

# ren

December 1980

## Illinois Rural Electric News



Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives  
Adams Electrical Co-Operative  
Clay Electric Co-operative  
Clinton County Electric Cooperative  
Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative  
Corn Belt Electric Cooperative  
Eastern Illinois Power Cooperative  
Edgar Electric Co-operative Association  
Egyptian Electric Cooperative  
Farmers Mutual Electric Company  
Illini Electric Cooperative  
Illinois Rural Electric Co.  
Illinois Valley Electric Cooperative  
Jo-Carroll Electric Cooperative  
McDonough Power Cooperative  
M. J. M. Electric Cooperative  
Menard Electric Cooperative  
Monroe County Electric Co-Operative  
Norris Electric Cooperative  
Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative Co.  
Shelby Electric Cooperative  
Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative  
Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative  
Southwestern Electric Cooperative  
Spoon River Electric Co-operative  
Tri-County Electric Cooperative  
Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative  
Western Illinois Electrical Coop.  
Southern Illinois Power Co-operative  
Soyland Power Cooperative  
Western Illinois Power Cooperative

**MAY YOUR  
HOLIDAY SEASON  
BE MERRY  
AND BRIGHT**

## WE BUILD OLD-FASHIONED CRAFTSMANSHIP INTO YOUR NEW HOME.

Over 30 years of quality building and knowledge goes into each stick-built NORDAAS AMERICAN HOME.

No pre-fab or pre-cut with Nordaas American Homes. We build your home the old fashioned way, board-by-board, with expert crews to do the construction. What's more we'll build to your plan or any of the 1001 plans you select from our files. Free plan service, free delivery of materials within 1000 miles, big discounts on furnishings and appliances. Send coupon or phone collect for color brochure and list of quality standards. Model home open daily & Sunday 1-5pm

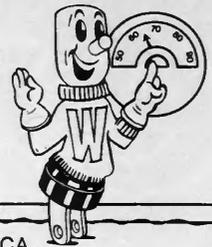
### NORDAAS AMERICAN HOMES

Minnesota Lake, MN 56068, Dept. 199-K  
Phone: (507) 462-3331



Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Save this ad for future discount!



© NRECA

## Conservation helps

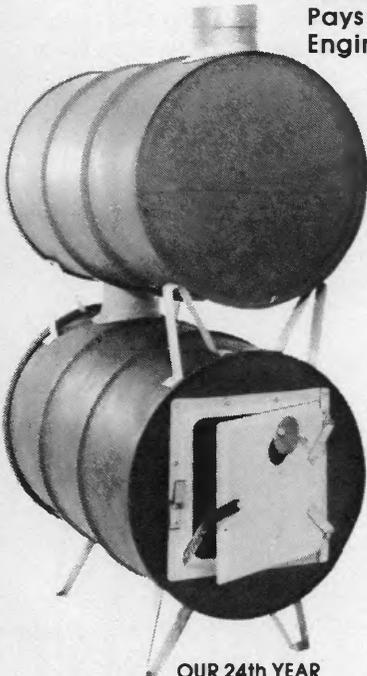
From the pine forests of Southern Illinois  
**HOMESTEAD LOG HOMES**



**HOMESTEAD, INC.**  
LOG HOME MANUFACTURER  
1209 East Main Street  
West Frankfort, IL 62906  
Phone (618) 937-3310  
Mon. - Sat. 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.

## LOW COST HEATER

Burns over 24 hrs. on low setting  
No more middle-of-the-night stokings  
Pays for itself in weeks  
Engineered to prevent drum burn-out



OUR 24th YEAR

Sotz Corporation, 13668 Station Rd., Columbia Station, OH 44028

Before you spend \$500 to \$600 on a wood heater, try the Sotz Heater Kit for under \$60... **at our risk.** If (within one year) you don't agree it outperforms any wood heater money can buy, or (within 10 years) if the kit cracks, warps, or burns up, your money will be refunded, including shipping charges.

Kit converts a 55 gallon drum (not supplied) into a high capacity wood burner. Features large 11 1/4" square door opening, cam-lock door catch, and spark-proof design. Patented internal draft channel, draft control, and airtight design allow controlled, efficient heat, while limiting metal temperatures of barrel, to prevent burnup. Use of draft control allows you to heat large or small areas. Basement installation heats your entire home. Great for your garage, workshop, or cabin. Top drum squeezes 60% more BTU's from heat normally lost up the chimney. Heavy steel kit bolts together quick and easy.

Thousands in use by U.S. Army, Navy, Depts. of Nat. Resources, Agriculture, Federal, state and local government agencies. Assembled heater tested to U.L. specs. Member BBB.

Price delivered to your door: Bottom Kit **\$38.95**. Top Kit **\$20.95**. Master card - Visa welcomed

**Free** info. about 15-30 gal. drum kits, heating water, drying wood, fireplace to wood stove and much, much more.

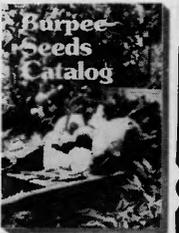
**Burpee's** BURPEE SEEDS GROW

## new 1981 Seed Catalog-FREE

Featuring new exciting vegetable and flower varieties for the home gardener.

The new 184-page Burpee Catalog is a comprehensive planting and growing guide with over 1800 vegetables, flowers, fruits, shrubs and trees. Plus helpful hints from Burpee's horticulture experts on how to have a more productive garden. Send for your free copy today, and it will arrive in your mailbox in early January.

If you ordered from Burpee last year, you will automatically receive your free Burpee catalog in 1981.



© Burpee Seed Co. 1980

### BURPEE SEED CO.

1241 Burpee Bldg., Warminster, PA 18974;  
or Clinton, IA 52732; or Riverside, CA 92502  
(Please mail to nearest address)

**Yes.** Please send me the 1981 Burpee Seed Catalog FREE.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print)  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

# Illinois Rural Electric News

## Rural economy benefits from cooperatives

USDA News-Feature Service

Scant notice is taken these days when rural people get such modern gadgets as electric lights and telephones once thought to be reserved for the well-to-do living in metropolitan centers.

"That's natural," said Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland. "Rural people have been acquiring these conveniences so often for so long we take them for granted. And we pay even less attention to the side effects of these achievements. . . such as the creation of jobs."

Bergland was commenting on a new survey of 1,194 electric and telephone systems financed with loans from the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Electrification Administration.

In one year's time — 1979 — electric and telephone systems financed by the USDA loans created 47,200 new jobs in rural America, according to the survey. This figure, said Bergland, does not include jobs in construction and for additions to existing electric and telephone facilities.

Bergland said the new jobs — 28,600 of them direct and 18,600 indirect — resulted from 1,536 commercial, industrial and community facilities launched with USDA help.

"Besides the direct establishment of jobs, the total impact of the electric and telephone lines on rural economies is obvious but hard to measure," said Bergland.

For all this progress, Bergland had high praise for the

local people who set up and operate the electric and telephone systems. "Rural electric and telephone directors and leaders and their management teams often make the difficult-to-define leadership 'difference' between one community beginning a project and abandoning it. . . while another persists and goes on to see improvements succeed.

"These two essential utility services, once beyond the reach of most rural families, now are foundation resources for further improvements on which rural communities can build to advance their overall quality of life," he said.

Robert Feragen, REA Administrator, said the rural development projects helped by the electric and telephone systems involved a wide range of economic activities, including agriculture, forestry, recreation, housing, community facilities and manufacturing.

Since the USDA began making surveys of community development activities of its borrowers in 1961, said Feragen, more than 700,000 jobs have been created through 15,600 local projects in rural areas, all in cooperation with other community and development organizations.

Aside from brightening the rural employment picture, said Feragen, the programs result in jobs for city workers, too. "These projects create thousands of city jobs in the fabrication and manufacture of electric and telephone equipment, vehicles and building material purchased by the electric and telephone systems," he added.

---

December 1980 Volume 38, Number 8

Published by Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives

---

### In this issue

Larry F. Elledge Editor	Crafty hobbyists	4 and 5
Gordon M. Olsen Managing Editor	Regulatory burden	6 and 7
Jack D. Halstead Associate Editor	Windstorms' impact	8 and 9
Sandra S. Johnson Advertising Coordinator	Holiday recipes	12 and 13
	Energy efficiency	15
	Reluctant artist	16 and 17
	Trading Post	18
	Patterns	20

### ren

#### Illinois Rural Electric News

(USPS number 258-420) is published monthly for \$2.00 per year and is the official publication of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, 6460 South Sixth Frontage Road, Springfield, Illinois 62707. Second class postage paid at Springfield, Illinois and at additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Illinois Rural Electric News, P. O. Box 3787, Springfield, Illinois 62708.

---

Cover: The handicrafts made by two Bond County women are popular items during the Christmas season. This snowman and the mice ornaments are among several Dorothy Schaffner and Lou Watson produce for friends and relatives. (See story on pages 4 and 5).

Advertising and editorial inquiries should be directed to the Illinois Rural Electric News, P. O. Box 3787, Springfield, Illinois 62708. National advertising representative: Southwest Dailies, 400

N. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. Acceptance of advertising by the IREN does not imply endorsement by the publisher or the electric cooperatives of Illinois of the product or service

advertised. Advertisers are screened by the publisher and every effort is made to protect the subscriber but the IREN is not responsible for the performance of the product or service advertised.

*Clockwise from right: Dorothy Schaffner, left, and friend Lou Watson put the finishing touches on some of the Christmas season craft items they produce for relatives and neighbors. Mousy ornaments peer from their box. Poodles made from sweet gum balls are a popular item. Ten catfood cans combine to make this Christmas tree.*



## Christmas trees from catfood cans

# Crafty workers find holiday comes fast

**T**wo Bond County women who have been friends for, as Dorothy Schnafner puts it, "well, years," get an early start on Christmas, but no one complains about their eagerness.

Dorothy and long-time friend Lou Watson started their preparations for Christmas in the summer and as Lou explains, "Time is still too short for what we're doing."

