Manor Motel and Restaurant, pointed out that the United States proved in the last Olympics that this nation can compete on a par with the best jumpers in the world—but that it needs to develop depth.

Actually there are only five skiers of "world class competition" capabilities here. Mr. Balfanz is one.

"That compares with about 25 from Finland, 20 from Norway, five or six from Austria, 15 from Russia and five from Czechoslovakia. Surprisingly, France and Switzerland have none. These nations have developed skiers but not jumpers."

Mr. Chapin said Terrapin Ridge won't have to worry about lack of snow. The corporation has installed

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Allan Watson discusses the importance of cattle holding pens and chutes (shown here in a scale model) with Dr. Wallace E. Gordon, an executive of the Du Pont Co., sponsor of the 4-H beef awards program.

## Macomb Youth Wins National 4-H Award

Allan Watson, 18, of Macomb, is one of six national winners recognized recently for excellence in the

4-H beef program.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Watson, he was honored at

the 43rd National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago where he received a \$500 college scholarship given by E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., Inc., the donor of awards in the program supervised by the Cooperative Extension Service.

Allan is a freshman at Western Illinois University in Macomb and is studying for an animal science degree. He hopes to be a farmer.

A 4-H club member for nine years, the youth has raised 386 animals during his seven years with beef projects. He got started with a purebred Hereford heifer that his father gave him on a "33 $\frac{1}{3}$  and 66 $\frac{2}{3}$  per cent" partnership sharing of the profits.

A year later, it was on a 50-50 basis. Today, young Watson estimates his net worth at \$15,000. He owns 54 cows with 50 calves, 10 bulls and 20 steers and heifers.

**HIS PARENTS** own a 240-acre farm in McDonough County and receive their electricity from McDonough Power Cooperative.

Robert E. Pendell, power use adviser for McDonough Power who has been Allan's instructor in 4-H electric projects the past five years, describes the youth as "one of the finest young men I have met. He has a fine personality, and is humble about his achievements. He also is an excellent student."

The youth, Mr. Pendell continued, like his parents, is glad to be member-owners of McDonough Power, and all three of them are very cooperative minded.

Allan has been a judge at the McDonough County fat stock show and has served as a junior leader for the last three years. This year he has shown cattle at six county fairs and one state fair, winning two grand championships and four reserve championship ribbons.



The 20 4-H club boys and girls who were named district electric project winners are shown here with members of the Illinois Farm Electrification Council, sponsor of their three-day, all-expense paid trip to Chicago recently. Two boys and two girls were selected as having the best electricity projects in each of the five agriculture extension districts in Illinois. The electric cooperatives are supporting members of the IFEC.





Managers and power use advisers from the electric cooperatives in Illinois held a joint luncheon meeting in Springfield recently. Shown (from left) are State Rep. James D. Holloway of Sparta; Everett R. Brown, a regional director of the Rural Electrification Administration from Washington, D. C.; Lee Leonard, Carthage, president of the Illinois Electric Cooperative Managers' Association; Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Moore, general manager of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives; L. Thomas Clevenger, manager of the Southern Illinois Power Cooperative at Marion; and R. T. Reeves, manager of the Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative at Dongola.

## REA Director Stresses Low Rates

Excellent service with the lowest possible rates in accordance with sound fiscal policies must be given member-owners of the nation's electric cooperatives.

Everett R. Brown, director of the North Central Area for the Rural Electrification Administration, made that statement recently at the meeting of the Illinois Electric Cooperative Managers' Association. Power use advisers from the state's 27 distribution cooperatives also were at the Springfield meeting.

Mr. Brown complimented the

managers on the success of their cooperatives, and he paid particular attention to their capital credit payments. The member-owners of the Illinois cooperatives have been credited with \$1.5 to \$2 million in capital credits which represents the amount of money left over after all expenses have been paid, he said.

The cooperatives, he said, "can take great pride in a continuing program" of paying capital credits as a part of the non-profit operation.

MR. BROWN said about \$30 million in capital credits has been paid to the member-owners of electric cooperatives in the six states of REA's North Central Area.

THOMAS H. MOORE, general manager of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, reported on new services offered by the association and said "We're here to do the things that you want done." Mr. Moore also said the AIEC plans to be in its new offices on the south edge of Springfield by next June.



Four of those who attended the meeting of power use advisers are (from the left) Ernest Weber of Norris Electric Cooperative at Newton, Dorland W. Smith of Menard Electric Cooperative at Petersburg, Ivan Holler and Victor G. Ketten of Southwestern Electric Cooperative, Inc., at Greenville.

# Clinton County Honors Three Co-op Leaders

Three men who have given tirelessly to the rural electric movement were honored at the 26th annual meeting of Clinton County Electric Cooperative, Inc., held in Breese recently.

Manager Joseph H. Heimann and directors Fred C. Fruend of Carlyle r.r. 4 and Vincent Albers of Bartelso received electric watches in honor of their 25 years' service with the cooperative.

Mr. Fruend, who retired after continuous service since the cooperative was organized in 1939, was succeeded on the board by Wilbert H. Rueter of Carlyle. Re-elected to three-year terms were Mr. Albers and Herman G. Korte of Germantown.

AT AN ORGANIZATIONAL meeting, the board re-named Harvey J. Klingelhoef of Mascoutah r.r. 1, president; Burl Quick of Shattuc r.r. 2, vice president; and Rob-

ert W. Holtgrave of Breese r.r. 1, secretary-treasurer.

Mr. Heimann told the 1,000 persons at the meeting that Mr. Fruend "has contributed immensely to your organization and we will always be indebted to his solid thinking and sound judgment on all cooperative principles and business management."

Mr. Fruend said he regretted leaving an active role in the cooperative and told the members "my only recommendation to you is that you patronize the cooperative and continue your support by attending the annual meetings and otherwise give the help you can."

Mr. Klingelhoef, Illinois' director to Region V of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, told the crowd in the Breese High School gymnasium that "Your cooperative is a valuable asset to you and all the people within your territory. It faces a bright future, a future marked by even greater, unselfish service. And we all look forward to this future with pride and confidence."

IN HIS MANAGER'S report, Mr. Heimann said Clinton County Electric is providing "the best elec-



Manager Joseph H. Heimann (standing left) and directors Fred C. Fruend (seated) and Vincent Albers were presented watches, commemorating their 25 years service with Clinton County Electric Cooperative, Inc.

tric service obtainable anywhere at a minimum cost to you. You are buying electric service from your cooperative at approximately 10 to 25 per cent less than you can purchase it from any other supplier in this area. With your continued support in the use of electricity we know we can continue to keep up this business of supplying you with electric service at minimum cost."

## Rural Electric Sees Continued Member Interest

Member-owners of electric cooperatives will continue working to keep their organizations strong and

Miss Betty Lou Centko is the new "Miss Rural Electric Convenience." Also shown sitting is Miss Becky Hunt, last year's queen. Standing are Miss Patricia Ann Aherin (left), who finished second in the beauty pageant, and Miss Rachel Sloman, the second runner-up.



active "not only for our own benefit, but to protect the heritage of all those who worked so hard to organize them."

Arthur R. Brackebusch, president of Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative Co., made that prediction at the cooperative's annual meeting in Auburn recently.

Mr. Brackebusch said Illinois' electric cooperatives can expect a busy year in 1965 when they probably will sponsor legislation to protect the territories they have developed and when they probably will be faced with efforts aimed at destroying the progress made in bringing electricity and its modern conveniences to the rural areas.

