

illinois
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rural electric news

June, 1975



national news in review

Rate Structure Bill Introduced

Citing skyrocketing utility costs and fuel adjustment clauses, Senator Lowell Weicker of Conn. recently introduced legislation to revamp utility rate structures.

The bill would:

- Encourage electricity use at times other than during "peak periods" when residential customers place a heavy demand on generating facilities.
- Prohibit utility companies from automatically passing on increased energy costs to consumers under the "Fuel Adjustment Clauses" on monthly bills without first holding public hearings to justify the increased charges.
- Forbid utilities to include promotional or advertising costs in their rate base. Excepted would be advertising expenses which promote energy conservation.
- End the practice of charging large users, such as industries, progressively lower per kwh rates.
- Allow states to authorize special rates at less than cost to low income households using small amounts of power.

Electric Rates Rise 63 Percent

"Electric rates paid by industrial and large commercial customers rose an average 63.1 percent from June 1973 through December 1974, a survey of the nation's 24 largest utilities disclosed. National Utility Service, Inc., consultants to business on how to save on utility bills, said its survey found that residential rates in the same 18-month period rose only 37.5 percent. However, utilities continued to charge residential customers considerably more per unit of electricity consumed—measured in kilowatt-hours, or 1,000 watts used for one hour—than charged bigger consumers . . ."—Wall Street Journal.

Survey Shows Nuclear Support

According to a survey conducted by the *Wisconsin REC News*, nearly 62 percent of the rural electric system members responding, support the construction of nuclear power plants to meet future electricity needs. Nearly 1,700 of the 2,727 persons answering the question responded favorably. . . . Responses included 1,076 farm members and 1,707 non-farm members of electric cooperatives. *REC News* Editor Les Nelson said a more comprehensive analysis of the survey would be provided in the near future.— Condenser, Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association.

Statistics Show Rural Move

A high-ranking Department of Agriculture official has predicted rural America will bounce back more rapidly from the effects of the depression than will its urban counterpart.

William W. Erwin, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development, said rural areas historically have fared better during economically hard times and this trend is likely to continue.

Addressing a luncheon meeting of the Coalition for Rural Development, Erwin said Department of Agriculture statistics continue to show more people leaving big cities and moving to rural areas, thus reversing a trend that has been prevalent in the past.

He maintained that many people are moving to rural areas because of the "work ethic" instilled in rural Americans for nearly two centuries.

"Many urban people see a new life in rural America," Erwin said. "They know rural people have a 'rural value system' that enables them to lead a

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Illinois rural electric news

Inflation, High Fuel Costs Equals Increased Rates

Electric cooperatives are doing their best to hold down their charges for electricity.

They're up against heavy odds. General inflation is bad enough (consumer prices shot up at a rate of more than 12 percent last year.)

However, fuel prices are going up a lot faster than many others, and for nearly all electric utilities, it's the price of fuel that is propelling the price of electricity skyward.

Coal in 1974 went up 75 percent—even more to buyers without firm contracts. And in a real sense, most of Illinois' power supply is "coal going through a wire." When a cooperative's fuel bill goes up, electric bills have to go up, or they can't supply the power.

Increasing demand for electricity has required power suppliers to add capacity for generation and transmission. And each new increase cost more than the last.

Southern Illinois Power Co-operative, Marion, reports a planned addition to its plant will cost \$415 per kilowatt of capacity compared with \$160 in 1961 when the plant was built.

Even more dramatic is the increase in the cost of borrowed capital. The loan for SIPC's addition will cost around eight times that for the 1961 construction because both the amount of borrowed capital and the interest rate are so much greater.

Investor-owned systems are confronted with the need to raise four times more capital in the next 10 years as compared with the last 10 years.

Many find it hard to raise enough capital, even at the almost prohibitive high interest rates. This has caused or contributed to power companies' decisions to defer billions of dollars worth of vitally needed construction.

Although it probably won't take any of the sting out of your having to face a growing power bill, you might want to know that inflation has hit electricity less hard than it has hit other goods and services. If electricity had gone up as much in the last 10 years as the consumer price index (the best measure of the cost of living) consumers would be paying twice as much this year as they are actually paying.

No electric cooperative can absorb cost increases such as those resulting from general price and wage inflation, skyrocketing fuel prices and the escalation of charges for construction and capital.

Your directors and management are dedicated to the task of providing the best possible service at the least possible price to every consumer-member. It isn't a cliché, it's a promise they have made. The challenge is to do the job in this very difficult economic period while keeping the system in sound condition to provide the service you want in the months and years ahead.

Electric cooperatives dare not let their facilities run down. They must keep the system geared to the needs of tomorrow as well as those of today.

Cut off the electricity and your life can be drastically affected for several hours.



Cut off your earning power and your life can be drastically affected for years.

Like electricity, good health is something we often take for granted. But just as lightning can suddenly cut off the electrical power, disability can just as quickly cut off your earnings. At a time when medical bills are added to the cost of everyday living, the loss of your income can be especially serious.

Your Disability Income Protection Plan can help see to it that you will have money to live on when you are unable to work because of a covered illness or injury. These are tax free benefits to help replace your paycheck. You use it on your family needs as you see fit.

For more information regarding this Disability Income Protection Plan, just mail in the coupon below. Or contact your local Mutual of Omaha representative.



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The Compulsive Painter

Most children learn to walk and talk from their parents. Jean Harned was no different.

But along with learning the normal things in her formative years, she also picked up the art of painting from her mother.

From that time in her life to the present, painting has been almost as natural to her as breathing. She averages an almost incredible eight hours or more a day of solid painting.

"It's kind of hard really to estimate the total number of hours," she said, "I may get up at 2:30 a.m. to start painting or it could be I'd be going to bed at 2:30 a.m. after finishing one."

This compulsion with painting seems to be a family trait. Her mother, Mrs. Mary Lovins of Bement, was a noted portrait artist and sold her paintings as fast as she could paint them.

Although Jean has painted a wide variety of items her favorite is the still life. She has never had any formal art training, other than that handed down by her mother. And although she has never been to college, she has taught an art class at Decatur Community College.

Jean and her husband, Cliff, have purchased the old Pierson Station Grade School where she plans on continuing her instruction. The Harned family is a member of Illini Electric Cooperative, Champaign, and live on a farm near Pierson Station, a small community east of Decatur.

She has converted the old two



classroom school into an art gallery/studio and Crazy Quilt gift shop. She plans on teaching a beginners and secondary class in the basement of the converted grade school.

Paintings for sale are displayed in the gallery along with a few which have no price tag. Those not for sale are particular favorites of her children and relatives. Jean's mother sold everything she ever painted and, when she died in 1962, her children didn't have a single painting of hers to keep.

The gift shop is managed by Mrs. Harned's daughter, Belinda, who describes all the items in the shop as "one of a kind" because none of them are mass produced. Some of the items are made by Belinda, who does embroidery, decoupage and jewelry making.

Mrs. Harned's artistic talents

seem to have some influence on her other children also as Holly, her 16-year-old daughter, does macrame and Todd, her 14-year-old son, has just started doing leather tooling.

Mrs. Harned doesn't sell all her paintings from Pierson Station. As she puts it, she leads a "gypsy life," traveling about to art shows in Cape Girardeau and St. Louis, Missouri; Chesterton and Indianapolis, Indiana along with Decatur and other shows in Illinois.