What they do is make a variety of Christmas and seasonal ornaments and knick-knacks, mainly for friends and relatives. They do have a few requests from around the Greenville area for their crafts, but they have never planned, nor do they plan, to make their hobby into a money-making project. "We don't realize that much from what little we sell," Dorothy says. "It is just fun. If they don't sell, we don't care."

Beginning in the hot summer, the two women embarked on a crafts project that produced cheerful snowmen sporting top hats and sashes,

poodle dogs from sweet gum balls, pinecone wreaths made of cones from New Hampshire to Kansas, white satin tree ornaments with cute poodle and mice faces, sparkling stars made of clear plastic beads strung on fine wire, decorated plastic cookie cutters, a clown with a wooden backbone and a Christmas tree made from catfood cans.

In addition, Dorothy, a member of Southwestern Electric Cooperative headquartered in Greenville, puts in considerable time making sock clowns. She has been making the sock clowns for some time, although, "I'm not going to tell you when I started making them," she says with a smile from the kitchen table where she and Lou spend many days working.

Dorothy and Lou formed their partnership by chance. "We'd been friends for, well, years. Lou came out here one day and I was working on some of these things, and she said 'I'd like to do some of that.' "

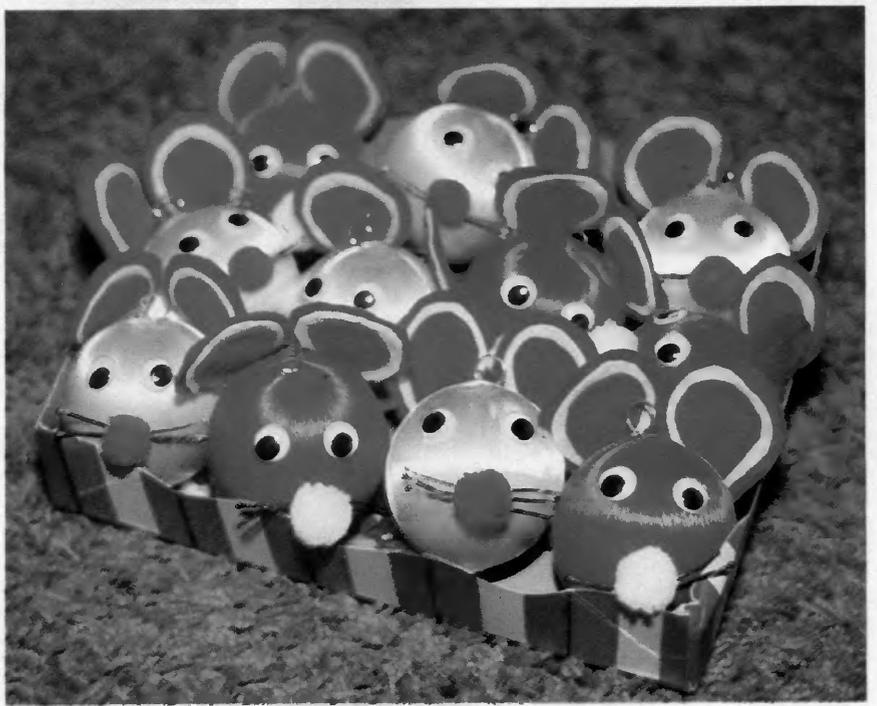
They started much too late in 1979 to produce enough for the people who wanted the various items. By starting production in the summer this year, Dorothy and Lou, whose daughter Karen works for Southwestern, were able to make their work-hobby more suited to their available time. Lou travels from Greenville out to Dorothy's home once or twice a week, and they make an afternoon of it. When the work gets to them, they break, usually for a fast-paced game of Yahtzee.

Dorothy and Lou are quick to tell people that they really don't make anything that other people can't make.

For instance, the snowman is made from various-size hard-foam balls, covered by cotton material.

The poodle dogs, made from sweet-gum balls, are held together by a white, household glue. The finish is achieved by applying about three coats of fast-drying spray paint.

The mice and poodle tree



## Each year

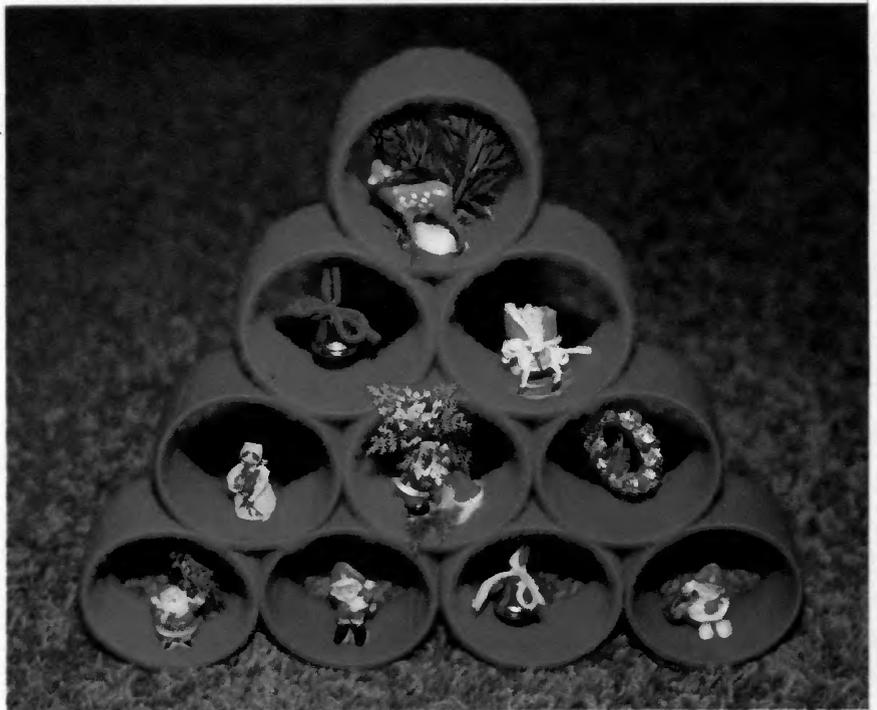
ornaments start as white satin tree ornaments. The faces are craft-store items and the ears are made of felt. The poodles have sewn fabric ears.

The clown is mainly the costume, all supported by a piece of two-by-four lumber.

The Christmas tree evolves from catfood cans or even tuna cans. They cut off both ends of the can, clean it, and wrap it in red yarn. Then four of the rings are tied together to form the base. Three rings are tied together for the second level, two for the next and one ring completes the triangular tree arrangement. Knickknack items, available in variety or craft stores, go into each ring.

Interest in the items increased sharply after the first year, Dorothy and Lou say. Even by beginning in the summer, they still found themselves pressed for time as Christmas approached.

Maybe they can get an earlier start on Christmas 1981 — by starting now.





Region V participants, this page, *CLOCK WISE* from below: AIEC General Manager Thomas H. Moore. Egyptian Electric directors, from left, Kenneth Saul of Ava, Harold Dycus of Carbondale and Dale Smith of Cutler. Rural Electric Convenience directors, from left, Larry Fesser of Farmersville, Robert Burtle of Glenarm and Herbert Niemeyer of Auburn. Opposite page: REA administrator Robert Feragen.



## REGULATION: Consumers' burden increases

Sources of government regulations and methods by which they are implemented should be foremost consumer considerations as they seek solutions to the growing expense of regulations which affect all segments of our economy and society. That was the summation of a report on the cost of government regulation presented by Thomas H. Moore, General Manager and Executive Vice President of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, during the Regions V and VI meetings of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) in November.

Speaking in Minneapolis to representatives of rural electric cooperatives from the states of Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota, Moore said, "The cost of regulations today, whether it be in the electric utility industry or any other sector of our economy or society, stems primarily from federal,

state and local legislation, and more importantly the rules and regulations promulgated by the various executive and administrative agencies which implement the laws. More often than not, the rules and regulations go beyond the intent of the drafters of the legislation."

How strict government clean air regulations affect consumer costs was illustrated when Moore explained that the flue-gas desulfurization device, or scrubber, to remove sulfur dioxide from Illinois coal represents about 40 percent of the capital cost of an Illinois utility's electric generating plant. In addition, he said, operation of the scrubber reduces plant output by some 10 to 12 percent. Consumers pay for all of these costs, he said.

Moore cited the work of the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules, made up of 16 members of the Illinois General Assembly, as a positive step toward solutions. He said that during

1978 the JCAR discovered serious problems in some 200 proposed rules and in 1979 concluded that some 400, or about half, of the proposed rules had serious deficiencies.

"The committee," Moore went on, "asked the following questions concerning regulations: has the legislature given the agency the power to make these regulations, do they make sense, will they cost more than they are worth, are they understandable, and will they actually help the public. This is not a total answer but it is a step in the right direction."

Also addressing the more than 1,300 rural electric cooperative leaders was Robert D. Partridge, NRECA General Manager. He stressed the importance of a strong cooperative-based rural electrification program to the future of a strong rural America. "We must never take the rural electrification program for granted," he said. "While rural America has



changed and rural electric systems have changed, the strength of the rural electrification program has been, and will be, the way we carry out our responsibilities, as cooperatives," he added.

Robert Feragen, Administrator of the Rural Electrification Administration, termed the rural electric cooperative program as "one of the best examples of the federal government and communities working together. Rural electric cooperatives of the

nation have begun the decade of the 1980s by another year of great service to rural America. As directors, managers and employees of these rural systems you can take great pride in how you have continued to measure up to the needs of the people you serve. You can be proud of your continuing commitment to that 'family at the end of the line' and making their life more productive, comfortable and enjoyable," Feragen said.

During the meeting business

session, elected delegates of the six states' systems voted on a series of resolutions calling for wise and efficient use of electric power; federal policy, leadership and support for an aggressive nuclear program to help eliminate the specter of power blackouts, declining productivity, and spiraling inflation; small hydro development; agriculture energy research; testing and demonstration of supplemental energy sources, and other rural, agriculture and energy-related topics.

## All New Mid-Size Homes As Low As \$100 Down - \$259.26/Mo.\*

Announcing: affordable homes for the '80s. Our "Vice President series offers full-size quality, mid-size efficiency, and new low price. We offer below-market financing on everything we furnish and do. No hidden costs. No closing costs. Find out how you can enjoy the freedom, pride and security of a home of your own. Beat the high cost of housing. Send coupon today for our all new FREE CATALOG.