THE 800 PERSONS attending the meeting also heard Manager Ralph V. White say that Rural Electric Convenience is always striving to supply electricity at the lowest possible cost. A new generating plant which the local cooperative is helping build may have to be used as the sole power supplier if co-op members are to continue receiving electricity at low prices, according to Mr. White.

The manager said the generat-

ing plant of Western Illinois Power Cooperative (WIPCO) on the Illinois River at Pearl should be in operation by mid 1966.

The member-owners re-elected Stanley Otten of Modesto, Joe Dawson of Divernon r.r. 1 and Henry Gieseking of Harvel to the board of directors for three-year terms.

MISS BETTY LOU CENTKO, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Steve Centko of Virden r.r. 1, was crowned as "Miss Rural Electric Convenience of 1964" by last year's queen, Miss Becky Hunt of Palmyra.

Miss Patricia Ann Aherin, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John V. Aherin of Farmersville, placed second in the contest. Finishing third was Miss Rachel Sloman, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler Sloman of Pawnee r.r. 2.

Harland Wagehoft, 6, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Wagehoft of Pawnee, won the talent contest with a vocal solo. Arvin Pierce, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Pierce of Auburn, sang his way to a second-place finish. Placing third was Miss Joanie Pop, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Steve Pop of Taylorville r.r. 2, who tap danced.

# M. J. M. Hears Legislation Needs

The need for territorial integrity legislation in the 1965 General Assembly was stressed at the annual meeting of M. J. M. Electric Cooperative, Inc., recently.

Carl Bloome of Carlinville r. r. 2, president of the cooperative, and Charles W. Witt, the cooperative's manager, both said that the state's electric cooperatives must not be discriminated against unfairly.

"M. J. M. must depend on its members to combat the half truths of the investor-owned companies by giving the true facts of the cooperative to persons who are not members," Mr. Bloome said.

MR. WITT said Illinois legislators should "observe the determination on the faces of our members as they look to the 1965 sessions of the state legislature with the anticipation of enacted lawful protection, which will assure the membership the right to operate this cooperative without harassment from vested interests desiring only to make secure their own monopolistic operations by the destruction of the electric cooperatives."

The 1,500 persons attending the meeting in Southwestern High School at Piasa also heard Mr.



The new "Miss M. J. M. Electric" is Miss Nancy Hammann. Placing second in the queen contest was Miss Kathy Mieher (right). Miss Roberta Frost was third.

Bloome say "The feeling of ownership and control which I have in my cooperative means a lot to me. I also know that the only objective of your board of trustees is to give you and your neighbors the best service at the lowest possible cost."

Mr. Witt reported that the cooperative initiated a service department during the past year. "The

cooperative is now in a position to assist members with the actual installation of their facilities. It is desired that this service be used to fill a need in areas where good wiremen are not available, and to help correct some of the faulty wiring conditions which exist beyond the meter."

THE MEMBER-OWNERS re-elected Leland Oertel of Brighton r.r. 2 and Alvin L. Mullins of Butler r.r. 1 to the board for three-year terms. Wayne Gilworth of Jerseyville r.r. 2 was elected to a three-year term to succeed retiring director Herschel Fritz of Jerseyville r.r. 2.

The board re-elected its officers who are: Mr. Bloome, president; Henry Egelhoff of Jerseyville r.r. 3, vice president; Mr. Mullins, secretary; and Clarence Doerr of Irving, treasurer.

Miss Nancy Hammann, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Hammann of Gillespie r.r. 1, was crowned "Miss M. J. M. Electric Cooperative of 1964." Miss Kathy Mieher, 16, daughter of Mrs. Esther Mieher of Carlinville r.r. 2, placed second in the beauty contest. Finishing third in the field of seven contestants was Miss Roberta Frost, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd R. Frost of Jerseyville.

## Power Supply Needs Studied By Tri-County

"With your help we can remain strong and continue doing good for you and our community," member-owners of Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Inc., were told recently.

H. G. Downey, manager of the cooperative, told the 800 persons attending the annual meeting in Mount Vernon that Tri-County Electric spends \$75,000 annually to keep the 2,163 miles of electric lines in serviceable condition, allowing the best possible service to the 7,846 member-owners.

REUBEN YOUNG of Odin, president of the cooperative, said a long-range financial plan is being prepared to insure that the power supply will adequately meet the cooperative's needs. The engineering study covers the period through 1970.

Mr. Young also reported that the

cooperative paid \$63,450 to the members last year in capital credits earned until 1943. "This year, we are returning capital for the years 1943 and 1944 in the amount of \$70,542.90, and we will continue to refund capital as long as financial reserves permit."

The president urged the membership to take an active participation in the cooperative and said a Tri-County Booster Club was organized this past year "to help strengthen your membership."

THREE DIRECTORS were re-elected to three-year terms at the business meeting. They were David Hanes of Mount Vernon r.r. 6, C. Glenn Jones of Odin and Philip Heggemeier of Nashville.

The board of directors reorganized and renamed Mr. Young president and William Groennert of Addieville secretary-treasurer. Mr. Hanes was elected vice president, succeeding E. C. Champ of Woodlawn.

Plaques were presented to Mr. Groennert and Raymond Pitchford of Nashville, honoring them for their 25 years' service with Tri-County Electric.

Winners of the talent contest were the Christannaires Quartet con-

sisting of Fred and Gary Diel of Fouts, Rodney Marlow of Woodlawn and Stanton Endicott of Woodlawn. Their accompanist was Jerry Webb of Mount Vernon.

Dave Porter a Nashville boy who played the accordion, was second. Third place went to Lovetta and Donna Story, singing daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Story of Opdyke.



William Groennert (left) and Raymond Pitchford are shown with their plaques presented for serving 25 years on the board of Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Inc.



# Ski Resort Opening In Co-op Area

(Continued from page 7)

the latest in snowmaking equipment for use whenever Mother Nature falls down on the job.

Such equipment is essential. It normally will be called into use within a week after even a 12-inch snowfall in order to maintain the snow in top condition.

The ski area was to begin operation earlier this month. For the opening it was necessary to make snow every night for a week to provide an adequate base. After that snowmaking equipment may be needed about three nights a week "and the snow we make is better than the natural product," Mr. Balfanz said.

"It freezes a little harder, it's more like crystals than snowflakes and this makes for better skiing and greater durability."

**THE SKI AREA** is open each day and night with plenty of lighting for the six open Alpine type skiing runs and the four tows which provide uphill transportation. The two-story lodge offers rental equipment, light refreshments, soft drinks—and the welcome warmth of a huge, circular fireplace—and a spectacular view of the ski and jump areas.

Terrapin Ridge can accommodate 750 to 1,000 skiers daily and there's all-weather parking for some 700 cars. The resort now provides employment for 10 to 12 persons.

Costs to visitors are low. Special package arrangements are available to schools and colleges.

"**BUT ISN'T** skiing dangerous for a beginner, and jumping — ouch!" queried a reporter.

Mr. Balfanz looked a little distasteful, but he was patient.

"I've been skiing since I was 7," he said, "and I've been doing an awful lot of jumping. I fall occasionally, but I don't really get hurt. I've had only four broken ribs and a minor concussion. My wife tells me that as long as I land on my head I'll not be badly hurt."

"Is she right?"

"Yep," grinned the 24-year-old Mr. Balfanz.

