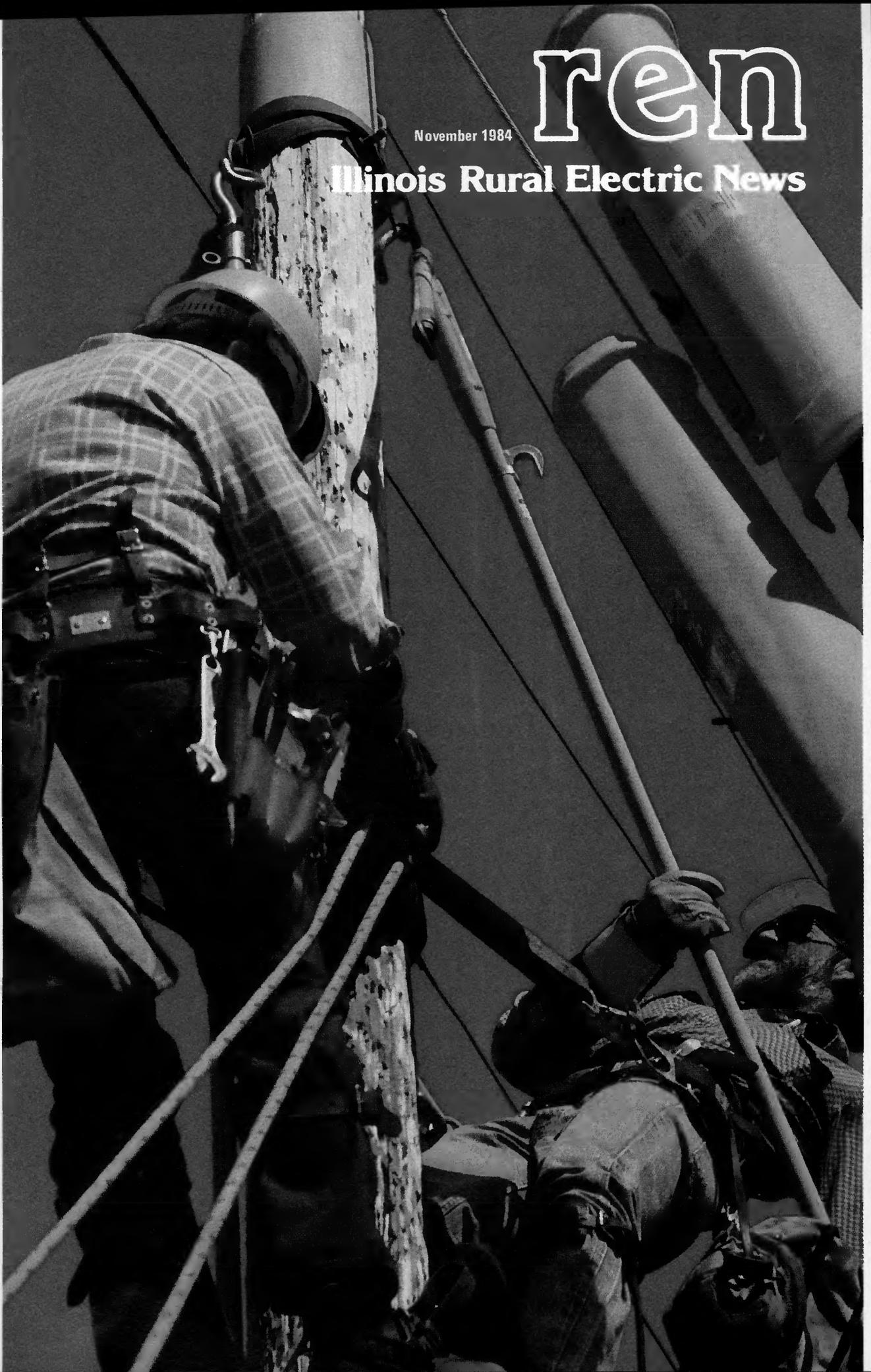


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November 1984

Illinois Rural Electric News



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ROOM COVERAGE: Cost of a semi-private hospital room, intensive care, coronary unit, and most other hospital charges. (Exceptions—personal comfort items.)

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Illinois Rural Electric News

The burden of high interest rates and inflation

Electric cooperatives' attempt over the last year and a half to counteract some of the effects of soaring interest rates and inflation of the last decade did not make it through Congress this year.

Legislation designed to stabilize the source of loan funds for rural electric systems died during the closing hours of the 98th Congress when the Senate version of the legislation was brought up under the "unanimous consent" provision. Under "unanimous consent," the objection of but one Senator is sufficient to prevent a bill from being considered. Despite the fact that more than half of the 100 Senators had signed a letter to the Senate Majority Leader urging that this bill be brought to the floor for a vote, one Senator's objection was enough to keep the bill from getting its fair shake. The House of Representatives in March had approved the legislation by more than 2-1. Supporters of the legislation say they will try again.

Your electric cooperatives are not alone in attempting to do something about the devastating effect that general economic conditions are having on rural America. While the cooperatives are trying to stabilize the source of loan funds damaged so severely by high interest rates and inflation, others, including the Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Pork Producers Association, are also working to call Congress' attention to this serious matter.

For some time, the IFB has been spearheading a public campaign to fight high interest rates and balance the federal budget. The IFB wants to deliver signed cards to the Congress and President calling on each to take "constructive actions . . . to lower interest rates." Voters are being asked

to sign the card that states, in part: "At the present levels, interest rates are preventing full economic recovery in housing, farming and many other businesses that find it difficult to operate when interest rates are so high."

Cards will be gathered and sent to Washington in January for the beginning of the 1985 Congressional session.

The electric cooperative legislation was born of the need to do something about the effect of interest and inflation on the Rural Electrification Administration Revolving Fund, from which electric distribution cooperatives borrow. Federal law in 1973 mandated an interest rate of 5 percent and established a mechanism whereby the Fund could borrow from the U.S. Treasury to maintain sufficient funds for borrowers. As interest rates jumped, the Fund was lending money at 5 percent but borrowing replenishing funds at higher rates. At the same time, inflation's impact was driving up cooperatives' costs and system growth demands required that they borrow greater amounts of money, all at climbing interest rates.

