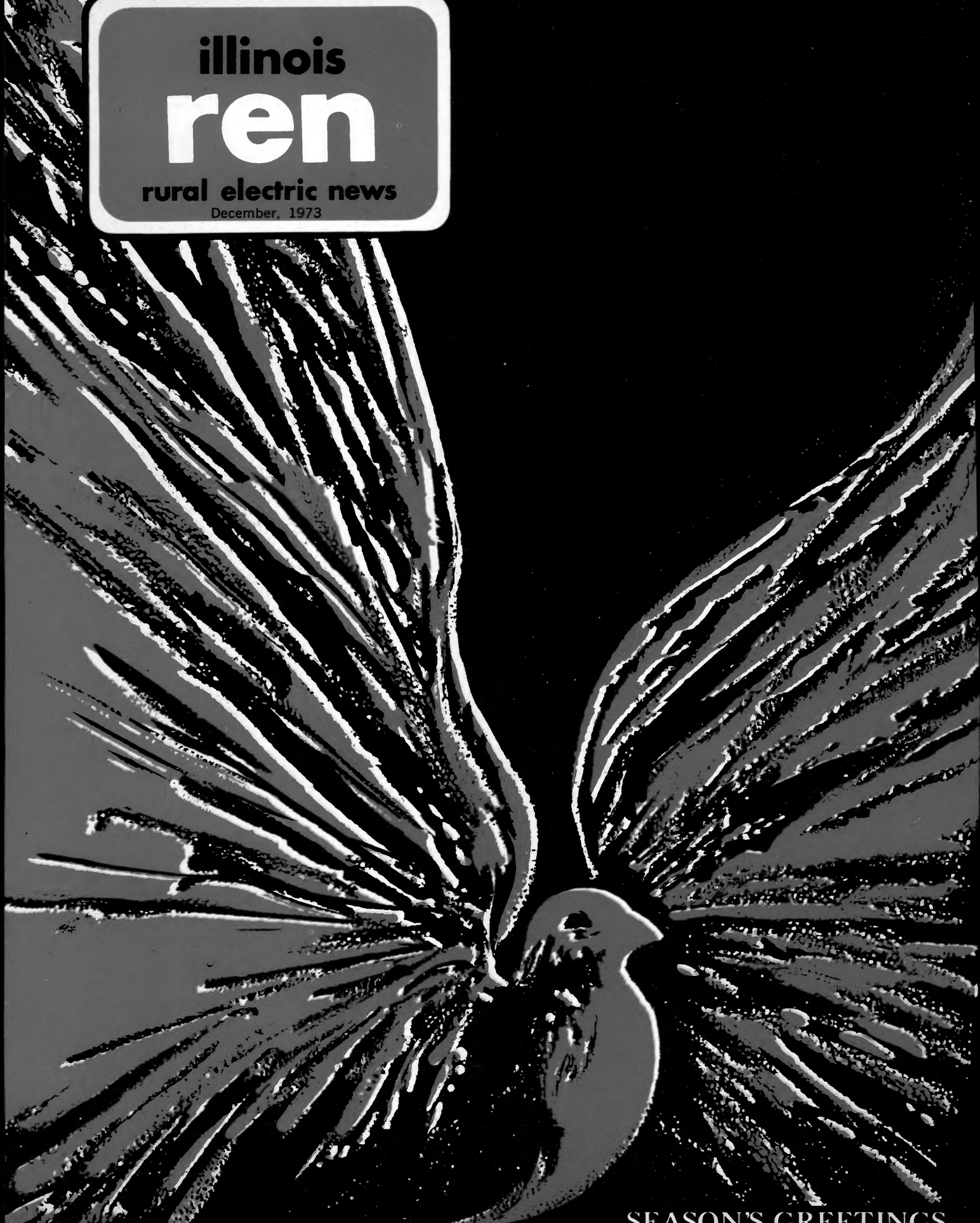


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rural electric news

December, 1973



SEASON'S GREETINGS

What is Best Path for Rural Housing?

Most observers agree that the toughest housing problem of all is that found in the rural areas of this country. That's where most of the dilapidated and deteriorating housing now exists, and it's where the large, multiple-housing answers which have succeeded so often in urban centers cannot be applied.

There is still no firm, broadly-tested answer to this one, but the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development sees a possible answer shining through a report recently produced under its sponsorship. A recent issue of the HUD newsletter explains:

"Rural electric cooperatives—the familiar, efficient suppliers of electric power to a generation of rural Americans—can be equally effective in helping families get more and better housing."

Michael H. Moskow, HUD Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research, says that cooperative activity in North and South Dakota has produced 2,500 new homes for rural families, proving that electric cooperatives can be "highly effective catalysts" for rural housing development under federal programs. "They have the capacity to fill the leadership gap in rural housing development," Moskow explains, "and to reduce the number of substandard units now found in rural areas—and that's more than half the occupied substandard housing in the entire nation."

The project on which the report was based was conducted by Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Bismarck, N.D., with a \$110,000 HUD grant and \$60,000 of its own money.

An REA Record

A \$29-million check—the largest single loan advance in the 38-year history of the Rural Electrification Administration—was presented to Associated Electric Cooperative of Missouri recently.

The check will help finance a 600-megawatt generating unit and transmission facilities at New Madrid, Mo. The advance was against \$72.2-million of loans made by REA on June 1, 1972, for the Associated project. The balance of the financing for the \$240.6 million project is being obtained through arrangements with the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation.

Super Clean Power

The discovery of a new kind of nuclear reaction which may be able to produce "super clean" energy without radiation hazards common to present nuclear power plants was disclosed by scientists of the Atomic Energy Commission recently. AEC physicist Thomas Weaver, who announced the discovery at a meeting of the American Physical Society in Philadelphia, said it would require "major advances" in technology to make it practical for energy production, since it requires heat of three billion degrees. Weaver said the discovery of the new, safer reaction "contradicts the widespread belief that fission releases energy only in heavy elements like uranium and plutonium." He said the new discovery "produces virtually no lingering radioactivity and thus could be the basis for super-clean power plants." The new reaction, he said, involves the fissioning of boron-11, most common form of the element.

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COVER—Best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the staff of the Illinois Rural Electric News. Cover by Lynn Baumgartner, AIEC graphics artist.

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illinois rural electric news

The Big Question

We Americans are a strange lot. We somehow have the uncanny ability to completely divorce ourselves from a problem until it becomes a crisis.

Case in point—the energy crisis. A crisis that some have called the most serious threat to survival in our history.

How did we get ourselves in such a situation? According to Charles A. Robinson, Jr., director of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's energy and environmental policy division, there are at least three principal factors which underlie what he calls the energy scarcity:

(1) U.S. energy consumption is enormous and growing at a fantastic rate; (2) the easily recoverable supplies of petroleum and natural gas, which together supply 78 percent of our total energy, are approaching depletion, and (3) the country's increasing desire to reduce environmental degradation has decreased the efficiency of our motor vehicle engines, rendered unusable large quantities of high sulfur fuels, and prevented or delayed construction and operation of various facilities required to produce energy materials, such as refineries, pipelines, deepwater ports and port facilities, power plants and offshore drilling rigs.

With only six percent of the world's population, the U.S. consumes more than a third of the world's available energy supplies. We are currently doubling our total energy use each 15 years. Between now and 2000 A.D. we will use more energy than has been used thus far in all recorded history.

Where in the world will we find the energy that will be required by our children's children? We won't find it by creating a scapegoat. We could blame the environmentalist. America can even turn the clock backward and delude itself into believing that our natural resources are never ending. We could continue to saturate the air and water with unlimited amounts of poison, but that certainly won't solve anything.

Or we can, as the oil industry and the Nixon Administration apparently wants, deregulate the price of natural gas and allow the price of other fuels to rise substantially. This would supposedly stimulate drilling activity and allow for new refineries to be built. But even if this does provide a workable solution for helping us to ease our way through the present energy crisis, what about the future? And, how much can we afford to pay?