"**WHAT ABOUT** the cooperation you've received from Jo-Carroll Electric Cooperative in getting this re-

# Current Lines From

## McDonough

MACOMB, ILLINOIS

Installation costs for electric heating are coming down. Today's resistance-type electric heating is probably the lowest in initial cost. If builders want cooling, a separate system must be installed. For central systems, cooling could be supplied by a heat pump or by an electric furnace.



Arthur H. Peyton  
Manager

The fact is that operating costs for electric heating are coming down. The rapid increase in the summer kilowatt load for air conditioning has now made the winter the "off season."

Kilowatts used in winter heating are practically competitive with the equivalent number of B.T.U.s in oil or gas. Electric heat can solve your heating problem. In the older existing home or a new one, heating problems can be solved with several types of electric heat.

The cooperative now has 55 members heating their homes the clean, safe and most maintenance free system known and with 100% more controlled by a thermostat in every room. No hot or cold spots and installation costs are usually less than for any other system.

Write us if you are going to install a new heating system. We will give you actual operation costs of those in operation and provide you with installation and operating costs for your home without obligation.

### HOLIDAY SUGGESTIONS

How to get smart with a tree. Be-

sort area started?" asked the reporter.

"They've been wonderful," came the prompt, serious answer. "They have helped us in a thousand little ways and quite a few big ones. They've given us reliable technical advice about the use of electricity and about how we can solve so many problems. They're wonderful people and we enjoy working with them."

Hmmmmmm. Let's all go skiing. Next week end should be about right.

fore you buy your Christmas tree, run your fingers through the foliage to see if it feels fresh to your touch. Give the tree a shake or tap it on the ground to see if it still holds its needles. If the needles are turning brown, the tree will be a fire hazard. Cutting the butt diagonally about an inch above the original cut will aid in the absorption of water, so it will stay fresh.

Turkey time tips. Worried how big a bird to buy? Allow  $\frac{3}{4}$  to 1 pound per person if your bird weighs less than 12 pounds; allow  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  pounds per person if it weighs 12 pounds or over.

### NEW LOOK

Demand for used brick, with its weathered, mellow appearance so attractive for both traditional and contemporary house designs, has so exceeded the supply that clay products manufacturers in many areas are now making new "antique" bricks. Often the new "used" bricks cost less than the old because of the elimination of hand labor required to remove the remnants of mortar from the old ones.

### THINKING FOR OURSELVES

Now that the election is over, let's try thinking for ourselves. Too often friends and neighbors are unwilling to sit down and reason together to discuss the issues and candidates. This is tragic.

Our news media bear a heavy responsibility for this unhealthy attitude by the newspapers which were biased in their partisan editorial opinions to the point of irresponsibility. As a result, large segments of our citizenry were denied sound editorial leadership. They were fed a steady diet of raw emotionalism.

The emotional sales pitch was even more evident in radio and TV commercials. These commercials belittle us as a great and proud people to force our presidential candidates to resort to the tactics that we witnessed. The one-eyed monster in our living rooms could yet be our undoing as a free and democratic nation.

America is going forward. The worst we have to fear is our intolerance of each other and letting selfish interests do our thinking for us.

# Co-op Managers!

## Shelby

SHELBYVILLE, ILLINOIS

It's good to greet our friends and neighbors at this happy holiday season. Here at your cooperative headquarters it's good to know that there are so many loyal members of this cooperative included in our lists of



W. L. Walker  
Manager

friends and neighbors. We value your good will, and we cherish the privilege of serving you. As this holiday season approaches, let us all keep our thoughts and spirits on the true meaning and significance of Christmas—the Birthday of Christ which the entire Christian world celebrates on December 25.

### SAFE DECORATIONS

Whatever you do about Christmas decorations, be sure they are safe.

Christmas trees, especially when dry, can burn easily. Buy a sprayed tree or spray it with anti-wilt or flame-retardant solution, and keep it in as cool a place as possible. Keep the trunk in water or moist sand.

### FARM PROTECTION

Security lights are a protection, convenience and a welcome to your friends to visit your home on these long, dark winter nights. Many of our members are installing security lights the past month. Apparently, the suggestion of making them a gift has been accepted by many. While you are thinking about your own lack of outside light, why not call the cooperative and ask them to install your security light today.

### FOR SALE

Mr. Hal Jarnagin, our stockman, has several hundred feet of good used weather-proof copper electrical wire. This wire can be purchased at the office by you, the member, at a very reasonable price. Also, Mr. Jarnagin has the spools and clamps to use in securing wire to poles or buildings.

### MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

On behalf of your Board of Directors, Co-op Manager and Co-op

Personnel, we wish to send Season's Greetings to each and every one of you and extend the very best of wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

## 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.

This brilliant (question mark) column is going to be very short and sweet.

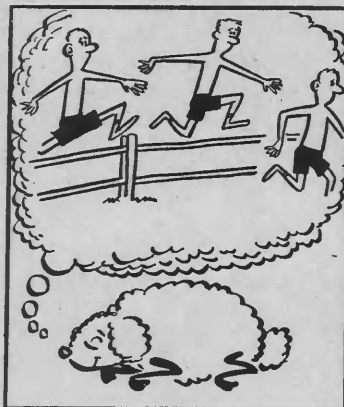
I want to certainly wish each and every one of you the MERRIEST CHRISTMAS and the HAPPIEST NEW YEAR.

Now, I could give you a lot of guff about making this a white Christmas, and going out and buying all kinds of electrical appliances with ulterior motives of making you use more current, but I'll bet anybody that wants to bet me a brand new Stetson, three, triple X, Beaver quality fur felt Western style cowboy hat with a three inch rolled edge brim that I wouldn't sell you a dog-gone appliance that you didn't want to buy anyway.

And that's a round-about way of telling you that I think you're just as smart as I am and if you want something, you're going to get it without any advice from me. But, I do again want to repeat MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU and let's be good to one another.



Damon Williams  
Manager



## Convenience

AUBURN, ILLINOIS

Your Board of Directors and all employes wish to take this opportunity to wish each of you a Merry Christmas and a joyous New Year. We have only to look around us to see all the blessings that have been bestowed upon us. Let us



Ralph White  
Manager

all take a few moments to reflect on the true meaning of the Christmas season. With the hustle and bustle of the holidays, preparing for a family reunion, exchange of gifts and other festivities, it seems that often we lose sight of the true meaning of Christmas.

### ANNUAL MEETING

As we write this, our 1964 annual meeting is a memory. All in all it was a very successful meeting. Over 800 members and their families and guests packed the Auburn Grade School gymnasium for this event. Joe Dowson, Divernon; Henry Gieseck, Harvel; and Stanley Otten, Modesto; were re-elected to your Board of Directors for three-year terms.

### QUEEN CROWNED

Miss Betty Centko, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Steve Centko, Virden, was crowned "Miss Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative of 1964." Runners-up were Miss Patsy Aherin, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. John Aherin, Farmersville, and Miss Rachel Sloman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler Sloman, Pawnee.

### PRIZES

Dozens of prizes were awarded to the registered members.

