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October 1981

## Illinois Rural Electric News

### 40th Annual Meeting of the AIEC



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# Illinois Rural Electric News

## Our future and electricity

An Illinois farmer points toward a collection of grain bins near his hog confinement buildings. He explains to a visitor that corn is moved from the bins through a grinder and into the buildings to the hog feeders. It's all done by electricity, he notes, at a cost that is only a fraction of what it would be if done by hand. It makes good sense, he says.

It's a matter of efficiency and productivity. Without the capability to utilize a commodity such as electricity, farming would be a lot less productive than it is today. That's true for other segments of our economy, too.

Since the oil embargo of 1973, the nation has devoted a great deal of attention to becoming more energy efficient. At the heart of that drive toward reducing our dependence on foreign oil supplies are a number of factors, such as increased fuel efficiency of automobiles, greater awareness of the need to improve our homes' energy efficiency, and the displacement of oil with coal and nuclear through electricity.

The efficiency of the hog feeding operation is something of a continuing story for agriculture. Before electric cooperatives began to electrify the countryside, only about 10 percent of the farmsteads had electricity. And, electricity from any source was expensive. Efficiency was vital.

The feed-handling efficiency of electricity is a good example of what can be done with electricity to allow other resources to be used for other jobs. For example,

the manpower that would have been required to shovel the grain can be put to use on the combine or tractor.

A recent Workshop on the Electric Imperative, sponsored in part by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, focused attention on America 20 years from now, a land in which:

- One household in 10 owns an electric-powered auto or truck.
- Super-efficient electric heat pumps dominate the space-heating market.
- 40 percent of the steel is produced in electric furnaces.
- 26,000 miles of the most heavily traveled railroad routes are electrified, saving America half of all the oil used by the railroad industry — 56 million barrels per year.
- Motors, which account for 70 percent of industrial use of electricity, have been adapted to variable-speed controls and energy-efficient rotating machinery, bringing about a 25 percent reduction in electricity consumption, yet boosting electric power usage, precisely because of its efficiency and economy, from 15 percent of industry's total energy consumption to 25 percent.

Just as the electric motors on the farmer's grain mill and feed-handling system created a vast improvement in overall efficiency, the continued substitution of electricity for other energy forms, especially if the displaced energy is imported oil, makes good sense.

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COVER: Robert W. Rippelmeyer, front row left, of Valmeyer, has been elected president of the board of directors of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives. Other officers include, clockwise from Rippelmeyer: Wayne Estes, Mt. Vernon, secretary; Thomas H. Moore, Springfield, executive vice president; James H. Eddleman, Springfield, assistant secretary; Donovan Lawyer, Industry, treasurer; and William S. Reedy, Lovington, vice president. At the top is Harold V. Hunter, REA Administrator. (See story on pages 6, 7 and 8)

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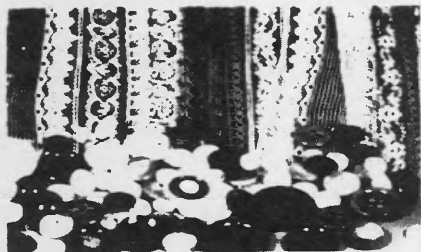
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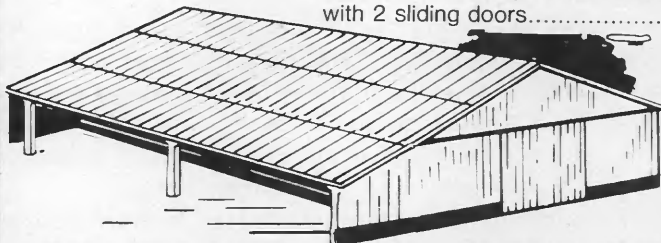
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## Annual meeting speakers:

# Administration will continue attempts to reduce rural electric loan program

**D**espite strong support by Congress in favor of rural electric cooperatives' stand against the Reagan Administration proposals to scale down federal financing of rural electrification, the Administration will continue its efforts to curtail the loan programs electric cooperatives depend on for investment capital.

That is a summary of what several speakers told representatives of Illinois electric cooperatives during the 40th Annual Meeting of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC), the statewide service organization for the 27 electric distribution cooperatives and three generation and transmission cooperatives operating in Illinois.

During the meeting's final session a trio of speakers from Washington, D. C., assured the meeting participants that they face a continuing struggle to obtain adequate levels of investment capital to continue meeting the electric energy needs of their consumer-owners.

Harold V. Hunter, an Oklahoma rancher recently appointed by President Reagan to head the Rural Electrification Administration (REA), told the Illinois leaders that they must move away from dependence on REA loans for the needed capital. Hunter said he expects cooperatives to seek new sources as REA reduces its level of lending from the current standard of 70 percent of a coop-

erative's loan funds needs.

Referring to the Reagan budget cutting programs, Hunter said REA would have to make changes in the future similar to those made by other government agencies. "I think that REA has been quite fortunate relating to the impact of the Reagan program as compared to other agencies of the government. REA is going to see the day that it will need to make some of the adjustments occurring in other agencies," he said.

"It is written on the wall and I think we, as individuals, and you, as managers and directors of rural electric cooperatives, need to be making preparations for that day. I think it is fortunate that REA has



*Above: REA Administrator Harold Hunter, left, talks with new AIEC President Bob Rippelmeyer of Valmeyer, center, and Spoon River Manager Bill McCamey. Top right: NRECA's Partridge. Lower right: CFC's Gill. Opposite Page: Delegates examine resolutions during business session.*

already started down that road. For the last decade there has been a gradual, continual and uniform movement of financing from the government agency over to supplemental funds," Hunter added.

Hunter noted that the 1982 Budget Reconciliation Act, passed earlier this year by Congress and signed into law in August by President Reagan, retained the key elements of the rural electrification loan programs that have been in effect since 1973, when the program was altered to reduce government lending to the electric cooperatives. Electric cooperatives across the nation worked to retain those provisions.

Robert D. Partridge, executive vice president and general manager of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, Washington, told the delegates that the signing of the Act was merely the end of the first round in what he sees as a continuing struggle to maintain the rural electrification program at its current funding level.

The Office of Management and

Budget (OMB) had proposed a number of major changes in REA loan programs that would have severely limited the availability of funds for lending to electric cooperatives and would have resulted in significantly higher interest costs to electric cooperatives and higher consumer electric rates. Congress rejected the OMB proposals and instead mandated the funds for REA loan guarantees be made available by the Federal Financing Bank (FFB) at the government's cost of borrowing plus a service fee of one-eighth of one percent.

"We prevailed over the OMB in Congress because of strong bipartisan support for our program," Partridge said. "Particularly helpful to our cause was the support of Illinois Congressmen Paul Findley and Paul Simon and Senator Alan Dixon."