The answer lies in a massive research and development program supported by industry, government and private citizens. We have to develop sources of energy to run this country which will be more than sufficient in supply and independent of global politics.

It can be done, and it will be done. In fact, electric cooperatives in Illinois and throughout the nation have already sunk well over \$8-million into a liquid metal fast breeder reactor (LMFBR) project which will be operational by the 1980's. A LMFBR "breeds" more fuel than it consumes while also producing heat to generate power. The project is a cooperative venture with the government and other segments of the electric utility industry.

The LMFBR project, and others like it, hold some hope for the future. In the meantime, we will all have to drive a little slower, turn off unneeded lights, slip on a sweater and be prepared to pay more for energy. But the big question is, "Will all of this be enough?"

co-opmanship conference

focus on member action

by Dennis Yocom
AIEC Information Department

It looked like the same old problems hashed out in the same old way to nearly 250 electric cooperative representatives assembled at the Marriott Hotel in New Orleans, Louisiana, recently.

But before the first working session had concluded on Monday morning, those in attendance were well aware that this sixth annual Co-opmanship Conference was to be a different type of meeting.

The three-day conference was different in many ways, but the most apparent way was the actual format of this workshop. Under the direction of John Sherwood, president of Management Design, Inc., coordinators for the meeting along with NRECA, the entire body of directors, managers and member service personnel was separated and subdivided into 16 individual groups of 12 to 15 persons each. They were further grouped into three general divisions for "brainstorming" purposes. The conference met as a whole only at the opening session and the final closing.

Why the unique format? NRECA General Manager Robert D. Partridge explained it as a reappraisal of the rural electrification program. "The real crunch of the reappraisal," said Partridge, "centers around our fundamental structure and our membership and the part we play in involving . . . our very fast and growing membership."

"We're determined to act positively now," Partridge continued, "to put new life and fire into a program that will reach the members, excite them, involve them in our cooperative activities—an ongoing program that will sustain a solid, unified membership."

Partridge stressed the need for leadership in the effort to head off a communications crisis which results

from very significant changes in cooperative membership roles.

"Urban-oriented families . . . young people with no knowledge of the progressive social history which was carved out in the formative years of rural electrification . . . these people are becoming members on cooperative lines," Partridge said.

Partridge pointed out that these people have, now more than ever, taken an active interest in consumer affairs. As consumer-members of an electric utility they may have their first chance to take an active part in expressing their views and becoming involved in cooperative affairs.

Partridge urged member service personnel to provide the information and guidance required to gain the maximum benefits for the membership from these growing sources of interest and action.

If there was any doubt in the minds of these cooperative representatives as to why they actually were attending this conference, it was alleviated by Charles L. Overman, general manager of Adams Electric Cooperative, Inc., of Gettysburg, Penn., in his address to the gathering.

Overman explained that this conference would make new tools available to bridge the gap in communications among the member-owners. But it would be the responsibility of member and public relations specialists to take advantage of these tools.

"I really don't care why you're

here," Overman exhorted "so long as you give this conference the chance to make of your positions something truly great."

"These three days will be an experience unlike any you have ever had. You're going to enjoy it because, perhaps for the first time, you will leave here with a purpose in hand—the objective of helping people rediscover that which made the cooperative movement something truly unique," he concluded.

The congregation then broke up into small individual groups under the supervision of trained facilitators to determine specific objectives and begin a planned pattern of step-by-step procedures.

As the day's session drew to a close, it was apparent that a powerful momentum had been achieved among the separate groups. New ideas abounded as the groups made a positive advance toward improved member service goals.

Late Tuesday afternoon proved to be the high point of the meeting as the individual groups gathered to present basis papers on the results of their brainstorming experiments. Surprisingly enough, after two days of relative isolation, the 16 separate groups had arrived at essentially the same objectives and corresponding plans of action.

The overwhelming thrust of most groups pointed toward active member involvement with an accent on communications—a highly informed membership—and a re-evaluation of NRECA's Member Service Program.

At the final session, all groups met together and gave regional critiques of the conference as a whole. Although there were some negative comments relating to the new format and its effectiveness as a problem solving tool, most representatives agreed that this Co-opmanship Conference was highly successful and beneficial.



*Miss Illinois
Electric Cooperative
of 1973-*

Kathy Harriss

Her long beautiful hair slowly winds over her shoulders in deep curls. Her eyes are a deep chestnut brown. Her voice is soft but sure. She is indeed a beauty and a queen.

There are several obvious reasons why Kathy Harriss of airfield was chosen "Miss Illinois Electric Cooperative" this year—beauty, intelligence, poise and charm. But to her, it didn't seem so obvious.

"The first pageant that I entered was the Miss Fairfield contest early last summer," she recalled. "I thought, 'what the heck, this might be my only chance to wear a formal.' Well, somehow I won.

"When I went to the statewide electric cooperative beauty contest, I really felt out of place," she said. "Oh sure, I wanted to win, but so did eight other extremely sharp girls. I think the highest compliment I have ever been paid was to be chosen Queen from among that group."

This February, Kathy will fly to San Francisco to vie for the title of "Miss Rural Electrification of 1974,"
(continued on next page)

the national title, and with it a big chunk of scholarship money.

The national pageant will take place on Wednesday evening at the annual meeting of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association February 10-14. More than 10,000 people will pack into the San Francisco Civic Auditorium to see more than a dozen beauties from as many states. Each of the girls is from a family whose home is served by an electric cooperative and each has won in local and state competition.

The winner is selected through a point system, with points awarded for scholarship, talent, poise and achievements as well as beauty.

As Miss Rural Electrification, the winner of the national contest is an official representative of electric cooperatives at many functions, including the American Institute of Cooperation, the National Grange Convention, the National FFA Convention and hostess for the Rural Electric Youth Tour in Washington next June.

Kathy now attends Murray State University in Kentucky where she is a freshman majoring in political science. She is the daughter of Mrs. Mary Ellen Harriss and the late Richard Harriss. Her mother teaches government at Fairfield Community High School. She has one brother, Richard, who is a junior at the high school.

In high school, Kathy was a member of the student council, school newspaper, Future Teachers of America and the National Honor Society. She was also a Sunday school teacher in her church.

"There are two reasons why I decided to study political science," Kathy explained as we strolled around her beautiful country home outside of Fairfield. "The first was my mother. When your mother teaches government, it tends to rub off.

"The second was my trip to Washington, D.C., two summers ago as a Youth to Washington tour winner sponsored by Wayne-White. I immediately fell in love with our

capital city. Probably the best prize I received from winning the state title was the opportunity to go on the Youth Tour again this summer."

There probably couldn't be a more interesting time than the present to study our political system. But what does Kathy think? Has the Watergate investigations harmed our country or are we forming a "post-Watergate morality?"

"I think both good and bad will come out of the investigations. The fact we are investigating the matter proves the system works. However, the bad thing about the whole mess is that young people will be much more reluctant to volunteer their services."

Kathy rejects the idea that all politicians are crooked. She plans to go to Washington after graduation and work for, what she calls, "a straight congressman."

"I don't blame people for being disillusioned," she remarked, "but people have to remember—our government is what they make of it. I really believe the more people know about our government, the better it is for them."

Her major interests center around her education:—reading. Her latest book was, of course, on politics. But she also enjoys sports. She is a member of her college dormitory softball team.

"My favorite thing is to go hiking in the woods," she said. "I love walking alone. It gives you a chance to think. Everything is so peaceful in the woods. It makes you realize things aren't as horrible as they may seem."

Kathy represents many people and things as this year's Queen. But most of all, she represents the type of young people who grow up in rural Illinois. Mature, responsible, intelligent and beautiful—all of these adjectives describe Kathy.

And when she takes that long walk on the stage at the San Francisco Civic Auditorium this February, she'll know thousands of Illinois electric cooperative members will be behind her all the way.



Kathy enjoys hiking in the woods near her home. On a recent warm autumn day away from school, Kathy, their Great Dane Duchess and her brother Richard (above right) spend some time together.



On Saturday, Ed Rust of rural Bloomington, gets up early, slips on a pair of blue jeans and heads out to the barn to feed his horses at his 80 acre grain farm.