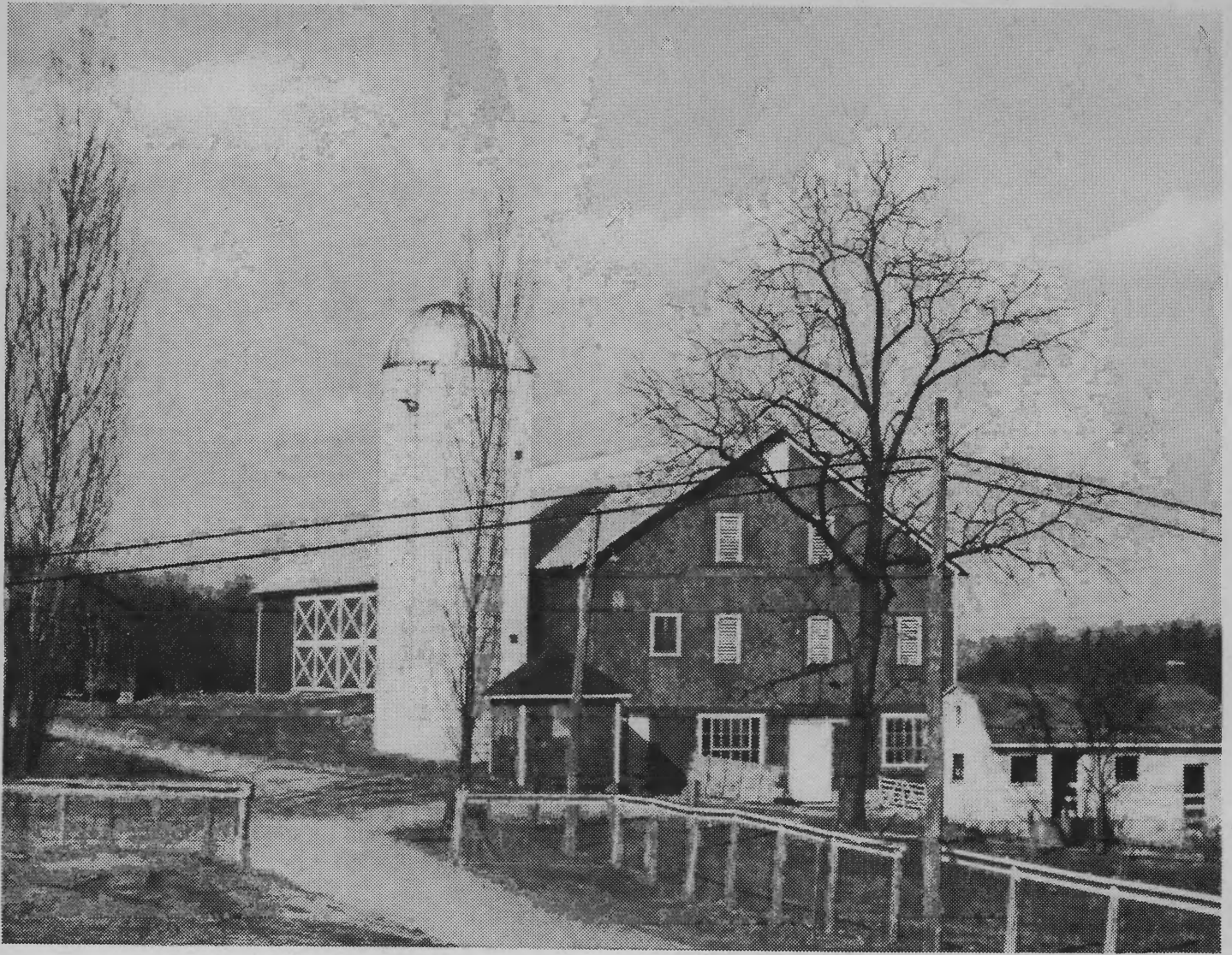
The winner of the Early Bird Prize was Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Burnett, Waverly. The Early Bird Prize was an electric clothes dryer. The Grand Prize of an electric dishwasher was awarded to Miss Francis Malsbury of Virden.

### ELECTRIC HEATING SYSTEM

The winner of the electric home heating system was Mr. Robert Boyett of Farmersville. He soon will be enjoying the benefits of electric home heating.

### NEW YEARS' RESOLUTION

We would like to ask all members to make a New Year's resolution—"GO, GO all electric the modern way." When you think of labor-saving equipment think of electrical equipment on the farm and in the home.



## They put democracy to work and brought light to the rural areas of Illinois

Thirty years ago, this farm looked pretty dismal. No lights. No running water. No modern milking equipment. No power tools. No modern conveniences. It was a hand-to-hand struggle with nature to make it pay.

Today, things are different, thanks to the American system of democracy that lets groups of people do together what individuals cannot accomplish alone . . . like

providing electric power through their home-owned Electric Cooperatives.

Local people own these Cooperatives that provide blessed light and power in Illinois' rural areas and they are the people that use the power. Everybody benefits — farmers, merchants, townspeople and country residents — through the increased use of the things that electricity makes possible.



*Things are much brighter in rural Illinois with power from the Electric Cooperatives.*

# **ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES of ILLINOIS**

*GOOD FOR ALL ILLINOIS*



# Major Change Seen In New USDA Program

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is expected to begin a historic transformation which will enable an all-out assault on the stubborn prosperity lag in rural areas.

Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman, encouraged by a recent conference with President Johnson, plans to have USDA quit concerning itself solely with agriculture as an industry and start to emphasize rural America as one economic unit.

"Where we have been concerned primarily with plants, animals and land," Mr. Freeman said, "we must be equally concerned with people."

**HE SAID FARMING** as such can adequately support only one out of every eight or ten families now living directly off the land. Thus, other rural job opportunities must be developed or "rural communities will continue the slow decline that so many of them are experiencing."

The concept, Mr. Freeman explained, is to help not only the 13 million persons directly involved in farming, but also to increase the economic opportunities of the 45 million persons who live in the countryside and in the hamlets and towns that make up rural America.

Most federal programs, Mr. Freeman said, now are geared to urban areas and "tend to stop at the city line." This is largely because urban areas have more highly trained public officials who take better advantage of federal programs.

**THE SECRETARY** emphasized that the changes in the USDA will not take vast and costly new programs to stimulate the rural economy. Instead, he said, the department will act more as a "central clearinghouse" through which rural citizens can work to make use of programs already in operation.

The USDA's present Rural Areas Development program, he suggested, could be changed to a "community services" office which would determine how federal programs could be applied to rural areas and pass that information along to community leaders who would be responsible for mobilizing the resources of their communities.

DECEMBER, 1964

# What's New?



## ● Tape Recorder

Reluctant letter writers now can "talk" a letter with this miniature cartridge tape recorder which comes with a "ready tape mailer" in which the removable cartridge can be posted to the holder of the twin unit. Each cartridge records and plays up to 35 minutes, requires no threading and is available for instant recording. The unit also is useful for taking down lecture notes or recording interviews. It is gift packed in a camera-size package which includes leather carrying case, shoulder strap, earphone, leather microphone case and cartridge mailer. Manufactured by Westinghouse, it is expected to sell for about \$69.95.