### PRESIDENT HOMES

A DIVISION OF HARVEY BUILDERS, INC.  
CUSTOM BUILT PRE-CUT HOMES



**10.4%**  
financing  
Annual Percentage Rate  
**FREE**  
**CATALOG**

\*excluding taxes and insurance. \*based on 180 equal monthly installments. cash price of home \$23,585.00.

WRITE FOR YOUR LOCAL ILLINOIS  
PRESIDENT HOMES REPRESENTATIVE

Mail coupon to: PRESIDENT HOMES 4808 NO. LILAC DR. IL-30  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55429 (612) 537-3622

Please Send Free Color "Vice President" Catalog Today To:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

We would like to be in our new home by: \_\_\_\_\_  I own a lot  I can get a lot

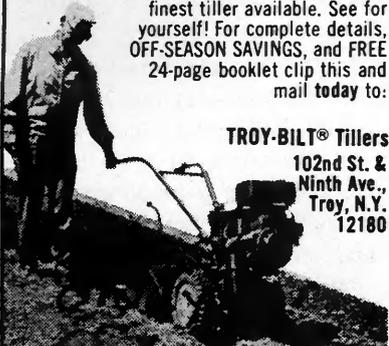
**SAVE \$**  
**SEND**  
**COUPON**  
**TODAY!**

### TILLER USERS...

Can your machine do all of this?

- ★ Handle with just ONE HAND.
- ★ EVENLY break, turn & till soil.
- ★ Shred vegetation without tangling.
- ★ Leave NO WHEELMARKS or FOOTPRINTS.

The TROY-BILT® ROTO TILLER-POWER COM-POSTER can do all this and more! That's why serious gardeners consider it the finest tiller available. See for yourself! For complete details, OFF-SEASON SAVINGS, and FREE 24-page booklet clip this and mail today to:



**TROY-BILT® Tillers**  
102nd St. &  
Ninth Ave.,  
Troy, N.Y.  
12180

**TROY-BILT® Roto Tiller-Power Composters**  
Dept. A-496  
102nd St. & 9th Ave., Troy, N.Y. 12180

Please send the whole wonderful story of TROY-BILT® Roto Tillers including prices and OFF-SEASON-SAVINGS now in effect for a limited time. (Please Print Clearly)

Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ms. \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Roy Wise, left, and Harry Kuhn, center, discuss storm cleanup experiences with James M. "Mickey" Cummins. Wise and Cummins are District Supervisors for Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative, while Kuhn is Manager of Plant Operations for Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association.

## Storm damage poses challenge to cooperative crews



As an important element in electric cooperatives' responsibility of providing adequate electric power at a reasonable cost, the restoration of service following a storm calls for responsive, coordinated and efficient action. For two Illinois electric cooperatives, devastating wind storms this past summer caused damage well into the millions and left tens of thousands of persons without electric service.

The job of resetting poles and restringing wire over the widespread service areas in which a mile of new poles and line may be necessary just to restore two members' service was a

challenge to cooperative crews.

How the two affected cooperatives weathered the storms and the days following is a subject of considerable interest for all of the 27 electric distribution cooperatives in Illinois. To bring cooperative plant personnel up to date on the subject, representatives of the two damaged electric cooperatives were on the program of the Illinois Electric Cooperatives' Plant Supervisory Personnel Association annual meeting during November in Springfield.

Harry W. Kuhn, Manager of Plant Operations for Egyptian Electric

Cooperative Association, Steeleville, and James M. "Mickey" Cummins, District Supervisor for Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Eldorado, outlined how they responded when the storms swept through their service areas.

The two neighboring cooperatives were first damaged when a 25-mile-wide storm front ripped through their systems in a west-to-east direction.

"The storm hit us late in the evening of Saturday, June 28," Kuhn said, "and my telephone at home started ringing almost immediately. It didn't take long for us to determine that our entire northern section was out of power. We knew that our transmission line from the power plant was down and our substations were out, but we didn't know where the most damage was. We tried to reach our Murphysboro office, but its main switchboard and radio were both out."

While the transmission line was down, that was not really the biggest problem, Kuhn said. There were trees down over lines all over the service area, and there were so many across the roads that Egyptian servicemen could not get to many trouble spots.

"Murphysboro and Carbondale were especially hard hit, because they both have large residential areas with a lot of big trees that we'd never been permitted to trim. There were trees down in the line all over," Kuhn said.

After the transmission line was restored and the substations reenergized, the cleanup work was merely a

### Keiser outlines AIEC emergency work plan

While there was limited opportunity to use outside crews to good advantage during these storms, in the vast majority of cases crews from other cooperatives often spell the difference between a minor inconvenience and a severe hardship. Cooperative crews from outside affected areas, often coordinated through the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives' Emergency Work Plan, have helped in many storms in the past and Dennis Keiser, energy utilization specialist, told how the plan works.

"Basically what we do is to learn from a stricken cooperative what kind of problem they have," Keiser said, "and we try to learn which neighboring cooperatives, if any, have troubles too. If they do, we try to judge the extent of the damage. We aren't going to ask a cooperative that's heavily damaged to send help to another one.

"When we learn the kind and extent of damage, we try to find what the weather's like, the weather forecast and the condition of the roads," he said, "so we'll know how to respond. And we ask what kind of hardware and equipment relief crews should bring in with them. Then we can start canvassing undamaged neighboring cooperatives. If necessary, we go farther, to contractors, more distant cooperatives and even out of state. We try to get you all the help you can use. That's why we're here and that's what the Emergency Work Plan is for."

matter of locating and repairing hundreds of small breaks in the lines, but they all took time. The same story, with minor variations, explains the predicament Southeastern found itself in, Cummins noted, but since Southeastern suffered more damage initially, cleanup was taking longer. While Southeastern crews were still hard at work and Egyptian's were just breathing sighs of relief, a second — more severe — storm hit.

"At about 5 p.m. on Wednesday, July 2, with our system still weakened from the June 28 storm, we suffered the worst storm in our history," Cummins told his audience, adding, "Our crews were still tired from the long hours they'd put in repairing the damages caused by the first storm. We serve a total membership of just over 17,000, and 14,000 of them were out of service when the storm ended. They weren't alone, though, because all the other power suppliers in the area were hit hard, too."

Again, falling trees were the major cause of trouble. All outside crews were called back in for a long work session, two crews were borrowed from Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative and 50 contracted personnel were called in to augment the cooperative's seven line and four forestry crews. Back at the office, the switchboard and radio were staffed around the clock. "Still," Cummins said, "some members who couldn't reach the cooperative by phone were really irritated. Our switchboard can handle normal business calls, but it was swamped during the outage."

Both men agreed that while the storms were severe and the outages long, there was only a limited opportunity to take advantage of outside aid because of the nature of the damage.

"The breaks in our lines were small and widely scattered," Kuhn said, "and we made it a policy to send one of our men, in a radio-equipped vehicle, with each work crew. His job was to find the trouble spots for them. When we ran out of men who knew the system, we couldn't use more crews. All a crew could do if it didn't have a guide would be to drive around looking for trouble spots and they wouldn't be able to do any kind of systematic repairs."

# MONSTER MAUL

FAST-N-EASY WOOD SPLITTING



- Splits most logs in one lick—won't stick.
- No struggling lifting heavy logs up to high priced power splitters.
- Drop 'em, saw 'em, stand 'em up, and split 'em!
- Forget about lost, stuck, or flying wedges.
- No gasoline, no set-up, no take-down.
- No wooden handles to replace.
- No gimmicks. Just simple physics!

We at Sotz have been making the same quiet offer for years: Try a Monster Maul at our risk! Within one year, if you don't think it's the fastest, least tiring method of splitting firewood, let us know, and we will give you your money back, including shipping...Plus, it's guaranteed against failure for 10 years.

#### SPECIFICATIONS

Weight: Head—12 lb. (Total weight 15 lb.)  
 Construction: High-carbon steel head, hardened edge. All-steel handle.  
 Guarantee: 1-YEAR TRIAL OFFER + 10 years against failure.  
 Price: **\$24.98**, delivered to your door.

Sotz Corporation, 13668 Station Rd., Columbia Station, OH 44028



FINANCING  
NO  
PROBLEM!

## Have you been priced out of today's housing market?

### Miles Homes could be the answer!

If you have the ambition and desire to build your own home, then the Miles Plan could be for you. **THE MILES HOME OWNERSHIP PLAN IS UNIQUE.** Your desire and dedication are more important than ready cash — start now to build the home of your dreams... the Miles Way.

- Liberal credit — Low monthly payments while building.
- Foundation assistance.
- Land may not have to be fully paid for.

- Pre-cut materials, blueprints, **step-by-step instructions.**
- 24 months to build.
- There is a representative near you. Phone: (612) 588-9700.

Miles has nearly 30 years experience helping over 15,000 families to build their own home. Send coupon today to see how Miles can help you.