Not an unusual thing for most rural Illinois residents but it is for this Corn Belt Electric Cooperative member considering what he does the rest of the week—he's the president of a major insurance company and the president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

In addition to his position as president of the six companies in the State Farm insurance group, Rust is also a member of Housing and Urban Development Advisory Committee on Riot Insurance, the Department of Commerce National Business Council for Consumer Affairs and President Nixon's Minority Advisory Council. Locally, he serves as a trustee of the Illinois Wesleyan University and as a director of the

General Telephone Company of Illinois.

Rust was born in Bloomington and attended public schools there. In 1940 he graduated cum laude from Stanford University where he majored in economics. At Stanford he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, national honorary scholastic society.

He began his State Farm career in 1941. During World War II he was a naval officer in the Aleutians and an instructor in the naval supply school at Harvard. He returned to State Farm in 1946 as director of branch offices.

We recently spent an hour with Rust in his office atop the State Farm Plaza in Bloomington. As president of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, he travels extensively throughout the nation and the world. We thought we would ask this "opinion maker" his opinion on what was happening in the nation today.

Governmental ethics and the energy crisis are on the minds of all Americans at this time. What are your thoughts on these two problems?

As I travel around this country, I am asked about Watergate. And in regard to that question, I have only one answer and that is the way John Connally described it by saying "first, it was illegal and second, it was stupid."

In regards to the energy crisis, I think we have to realize this problem didn't appear overnight. A lot of people have been saying for a long time that we were heading for an energy crisis down the road. All the figures showed that we were going to have a shortage—and here I'm talking about a shortage of 400,000 barrels a day of petroleum for this year and this figure was going to continue to climb in the years to come.

But the Mideast War and the resulting embargo from those countries which were previously supplying the U.S. have changed that 400,000 barrels a day shortage to a minimum of 2,000,000 barrels a day and some people will talk about as much as 3,000,000 barrels a day. With a shortage like that we can't just sweep it under the rug. So to say that we have a major crisis may be an understatement. In fact, you might say that it could be the most serious situation, outside of war, that we've ever had in this country. Some may doubt the credibility of that statement but I believe it to be true.

Many have said that American business has ignored the complaints of consumers. Do you think this criticism is justified?

In some cases it is justified. The problem is that in many situations the expectations of the consumer is not met by either the product or the service that the consumer acquires. And this is a real tough problem.

An Interview With **Ed Rust** **President of the** **U.S. Chamber of Commerce**



Rust discusses local business matters with C. Ben Pitcher, executive vice president of the Association of Commerce and Industry of McLean County, (left) and G. V. Beer, manager of Corn Belt Electric Cooperative.

In the past, the U. S. Chamber of Commerce has, on occasion, officially voiced criticism of, and opposition to, electric cooperatives, and for that matter, cooperatives in general. Why is that and has this position changed?

I don't think it has changed nor do I anticipate that it will change. But I think you have to go back and look at the constituency of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce or any Chamber of Commerce for that matter. The feeling by some is that the electric cooperatives are getting a subsidy that is not available to other businesses. I do think, however, this feeling is fostered primarily by competitive utilities. I don't say whether this is good or bad. But you're not going to change the opinion of a lot of people in business when they think you are getting something they can't.

What is the Chamber's attitude toward rural development and

have you initiated any programs in this field?

The Chamber has had several programs over the years but I haven't initiated any programs myself. I've been in some interesting committee sessions when I thought the subject was pertinent to the farmer but I didn't see anyone in the room who was doing any farming.

There are representatives from agriculture on the board of the Chamber but they are primarily from agri-business. Farmers are also represented by Chambers located in the rural communities. And you could say, and some from Bloomington may not like it, that this is a rural community in one sense of the word. At least the area is dependent on agriculture to a large degree.

Finally Mr. Rust, how could the Chamber of Commerce at the local, state and national level and the electric cooperatives of Illinois

and the nation work together for the benefit of all citizens?

I am afraid that before you end this stalemate between the electric cooperatives and the Chamber of Commerce you've got to do a better job of educating the public in the changes in your financing system. Your former system of financing over the years was the reason for the opposition from some members of the Chamber.

I really don't think this is any big issue. Oh, every once in awhile you'll see a congressman make headlines by taking a shot at the rural electrification program and you see another make headlines by defending it. But once you leave the utility field, who is complaining? I think that maybe you are oversensitive on this issue. The only way that this may change is if you do a better job of educating the public on how your program really works.



"... I have only one answer for Watergate and that's the way John Connally described it by saying 'first, it was illegal and second, it was stupid!'"



"... the energy crisis could be the most serious situation, outside of war, that we've ever had in this country."



"... in many situations the expectations of the consumer is not met by either the product or the service that the consumer acquires."

Nixon Outlines Plan to Save Energy

by Dick Pence

Editor, Rural Electric Newsletter

President Nixon in November outlined a broad program aimed at conserving energy in the U.S. this winter.

The President said he was immediately setting into motion a series of mandatory and voluntary programs and would ask Congress for additional emergency authorities to combat energy shortages.

Although the President did refer to the "fuel crisis" during his speech, the White House noted that the President on April 18 "characterized the energy situation facing the country as a problem, but not a crisis," and added that "the energy problem has become much more severe" because of the Mideast War.

These six steps were announced by the President:

"I am directing that industries and utilities which use coal . . . be prevented from converting to oil in the immediate future. Efforts will also be made to convert power plants from the use of oil to the use of coal.

"We are allocating reduced quantities of fuel for aircraft. This will lead to a cutback of more than 10 percent in the number of flights . . .

"We must ask everyone to lower the thermostat in his home by at least 6 degrees. In offices and facilities and commercial establishments, we must ask that you achieve the equivalent of a 10 degree reduction by either lowering the thermostat or curtailing working hours.

"I am ordering additional reductions in the consumption of energy by the Federal government . . . I am directing that the daytime temperatures in Federal offices be reduced immediately to a level between 65 and 68 degrees. In addition, I am ordering that all vehicles owned by the Federal government . . . travel no faster than 50 mph except in emergencies. This is a step which I have also asked governors, mayors and local officials to take immediately with regard to vehicles under their authority.

"I am asking the Atomic Energy Commission to speed up the licensing and construction of nuclear plants. We must seek to reduce the time required to bring nuclear plants on the line from 10 years to 6 years.

"I am asking that the governors and mayors reinforce these actions by taking appropriate steps at the state and local level . . . I am recommending that . . . communities . . . also seek ways to stagger working hours and encourage greater use of mass transit and car pooling . . . I am also asking governors to take steps to reduce the highway speed limits to 50 mph. This action alone, if adopted on a nationwide basis, could save over 200,000 barrels of oil a day."

In addition to the above steps, the president said he would seek immediate Congressional action giving him emergency powers to deal with the energy shortage. Some of these measures are expected to be enacted between the date of this writing and press time. Included in this request:

Authorization for an immediate return to Daylight Saving Time on a year-round basis.

Authority to relax environmental regulations on a temporary, case-by-case basis.

Authority to impose special energy conservation measures such as restrictions on the working hours for shopping centers and other commercial establishments.

Approval and funding for increased exploration, development and production from Naval Petroleum Reserves.

Authority to reduce highway speed limits throughout the nation.

Expansion of the powers of the government's regulatory agencies to adjust the schedules of planes, ships and other carriers.

The President added: "If shortages persist despite all of these actions and despite inevitable increases in the price of energy products, it may then become necessary to take even stronger measures. It is only prudent that we be ready to cut the consumption of oil products such as gasoline by rationing or by a fair system of taxation, and I have directed that contingency plans be prepared for that purpose."

For the long range, the President said: "Let us set as our national goal, in the spirit of Apollo and with the determination of the Manhattan Project, that by the end of this decade, we will have developed the potential to meet our own energy needs . . ."

Senator Henry Jackson (Wash.), chairman of the Interior Committee, said his committee would immediately begin work on the legislation being sought by the President.