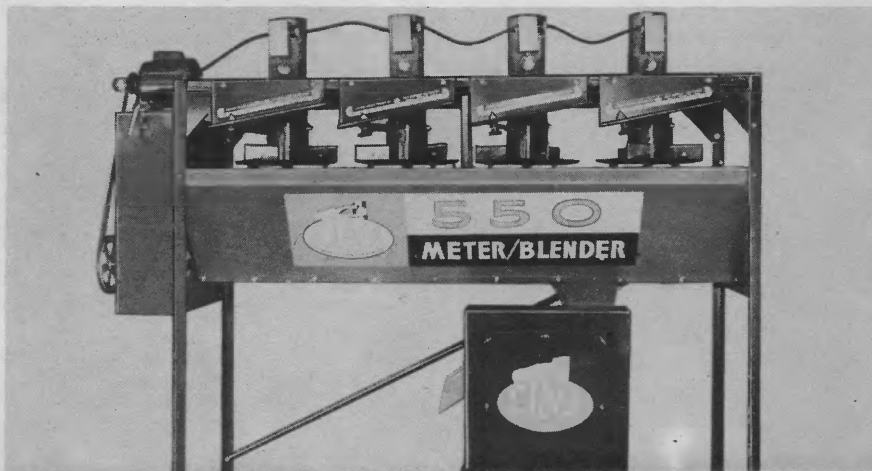
## ● Vacuum Cleaner

This hand vacuum cleaner weighs only 4¾ pounds and can be used for cleaning such things as drapes, clothing, patio furniture or the family car. The "Whisk" cleaner manufactured by the Eureka Williams Co. of Bloomington, Ill., is equipped with a disposable sanitized dust bag, an extra long cord and a soil trap to eliminate dirt seeping back into the room. Available in department, appliance and hardware stores, the electric unit is designed to retail for \$19.95.



## ● Feed Grinder

This automatic meter-blender has been designed to process cattle, hog and poultry feed and has a two horsepower hammer mill with a capacity of one ton per hour. Called the "550 Meter-Blender," the unit operates up to five hours unattended and shuts off automatically when an ingredient runs out to insure proper ration balance. It will grind a ton of feed for five cents worth of electricity, according to the manufacturer, Clay Equipment Corp., River Drive, Cedar Falls, Iowa. Further details may be obtained by writing the firm.



# Smile Awhile

## CHEERFUL PROSPECT

It is told that the administration hired an economist to make a survey and predict what the situation would be 50 years from now. They told him to report back with two projections—optimistic and pessimistic. Months passed. Finally his report was read.

"Well, for the optimistic side," he reported, "it is my opinion that in 50 years we will be forced to subsist on crabgrass."

"That's optimistic?" the government expert asked. "What's the pessimistic view, then?"

"There may not be enough crabgrass to go around."

## THINKING MAN'S BOY

A four-year-old boy who had never spoken a word in his life startled his parents by exclaiming, "This is a heck of a world." Instead of talking, that boy had been thinking.

## JUST THE FACTS, MAM

Lincoln is of interest to many people, including the fifth grader who charged into the library and demanded: "Have you a good book about John Wilkes Booth? I'd like to get his side of the story."

## NOT NECESSARILY TRUE

Most every time the Army Engineers build a new dam the conservation interests damn the engineers. Their feud has been a fine old American Institution. But conservationists have now attacked with a fearsome new weapon: the reverse elephant joke. Sample:

Question: "What is an elephant?"

Answer: "A mouse—built to Army Engineer specifications."

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## QUOTABLE QUIPS

When we hear something about being "fruitful," we should remember that the lemon is a fruit.

\* \* \*

The way restaurant prices are going up, it won't be long until the \$100-a-plate dinner sounds reasonable.

\* \* \*

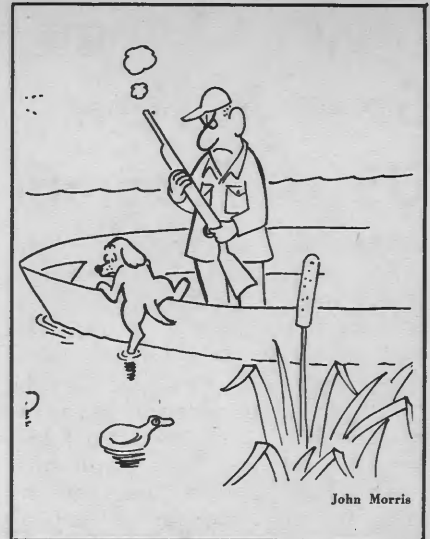
Pity the corpulent golfer: When he puts the ball where he can see it, he can't reach to hit it; when he puts it where he can hit it, he can't see it.

\* \* \*

A consultant is a well-paid expert brought in at the last minute to share the blame.

\* \* \*

The people who tell you never to let little things worry you have never tried sleeping with a mosquito in the room.

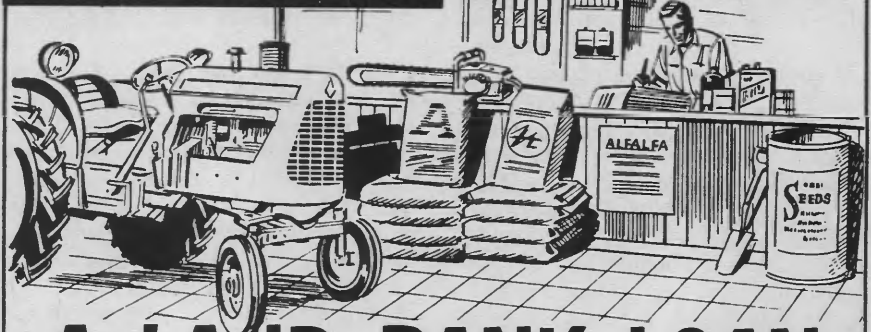


Memo to Motorist: You're a pedestrian the moment you step out of your car.

\* \* \*

Discretion is forgiving your enemies — especially those you can't lick.

## OFF-FARM EMPLOYMENT



# A LAND BANK LOAN

is geared to the present day needs  
of the **PART-TIME FARMER**

Many owners of a small farm, with agricultural income, located near dependable outside income are using a low-cost Land Bank loan to—build a new house—refinance debts—make repairs and improvements—or finance other requirements of the farm owner. Long-term Land Bank loans can be repaid at any time without penalty. Low-Cost Mortgage Protection Life Insurance is available as a safeguard for your family.

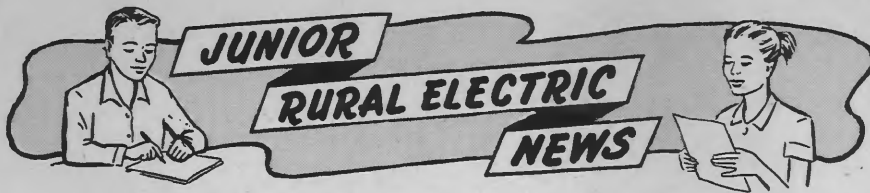


SEE OR WRITE YOUR NEAREST FEDERAL LAND BANK ASSOCIATION IN ILLINOIS



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CARROLLTON  
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DECATUR  
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EFFINGHAM  
EUREKA  
FREEPORT  
GALESBURG  
HARRISBURG  
HILLSBORO

JOLIET  
KEWANEE  
LINCOLN  
MACOMB  
MONMOUTH  
MORRISON  
MT. VERNON  
OREGON  
OTTAWA  
PITTSFIELD  
PRINCETON  
QUINCY  
SPRINGFIELD  
WATSEKA  
WOODSTOCK



# PEN PALS

## Hi Pen Pals,

Well, here it is Christmas time again. It seems like there is no other time of the year which we like better. And before long we'll be thinking of New Year resolutions as we look toward 1965 and what lies in the future for us.

But now is the time for you to enjoy all the Yuletide treats and especially your school vacation. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you!

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

\* \* \*

## Fourth Grader

I am nine years old and my birthday is Dec. 13. I have light brown hair and blue eyes. I go to Downs Grade School. I am in the fourth grade. I have two older sisters. I would like to hear from girls and boys of ages 9 to 12.—Pam Pulaski, r.r. 2, Bloomington, Ill.

