

Clean coal project

See page 6

Home electrical safety

See page 28

Illinois Rural Electric News

May 1990

IREN

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day in
Springfield**

See page 4



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LATOYA NICOLE REED

LAST SEEN: 09/06/89 EYES: Brown
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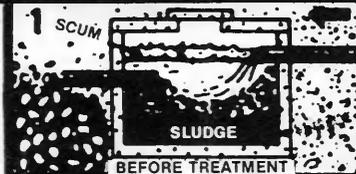
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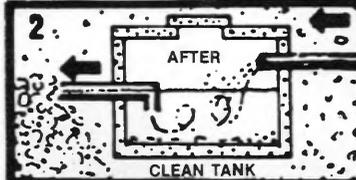
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Illinois Rural Electric News

Census cuts rural seats in Congress

After the 1990 Census takers count all 250 million or so Americans and analyze the data gathered, rural America's dwindling congressional voice will fade even further.

The nation's decennial count—which will provide a snapshot of the population as of April 1—serves as a guide for public spending. It also determines how much congressional clout each of the 50 states will wield for the next 10 years.

There have already been some educated guesses about what the Census will find on that score.

Only about 30 current seats in the House of Representatives are solidly rural, says Wally Rustad, government relations director for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), which represents the rural utilities in Washington. After the Census tally is in, that number will dwindle further.

According to the Population Reference Bureau, an independent, nonprofit research corporation in Washington, D.C., 11 states will lose at least one House seat because 1990 Census is expected to show that they've lost population relative to other states. Seven of those 11 states are home to many rural electric cooperative members: Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Montana, Ohio and Pennsylvania. Of the other four expected to lose

House seats, New Jersey, New York and West Virginia have at least one co-op; the only loser with no rural electric presence within its borders is Massachusetts.

On the other hand, electric co-ops are strong in six of the seven states expected to gain seats—Arizona, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, Texas and Virginia. The nation's biggest gainer by far, California, has only four electric co-ops.

The number of seats in the House of Representatives—435—will not change. The boundaries of congressional districts will change, however, to more accurately reflect the population. Members of Congress who take their seats in 1992 will serve the new districts.

Unfortunately for rural areas, new congressional districts in states that gain House seats will be carved out of the cities. That doesn't mean, however, that support for rural programs will slip as well, Rustad says. "You can't just assume that because we have loss of rural representation that's going to mean a loss of support for rural electrification," he says, adding that on the crucial issues of rural development and government lending, "We've had good support from people who represent urban areas."

—Rural Electric News Service

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In this issue

Larry F. Elledge
Editor

Gordon M. Olsen
Managing Editor

Jack D. Halstead
Associate Editor

Youth Day 1990	4 & 5
Clean coal project	6 & 7
Briefly	9 & 10
Business grant	14 & 15
Sewing crafts	19
Illinois Marketplace	22 & 23
Summer delights	25
Record SIPC year	27
Electrical safety	28 & 29
Energy & you	30 & 31

REN

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Cover: April 18 was Rural Electric Youth Day in Springfield, a special day that attracted some 175 high school students from across the state. The students were finalists in local electric cooperatives' essay contests. See article beginning on page 4.

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Youth Day 1990





Left: Youth Day participants and chaperones line up at the Old State Capitol before touring the historic building. Above: State Representative Art Tenhouse of Liberty, a 1967 Washington Tour winner in the Adams Electrical Co-Operative essay contest, talks with finalists in this year's Adams Electrical contest.

April 18 was a special day for the electric and telephone cooperatives of Illinois.

It was 1990 Youth Day, officially proclaimed as such by Governor James R. Thompson. Some 175 young people toured the capitol that day as finalists in the Illinois electric cooperatives' "Youth to Washington" essay contest.

There was much to the day, including touring the State Capitol. The students, representing 16 electric cooperatives and one telephone co-op, made it a point to meet and visit, at least briefly, with their lawmakers. Most of the legislators explained how votes are cast in the house and senate chambers and visited with the youths about "home" concerns.

The day in Springfield began with a continental breakfast, and the students were briefed and assigned to buses at that time, before heading to the Capitol. After meeting legislators and touring the building, they went to the Lincoln's Home Visitor's Center for a quick explanation of the Lincoln era, then toured the family home, where the Lincolns lived for 18 years.

Back at the headquarters hotel, it was time for lunch and a speech or two. Two state legislators, both Youth Tour alumni, addressed the group.

Thomas H. Moore, executive vice president and general manager of the Association of Illinois Elec-

tric Cooperatives, welcomed the students, noting that the electric cooperatives in Illinois had been supporting the rural electric youth program for more than 30 years. "We're extremely pleased to have you here," he said, "and as you visit with the ladies and gentlemen who represent you, you'll understand why we're proud to have you here. You're part of a proud heritage, and we've supported the program mainly because it's you who will be the future members of the co-ops, and it's you who will be leaders of local and state government.

"Sprinkled among you," he continued, "are such Youth Tour alumni as Representative Tom Ryder of Jerseyville and Representative Art Tenhouse of Liberty. We're proud of you and the students who have gone before you."

Tenhouse, who was appointed last November to complete the unexpired term of Jeffrey D. Mays, who resigned, is a family farmer, farming the home place that has been in the family over 100 years.

He was a 1967 Youth Tour winner, has held several offices in local organizations, and served on the board of directors of Adams Electrical Co-Operative. Representing the 96th District, he will seek reelection in November.

(Continued on page 8)

SIPC moves closer to clean coal project

Cooperative plans to test new technology at Lake of Egypt generating plant

A clean coal technology demonstration project at Southern Illinois Power Co-operative (SIPC) is one step closer to reality. Officials of SIPC and TransAlta Technologies Inc., of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, signed final contracts on the project in April.

Final approval from the U.S. Department of energy is pending. Construction of the \$15.3 million demonstration project could begin within 30 days.

TransAlta Technologies Inc., is a subsidiary of TransAlta Utilities Corporation, the largest investor-owned electric utility in Canada. The Canadian firm, using technology originally developed by Rockwell International Corporation, will install its low nitrous oxide, sulfur dioxide (LNS) burner on an existing cyclone-fired boiler at SIPC's generating station near Marion. The LNS



Harold Dycus, Carbondale, speaks during the ceremony.

burner is designed to cut 80 percent of the nitrous oxides found in bituminous coal and up to 90 percent of sulfur dioxide. If the technology proves successful, high-sulfur Southern Illinois coal could be burned in existing power plants and still meet air quality standards proposed in the Clean Air Act being considered by the U.S. Congress.

"We are extremely pleased to serve as the host facility for the commercial demonstration of TransAlta's LNS burner," James R. Chapman, manager of SIPC, said. "Because of society's concern over environmental quality, and the severe emission limits being proposed under Clean Air Amendments presently before Congress, the LNS burner technology will have tremendous impact on Illinois coal fields and the Southern Illinois economy. The LNS burner will allow utilities to meet air quality standards with their older



generating units and not have to install costly scrubbers or switch to burning low-sulfur western coal."

Final documents between TransAlta and SIPC covering the LNS burner demonstration project were signed by Harold Dycus of Carbondale and Kenneth R. Webb of Tunnel Hill, representing SIPC, and William L. Fraser, president of TransAlta Technologies Inc.

Fraser said early tests on the LNS burner have proven successful, but that commercial users will not consider such technology until it is proven in a typical commercial environment. "It is for this reason that the agreement we are signing today is so important," Fraser said. "It provides an opportunity to demonstrate the technology in an operating utility plant."

"Given the worldwide concern for air quality,

the burner with its high efficiency and low cost has the potential to save hundreds of millions of dollars for electricity consumers around the world," Fraser said. He stressed the importance of the SIPC demonstration to prove the burner in a commercial environment. "It is important also for the state of Illinois and its coal industry," he added.

Approximately 150 federal, state and local government officials, union representatives, and other area community leaders attended the document-signing ceremony. Preceding the document-signing ceremony was a brief program giving background information on the LNS burner project. Speakers included Dycus, Chapman; Richard Myott, LNS burner project manager for SIPC; Fraser; representatives of the U.S.

(Continued on page 11)



Participants pose for photo

(Continued from page 5)

"Congratulations to all of you for being here," he said, adding, "I can think back 23 years to when I was involved in this program, and if you could pick one event in my life that had any effect on why I'm here today, it would be this program.

"I think there's probably no better opportunity to get involved in the whole program and to understand government at work than what you're doing here today."

Tenhouse told his audience that, as a parent and teacher, he'd had ample opportunity to listen to rock music, and that he had come to enjoy a Michael Jackson video entitled "The Man in the Mirror," and suggested that those present look in the mirror and see if the person looking back has done as much as needs to be done for society.

"I know I'm sort of preaching to the choir," he said, "and I think the fact that you're here today tells us that you're willing to get involved."