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Philip Kehres, president of the Moolah Mounted Lancers, and about 50 other Mounted Lancers perform throughout the United States.

Moolah Temple Mounted Lancers

by Richard D. Haney

Hearing of the "Mounted Lancers," one's thoughts could easily drift to the historic era of knighthood and aspiring donzels.

But it's a different story in the Columbia area. For it is just a few miles north of this southwestern Illinois community that area residents are familiar with the 100-acre Black Horse Ranch, training grounds for the Moolah Temple's Mounted Lancers of St. Louis.

The Lancers consist of Shriners who are dedicated to excellent horsemanship and showmanship. Their skills in intricate drills of close, precision maneuvers have earned them national honors.

They have won national drill team championships in Chicago, Miami and New York's Madison Square Garden. They've also appeared at the Cotton Bowl in Dallas and the East-West football game in San Francisco. In the 1964 Rose Bowl parade they were chosen as the personal escort of the late President Eisenhower who was the parade's Grand Marshal.

Although they limit their exhibitions to about 15 a year, they do have their local favorites—the Shriners Circus parade in St. Louis and the annual horse show at Hillsboro.

"It takes a lot of time and work to keep our unit going, but we have our fun, too," commented Lancers' President Philip Kehres. "Each Monday evening our practice drills take about 20 minutes at full trot without any maneuver being repeated. That's quite a workout."

The spiritedness of the 48-matched black geldings marks the Moolah unit as winners. When in formation, the men ride always at a trot with lances held in one hand, the reins in the other. A touch of the reins to the horse's neck guides the horse. Each Lancer owns his own horse and equipment and is expected to stay in shape to perform.

"We must have 20 riders to par-

(continued on page 14)

The spirit of Christmas has, in the past, touched the hearts of families across the nation in various ways. But it'll be a bit different this year because of the pending energy crisis.

To most families, Christmas means a time for attending special church services and a "quiet day" with a family dinner and the sharing of gifts.

To others it means extending the spirit of Christmas beyond the circumference of family bounds and encompassing neighbors, community residents and even passersby.

In the past, a way of celebrating the Yuletide season has been with lighting displays. But the 1973 Christmas season will be a little bleaker as families curtail their lighting—and some eliminating them entirely—to conserve energy.

Two electric cooperative families who in the past have shared the holiday season with home decorations, lighting and various displays of Christmas themes and music are the Raymond Moheles of rural Edwardsville and the Paul Mullins of Ingraham.

But this year, the families are taking a different approach because of current events. The Moheles, who are members of Greenville-based Southwestern Electric Cooperative, have decided not to install any kind of lighting displays, even though they've been doing this as a family project for nearly 15 years.

The Mullins on the other hand believe that Christmas just wouldn't be Christmas without lighting. But they're cutting their normal display time by approximately 75 percent. They will turn their lighting off at about 9:30 p.m. each evening and will only have their lights displayed from December 21 through the 27th.

"We talked it over with neighbors and even called the cooperative office to tell them there would be no display at our home this year," commented Mrs. Mohele. "We hated to do it, but without the complete display it just wouldn't seem the same.

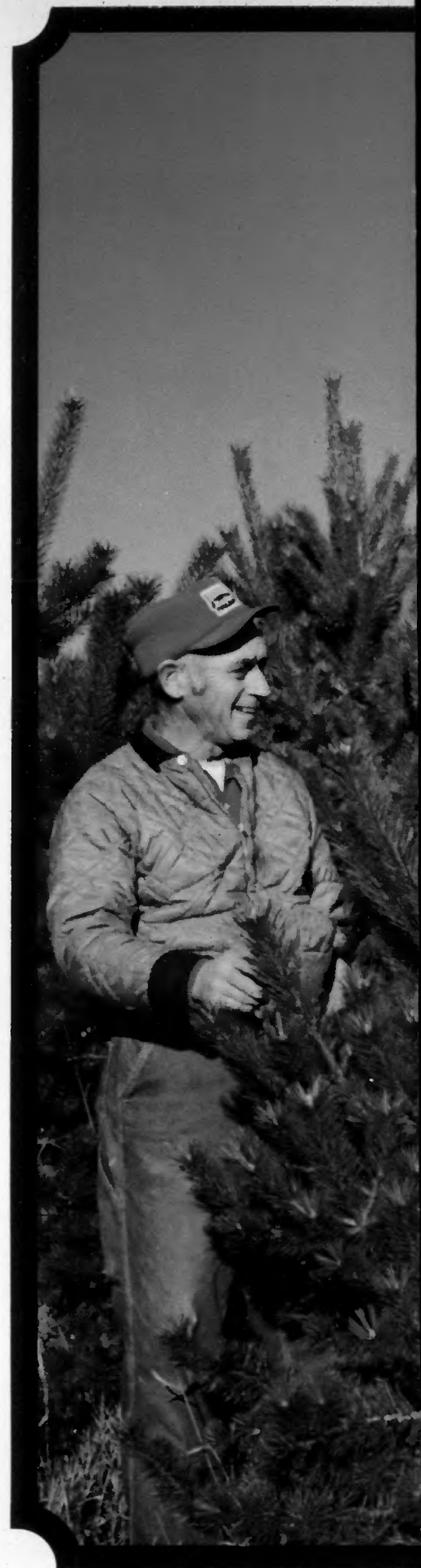
"Friends used to bring their friends and at times there would be cars lined up bumper to bumper for nearly half a mile. But this year it just won't be that way. We hope that in the future times will change and we can again put up our display."

The Mullins did a lot of soul-searching and consulting with neighbors, too, before arriving at their decision to let their lights shine part of the time.

"Our neighbors are expecting some kind of Christmas lighting," Mullins explained, "and have said that they will eliminate their outdoor lighting providing we go ahead and have our display."

"The energy crisis is a problem and we want to do what we can to help. From what I can tell from the news reports, the nation is asking for a substantial curtailment, not a complete elimination."

Mullins recalled an experience last year which he considered very touching and motivated him to continue with a display this year with shorter hours and days: "A 75-year-old man stood in our front yard with tears in his eyes as he said, 'When I see your display and hear the Christmas music from your outside speakers, it's a personal experience I can't describe.' Believe me, we've given it a lot of thought and we don't want any misunderstanding that we're not in favor of conserving energy. Our personal belief is that we have to have some sort of Christmas display. And I think that as we get closer and



the spirit of Christmas



ABOVE: Last year's Christmas lighting display at the home of the Paul Mullings of Ingraham shone brightly for several evenings. With the current "energy crunch" the Mullins will decrease their display time this year by about 75 percent.

LEFT: Steve Ferguson, left, of Clinton and Joe Crosno, power use adviser, Corn Belt Electric Cooperative, Inc., Bloomington, discuss varieties of Christmas trees.



closer to Christmas Day others are going to feel the same as we do."

Another electric cooperative family—the Steve Fergusons who live east of Clinton—have a different kind of family project. And in the future they, too, will be affected by the energy movement. Their farm was recently sold to a utility company which will be building a power plant. Their family farm, as well as the unproductive hillside of four acres which the Fergusons converted into a small Christmas tree farm, will someday be covered by the waters of a lake.

Members of Corn Belt Electric Cooperative, Inc. at Bloomington, the Fergusons will miss their family project which they felt provided a chance to meet others and to share in the Christmas season.

"It's a warm feeling to us," Ferguson said, "to have families drive to our tree farm site and go through the process of selecting the right tree for their home. Recently, we've been getting second generation family members who remember doing the same with their parents and they want to continue the practice of selecting the family Christmas tree."

Although the Fergusons sell about 500 trees a year, they do not consider their family project that great a com-

mercialized operation.

"This year and next year will probably be our last years for selling Christmas trees," Ferguson said. "We're hoping for a third season but when the power plant goes in, this area will be surrounded by the lake.

With regard to Christmas tree lighting, the Fergusons had a family discussion. "We decided not to have any outside lighting this year," Ferguson said, "but we'll still have the lights on the family Christmas tree. It wouldn't be Christmas without it."