She prolifically turns out approximately 75 canvases a year. One reason her paintings may sell so well is that she starts each with a wall in mind. Although subjects vary, one of her favorites is shrimp boats. She also does landscapes and rural America scenes. She isn't a blue sky and autumn leaves girl, which may explain why her paintings take on the subdued colors of the central Illinois farmland.

"The more I paint, the more ideas I get," Mrs. Harned explained. Sometimes she paints objects like an old hay rack or surrey into several different paintings.

Whatever she does, it must be what people want, because she has turned the hobby into a profitable business. "But even if people didn't buy my paintings, I'd still have a compulsive desire to paint," she said with a grin. "I'd still paint as much as I always have."



Chautauqua! It was called the people's college, a chance to be educated and entertained for only a few pennies. A half century ago, it was also a chance to break from the drudgery of housework and farm labor and journey a few miles for a weekend or a week of family fun.

And it might again come to mean the same thing if the recent Chautauqua revival held at the Coles County Fairgrounds in Charleston is any indication.

More than 2,000 people attended the three-day revival, listened to the willowing strains of blue-grass and the blare of Dixieland music, nodded approval at the programs presented on criminal justice in America and in general caught the flavor of life when Chautauquas were young.

It wasn't so long ago.

LEFT: One of the features of the Chautauqua was an old-fashioned ice cream sale. It was enough to bring a smile to almost everyone's face. BELOW, LEFT: One example of the crafts which were demonstrated at the revival was chair caning. BELOW, RIGHT: Like its counterparts of a half century ago, entertainment took place under the Chautauqua tent.

Chautauqua Brings —

ART



When the first Chautauqua tent was raised in Coles County (1904), the Chautauquan Society was then 30 years old. The name Chautauqua comes originally from the Indian, more recently from the name of the town in New York where the first event of this kind was held.

For almost 60 years, up until the early 1930's, the Chautauquas—groups of touring educators, speakers and actors—ranged up and down the country providing entertainment, religion, cultural activities and a look at life outside the county to rural and urban people alike. In fact, the Roaring 20's might easily be called the Chautauquan 20's. In 1924 alone, more than 40 million people in 12,000 towns saw at least one of the then 1,400 traveling shows.

Although many people today who never saw a Chautauqua liken it to a carnival or county fair, it was much more. The atmosphere was different, the reasons behind it were different and even the people were different.

The performers, artists and educators who made up the Chautauqua, were not a seedy lot by any

means. Among the more notable people who traveled the circuit were silver-tongued but unsuccessful presidential candidate William Jennings Bryan and the predecessor of many present-day evangelists, Billy Sunday.

A sample program for a 1924 Chautauqua which visited Coles County included U. S. Senator W. N. Ferris of Michigan, billed as a literary and political radical; the Little American Opera Company and Dr. B. M. Tipple, an authority of European questions and President of the International College, Rome, Italy.

For entertainment over a half-century ago, there was the Chautauqua's own sextet, playing light classical music with xylophone artistry as an added attraction; the Bell Ringers Male Quartet who performed under the promise of "sing true, ring true"; the Imperial Russian Sextet; a children's circus, the Shepherd of the Hills religious company; and Tom Corwine, noted polyphonic imitator and, as the program stated, much, much more.

"Chautauqua was a great thing for rural people especially," Dr. Vaughn Jaenike, dean of the School

of Fine Arts, Eastern Illinois University and the revival's organizer, said. Jaenike is a member of Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative, Inc., Mattoon.

"People would come from great distances and many would make Chautauqua week their vacation," he added. "There were the planned programs each day for adults and children alike and there was plenty of time for just visiting."

The Chautauqua had its heyday in an era different from ours. It was an era where "prosperity was just around the corner," where "two chickens in every pot" was almost a certainty. It was a time when people were interested in many things, not the least of which was escaping to the places where the Chautauqua could take them without their ever leaving home. Surely, the Chautauquas would last forever.

It was not to be, of course. Like the silent movie, the nickel ice cream and a Wall Street bull saying "buy," the bubble burst. First, it was the Great Depression where families needed desperately the few precious pennies attending a Chautauqua

(continued on page 15)

DRAMA, FUN

to Coles County





Tri-County Roadrunner Provides

SPEEDY SANDWICH

The Roadrunner zooms quickly over the hill, picking up speed not to escape another well-laid but seldom successful trap set by Wiley Coyote, but to make it on time to deliver lunch at the General Radiator plant.

No, one of America's best known cartoon characters has not forsaken the open road to enter the arena of private enterprise. But Norman and Marvene Edson have borrowed his name and fame for their fast food delivery service. Business for the Roadrunner Catering Service is booming. Or should that be zooming?

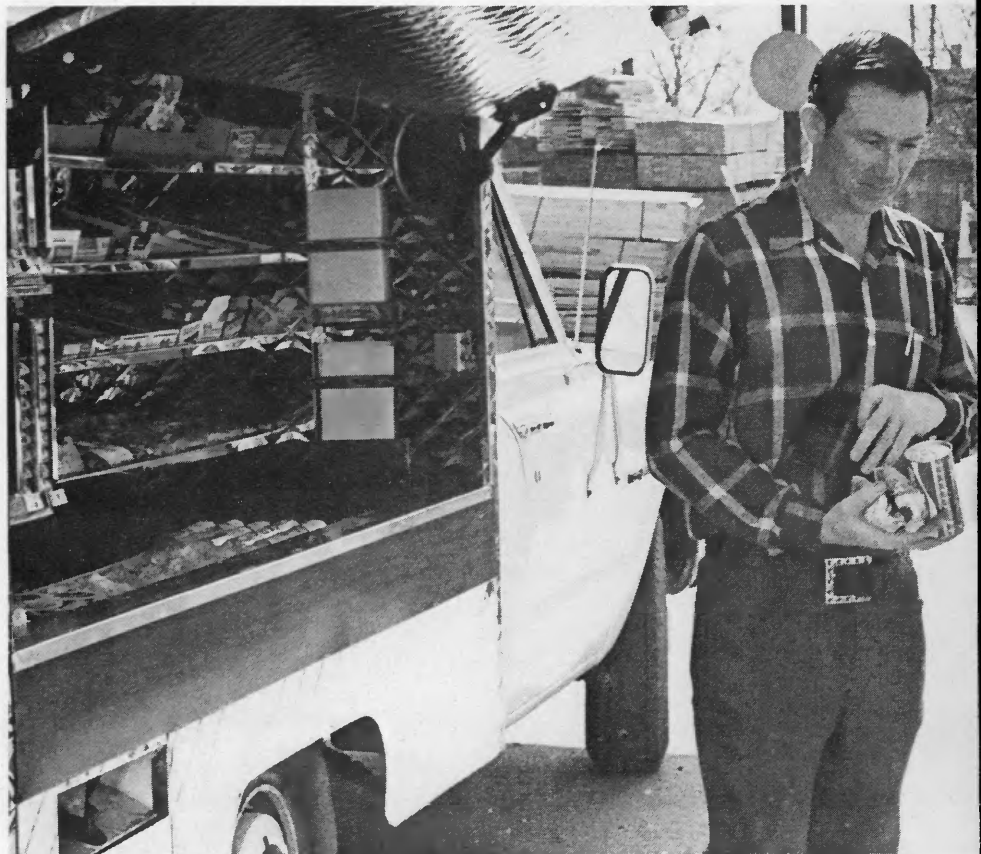
Home for the Edson's service is their combination market and filling station located five miles east of Mt. Vernon. They are members of Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Inc., Mt. Vernon.