The refusal of many people to take part in the political process is of major concern, he said, and he noted that it's considered to be a pretty good turnout in the U.S. if half the eligible voters go to the polls on election day. He contrasted that to the 94 percent turnout in the recent East Germany elections.

"I was listening to a radio talk show not long ago where the listeners called in with their opinions," he said, and "One guy called in and started raking politicians over the coals," he continued. "The guy went on and on about secret deals, under-the-table payoffs and all kinds of things. The host said, 'Did you vote in the last election?' The guy said 'No,' and the host said, 'Then you don't have any right to complain,' and cut him off. The simple truth is that the process is only as good as you make it. The more people there are in the political process, the better it works. Encourage your mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters, your cousins and friends to get involved. It'll be better for all of us."

Ryder, a 1966 participant, apologized for ar-

iving late, explaining that an important vote was on the house floor, and that he had waited to cast his vote before coming to the luncheon. "I had the great pleasure several years ago to be with a group just like yours is now. I came to Springfield and went to Washington, first as a student and later as a chaperone, and some of the experiences I had on those trips are still the high points of my life. Congratulations on being involved," he said, adding, "I hope you get as much out of your involvement as I got from mine."

Larry Hicks of Mt. Vernon, who represents the 108th District, said, "It's a pleasure to be able to stop by. I've been able to come to these luncheons a couple of times in the eight years I've been here. It's good to be able to visit with folks from home and talk to them about how things are there."

The afternoon included a visit to the Illinois Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Lincoln's Tomb and the Old State Capitol. After that the youths headed for home, some to await their Washington trip, and all a little more aware of the Democratic process.

Legislators attending the events were State Representatives Larry Woolard, Carterville; Bruce Richmond, Murphysboro; Charles "Wayne" Goforth, Tamaroa; Hicks, Mt. Vernon; Charles "Chuck" Hartke, Teutopolis; Michael "Mike" Weaver, Charleston; Ryder, Jerseyville; Bill Edley, Macomb; Tom Homer, Canton; Richard Mautino, Spring Valley; N. Duane Noland, Blue Mound;



Rubbing Lincoln's nose for luck

Tenhouse, Liberty; and Tom Ewing, Pontiac. They also met with Senators James "Jim" Rea, Christopher; Frank Watson, Greenville; William "Bill" O'Daniel, Mt. Vernon; Harry "Babe" Woodyard, Chrisman; Penny Severns, Decatur; Vince Demuzio, Carlinville; Laura Kent Donohue, Quincy; and John Maitland, Jr., Bloomington.

BRIEFLY

News items of interest to members of Illinois electric cooperatives

David Parkhill is Hamilton County Telephone manager



Parkhill

portions of Hamilton, Jefferson, Franklin, Wayne, Saline and Gallatin counties.

David Parkhill has become manager of Hamilton County Telephone Co-op, headquartered in Dahlgren. He replaces Tom L. Beltz, who resigned to become general manager of Bloomingdale Telephone, a commercial stock utility in Bloomingdale, Michigan. Beltz joined the telephone industry in 1961 as an employee of General Telephone of Midwest, in Columbia, Mo. He became manager of Hamilton County Telephone in September 1969. Parkhill was Hamilton County Telephone's marketing sales manager for the past four years. Parkhill, a Dahlgren native, has been with the cooperative since 1975. He held the position of outside communications technician for 11 years. Hamilton County Telephone Co-op serves more than 2,270 mostly rural subscribers in

Colorado co-op files bankruptcy

A year-long financial scramble ended in bankruptcy court this spring for a major power-supply rural electric cooperative in Colorado. Colorado-Ute Electric Association, which serves about 600,000 people through 14 member distribution cooperatives covering about three-fourths of Colorado, got caught in a regulatory rate trap earlier this year when the state Public Utilities Commission ordered it to slash the wholesale rate it charges those member systems. The generation and transmission cooperative had been teetering on the edge of bankruptcy for more than a year, and system officials said the rate order left them no choice but to seek protection from creditors in bankruptcy court. Colorado-Ute traces its problems back to the early 1980s, when it began building power plants in anticipation of an energy boom in the sparsely populated western part of the state. The mid-80s oil glut—and resulting plunge in energy prices—choked off that industry and left Colorado-Ute strapped with debt and without a market for its extra power. Bankers for the bankrupt power-supply co-op worry that the action could hurt efforts by other co-ops when they seek loans for system improvements. The federal Rural Electrification Administration, a government agency that makes low-interest loans to rural utilities, stepped in with Colorado-Ute and ordered a rate increase to protect the agency's loan fund, but that action was challenged in the state.

IVEC donates satellite TV dishes to schools

A wide variety of educational programming will become available to six high schools—thanks to the donation of satellite TV dishes by Illinois Valley Electric Cooperative. The official presentation took place April 20 when administrators from the schools were briefed on the practical uses for the new equipment and programming available to schools. IVEC made the offer to all 23 school districts in its territory, and six high schools—Annawan, DePue, Kewanee, Princeton, Toulon-LaFayette, and Wyanet—expressed interest. "Our only requirement was the school's guarantee to the cooperative that it will be used for 'Distance Learning' and provide expanded educational opportunities," said IVEC manager T.L. "Kris" Christensen. "Distance Learning" opens doors to many academic subjects, according to Ron Davies of TI-IN Network, a programming supplier, who conducted the workshop.

Natural climate swings can't explain global warming

The recent global warming trend cannot be explained away by natural, long-term climate changes, bolstering views that man-made "greenhouse" gases are causing the temperature rise, a British study shows. A team from the University of East Anglia said its computer simulation shows natural climate variations cannot completely account for the 0.9 degree Fahrenheit jump in the world's average temperature over the past century. Although long-term climate swings were found

to be "unexpectedly large," researchers said their study showed such fluctuations probably could not generate more than a 0.54 degree rise or drop in average global temperature over a 100-year period. Many scientists think carbon dioxide and other gases, produced by the burning of fossil fuels and the clearing of forests, are boosting the earth's temperature by acting like a greenhouse and trapping energy in the atmosphere. But others have argued the warming trend recorded since the mid-1800s may stem from natural, long-term variations in the earth's climate, not man-made pollutants.

U.S. population passes quarter-billion mark

With the nation's population growing by one person every 14 seconds, Census Bureau demographers estimated the United States hit the quarter-billion mark of 250 million people. The estimate came just before the nation took part in "the big count," or the April 1, once-a-decade census. Bureau officials said they can make a more accurate estimate of when the population passed the 250 million milestone after the results of the decennial census are known. A population total of 250 million people is 10.4 percent more than the 1980 count of 226,545,805. The nation totaled 200 million on Nov. 20, 1967, officials said.

Electric co-ops endow SIUC electrical engineering scholarship

A new scholarship endowment created by the electric cooperatives of Southern Illinois will benefit local students majoring in electrical engineering at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. Representatives of the SIU Foundation and SIUC's College of Engineering and Technology received a generous donation from the co-ops in March in Carbondale. The gift was made jointly by Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association in Steeleville, Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative in Eldorado, Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative in Dongola, and Southern Illinois Power Co-operative in Marion. "We feel that whatever we can do to further the education of local students in electrical engineering will benefit Southern Illinois as a region," said Kenneth Webb, a member of the board of directors of Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative. The first Southern Illinois Power Co-operative Scholarship will be awarded for the 1990-91 academic year. Entering freshmen as well as current SIUC electrical engineering students are eligible to apply. Applicants must be graduates of a Southern Illinois high school located south of Interstate 64. Preference will be given to those whose families are served by one of the electric cooperatives. Application forms are available through the SIUC College of Engineering and Technology Dean's Office by calling (618)453-4321. Completed forms must be filed by June 1.

Gasoline prices rise

Gasoline prices rose an average of more than 2 cents a gallon in early spring in a dramatic turnaround signalling the opening of the warm weather driving season, according to the Lundberg Survey, an industry analysis. The survey of 13,000 gasoline stations nationwide found the average price of a gallon of gasoline was 113.31 cents on April 6, up 2-1/3 cents from the March 23 price, Trilby Lundberg said. The increase, which followed a period of wintertime price drops, reflected a rise in wholesale prices, Lundberg said. She added that the upward price pressure signals the beginning of the traditionally high-consumption driving season. "It's typical for the season, as refineries begin preparing to crank up their supplies for spring and summer driving season," she said.

Rural electrics need more capital, Congress told

Bob Bergland asked Congress to increase the amount of loans available from the Rural Electrification Administration (REA) to meet the rising capital needs of rural electric cooperatives and reduce a growing loan application backlog. Bergland, executive vice president of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), told the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Rural Development, Agriculture and Related Agencies that hope for improvements in the rural economy is reflected in the number of loan applications from rural electric systems across the nation. NRECA is the Washington, D.C., service organization for the nation's 1,000 consumer-owned rural electric cooperatives. REA is the Agriculture Department agency that lends money to those co-ops. "Rising demand and the need to eliminate the \$600 million backlog of loans at REA make it essential" that more money be available to the co-ops, Bergland said. "In some cases, rural electrics are waiting up to a year for loans, funds that could contribute significantly to reviving local rural economics."