It appears that the Fergusons, Moheles and Mullins have tapped the spirit of Christmas with their family activities, which in the past have extended the Christmas spirit to others. But with the energy crisis at hand, this year's Christmas will be a little dimmer with the decrease in outdoor lighting.

But that won't reduce the Christmas spirit found in the hearts and souls of millions across the nation. Amid what may seem to be an overwhelming hustle and bustle and trying times, pause a bit and reflect on family togetherness and the real meaning of the spirit of Christmas.

Best wishes to each of you for a joyous Holiday Season and Happy New Year!

what's new?

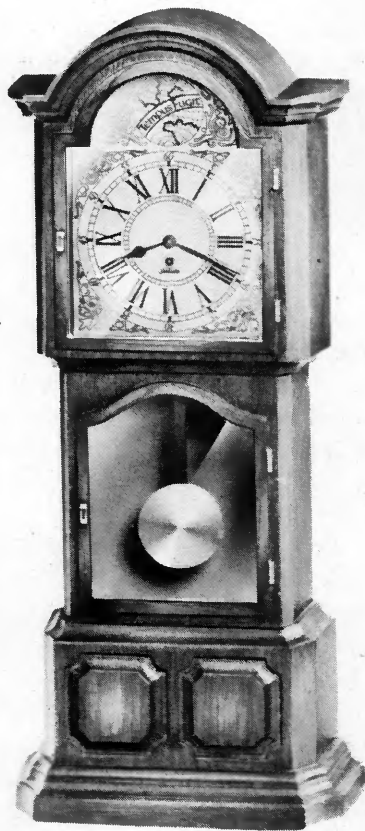


Disposal

General Electric's garbage disposer the "Piranha" is designed to be installed by the competent "do-it-yourselfer." The disposal offers a one year parts and service labor repair warranty. Other features of the Piranha include external fiberglass sound shielding and superhard Carboly cutters.

Grandfather Clock

A truly magnificent replica of a time-honored Grandfather's clock is now available from the Sunbeam Company. The clock is 20 inches high and the crystal encloses a bright embossed gold and silver spun dial with black Roman numerals. It has a traditional Tempus Fugit motto over the old-world globe dial.



Kitchen Guide

From the editors of Better Homes and Gardens, a concise informative book on better kitchen planning with suggestions for converting your present kitchen into a new "electric" kitchen. Also included are ideas for added storage, redecorating, floor coverings, counter-top materials and helpful hints on wiring, lighting and ventilating. For your copy send \$1.00 (postage paid) to NATIONAL PLAN SERVICE, INC., 1700 West Hubbard St., Chicago, Illinois 60622.

Mounted Lancers

(continued from page 11)

ticipate in an event," Kehres explained. "And there has to be an even number of riders for the arithmetic maneuvers. I remember once at a parade in Chicago when my teammate's horse kept acting up and we had to drop out of the formation. But that doesn't happen often."

Even though the horses display liveliness and must be kept that way for precision drilling, there are controls. To prevent the steeds from fighting, fenced pastures keep the horses separated in groups of 12-15. Another factor is the personal attention each man gives his horse.

"A horse must be treated kindly, but firmly," explained Emil Wachter, Lancers' public relations director. "Each man grooms his own horse and this establishes a sort of understanding between the two. No one is permitted to ride another's horse. And when a Lancer grants permission for someone to ride his horse, that's an honor to the other Lancer."

Wachter pointed out that the Mounted Lancers exist primarily to support the Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children in St. Louis. Each year various fund raising events are sponsored as well as the annual benefit horse show at the ranch.

The ranch's show ring measures 120 x 240 feet and during the evening hours it's well-lighted with eight 400-watt mercury vapor lights. Electricity is provided by Monroe County Electric Co-Operative, Inc., Waterloo. Other facilities are three barns with a total of 48 stalls, a club house, swimming pool and a hilltop mansion-type home where the official caretaker, Bud Goode, lives. Stable manager for the group is Waldo Smith, a Lancer.

"Our group developed from men who were interested in horsemanship," Kehres said. "Some of them had never been on a horse before. But through owning their own horse and receiving competent instruction, they're among our best riders. It's a topnotch group of men."

For 33 years Neil Baldrige operated the rock crusher at his limestone quarry near Random by diesel. But in 1968 he turned to Tri-County Electric Cooperative at Mt. Vernon for assistance. And what does he think about electric cooperative power today?

"It's great. In fact, it's wonderful," he declared in his office at Ashley. "The biggest advantages of electricity over diesel are in maintenance and labor costs. And with the fuel shortage, I might of had trouble getting diesel this year."

Baldrige formed Pitts Quarry Co., Inc. back in 1935. The quarry now has 26 employees, stays open the year round and produces 35,000 tons of limestone a month.

"It all started when a professor from Carbondale—and you know it has been so long I've forgotten his name—tried to convince the local farmers that lime would increase their production," he recalled. "So I made an agreement with some of my farmer friends that if the lime didn't increase their yield and profits more than what the lime cost them, I wouldn't charge them a nickel. Of course they would have to follow

strict application recommendations. Well sir, I didn't lose a single account."

Baldrige considers his quarry a small local business and thinks of his customers as good friends.

"I've been selling lime to the local farmers and road chip to the surrounding townships and villages for nearly 40 years," he explained. "Sometimes farmers and local governments don't have the money to pay me. But when the crops finally go to market and appropriations are released, I get my money. I guess I should be harder on them, but I really can't. You see, most of these people are my friends."

Many consider Baldrige's stone as some of the best quality of its kind in the southern part of the state. "It's good hard stone, ideal for road rock," he said. "But when it comes to making lime, the finer we can grind the limestone, the better."

Baldrige said that experts recommend to farmers that they use lime every 10 years. "On new land," he said, "you need to add five to six tons per acre. On land that has already been limed before, two to three tons per acre is usually enough. But

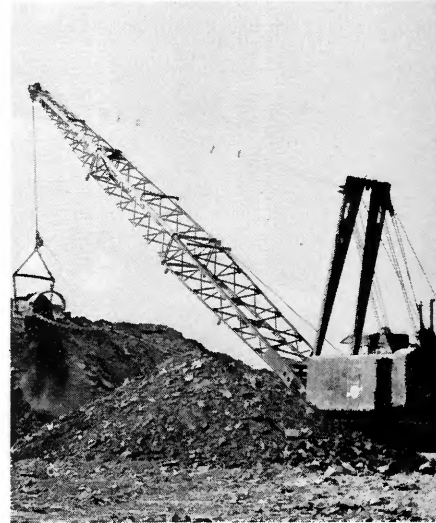
to make sure, you should always have your soil tested before you apply lime."

Working at a limestone quarry can sometimes be a dangerous profession. Giant cranes, trucks and earth-movers rumble over the land. Extreme caution must be observed near the monstrous rock crusher. And when the workmen handle dynamite, everyone stays on their toes.

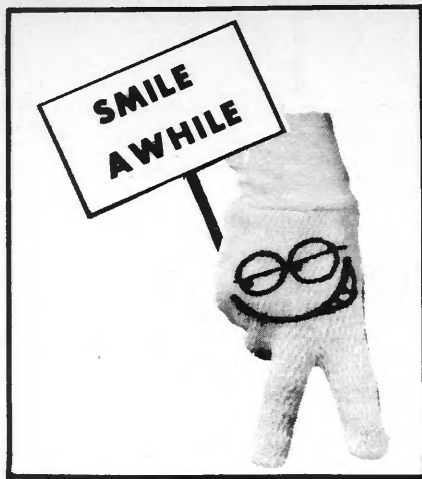
Apparently, all of Baldrige's employees are safety minded. In 1972, the quarry was the Class III winner in the National Limestone Institute's Safety Competition. The employees had worked a total of 59,930 man-hours without an accident.

Baldrige is reclaiming all the land he has unearthed. All the land that has been mined must be leveled off. Someday Baldrige hopes the land will be used for pasture or an orchard.