Cautioning that the Administration's economic program of coming years will most likely include more proposals to reduce funds available for rural electric cooperatives, Partridge said, "Tough days

lie ahead. There are going to be many other challenges to this program. The 1983 budget planning is under way, and undoubtedly we will face continuing challenges to this program to which we will need to be as responsive, as able, as we were this time around."

Partridge said, "In some respects, it was unfortunate that we had to devote so much effort this year to this particular issue, and yet we had no choice. The REA program is, and always has been, the keystone of rural electrification."

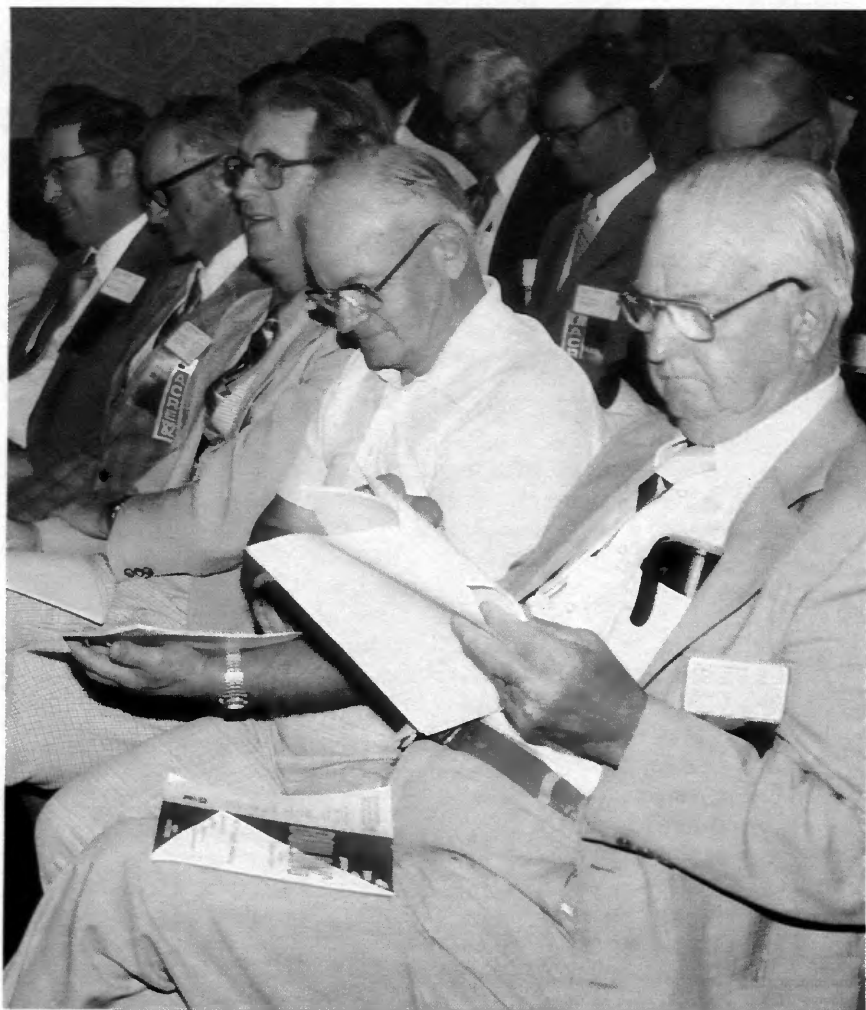
He called for attention to be directed toward working with the Administration on the key anti-inflation and energy issues. "There are so many of these in which we have a vital stake, in which we can play a role, in which we can probably play a role no one else can play. We need to fill that need, to do our part," Partridge said.

Thomas H. Moore, executive vice president and general manager of the AIEC, noted that REA loan funds come from a revolving fund of interest and principal repayments by cooperatives on old REA loans and from the private money market through the FFB, which is an agency of the United States Treasury. No federal tax funds are involved, and the programs have no impact on the federal budget, he added.

"The Administration proposed symbolic changes that would have cost our member-owners dearly and yielded nothing to the federal government," Moore said. Terming the proposals as "empty sacrifices," Moore said, "Our friends in Congress rose to our support and we are sincerely grateful."

The second major source of loan funds for electric cooperatives is the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation (CFC). Created in 1969 to provide supplemental loan funds to electric cooperatives, the cooperatively owned bank has grown to become the 15th largest seller of commercial paper in the United States.

Charles B. Gill, governor and chief executive officer of CFC, told the delegates that REA is critical to the continued success of CFC,





DR. MAXEY

stressing that because Wall Street investors see the involvement of the federal government through the REA as ensuring the feasibility of rural electric institutions, CFC borrows funds at lower interest cost. This results in lower-cost funds for electric cooperatives and lower rates to the member-owners.

At the same time Hunter was advising Illinois cooperative leaders they may see less financial assistance from the Rural Electrification Administration, he reminded them that their costs are rising much faster than the costs of utilities serving the more urban-based areas of the country.

"Rural cooperatives are growing faster and are adding new high-cost plant faster than any other segment of the industry," Hunter said. "With electric rates high and getting higher, we face a growing crisis of confidence with those we serve. We must strive to make consumers aware that rates on cooperative lines are the best they can be in the long run." Hunter said fuel availability and its cost, construction costs, environmental expense and interest costs will all work to push electric rates higher in the years ahead.

The keynote speaker for the meeting looked beyond the cost of energy and capital investment to question the ability of the United States to supply the nation's future energy needs. The United States must recover its perspective on energy if it is to successfully cope with unprecedented challenges in the future, said the assistant director of the South Carolina Energy Research Institute. Dr. Margaret N. Maxey, a former professor of bioethics at the University of Detroit, criticized the unfounded fears of nuclear energy and said, "The ordinary citizen is being stampeded with fear about nuclear wastes."

During an opening-day session, Illinois Senate President Philip J. Rock said single-issue politics has become a negative influence on the state's legislative process. "The idea of judging our elected officials on one issue alone serves to weaken the entire elective process by making it disjointed and unresponsive to the voters. While certainly every citizen has the right to try to legally affect the legislative and political process, those of us concerned with improving the overall climate of our communities and

the state must work harder to see that the general assembly does not become a patchwork of single-issue representatives," Rock added.

Two Illinois legislators were honored for their service to the citizens of Illinois and for their contributions to the Illinois electric cooperatives, Representative Dwight P. Friedrich of Centralia and Senator James H. Donnewald of Breese received the 1981 Illinois Electric Cooperatives Public Service Award during the meeting.