The Edsons moved to Illinois from New Mexico eight years ago and opened up the market. They added the catering service nearly four years ago.

"My husband operated a similar fleet of trucks when we lived out west," Mrs. Edson said. "I guess it's fair to say he had wanted another one ever since we got back.

"He bought one truck and a week later he said it wasn't going to be enough," she added. "Two months later he bought a second truck. Now, we have three."

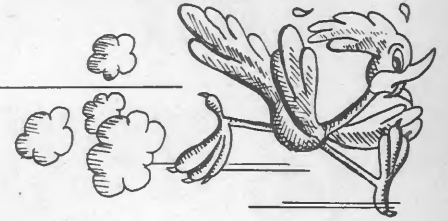
The three trucks deliver sandwiches, sweet rolls, assorted chips, soft drinks, cigarettes, pies, milk and a variety of other foodstuffs to about



ABOVE: Norman Edson's Roadrunner dispenses lunch to a hungry worker along the truck's route. RIGHT: The Edson's daughter, Sandra, helps her mother make and package the 100 dozen sandwiches needed each week. FAR RIGHT: Mrs. Edson keeps in touch with the elusive Roadrunner by a citizen's band radio at their combination market and filling station located five miles east of Mt. Vernon.



SERVICE



30 different stops each day.

"Each truck has a regular route and is on a time schedule so they can make the coffee breaks and lunch hours at different places," Mrs. Edson said. "We run it pretty tight. None of the trucks can tarry long if they want to make their next stop."

To keep in touch with the trucks and to resupply them, the Edsons use a commercial band radio. The call signs for Mrs. Edson and her husband are Panhandler and Chuckwagon, respectively. The designation panhandler, according to Mrs. Edson, comes from the fact she handles a good many of them while preparing sandwiches for the trucks.

"When we started this, it was just Norman and me," Mrs. Edson said. "We used to have to stay up until midnight or later to get the food ready for the next day. I can remember a couple of times when I almost fell asleep leaning up against a wall. With the market and things it was almost too much for us to handle."

Mrs. Edson now has the full-time help of her daughter, Sandra, and part-time help from another daughter, Marvetta, on the weekends. A son, Jeff, drives one of the trucks.

Part of what was too much to handle is the more than 100 dozen sandwiches and sweet rolls Mrs. Edson prepares each week. Only a few of the sandwiches are purchased. Most are made in the kitchen of the market and refrigerated until

they are packed into the trucks.

"We started with one freezer to store the sandwiches. When that filled up, we asked to borrow any space in our neighbors' freezers," Mrs. Edson said. "Finally, we bought a walk-in freezer. You can't even walk into it anymore though, because it's crammed full."

Mrs. Edson and her daughter cook almost every day in order to keep a good supply of sandwiches on hand. The sandwiches are also put together and wrapped in the kitchen.

"Before we covered it up, this used to be where the grease rack was," Mrs. Edson said of her kitchen. "Our customers can rest assured it's a lot cleaner now though."

From the conditions in the kitchen—everything sparkling and each sandwich individually wrapped and sealed—to the three trucks—the sun reflecting off polished chrome—everything is spotless.

"My husband insists on it," Mrs. Edson said. "He'll even bring the truck back in the afternoon and clean it up before he makes the afternoon run. And each night the trucks are cleaned out before they are put away."

The trucks operate as a catering service in Mt. Vernon five days a week, for about six hours each day. On the weekends they are also put to good use. The Edsons will provide food for almost any kind of function. So far, that has included model airplane shows, dog shows, archery

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Tour Springfield

Essay "Winners"



TOP: The finalists paused in the State Capitol before a tour through Lt. Governor Hartigan's office. ABOVE, RIGHT: Mary Carter of Potomac, "Miss Illinois Electric Cooperative of 1974" leads a group down the stairs at the Old State Capitol. ABOVE: State Representative Mary Lou Kent chatted with students during an evening banquet. RIGHT: A tour of Lincoln's Home and the nearby gift shops highlighted the afternoon's tour.



It is the nature of essay contests, beauty contests or almost any other type of contest that there must be winners and there must be losers.

Or is it?

Three years ago, cooperative officials sponsoring the "Youth to Washington" essay contest in Illinois decided that yes, there had to be winners, but no, everyone else did not have to be a loser.

That decision fostered the beginning of the now annual "Youth to Springfield" tour. After only a year of the tour for all essay finalists, the day the contestants visited Springfield was also proclaimed as "Illinois Rural Electric Youth Day" by Governor Dan Walker.

It was "Illinois Rural Electric Youth Day" again recently when more than 150 "winners" and chaperones representing 12 of Illinois' 29 electric cooperatives visited Springfield. There they saw their government in action, met with Congressmen and walked where Lincoln walked in the streets of his city.

Governor Walker in his statement this year said, "These young adults are to be commended for their interest in rural electrification and the role their cooperatives play in meeting the challenges of the energy crisis.

"This effort to interest youths in an important problem that all of us face and provide them with an in depth insight into how their government works is highly commendable and should contribute immeasurably to the development of loyal, responsible citizens," he added.

Sponsoring the capital tour were Adams, Camp Point; Clinton, Breese; Coles-Moultrie, Mattoon; Eastern, Paxton; Egyptian, Steelville; Illinois Rural, Winchester; Menard, Petersburg; Monroe,

Waterloo; Southern, Dongola; Southwestern, Greenville; Wayne-White, Fairfield; and Western, Carthage.

A full day of touring was in store for the group. They first visited the State Capitol building and both the House and Senate chambers. The delegation was recognized on the floor of the Senate and given a round of applause by their legislators.

A reciprocal round of applause was given by the students to Secretary of State Michael J. Howlett, who addressed the group during the noon meal at the Forum XXX.

Howlett congratulated the contestants on their well-written and thoughtful essays and said he hoped they would consider "parlaying your talents by competing in our statewide Bicentennial Essay Contest." He said that his office is accepting entries in the contest on the theme "What is the Spirit of '76?"

If the morning tours belonged to legislators, the afternoon was strictly devoted to Lincoln. The students toured Lincoln's Home, the Old State Capitol Building and Lincoln's Tomb.

In the later afternoon, the tour ended for students from nine cooperatives. But for students representing Adams, Illinois Rural and Western the best part of the tour was only beginning.

Legislators from the 47th, 48th and 49th Districts, the districts covering the three cooperative's service areas, dined with the students at the Forum XXX in the evening.

And finally, it was over. Fifty of the finalists have been selected or will be selected to journey to Washington, D. C. on June 7-14. The rest went home—but not as losers.

HOT WEATHER ENERGY SAVERS

Orville Goodbody is an energy saver on hot muggy days. He sets in the shade of an old catalpa tree sipping a cool lemonade, while fanning himself causing the cold air emitted by an ice bag on his head to cool his fevered brow.

Granted his methods work, but all of us don't need to be as fanatic as Orville to save energy during the summer cooling season which lies ahead.

Some common sense methods can save us the same kilowatts that were saved during the past winter heating season.

First of all take a look at your cooling system. Is it the proper size for your cooling needs? Whether it be a window unit or a central system, "bigger" does not always mean "better."