Farmers and others in rural America have been hard hit by the spiraling forces of interest rates and inflation. Prices for almost everything (except farm products) have jumped and the cost of money needed to buy the higher-priced goods has soared. The capital-intensive nature of rural electrification and agriculture makes this segment of our economy especially vulnerable to severe damage even with only small changes in interest rates and inflation. Congress and the administration have a responsibility to rural America to assure that this vital segment of the nation's economy is not burdened with more than its share of the load.

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Cover: The annual Hot Line School draws a large number of students each year from the state's electric cooperatives and from municipal electric systems. Safety is the watchword. (See article on pages 4 and 5.)

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HOT LINE SCHOOL

Safety and efficiency are key elements of line personnel training sessions

The 1984 Hot Line Maintenance School is history now, and 94 linemen from 19 cooperatives and 17 municipal utilities have returned to their jobs ready to work more safely and efficiently.

Hotline work involves working on energized electric lines, and is done so you will not have to endure outages while the co-op's crews perform rou-

tine maintenance. Occasionally some work requires that a line be shut down, and storms cause plenty of unplanned outages, but the major purpose of hotline techniques is to avoid disrupting service. Since the school is a learning experience, the lines are not "hot," but all work is done as though they are.

Working on live lines is dangerous,

since even the small lines out in the countryside carry 7,200 volts, and are not insulated. Good linemen, equipment, and training make the difference and familiarity with the equipment, and plenty of hands-on training, are daily staples at the school, held annually at the Lincoln Land Community College campus near Springfield.



Opposite page, linemen work on simulated "live" lines during the Hot Line School. Note heavy gloves, "coverup" materials on lines and nonconductive hotsticks hanging within easy reach. At left, linemen on a pole work under the careful supervision of an instructor in a bucket. Below, an instructor shows how to make ties.



The first week of the three-week school dealt with underground rural distribution, or URD, which involves moving large quantities of electricity through underground lines. The week also included instruction in transmission work, or work on the large high-voltage lines that may carry 69,000 volts or more.

Some 42 participants representing nine cooperatives and 13 municipals braved unseasonably cool weather, and showed plenty of interest and enthusiasm, both in the classroom and "on the field."

The following two week-long sessions were given over to above-the-ground work, sometimes by men who attached "hooks" to their boots and donned heavy leather belts to literally climb poles. Others worked from the

luxury of bucket trucks, which enabled them to use engine power and hydraulic controls to place themselves close enough to their work to get the job done.

All, however, used "hotsticks" and "coverups" to protect themselves from high voltage. Hotsticks are nonconductive fiberglass rods with a tool affixed to each end. A good selection of sticks will enable a crew to do virtually any maintenance necessary to keep electricity flowing.

Hotsticks are checked regularly to make sure they will not conduct electricity, and coverups are placed over the lines to reduce the danger of current flow. Heavy rubber gloves, also checked regularly for nonconductivity, are the last part of the package — except for rigorous training and con-

stant emphasis on safety. David Diederich, director of training and safety for the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, and Jim Nevel, training and safety instructor, watched constantly to see that students did not pick up unsafe habits during the training.

Some of the instructors were representatives of equipment suppliers, while others were provided by cooperatives. Manufacturers and cooperatives also provided trucks and equipment for the school.

Cooperative instructors during the first week of training were: Daryl Douglas of Adams Electrical Co-Operative, Camp Point; William Allen and Rick Tippett of Jo-Carroll Electric Cooperative, Elizabeth; Terry

(Continued on page 19)

Lost in the shuffle

Cooperative-supported legislation fails in attempt at Senate vote

An eleventh-hour U.S. Senate discussion of legislation on the Rural Electrification and Telephone Revolving Fund Oct. 10 killed a two-year effort by the nation's rural electric and telephone cooperatives to secure a long-term financing plan.

After a 45-minute discussion on the Senate floor that began at 7:30 p.m., Sen. Alan Simpson (R-Wyo.) objected to the Senate's consideration of the bill, thwarting efforts of the bill's supporters to bring the issue to a vote. That move killed the bill for this session of Congress. The 98th Congress was set to adjourn for the year on Oct. 12.

Bob Bergland, general manager of the National Rural Electric Coopera-

tive Association, blasted the action as "a farcical episode" that "brought an inglorious finale to the year-long game plan of the Administration to avoid forthright, on-the-record debate and vote on the bill." NRECA, the Washington, D.C., service organization for about 1,000 rural electric systems, spearheaded the move to ensure the solvency of the Revolving Fund. That fund is the major source of financing for the rural co-ops.

The demise of the bill came under the weight of intense and sometimes bitter opposition by the Reagan Administration, which began attacking the proposal shortly after it was introduced in both the House and Senate a year and a half ago.

The House approved its version of the legislation by a 283-111 vote on March 1. And on June 7, the Senate Agriculture Committee, chaired by Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.), endorsed a similar measure with only Sen. Richard Lugar (R-Ind.) dissenting.

It was not until June 29, however, that the committee sent the bill to Senate Majority Leader Howard Baker (R-Tenn.), who was responsible for scheduling the bill for action by the full Senate.

Ultimately, the White House opposition prevailed in a Republican-controlled Senate as the bill sat in Baker's office for more than three months. That delay occurred despite an August letter from 53 of the 100 senators



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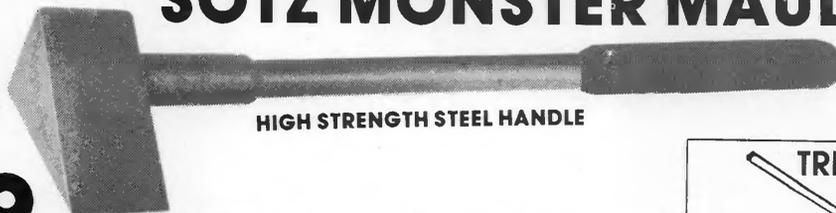
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encouraging Baker to bring the bill to the Senate floor for a vote. "The Administration's plan is delay, delay, delay," said Sen. J. James Exon (D-Neb.) from the Senate floor. "If you delay things long enough, eventually you are going to adjourn and thwart even the possibility of having a vote on a tremendously important piece of legislation, such as S. 1300 (the Revolving Fund Self-Sufficiency Act)," he said.