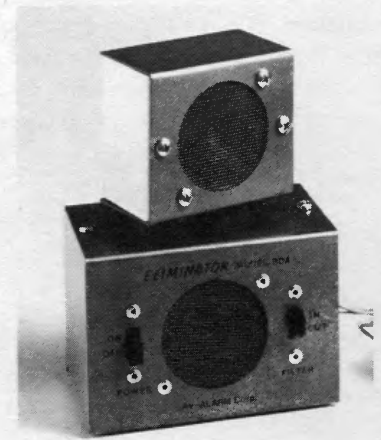
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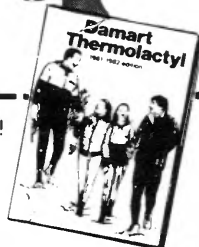
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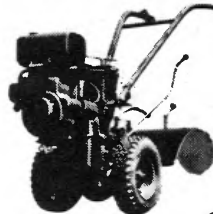
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# COOPERATIVES BUILDING

BY JANET HIRSHBERT  
National Telephone Cooperative  
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**S**ome 60 million people in this country use cooperatives — about 50,000 of them. That's a lot of people and a lot of businesses. And they do many billions of dollars worth of business each year. As one example, the farmer-owned marketing and supply cooperatives did over \$56-billion worth of business at the latest count — in 1979.

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Purposes of cooperatives include to make money for members, reduce costs for products they buy, and provide better services and quality goods to them.

## For the Community —

Cooperatives not only put money in members' pockets, they also add to the community's financial base. They provide jobs to local people who in turn buy goods and services and pay taxes; they pay for telephone, transportation, and other services a business needs; they use hometown banks and stores; they pay all the local taxes other businesses do to keep schools, roads, and like community needs going; they return money to members that in turn is spent in the community.

One cooperative leader says his cooperative has made between \$300-million and \$400-million for its farmer members over the years — money that stayed in their home communities instead of being siphoned off from the communities in rural America to financial centers in the large cities.

## WHAT IS A COOPERATIVE?

A cooperative is a business owned by its users. These users — called members — elect a board of directors from their ranks. The directors hire a chief for hiring the employees needed and for seeing that the business is properly run on a day-to-day basis.

The directors, however, retain overall responsibility and authority for operating the cooperative business. Many of our state and national leaders

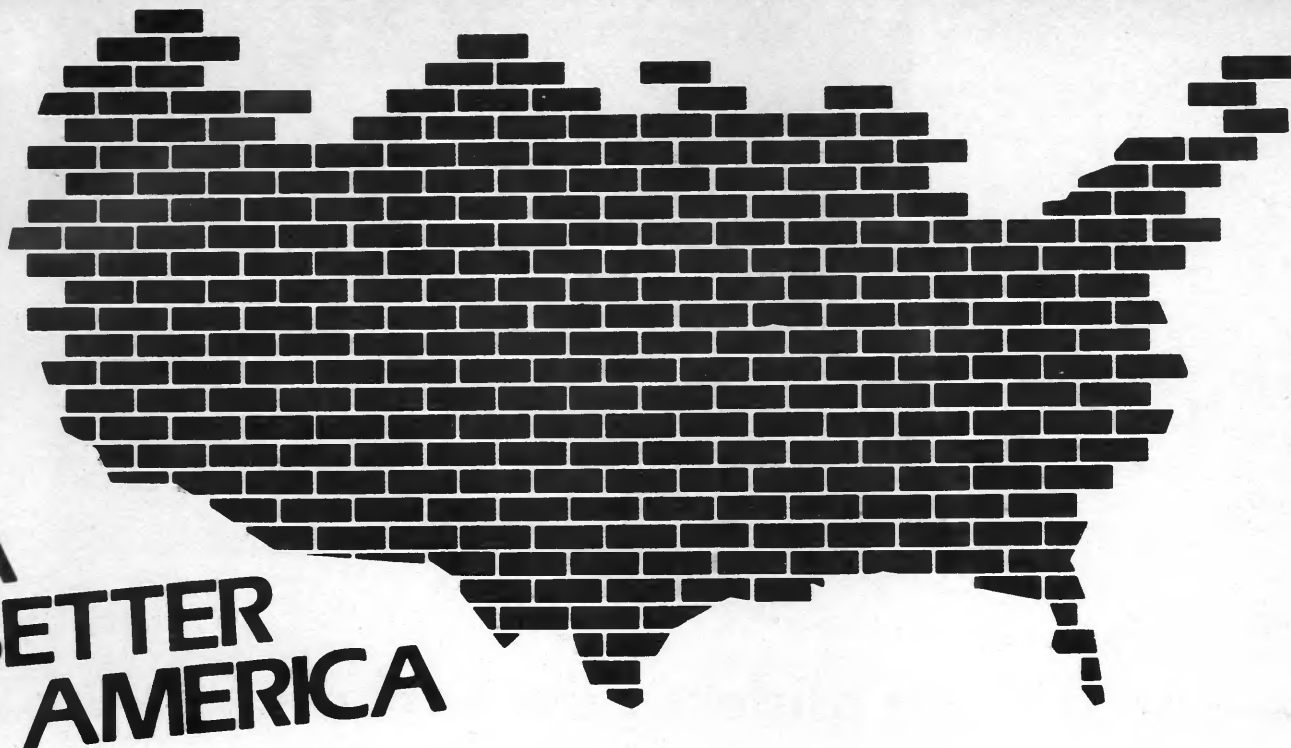
gained experience and stature through their cooperative work — and carried this over into public affairs and other activities.

A cooperative is a business where the money left after operating costs are taken care of belongs to the members. Members can receive a portion or all of it back as patronage refunds on the basis of the amount of business they have done with the cooperative. Or they can reinvest this money in the cooperative to help finance expansion, needed buildings and equipment, or other expenses to keep the business operating effectively.

A cooperative business can operate as an independent unit in one location. Or it can be part of a regional network of local cooperatives that have a regional headquarters. Regionals are particularly prevalent among agricultural cooperatives. Here they may serve several states and many thousands of farmers.

Cooperatives operate under law, regulations, and rules just as other businesses do. They are incorporated as businesses; they pay taxes to their local and state governments just as other businesses do.

One thing about cooperatives is different: the law limits the dividends that can be paid on stock in cooperatives to eight percent. This is to keep control in the hands of member users and out of the hands of those who might want to use the business merely as an investment or



for speculative purposes.

#### WHY DID COOPERATIVES START?

Let's take a few examples. One southern cooperative started because the seeds farmers were planting either didn't grow at all or produced so poorly that they were wasting their money and time planting them.

A college professor went around to various seed companies to try to get them to improve the seed. Not much result. So he took the leadership in helping farmers form a cooperative to produce its own improved seed.

This same group of farmers then began to do many other things together through their cooperative—market their crops, manufacture and distribute other farm supplies, and the like.

Other groups of farmers found they were buying a lot of sand in their fertilizer. They also found they didn't always get the type of fertilizer that was best for their soils. So they put up their money to start manufacturing and distributing their own fertilizer and perform their own soil testing services to get the kind of product they needed.

Other farmers were dissatisfied with

the price and grading of their wheat and other grains. So they set up their own cooperative elevator businesses, businesses that now move grain to both domestic and export markets.