You should have the smallest capacity unit that will do the job. More cooling power than necessary is inefficient and expensive. Energy-efficiency ratios (EER's) for most air conditioning units should be available from deal-

ers and some window units are labeled to show its EER (the higher the EER the more efficient the air conditioner.)

Filters on the air conditioner should be replaced at least once a month during the cooling season. A dirty filter slows down the air flow and causes the fan to work harder thus using more electricity. Also have your unit serviced regularly. An out-of-adjustment unit operates inefficiently.

Proper insulation in the home also saves on the energy consumption. Good insulation in the ceiling, walls and floors keep cool air in and hot air out.

Keep those glass storm windows closed to slow the transfer of cold through the windows. Also close drapes, shades or blinds on the sunny side of the house.

Filling any cracks around doors and windows will also help contain the valuable cool air and save energy.

Installation of an attic vent fan (one with the thermostatic control is best) will keep the heat from radiating downward into the cooled house. If you need a new roof, you might consider a light color, which

will reflect sunlight and prevent attic heat buildup.

A window air conditioner should be located near the center of the area to be cooled, preferably on the shady side of the house. Avoid placing the window units in corners and hallways and keep large pieces of furniture from in front of the unit to ensure proper air circulation.

Avoid placing the outside of the unit near shrubbery or a clothes dryer vent. Lint, leaves, grass and other debris can clog the air conditioner and overheat the compressor.

In the house, turn off lights, radios, television sets and other heat-producing appliances when not in use. Also, prepare meals in self-heating, counter-top appliances to avoid kitchen heat buildup.

If you can, confine your living spaces to fewer rooms, close off those that will be unoccupied. If rooms are to be unoccupied for several hours turn up the thermostat about six degrees. When leaving for a weekend or vacation turn off the air conditioner.

You might want to just run the air conditioner on really hot days and set the fan speed at high. Or in very humid weather, you can set the fan speed at low and provide less cooling, but more moisture removal.

One of the most important energy saving steps that can be taken is to keep the thermostat no lower than 78 degrees, to avoid costly overcooling. This 78 degree temperature is judged to be reasonably comfortable and energy efficient. One authority estimates if this setting raises the temperature six degrees that home cooling costs should drop about 47 percent. If everyone raised cooling thermostats six degrees, the nation would save the equivalent of 36 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity or two percent of the nation's total electricity consumption for a year.

The use of these tips can save you money in the form of unused energy and still result in your spending a comfortable summer.

Leave the fanning and ice bags to Orville.



**Because
it matters to us
and to you . . .
we make
job and community development
a key part
of our
total energy
program**

We know firsthand how the nation's growing economic problems affect people in every state. We know because we're locally owned by the people we serve—America's producers and consumers. We're involved because we're an integral part of literally thousands of communities across the countryside.

More than a decade ago, to meet needs created by changing agricultural patterns, we launched a nationwide drive to bring more jobs and better community facilities to rural areas.

It worked. In just 15 years we've helped start some 2000 projects, resulting in nearly half a million new jobs. And, we're keeping the program in high gear—yes, because times are hard . . . but mainly because what happens in rural America—and what we do about it—matter to all America.

We are proud to be an influential force . . . proud to speak out for the American consumer on energy and economic issues. It's a natural role for us. We're consumer owned, small enough to stay in touch with people, and concerned enough to lead.

Ours is a big job . . . but then, we work for a big country.



**America's
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Legislative Rally: inroads into congress



Representative Paul Findley of Pittsfield talks to legislative rally participants from Illinois on the steps of the Capitol.

Feedback.

It's what legislators need in order to understand fully the positions of their constituents. Without it, they have little opportunity to judge the "back-home" feeling on bills, and often vote accordingly.

But with close interaction, a great deal of legislation that directly affects their constituents is passed for the greater good or rejected as adversely affecting well-being and growth.

Feedback is what more than 40 Illinois electric cooperative officials and more than 700 national delegates brought to their respective senators and representatives during a three-day legislative rally held recently in Washington, D. C.

Never has the feedback been more important. During visits to their legislators cooperative officials discussed issues vital both to the cooperatives themselves and in turn to their members. Three important topics were coal usage restrictions, nuclear construction and financing.

As more and more consumer-members are asking "why is my electric bill rising?", so are cooperative officials asking what can be done to stop the rising costs of power.

Why, for instance, cannot Illinois coal be used to fire the much needed generation plants and thus apply a

partial braking to the rising cost of power? Why does it seem environmental fringe groups are able to advance legislation that acts as a detriment to the energy business even at a time when forecasts predict an upsurge both in price and in electric needs?

Why are nuclear "terror-tactics" being applied even in the face of studies and practical applications to the contrary? And why, at a time when the greatest demands ever on cooperatives are being made, is there the least security in the financial market for the cooperatives?

Coal surely must become the nation's basic tool for achieving self-reliance over the next few years. It will be at least that long before reasonable alternatives—nuclear power, energy conservation and perhaps some of the more exotic fuel projects—can make a significant impact.

Illinois is fortunate in that it has a great supply of coal which could be used for generation. Because of its high sulfur content, it may never be used under existing laws.

The conflict between the values of energy and the environment has been too long portrayed as an either/or situation by environmentalists. Cooperative officials believe and have told their legislators

that reasonable approaches exist to ensure both clean air and adequate energy supplies.

One reasonable approach which cooperative leaders support is H.R. 1447, which would amend the Clean Air Act to eliminate ambiguous interpretations of certain clauses of the act, would allow the use of alternatives to uniform emission controls as a means of achieving air quality standards in state implementation plans and would permit an owner to petition for and obtain a less stringent emission limitation if he can demonstrate that air quality standards would not be exceeded and the cost of complying with a more stringent limitation would not be justified. In the latter case, an example would be the difference between requirements for a city such as Chicago and requirements for a non-metropolitan area where the generation plant was one of the few industries and would not produce exceedingly high air quality emissions.

Cooperative officials also asked for consideration of legislation concerning nuclear power. Of particular concern is an over reaction to charges by a small group of scientists that nuclear power is both unsafe and unsavory.

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ART, DRAMA, FUN

to Coles County

(continued from page 7)

would cost them. Even when the Depression lifted, there was a different pace to life, better roads to take people further, better cars to take them there faster.

The tents folded, the Chautauquas disbanded.

Jaenike's idea, which was supported by a grant from the Illinois Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Humanities, was to bring back some of the Chautauqua's atmosphere in modern day trappings and to make it as realistic as possible.

The Coles County Chautauqua of 1975 did to a great extent do just that. In addition to an arts and crafts demonstration and sale, the Chautauqua revival included entertainment, group and panel discussions on the event's theme "Equal Justice Under the Law" and displays.

Gone was the great orator of his day, Jennings Bryan, but to replace him in part was Albert Jenner, former Republican Special Counsel to the House Judiciary Committee which held impeachment hearings on former President Nixon.

Jenner is a man who was close to the resignation of a President, an event even he termed would be the "third most significant event in the history of the country," behind the American Revolution and the drafting of the U.S. Constitution and the first 10 Amendments.

A swift pace and a blend of events which could only be called vintage Chautauqua marked the revival. Under the tent, speakers on "Victimless Crime," "Jail and Its Alternatives in Coles County," and "Proposals for Criminal Justice Reform In Illinois," voiced their opinions. They shared the limelight with dramas such as "Prisoner of Black" and "The Night of January 16th" which were performed for the pleasure and information of the crowds.