(Continued from page 7)

Department of Energy; Taylor Pensoneau, vice president of the Illinois Coal Association; Joe Craddock, president of IBEW Local 702; and Congressman Glenn Poshard (D-22nd District).

SIPC is a not-for-profit generation and transmission cooperative headquartered at the Lake of Egypt generating station near Marion. It is operated for three electric distribution cooperatives and supplies all of their electric generating

capacity.

The three distribution cooperatives are: Egyptian Electric Cooperative, Steeleville; Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Eldorado; and Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Dongola. The three consumer-owned not-for-profit electric distribution cooperatives provide electric service to approximately 40,000 meters located throughout portions of 19 Southern Illinois counties.

Background on the LNS burner

TransAlta Utilities Corporation saw that concern for the environment would become one of the leading issues of the 1990s. TransAlta became involved in new programs to reduce environmental impacts through energy management and through participation and research into economically practical technology for controlling combustion products that are precursors of acid rain.

Commencing in 1982, TransAlta participated in research with United States utilities and Rockwell International Corporation on a fuel burner that, at a low cost, would prevent the formation of oxides of nitrogen and sulfur from the combustion of coal. Subsequently, TransAlta acquired the patent rights from Rockwell to the low nitrous oxide, sulfur dioxide (LNS) burner.

TransAlta Technologies, Inc., has launched two projects to demonstrate the technical and economical feasibility of the LNS burner. The first demonstration project is under construction at Cold Lake, Alberta, with support from the governments of Alberta and Canada. The second is the project at Southern Illinois Power Co-operative's plant at the Lake of Egypt near Marion.

Testing of the LNS burner technology at bench scale and pilot plant scale has demonstrated its ability to reduce sulfur dioxide emissions by more than 70 percent for sub-bituminous coal and more than 80 percent for bituminous coal. Nitrous oxide emissions have been reduced by 80 percent. The Cold Lake project will demonstrate the commercial application of the LNS burner to produce steam for heavy oil recovery, replacing natural gas which is becoming increasingly costly. Substantial quantities of sub-bituminous coal are readily available in Alberta.

The Illinois project involves retrofitting an existing cyclone boiler that burns relatively high-sulfur bituminous coal from coal fields in Southern Illinois.

The control of sulfur dioxide is accomplished in the LNS burner through the use of calcium, either inherent in the coal or added as limestone, which captures the sulfur and forms a solid compound. With nitrous oxide, the fuel-bound nitrogen is first converted to molecular nitrogen within the burner and new thermal nitrous oxide is prevented from

forming when combustion continues in the boiler. Since flue gas desulfurization, or scrubbing, technology currently available to reduce sulfur dioxide and nitrous oxide from coal-burning power plants is very costly, the LNS Burner provides a very powerful technology to burn coal cleanly, allowing utilities to meet limits proposed in the Clean Air Act under consideration in the U.S. Congress.

Information gained during the two year project at Southern Illinois Power Co-operative will have wide application among midwestern utilities being targeted to reduce emissions under new Clean Air Act proposals. In addition, the burner has the potential to be used in a wide variety of applications such as industrial steam production, retrofitting existing gas or oil utility burners to burn coal and control sulfur dioxide and nitrous oxide, new conventional coal-fired generating units and new combined cycle/high-efficiency power plants. Any industry with steam requirements would be interested in the burner in order to burn coal rather than gas to lower energy costs.

The LNS Burner commercial demonstration at Southern Illinois Power Co-operative is estimated to cost \$13.6 million. The United States Department of Energy has agreed to fund 50 percent of the cost of the project under the Innovative Clean Coal Technology program. The State of Illinois Department of Energy and Natural Resources has committed another 20 percent of the project cost, while TransAlta will be responsible for the remaining 30 percent. Additional support is being provided by the Electric Power Research Institute, Baltimore Gas and Electric Company, Central Illinois Public Service Company and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. Southern Illinois Power Co-operative is providing the host facility, its 33-megawatt Unit 1.

The SIPC Marion Demonstration Project will be the first full-scale conversion of a utility boiler with Rockwell's LNS burner design using high-sulfur bituminous coal. The demonstration will provide both utilities and industry the opportunity to evaluate, at full commercial scale, the system-wide technical and economic advantages of the LNS burner.

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Best of all, your acceptance in the Protection Plus Plan is guaranteed. You cannot be turned down because of your age, your health, or any other reason.

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	Benefits While You're In The Hospital	Benefits While You're Recover- ing At Home
For Any Covered Sickness Or Accident You'll collect these cash benefits whenever you are hospitalized for any reason—even a simple checkup.	\$2,250.00 A Month \$75.00 A Day	\$1,125.00 A Month \$37.50 A Day
For A Heart Attack Your benefits increase each day you're hospitalized for a heart attack (acute myocardial infarction).	\$3,375.00 A Month \$112.50 A Day	\$2,250.00 A Month \$75.00 A Day
For Cancer Your benefits automatically increase every day you are in the hospital for the treatment of cancer.	\$3,375.00 A Month \$112.50 A Day	\$2,250.00 A Month \$75.00 A Day
For Husband-Wife Accidents When you and your insured spouse are hospitalized at the same time due to injuries, you'll each receive DOUBLE hospital benefits in addition to regular home care benefits.	\$9,000.00 A Month \$300.00 A Day	\$2,250.00 A Month \$75.00 A Day

Your hospital cash benefits begin on the very first day you're hospitalized, and continue for as long as you remain hospitalized, even for life. You and your insured spouse can also collect benefits for home confinement following a hospital stay. Home confinement benefits are paid for up to the same number of days you were hospitalized.

That Doesn't Know When To Quit

You Get These Valuable Features

First-Day Protection

Your hospital cash benefits are paid from the FIRST DAY of any covered hospital stay. No deductible.

Lifetime Benefits

Your cash benefits are paid for EVERY DAY of covered hospitalization. No matter how many days you're hospitalized, or how many times.

Pays On Top Of Any Insurance

Including group insurance, major medical coverage, workers' compensation, or prepaid health plans. And your benefits are not subject to state or Federal income tax.

Spend The Money As You Choose

Your checks will come directly to you, unless you tell us otherwise. These cash benefits are yours to use in any way you wish.

Coverage For Your Entire Family

Your insured spouse will receive the very same protection you have. Insured children are not eligible for home confinement benefits, but will receive the same hospital protection as you.

Use The Hospital Of Your Choice

Protection Plus coverage is good at any hospital, anywhere in the world. And, your home confinement benefits are paid even when you're confined in a nursing home, convalescent, extended care or self-care unit of a hospital. Of course, hospital benefits are not paid for confinement in these facilities.

Your Rate And Renewal Safeguard

No matter how many claims you file—or how much money you collect—we guarantee to renew your protection for as long as you wish. Only you can cancel your coverage. And, the only way your rate can ever change is if we raise the rate on all policies like this in your state.

Pays In Addition To Medicare For People Age 65 And Over

To keep your premiums low when you're 65 and over, we pay half benefits for hospital and home confinement. However, after 60 days of hospital cash benefits will automatically return to the full benefit amount you select for every day you remain hospitalized, even for life.

Please Note These Limitations

For confinement due to mental illness, half benefits are paid for up to 30 days. Old health problems (those that became evident or were treated before the effective date of your policy) are not covered for the first year, but are fully covered thereafter.

Return Of Premiums For Accidental Death

Should you die in a covered accident, your beneficiary will receive a total cash refund of all premiums you've paid, up to \$10,000.00. In

addition, you and all insured family members are covered with an automatic \$1,000.00 accidental death benefit.

Money-Back Guarantee

If you are not 100% satisfied with your policy (P500/R333 series), just send it back to us within 30 days of receiving it. You'll receive a complete refund of your premium. No questions asked.

Your First Month's Premium is Only \$1.00!