Other people were dissatisfied with the kind of credit service they were getting—hence the credit unions; with the cost and quality of health services—hence the health cooperatives.

Most cooperatives thus grew out of a dissatisfaction or from a desire for something better.

#### HOW DID COOPERATIVES BEGIN?

A few agricultural cooperatives started back in the early 1800s, but cooperative organizations first became widespread after the Civil War with the National Granger movement. The Grangers encouraged farmers to work together to combat the depression in the 1870s and the powerful trusts that were then developing.

But it wasn't until the 1920s and the 1930s that greater numbers of agricultural cooperatives began to appear. The Capper-Volstead Act, passed in 1922, gave the firm legal foundation to form cooperatives that farmers needed.

Before that, cooperative leaders sometimes found themselves in jail or in trouble in the courts if they tried to organize their own cooperative businesses. The Act gave cooperatives the legal right to exist; it said farmers could join together in them without being in restraint of trade under the antitrust laws.

Great help was provided so cooperatives could get started and operate in a businesslike manner in the 1930s when the Farm Credit Administration and the Rural Electrification Administration were set up to give financial start-up aid. These and other government programs helped also to improve skills of directors and management in operating such businesses. National cooperative organizations have also had a hand in helping with their development.

Other types of cooperatives have been gradually becoming more important in our economy in this century. A number of government agencies and national cooperative organizations have also been instrumental in the growth and development of consumer and urban oriented cooperatives.

# October Is Co-op Month.

*Jim Woods, in red coveralls, talks ultralight flying to an interested spectator at a fly-in. Woods, of Edwardsville, hopes to make the sport popular in Illinois.*



## Flying fun

# Powered hang gliders add new dimension

**C**ircling over a tiny lake — really no more than a large farm pond—an adventurous pilot decides to land on its gently rippling surface and go for a swim. With no more thought than that, he lands, kicks off his

shoes, takes off his T-shirt and helmet and dives into the water in his cutoff jeans.

A few minutes later, he climbs out of the water, gets dressed again and climbs back into his spindly craft.

He straps it on and gives a few tugs on the starter cord. After the engine coughs to life and settles into its muted snarl, he aligns the plane into the wind, guns the engine to full throttle and takes off with little fuss.

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A few miles away, a farmer is engaged in less frivolous activity, but with a similar plane. Flying out of a large lawn behind his house, he makes a low-level check of his fields to look over his crops.

A few years ago, such scenes would have been unbelievable. Now, they are regular occurrences. They are made possible by a new kind of aircraft called ultralights. Powered ultralights are a natural spinoff from hang gliders, which have been around for years, but which, for the most part, only descend after being launched.

The Federal Aviation Administration has, so far, kept out of the regulation business as far as ultralights are concerned, only stipulating that such craft must be capable of being foot-launched — a nice way of saying that somebody, somewhere, sometime, must have been able to take off in one by running with it. Such freedom from regulation is one of the reasons ultralights are so popular. No expensive pilot's license is required to fly them.

Jim Woods of Edwardsville, a member of Southwestern Electric Cooperative, hopes to make ultralights fairly commonplace in Illinois. He flies and sells Quicksilvers, manufactured by Eipper Formance, Inc., a California firm.

"I got into the Eipper Formance line by accident," he says, "because I'd gone to a seminar in California to look at another brand, and to get a dealership. I stayed six months and looked the field over pretty carefully. I came back with the Quicksilver dealership because I think they're the best you can buy."

Like their unpowered hang-glider brethren, Quicksilvers make use of brightly hued materials to lend color to the new kind of sport flying.

Woods notes that the Quicksilver M comes with a 15-hp two-cycle Yamaha engine as standard equipment. It takes off in about 60 feet or less into the wind, and cruises at 24-30 mph, with a top speed of 42 mph. It lands at about 20 mph.

"I like this model because of the simple controls," Woods notes, adding, "the pilot turns by shifting his weight — and it's a very natural thing, and easy to learn. They're about the

easiest to learn, but very light pilots tend to have a little difficulty because banking the craft depends on weight shifting. A petite young woman who flies a Quicksilver has overcome that problem by wearing a scuba diver's weight belt when she flies."

The company also offers a float conversion.

"We have another exciting model out now, too," Woods says. "The Double Quick is a larger-engined version of the Quicksilver, with a 30-hp Cuyuna engine. It offers better

takeoff and climb performance." All the craft fold into fairly handy trailerable-sized packages, and can be set up to fly in about half an hour, once the basic skills are mastered.

"We've sold about 100 planes since starting a couple of years ago," Woods says, "and we train each buyer before we turn them loose with a plane. Not all companies do that, but ours requires it, and we believe it's the best way. The training is built into the price of the plane, and we want the sport to grow, safely, and sensibly."

## Protecting a valuable asset

You've insured your house, your car . . . probably even your stereo and television set. But, did you ever stop to think about your most valuable asset? You depend on good health in order to work and bring home your family's income. Isn't that an asset also worth protecting?

The financial security and all the things you've worked so hard for can be lost when an unexpected sickness or injury strikes. Think about it. If you were struck by a heart attack (or some other serious illness or accident), could you pay your medical bills and still manage to make ends meet without your income?

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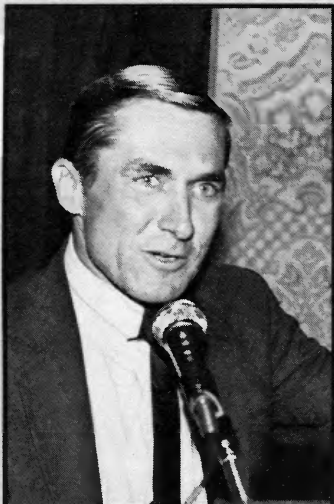
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# 40th Annual Meeting of the AIEC