The death of the Self-Sufficiency Act will not affect rural electric co-ops over the next few years. What the Senate action does mean is that the stability of the Revolving Fund could begin heading for bankruptcy in the 1990s. "Despite the demise of the legislation with the 98th Congress," Bergland said after the Senate session, "there is no doubt that the REA program is still strong and healthy over the near term. The loan program as established by act of Congress in 1973 continues."

The debate on the bill centered on its cost to the government, but behind much of the discussion was the question of whether the REA should survive in essentially its present form.

Administration spokesmen termed the bill a "bailout," and claimed it could cost the government \$20 billion. Rural electric leaders noted that the bill does not seek more spending, but simply would keep the present assets of the Revolving Fund in that fund.

Without action, interest expense to the Revolving Fund will begin to exceed interest income within 10 years, possibly bankrupting the fund sometime after the turn of the century.

The Self-Sufficiency Act would have kept that from happening by allowing interest rates on REA loans to co-ops to rise enough to keep the fund in balance — from the current 5 percent to about 7 or 8 percent under present conditions. The second major part of the bill would have retained the fund's \$7.9 billion in assets. Current law calls for those assets to be transferred to the Treasury over a 25-year period beginning in 1993.

The Administration developed an alternative bill that was introduced by Rep. Eugene Chappie (R-Calif.) in the House but never introduced in the

Senate. That bill would have slashed funds, pegged interest rates above the cost of money, required more private capital and levied a special tax on rural electric borrowers to cover administrative costs. NRECA Government Relations director John Davenport said that bill would have been six times more expensive for rural electric consumers than the co-op-supported version.

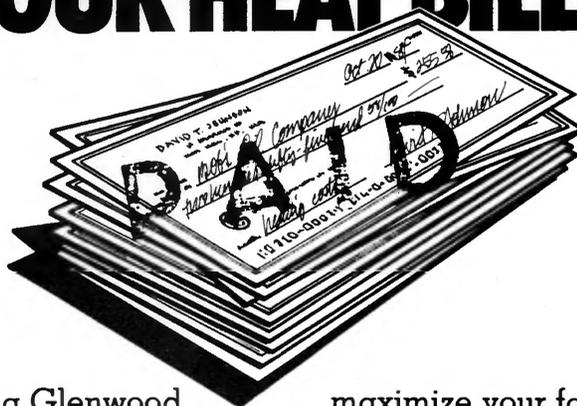
Sens. Metzenbaum and Chafee also voiced their opposition to the measure. A group of supporters, including

Sens. Exon, Charles Grassley (R-Iowa), Ted Stevens (R-Alaska), David Pryor (D-Ark.), Edward Zorinsky (D-Neb.), James Abdnor (R-S.D.), Roger Jepsen (R-Iowa) and Frank Murkowski (R-Alaska) spoke in favor of the legislation and promised to bring it before the Senate again next year. "I can assure the Senate that indeed we will revisit this again next year," Exon said. "Unfortunately, we should be solving the problem right now."

—Sharon O'Malley and Paul Wesslund

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Long-range power agreement

Soyland and WIPCO will purchase fossil-fueled generation output from IPC

Two Illinois generation and transmission cooperatives representing 22 distribution cooperatives have reached agreement with Illinois Power Company for long-range electric power needs.

Soyland Power Cooperative, Decatur, and Western Illinois Power Cooperative (WIPCO), Jacksonville, finalized plans with IPC on Oct. 5 following some five months of negotiations on details of the contracts. On March 28, the three had agreed on a letter of intent. Effective date of the contracts is Jan. 1, 1985, pending approval by federal and state regulatory agencies.

As announced in March, the agreement will allow the two generation and transmission cooperatives to purchase the output of 400 megawatts of electrical capacity from Illinois Power Company's fossil-fueled generating plants. This will be in addition to capacity which the two cooperatives will receive as part owners of the Clinton Power Station.

The new agreement limits the cooperatives' investment in the Clinton Unit 1 to \$450 million of the direct costs of placing this unit into commercial operation.

The agreement also provides for joint operation of the systems and will provide the cooperatives the right to receive transmission and subtransmission service from Illinois Power Company systems to deliver the electricity to their member-consumers.

Representatives of the three companies said the agreement allows the cooperatives to meet the bulk power

requirements of their member-cooperatives' 150,000 member-consumers beyond completion of the Clinton plant. It gives the cooperatives a broad generation mix which will lend stability to their wholesale power costs.

The long-term commitment of a power supply from Illinois Power Company provides the cooperatives with the most cost-effective way to meet the future needs of their members.

Fifteen electric cooperatives make up Soyland: Clay Electric Co-operative, Flora; Clinton County Electric Cooperative, Breese; Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative, Mattoon; Corn Belt Electric Cooperative, Bloomington; Eastern Illinois Power Cooperative, Paxton; Edgar Electric Co-operative, Paris; Farmers Mutual Electric Company; Geneseo; Illini Electric Cooperative, Champaign; Illinois Valley Electric Cooperative, Princeton; McDonough Power Cooperative, Macomb; Monroe County Electric Co-Operative, Waterloo; Shelby Electric Cooperative, Shelbyville; Southwestern Electric Cooperative, Greenville; Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Mt. Vernon, and Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative, Fairfield.

WIPCO is made up of seven electric cooperatives: Adams Electrical Co-Operative, Camp Point; Illinois Rural Electric Co., Winchester; M.J.M. Electric Cooperative, Carlinville; Menard Electric Cooperative, Petersburg; Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative Co., Auburn; Spoon River Electric Co-operative, Canton, and Western Illinois Electrical Coop., Carthage.

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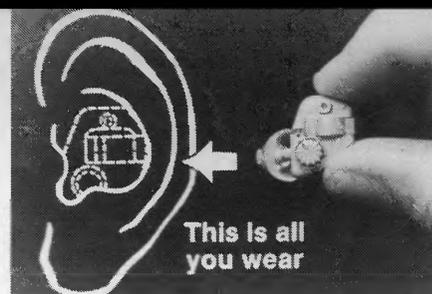
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Inspect your metal chimney before use

Thousands of house fires each year are associated with metal factory-built chimneys connected to wood and coal burning stoves. The Consumer Product Safety Commission has alerted consumers to be aware of the potential fire hazard associated with these chimneys.