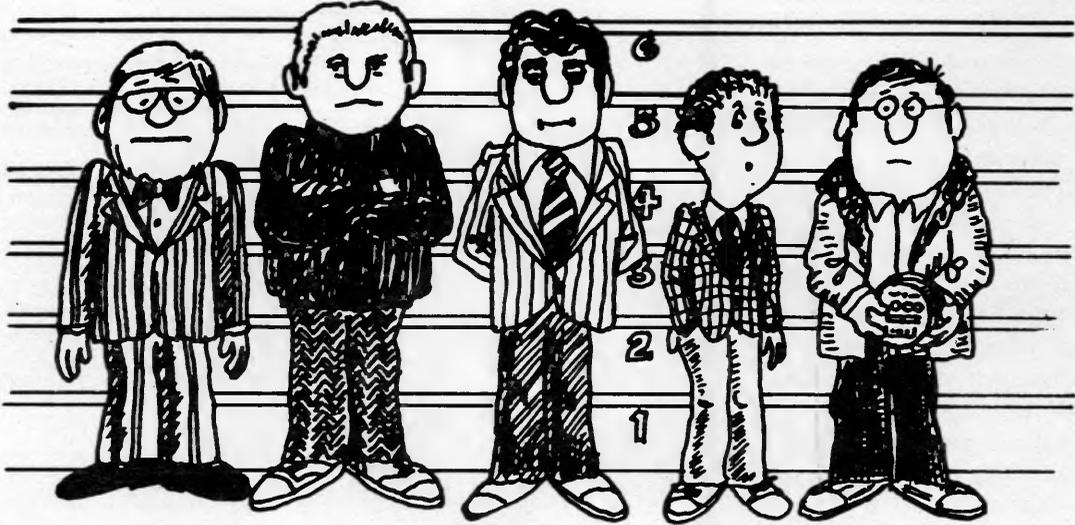
Send me your **FREE** Great Homes Idea Book  
**MILES HOMES, Dept. E004-1210**  
**(618) 586-2245 (815) 398-9819**  
 4500 Lyndale Ave. N., Minneapolis, MN 55412

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 County \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 I plan to do  all or  part of the work  
 \$1.00 enclosed for priority handling

**Miles Homes**

12 Insilco A Division of Insilco Corporation

# THE METER THIEF



## STEALS FROM THE NEIGHBORS

As electric costs increase, consumers react in different ways. Some practice conservation to reduce the amount of energy they use, while others become angry and blame their power supplier. A few steal electricity.

Electric users who think they are fooling a rural electric cooperative or a power company by tampering with their electric meter are likely to be in for a shock — in more ways than one.

The biggest shock they could get could be a fatal one because an untrained consumer breaking into the “hot” wiring system entering their home in order to by-pass the meter is risking sudden death.

Consumers’ meters are sealed for two reasons — first, to protect the consumer by making the meter off limits. Only a trained and authorized serviceman can cut the seal on that meter or remove it. Even a licensed electrician *has* to have permission from the power supplier before that meter seal can be removed.

The second reason that meter is sealed is to prevent anyone from stealing power.

That may sound foolish, but the number of cases of consumers found stealing power in recent months has increased alarmingly.

Cheaters think they can get away with it, but they’re dead wrong. Not only are the meters sealed, but when

they are read, the seal is checked and if missing, the consumer can expect to hear about it. If the meter has been tampered with, the cheater is going to face legal action, fines, a bad credit rating and the chance of losing his service completely in some cases.

Even when a consumer reads his own meter, most cooperatives and power companies run spot checks

### ***Tampering: costly and dangerous***

What is an electric meter? It is an instrument calibrated to accurately record the kilowatt-hours being used so that everyone may contribute their fair share in the cost of operations to your cooperative. As sure as you tamper with or cheat the meter, you are taking money out of your cooperative’s cash register.

Is it dangerous to tamper with the electric meter? You bet it is. Secondary voltages 120/240 kill more people than any other voltage. When taking a meter in and out of the meter base, you may damage the insulating angles and energize the entire meter just waiting to zap you. Other devices used may also cause trouble.

from time to time to make sure tampering has not taken place.

And since the tampering was done to cut down on power bills, it’s just a matter of time before the sudden reduction is spotted by a billing department and a serviceman is sent out to check into this sudden, mysterious drop in power demand.

In short, the very reason a meter is tampered with is likely to result in the cheater getting caught.

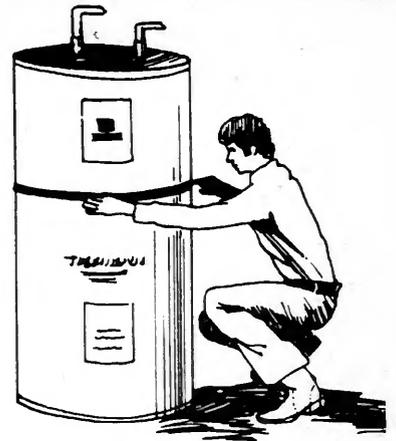
The most important reason an electric cooperative goes to so much trouble to catch and punish power cheaters is to protect those members who do not steal, because in the long run, it’s the honest consumer who gets stuck with the bill.

Cooperatives make no profit in the sale of power and have to pay for every kilowatt-hour of power their consumers use. If some of it is unmetered, the cooperative still has to pay the bill. Eventually, if left unchecked, the difference can result in even higher rates to cover the loss.

So cooperatives do everything possible to find and prosecute cheaters.

Consumers can protect themselves by reporting such dishonest actions and in the process may prevent the death or injury of someone who is tampering with something they know little or nothing about.

## A. Measure



## Third largest energy user

# Cutting the cost of operating your water heater

You can save energy and money by babying your water heater. Next to space heating and air conditioning, your water heater is the biggest energy user in the house, and careful management can help you save on your utility bills, whether your water heater is gas or electric.

At five cents a kilowatt-hour, it costs almost two cents a gallon to heat water to about 140 degrees F., as many people do; so if you save hot water, you can save money.

One step you may want to take is to buy one of the new super-insulated water heaters on the market. In fact, that would most likely be a good bet — if you are in the market for a water heater in the first place. But what about those who have fairly new water heaters that do not need replacement? It would not make sense to discard them just because they have less insulation than the newest offerings.

If you would like a heavier insulation on your unit, without replacing it, there is something you can do. Several companies have water heater jacket kits on the market, so you can add insulation to your present water heater. These kits consist of batts of insulation built in the general shape of a water heater, which can be cut to fit your unit if they are too long.

The kits are convenient, but you do not necessarily have to have one to do the job. They just make it neater and easier. If you wanted to, you could just wrap some insulation around your water heater and secure it with wire or tape. Just be sure to leave an opening so you can get to the controls. And, if your heater uses gas, make sure the insulation is a safe distance from anywhere the heating flame may reach and don't cover the wiring in or around the thermostat.

To effect further savings, you may want to locate your water heater as

close as possible to the area of greatest use. If you have a 20-foot pipe run, you will run out about two quarts of water when you turn on your hot water tap before you get really hot water. In the average kitchens, this can amount to about 1,000 gallons a year, and at two cents a gallon, that amounts to 20 dollars. Where electricity is higher, the cost is higher.

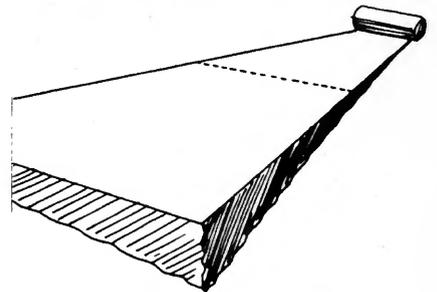
However, unless you are planning to build, chances are your water heater is already in place and there is not much you can do about its location. Still, you can save money by insulating long pipe runs, a fairly easy chore.

If you have a leaky faucet, repair it immediately, and you will save more money. If your faucet drips at the rate of 60 drops a minute, it will waste seven gallons a day, or about 2,500 gallons a year. A thin but steady stream of hot water running from a faucet will waste as much as 30 gallons a day, or upwards of 13,000 in a year. At the rate of five cents a kilowatt-hour, that amounts to about \$217 in a year, or \$18.09 a month. Obviously, a dripping faucet should be repaired quickly.

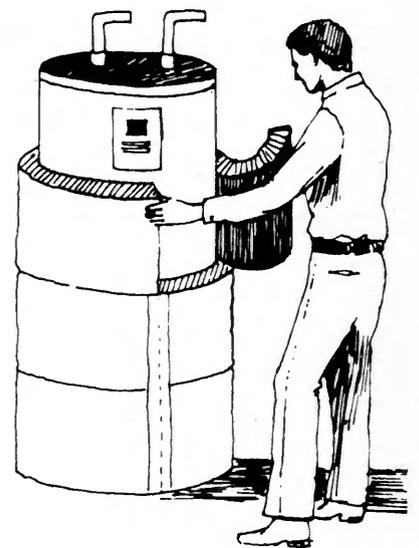
You may be able to lower your hot water costs by turning back your water heater thermostat. If you use a dishwasher, you will need to have water as hot as 140 degrees F. In some other cases, such a temperature is necessary, too, especially where strict sanitation is a concern, such as in homes with infants and small children, or in laundering sickroom furnishings.

In many cases, however, lower temperatures can be used without undue effects, and you can save money. Of course, if you wash a few full loads of dishes or clothing instead of many small loads, you will save money. Most machines use as much water — and detergent — for small loads as for large ones. The same applies to clothes dryers.

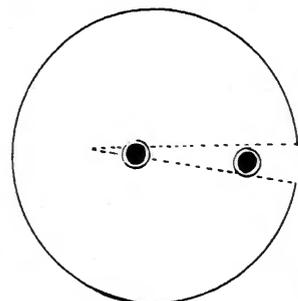
## B. Cut a sample piece



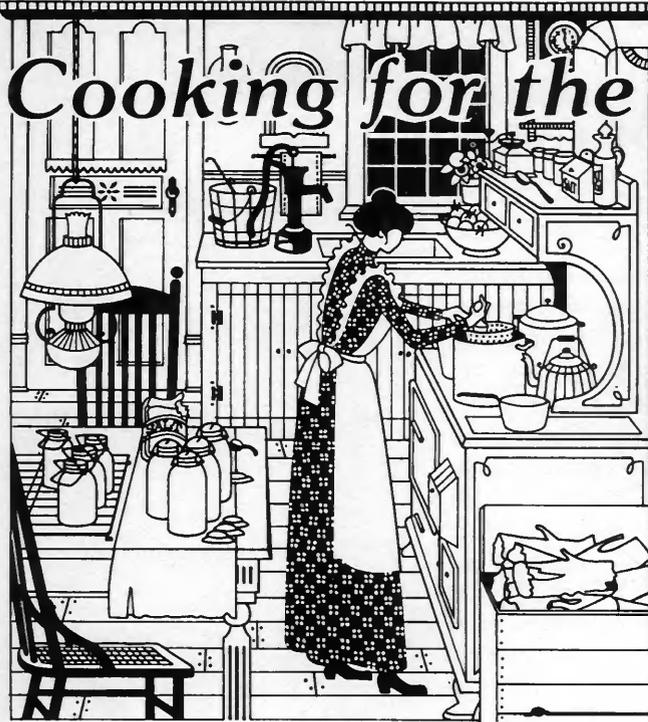
## C. Place around heater



## D. Cut piece for top



# Cooking for the holiday season...



## AMBROSIA COOKIES

- |                           |                                 |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 cup butter or margarine | 1 1/2 cups rolled oats          |
| 1 cup brown sugar         | 1 cup nuts, chopped             |
| 1 cup granulated sugar    | 1 cup seedless raisins          |
| 2 eggs, beaten            | (I prefer bleached ones)        |
| 2 cups flour              | 1 cup dates, chopped            |
| 1 teaspoon baking powder  | 1 tablespoon grated orange rind |
| 1/2 teaspoon soda         | 1 tablespoon grated lemon rind  |
| 1/2 teaspoon salt         | 1 teaspoon vanilla              |
| 1 cup coconut             |                                 |

- 1 add to this:  
1 cup candied cherries, chopped  
1 cup candied fruit cake mix

Cream butter or margarine. Add brown and white sugars gradually, creaming well. Add beaten eggs and mix well. Sift together flour, baking powder, soda and salt. Stir into creamed mixture, beating until smooth. Add vanilla and mix well. Add all other ingredients and mix thoroughly. May have to use hands for mixing. Drop from a teaspoon onto greased baking sheets. Bake at 375 degrees for about 12 minutes. Makes 7 doz.