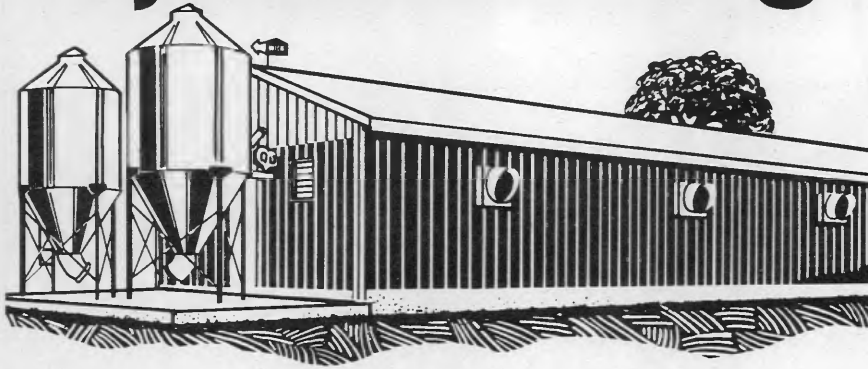
*40 years of service  
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For Illinois electric cooperatives August was a special month. In August the electric cooperatives' statewide service organization, the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC), celebrated its 40th anniversary during its annual meeting in Springfield. Built upon the same teamwork principle that has been the essence of the rural electrification program, the AIEC was organized to collectively provide for the various cooperatives those services which they could not economically provide singly. These photos show some of the activities and people involved in the anniversary meeting. Left: Delegates representing the cooperatives during the business session. Individual pictures upper left, clockwise from left: Stanley Greathouse of Johnsonville, Illinois Director of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association; Larry Werries, Illinois Director of Agriculture; and Senator Philip J. Rock, President of the Illinois Senate. Top of this page: Representative Dwight P. Friedrich, second from left, of Centralia, and Senator James H. Donnewald, second from right, of Breese received the 1981 Illinois Electric Cooperative Public Service Awards. With the recipients are James H. Eddleman, right, Director, AIEC Legal and Public Affairs Department, and Earl Struck, AIEC Public Affairs Representative. Above: Mike Korte, left, of Greenville, was honored by the electric cooperatives for achievements in agriculture electrification with a plaque presented by Gary Buller, AIEC Director of Member Services.

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## Sawmill operator 'grew up' in business

**C**utting up is a way of life for Wayne Hendrix of Marshall. Hendrix, an Edgar Electric Cooperative member, runs a small sawmill. With help from two part-time employees, Wayne can saw about 10,000 board feet of lumber a week, or about half a million feet a year when business is good.

"I really enjoy the lumber business," Wayne says, "and I kind of came by it naturally. My father had a sawmill and I just kind of grew up in the business."

"We usually run the mill about two days a week — maybe three. With the size of the operation being what it is, that's about all we need. We run year 'round most of the time, though, except a couple of those really severe winters when we couldn't," he notes.

Wayne also serves as road commissioner for Marshall Township and runs a small farming operation.

Hendrix buys some of the timber for the operation, and saws some himself. Sycamore and cottonwood are probably the most common timber processed at the mill. The bulk of the lumber is rough cut for use in building pallets and crates. Wayne also does some milling for furniture manufacturers. "We cut hardwood sometimes for what they call grade lumber," he says, "mostly oak or walnut, and we air-dry it and save it until we have a semi-trailer load. We sell some poplar to them, too."

The sawmill generates a lot of material that once went to waste, but Wayne tries to minimize that.





*Above: Wayne Hendrix runs a log through his sawmill. With a couple of helpers, he can run some 10,000 board feet through the mill in a day.*

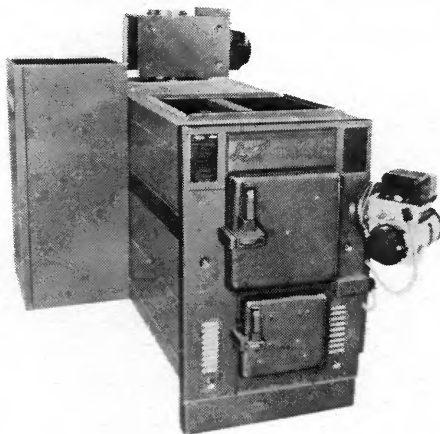
Local farmers use the sawdust for bedding material, and the slabs — those parts of a log that are too rounded to make into lumber — are saved and burned in a woodstove to heat the building during the winter months. “We also sell some to people who want to cut their heating bills by burning wood. There’s very little waste any more,” he emphasizes.

Where waste is entering the picture, he says, is in timber cutting. “There are a lot of trees in the forests that need to be cut to provide growing room, but many loggers are cutting out nice, straight, immature trees. People looking for firewood are doing the same thing because the trees are easier to split into firewood.

“This is a waste,” he says, “because cutting an immature tree reduces the amount of lumber or firewood that can be harvested.”

Another problem Wayne sees is the loss of woodland for farming and residential development. “I heard some complaints not long ago when there was talk of using some farmland for an airport, but you don’t hear anything when a woodland is cleared. And nobody’s setting out new trees nearly as fast as they’re being cut, and I’d like to see something done about that,” he remarks, “because I really like the lumber business. It’s good to be involved in working with needed resources that are renewable.”

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# Payback time relatively short for door and window sealing

The time and money you invest in weatherstripping and caulking windows and doors can pay off faster than almost any other home improvement you can make, even when your house is already well insulated. From 15 to 60 percent of the heating or cooling your house needs is due to air exchange. Warming the air that leaks into the house in winter, or conversely cooling the air that leaks into it in summer, takes energy and costs you money. Besides keeping out moisture, wind, and hot or cold air, weatherstripping will block entry to dust and noise, resulting in a cleaner, quieter home. Both weatherstripping and caulking are easy, economical, do-it-yourself jobs.

Weatherstripping may be purchased by the foot or in handy kits complete with the seal and fasteners for a single door or window. Installation instructions and diagrams are provided on most weatherstripping packages. Some weather seals are surface mounted and are visible, while others are concealed when the door or window is closed. They may be made of a variety of materials:

**Self-adhesive foam tapes** — High-grade resilient sponge rubber or vinyl with paper or vinyl backing in thicknesses up to three-eighths of an inch and widths up to three-quarters of an inch. Backing is peeled off as tape is pressed in place on door and window jambs, stops, or sash. Surfaces must be clean and dry; should be applied at room temperature for best adhesion. Low cost; easy to install; foams tend to

deteriorate when exposed to weather; may last only one season.

**Felt weatherstrip** — Low-cost material in various widths and thicknesses. Fasten to wood by tacking or stapling and to metal with a good adhesive. Must be applied to door stop, sill, or sash so it fits snugly against other member. Easy to apply; tears easily during use; not as effective when wet.

**Aluminum and felt strip** — Aluminum strip crimped to thin felt strip provides added strength for tacking and holding to door jambs and window stops. Can be used for round-top doors. Felt may tear during normal use, especially on doors; felt not as effective when wet.

**Vinyl weatherstrip** — General-purpose moisture and temperature resistant strip easily applied to wood or metal with tacks, staples, screws, or a good commercial adhesive. Tube-shaped for a tight fit, with extended strip for stapling or bonding to door and window jambs, stops, or sash. Easy to apply; durable.

**Sponge rubber neoprene-coated strip** — Round, high-quality durable sponge rubber with a spring steel reinforced strip for attachment. Provides exceptional holding strength when tacked or stapled. For bottom of door, fasten to door; for sides, fasten to door jamb. Also used on windows by fastening to appropriate frame, stop, and sash. Easy to install.

**Bronze weatherstrip** — Thin bronze strip in various widths with one side flared out. Tacked to door jamb

so when door is closed strip presses against the flared side making a tight fit. Also used for casement windows; not suitable for double-hung windows, except at top and bottom. Low cost; easy to install; durable; not affected by moisture or temperature.