And if it was not people talking, it was people singing or selling. Music reverberated daily against the can-

vas walls, while in another tent chair caning, spinning, pottery making and carving were demonstrated.

An early Sunday rain did little to dampen the spirit of the Chautauqua, though it did force the cancellation of an antique automobile

display and the high winds kept a planned balloon ascension on the ground.

But if anything, the rain promoted a little fellowship. It perhaps even made it a little more like the Chautauquas of a half century ago.

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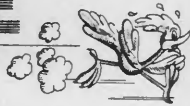
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(continued from page 9)
contests and church activities.

While Mrs. Edson returns to her cooking and Sandra to her packaging, out on the highway a roadrunner—emblazoned truck, Chuckwagon by name, pulls into a factory parking lot. Edson gets out of the truck, opens up the back and sides and waits for his customers. It doesn't take long.

"We have done a pretty good business," Edson said as he made change for one factory worker. "We try to provide a good variety of homemade sandwiches and to be here when the workers have their breaks and want them."

According to Edson, a lot of people don't want to go very far to get something to eat if they only have an hour or less and those are the people who buy almost exclusively from the roadrunner trucks.

"At the moment things are a little slack so we are only running two trucks," Edson said. "I guess because of economics, a lot of people

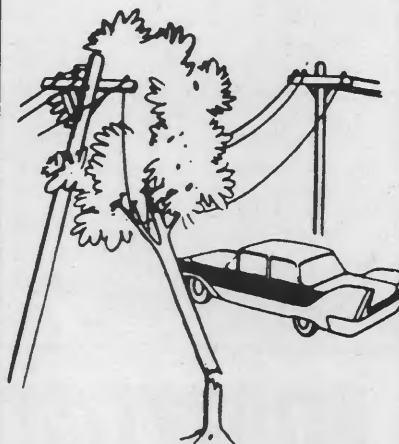
are bringing their lunches to work. But, since we started this, business has been up and down and always gone up overall.

"We're glad we started the catering service and we're glad it has taken hold in Mt. Vernon," Edson added.

The customers thin out a bit. Edson, with a quick glance at his watch, closes the doors, hops back in the cab and starts for the next stop on his route. The Roadrunner pulls quickly out of the parking lot, picking up speed.

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Legislative Rally:

(continued from page 14)

Studies conducted by several different authorities provide almost conclusive evidence that nuclear power is safe and clean. The basic facts are: (1) not one single person has ever been killed or injured by a nuclear accident at a nuclear power plant and (2) the nuclear material in a power reactor is physically incapable of exploding. It is not the same material as that used in nuclear explosive devices.

A small segment of the scientific community has persisted in circulating wholly false rumors about a "melt-down" nuclear accident, even though recent studies show the chances of this causing 100 deaths is one in each 10,000 years with 100 large power reactors on line. The chances are 5,000 times greater of a plane crash, according to a recent report on nuclear power plant safety.

Cooperative officials also recom-

mended to their congressmen:

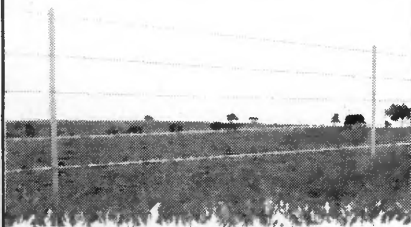
—an insured loan program for rural electrification of not less than \$750 million and not more than \$900 million.

—a continuation of the present arrangement of not setting a limit on the guaranteed loan program, with the Administrator of the Rural Electrification Administration giving advance notice of intent to guarantee.

—No change in the present ratio between REA insured loans and supplemental loans.

These issues were but a few of the many vital ones brought before Illinois legislators during the rally. They were all issues which will directly affect the cost of power to cooperative members. Hopefully, this necessary feedback will serve to bring forth further study and actions by elected officials.

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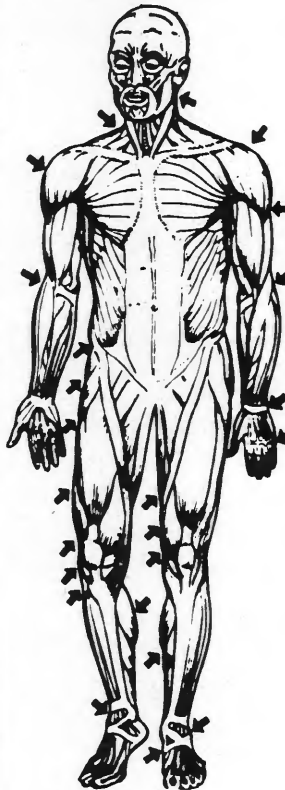
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Some call it barbaric.

Others say it's the oldest and most noble of sports.

But to Ronnie Rogers, 17, of Virginia, boxing is just something he enjoys doing. Maybe it's because he does it so well.

Ronnie became interested in boxing about four years ago when his cousin asked him to do some sparring. From there it was on to the Beardstown Boxing Club and Silver Glove novice competition.

"When I first started boxing, everyone in school wanted to pick a fight with me," Ronnie said. "I guess they wanted to find out how tough I was. But I don't like to fight, I just like to box."

According to Ronnie, there's a big difference. Boxing takes more skill and stamina than the brute strength associated with a common street fighter. However, one good punch still decides any fight.

Getting into a ring for the first time isn't as simple as lifting a rope and ducking. Some boxers say your psychological readiness is almost as important as your boxing skill.

"I was really nervous the first time I boxed in Silver Gloves competition," Ronnie recalled. "The first time I knocked a guy down I rushed over to help him up. You've got to be aggressive but still remain cool."

Ronnie's father, Edward Rogers, a lineman with Menard Electric Cooperative, Petersburg, said at first it was difficult to find support around Virginia for a boxing club.

"We converted an old garage in town so Ronnie could train," his father said. "Fortunately in boxing, you really don't need all that much equipment."

Things have changed in the four short years since Ronnie made his unheralded debut. He now trains in the Virginia Boy Scout Hall under the watchful eye of three coaches.

Boxing used to be strictly a urban sport. During the early 1930's, clubs sprang up in most of the large U. S. cities. Even today, Illinois' stronger teams are from the Chicago and East St. Louis metropolitan areas. But thanks to Ronnie, his dad, and some other boxing enthusiasts, that's all

changing.

"My dad has started clubs in Jacksonville and Winchester," Ronnie said. "I now have about four or five guys working out with me all the time in Virginia and during the summer there is as many as 10."

Ronnie works out at least an hour a day. However, for the last three years, high school sports have at least partially interfered with his boxing. He still has a highly respectable 8-2 Golden Gloves boxing record. In his spare time, he has managed to letter in three high school sports. Earlier this year he won second in the State Golden Gloves Tournament.

"The guy who beat me was really pretty good," Ronnie admitted. "He has won the state tournament for the past few years and has done real well in the national."

"I also didn't train very much. I had to eat strawberries and cream to make the 165 pound class. From now on, I'll be fighting in the 156 pound class."

Every boxing match is really a lesson for Ronnie. His favorite punch used to be his right hand. But now he says he likes whatever is working the best against the person he is boxing.

His boxing idol is Muhammad Ali. "He's the best. But I just like his hands—not his mouth."