## CHOCOLATE SOUR CREAM FUDGE

- |   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 2 cups sugar  | 2 tablespoons light corn syrup |
| 1 cup dairy sour cream                              | 2 tablespoons butter           |
| 2 sqs. unsweetened chocolate,<br>broken into pieces | 1 teaspoon vanilla             |
| 1/2 teaspoon salt                                   | 1/2 cup chopped nuts           |

Combine sugar, sour cream, chocolate, salt and syrup in heavy 2 qt. saucepan with cover. Cook and stir over low heat until sugar dissolves. Cook over medium heat until boiling; cover and cook for 3 minutes. Uncover and cook, stirring frequently, to soft ball stage. Remove from heat. Add butter and vanilla. Cool to lukewarm without stirring. Beat vigorously until candy is creamy and has lost its gloss. Add nuts and pour into buttered 8-inch square pan. Cut into 1 1/4" squares when hard.

## RASPBERRY MERINGUE BARS

- |                                    |                             |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 cup (2 sticks) butter            | 1/2 teaspoon almond extract |
| 1/2 cup firmly packed brown sugar  | 3 egg whites                |
| 1 egg                              | 3/4 cup sugar               |
| 2 cups all purpose flour           | 1/2 cup flaked coconut      |
| 1 jar (12 oz.) raspberry preserves | 1/2 cup sliced almonds      |
| 1/2 cup seedless raisins           |                             |

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Cream butter and brown sugar until light and fluffy. Blend in egg. Stir in flour; mix well. Spread dough in buttered 13" x 9" baking pan. Bake 25 minutes. Meanwhile, combine preserves, raisins and extract. Spread over baked cookie base. Beat egg whites until foamy. Gradually beat in sugar. Continue beating until stiff peaks form. Gently fold in coconut and almonds. Spread over raspberry mixture. Return to oven and bake until meringue is lightly browned, about 20 minutes. Cool in pan. Cut into 48 bars.

## POPPY SEED DRESSING

- |                         |                           |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 1/2 cups sugar        | 3 tablespoons onion juice |
| 2 teaspoons dry mustard | 2 cups salad oil (Wesson) |
| 2 teaspoons salt        | 3 tablespoons poppy seeds |
| 2/3 cup vinegar         |                           |

Mix ingredients, beat and chill overnight. Serve over fresh fruits.

## HASH CANDY

- |                                  |                         |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2 large or 18 small Hershey bars | 1 can evaporated milk   |
| 1 pkg. chocolate chips           | 1 jar marshmallow creme |

Melt candy bars and chocolate chips in double boiler, and remove from heat. Stir milk and marshmallow creme into chocolate mixture. Mix well. Add nuts if you wish and marshmallows. Mix well.

## NEAPOLITAN COOKIES

- |                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| 2/3 cup butter               | 1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder                   |
| 1 cup sugar                  | 1/2 teaspoon salt                               |
| 1 egg                        | 1/3 cup finely chopped nuts                     |
| 1 teaspoon vanilla           | 1 sq. unsweetened chocolate, melted             |
| 2 1/4 cups all purpose flour | 1/4 cup chopped maraschino cherries,<br>drained |
| Few drops red food color     |   |

Cream butter; gradually add sugar and beat until light and fluffy. Beat in egg and vanilla. Combine flour, baking powder and salt; gradually mix into creamed mixture to form a stiff dough. Stir in nuts. Divide dough into thirds. Add chocolate to one third. Add food color and cherries to second third. Leave remaining third plain. Shape each color into a roll 14" long; flatten to a width of 1 1/2". Place layers one on top of the other. Press lightly. Cut into 2 equal pieces, each 7" x 1 1/2". Wrap tightly in waxed paper. Refrigerate several hours or overnight. Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Cut dough into 1/8" thick slices; place on unbuttered cookie sheets. Bake until lightly browned, about 8 minutes. Cool completely on wire racks.

## GINGER BEER CAKE

- |                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1 box yellow cake mix | 1 tablespoon ginger |
| 1 1/2 cups beer       | 1 teaspoon cinnamon |
| 2 eggs                | 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg |

Combine dry ingredients, eggs and beer. Mix well. Turn into bundt pan and bake at 350 degrees for 35 minutes or until brown. Frost with:

- |                           |                    |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 stick margarine         | 1 cup pecans       |
| 1 8-oz. pkg. cream cheese | 1 teaspoon vanilla |
| 1 box powdered sugar      |                    |

Combine margarine, cream cheese and vanilla. Gradually add sugar, blending well. Stir in pecans.

## CROWN JEWELS CAKE

- |                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Cake:                         | 1/4 cup EACH: diced dried apricots,<br>diced candied cherries, seedless<br>raisins, chopped nuts. |
| 1 cup (2 sticks) butter       |   |
| 1 pkg. cream cheese (8 oz.)   |   |
| 1 1/2 cups sugar              |   |
| 4 eggs                        |   |
| 2 1/4 cups sifted cake flour  |   |
| 1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder |   |
| 1/4 teaspoon salt             |   |
| 1 teaspoon vanilla            |   |

- |                             |                                  |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| GLAZE:                      | 1 cup sifted confectioners sugar |
| 1 1/2 cups milk             | 1/2 teaspoon almond extract      |
| 1/2 teaspoon almond extract | Candied cherries                 |
| Candied cherries            | Whole almonds                    |

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. For cake, beat butter and cream cheese in large mixer bowl until creamy. Add sugar; beat until light and fluffy. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Combine flour, baking powder and salt. Gently fold dry ingredients into creamed mixture. Stir in vanilla, fruit and nuts. Pour batter into well-buttered and floured 10-inch fluted ring tube pan. Bake until wooden pick inserted near center comes out clean, about 70 minutes. Cool on wire rack 15 minutes. Remove cake from pan. Cool completely. For glaze, combine first three ingredients; stir until smooth. Drizzle over top of cake. Decorate with cherries and almonds.

## OLD FASHIONED FILLED COOKIES

- |                               |                                   |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 3/4 cup (1 1/2 sticks) butter | 2 3/4 cups all purpose flour      |
| 1 cup sugar                   | 1/4 teaspoon soda                 |
| 2 eggs                        | 1/2 teaspoon salt                 |
| 1 teaspoon vanilla            | Cherry Pastry and Dessert filling |
| 1 teaspoon grated lemon peel  |                                   |

Cream butter; gradually add sugar and cream until light and fluffy. Beat in eggs, vanilla and lemon peel. Combine flour, soda and salt; stir into creamed mixture. Cover and chill. Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Roll out cookie dough on lightly floured surface to 1/8" thickness. Cut into 2 1/2" circles. Using a smaller cutter, cut out small design in center of half the circles. Place plain circles on cookie sheets. Top each circle with 1 teaspoon cherry filling. Top with cookies with centers cut out. Press edges lightly with floured fork to seal. Bake 10 to 12 minutes. Remove to wire racks to cool.

## MULLED CIDER

- |                           |                             |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 3 quarts apple cider      | Spice Bag:                  |
| 2 cups of orange juice    | 1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg  |
| 2 lemons, sliced thin     | 3 teaspoons ground allspice |
| 1/2 cup light brown sugar | 1 teaspoon cinnamon         |
| 3/4 cup granulated sugar  | 4 cinnamon sticks (broken)  |
| 1 cup of water            |                             |

Mix cider, orange juice, sugars and water in kettle. Tie spices in bag and place in liquid and let boil 4 or 5 minutes. Add lemon slices. Cover a few minutes and simmer. Remove bag and serve hot. Serves 18. Leftover can be stored and reheated. Add small amount of water or more cider if syrupy.



### STEAMED CARROT PUDDING

- |                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1 cup (2 sticks) butter              | 3/4 teaspoon nutmeg                             |
| 1 1/4 cups firmly packed brown sugar | 1/4 teaspoon allspice                           |
| 3 eggs                               | 1 1/2 cups grated carrots                       |
| 1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla              | 1/2 cup raisins                                 |
| 1 3/4 cups all purpose flour         | 1/2 cup chopped nuts                            |
| 1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder        | 1/4 cup chopped dates                           |
| 3/4 teaspoon salt                    | 2 tablespoons finely chopped candied lemon peel |
| 3/4 teaspoon cinnamon                |   |

Cream butter until fluffy. Gradually add brown sugar and beat until light. Beat in eggs and vanilla. Combine flour, baking powder, salt, cinnamon, nutmeg, allspice, carrots, raisins, nuts, dates and lemon peel. Stir into creamed mixture, blending thoroughly. Pour into well-buttered 2 qt. pudding mold with center post. Butter inside of cover to mold; cover; steam 3 hours. Remove cover; let rest 10 minutes. Invert onto serving plate; serve very hot with Holiday Hard Sauce. To Steam: place rack in large kettle tall enough to accommodate mold. Place filled and covered mold on rack. Pour boiling water into kettle so that it comes halfway up

height of mold. Cover kettle tightly. Keep water boiling over low heat to steam pudding recommended time or until cake tester inserted in center comes out clean.