"I've seen a lot of changes during the past 40 years," Baldrige said. "It seems that each day there is a new regulation that we have to follow. But I really don't mind. I guess I've kind of come to realize that the quarry is just as much a service to the area as it is a business."



co-op provides the muscle for limestone quarry



Restricted Diet

The secretary ran into a friend at the lunch room and noted that the friend was nibbling at a cottage cheese salad. "Trying to lose weight?" asked the secretary. "No," said the friend, "I'm on a low salary diet."

A Little Help

A speaker was lecturing on the preservation of forests. "I don't suppose," he thundered, "that there is a person in this audience who has done a thing to preserve our national timber resources!"

First came total silence; then, from the back of the hall, a meek voice: "Sir, I once shot a woodpecker."

Behind Every Man . . .

A millionaire's wife told a reporter, "It's not true I married a millionaire. I made him one myself."

"What was he before you married him?" the reporter asked.

"A multimillionaire."

How Are Ya?

His airline having been forced to cancel a flight, the customer relations officer sought to learn what arrangements had been made for the people who were inconvenienced.

He called an agent at the airport and asked, "What was the disposition of the passengers?"

After some hesitation, she replied, "Well most of them were pretty unhappy."

First Choice

Two small boys were standing together when a very pretty little girl

walked by. One of the boys said fervently to his pal: "When I stop hating girls, she's the one I'll stop hating first."

Bill Collector

In a Las Vegas casino, a tourist played a slot machine and as fast as he ran out of coins, he would replenish them with change from the cashier. On his fourth such trip he demanded, "Don't any of these machines ever pay?" "Oh yes indeed, sir," the cashier replied. "They pay the lights, they pay the rent, they pay the kitchen help, they pay me. They pay real good, sir."

Horsing Around

A little boy who had spent a week at a dude ranch told his mother excitedly: "Mom, I even saw a man who makes horses."

"Are you sure?" asked his mother.

"Yes," he replied. "He had a horse nearly finished when I saw him, and he was just nailing on the feet."

To Go?

My wife doesn't have to cook anymore. She uses an outgoing service for everything. She calls and has the food delivered—any kind of food, Italian, Chinese, fried chicken. I came home the other night, I'm on the elevator, I see a guy with a brown paper bag. He says, "Mr. Shane?" I say "Yes." He says, "Here's your dinner." So I get in the house, my wife asks, "You hungry?" I said, "No, I ate in the elevator."

Noise Pollution

A tourist spending the night in a small northeastern town joined several natives sitting on the porch of a general store. After several futile attempts to start a conversation, he finally asked, "Is there a law against talking in this town?"

"No law against it," answered one of the men. "But there's an understanding no one's to speak unless he is sure he can improve on the silence."

Early Start

"Good news, dear," called the husband as he came into the house. "I picked up two tickets for the theatre on the way home from work."

"Oh, that's wonderful," said the wife, "I'll start dressing right away."

"That's a good idea," he said. "The tickets are for tomorrow night."

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CHRISTMAS COOKIES ARE A WARM AND WONDERFUL WAY TO SAY HAPPY HOLIDAYS. FIRST EIGHT RECIPES ARE PICTURED.

Colorful Christmas cookies

GINGERBREAD MEN

1 cup (2 sticks) butter
1 cup sugar
1 egg
1 cup light molasses
2 tablespoons vinegar
4 1/2 cups flour
1 1/2 teaspoons baking soda
1 teaspoon ginger
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 teaspoon ground cloves
1/2 teaspoon salt

In a mixing bowl cream butter; gradually add sugar and beat until light and fluffy. Beat in egg. Blend in molasses and vinegar. Sift together flour, baking soda, ginger, cinnamon, cloves and salt; gradually add to creamed mixture. Chill at least 3 hours. On well floured surface roll dough to 1/8-inch thickness. With floured cookie cutters cut into desired shapes. With wide spatula transfer to buttered baking sheet. Bake at 375 degrees 6-7 minutes. Remove immediately to wire rack to cool. Decorate or frost with Confectioners Frosting. Yield: 8 dozen.

HOLIDAY YEAST COOKIES

2 pkgs. active dry yeast
1/4 cup warm water
2 cups (1 lb.) butter
1 cup sugar
1 egg
4 1/2 cups sifted flour

Dissolve yeast in water. In a large mixing bowl cream together butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Add egg and beat thoroughly. Blend in yeast. Gradually add flour. Chill for ease in handling. Shape into balls 1-inch in diameter; place on buttered baking sheet. Bake at 375 degrees 10-12 minutes or until lightly browned. Yield: Approx. 8 dozen.

DECORATING IDEAS: Balls may be dipped into colored sugar before baking or dough may be shaped in fingers and ends dipped in colored sugar. Balls may also be flattened slightly after placing on baking sheet, baked and decorated with colored icing. A pecan half or half of candied cherry may be pressed into dough before baking.

PRESS COOKIES

1 cup (2 sticks) butter
3/4 cup sugar
1 egg
1 teaspoon almond extract
2 1/4 cups flour
1/4 teaspoon baking powder
Food coloring

In a mixing bowl cream together butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in egg and almond extract. Sift together flour and baking powder; gradually add to creamed mixture. Add food coloring. Using cookie press, shape cookies into desired shapes on baking sheets. Bake at 375 degrees 10-12 minutes. Decorate as desired. Yield: 6-7 dozen.

CHRISTMAS CUT-OUTS

3 cups sifted flour
1/2 teaspoon baking powder
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1 cup (2 sticks) butter
2 eggs
1 cup sugar
Frosting:
1 1/2 cups confectioners sugar
1 tablespoon butter, melted
1 1/2 tablespoons hot water
Red and green food coloring
Colored sugar
Multicolored cake decorations

Into a mixing bowl, sift together flour, baking powder and baking soda. Cut in butter until mixture looks like corn meal. Beat eggs; add sugar and beat well. Combine with flour and butter mixture. Chill dough. On lightly floured board, roll dough to 1/8-inch thickness; cut with cutters of various shapes and place on buttered baking sheet. Bake at 375 degrees 6-8 minutes; remove to wire racks to cool. To make Frosting: Combine sugar, butter and water; stir until well blended. Divide in half; color one part red and the other green. Using a decorator tube, make design on top of cookies. Turn cookies upside down and dip gently into colored sugar or multicolored cake decorations. Yield: 6 dozen.

CHERRY JEWELS

1/2 cup (1 stick) butter
1/4 cup sugar
1 egg yolk
1 teaspoon grated lemon rind
1 tablespoon lemon juice
1 tablespoon orange juice
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 1/4 cups sifted cake flour
3/4 cup finely chopped pecans
18 candied cherries, halved

Cream together butter and sugar; beat until light and fluffy. Add egg yolk, lemon rind, lemon juice, orange juice and vanilla; beat well. Gradually blend in flour; chill. Roll balls 1-inch in diameter; roll in nuts and place on buttered baking sheet. Press cherry half in center. Bake at 350 degrees 10-12 minutes; remove to wire rack to cool. Yield: 3 dozen.

SPICED MOLASSES COOKIES



SUGAR PLUM RAISIN SQUARES



PINWHEEL COOKIES

1/2 cup (1 stick) butter
1/2 cup sugar
1 egg yolk
3 tablespoons milk
1 1/2 cups sifted flour
1/2 teaspoon baking powder
1/8 teaspoon salt
1 square (1 oz.) unsweetened chocolate, melted and cooled

Cream together butter and sugar until light and fluffy; add egg yolk and milk and beat thoroughly. Sift together flour, baking powder and salt; gradually add to creamed mixture. Divide dough into two equal parts; add chocolate to one part and blend thoroughly. Chill both light and dark doughs for ease in handling. On well-floured board, roll light dough to measure 14 x 8-inches. On waxed paper roll dark dough to measure 14 x 8-inches. Place dark dough on top of white dough and peel off paper. Roll lengthwise as for jelly roll; wrap in waxed paper and chill for several hours. Cut 1/8-inch thick slices; place on buttered baking sheet. Bake at 350 degrees 8-10 minutes or until edges are lightly browned; remove to wire racks to cool. Yield: Approx. 5 dozen.