If you have a stove or fireplace connected to a metal chimney, check for any damage that may have occurred in the last heating season. Look for signs of structural failure, such as deformation, cracks, or holes. If it is difficult to examine the chimney, a local chimney repairman, chimney "sweep," or dealer can help. Have any damage repaired now.

Most fires in metal factory-built chimneys occur because of improper installation, use or maintenance. The Commission staff has identified the following common causes:

- Improper chimney installation causing ignition of nearby wood framing.
- Structural damage to chimney caused by burning creosote (a black tar-like substance which builds up inside the chimney).
- Chimney corrosion resulting in wood framing being exposed to excessive temperatures.
- Buckling and collapsing of the inner liner of the chimney. (This can result from too hot a fire, especially in high-efficiency stoves and in fireplace inserts, or from a creosote fire.)

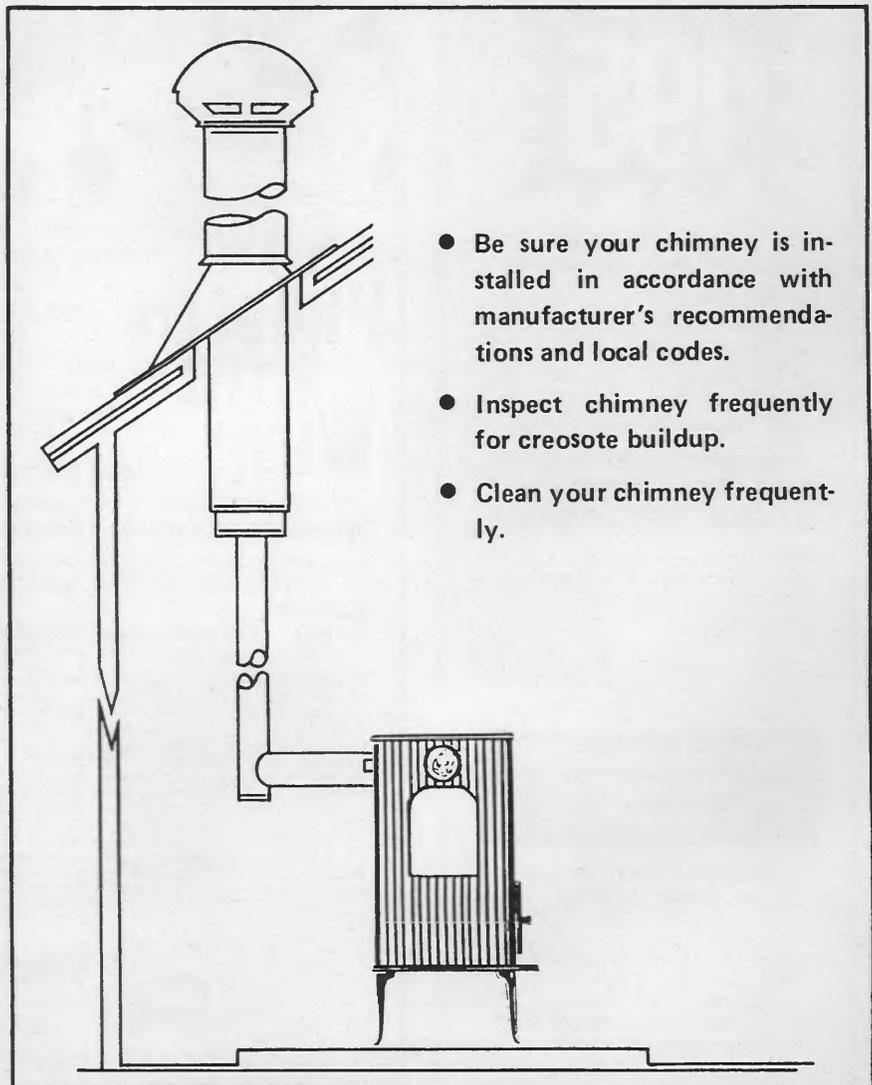
Many serious fires also occur in masonry chimneys, usually from improper installation or when the tile inner liner and the surrounding brick or block structure crack and separate. Such cracks may be caused by the ignition of creosote. Smoke and heat can then escape and ignite material near the chimney. Even when the heating appliance is properly installed, people with both metal and masonry chimney systems should frequently check the chimney for creosote deposits, soot

build-up or physical damage. This involves only a simple visual examination, but it should be done as often as twice a month during heavy use. If you see heavy creosote build-up, suspect a problem, or have had a chimney fire, a qualified chimney repairman or chimney "sweep" should perform a complete safety inspection. They can arrange for any necessary repairs or creosote removal, which must be done before the heating appliance is used again.

The Commission advises owners of

these chimneys to:

- Be sure that the chimney and stove pipe were installed correctly in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and local building codes. If there is any doubt, a building inspector or fireman can determine whether the system is properly installed.
- Have the chimney checked routinely by a chimney "sweep" at least once a year, and more frequently if a stove is heavily used (for example, if it's used as a primary heat source for the home).
- Always operate your appliance within the manufacturer's recommended temperature limits. Too low a temperature increases creosote build-up and too high a temperature may lead to a fire. Chimney temperature monitors are available and should be used.



Building a Better America



When President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the bill creating the Rural Electrification Administration in 1935, he began one of our nation's greatest success stories.

In Illinois, only 12 percent of the farms had central station electric service then. With the REA established, rural neighbors in Illinois and across the nation joined together to organize cooperatives so they could get loans to build electric distribution lines to their farms. But developing these member-owned utilities wasn't easy. For one thing, the \$5 membership fee and the monthly minimum payment of \$3 or so was a major investment in those Depression days. Many people had to be convinced of the worth of such a financial commitment . . . that their lives would be better.

Those cooperative pioneers were determined to overcome such obstacles. They saw the better life that electricity would bring. They knew that electricity was a means to improving the living standards and economic conditions in their area. That's why they struggled to get the poles set and the miles of line strung. And their labor paid off . . . the impact of their work exceeding anything they had ever imagined.

Today, the 30 Illinois electric cooperatives those pioneers created provide reliable service to 600,000 citizens in 86 counties. And we're just as committed to the welfare of our members as were those pioneers. We know from 50 years of experience that cooperatives are building a better America.