### HOLIDAY HARD SAUCE:

- |                                   |                     |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1/2 cup butter                    | 1 tablespoon brandy |
| 2 cups sifted confectioners sugar |                     |

Cream butter until fluffy. Gradually beat in confectioners sugar and brandy. Cover and refrigerate. Let stand at room temperature 15 minutes before serving.

### COCONUT MACAROONS

- |                  |                                     |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 8 egg whites     | 6 cups cornflakes, slightly crushed |
| 4 cups coconut   | 4 teaspoons vanilla                 |
| 2 3/4 cups sugar |                                     |

Beat egg whites very stiff, add sugar gradually beating in. Beat well. Then fold in coconut, cornflakes and vanilla. Drop by teaspoonful on baking sheet covered with buttered wax paper. Bake at 300 degrees for 30 minutes.

**FREE  
NEW**

**Kelly Bros.  
NURSERY  
CATALOG**



Big Spring Catalog has hundreds of trees and shrubs. Strawberries, raspberries, early dwarf fruit trees, grapes, roses, shade trees, perennials, asparagus. Many garden tips. Send for Kelly's FREE Spring Nursery Catalog today.

**KELLY BROS. NURSERIES, INC.**  
982 Maple St. Dansville, NY 14437

Yes, Rush My Free Kelly Spring Catalog to:

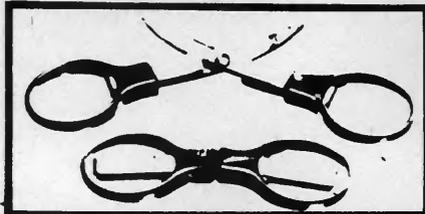
PLEASE PRINT

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

(Sorry, no catalogs to AZ, CA, OR, WA)



**DELUXE FOLDING SCISSORS \$1**

An open & shut case of convenience. Quality steel blades, cushioned plastic handles, ingeniously engineered to fold to absolutely safe 3" size to slip easily into pocket, purse, sewing kit, first aid kit, glove compartment, tackle box, etc. Great for in-store coupon clipping. Vinyl case included. A great value at only \$1 Pr., 2 Pr. \$1.79, 6 Pr. \$4.75, 1 Dz. \$8.75 ppd. Fund Raisers write for quantity prices. Money-back guarantee. Pls. allow up to 6 wks. for delivery.

**TWO BROTHERS, INC.** Dept. FS-550  
808 Washington St. Louis, Mo. 63101

**SAVE  
SEPTIC TANK  
PUMP-OUTS!**

with

**Septictrine**

THE 5 NATURAL ENZYME  
SEPTIC WASTE DIGESTER



**ELIMINATES**

- FOUL ODORS
- CLOGGING
- BACK-UPS

• An exclusive blend of 5 natural enzymes that completely liquifies ALL waste solids, including HOUSEHOLD TOILET PAPER and FACIAL TISSUES.

• Regular use reduces costly pump-outs! Some customers report they never had to pump out since using Septictrine!

• ECONOMICAL to use...2 ozs. every other week assures a clog-free, free flowing system.

**DRAINTRINE**

NATURAL ENZYME  
DRAIN CLEANER

**FREE!**

with purchase  
of 3-lb. container  
SEPTICTRINE

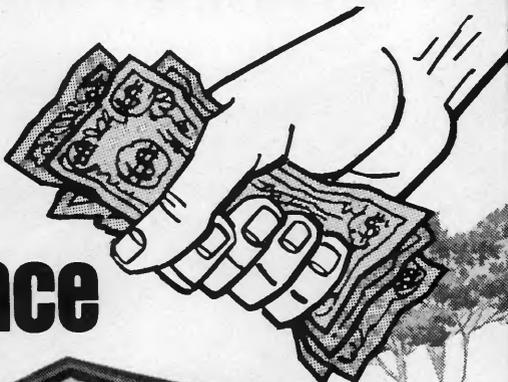


- The NEW...SAFE way to CLEAN DRAINS
- Non-Poisonous
- Non-Caustic
- Will not Harm Plumbing
- Ideal for Garbage Disposals

**5.00  
VALUE**

**PUT THE CHAMP™ TO WORK FOR YOU!**

**Curtis  
Homes  
Assistance  
Money  
Plan**



Handy, ambitious people don't have to wait to afford a home. Curtis has the "CHAMP" to put homeownership within your reach Now! There's no other building and financing plan like it anywhere. Curtis does the heavy difficult framing on your lot and foundation. You complete it with Curtis quality materials and simple, step-by-step instructions. Curtis arranges the easy credit during construction and has millions in permanent mortgage money available when you finish. Send for free details today.

**THE "CHAMP" WORKS TEN WAYS FOR YOU!**

- Easy credit during construction.
- No big down payment, no deposit.
- No bank qualification at the start.
- Low monthly payments.
- Below market interest rates.
- Build without a fully paid for lot.
- 6 month price guarantee.
- No payments 'til SPRING 1981.\*
- Complete-it-yourself and save.
- Long term mortgage money.

Send coupon or call. No obligation.  
Allow three weeks for delivery or send \$1.00 for priority handling.

\*Finance charge begins on date of first delivery.

There's a representative near you!  
Phone 1-800-358-9151

Complete It Yourself

**Curtis  
Homes™**



If you have desire...We have the trust!

Send me your FREE Homes Catalog.  
**CURTIS HOMES, DEPT. IL-1**  
327 5th St., WDIP, Perrysburg, OH 43551

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

- I own or can get a lot.
- Enclosed is \$1.00 for priority handling.

**The ONLY Complete Guide to  
WATER WEED and  
ALGAE CONTROL  
at Lakes & Ponds.**

This full-color guide graphically describes and illustrates the most common water weeds and algae. Experts present recommended control methods...everything you need to know about this critical subject.



**\$4.95**

1979 Revised Edition

For Solutions to ALL your problem water areas -  
LAKES & PONDS • SEWERS • SWIMMING POOLS  
• LIVESTOCK WATER • RV HOLDING TANKS.

**BROWN DEER CO.** Dept. IL-1180  
9600 N. Garden Dr., Mequon, WI 53092

Here's my check \_\_\_\_\_ M.O. \_\_\_\_\_

Send: \_\_\_\_\_ 1# Trial Size - \$8.95

\_\_\_\_\_ 3# w/Free Draintrine - \$22.95

Send me \_\_\_\_\_ copies of HOW TO IDENTIFY  
AND CONTROL WATER WEEDS AND ALGAE.  
Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ Send me your Free Catalog

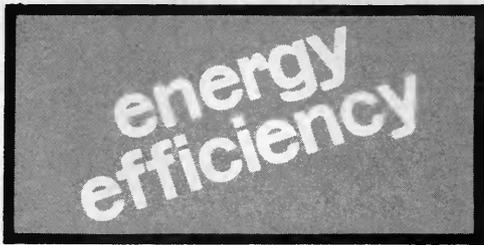
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

For quicker delivery of your order, call TOLL-FREE 1-800-558-5106, 8:30 AM - 5 PM CST, Weekdays.



## For maximum results, direct conservation effort to large electricity users in home

**D**uring the past few years there has been considerable talk and information distributed concerning how to save energy or use energy more efficiently. Many times we are unsuccessful in reaching a solution simply because we do not understand the "why" of the problem. On this basis, perhaps it is time to look at energy conservation in another way: the unsuccessful approach to energy-saving. Many people are making a major effort to cut home energy use, and often are saving little money or energy.

For the most part, the major missing ingredient in many energy conservation campaigns to save money is information — basic information concerning what are the actual large uses of electricity in the home.

The following information should help you understand more fully the relationship between effort and resulting payoff concerning your energy successes and failures.

Here are a few ways to save one dollar or less worth of electricity per year (based on \$.05/kWh) using household appliances and personal care items.

- Stop using an electric shaver — save about nine cents a year.
- Unplug your electric clock — save 85 cents a year.
- Toast two fewer slices of bread each day of the year — save approximately 90 cents a year.
- Stop using an electric can opener — save about two cents a year.
- Stop using a hair dryer — save about 70 cents a year.
- Do not use a mixer — save 65 cents a year.

The following are a few examples of how to save \$10 or less of

electricity per year which may not, in your judgement, be worth the inconvenience they create.

- Eliminate using the electric coffee pot every morning — annual savings about \$7.
- Use the humidifier half the time during the winter months — annual savings about \$4.
- Stop using the black and white T.V. (solid state) — annual savings about \$6.
- Stop using your electric blanket — annual savings about \$9.
- Use your radio/phono equipment half as much — annual savings about \$3.
- Use your color T.V. set one hour less per day, every day — annual savings about \$7.

On the other hand, there's nothing wrong with using some of these ideas on purpose in order to save energy. If it is worth 85 cents per year to unplug your electric clock, then do so. However, do not expect it to reduce your electric bill 85 cents per week.

For the homeowner to substantially reduce electricity usage, it is necessary to concentrate on the larger uses than the ones we've mentioned above. If you have an electric water heater, this

is probably the best place to focus your energy-saving efforts. Electric water heating costs many families \$200 to \$300 per year, approximately a penny for each gallon used.

Central air-conditioning is another major use of electricity.

Electricity usage varies greatly, but beginning with those first two large ones an approximate ranking in the homes of the nation are: (1) electric water heater, (2) central air conditioner, (3) refrigerator/freezer, room air conditioner and washing machine (about equal) and (4) electric clothes dryer and electric range (about equal).

Please keep in mind that these estimated annual average costs will vary because appliances differ, consumers have somewhat different life styles and the price of electricity affects the annual cost as well as the amount of use of these appliances. In addition, the figures may vary widely due to climatic and geographic conditions. These estimates are based on a family of four, so you will have to adjust if your family is larger or smaller. If your family is larger or smaller than four, your electricity usage may not necessarily increase or decrease proportionally.