OLD-FASHIONED OATMEAL COOKIES

1 cup (2 sticks) butter
1 1/2 cups firmly packed light brown sugar
2 eggs
2 1/4 cups sifted flour
2 teaspoons baking powder
1/4 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 teaspoon nutmeg
1/2 cup milk
2 cups quick-cooking rolled oats, uncooked
2 cups raisins
1/2 cup chopped walnuts

In a mixing bowl cream butter; gradually add sugar and beat until light and fluffy. Beat in eggs. Sift together flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, cinnamon and nutmeg; add to creamed mixture alternately with milk, beginning and ending with dry ingredients. Stir in rolled oats, raisins and walnuts. Drop by rounded teaspoons, 2-inches apart, onto buttered baking sheet. Bake at 375 degrees 8-10 minutes. Remove immediately to wire rack to cool. Yield: 7-8 dozen.

FRUIT BARS

1 cup (2 sticks) butter
2 cups sugar
3 eggs
1 teaspoon baking soda
2 teaspoons water
1 cup cut-up dates
3 cups sifted flour
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 teaspoon nutmeg
1/4 teaspoon ground cloves
Dash of salt
1 cup chopped walnuts
2 tablespoons sugar

In a mixing bowl cream butter; gradually add sugar and beat until light and fluffy. Beat in eggs, one at a time. Dissolve baking soda in water; blend into creamed mixture. Add dates. Sift together flour, cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves and salt; gradually add to creamed mixture. Blend in nuts. Chill several hours. On lightly floured surface form into 6 rolls, 10-inches long and 3/4-inch in diameter. Place 2 rolls on each buttered baking sheet. With fingers flatten to 1/4-inch thickness, leaving finger impressions as a design. Sprinkle with sugar. Bake at 350 degrees 15-18 minutes. While hot, make diagonal slices 1-inch apart to form bars. Remove immediately to wire rack to cool. Yield: 10-12 dozen.

FUDGE FINGERS

2 eggs
1 cup sugar
1/2 cup melted butter
2 sqs. bitter chocolate, melted
3/4 cup sifted flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 cup chopped black walnuts
1 teaspoon vanilla

Beat eggs slightly; add sugar and stir. Add melted butter and chocolate. Mix flour, salt and nutmeats, add to egg mixture. Add vanilla, stir until well blended. Pour into a buttered 9-inch square pan. Bake at 325 degrees 30 to 35 minutes. Cool, cut into 36 fingers. Roll in powdered sugar.

SAND TARTS

1 cup butter
1/2 cup powdered sugar
2 cups cake flour
1 cup chopped pecans
1 teaspoon vanilla

Cream butter, add sugar. Stir well, add flour, nuts and vanilla. Shape into balls or crescents. Bake on ungreased cookie sheet at 325 degrees for 20 minutes or until light brown. Roll in powdered sugar while warm. Makes 4 dozen.

LEMON TEA—GOLDEN NUGGET COOKIES



CINNAMON STICKS

1 cup butter
3/4 cup sugar
2 cups flour
1 egg yolk
4 teaspoons ground cinnamon
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 cup chopped pecans

Cream butter and sugar, gradually add flour, then egg yolk, cinnamon and vanilla. Put on buttered cookie sheet and pat down until about 1/4-inch thick. Put the unbeaten egg white on top, spread all over. Press chopped pecans down into all. Bake at 350 degrees 30 minutes. Cut into oblong pieces.

SUGAR PLUM RAISIN SQUARES

1/2 cup butter
1/4 cup brown sugar (packed)
1/4 teaspoon salt
1 cup sifted flour
Raisin Filling

Blend butter with sugar and salt until fluffy. Mix in flour. Spread with spatula in 8-inch square pan. Bake at 325 degrees 15 minutes. Meanwhile prepare raisin filling; carefully spoon over top of baked crust. Continue baking in moderately slow oven 25 to 30 minutes, until filling is set. Cool; cut into squares with sharp knife. Makes 16 squares.

RAISIN FILLING: Beat 2 eggs with 1 cup brown sugar (packed) and 1 teaspoon vanilla. Stir in 1/4 teaspoon salt, 2 tablespoons flour and 1/2 teaspoon baking powder. Add 1 cup chopped seedless raisins, 3/4 cup flaked coconut, 3/4 cup chopped pecans and 2 tablespoons finely chopped candied ginger.

LEMON-TEA COOKIES

3 cups sifted flour
1 tablespoon baking powder
3/4 teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons instant tea powder
1 tablespoon lemon juice
1 cup butter or margerine
2/3 cup sugar
2/3 cup packed light brown sugar
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 egg

Sift together flour, baking powder and salt. Combine tea and lemon juice. Cream together butter or margarine, sugar and brown sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in tea mixture and vanilla. Beat in egg, then blend in flour. (If necessary, refrigerate dough until it can be handled.) Divide dough in half; form each half into roll 1 3/4-inches in diameter. Wrap in wax paper and refrigerate at least 24 hours. Slice dough 1/4-inch thick; place slices on ungreased baking sheet. Bake at 400 degrees 10 to 12 minutes, or until edges are lightly browned. Remove to wire rack; cool completely. Store in tightly covered container.

CRUNCHY DATE TREATS

2 eggs, well beaten
1 cup brown sugar
1/4 cup butter or margerine, melted
1 1/2 cups chopped dates
1/8 teaspoon salt
3 cups Rice Krispies
1/2 cup chopped nuts
Coconut

Combine eggs, brown sugar, butter or margerine, dates and salt in frying pan and place on heat. Cook for 10 minutes, stirring occasionally. Remove from heat. Add Rice Krispies and nuts. Mix thoroughly. Roll into balls, using approximately 1 tablespoon mixture for each. Roll each ball in coconut. Yield: 3 dozen cookies.

GOLDEN NUGGET COOKIES

2 1/2 cups sifted flour
2 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
1 cup shortening
3/4 cup sugar
2 eggs
1 cup finely shredded carrots
2 cups sifted confectioners sugar
1 tablespoon grated orange rind
3 tablespoons orange juice
1 tablespoon milk

Sift together flour, baking powder, salt and nutmeg. Cream together shortening and sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in eggs and carrots; blend in flour. Drop by rounded teaspoonfuls onto greased baking sheet. Bake in preheated 400° oven 8 to 10 minutes, or until edges are lightly browned. Remove to wire rack. Blend together sugar, orange rind, juice and milk until smooth. When cookies are completely cool, dip tops in icing. Store in tightly covered container. **VARIATIONS:** Substitute 1 cup shredded toasted coconut or 1 cup chopped nuts for carrots.

CHRISTMAS CASSEROLE COOKIES

2 eggs
1 cup sugar
1 cup chopped dates
1 cup flaked coconut
1 cup chopped nuts
1 teaspoon vanilla
1/4 teaspoon almond extract
Sugar

Beat eggs. Add 1 cup sugar and beat well. Blend in remaining ingredients and spoon into an ungreased 2-quart casserole. Bake in a 350° oven for 30 minutes. Remove from oven and, while still hot, beat well. Cool and form into balls, using approximately 1 tablespoon mixture for each. Roll each cookie in granulated sugar and decorate, if desired. Yield: 3 dozen cookies.