**Door bottom strip** — Brass-plated steel crimped to felt or vinyl strip. Fasten to lower edge of door with screws or small nails. Easy to apply; vinyl more durable; felt tears easily and is not as effective when wet.

**Weatherstrip and caulking cord** — Five or six caulking cords in a strip for sealing cracks in windows, doors, and around room air conditioners. Applied by pressing in place. Cord stays pliable and adheres to any surface. Low cost; easy to apply; durable, not affected by moisture.

**Waterproof weatherstrip tape** — Self-sealing, transparent, durable polytape for sealing cracks in any location. Easy to use by pressing to a clean, dry surface. For windows, tape applied half on stop and half on sash.

**Sponge rubber door bottom seal** — Mainly for garage doors, a blend of high-quality sponge rubber that stays flexible at extremely low temperatures. Applied to bottom of door with wide lip outside; if garage floor is lower than driveway, wide lip applied inside.

**Air conditioner weatherstrip** — Rectangular polyfoam that press-fits between the top frame or lower sash and upper pane to seal off the air spaces between window and air conditioners. Low cost; easy to install.

**Glass fiber insulation strip** — Insulation strip in various sizes used with waterproof tape for closing large cracks around basement and garage doors, windows, and other cold air leaks. Also wrapped around hot water pipes for insulation.

**Door Bottoms** — Door bottom weatherstripping is available in several materials. While easy to apply, these products can interfere with door swing and require a reasonably level threshold beneath the door. Only simple handtools are required to install any of these door bottoms. After it is cut to size with a hacksaw or tin snips, the door bottom is surface mounted to the inside of the door using wood screws normally provided

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by the manufacturer. A fairly new innovation in weatherstripping is the mechanizally operated "automatic" door bottom. In this model a vinyl seal is automatically lowered against the floor when the door is shut. The seal retracts when the door is opened. **Thresholds** - A more attractive method of windproofing the bottom of a door is with a threshold. While

most thresholds are effective at cutting down wind infiltration, the average homeowner may find them difficult to install.

A popular threshold is an aluminum model with a flexible vinyl "bulb." When new, this threshold is effective; but under constant use the bulb soon collapses, leaving a sizable crack beneath the door. In most cases the

vinyl in thresholds is replaceable.

Though not the easiest type to install, the combination vinyl door bottom and aluminum threshold is long-wearing and provides effective weatherproofing. Since the vinyl is mounted in an aluminum extrusion fastened to the door, the aluminum threshold bears the brunt of wear.

(Next month: Caulking)



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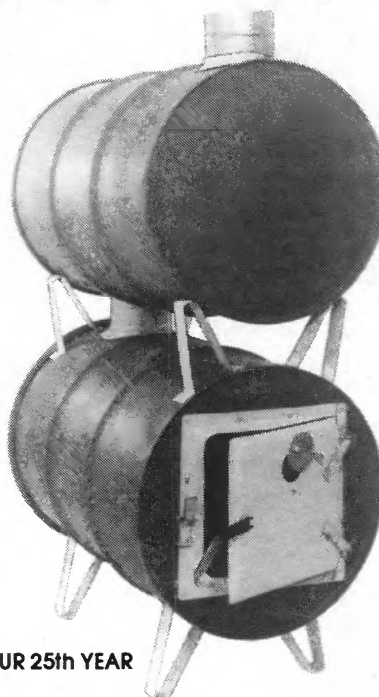
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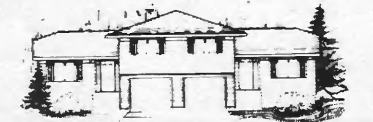
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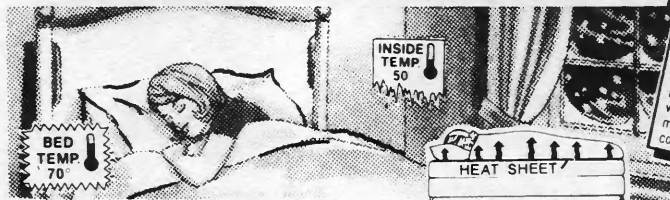
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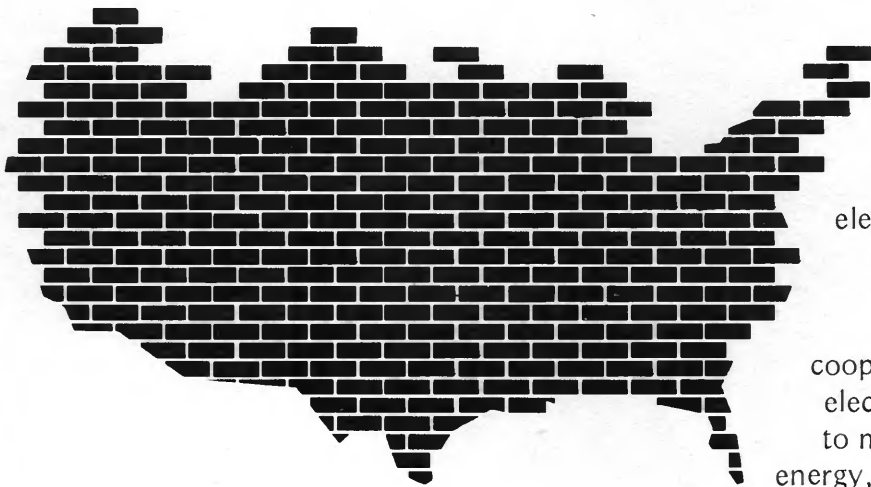
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## 'Disaster' to victories

# Road to State FFA Degree i



In 1975, Elizabeth Jane Champion got involved in a horsemanship unit through her local 4-H Club, unaware that the project had to be exhibited in the show ring. Her horse was a 19-year-old mare. The show was, she says, a disaster.

A short five years later, she stood proudly in the ring at the 1980 Illinois State Fair, where she took first place in the Showmanship event against 41 other competitors. Last June, she received the State FFA Degree at the FFA convention in Champaign. Jane is the daughter of William David and Marbelle Champion. Champion is president of the Board of Directors of Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative, Mattoon.

The years between her disaster and triumph did not take place in a void, but involved many hours of hard work, many forays into the show ring, fewer and fewer "disasters," and a gradually-improving string of triumphs.

"I'd learned to ride on that old mare when I was just a little girl," says Jane, who married Wesley Orman August 1. "She was too old to show, but she was all we had. She hadn't been trained, and I didn't have any experience either. We learned from that, though."

A couple of years later, the Champions bought a quarter horse mare at a sale in Shelbyville, and started to get their horse show on the road. "A quarter horse," Jane says, "is characterized by compactness. They are muscular, have a chiseled head, small ears, large and expressive eyes, dinner-plate jaws and a long, lean neck. This helps them see what they're doing when working cattle," she notes, adding, "You want them to be agile and able to move quickly. They should be about 15 hands high at the withers, which should be prominent enough to hold a saddle well."