To: **A.I.E.C. Publications**  
**P. O. Box 3787**  
**Springfield, Illinois 62708**

Please mail me \_\_\_\_\_ copies of the publication  
"Home Weatherization"

(For each copy, enclose \$1.00 to cover the cost of the book and pay postage and handling.)

Please Print Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



## Reluctant artist paints 1,000 canvases

**E**thel Jenkins has one of those “A funny thing happened. . .” stories to tell, and it deals with how she happened to become a painter of some repute. “I was in our family’s used furniture store in Kinmundy,” Ethel says, “and Mary Sechler, a local artist, came in and looked at some of the fancy crocheting I’d done. She said, ‘Anybody who can do work that good can paint!’ Well, I didn’t believe it for a minute, and I didn’t want to do it, either, but I decided to try it anyway.”

The result, after more than 25 years of work, has been the creation of some 1,000 paintings, some 250 or so of which adorn her “Old Homestead Art Gallery” walls near Omega, in Tri-County Electric Cooperative’s service area.

Mrs. Jenkins, who signs her paintings “Minnie” (her mother’s name), took up painting when she was 50, at Mrs. Sechler’s urging and under her instruction. Surprisingly, her style differed from Mrs. Sechler’s almost immediately. “She copied

pictures and drawings,” Ethel says, “and I just couldn’t do that and make it work. I just got to where I’d start painting and go from there. I paint rural or farm scenes — things I’m familiar with. I don’t know anything about composition or anything like that. I just dip my brush in paint and put it on. It’s funny, but before she died, Mary was copying my paintings.”

While formal training and polished technique are not Mrs. Jenkins’s long suits, her technique does generate paintings that rate acclaim and paintings that sell.

She exhibited her paintings in a Montgomery Ward store in Decatur for a couple of years and made many sales there, and a Decatur church commissioned a painting after seeing her work. Mrs. Jenkins used the money from it to fuel another pastime — cooking; she bought a microwave oven.

Her paintings also have a realistic look about them. A Wisconsin man, viewing one of her paintings, swore that it was his family’s farm house.

“I’d never seen his house, of course,” Ethel remarks, “but he insisted it was the place. There was even a lilac bush right where it belonged.”

In another instance, an Arizona woman claimed to have stood at the very spot from which another painting had been made. The scene depicts a large, natural bridge and an odd-shaped tree. “The funny thing is,” Ethel laughs, “I’ve never been to Arizona, and I painted it at my kitchen table, where I paint everything else — my husband eats standing up when I’m painting,” she adds jokingly.

While she is unable to paint copies and does much of her work from her imagination, she does paint scenes — with interpretation — from memory. A favorite is the result of a boat ride through the Florida Everglades, and if you look carefully, you can see an alligator sunning himself on a log. “You have to look hard to see him,” Ethel says, “because when we went by the one we saw, he was really hard to spot. He just looked like part of the log, except that his tail was off in the

At left, Ethel Jenkins is shown with several of the paintings that adorn the walls of The Old Homestead Art Gallery near Omega. At right is another wall of her canvases. Mrs. Jenkins, who started painting when she was 50, signs her paintings "Minnie", her mother's name.



water, just like in 'my painting.'

While her paintings are selling well and drawing admiring looks, Ethel is quick to point out that she has her troubles, too.

"I drew a farm scene once," she chuckles, "and I had a terrible time getting everything in proportion. I made some geese over there," she gestures, "and they were taller than the man I'd painted, so I painted the legs off of them and called them ducks." Pointing to another spot, she confesses other difficulties. "I buried four dogs in that spot before I finally got the one I wanted. His ears were up and I had to explain that, so I painted a rooster over there."

Another painting, a farm scene, gave the Jenkinse problems, but they could not figure out what was wrong. Finally, Paul blurted, "There ain't no hinges on the barn doors." A few quick strokes with a brush, and the problem was solved.

"Paul's a good critic," Ethel says. "He keeps me on my toes." His criticism, along with her innate talent, got her involved in the paint-by-numbers business about ten years ago. A man from a paint-by-numbers company came by and looked Ethel's paintings over carefully. He checked closely for pencil marks which, he said, might indicate that the paintings were not completely original, in which case they would be of no value to him.

Ethel sold him two paintings, and later heard that they had been developed into high-priced kits with canvas surfaces. She has never seen the kit. "The buyer told my son later that he'd hung one of the originals in his home," she says.

Ethel's paintings range from large wall-filling canvases to smaller objects. She has painted a few crosscut saws, and Minnie's minis — sets of four miniatures — are good sellers. One winter she made 176 of them, and they sell for \$5 a set. "I like to price my paintings so my friends can afford them," she smiles, then adds that she has a pair of paintings she has priced at \$8,000 to discourage prospective buyers. The paintings are "Grandfather's Estate" numbers one and two, and depict the story of a

young couple who inherits the old home place, a ramshackle farm, and rebuilds it — something of a before and after set.

Many of her paintings are for her six children, while others are earmarked for the grandkids, but most find their way onto the walls of the Old Homestead Art Gallery, where friends come to look and buy.

"This isn't a big commercial business," Ethel emphasizes, "it's just a place where friends bring their friends to visit. We like it that way."

Baked-on decorator finish withstands normal operating temperatures.

10-gauge fire box. Strong enough to last. Proven best for maximum heat conduction.

Heavy-duty cast iron door resists warping.

Secondary safety locking latch.

Flexible heat-resistant door seals insure air-tight fire box.

Safety smoke flap assembly on inner door opening.

Manually adjustable draft control standard.

10-gauge steel, full-length, removable ash pan with wooden handle standard.

Double heavy-duty cast iron grates for durability.

Fire brick protects fire box, reflects heat for greater efficiency.

Rugged leveling bolts to keep unit stable and off damp floor.

Secondary heat chamber. Exhaust passes over flame for added efficiency. (RC2400 only)

Honeywell limit-control activates blower at adjustable temperatures. Manual override.

Air filter on cold air return reduces dust circulation.

465 cfm blower (One in RC1900, two in RC2400) brings in cold air, forces heated air into plenum.

**Distributor: WETZEL'S WOODBURNERS, Route 1, Box 30B, Waterloo, IL 62298, For Information Phone (618) 939-3474**

**DEALERS WANTED**

# TRADING POST

## Farm Machinery, Equipment

**CLEARANCE SALE** — New Winpower alternators, 30 percent off list. From 15 KW to 50 KW. Single-phase and three-phase machines in stock. Five-year warranty. Leasing available. Ken Heim Sales (217) 787-6340

### WINPOWER ALTERNATORS

New PTO Units in Stock — 15KW to 100 KW — 5 YEAR WARRANTY Automatic Standby Unit — Terms Available **PRICES BELOW DEALERS COST. FACTORY DISTRIBUTOR CLOSE-OUT** Contact: JAMES E. HUMPHREY, 3313 Crestview Drive, Quincy, IL 62301 Phone 217-223-8665

### WINCO STANDBY GENERATORS

In stock PTO units and Automatic Standby Units. Brochure available. For information call: Tom Bauer, R. R. 2, Gillespie 62033 (618) 362-6441

### TRENCHERS

New and Used — \$750 and up  
**OZARK TRENCHER SALES**  
 107 Troy Road, Collinsville,  
 Ill. 62234. Phone 618 345-6262

## Farms, Real Estate

**BIG...NEW...FREE...SPRING...CATALOG!** Over 2,700 top values in **FARMS, RANCHES, ACREAGES, RECREATIONAL PROPERTIES, BUSINESSES, TOWN and COUNTRY HOMES** coast to coast! **UNITED FARM AGENCY**, 2012-RN Tribune Tower, 435 North Michigan, Chicago, Ill. 60611.

## Miscellaneous

Used and new restaurant and concession equipment. Ice machines, grills, fryers, sinks, poppers, ice cream machines, etc. Erio Sales, 2615 So. 1st., Springfield (217) 522-3934.

**SAUSAGE MAKERS, GREAT! GERMAN RECIPES, NO NITRATES!** Frankfurters, Summer, Balogna, Headeheese, Venison & Porksauseage! \$1.00 Hamiltons, Box 652-41, New Ulm, Minn. 56073

## FIGHT BACK START YOUR OWN GAS WAR

**AT LAST.** Tested and proven on farm alcohol fuel distilling equipment available at down-to-earth prices.

**DEALERSHIPS AVAILABLE EARN EXTRA** income and help your neighbors. **END FUEL WORRIES.** Prove it to yourself. **ALCOHOL FUEL 40¢ GALLON** including tax credits and rebates. Only one dealer per area. Call (913) 341-8211 for **FREE** information or mail coupon to: **NAFCO**, 6351 W. 110th, P.O. Box 7232, Overland Park, KS 66207

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 County \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**"WILL HELP SOLVE PROBLEMS WITH STATE AGENCIES."** Ten years experience. Write Bob Campbell, P. O. Box 2268, Springfield, IL 62705

See me for that famous **ASHLEY WOOD STOVE**. Send 25 cents for Brochure or call 618-423-2667. Treva Durbin, R. R. 2, Ramsey, IL 62080.

**HYMNS** — play by ear. Add chords. New book — piano, organ. Anyone can learn \$5.98. Davidsons, 6727 RI Metcalf, Shawnee Mission, Kansas 66204.

**PECANS:** QUART EACH HALVES, PIECES, MEAL. **THREE-QUART SAMPLER \$9.95 POSTPAID. TENPECO**, Box 638-R, Rutherford, TN 38369.

**WORK CLOTHES** by Oshkosh. Send for free catalogue of Men's and Boys quality clothing. Strauss', Since 1863L, 100 George Street, Alton, IL. 62002.

**Auto Title problems: One-Day license service.** Also help with state agency problems. Illinois Title Service, Box 1117, Springfield, IL 62705 PH: 217-525-4827 Day or Night.

Used meat saws, slicers, grinders, tenderizers and other butchering equipment. 2615 South 1st., Springfield, Ill. Phone (217) 522-3934.

**ASHLEY WOOD BURNING STOVES** Automatic thermostats, Blowers, Ash pans. Favorite since 1905. Timber Campground, Cambridge, IL 309-937-2314.