\* \* \*

## Fond of Horses

I am 10 years old and in the fifth grade. I have a collie puppy and I am very fond of horses. I have a sister and a brother. I would like to have a boy from age of 9 to 11 to write to me. I will answer all letters. Send pictures if possible.—Jack Wayne Newberry, r.r. 1, Cobden, Ill.



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## Likes to Dance

I am 18 and like to go to dances. My birthday is April 19. I like to get letters from girls and boys. I have blue eyes and brown hair. I am five feet, six inches tall. I like to listen to records of all different kinds. My favorite dance is Blue Velvet. I will answer all letters.—Ruth Lash, r.r. 2, Scales Mound, Ill.

\* \* \*

## Likes Music

I am 12 years old and in the seventh grade. My birthday is Jan. 31. I have brown hair and green eyes. My hobbies are reading sports and mystery books, dancing and playing records. My favorite movie stars are Patty Duke, Joan Crawford and Ann Margaret. My favorite singers are Jimmy Dean, Buck Owens, Bobby Vinton and the Manfred Man. I would like to hear from boys and girls from 11 to 14 years of age. Please try to send a picture. I will try to answer all letters.—Cris Allen, Box 466, Clay City, Ill.

\* \* \*

## Coin Collector

I am 11 years old. My birthday is Aug. 15. I have green eyes and dark blonde hair. I am five feet, two inches tall. I go to Beecher City Grade School. My hobbies are collecting top hit tunes, stuffed animals and coins. I am in my second year of 4-H. I would like to hear from girls and boys from the ages of 11 to 15. I will try to answer all letters and would like to exchange photographs with my pen pals.—Carla Jenell Kutcher, r.r. 2, Effingham, Ill.



\* \* \*

## Ice Skater

I am 13 years old. My birthday is Nov. 4. My hobbies are horseback riding, ice skating and swimming. I am in the



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eighth grade at St. Mary's School. I would like boys and girls between the age of 13 and 16 to write to me. I will answer all letters.—Joyce Julian, 800 Hill St., Galena, Ill.

\* \* \*

## Listens to Records

I am 12 years and my birthday is March 13. I have red hair and blue eyes. I am in the seventh grade and go to Hume Junior High. My hobbies are listening to hit records and dancing. I'd like to hear from girls and boys from ages 12 to 14. I promise to answer all letters. Send pictures if possible.—Janet Gearlds, r.r. 1, Metcalf, Ill.

\* \* \*

## Collects Pen Pals

I am 12 years of age and in the seventh grade at Central City Grade School. My birthday is Oct. 1. My hobbies are dancing and collecting pen pals. I have reddish brown hair and brown eyes. I love to write to pen pals. I will answer every letter that I receive. I would like to hear from girls and boys between 11 and 15 years of age.—Delores Berning, r.r. 1, Odin, Ill.

\* \* \*

## Enjoys Swimming

I am 12 years old and in the seventh grade at Dundas Grade School. My birthday is May 25. I have light brown hair and blue eyes. I like to swim and ride horses. I would like to hear from boys and girls between the ages of 12 and 14. I would like to have a picture, if possible. I will try to answer all letters. — Cindy Parnell, r.r. 1, Dundas, Ill.



\* \* \*

## Plays Baseball

I am 12 years old. I am in the seventh grade at Auburn School. My birthday is May 22. I have brown hair and brown eyes. My hobbies are playing baseball and swimming. I would like to hear from girls and boys of all ages. I will try to answer all letters.—Theresa Norris, r.r. 2, Auburn, Ill.



# A treasure chest of

## GOLDEN NUGGETS

- 1 cup dried apricots, coarsely chopped
- 1/2 cup water
- 1 cup shortening (part butter)
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 egg
- 1/2 teaspoon almond flavoring
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 3/4 cups flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 1/2 cups flaked coconut
- toasted whole almonds

Cook apricots in water over low heat 5-10 minutes. Do not drain (water should be absorbed). Mix shortening and sugars until fluffy. Add egg, flavoring and cooled apricots. Mix flour, salt and baking powder; stir in. Chill dough several hours. Drop heaping teaspoonfuls of dough into coconut to coat. Place 2 inches apart on baking sheet and top with almonds. Bake at 350 degrees 12-15 minutes. Makes 6 dozen.

## GREEK SESAME SEED COOKIES

- 3/4 cup sesame seeds
- 1 cup soft butter or margarine
- 1 3/4 cups sugar
- 2 eggs
- 4 cups flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 3/4 cup water

Toast sesame seeds in heavy skillet medium heat, stirring constantly, until lightly browned. Remove from heat. Cream butter, sugar and eggs until fluffy. Mix in 1/3 cup seeds. Blend dry ingredients, add alternately with water to creamed mixture. Chill dough until stiff enough to roll. Heat oven to 350 degrees. Roll dough on lightly floured board into rectangle 1/8" thick. Cut dough into strips 2 1/2 x 3/4". Press one entire top side of each strip into dish containing the remaining sesame seeds. Loop one end over at right angle to the other, making bow-knot effect. Bake 8-10 minutes. Makes about 9 dozen cookies.

## ANISE SEED COOKIES

- 1/2 cup shortening (half butter)
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 cups sifted flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon anise seeds

Cream shortening and sugar until light

and fluffy. Stir in eggs and vanilla. Sift flour with baking powder and salt. Add to creamed mix with anise seeds and stir to blend. Cover and chill until firm. Roll out on floured board to 1/8-inch thickness. Cut with floured cutters in desired shape. Place carefully on ungreased baking sheets. Bake at 325 degrees about 15 minutes. Makes 5 dozen.

## LEBKUCHEN

- 3/4 cup honey
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 2 1/2 cups sifted flour
- 1 1/4 teaspoons cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon cloves
- 1/2 teaspoon allspice
- 1/2 cup chopped candied citron (4-oz. jar)
- 1/2 cup chopped candied lemon peel (4-oz.)
- 3/4 cup chopped blanched almonds
- Lemon Icing

Bring honey to boil in large, heavy pan. Cool. Blend in sugars. Add eggs and beat well. Sift together flour, cinnamon, cloves and allspice. Add to egg mixture gradually, beating well after each addition. Stir in fruit and almonds. Spread dough into well-greased jelly roll pan 10 1/2 x 15 1/2." Bake at 350 degrees 20-25 minutes. When cool, spread with Lemon Icing. Cut diagonally to form 2 x 3 cookie diamonds. Lemon Icing: 3 cups confectioners' sugar; 1 tablespoon grated lemon rind; 3 tablespoons milk or light cream. Combine and blend until smooth.

## CHOCOLATE COCONUT CRISPIES

- 2 1/2 cups sifted flour
- 1/2 teaspoon soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 1-oz. sqs. unsweetened chocolate
- 1 cup shortening
- 2 1/2 cups brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 cup chopped nuts
- 1/2 cup flaked coconut

Sift together flour, soda, salt. Melt chocolate. Cream together shortening and sugar until fluffy. Add eggs, beat well. Stir in melted chocolate. Beat well. Add flour mixture to creamed mixture, mixing well. Stir in nuts and coconut. Drop by teaspoonfuls on greased baking sheets. Bake at 350 degrees 12-15 minutes. Makes 5 dozen.