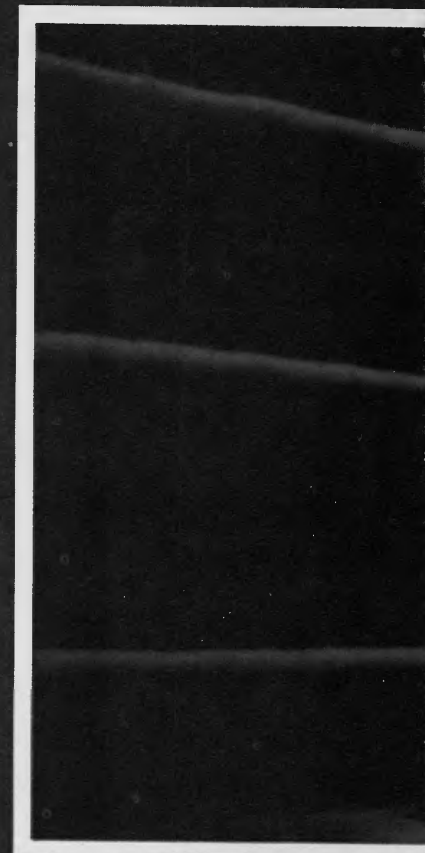
This summer, Ronnie plans to devote most of his spare time to boxing. He has enrolled in Lincoln Land Community College nearby in Springfield so he can still train a few hours a day while attending college.

"I'd really like to make it to the national next year and go to Miami. The year after that, it will be held in Hawaii and that really would be great," he said.

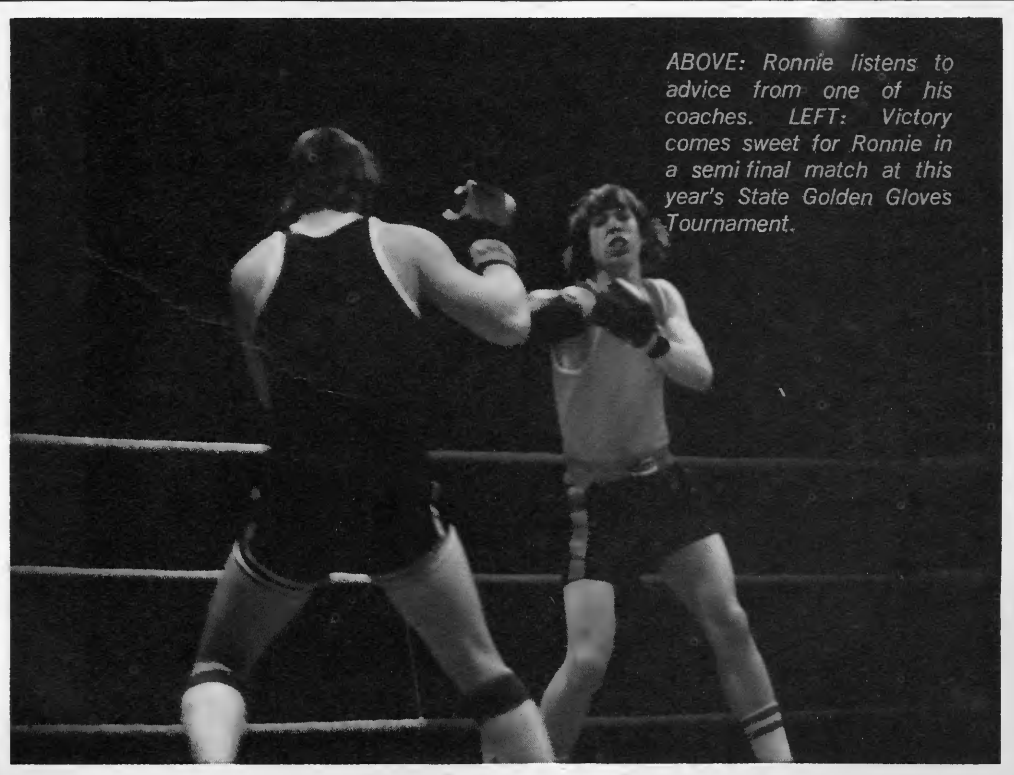
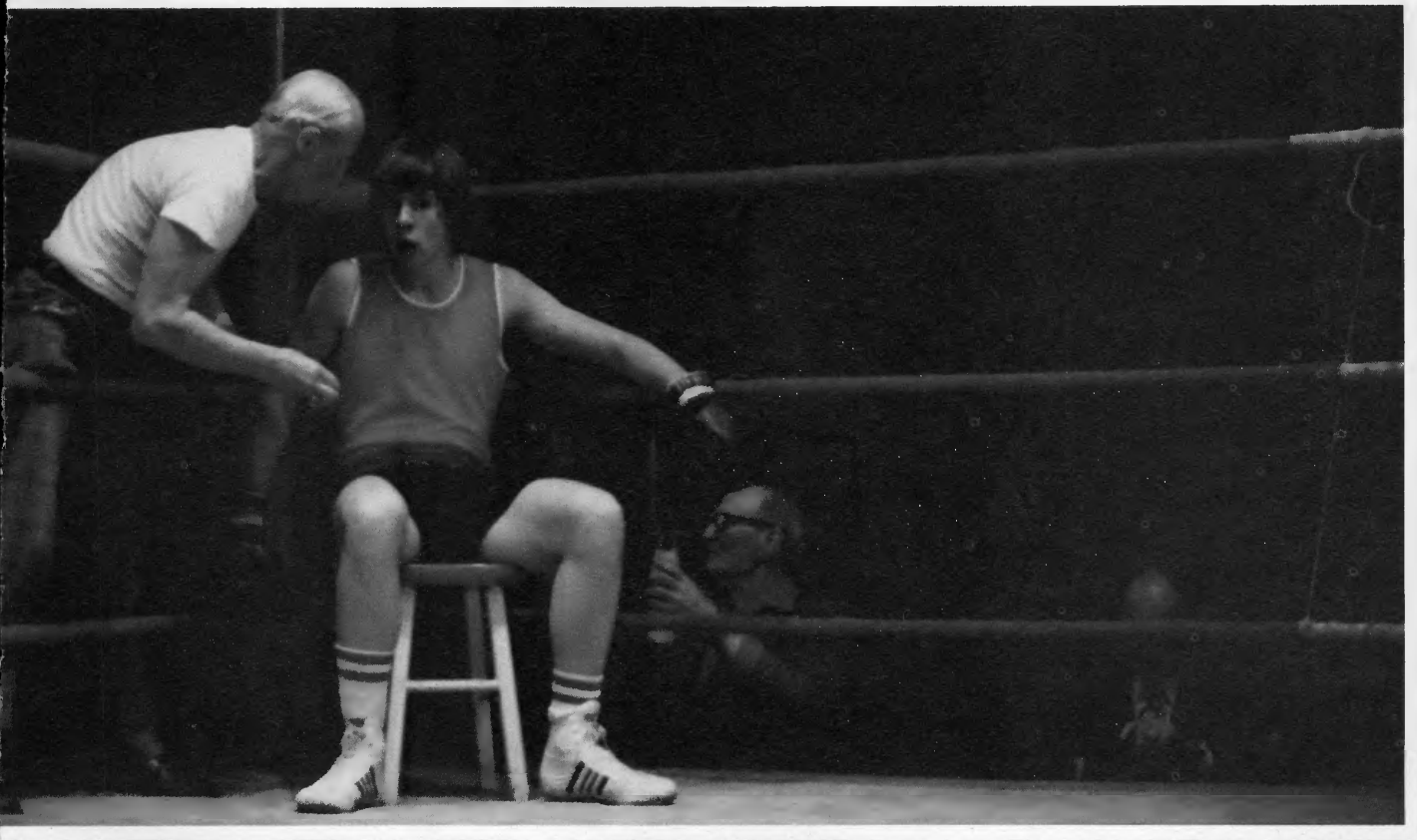
Ronnie explained that you can box in Golden Gloves until you're 26 and there is no age limit on amateur boxing. Although he loves to box, he plans to hang his gloves up in the next few years and become a high school coach.