SPICED MOLASSES COOKIES

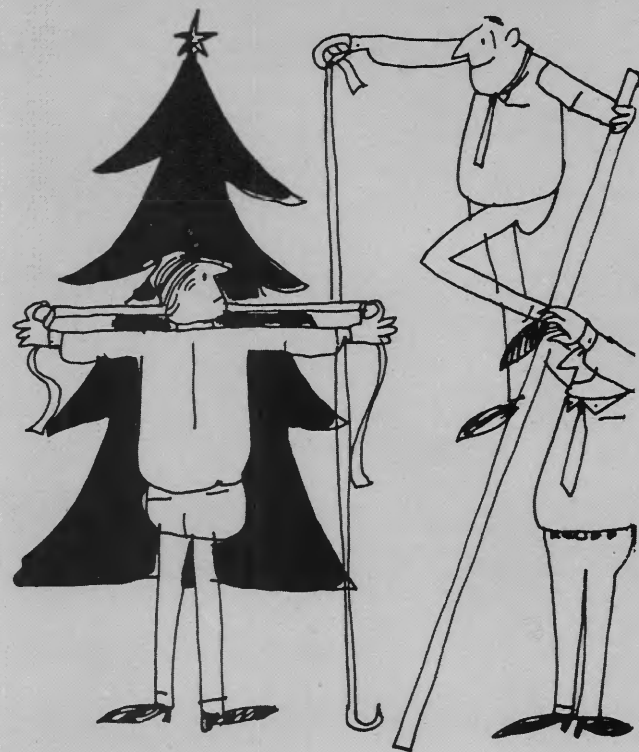
1/2 cup (1 stick) butter
1 cup sugar
2 eggs
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 tablespoon water
1 cup molasses
4 cups sifted flour
1 teaspoon ginger

Cream together butter and sugar until light and fluffy; add eggs and beat well. Combine baking soda and water and add to creamed mixture; blend in molasses. Sift together flour and ginger; gradually add to creamed mixture. Drop by teaspoonfuls onto buttered baking sheet; bake at 350 degrees 12-15 minutes. Yield: 6-7 dozen cookies. When cool, frost with Confectioners Icing.*

*CONFECTIONERS ICING

2 1/2 cups confectioners sugar
1 tablespoon white corn syrup
2 tablespoons butter, softened
3-4 tablespoons hot water

In a bowl combine sugar, syrup, butter and water; stir until thoroughly blended.



--Lighting your tree--

*How Many Lights?

Do not be afraid to use light. If there is an insufficient number of bulbs on the tree the effect will be spotted. Here is a guide for the number of bulbs to be used on a certain height tree, calculated according to the following formula:

Height of the tree x width of the tree x 3.

Height	Number of bulbs
4	35
5	56
6	77
7	102
8	140

*How Shall Lights Be Placed?

- Sometimes the shape of trees is irregular. One method of overcoming this is to cancel out the tree shape by hanging lights from the top of the tree TEPEE fashion.

- Another method is to SPIRAL the lights around the tree, sometimes using two or three different colors alternately in spirals.

- If the tree is of a good shape then follow the CONTOUR with lights.

Spotlight The Tree
An alternative to placing strings of lights on the branches is to spotlight the entire tree from two or three points. This can be done indoors by using a reflector bulb and outdoors by a projector bulb. Spotlights will pick up the glitter of ornaments or create interesting shadow patterns.



Living Christmas trees give years of enjoyment

■ Christmas season is the time when home gardeners can get a lovely addition to their landscape, and at the same time enjoy the beauty of a fresh green tree in their homes for the holidays. The use of a living tree long has been favored by many families, and as the years pass, more and more homeowners are following this practice. The list of varieties that will serve as Christmas trees and also do well in the yards is fairly long, so we will endeavor to cover the most popular and practical ones here.

First of all, let's cover the requirements for keeping a tree in healthy condition while it is in the home. Trees should not be placed in a very warm room or near a heating vent. Neither should they be kept in the home for a long period of time, perhaps a week or 10 days at the most, and they should be placed in containers in which they can be kept slightly moist, but not wet.

As soon as the holidays are over the trees must be returned to the yard to keep them from going through a shock. However, they can be planted almost any time during the year that the ground can be worked. So if you wish, they can be set out as soon as they are moved back into the garden. Planting should be done in a location where they are to remain, because they will start to re-establish during the winter and will have their roots down by the time growth starts in the spring.

Pines are one of the most popular varieties of trees used in the home. White pine, with its loose, open growth, is extremely popular. They have blue-green needles and develop into large specimen trees in the garden, although by shearing they can be kept to a very compact growth. These trees attain a height of about 50 to 60 feet.

Austrian pines are another variety. They have a more stocky growth than the white pine and develop more slowly into a very large tree of great interest. The use of the Austrian pine as a Christmas tree is more in the traditional pine flavor.

Scotch is the most popular single variety of pine which is used at Christmas time. It has a very compact growth which develops into a very large tree of symmetrical propor-

tions. It makes a lovely addition to the garden.

Douglas fir is used on occasions, but it is a little more difficult to grow in some sections. Firs like a cool summer and do not like summer humidity. But with care, they can be grown to a fairly large specimen.

Cedrus Deodara is a popular garden evergreen. It forms a very large Christmas tree shape and will grow to a height of about 30 to 40 feet. This evergreen has a fairly open-growth pattern but can be made to thicken up by pruning. Cedrus grows well and fairly rapidly with a slight silver cast to its new growth. It makes an excellent garden specimen that is lovely all year long.

The many varieties of holly are always used at Christmas time, and they certainly are a welcome addition to any landscape. The holly is one of the most versatile of shrubs for lasting effect.

Many of the upright varieties of junipers already have been sheared to form a Christmas-tree appearance. They also are especially useful in the foundation plantings of a home.

Gardeners who wish to add a nice shrub or tree to their landscape have the perfect opportunity now to get something they want to enjoy and then plant it out after the season is over. The difference in the price of a cut tree to that of a living tree is very small compared to the years of enjoyment one can derive from it.

If, on the other hand, you do not wish to plant another tree or shrub in your yard but still need a tree to decorate, consider the advantages of the various materials that are available. Flocked trees are beautiful and are as safe to use in the home as any material. When flocking is applied to green trees they do not require as many ornaments as plain trees, and because they usually are not covered with lights there is not the danger of fire as is true with cut, dry, green trees.

When decorating a cut, green tree, by all means take the precaution to place the tree in a container with a little water to prevent its drying and becoming a fire hazard. Selection of the proper tree for your needs can ensure a carefree, happy holiday.





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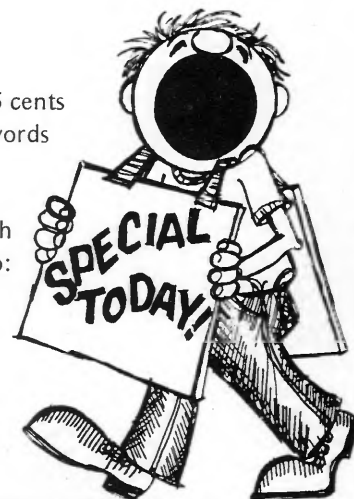
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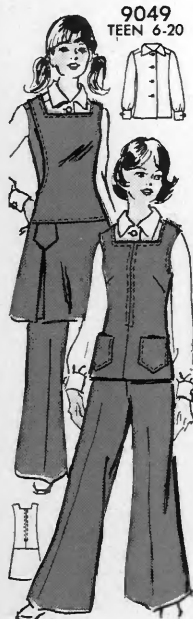
9420
10½-18½



9460 SIZES 8-20



4752
34-48



9049
TEEN 6-20



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9381
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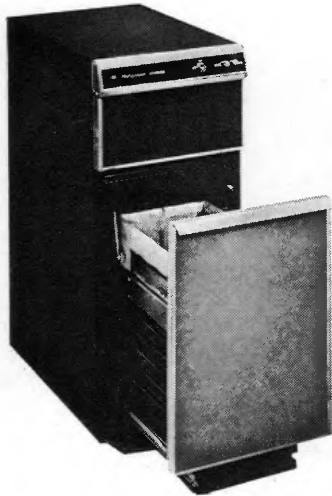
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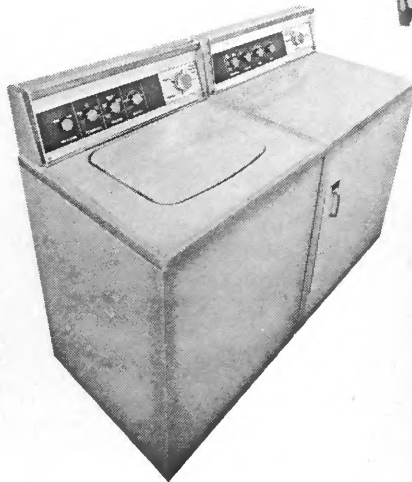
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