## MINCEMEAT FILLED COOKIES

- 4 cups sifted flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon soda
- 3/4 cup shortening
- 3/4 cup granulated sugar
- 3/4 cup brown sugar
- 3 eggs, beaten
- 3 tablespoons buttermilk
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 2 cups moist mincemeat
- 1 tablespoon grated lemon rind

Sift together flour, baking powder, salt, soda. Cream together shortening and sugars. Add eggs and beat thoroughly. Combine milk and vanilla. Add to creamed mixture alternately with flour mixture. Mix thoroughly to form a soft dough. Chill in refrigerator for several hours. Mix mince meat and lemon rind. Turn about 1/3 of dough at a time out on floured board. Roll out thin. Cut with floured 2 1/2" cutter. Spoon 1 teaspoon mince meat on half of cookie rounds. Cover with remaining rounds, press edges to seal. Bake on greased baking sheets 10 minutes at 400 degrees. Makes 5 dozen.

## LEMON BALLS

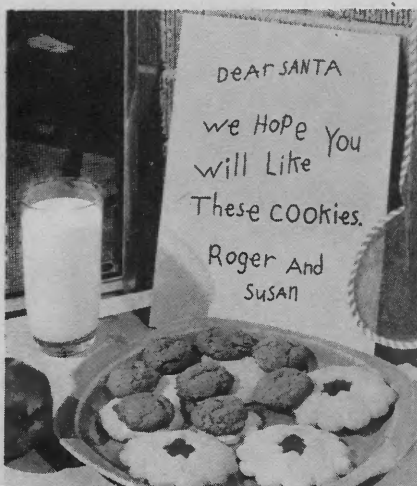
- 1 cup butter
- 1/2 cup confectioners' sugar
- 1 teaspoon lemon extract
- 2 cups sifted flour
- 1/4 teaspoon salt

Cream butter and sugar. Add rest of ingredients, mix well. Measure level teaspoonfuls of dough, round into ball and flatten slightly. Place about 1 inch apart on ungreased baking sheet. Bake 8-10 minutes at 400 degrees. Cool. Put together with a little Lemon Butter Filling. Roll in confectioners' sugar. Makes 5 dozen.

**LEMON BUTTER FILLING:** Blend 1 slightly beaten egg, grated rind of 1 lemon, 3/4 cup sugar, 3 tablespoons lemon juice and 1 1/2 tablespoons softened butter, cook over low heat until thick, stirring constantly. Set aside to cool.

## ALMOND MERINGUE SHORTBREADS

- Cookie Base:
- 2 cups sifted flour
  - 2 egg yolks
  - 1/2 cup sugar
  - 1/4 teaspoon salt
  - 3/4 cup butter



Chocolate Crispies—Mincemeat Cookies



Lemon Balls-Shortbread-Sprinkle Top Cookies



Anise Seed Cookies in fancy holiday shapes

# cookies

## Topping:

- ½ cup jam or jelly
- 2 egg whites
- ½ cup sugar
- ¼ teaspoon cinnamon
- ½ cup silvered almonds

Sift flour into bowl. Make well in center, add egg yolks, sugar, salt, butter. Work together with hands until well blended. Press dough in square pan 9 x 9 x 1-¾". Bake 15-20 minutes at 400 degrees. Cool slightly, spread with thick jelly or jam. Beat egg whites until foamy. Gradually add sugar, cinnamon. Continue beating until egg whites stand in stiff peaks. Spread meringue over jelly or jam, sprinkle with almonds. Bake 8-10 minutes until meringue is brown. Cut into 1½" squares. Makes 32.

## SPRINKLE-TOP COOKIES

- 1 cup soft butter or margarine
- ¾ cup confectioners' sugar
- 3 teaspoons vanilla
- ¾ teaspoon salt
- ½ cup uncooked oats
- 2 cups sifted flour
- ½ cup semi-sweet chocolate pieces
- ¼ cup milk
- finely chopped walnuts or pecans
- shredded coconut
- chocolate sprinkles

Mix well butter, sugar, vanilla. Stir in salt, oats, flour. With fingers, shape teaspoonfuls of dough into balls, crescents, triangles and bars. Bake on ungreased baking sheet 20-25 minutes, at 325 degrees or until golden around edges. Cool. Melt chocolate, add milk; blend until smooth. Drop cookies round-side-down in Chocolate, then in nuts, coconut or sprinkles. Makes 4 dozen. Watch baking time, easily overbaked.

## CHOCOLATE FUDGE COOKIES

(boiled)

- 2 cups sugar
- ½ cup milk
- 1 stick butter or oleo (½ cup)
- 3-4 tablespoons cocoa
- ½ cup peanut butter
- 2½-3 cups quick-cooking oatmeal
- 1-2 teaspoons vanilla
- ½-1 cup chopped nuts

Boil sugar, milk, oleo and cocoa for 1 to 1½ minutes (start timing after the mixture reaches a full rolling boil). Remove from heat, add peanut butter, oatmeal, vanilla, and nuts. Beat until blended, then drop on wax paper (by teaspoonfuls). Coconut, or dates may be added if desired.



Even ol' Long John Silver would be sweetened up with Golden Nuggets from Treasure Island



Greek Sesame Seed Cookies are great for giving—they pack well, look pretty, taste good



Lebkuchen, German honey cakes for dessert

*for the  
homemakers*

**By Judy Parker**

try  
your  
hand  
at

# FINGERPAINTING



Gift wraps and many, many other things are easy to make with finger-paint and ordinary paper with a coated surface, like fingerpaint paper, glazed shelf paper or any bleached kraft like butcher paper.

■ Have you ever watched a child fingerpaint? You can see at once that it's rewarding and fun! So why let the children have all that fun when you can join in and make pretty, useful things too.

Fingerpaint is easy to make. It consists of regular corn starch and other inexpensive kitchen staples, but with it you can decorate all sorts of things, can even make a beautiful "painting" to frame and hang on the wall.

Besides the paint (recipe given later) you'll need some water and a sponge, a roll of shelf paper or any coated papers you might have around the house and a work surface protected with newspapers or oilcloth.

The technique is easy. First, cut a sheet of paper and wet it with the sponge. Smooth it flat on the work surface. Next, put a large blob of fingerpaint on the paper and spread it out, using both hands. Now you're ready to play. Use thumb and fingers to make small forms and swirls. Use the side of the hands to make leaf forms or stripes. Finger tips and finger nails are useful for sharp lines or lettering.

Fingerpainting is really the reverse of regular painting. Instead of putting color on a particular spot, the design is formed by pushing the medium away from certain areas. For free swinging designs, take a tip from children and work standing up. There is a far greater freedom of movement when the whole body sways with the strokes of the arm and hand. Flat of arm makes good swirled background design.

To work with more than one color at a time, some care must be taken not to wind up with a muddy effect. With practice, however, beautiful multicolored paintings are possible. Pick bright colors for gay designs.

What to make? Well, obviously gift wrapping paper because it can be personalized with a name or message; covers for waste baskets, desk files, canisters and books; link chains for an old fashioned Christmas tree; mobiles and other party decorations, even holiday or birthday tablemats. The list is almost endless. You can finger paint on tile, ashtrays, too.

Tightly covered fingerpaint keeps almost indefinitely so don't confine it to the holidays. It is both relaxing and creative and, of course, it's always popular with young children as a rainy day play activity. And keep it in mind for vacation Bible schools next summer.

Here's how to make fingerpaints:

Use:  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup laundry starch, like Argo; 1 cup cold water; 1 envelope of unflavored gelatine, like Knox; 2 cups hot water;  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup soap flakes or detergent; pure vegetable food colors.