Then Continue At The Low Rates Shown Below:

OPTION A: Pays \$2,250.00 a month—\$75.00 a day for hospitalization, and \$1,125.00 a month—\$37.50 a day for home confinement

Plan	39 & Under	40 & Over
	(use age of principal insured)	
Individual (you only)	\$25.95	\$28.70
Husband-Wife (you and your spouse)	49.35	54.30
All-Family (you, your spouse and all eligible children)	59.15	64.10
One-Parent (you and all eligible children)	35.75	38.50

OPTION B: Pays \$1,500.00 a month—\$50.00 a day for hospitalization, and \$750.00 a month—\$25.00 a day for home confinement

Plan	39 & Under	40 & Over
	(use age of principal insured)	
Individual (you only)	\$17.95	\$19.95
Husband-Wife (you and your spouse)	34.35	38.05
All-Family (you, your spouse and all eligible children)	41.15	44.85
One-Parent (you and all eligible children)	24.75	26.75

OPTION C: Pays \$900.00 a month—\$30.00 a day for hospitalization, and \$450.00 a month—\$15.00 a day for home confinement

Plan	39 & Under	40 & Over
	(use age of principal insured)	
Individual (you only)	\$11.55	\$12.95
Husband-Wife (you and your spouse)	22.35	25.05
All-Family (you, your spouse and all eligible children)	26.75	29.45
One-Parent (you and all eligible children)	15.95	17.35

NOTE: Your renewal rate does not increase as you move from one age group to another.

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Call Us FREE If You Have Any Questions

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(Please Print)

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FIRST MIDDLE LAST

ADDRESS _____
STREET APT. NO.

CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE NO. _____ SEX (Check one) Male Female

DATE OF BIRTH _____ AGE _____

I enclosed my first month's premium of \$1.00. I understand the policy is not in force until issued and benefits will not be paid for old health problems unless confinement begins one year after issue date.

SIGNED X _____ DATE _____

Form E-500-1 Insured's Signature—Do Not Print 503/502/501-4929A

Choose The Plan You Want (check one)
 Individual Plan 4 Husband-Wife Plan 3 All-Family Plan 1 One-Parent Plan 2

Select Option You Prefer (check one)
 OPTION A Pays \$2,250.00 a month (\$75.00 a day) for hospitalization, \$1,125.00 a month (\$37.50 a day) for home confinement
 OPTION B Pays \$1,500.00 a month (\$50.00 a day) for hospitalization, \$750.00 a month (\$25.00 a day) for home confinement
 OPTION C Pays \$900.00 a month (\$30.00 a day) for hospitalization, \$450.00 a month (\$15.00 a day) for home confinement
 42702-503 42702-502 42702-501

Information About Your Spouse—(complete if you have chosen the Husband-Wife or All-Family Plan)

SPOUSE'S NAME _____
First Middle Initial Last

DATE OF BIRTH _____ SEX _____



Mike Brinkmeyer, second from left, visits with some of the regulars. Clockwise from the restaurant's proprietor are Junior Brown, Paul Ferricks and Dean Jingst. While there is a fair amount of out of town trade, Mike's Place relies heavily on local farmers for its business.

Business energy grant meets their needs

Mike's Place is a nice little family-style restaurant on the north edge of Liberty, a small town in Adams County. Owned and operated by Mike and Colleen Brinkmeyer along with his parents, Bob and Pat Brinkmeyer, Mike's Place receives electricity from Adams Electrical Co-Operative, Camp Point.

Mike notes that running a restaurant is something he has wanted to do for years. "I guess I've always enjoyed cooking," he says, "and from the time I was 15 or so, I'd pretty well decided that I'd like to have a restaurant of my own. I'm glad to be here, and I'm glad to be serving some wonderful people."

He admits that running a business involves an occasional headache, though, especially when it's time to pay the bills.

Thanks to the Rural Small Business Energy Grant Program authorized by the Illinois General Assembly and coordinated through the electric cooperatives, one of the major headaches involved in running Mike's Place will soon be gone.

The program pays up to half the cost of an energy-saving measure, and Mike is installing a new air-to-air heat pump to replace the restaurant's balky old air conditioner and inefficient old furnace.

"The air conditioner is literally older than the building," Mike says, "and I guess the furnace is, too. They're about as inefficient as they can be and still work, and they've been awfully expensive to operate. There's always the fear that they'll go out completely. They were just another worry that wasn't really related to running a good restaurant, but we had to think about them."

"The new unit will be a significant investment on my part, too," he says, "but my heating and cooling costs should go down enough that the savings will go a long way toward paying for the system. I think there'll be a fairly short payback on the investment."

And that, he notes, will enable him to concentrate on serving good food—which is what a restaurant is all about.

"We have a good bunch of customers," Mike says, "and we try to operate the restaurant so they'll know we appreciate them."

Liberty is largely a farming town, and it takes an early riser to get coffee—and breakfast—ready for some of the customers who come into the antique-decorated restaurant.

"There's a story behind the antiques," Colleen laughs, "and it's a simple one. We virtually carried everything over here from our home. We both like them, and our customers often comment on them, too. Most are the kind of things you'd expect to see around a farm home, or farmstead, about 50 or so years ago."

Mike notes that the cafe opens at 6 a.m. and that there are often customers waiting for him to open the doors. Before too long, the place will be abuzz with conversations ranging from world events to local events to crop and livestock prices.

The Brinkmeyers note that it takes good workers—they have four cooks and nine waitresses—and a lot of work to keep a business going. And a lot of hours. "I put in 95 hours a week," Mike says, "and Colleen puts in 31. She cleans houses five days a week, too. And the kids help. Christopher is 18 and Robbie's 10."

Colleen is quick to praise the restaurant's employees. "You can work and manage all you want," she says, "but having good help is what it's all about, in the long run."

The Rural Small Business Energy Program is designed to provide financial assistance to small businesses receiving electric service from an electric cooperative. The money is to be used for weatherization and energy conservation purposes.

Money for this program is made available from the state's Petroleum Violation Fund. The fund came from penalties assessed by the federal government against oil companies for overcharges they made to consumers.

Eligibility requirements include:

- The business has no more than 12 full-time employees.
- The gross income of the business is less than \$1.5 million.
- The business transacts the majority of its business within Illinois.
- The owner(s) of the business resides in Illinois.
- The owner(s) obtains at least 30 percent of their income from the business.

Any applicant that received a grant through the Rural Home Energy Grant Program are not eligible for additional energy improvements from this program. Grants are not available for new construction.

An energy audit of the business is required. This audit will help in determining the most beneficial improvements. All improvements must show an energy cost savings payback of less than 10 years.

The applicant's electric cooperative is required



Mike and Colleen Brinkmeyer operate Mike's Place.

to review and verify all applications before they are submitted to the Illinois Department of Energy and Natural Resources. The cooperative does not, however, approve or reject any applications.

In most cases, the matching grant will not exceed \$5,000. Participants will be required to match the amount of the grant.

Eligible measures:

- Caulking and weatherstripping
- Furnace efficiency modifications
- Replacement furnaces or boilers, which means a replacement furnace or boiler with an annual fuel utilization efficiency (AFUE) of greater than 90 percent
- Furnace replacement burner (oil)
- Intermittent pilot ignition devices
- Replacement water heaters, which means a device for heating water for domestic use that meets the ASHRAE 90 Energy Efficiency Standards, as required by Illinois Public Law 84-276
- Heat pumps, which means a device for heating or cooling with a SEER rating of 8.6
- Insulation for ceiling, walls, floors, ducts, pipes and water heaters
- Storm doors and windows
- Electric motor efficiency modifications
- Alternative fuels systems
- Solar domestic water heaters
- Electric load management systems
- Lighting retrofits.



Your health

Don't let your food poison you

The author is Eileen Nee, a project coordinator for the National Rural Health Network, a subsidiary of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), the Washington, D.C.-based service organization for the nation's 1,000 consumer-owned rural electric utilities.

More than two million Americans contracted food poisoning last year, and many didn't even know it. Nearly 20 percent of all food poisoning cases are disguised as the flu.

The good news is that food poisoning—a fairly common malady—is usually preventable. And learning how to prevent it is well worth your while: Some 9,000 Americans die every year from it.

Here's a guideline: "Always keep hot food hot and cold food cold and all food clean."

That's good advice when you consider that the bacteria that causes food-borne illness grow best at room temperature. Foods left out for hours at picnics or potluck suppers are common culprits of food poisoning.

There are ways to ensure against a night spent doubled-over with the miseries of nausea, vomiting, headache, fatigue, pain and diarrhea.

Do not let cooked foods—including soups—come to room temperature before storing. Never leave hot food untended for more than two hours. If you've prepared a lot of food, such as a casserole or roast or turkey, it would be best to divide it into smaller portions before refrigerating or freezing to make sure all of the food cools quickly enough.

Cook meat and poultry at oven temperatures higher than 325 degrees Fahrenheit. This means

overnight cooking at low temperatures should be avoided, as bacteria can grow until all the meat has reached the oven temperature, which may take a while. For the same reason, reheat meat for at least 10 minutes at a minimum of 140 degrees.

Ensure even heating in a microwave oven by rotating foods and checking internal temperature. Microwave ovens cook food by vibrating water molecules, so moisture on the outside of the food evaporates and leaves the surface cool. That often means there are more microorganisms present on the surface. To avoid this, wrap foods in plastic or cover with glass or ceramic, thaw meat before cooking (if you don't, cold spots often result) and allow food cooked in the microwave to stand covered after you finish cooking to equalize the temperature.