When they bought Jessijo, a trainer from Mattoon approached the Champions and asked if they would be interested in showing her in the ring. "That was my big opportunity,"

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS



Top photo: Jane and Jessijo, the mare with whom she won many trophies and ribbons. Above, a dresser covered with trophies is only a small part of the collection.

# Rocky one

Jane laughs, "and I took him up on his offer right away."

She learned that there are endless hours of preparation involved in winning at horse shows, and many hours of riding, leading and grooming. "Before a show, you practice riding, and try to improve your horsemanship and the horse's conduct at halter. The night before the show, you give the horse a bath and there are some finer points to that, too. I use Show Sheen, a kind of conditioner, to make his hair shiny and slick.

"I usually get up at 3-4 a.m. on the day of the show to prepare some more - If the horse rolls around during the night, he'll need another bath. If the horse has white spots on the legs, you can touch them up with powder, and maybe treat the mane and tail with Show Sheen, too. Then you comb them out, brush the horse, and sometimes braid the mane or foretop. If there is any hair grown over the hooves, you can trim that, and you can darken the hooves if necessary, too. It all takes a lot of time," she says.

Working with horses involves more than just the mechanics, though. There are strategies in the ring, and the horse's interaction with the contestant is important, too. "Sometimes a horse will have an off day, and no matter what you do, it won't help much - sometimes they just get into moods," Jane says, "cause they have minds of their own, but you know others have to fight the same problems."

That first year her trainer taught Jane and Jessijo the basics of showmanship at halter and horsemanship. "Showmanship at halter," she elaborates, "is where the exhibitor leads the horse by a halter, and horsemanship involves riding the horse in a show."

When the next show season rolled around, the Champions decided to move Jessijo from the boarding stables to the family farm.

"Jessi and I were very successful our first two summers out," Jane says enthusiastically, "and we took

more than 20 firsts and many other ribbons. We accumulated about \$800 in premiums, too. We brought home almost \$500 the next year."

That fall, Jane added a new horse to her stable, a gelding named Skipper Red Kelly, and got him ready for the next season.

"This was my best year yet," she says, "and we had many wins in showmanship at halter, horsemanship and trail, and placed in pleasure and halter."

Along with her showing skills, Jane also got involved in judging. During her first year in high school, she was on the FFA horse judging team. "We showed some potential, so we got back together during my

sophomore year and placed second in the state. That opened the door to the national contests, and we accepted an invitation to the American Junior Quarter Horse Association world championships in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where we placed fifth," Jane remarks.

Surprisingly, Jane found time to work in other activities, even while working on her showing and judging skills. She played in the band, and plays the piano, too. She was on the newspaper staff, played in the school play, played volleyball and basketball, active in Girls' Athletic Association, sang in the choir, and worked with ceramics and painting - naturally with an emphasis on equine topics, and was a four-year honor roll student.

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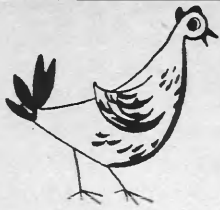
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# Choose chicken

## CHICKEN CASSEROLE

- |                                     |                                       |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 4 cooked chicken breasts            | 12 corn tortillas (cut in bite sizes) |
| 1 lb. grated cheddar cheese (sharp) | 1 can green chiles                    |
| 1 can cream of chicken soup         | 1 cup sour cream                      |
| 2/3 cup milk                        | 1/2 cup chopped onions                |

Mix soup, milk, chiles, sour cream and onions. In casserole place layer of tortillas, chicken and cheese. Pour the milk mixture over this. Bake 1 hour at 350 degrees.

## QUICK CHICKEN SHORTCAKE

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 pkg. refrigerated buttermilk biscuits (10 biscuits) | 1 (3 oz.) can sliced mushrooms, drained |
| 1 can cond. cream of chicken soup                     | 2 cups cubed cooked chicken             |
| 1 can cond. cream of mushroom soup                    | 1/4 cup chopped green onion             |
| 1/4 cup milk  | 1 tablespoon chopped pimiento           |

Remove biscuits from package and flatten with hand to make circles about 3 inches in diameter. Place 5 biscuits on baking sheet; brush with a little melted butter or margarine. Top each biscuit with another biscuit. Press edges together. Bake in very hot oven - 475 degrees - for 7 to 8 minutes or until browned. Meanwhile, in a large saucepan, blend the soups and milk. Add mushrooms, chicken, onion and pimiento. Cook over low heat, stirring occasionally until heated through. To serve, separate double biscuit; place bottom half on plate, pour on some of the chicken sauce; add top biscuit and pour more sauce over shortcake. Makes 5 servings.

## CHICKEN BREASTS IN RED WINE

1. Brown 6 large chicken breasts in butter until well browned. Remove chicken pieces and add 1 finely chopped large onion and one minced garlic button. Saute until tender. Return chicken to skillet.
2. Combine 2 tablespoons flour with 1 cup hot water in which one chicken bouillon cube has been dissolved. Add salt and pepper to taste. Pour this over the chicken and cook slowly, covered, until the chicken is tender.
3. Five minutes before done, add 1/2 cup sweet red wine.
4. Remove breasts and arrange on serving platter. Garnish with parsley. Serve liquid as gravy over cooked long grain wild rice.

## CUMIN RICE

- |                               |                                   |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1/3 cup onion, chopped        | 2 (10 1/2 oz.) cans beef consomme |
| 1/4 cup green pepper, diced   | 1 tablespoon Worcestershire       |
| 2 tablespoons bacon drippings | Salt                              |
| 1 cup rice, uncooked          | 3/4 teaspoon cumin seed           |

Saute onion, pepper and rice in bacon drippings. Add consomme, Worcestershire sauce, salt and cumin seed. Bring to a boil. Stir and cover. Reduce heat to simmer and cook 20 minutes.

## CHICKEN BROCCOLI SUPREME/SOUR CREAM WAFFLES

### Chicken Broccoli Supreme

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1/4 cup butter                                   | Dash of pepper  |
| 1/4 cup chopped onion                            | 1/4 cup milk  |
| 3 1/2 tablespoons all-purpose flour              | 3/4 cup cheddar cheese, melted                              |
| 1 1/4 cups chicken broth                         | 1 pkg. (10 oz.) frozen chopped broccoli, cooked and drained |
| 1 cup heavy or whipping cream                    | 1/4 cup cheddar cheese, grated to garnish                   |
| 2 cups cooked chicken, cut into bite size pieces |   |
| 1 1/4 teaspoons salt                             |   |

In medium saucepan, melt butter. Add onion and saute until soft, about 2 or 3 minutes. Stir in flour and cook, stirring constantly until mixture begins to boil. Gradually add chicken broth and cream, stirring constantly until smooth. Increase heat to medium; bring mixture to boil. Reduce heat; add chicken and simmer 2 minutes until chicken is heated through. Add salt, pepper, milk, cheese, and broccoli; simmer 3 minutes. Makes 5 cups. Pour over Sour Cream Waffles. Serve hot. The Chicken Broccoli Supreme can be made ahead of time, storing in the refrigerator until meal time, reheat and serve on waffles. (Garnish with grated cheese.) Variations: Substitute small peas or mixed vegetables for broccoli.