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1/2 cup sherry wine (optional)

Arrange chicken in casserole. Mix all other ingredients and pour over chicken. Sprinkle generously with paprika. Bake uncovered at 350 degrees for about 1 hour or more. Baste frequently.

HOLIDAY POTATO DISH

4 lbs. unpared potatoes, cooked and drained
1 cup chopped onion
1/4 cup butter
1 (10 3/4-oz.) can cond. cream of celery soup
1 pint dairy sour cream
1 1/2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
1/2 cup crushed corn flakes
3 tablespoons melted butter
Pimiento strips
Chopped fresh parsley

Remove skin from potatoes, shred into bowl. Saute onion in butter until tender. Remove from heat. Stir in soup and sour cream. Pour over potatoes and cheese; mix well. Turn into greased 13x9x1-inch baking dish. Cover; refrigerate overnight. Sprinkle with corn flakes; drizzle with 3 tablespoons butter. Bake in 350 degree oven for 1 hour. Garnish with pimiento and parsley. Makes 12 servings.

CHEE-ZY RICE BALLS

4 cups hot cooked rice
1 1/2 cups grated sharp Cheddar cheese
2 eggs, slightly beaten
1 1/2 teaspoons salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper
1/4 cup minced onion
3 tablespoons creole mustard
8 drops Tabasco pepper sauce
2 cups soft bread crumbs
1 tablespoon paprika
1/2 cup diced pimientos or 3 tablespoons chili powder

Combine all ingredients except bread crumbs and paprika. Chill. Form into small balls using 1 tablespoon mixture for each. Blend bread crumbs and paprika. Roll balls in crumbs. Deep fry at 375 degrees until golden brown, about 3 minutes. Drain on absorbent paper. Serve hot. For variety, add one of the following:

2 cups ground cooked ham or 3/4 cup canned chopped green chilies, drained or
1/4 cup butter or margarine
1/2 cup flour
2 cups half-and-half (cream and milk)
1/2 cup dry sherry
1/4 cup tomato paste
2 teaspoons salt
1 teaspoon dill weed
1/2 teaspoon onion powder
1/4 teaspoon pepper
1 tablespoon lemon juice
1 can (4 oz.) sliced mushrooms, drained

1 package (10 oz.) frozen green peas, cooked and drained (about 1 1/2 cups)
1 package (12 oz.) frozen peeled and deveined raw shrimp, cut in half lengthwise
3 cups cooked rice
1 can (3 oz.) rice noodles or chow mein noodles

Melt butter; stir in flour to make a smooth paste. Gradually blend in half-and-half; simmer about 5 minutes, stirring constantly. Stir in sherry, tomato paste, seasonings, lemon juice, mushrooms, peas, shrimp, and rice. Turn into a greased shallow 2 1/2-quart baking dish. Sprinkle with noodles. Bake at 350 degrees for 25 minutes or until hot and bubbly. 6 to 8 servings.

HAWAIIAN-STYLE RICE SALAD

10 ounces cooked ham, cut in thin strips (2 cups)
3 cups cool cooked rice
1 can (16 oz.) sliced peaches, drained
1 1/2 cups sliced celery
1/2 cup chutney, chopped
1 teaspoon curry powder
1 teaspoon seasoned pepper
1/2 cup sour cream
1/4 cup mayonnaise
1/2 cup sliced almonds, toasted

Combine all ingredients except almonds. Toss lightly. Serve on beds of salad greens. Sprinkle with almonds. 8 servings.

DUCK AND RICE

2 ducks
5 1/2 cups broth
1 box chicken Rice-A-Roni
1 box Uncle Ben's chicken-flavored rice
2 medium onions
2 medium green peppers
2 cans cream of mushroom soup
1 can mushrooms (optional)
3 tablespoons soy sauce
Salt, pepper, garlic salt
4 tablespoons butter or bacon drippings

Cook ducks until tender, take meat off bones. Saute chopped onion, pepper, and Rice-A-Roni in butter or drippings. Salt, pepper and garlic salt to taste. Transfer to a large pot or casserole. Add 5 1/2 cups of duck broth, remaining rice and seasonings, soy sauce, duck, mushrooms and mushroom soup. Simmer 30 minutes or until broth is absorbed. Add more broth if needed.

SQUIRREL MULLIGAN

15 to 20 squirrels
1 lb. dry salt meat, cut into 1/2-inch cubes
1 stalk celery, chopped fine
6 to 8 onions, chopped fine
1 pkg. carrots, chopped fine
8 to 10 potatoes, chopped fine
2 cans whole kernel corn
1 can tomatoes
2 cans English peas
2 cans hot Rotel tomatoes
Salt and pepper to taste

Put squirrels on to cook in water. We use wash pot in the yard. Cook squirrels until tender. Remove squirrels from broth. You may remove bones, but we prefer not to. Use broth to cook remaining ingredients, then put squirrels back in when all is done. Serve with big green salad and Mexican corn bread to a big crowd. It freezes well.

VENISON IN WINE

Braise venison steaks or roast in skillet. Then add 1 chopped medium onion and 1 cup red wine (burgundy, claret or rose) to your water in roast pan. You may add herbs (salt, pepper and oregano are good). Cook at 350 degrees to desired tenderness. Make gravy when roast is done.

A head start on the holidays

PUMPKIN COOKIES

1/2 cup shortening
1 cup sugar
1 cup pumpkin
1 egg
1 teaspoon vanilla
1/4 teaspoon salt
2 cups flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 cup raisins

Cream the shortening and sugar. Add pumpkin, egg, and vanilla; beat well. Stir together flour and the next three ingredients and 1/4 teaspoon salt. Add to batter; mix well. Stir in raisins. Drop rounded teaspoonfuls 2 inches apart on greased cookie sheet. Bake at 350 degrees for about 15 minutes. Cool on rack. Makes about 3 dozen.