Keep cold foods on ice at parties or picnics. Defrost meats in your refrigerator or microwave instead of leaving them on a counter.

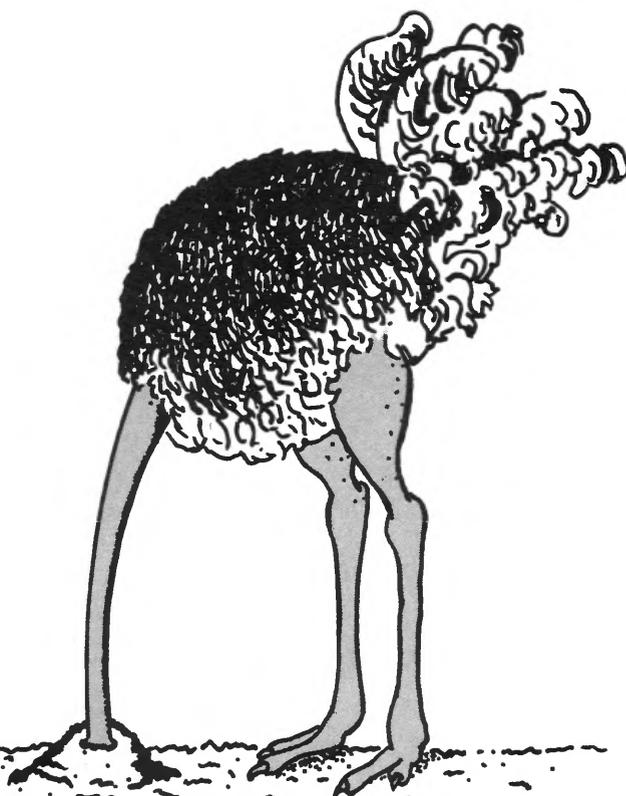
In the case of a power outage, avoid opening the refrigerator door. A large, full freezer will stay at or under 32 degrees for about two days. If it is only half full, it will keep cool for one day, if you stack all foods together.

Most refrigerated foods will last a few hours without power in the unit. Beyond two hours, it may be best to throw out foods that could go bad—even if the foods smell, taste and look fine; the risk probably is not worth it. At all times, make sure your refrigerator is set between 34 and 40 degrees Fahrenheit.

Another common source of infected food is home-canned foods. Discard any cans or jars—home canned or commercial—with bulges or leaks. Botulism, a fairly rare but potentially fatal kind of food poisoning, is often associated with foods contaminated in the canning stage. When canning, follow all instructions to the letter.

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Your electric cooperative has the details. Don't stick your head in the sand. You'll miss out.

the labels on commercial foods and follow given handling instructions and dates. For further information about meat and poultry handling, the Agriculture Department has a Meat and Poultry Hotline: 800-535-4555.

Home treatment for food poisoning should include drinking clear fluids (tea, broth, bouil-

lon, apple juice or sugared carbonated drinks), avoiding dairy and citrus products, resting, avoiding eating until vomiting stops and then gradually beginning to eat easy-to-digest foods. Call a doctor if vomiting continues for 12 hours with no eating or immediately if symptoms are severe. Take infants

and elderly patients to a doctor immediately.

If botulism is suspected, call a doctor. Symptoms of botulism include blurred vision, inability to swallow and progressive breathing difficulty.

If possible, save a portion of the suspected food and take it to the doctor's office with you.

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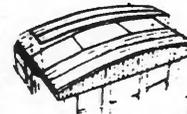
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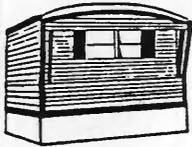
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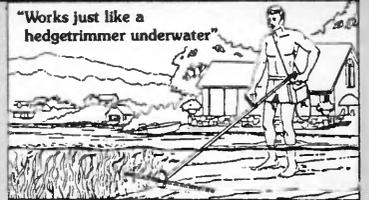
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(Continued on page 24)

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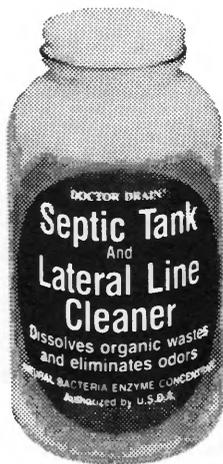
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Summer delights

POPPY SEED CHICKEN

- 4-6 chicken breasts
- 1 can cream of mushroom soup
- 1 can cream of celery soup
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 pkg. sliced almonds

Boil chicken until tender; debone and shred. Add and blend soups, sour cream, almonds. Place in casserole dish. Cook at 325 degrees for 25 minutes.

Topping:

- 1 stick butter
- 1 long pkg. Ritz crackers
- 3 tablespoons poppy seeds

Broil 3 minutes.

SEASONED BURGERS

- 1 lb. ground chuck
- 2 tablespoons chopped green pepper
- 1 tablespoon dried onion flakes
- 1 teaspoon prepared horseradish
- 2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce
- 2 teaspoons prepared mustard
- 1/2 teaspoon chili powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon pepper

Combine all ingredients and mix well. Shape into 4 patties. Place patties on grill over medium coals and grill 4-5 minutes on each side or until desired degree of doneness. Serve on hamburger buns with lettuce and cheese slices.

CORN CASSEROLE

- 1 can whole kernel cream corn, drained
- 2 eggs
- 1 pkg. Jiffy Muffin Mix
- 1 onion, finely chopped
- 2 tablespoons green pepper
- 1 pint sour cream
- 2 cups grated cheddar cheese
- 1 stick butter

Saute onion and pepper in butter. Fold corn into beaten eggs and add muffin mix. Add onions and peppers. Pour into 9x13 dish. Spread with sour cream and cheese. Bake at 375 degrees for 40 minutes.

HAMBURGER SOUP

- 3 tablespoons butter or margarine
- 1 medium onion
- 1 1/2 lb. ground beef
- 1 can (1 lb. 12 oz.) tomatoes
- 3 cans (10 1/2 oz. each) consommé
- 2 cans water
- 4 medium carrots (scraped and sliced round)
- 1 bay leaf
- 4 celery tops
- 6 sprigs parsley or dehydrated parsley flakes
- 1/2 teaspoon thyme
- 10 peppercorns
- 1 tablespoon salt

Melt margarine or butter in your soup kettle (heavy large pan). Toss in coarsely chopped onion. Cook until limp but not brown. Add beef and cook until it loses the raw red look. Pour in tomatoes, consommé and water; add carrots, bay leaf, chopped celery tops and parsley, thyme, peppercorns and salt. Cover and cook over a very low heat for at least 45 minutes. I usually cook a little longer. Delicious served plain or with toast rounds covered with Parmesan style cheese bobbing on top. Good with corn bread!

CARROT CASSEROLE

- 12 medium carrots
- 1/4 cup margarine
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 1 can (10 3/4 oz.) cream of celery soup, undiluted
- 3 tablespoons flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon dry mustard
- Dash pepper
- 2 cups shredded Cheddar Cheese
- 3/4 cup rich round cracker crumbs

Slice carrots in half and quarter lengthwise. Cook carrots in water until tender. Melt margarine in saucepan over low flame. Reserve 3 tablespoons of the melted margarine; saute onion in remaining margarine until tender over medium flame. Combine onion, soup, flour, salt, mustard and pepper. Grease 2-quart baking dish; alternate layers of carrot strips, soup mixture and cheese, ending with cheese. Toss cracker crumbs with reserved margarine. Top casserole with cracker crumbs. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Bake, uncovered, 25 to 30 minutes. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

Caribbean inspired

COCOCALYPSO CAKE

- 1 box (14.5 oz.) deluxe angel food cake mix or 1 pkg. angel food cake
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 3/4 cup coconut rum, divided
- 5 cups mixed fruit (strawberries, orange sections, blueberries, melon balls, sliced peaches)
- Fresh mint for garnish, optional

Prepare cake mix according to package directions. Remove cooled cake from pan; invert onto serving plate. Using a long serrated knife, enlarge the center hole by cutting a circle around top of cake about 1" from the outer edge. Cut about 3/4 of the way down through cake. Working from cut circle to center hole, lift out wedges of cake; and use wedges to plug center hole so that the cake forms a container. Just before serving, beat cream with 1/2 cup of coconut rum until stiff. Fold another 1/2 cup coconut rum into whipped cream mixture. Sprinkle remaining coconut rum over cake. Reserve 1 cup mixed fruit for garnish, if desired. Gently fold remaining fruit into whipped cream. Spoon cream mixture into center of cake. Garnish with reserved fruit and fresh mint, if desired. Serve immediately. Yield: 12 to 14 servings.