**COLLECTION of Low Calorie Recipe's and Menu's**, Send \$5.00 to: The Country Chef, Route 3, Box 88 Road 900N, Carbondale, Illinois 62901

## Of Interest to Women

### HUMOROUS BOOK!

**"HOW TO CLICK IN THE STICKS"** REARWARD Glance at Soft underbelly of Rural Living. \$4.95 plus tax, 75 cents mailing, MAURICE VINCENT, GREENVIEW, IL 62642

## Auction Schools

**"REISCH WORLD WIDE COLLEGE OF AUCTIONEERING, INC** — Worlds Largest — 46 years. Term soon, Free Catalog, VA Approved, Modern Auction Library "FREE" with enrollment, 515-423-5242 — Col. Gordon E. Taylor: P. O. Box 949, Dept. C; Mason City, IA 50401."

## Fireplace Owners, Solve Your Home-Heating Costs... NOW! **FREE HEAT MACHINE®**

### Warm Home SAVE MONEY!

THE **FREE HEAT MACHINE®** can be used independent of, or in conjunction with, your existing heating system and can substantially reduce your heating bill.

For instance, if you build a typical fire with three logs, your **FREE HEAT MACHINE®** will produce 38,000 BTU's of usable heat. That's enough to heat 1,800 to 2,000 square feet of living area.

Any solid fuel (wood, coal, paper logs, etc.) can be used. Since the machine is so efficient, you will use less fuel than you use now.

The only other cost to operate the unit is for electrical power to run the two blowers. That's less than 150 watts, or the same as one light bulb!



### Clip and Mail Today:

NAME _____	HOME PHONE _____
ADDRESS _____	BUS PHONE _____
CITY _____	STATE _____ ZIP _____

We would like to have free and without obligation, more information on your Free Heat Machine® for our home. In order to better help you estimate what size Free Heat Machine® would best fit our fireplace and how much we could save on our winter utility bills, we have filled in the following information:

Size of Home \_\_\_\_\_ Sq Ft Central Duct-work \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  
 Clean Out Trap \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Approximate winter utility bill:  
 Electric: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per mo LP Gas \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per mo  
 Fuel Oil: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per mo Natural Gas \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per mo  
 Wood Use Per Year \_\_\_\_\_ Cord Rick \_\_\_\_\_

Fireplace:  
 Rock \_\_\_\_\_ Brick \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

Fireplace Dimensions:  
 Height \_\_\_\_\_ inches  
 Rear Width \_\_\_\_\_ inches  
 Front Width \_\_\_\_\_ inches  
 Depth \_\_\_\_\_ inches  
 (From front of opening to back of fire box)

### 5 Year Warranty On Heat Exchanger!

Listed

U.S. Patent 3938496

- Two 2-speed air blowers of efficiency and quiet operation
- Air filters protect blowers from dust, extend blower life.
- Glass doors prevent heated room air from escaping up chimney.
- Competitively tested and recommended by a major utility.
- Quality construction, built to last.
- Easy to install without any alterations to existing masonry fireplaces.
- Just six models fit 95% of all home fireplaces.

We know of no other unit that puts out as much heat as the **FREE HEAT MACHINE®!**

See The Amazing

# FREE HEAT MACHINE®

Can Pay for Itself In LESS than 2 Years!

## FREE HEAT DISTRIBUTORS, INC.

Some areas still open for Dealerships.

8744 East 46th • Tulsa, Oklahoma 74145 • (918) 663-3590

# 40 BRAND NEW TOWELS \$1.75!

UNWOVEN COTTON OR RAYON — Assorted beautiful Pastel Colors. BRAND NEW — NOT Seconds — 40 Towels for \$1.75 or 80 for only \$3.35. 120 just \$4.95. Super Quality. Pls. include 50¢ extra for pstg. and hding. with EACH set of 40 Towels you buy. We know Towels — we've sold 70,000,000 already. Fund Raisers write for quantity prices. Money-Back Guarantee. No C.O.D.'s. Pls. allow up to 6 wks. for delivery.

40 TOWEL CO.  
315 No. 10th St.

Dept. B-30  
St. Louis, MO 63101

**LIFETIME  
TANK COATINGS**

Stop all leaks in steel and concrete — Prevent rust forever. Roof coatings for tar paper, composition and cedar, shingles, and metal buildings. Anyone can apply all coatings.

Fix it once and forget it. This is our 30th year. Let us send you complete information

**VIRDEN PERMA-BILT CO.**  
Box 71601N Ph. 806-352-2761  
2821 Mays St.  
Amarillo, Texas 79109

## FREE CATALOG

Almost 400 varieties and assortments to choose from.



See how to grow full-size sunny-gold or crimson-red delicious Stark Apples, Peaches, Cherries, Pears, even in a tiny yard. Harvest bushels of fruit for table, canning, freezing, or to sell at profit.

Almost 400 varieties and assortments of Exclusive Leader and U.S. Patented Fruit, Shade and Nut Trees, Roses, Shrubs, Vines — pictured in glorious color. Mail coupon TODAY! Full-Size Fruit.

**STARK BRO'S ALL-NEW, FREE CATALOG Shows How You Can Have an Orchard In Your Backyard with STARK DWARF TREES That Bear Full-Size Fruit.**

**STARK BRO'S NURSERIES**  
Box A103CO Louisiana, Mo. 63353

**STARK BRO'S NURSERIES**  
Box A103CO Louisiana, Mo. 63353  
 Rush New Color Catalog . FREE!  
(Please Print)

Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

# An additional membership service

When a disabling illness, injury or cancer strikes, physical pain is only part of the problem. Meeting your regular monthly bills sometimes hurts just as much.

That's why most Illinois Rural Electric Co-operatives and telephone Co-operatives participate in Association Group plans from Mutual of Omaha Companies. And now Association members have the opportunity to include permanent life insurance coverage for their loved ones.

Besides providing members with important protection, these plans can now be purchased at **ASSOCIATION GROUP RATES.**

**Disability Income Protection** — Helps make up for lost income when a covered illness or injury keeps you from working.

**Hospital Coverage** — Provides ammunition for the battle against rising medical care costs.

**Cancer Cost Supplement** — Supplies extra coverage to help you afford the expensive cost of cancer treatment.

**Mutual Care** — Works with Medicare to help cover the cost of hospitalization and medical services for people age 65 and over.

**Permanent Life Insurance** — Ultra-Life 80, a new concept of whole life insurance with low initial premiums and subsequent premiums that may vary but will never exceed a specified maximum. Guaranteed cash values for emergencies or retirement. Even lower rates for non-smokers.

So, if you and your co-operative are not enrolled in these plans, let one of our representatives fill you in on the details soon.

Association Group Plans... a valuable membership service provided by the Mutual of Omaha Companies.

For more information, write:  
Hugh R. McAteer  
P.O. Box 2277  
Maryland Heights, MO 63043  
Phone: (314)-434-7230



**People you can count on...**

Life Insurance Affiliate:  
**United of Omaha**

MUTUAL OF OMAHA INSURANCE COMPANY  
HOME OFFICE: OMAHA, NEBRASKA

# \$195

- Total Cost For Both Upper & Lower Dentures**
- High Quality at Budget Prices
  - In by 10 a.m.; out that same afternoon with your new dentures
  - Fitted by Licensed Dentists
  - Will accept insurance and Medicaid
  - Complete dental services offered.

**We'll meet your bus, make your motel reservations, if needed**

**Free hookup if you come by recreational vehicle!**

Write or call today for complete free details. You are not obligated in any way.

**Frederick C. Lauer DDS  
Mid-America  
Denture Clinic**

Bus. Loop I-44 West, Rt. 3, Box 19C  
Mt. Vernon, Mo. 65712  
(417) 466-7196

**our patients now number in the thousands... all the way from Maine to California, Canada to South America, Florida to Washington.**



9318 SIZES 8-18



9431 SIZES 2-8



9079 10½-18½



9228 TEEN 10-16



9033 SIZES 8-20



9115 8-20



9058 8-20



9024



9297 SIZES 10½-22½



9037 SIZES 8-18



9161 SIZES 8-18



9374 34-48

- No. 9318 is cut in sizes 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18. Size 12 (bust 34) blouse 1 5/8 yards 45-inch; long skirt 2 5/8.
- No. 9431 is cut in Child's sizes 2, 4, 6, 8. Size 6 takes 1 3/8 yards 45-inch fabric.
- No. 9079 is cut in sizes 10½, 12½, 14½, 16½, 18½. Size 14½ (bust 37) takes 3 yards 60-inch fabric.
- No. 9228 is cut in Teen sizes 10, 12, 14, 16. Size 12 (bust 32) vest, skirt 2 7/8 yards. 45-inch; blouse 1 5/8 yards fabric.
- No. 9033 is cut in sizes 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20. Size 34 (bust 34) takes 1 7/8 yards 60-inch fabric.
- No. 9115 is cut in sizes 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20. Size 12 (bust 34) takes 2 5/8 yards 60-inch fabric.
- No. 9058 is cut in sizes 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20. Size 12 (bust 34) scooped style 1 7/8 yards, 45-inch; other 2 yards.
- No. 9024 is cut in Small (8-10); Medium (12-14); Large (16-18). Medium takes 3½ yards 45-inch nap fabric 5/8 yards contr. All sizes in one pattern.
- No. 9297 is cut in sizes 10½, 12½, 14½, 16½, 18½, 20½ 22½. Size 14½ (bust 37) jacket 1 5/8 yards. 45-inch; culottes 2 7/8.
- No. 9037 is cut in sizes 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18. Size 12 (bust 34) two-piece dress 3 yards 60-inch fabric.
- No. 9161 is cut in sizes 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18. Size 12 (bust 34) takes 3 yards 60-inch fabric.
- No. 9374 is cut in Women's sizes 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48. Yardages in pattern.

TO: PATTERNS  
 Illinois Rural Electric News  
 P.O. Box 3787  
 Springfield, IL 62708

I have enclosed \$\_\_\_\_\_ (\$1.50 per pattern — cash, check or money order accepted) for the following patterns:

Pattern No.	Size	Pattern No.	Size
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_