But more than likely, he probably someday will step back into the ring. And this time as the teacher, not the student.

Quick Hands, Fast Feet Are:



winning combination



ABOVE: Ronnie listens to advice from one of his coaches. LEFT: Victory comes sweet for Ronnie in a semi final match at this year's State Golden Gloves Tournament.



For June—Dairy Month a

PATIO BUFFET

CHUTNEY GRILLED LAMB CHOPS

- 1 cup prepared chutney, finely chopped
- 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter
- 2 teaspoons lemon juice
- 3/4 teaspoon curry powder
- 1/4 teaspoon ginger
- 8 lamb shoulder chops

In a small saucepan combine chutney, butter, lemon juice, curry powder and ginger. Cook over low heat, stirring occasionally, about 10 minutes. Adjust grill 4-5 inches from prepared coals. Grill chops about 10 minutes, brushing occasionally with sauce. Turn; grill an additional 10 minutes or until desired degree of doneness, brushing occasionally with sauce. Serve chops with remaining sauce.

GRILLED TOMATOES

- 4 large tomatoes
 - 1/4 cup (1/2 stick) butter
 - 3 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese
 - 2 tablespoons chopped parsley
- Cut tomatoes in half horizontally; place cut side up on double thick square of aluminum foil. Divide butter evenly over top, then sprinkle with Parmesan cheese and parsley. Seal securely. Place 4-5 inches over prepared coals for 10-15 minutes or until heated through.

FRUIT SALAD WITH POPPY SEED DRESSING

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Leaf lettuce | Poppy Seed Dressing: |
| Fresh pineapple | 3 tablespoons honey |
| Strawberries | 1 tablespoon lemon juice |
| Bananas | 1 tablespoon poppy seed |
| Blueberries | 3/4 cup dairy sour cream |

Just before serving line serving plate with lettuce; arrange pineapple, strawberries, bananas and blueberries on lettuce. Serve with Poppy Seed Dressing. To prepare dressing: Fold honey, lemon juice and poppy seed into sour cream. Chill several hours. Yield: 1 cup dressing.

ORANGE-BUTTER SAUCE

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 tablespoon grated orange rind | 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter |
| 1/2 cup orange juice | 2 eggs, slightly beaten |
| 1/2 cup sugar | 1/4 teaspoon almond extract |

In saucepan combine orange rind and juice, sugar and butter; cook over low heat until butter is melted and sugar dissolved. Remove from heat. Stirring vigorously, blend eggs into orange mixture. Cook over low heat, stirring constantly, until slightly thickened. (Do not boil.) Stir in extract. Yield: 1 1/2 cups.

DATE-WALNUT SAUCE

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 cup coarsely chopped dates | 1/2 cup coarsely chopped walnuts |
| 1/2 cup sugar | 1/4 teaspoon rum extract |
| 1/2 cup water | |

In saucepan combine dates, sugar and water; simmer 10 minutes. Cool. Stir in walnuts and rum extract. Serve at room temperature over vanilla ice cream. Yield: 1 cup.

JIFFY BUTTERS-COTCH SAUCE

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 cup firmly packed light brown sugar | 1/2 cup evaporated milk |
| 1/2 cup light corn syrup | 1/2 teaspoon vanilla |

In saucepan combine sugar and corn syrup; bring to full boil. Allow to cool 15 minutes; stir in evaporated milk and vanilla. Serve over vanilla ice cream. Yield 1 1/2 cups.

POTATOES ROMANOFF

- | | |
|---|--|
| 6 cups cubed boiled potatoes | 1 teaspoon salt |
| 2 cups large curd creamy-style cottage cheese | 2 tablespoons chopped chives-or-green onions with tops |
| 1 cup dairy sour cream (8-oz. size) | Grated Cheddar cheese |
| 1 clove garlic, minced | Paprika |

Combine potatoes with cottage cheese, sour cream, garlic, salt, and chives (or green onions). Place in buttered casserole. Top with grated cheddar cheese; sprinkle with paprika. Bake in 350 degree oven for 25 to 30 minutes. Serves 8 to 10.

SPRING SALAD SUPREME

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1/4 cup chopped green onions | 1/4 teaspoon salt |
| 1/4 cup chopped green pepper | Dash of pepper |
| 2 cups diced ham | 1 cup sour cream |
| 2 tablespoons butter | 1 1/2 cups American Cheese, diced |
| 3 or 4 medium potatoes, cooked, diced (3 cups) | |

Cook onions, green pepper and meat in butter, stirring occasionally, until meat is lightly browned. Add potatoes, salt, pepper and sour cream. Heat. Mixing lightly. Stir in cheese; heat until cheese begins to melt. Garnish with parsley, if desired. Makes four servings.

BEEF STROGANOFF

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 2 lb. lean meat (cut in pieces) | 1 stalk celery and leaves |
| 1 onion | 1 can cond. mushroom soup |
| 2 tablespoons flour and 1/3 cup water for paste | 1 (3-oz.) pkg. cream cheese |
| | Salt and pepper |

Simmer meat, onion, celery, salt and pepper in about 2 qts. of water until meat is tender, letting water boil down to about 2 cups. Use 2 cups of the beef broth stirring in flour paste to thicken. Gently stir in mushroom soup. Pour this over meat that has been lined in a 9x12x2 baking dish. Dot with cream cheese. Bake at 375 degrees for 10 to 15 minutes or until it begins to bubble good. Do over overheat. This is good over baked potatoes.

QUICK LASAGNE CASSEROLE

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 lb. lean ground beef | 1 8-oz. package lasagne noodles |
| 10 whole green onions (chopped fine) | 1 cup cottage cheese, |
| 2 8-oz. cans tomato sauce | small curd (creamed) |
| 1 1/2 teaspoons salt | 1 cup sour cream |
| 1/4 teaspoon black pepper | 1 cup grated sharp cheese |
| 1/4 teaspoon oregano | 3 tablespoons butter |
| 1/2 teaspoon garlic (powder or dried) | 1 cup evaporated milk |

Cook noodles 8 minutes and drain. Combine noodles, cottage cheese, sour cream and milk. Turn the noodles so they are coated on both sides. Brown beef, drain off fat. Sauté onions in butter, to browned beef and onions add: tomato sauce, salt, black pepper, oregano and garlic. Simmer for 10 minutes. In a 2-quart casserole dish or a 11 1/4" x 7 1/2" baking dish, alternate layers of the noodles mixture and the meat sauce, starting with noodles and ending with meat sauce. Top with grated cheese and bake at 350 degrees for 25 to 30 minutes.