SOUR CREAM-WALNUT COFFEE CAKE

- 3/4 cup butter or margarine, softened
- 1 1/2 cup sugar
- 3 eggs
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 1/2 teaspoon soda
- 1 pint sour cream
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 3/4 cup firmly packed light brown sugar
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 1 cup coarsely chopped walnuts

Combine butter and sugar, creaming until light and fluffy. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Stir in vanilla. Combine flour, baking powder, soda and salt; add to creamed mixture alternately with sour cream, mixing well after each addition. Combine brown sugar, cinnamon and walnuts mixing well. Spoon about 1/3 of batter into a greased and floured 10-inch tube pan or bundt pan; sprinkle with 1/3 of nut mixture. Repeat layers twice; bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour or until done. Let stand 5 minutes before removing from pan. Place on serving dish and drizzle with powdered sugar glaze.

Powdered Sugar Glaze:

- 1 1/2 cup powdered sugar
- 2 tablespoons water
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla

Combine all ingredients, mixing well.

MOCK SHRIMP

- 3 fryer chicken breasts
- 1 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon seasoned pepper
- 3 tablespoons corn oil
- 3 tablespoons cornstarch
- 2 eggs whites (unbeaten)
- 1 tablespoon paprika
- 3 tablespoons margarine

Skin, debone and cut chicken into strips 1/2" wide x 4" long. Place chicken strips in medium mixing bowl, with fork stir in salt and pepper; let marinate for 15 minutes. Stir in oil and cornstarch and marinate another 15 minutes. Stir in egg whites and paprika. Let stand 15 more minutes. Quick fry with margarine in skillet for 5-10 minutes or until a fork can be inserted easily and pieces lose translucent look completely. Separate pieces as they fry. Serve hot or cold on lettuce with sauce.

TURTLE CAKE

- 1 (18 1/2 oz.) pkg. Germen Chocolate cake mix
- 1/2 cup margarine, softened
- 1/2 cup water
- 1/2 cup cooking oil
- 1 (14 oz.) can condensed milk, divided
- 1 (16 oz.) bag caramels
- 1 cup chopped pecans

Combine cake mix, margarine, water and oil; mix well. Add half of the condensed milk and blend. Pour half batter into greased 13x9-inch pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 20-25 minutes. Melt and blend together caramels and remaining milk. Spread over baked cake and sprinkle with pecans. Pour remaining cake batter over caramel. Bake at 350 degrees for 25-35 minutes. Let cool and frost. Serves 12-15.

Icing:

- 1/2 cup margarine
- 3 tablespoons cocoa
- 6 tablespoons evaporated milk
- 1 (1 lb.) box confectioners sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

In a small saucepan combine margarine, cocoa and milk; stir until thoroughly blended. Remove from heat and add sugar and vanilla; blend thoroughly.

BOSTON BROWNIES

- 4 squares unsweetened chocolate
- 1 cup butter
- 2 cups sugar
- 1 cup flour
- 4 eggs
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 1 cup nuts
- 1 cup milk chocolate chips

Melt chocolate and butter together. Combine sugar, flour, eggs and vanilla; mix well. Then add chocolate mixture. Stir in nuts and chocolate chips. Pour all ingredients into a 9x13-inch greased pan. Bake at 350 degrees for about 1/2 hour (test corners to see if done). Center stays pretty gooey. Cool 1/2 hour then refrigerate 1 1/2-2 hours. Cut in 16-18 squares.



Lawyer Warns . . .

Did You Make This Mistake In Writing Your Will?

Canton, OH (Special) - You can spend money for a Will only to have a substantial part of your assets needlessly taken by lawyers, courts and executors through the probate process.

Why should you avoid probate? Simple. It costs too much and takes too long. Probate also creates an "invasion of your family's financial privacy!"

Probate alone can slice up to 10% from an estate and take months or years for settlement.

In fact, the only thing worse than a Will for the average wage earner is the nightmare created by no Will at all. Because then the State decides who gets everything you own.

Now there's a far better way to protect your estate than having only a Will. A new study reveals that a Living Trust is a low-cost alternative to probating a will, even for an average sized estate.

Today you can eliminate costly, time-consuming probate and legal fees by using a simple legal paper called a revocable Living Trust. It avoids probate attorney, managerial and court fees because there is no Will to probate. Your family suffers no expense or settlement delays. And since a Living Trust is revocable, you can change your mind at any time about trustees and who gets your assets. Unlike a Will the estate goes at once to whomever you name -- in complete secrecy.

The many advantages of a Living Trust for the average-sized estate has been praised by estate planners and reported in financial publications like The Wall Street Journal, Business Week, Money, to name a few. You simply transfer all your assets into a Living Trust and



Is your Privacy worth a moment of your time? Attorney Marshall Sanson says, "a Will could 'broadcast' the intimate details of your family's finances."

name yourself or anyone you want as trustees.

Lawyers can charge an average of \$60 for writing a Will -- and then can get up to 10% for probate. It's smart to set up a Living Trust.

Working with a team of legal scholars, DSA Financial Publishing Corp. of Canton, Ohio has prepared a Living Trust Kit designed so you can easily set up your own Living Trust. You'll get complete instructions written in easy-to-understand, step-by-step simple language. You'll also get complete guidelines on how to custom tailor your personal Living Trust so that any special wishes you may have for your estate are carried out.

Though DSA's exclusive Living Trust Kit will save you a small fortune -- and save your loved ones thousands of dollars later on -- we have kept the price especially low to enable everyone to benefit from it. Less than the cost of a good dinner out. We are so certain that you will find it invaluable that we insist you examine it on a 90-Day No-Risk Guarantee.

It's easy to get your Living Trust Kit. All you have to do is send a check or money order in the amount of \$19.95 plus \$2 postage and handling or charge to your VISA/Mastercard by including account number and expiration date to: DSA Financial Publishing Corp., 708 - 12th St. N.W., Dept. W643, Canton, Ohio 44703. For even faster service, VISA/Mastercard only, call toll free 1-800-321-0888, Ext. W643.

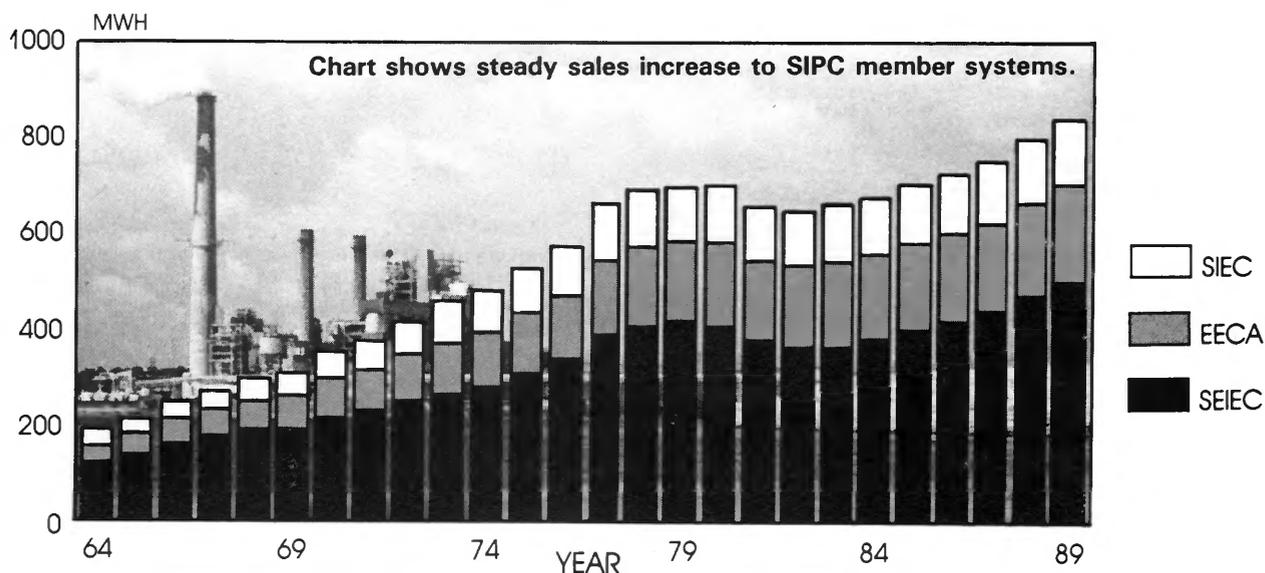
Send for your Living Trust Kit within the next 15 days and you'll also get a FREE membership in Pre-Paid Legal Corporation's JUSTICE-900 program. Your membership gives you instant telephone access to over 6,000 attorneys nationwide!

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Your free JUSTICE-900 membership is yours to keep even if you decide to return your Living Trust Kit. Remember though... You must act at once to be sure of getting this valuable Free Bonus!

Do it now . . . while there is still time to protect your loved ones.