CALIFORNIA FRUITCAKE or Orange Candy Cake

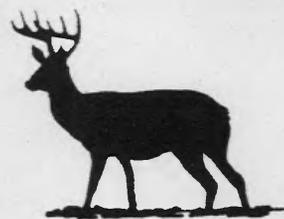
1 cup butter or margarine
2 cups white sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla
5 eggs at room temperature
3 1/2 cups sifted all-purpose flour
1/2 teaspoon soda
1 teaspoon salt
3/4 cup buttermilk
8 oz. pitted dates, cut fine
1 lb. orange candy slices, cut fine
2 cups chopped pecans
1 cup coconut
1/2 cup flour

Cream butter and sugar and vanilla until fluffy. Add the eggs one at a time and beat well after each addition. Add the 3 1/2 cups flour, soda and salt, alternately with buttermilk. Prepare the fruit and nuts and mix with the 1/2 cup flour. Add last. Bake in a tube pan, or large bundt pan at 300 degrees for 2 1/2 hours. Watch carefully along toward the last as it has a tendency to burn. Cool in the pan on a rack and while hot pour on the following glaze:

Glaze:

1/2 cup powdered sugar
1/4 cup lemon juice
1/4 cup orange juice
1 teaspoon grated orange and lemon peel

Add ingredients together and cook glaze until syrup is reasonably thick, about 3 to 5 minutes. After glaze is poured on, let cool in the pan, for about an hour. Remove from the pan and let get cold. Wrap in foil and refrigerate for at least a day before using. This cake freezes well and keeps in the refrigerator quite a while. Mine seems dry until it has ripened about a week. It may be frosted or glazed when you are ready to use it.



WILD GAME RAGOUT

3 tablespoons olive oil
3 lbs. venison, elk or antelope
3 large onions, chopped
5 cloves garlic, crushed
1/2 lb. bacon, chopped
1 teaspoon curry powder
1 can tomato soup, undiluted
1 1/2 quarts water
2 tablespoons bourbon
1/4 cup beer
1 tablespoon salt
1/2 lb. fresh mushrooms, sliced

Place olive oil in electric skillet. Cut meat into cubes about 1 1/2 inches square. Add to hot oil with the onion, garlic and bacon. Cook until all is richly browned, stirring frequently. Add other ingredients except mushrooms; cover and simmer 50 minutes. Add mushrooms and simmer 10 minutes longer. Serve over rice. This dish reheats very well and can be prepared a day ahead of a dinner party. No need to marinate the game before using. In fact, it is better not to do so.

VENISON STROGANOFF

2 lbs. sirloin
4 tablespoons butter or margarine
1/2 cup mushrooms
1/2 cup tomato juice
1 clove garlic, peeled and crushed
2 teaspoons salt
1 teaspoon pepper
1 can mushroom soup
1 cup sour cream

Cut meat into 3/4-inch cubes. Brown in butter and add tomato juice and mushrooms. Cover and simmer 30 minutes. Add remaining ingredients; simmer 1 hour. Serve over rice.

PUMPKIN PIE

- 1 9-inch unbaked pie shell
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1/4 teaspoon allspice
- 1/8 teaspoon mace
- 1/8 teaspoon cloves
- 1/8 teaspoon ginger
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 1/2 cups pumpkin, canned or cooked
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup milk
- 2 tablespoons butter or margarine

Mix together sugar, cinnamon, nutmeg, allspice, mace, cloves, ginger, and salt. Add pumpkin. Separate eggs; add yolks to pumpkin mixture, mix well. Add milk. Melt butter, add to pumpkin mixture. Beat egg whites stiff but not dry. Fold into pumpkin mixture. Pour into unbaked pastry shell. Bake at 400 degrees for 45-50 minutes.

RAW CRANBERRY RELISH

- 2 cups cranberries
- 2 cups sugar
- 2 large oranges (peeled)

Wash cranberries and oranges — dry — put through food chopper. Stir sugar into mixture. Place in bowl and chill.

NANNY'S JAM CAKE

- 1 1/2 cups flour
- 1/2 cup nut meats
- 3 eggs
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup butter
- 1/2 cup sour milk
- 1/2 teaspoon soda
- 1 cup jam
- 1/2 cup raisins
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

Cream butter and sugar. Add egg yolks. Mix soda with sour milk; add alternately with flour. Add nuts, raisins, jam. Add stiffly beaten egg whites. Bake in 13 x 9 x 2" pan at 350 degrees for 30-35 minutes.

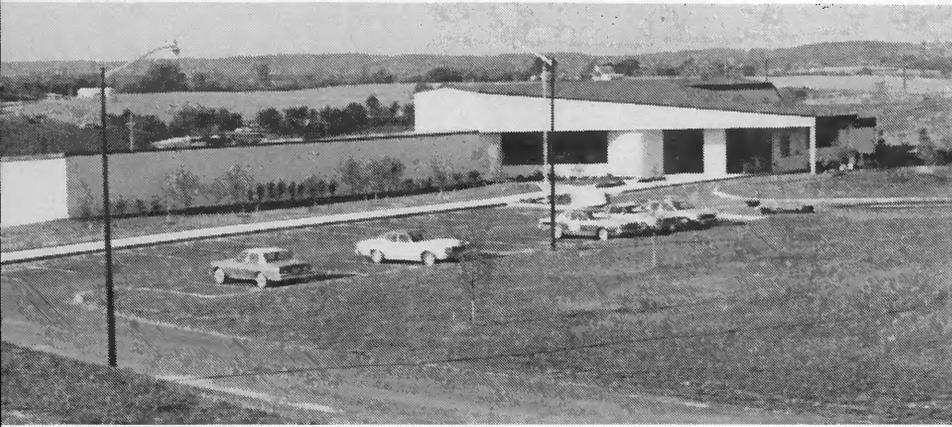
Icing:

- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup raisins
- 1/2 cup nuts
- 1/2 cup butter
- 1/2 pkg. marshmallows
- 1/2 cup cream or milk

Boil sugar and milk, butter, 7 or 8 minutes. Remove from heat, add other ingredients and beat.

Trio of rice dishes for the holidays





Jo-Carroll in new building

Jo-Carroll Electric Cooperative has completed and occupied its new headquarters building on the west edge of Elizabeth (Jo-Daviess County).

The move to the new facility brought together in one location cooperative personnel, equipment and supplies from four locations and for the first time placed most of the cooperative vehicles under roof for storage

and maintenance.