CORN CASSEROLE

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1 can creamed corn or 1 pkg. frozen corn | 1 teaspoon salt |
| 1 cup cracker crumbs | 1/2 teaspoon black pepper |
| 1 egg | 2 tablespoons bell pepper |
| 1/2 cup milk | 1 tablespoon red bell pepper |
| 2 tablespoons butter | or pimento |
| 2 tablespoons sugar | 2 tablespoons onion |

Mix together, pour into casserole. Bake at 350 degrees 35-40 minutes.

RIZ BISCUITS

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 5 cups all-purpose flour | 3/4 cup vegetable shortening |
| 2 teaspoons baking powder | 1 cake compressed yeast |
| 1 1/2 teaspoon salt | 1/4 cup lukewarm water |
| 1 teaspoon soda | 2 cups buttermilk |
| 2 tablespoons sugar | |

Sift all ingredients into bowl, cut in shortening with a pastry blender. Dissolve yeast in lukewarm water and add to buttermilk. Pour into first mixture and stir with a wooden spoon just until blended. Refrigerate overnight, or until ready for use. Roll out dough to 1/2-inch thickness; cut with a biscuit cutter. Place on greased sheet, brush with melted butter and let rise until double in bulk (usually 1 to 1 1/2 hrs.). Bake at 400 degrees for about 15 minutes. When time is an important factor, you may roll out biscuits, brush them with butter, place on a pan in which they are to be baked and refrigerate until about 1 1/2 hrs. before baking. In this case, be sure to place chilled biscuits in warmest spot in the kitchen to speed the rising.

CHEESE LOG

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 8 oz. cream cheese | 2 (6 oz.) pkgs. sharp cheese food |
| 1/2 cup mayonnaise | 1 (10 oz.) pkg. natural Cheddar cheese |
| 2 cloves garlic, minced | 2 cup pecans, ground |
| | Paprika |

Have all cheese ingredients at room temperature. Mix cream cheese and mayonnaise. Add minced garlic and mix thoroughly. Slice the sharp cheese food. Grate the Cheddar cheese. Add cheese food and Cheddar cheese to cream cheese mixture, and pecans, mix well. Let mixture chill for about one hour. Divide into three parts. Shape into logs about 1 1/2 inches in diameter on waxed paper. Sprinkle with paprika and store in refrigerator wrapped in foil. Slice thin and serve on assorted crackers. Makes approximately 35 servings.

SIX MINUTE CHEESE PIE

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Crumb Crust: | 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon |
| 15 graham cracker squares | 1/4 cup cooking oil |
| 1/2 cup sugar | |

Break 5 graham crackers into blender container. Cover. Blend for 6 seconds on blend. Empty crumbs into bowl; repeat with 5 more crackers. Repeat with last five crackers. Add the sugar, cinnamon, and cooking oil. Stir until crumbs are moistened, and press into a buttered pie plate. Bake 6 minutes at 400 degrees. Cool before filling.

Filling:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 2 envelopes plain gelatin | 2 eggs |
| Juice of 1/2 lemon | 8 ounces cream cheese, softened |
| 1/2 cup hot milk | 1 heaping cup crushed ice |
| 1/4 cup sugar | 1 cup heavy cream |

Into blender container put gelatin, lemon juice, and hot milk. Cover. Blend for 30 seconds on grate. Add sugar, eggs, and cheese. Cover. Blend for 30 seconds on liquify. After 10 seconds, remove cover and add ice and cream. Pour into cooled crumb crust. Top with fruit or leave plain, as desired. Let set for 5 minutes before serving.

CHOCOLATE CREAM CHEESE CAKE

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| 2 cups cake flour | 1/2 cup butter |
| 1 teaspoon baking powder | 8 ounces cream cheese |
| 1/4 teaspoon salt | 1 1/2 cups sugar |
| 1/2 teaspoon baking soda | 2 large eggs |
| 1 package (4 oz.) sweet cooking chocolate | 1 teaspoon vanilla |
| | 1/2 cup milk |

Sift flour with baking powder, soda and salt. Set aside. Melt the chocolate and combine with butter and cream cheese. Gradually add the sugar, beating until light and fluffy. Add the eggs one at a time and the vanilla. Add sifted dry ingredients alternately with the milk, beginning and ending with dry ingredients. Beat until smooth. Pour into 2 9-inch round cake pans, buttered and floured. Tap pan on counter top to release excess air in the batter. Bake at 350 degrees 30 to 35 minutes or until cake tests done.

SOUR CREAM CHOCOLATE FROSTING

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 9 oz. semi-sweet chocolate chips | 1 teaspoon vanilla |
| 1/3 cup butter | 1/2 teaspoon salt |
| 3/4 cup dairy sour cream | 3 1/2 to 4 1/2 cups powdered sugar |

Melt chocolate chips and butter in top of double boiler over hot, not boiling water. Remove from heat and cool slightly. Blend in sour cream, vanilla and salt. Gradually beat in enough of the powdered sugar to make an easy to spread frosting.

PINEAPPLE-COCONUT PIE

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2 cups sugar | 1 tablespoon flour |
| 1 stick melted margarine | 1 teaspoon vanilla |
| 4 eggs | 1 8-oz. can crushed pineapple |
| 1 tablespoon cornmeal | 1 3-oz. can coconut |

Mix well and pour into uncooked pie shell (9-in.) and cook at 350 degrees 45 minutes or until done. This is delicious, but rich.

SWEETHEART CAKE

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| 1/2 cup shortening | 1 1/2 cups sifted cake flour |
| 3/4 cup sugar | 2 teaspoons baking powder |
| 1/2 teaspoon vanilla | 1/4 teaspoon salt |
| 2 small eggs | 3/4 cup milk |

Cream shortening, sugar and vanilla, add eggs and beat thoroughly. Alternately add milk and flour, which has been sifted with baking powder and salt. Bake in 375 degree oven 30-35 minutes. Double this recipe for two pans.



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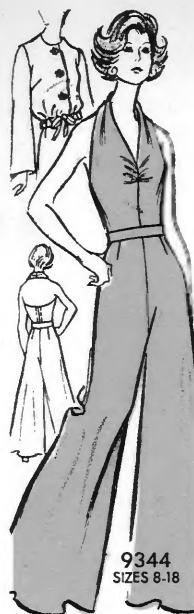
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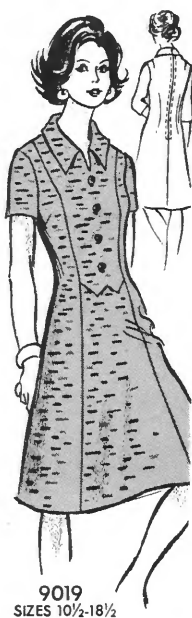
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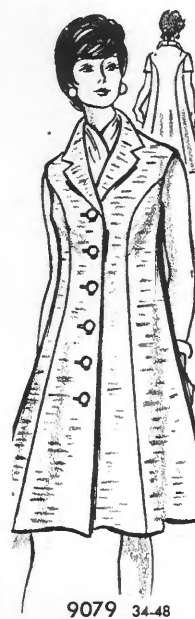
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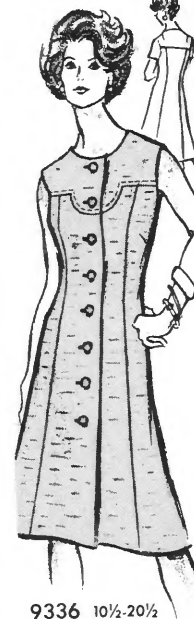
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