1989 best SIPC year

It was another record year in 1989 for Southern Illinois Power Co-operative (SIPC). During the generation and transmission cooperative's annual meeting March 29 at the Lake of Egypt headquarters near Marion, officials said that 1989 sales to the three member systems increased for the eighth consecutive year.

SIPC is a federation of three Southern Illinois electric distribution cooperatives: Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association, Steeleville; Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Eldorado; and Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Dongola. The three member systems serve about 40,000 meters in a 19-county block of counties lying between the Mississippi and Ohio rivers.

Harold I. Dycus of Carbondale, SIPC board president, said the record sales year included a record month, December, in which the power cooperative recorded its highest kilowatt-hour sales. In addition, he said, the cooperative posted a new record high demand, reaching 207 megawatts on December 21 due to the extremely cold weather.

Dycus also reported on the cooperative's emphasis in rural economic development. "During the past year, we have revitalized our interest in doing more in the areas of industrial development," Dycus added. Included in the SIPC economic development program is a brochure reflecting the advantages of the SIPC service area, Dycus added.

He said the cooperative continues to maintain excellent control of fuel costs, purchase power, interest on debt and materials and supplies purchasing through prudent management. He added that the cooperative paid in advance \$1,817,143 on its Federal Financing Bank debt, providing interest savings that substantially reduced SIPC's total interest expense and made

funds available for other use.

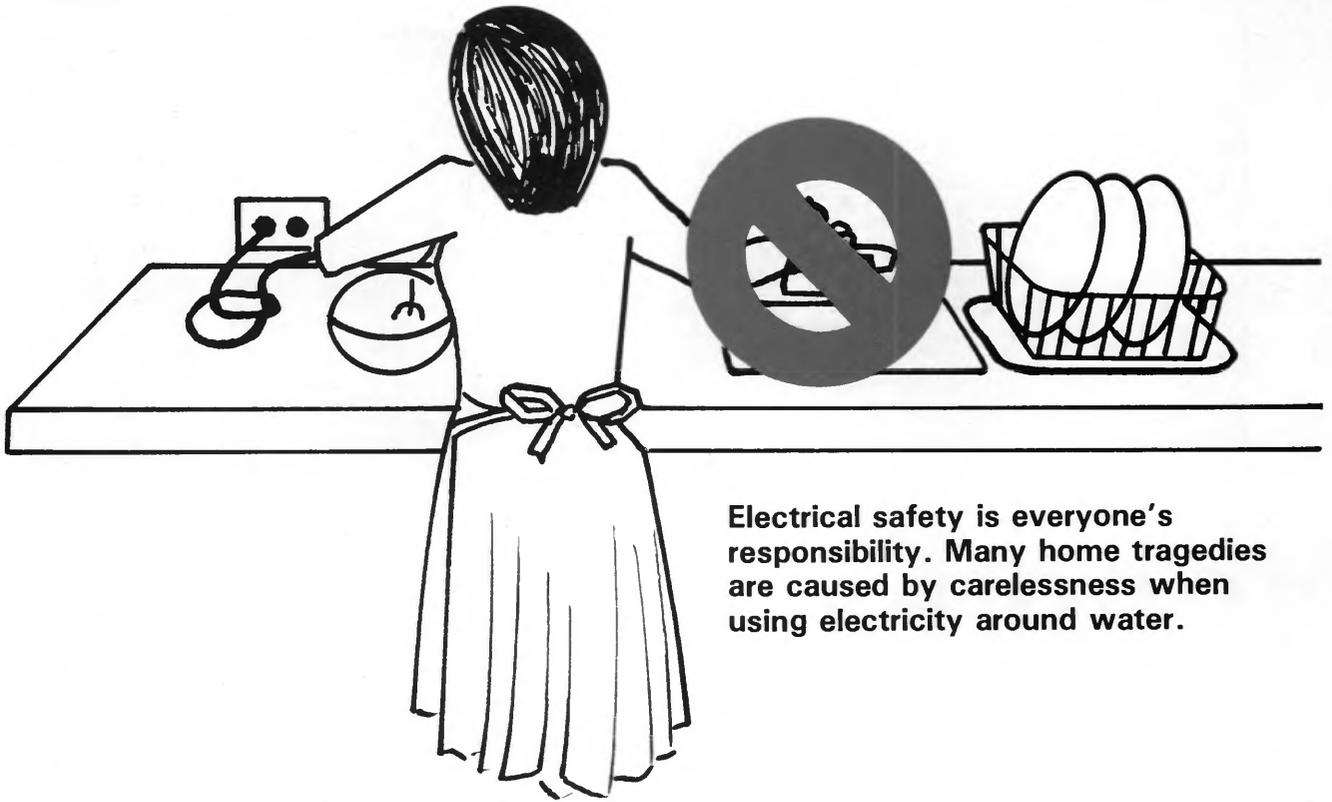
Manager James R. Chapman reported that SIPC made extensive improvements to the production and transmission plant, including major overhauls of Units 1, 3 and 4. He said the cooperative is removing asbestos from its power units. Total cost of removal will be about \$1,500,000, he added.

Chapman said, "We are continuing our progress with TransAlta Resources Investment Corporation concerning the use of our Marion Unit 1 in a demonstration of their LNS burner" designed to control nitrous oxide-sulfur dioxide emissions.

Treasurer Kenneth Webb of Tunnel Hill said the cost of fuel in 1989 was \$17.09 per ton, down from \$17.93 in 1988. "Fuel costs have consistently declined since 1985 due to the soft coal market in Illinois and our continued effort to negotiate coal contracts on a biannual basis. In 1989, we purchased 514,450 tons of fuel from Southern Illinois mines," Webb said. He added that SIPC paid out \$1,962,465 in taxes to local, state and federal governments.

Two men were elected to the SIPC board, replacing others who resigned. James M. "Mick" Cummins, manager of Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Eldorado, took the place of Walter V. Truitt, Jr., who left SEIEC to manage a cooperative in South Carolina. Larry Lovell of Dongola, manager of Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, replaced Tim Reeves, who resigned as SIEC manager to assume a position at Southern Illinois Power Co-operative.

At a reorganizational meeting after the business session, Dycus was reelected president, Lawrence Wilke of Karnak was retained as vice president, and Webb remained as secretary-treasurer.



Electrical safety is everyone's responsibility. Many home tragedies are caused by carelessness when using electricity around water.

Keep home safe

Two toddlers were playing in their bathtub, splashing water at each other and blowing soap bubbles under the guise of getting clean.

Minutes later, they were dead—victims of something that, used properly, is a helpful and important part of daily life.

Those two Missouri children, ages four and two, died when a portable electric heater—placed on the edge of the bathtub to keep them warm—fell in the bath water and electrocuted them.

According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, 340 Americans—many of them children—are electrocuted every year in accidents involving ordinary appliances. Another 7,700 visit hospital emergency rooms for treatment of electric shocks and burns.

Such alarming figures have prompted the safety commission, for the seventh year, to declare May as National Electrical Safety Month. The monthly campaign aims to educate consumers on safe use of electricity.

“The basic message is that many, many of the common problems that lead to fires and injuries can be prevented by keeping a clean house, electric-wise,” a Commission spokesperson says.

The Missouri tragedy was not an isolated incident. Authorities report many cases of electrocu-

tion when portable heaters and other appliances fall into water in bathrooms and kitchens.

But appliances are not to blame for most accidents, experts say. Their users are.

“Don’t blame electricity,” says an energy cons-



servation inspector with the California Energy Office. "I think we've found that it's usually a careless user."

Millions of American consumers probably overuse or misuse electrical products on a regular basis. Most escape unscathed, but hundreds of thousands of other don't.

Consumer Product Safety Commission statistics show the extent of the problem:

- Space heaters were blamed for 3,300 fires in 1982, resulting in 130 deaths, 370 injuries and \$35 million in property losses.

- Hospital emergency rooms treat about 2,200 injuries associated with electric extension cords annually. Half of those injuries are fractures and cuts caused when people tripped over the cords.

Extension cords also are believed to result in about 4,900 home fires every year, killing 85 people and injuring 230 others.

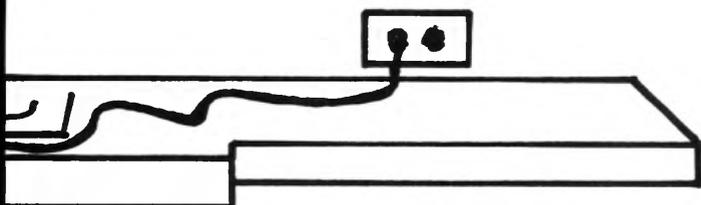
- 65,000 fires occur with electric ranges and ovens each year, causing about 100 fatalities and 3,800 injuries.

Safety Commission authorities estimate that 169,000 electrical house fires each year kill about 1,100 people, injure another 5,600 and destroy more than \$1 billion worth of property.