### Sour Cream Waffles

- |                                     |                              |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2 cups unsifted all-purpose flour   | 1/2 teaspoon dried sage      |
| 1/4 cup chopped onion               | 3 eggs, separated            |
| 1 1/2 tablespoons sugar             | 1 cup milk                   |
| 1 tablespoon finely chopped parsley | 1 cup (8 oz.) sour cream     |
| 1 teaspoon baking soda              | 2 tablespoons butter, melted |
| 1 teaspoon salt                     |                              |

Grease waffle baker; preheat. In medium bowl combine first 7 ingredients. In small bowl combine egg yolks, milk, sour cream, and melted butter. Add to dry ingredients; stir until well mixed. Beat egg whites until stiff; fold into batter. Pour in 3/4 to 1 1/2 cups batter into waffle baker. Spread batter evenly. Cover and bake. (Can be prepared in advance - wrap well and freeze up to 2 months. Heat in toaster before serving.) Serve with Chicken Broccoli Supreme.



## CREAM CHICKEN-RICE BAKE

- |  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 2 pkgs. (3-oz. ea.) chive cream cheese, room temperature | 3 cups cooked rice            |
| 1 cup light cream  | 3 cups cubed cooked chicken   |
| 2 tablespoons cornstarch                                 | 2 tablespoons minced parsley  |
| 2 cups chicken broth                                     | 2 tablespoons minced pimiento |
| 1/4 teaspoon pepper                                      | 1/8 teaspoon paprika          |

Combine cream cheese and cream; beat until smooth. Blend the cornstarch and chicken broth and add to the cheese mixture. Season with pepper and cook over moderate heat until thick, stirring constantly. Spread half the rice in the bottom of a greased shallow 2 1/2-quart casserole. Arrange half the chicken, parsley, and pimiento over the rice and pour half the sauce over this layer. Repeat layers; then sprinkle with paprika. Bake at 350° until bubbly and lightly browned, about 30 minutes. Makes 6 servings.

## HOT CHICKEN SALAD

- |   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| 2 cups cubed cooked chicken             | 1/2 teaspoon salt          |
| 2 cups thinly sliced celery             | 2 tablespoons grated onion |
| 1 cup Pepperidge Farm packaged dressing | 1 cup mayonnaise           |
| 1/2 cup toasted almonds (slivered)      | 1 tablespoon lemon juice   |
|   | 1/2 cup grated cheese      |

Combine all ingredients except cheese. Pile lightly in 1 1/2 qt. casserole and bake 15 minutes at 425 degrees (until bubbly). Shortly before serving, sprinkle grated cheese on top.

## POPCORN BALLS

- |                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1 cup sugar       | 1/4 cup water        |
| 1/4 cup dark Karo | 1/2 teaspoon vinegar |
- Mix together in sauce pan the above ingredients. Stir well. Bring to a boil, without stirring until mixture reaches hard ball stage. Add 1/8 cup butter. Boil until mixture spins thread when dropped from spoon. Remove from heat. Add 1/8 teaspoon baking soda, stir. Pour over popcorn already popped. Rub hands in butter and form popcorn into balls. Makes enough for 2 quarts corn.

## PECAN PIE BARS

- |   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1 butter or yellow cake mix                   | 1 cup chopped pecans              |
| 1/2 cup butter or margarine (1 stick), melted | 1/2 cup firmly packed brown sugar |
| 4 eggs  | 1 1/2 cups dark corn syrup        |
|   | 1 teaspoon vanilla                |

Grease bottom and sides of 13 x 9 baking pan. Reserve 2/3 cup dry cake mix for filling. Combine remaining cake mix in large mixing bowl with melted butter or margarine and 1 egg. Mix until crumbly. Press into prepared pan and bake at 350 degrees for 15 minutes or until light golden brown. Meanwhile, prepare filling; combine remaining ingredients except nuts, beating at medium speed with electric mixer for 1 to 2 minutes. Pour filling over partially baked crust. Sprinkle with pecans. Return to oven and bake 30 to 35 minutes until filling is set. Cool and cut in bars. VERY GOOD FOR FREEZING.

## APPLESAUCE CAKE

- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 2 cups applesauce   | 1 teaspoon cinnamon |
| 2 teaspoons soda    | 1 teaspoon nutmeg   |
| 2 cups sugar        | 3 1/2 cups flour    |
| 1/2 cup shortening  | 2 cups raisins      |
| 1 teaspoon allspice | 1 cup nuts          |
| 1 teaspoon cloves   |                     |

Beat soda into applesauce. Cream sugar and shortening. Add dry ingredients to creamed mixture with applesauce. Add raisins and nuts. Bake in greased and floured tube pan 1 hour, 15 minutes at 350 degrees.

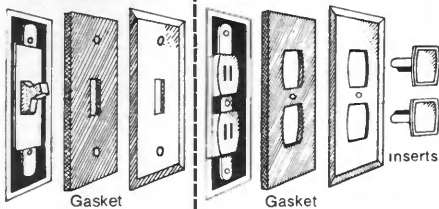
## GERMAN CHOCOLATE PIE

- |                         |                          |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 cup sugar             | 2/3 cup milk             |
| 1 tablespoon cornstarch | 3/4 cup shredded coconut |
| 2 tablespoons cocoa     | 1/2 cup pecans           |
| Pinch salt              | 1 teaspoon vanilla       |
| 2 eggs                  | 1 unbaked pie shell      |
| 3 tablespoons margarine |                          |

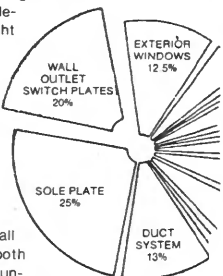
Combine all dry ingredients; add eggs, melted margarine and milk. Add coconut, vanilla and pecans. Pour into unbaked pie shell; bake for 30 minutes at 400 degrees.



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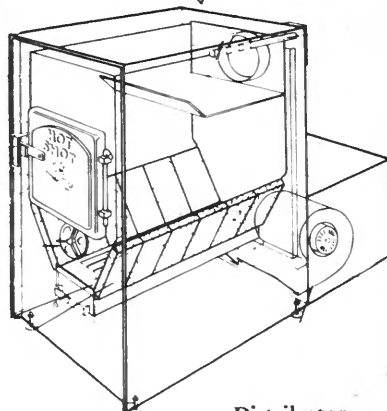
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