Located on a six-acre site on U.S. 20, the 17,000-square-foot headquarters is a modern, energy-efficiency design. The building is of steel-frame construction with metal roof system and exterior walls of cement plaster over rigid insulation. Five heat pumps provide heating and cooling and the structure incorporates passive solar

design with extra insulation to minimize heating and cooling costs. The main floor, the upper level, includes the reception area, business offices, drive-in window and directors meeting room. The lower level includes an all-purpose community room, line supervisory offices, line personnel lockers and meeting area, equipment and supply inventory, and vehicle maintenance and storage. A pole yard and transformer storage platform are located south of the building.

Prior to construction of the new building, trucks and other similar equipment were stored outside and transformers and other equipment and supplies were stored in or near an old railroad depot. Only limited vehicle storage space was available.

Jo-Carroll serves one of the fastest growing areas of the state, with dozens of new service connections each month.

Maryville Construction Company of East Dubuque is the contractor while Straka and Associates of Dubuque, Iowa, is the architect.

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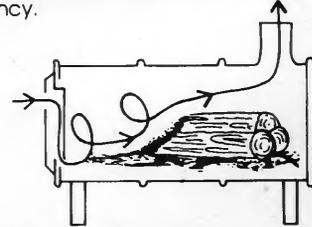
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Hot Line

(Continued from page 5)

Entwistle of Menard Electric Cooperative, Petersburg; Willis Hand of Illinois Valley Electric Cooperative, Princeton, and Fred Boston of Western Illinois Power Cooperative, Jacksonville.

Instructing during the second week were: Wendell Letner and Meredith Christman of Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative, Mattoon; Bruce Hill of Corn Belt Electric Cooperative, Bloomington; Alan Schweighart and Larry Carter of Illini Electric Cooperative, Champaign, and Gary Chesney of Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Mt. Vernon.

Charles West of Corn Belt, Danny Mitchell of Illini, Neil Bailey of Jo-Carroll and Lyle Kofoot and Larry Niccum of Eastern Illinois Power Cooperative helped during the third week's session, along with George Claus and Donald Long of Illinois Rural Electric Co., Winchester.

Many different kinds of equipment are necessary to effectively teach hot-line techniques, and several suppliers sent equipment to help, as well as instructors to demonstrate its proper use.

Some 20 firms sent such diverse equipment as trenchers — for underground distribution lines — trucks, line apparatus and testing equipment, to make the school a success. Companies who contributed were: Dalum's Utility Equipment Co., TECO, Drake-Scruggs

Equipment Co., Ditch Witch of Springfield, Vermeer Sales and Service, and N. J. Associates.

Also sending men and equipment were: Electrorep, Inc., The Kearney Company, Fairmont Hydraulics, Ken Way Company, Fletcher-Reinhardt, McGraw-Edison, Fortier Testing and Sales, Mettam Safety Supply, Inc., Harco Corporation, Rayn and Associates, Preformed Products Company and Springfield City Water, Light and Power.



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The plain fact is not all flannel sheets are created equal. When you shop at Agatha's Cozy Corner, you don't buy a myth. You get the very best. I guarantee it.



*Sincerely,
Agatha*



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Leann "signs" the opening bars of John Denver's "Sunshine on My Shoulders." Inset top, she signs "walking," while the bottom photo illustrates "dancing."



It is in the closing stages of a talent contest, and a singer is crooning John Denver's "Sunshine on My Shoulders." The audience sits, captivated. Some are a bit misty-eyed and not at all ashamed of it.

Strangely enough, the singer is not the center of the enraptured audience's attention. That honor belongs to the "signer," Leann Shewmake, who performs sign language for the benefit of the hearing impaired, and whose rendition of the song moved her audience — and the judges — enough that she won first place in the contest.

Signing is the same as "fingerspelling," and yet it is much more, too, since some ideas are conveyed by other gestures. For example, instead of spelling out the word "walk," one would simply place the index and middle fingers of one hand on the palm of the other and make a walking motion. Dancing is indicated similarly, but with a graceful motion.

Leann, whose home is served by Shelby Electric Cooperative, is a junior at Cowden-Herrick High School, and has been signing for several years. To the uninitiated, signing looks like out-of-control finger exercises, but every motion means something and each gesture pays its way.

Leann got into signing partly by accident, while staying with her father and stepmother in Cook's Mills, a small Coles County community about 10 miles north of Mattoon. "I was eight or nine years old," she relates, "and some neighbors had cut down a tree. It turned out that there was a bird's nest in it, and I was really thrilled. I ran in to tell Barbara, my stepmother, and she kept trying to get me to slow down so a neighbor girl could understand. I didn't know what she was talking about, and I finally realized the girl was deaf and, with some basic fingerspelling and a little lip reading, we finally got the message

across. It really freaked me out that you could 'talk' by using gestures, and it still does a little."

Although she worked off and on with signing, as the manual language is called, Leann, who just turned 16, did not get seriously into the language until four years ago, and she got into signing songs a year after that.

"When you sign conversationally," she says, "you spell some words letter by letter and use gestures for others. And you leave out some words, too. Words like 'to,' 'and,' or 'only' are used if they're really essential. 'Very' is another word we don't use much. Words like 'I' and 'me,' which mean the same thing, take the same word.

Signing a song involves more than conversation, Leann notes, because of the tune, part of which is conveyed by graceful, sweeping motions. "Since a deaf person can't hear the tune, you have to give them the 'feel' of the music," she says, "kind of like hula dancing without moving the hips."