Those startling statistics have led authorities to urge consumers to inspect their houses for potential electrical hazards and to make sure they use electricity safely.

If you won't make such an inspection for your own benefit, do it for your kids. Youngsters are particularly vulnerable to electrical injuries and death.

"It's very important because electricity poses a very serious hazard for children, especially younger children," says Kathryn Kincaid, spokes-



person for the National Safe Kids Campaign. "They tend to be curious and put everything they see in their mouths."

Kincaid says it takes a little work or money to child-proof a home from the potential dangers of electricity. It's just a matter of spending a few dollars on electric outlet plug covers and making sure cords and appliances are out of a child's reach.

"Just crawl around on your hands and knees

and look at things from your child's perspective," she said. "See what's interesting from their level."

If parents don't do such inspections, she says, they may find themselves taking their children to hospital emergency rooms for treatment of often-serious electrical burns.

"We have parents come in with their child to the emergency room at Children's Hospital and say, 'What could I have done to prevent this?'" Kincaid says. "that's a horrible thing to have to say."

For more information on preventing electricity-related mishaps, write to Electrical Safety, Washington, DC 20207, or Safe Kids, 111 Michigan Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20010-2970.

—Rural Electric News Service

Some electrical safety dos and don'ts

- Do teach children not to play with plugs and outlets.
- Do make sure extension cords are not frayed or stiff. Don't use any that fail to pass inspection.
- Do select the proper wattage when changing a light bulb.
- Do install ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) in wall outlets to guard against electrocution. GFCIs are especially useful in outdoor outlets and in kitchens, bathrooms, basements and garages.
- Do cover unused outlets and extension cords lacking safety closures.
- Do insert plugs fully so that no part of the prong is exposed.
- Don't use portable heaters in bathrooms.
- Don't use portable heaters near open water or leave them in use while unattended or sleeping.
- Don't leave appliances such as hair dryers plugged in after use.
- Don't try to turn a heater into a dryer by placing wet clothing on it.
- Don't bury electrical cords under rugs. Instead, move the appliance closer to the plug to keep it away from foot traffic.
- Don't use extension cords on a permanent basis or when they are still coiled or looped.
- Don't use staples or nails to attach extension cords to other surfaces.
- Don't allow an electrical cord to dangle from a counter or table top where it can be pulled or tripped over.
- Don't use lights that flicker on and off. Even occasional blinking can indicate faulty wiring.
- Don't use an appliance that has shocked you. Have it inspected immediately.

Energy demands conflict with environmental concerns

This is one in a series of articles relating to energy in general. The articles are prepared by the Rural Electric News Service of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the service organization of the nation's rural electric systems.

Americans' energy use has doubled since the energy crunch of the early 1970s, and as a result, the air is dirtier.

That doesn't necessarily mean that Americans should unplug their toaster-ovens and trade their cars for bicycles. But using energy has become an environmental issue, and the two must coexist.

As millions of environmentally concerned and health-conscious baby boomers enter the Decade of the Environment, the United States is well on its way to a stricter code of environmental ethics.

Energy demands and environmental worries: The two clash regularly in the public policy arena, where the conflict plays out among murky signals about what Americans need—and what they want.

The Clean Air Act under discussion this year is a case in point.

Earlier this year, as Congress debated the measure, Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell (D-Maine) equated a vote for the bill with a vote for the health of American children.

"What this bill means for the American family is that they will be able to breathe clean, healthy air, that their children will breathe clean air into their lungs, that they are not as likely to die prematurely," Mitchell declared. "Who among us can calculate the value of a human life? What is the value of your child's health? These are the questions Americans ought to be asking and seeking the answers to."

Outside studies underscore Mitchell's health concerns. Figures published two years ago by the Worldwatch Institute, an environmental watchdog group in Washington, D.C., said gasoline and diesel fuel use alone may be responsible for up to 30,000 U.S. deaths annually, while the American Lung Association places a \$40 billion-a-year price tag on health costs and lost productivity because of air pollution from vehicles, power plants and factories.

But banning automobiles and shutting down factories would devastate the economy. So it's left to Congress to strike a balance between the energy and economic needs of Americans and the impact they will have on the quality of the air.

By the end of this year, Congress and President Bush most likely will agree on a new Clean Air Act, the first time since 1977 the country has made such sweeping changes in one of its fundamental environmental laws.

But even though the Clean Air Act has the mom-and-apple-pie appeal currently associated with anything bearing the environmental label, the bill has been subject to some of the most bitter political fights Capitol Hill has seen in years.

More legislation, and more wrangling, lie ahead. We can expect more laws because protecting the environment is good policy as well as good politics. We can expect more fights because measures aimed at the environment almost always strike

deep in energy territory, a realm not only of smokestacks, tailpipes and cooling towers but also of jobs, cars and electric lights.

The Business Roundtable, a cautious and conservative group that represents some 200 major U.S. corporations, has estimated that new clean air legislation could cost up to \$100 billion a year. Most projections, however, set the cost at about \$40 billion—still a hefty new tab for Americans to pick up.

Bills for electric power would go up anywhere from \$4 billion to \$9 billion a year under those forecasts. Members of rural electric systems nationwide are looking at annual increases of at least \$550 million a year, rural electric leaders say.

Whatever it costs for utilities, manufacturers and others to comply with new clean air legislation will be passed on to the consumers. Such costs mean more dents in a U.S. economy already battered by strong competition from overseas, where environmental concerns often take second place to aggressive business development campaigns.

Policymakers, therefore, are left with a knotty conflict: cleanse and preserve the environment at the expense of jobs and the economy, or protect workers and industry by letting the air get dirtier.

Energy experts and environmentalists have proposed some solutions.

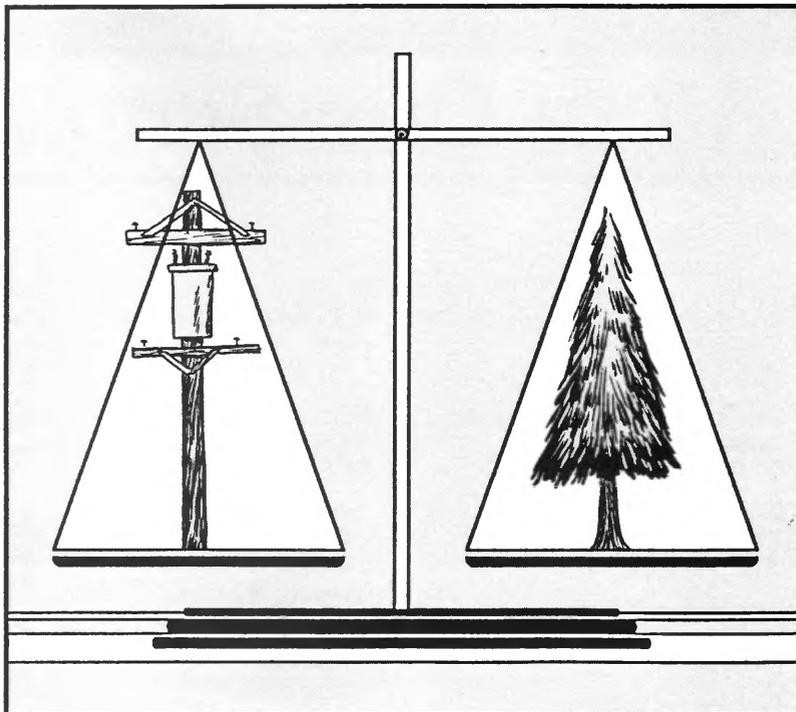
One would tie business interests to environmental concerns. For example, power plants might have "credits" that they could use, trade or sell that would allow them to pour a certain amount of toxics into the air. As it used up its credits, the plant could either buy unused ones from another utility or reduce its emissions.

A report on the idea says it could defuse the explosive question of economy vs. environment simply by making environmental protection good business.

"By augmenting our current policies selectively with economic incentive approaches, we may be able to achieve our environmental goals more effectively and at reason-

able cost," the report concluded. "Lower costs mean less resistance to stronger environmental protection, something which the American people clearly desire."

While business and electric utility representatives have reservations about this emissions



trading plan, most support a second option: greater reliance on energy efficiency.

Better motors, tighter homes, advanced lightbulbs, more use of mass transit—all would help reduce the nation's energy use and thus the pollutants pumped into the air.

Peyton Collie, a research project manager for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the rural electric systems' Washington, D.C., representative, says the jury is still out on how much energy use could be saved by cutting demand through more widespread use of efficient equipment and facilities. But he is convinced that efficiency is the best approach for the short term.

"Let's do the things that are cost-effective now," Collie says. "Don't go around banning things. Institute incentives for efficiency."

"There really are a lot of unknowns. We need to take measures that make economic sense."

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