To make: Combine corn starch and  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup cold water; soak gelatine in remaining  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup cold water. Stir hot water slowly into corn starch mixture. Cook and stir over medium heat until mixture boils and is clear. Remove from heat; blend in softened gelatine. Stir in soap or detergent until dissolved. Cool mixture, then divide into a jar (like jelly jar) for each color. Stir food colors into mixture in each jar to desired intensity. When paintings are finished and dried, they should be pressed with a warm iron, so get out ironing board and iron when the masterpieces are ready!

*The more you "push around" in the paint  
the better your design is likely to be*



# STAIN REMOVAL CHART

You can't just throw your dirty clothes into your washer, press the button and expect a No. 1 job. Successful home laundry starts with proper preparation, most important of which is removal of stains. Once a fabric is wet, you may not be able to see the stain. Some stains may be set by washing or by the heat of the iron. The quicker a stain is treated, the easier it is to remove. So whatever the method, use it promptly. Here's an up-to-date chart:

STAIN	WHITE COTTONS AND LINENS	WASHABLE COLORED FABRICS
BLOOD	Soak in cold water. Wash in hot suds. If stain persists, soak in water with 2 tablespoons of ammonia per gallon.	Same as white cottons, but if fastness of colors is questionable, use hydrogen peroxide instead of ammonia.
CANDLE WAX	Scrape off excess wax. Place clean blotters above and below stain and press with warm iron. Remove spot with a safe dry cleaning fluid.	Same as white cottons.
CHLORINE	Rinse immediately in cold water. Dip fabric in a solution of 1 quart warm water and 2 tablespoons sodium sulphite (available from your druggist). Also a color remover may be used following package directions.	Color cannot be restored if it has been removed by chlorine bleach.
COFFEE OR CHOCOLATE	Sponge area with a paste of detergent and warm water. Follow regular washing procedures.	Same as white cottons.
EGG AND MEAT JUICE	Scrape away excess stain. Sponge with cold or lukewarm water. Never use hot water as it sets the stain. If stain persists, bleach.	Same as white cottons, but instead of bleaching use an absorbent powder or a grease solvent to remove spot.
FRUIT AND BERRIES	Pour boiling water on stain from height of 2 feet. For stubborn stains, bleach and launder.	Sponge with warm water. Bleach remaining stain with hydrogen peroxide or perborate bleach.
GRASS	Dip in warm, sudsy water and rub spot with fingers. If stain remains, bleach.	Same as white cottons, except use hydrogen peroxide or powdered perborate bleach only.
GREASE AND OIL	Sponge with a safe dry cleaning fluid. Launder in hot detergent water. Remove remaining by bleaching.	Sponge with a safe dry cleaning fluid. Launder in warm detergent water.
INK	Test first in lukewarm water for water soluble ink. Soak out stain, then launder. If not water soluble sponge with a safe dry cleaning fluid.	Same as white cottons.
IODINE	Soak in cool water until stain is removed. If stain remains rub it with detergent and wash in warm suds, or hold stain in the steam from a boiling kettle.	Same as white cottons.
LIPSTICK	Sponge with a safe dry cleaning fluid. Then rub area with a paste of detergent and water and launder.	Sponge with a safe dry cleaning fluid and then launder.
MILDEW	Treat stain while it is fresh. Wash mildewed article in hot water and detergent. Dry in the sun. If stain remains, bleach.	Same as for white cottons, but use warm water and a sodium perborate bleach or hydrogen peroxide only.
MILK AND ICE CREAM	Sponge with cold or lukewarm water. Wash in warm suds. If fruit or chocolate stain remains, follow directions for these stains.	Same as white cottons.
MUSTARD	Rub detergent into the dampened stain or soak in a hot detergent solution for several hours. If stain persists bleach.	Same as for white cottons, but use a warm detergent solution and a sodium perborate bleach only.
PAINT	Soften with oil, lard or vaseline and wash in warm detergent solution. If stain persists, sponge with turpentine.	Same as white cottons.
RUST	Spread stained portion over a pan of boiling water, apply lemon juice and salt to stain. Place in the sun to dry. A dilute solution of oxalic acid may also be used if stain persists.	Same as white cottons.
SCORCH	Washing compound and water remove light stains. If persistent, wash and place in sun or sponge with solution of 1 teaspoon sodium perborate to 1 pint of hydrogen peroxide.	Same as white cottons.

**CAUTION:** Because cleaning fluids tend to be toxic, be sure you are in a well-ventilated room when using them. No cleaning fluid should be used unless user is familiar with the limitations and required cautions (usually printed on the label). Use extreme caution with flammable compounds.



1. Rope Stitch Hat



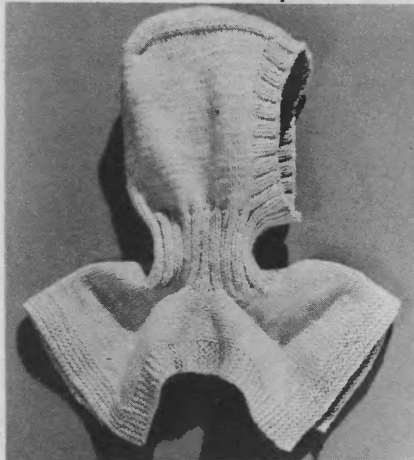
2. Proud Pixie Cap



3. Highland Beret



4. Easy-to-make Hood



5. Ski Helmet for Men



6. Ribbed Pixie Hood

For the winter winds and snowy days ahead here's

## Knitted headwarmers for everyone

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#### 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.....Rope Stitch Hat
- 2.....Pixie Cap
- 3.....Highland Beret  
Marigold Rug
- 4.....Hood
- 5.....Ski Helmet
- 6.....Pixie Hood
- 7.....Ear-Flap Cap
- 8.....Pea Cap

My name is .....

Address .....

Comment (if any) .....

This coupon expires Jan. 20, 1965.  
Orders must be postmarked by that date.

1. For the girls—a perky little pixie hat. The pointed crown of the hat is in one color and the roll-up brim in another, giving an attractive two-tone effect that's pert and pretty. The hat is knitted mostly in stockinette stitch, with a rope stitch worked in to complete the design.

2. Any little girl you know would be proud to wear this Pixie Cap. It's made of white and geranium worsted which is, as it should be for children, washable. And it's stockinette stitch that even a beginner can easily do. There's a bonus pattern—a crocheted pointed hat, too.

3. Let's have a Highland Fling in your new Highland Beret made from knitting worsted. It looks like it came from Scotland. And there's a special bonus design with this leaflet, a Marigold Rug made with knitting worsted but you don't have to know how to crochet or knit.

4. It's so easy to make this fashion hood that you'll be able to finish it in one sitting. It's stockinette stitch—one color for the border and contrasting color for rest. Little ties hold it in place with tassels at their ends.

5. Away we go—through the snow—in this warm and wonderful ski helmet for the men. You can make it to match his parka and it's only five ounces light in any size.

6. For the girls, a ribbed pixie hood that's ideal for all your outdoor activities. No blocking is necessary.

7. Outsmart Jack Frost with this cold-weather cap to keep youngsters warm while they're outdoors this winter. It's practical for school and play with roll-up brim, ear flaps and a tie under the chin—in small, medium, or large.

8. Just the thing for windy wintry days: a ribbed cap for men and boys. It's made of warm and comfy knitting worsted in white with decorative bands of color on brim.



7. Ear-Flap Cap



8. Ribbed Pea Cap

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS

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