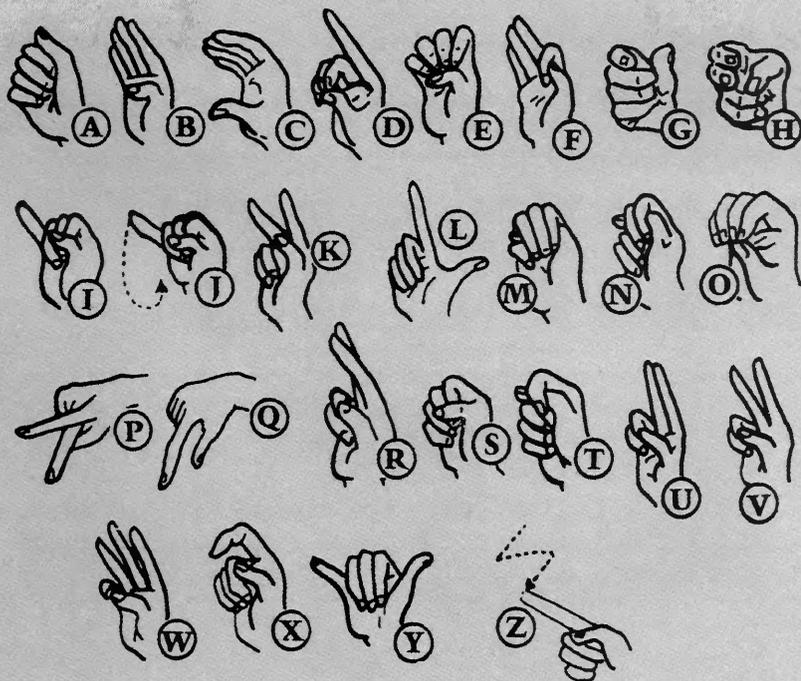
Leann was fortunate in her efforts to become proficient at signing. "When I was in junior high school," she says, "I worked in the library, so I could order books others normally couldn't. Since I've been in high school, I've been able to get books from the Rolling Prairie Library Program." She also attributes much of her skill development to others. Scott Jacobson, the youth minister at the Cowden Christian Church, has worked with deaf youths, and encouraged Leann. He often helps her improve her signing after Sunday evening youth classes.

"I met a young woman named Vicki Drummond at a church camp at Mulberry Grove, near Greenville, Illinois," she says, "and she worked with me a lot. She teaches at a school for the deaf in Council Bluffs, Iowa. Another young woman, Julie Johns, gave me a book called, *The Joy of Signing*, and I've learned more from it than any other book. It was written by Lottie L. Riekelos."

While Leann has nearly two years of high school to complete before she begins college, and is not sure where she will go, she is pretty sure of one thing: her career will involve signing, either for teaching school, for missionary work, or both.

SIGNING

Manual alphabet





Happy Face Clown
7014

4792
34-48

9373
SIZES 8-20

- No. 4792 is cut in Women's Sizes 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48. Yardages given in pattern.
- No. 7014 - Happy Face Clown - is pattern pieces to sew 20-inch clown and his clothes.
- No. 9373 is cut in sizes 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20. Size 12 (bust 34) jumper 2-1/8 yards 54-inch; blouse 1-3/4 yards 60".



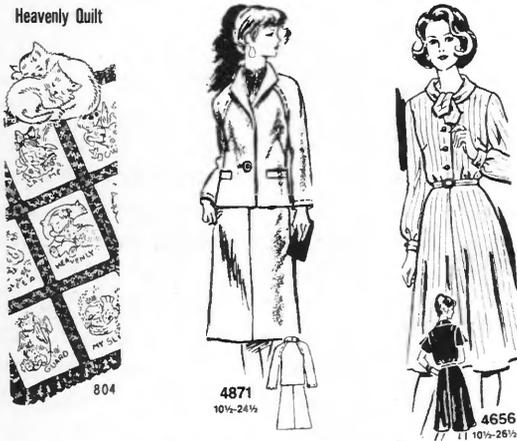
They're Magnetic!

7418

4736 8-18

9187
SIZES 8-18

- No. 7418 - They're Magnetic - is pattern pieces for magnets about 5 inches each.
- No. 4736 is cut in sizes 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18. Size 12 (bust 34) takes 2-7/8 yards 60-inch fabric.
- No. 9187 is cut in sizes 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18. Size 12 (bust 34) takes 3 yards 60-inch fabric.



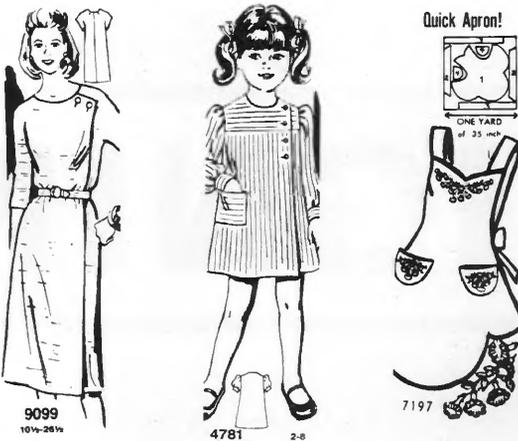
Heavenly Quilt

804

4871
10 1/2-24 1/2

4656
11 10 1/2-26 1/2

- No. 804 - Heavenly Quilt - is nine motifs, directions for 35 1/2" x 43 1/2" quilt of 8 1/2" x 10 1/2" blocks.
- 4871 is cut in sizes 10 1/2, 12 1/2, 14 1/2, 16 1/2, 18 1/2, 20 1/2, 22 1/2, 24 1/2. Size 14 1/2 (bust 37) takes 2-5/8 yards 60-inches.
- No. 4656 is cut in sizes 10 1/2, 12 1/2, 14 1/2, 16 1/2, 18 1/2, 20 1/2, 22 1/2, 24 1/2, 26 1/2. See pattern for yardages.



Quick Apron!

9099
10 1/2-26 1/2

4781
2-8

7197

ONE YARD
of 35 inch

- No. 9099 is cut in sizes 10 1/2, 12 1/2, 14 1/2, 16 1/2, 18 1/2, 20 1/2, 22 1/2, 24 1/2, 26 1/2. Size 14 1/2 (bust 37) takes 3-1/8 yards 45-inch.
- No. 4781 is cut in Children's Sizes 2, 4, 6, 8.
- No. 7197 - Quick Apron - transfer motifs, tissue pattern pieces, directions. Takes one yard 35-inch fabric.

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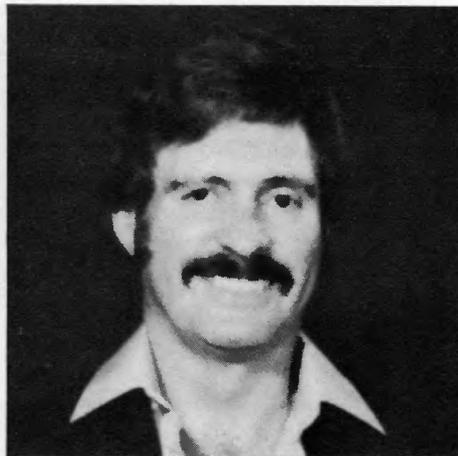
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