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**rural electric news**  
March, 1977

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*Robert D. Partridge*

Robert D. Partridge  
Executive Vice President

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**COVER:** January's weather was as bad as anyone could remember. Record cold in Illinois and the entire eastern two-thirds of the nation set off a natural gas shortage which left millions without work. The cold prevented snow from melting and the result in many areas was a scene similar to this one, where plowed snow was piled several feet high. Just as the electric power lines are not affected by the piled snow in this photo, service to electric cooperative members in the state was uninterrupted, except for a few brief, scattered outages.

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# illinois rural electric news

## Challenge for all Americans

"The challenge confronting you in this industry and me as a part of this government and every American is whether or not we have the capacity and the vision and the courage and the foresight to recognize the inevitability of the end of fossil fuels and make appropriate changes."

The speaker was Bob Bergland, the new Secretary of Agriculture, and his audience was a group of rural electric cooperative leaders from across the country.

Yet, if the Secretary of Commerce said the same thing to a group of home builders or if the mayor of Dallas said the same thing to a bakers convention, the words would not have to be altered one bit to represent what is a common challenge to all industries and all Americans.

As evidenced by the natural gas crisis ignited by the severe winter weather that threatened millions with the loss of home heat and did put millions out of work, there must be rapid progress toward reducing our dependence on natural gas and oil.

"The electric industry probably holds the best hope for reducing our dependence upon petroleum in the short run," Bergland told the cooperative leaders. "The burdens which will be placed upon you are beyond comprehension," he added.

Members of Illinois electric cooperatives and other electric cooperatives across the nation can quickly agree with the high priority that must be given to programs which increase our electric power availability. On the farm, electricity milks cows, feeds livestock, moves grain, and performs a virtual myriad of tasks that could not be accomplished in any other manner.

Reducing our dependence on natural gas and oil is directly related to our ability to utilize other fuels to generate the vital electric power.

Aubrey Wagner, board chairman of the Tennessee Valley Authority, pointed recently to the problems of the cold winter weather and succinctly summarized the whole problem, "Without an abundant supply of energy, the nation simply grinds to a halt."

Wagner proposed four basic goals: conserve where possible, expand use of coal and uranium, promote research and development on new energy sources and work toward a clean but affordable environment.

He further called for "new generating capacity...not to feed a bloated or indulgent society, but to supply the future needs of...people who want a warm home, a decent job, and an opportunity for their children to improve their standard of living."

The TVA chairman also said he had seen signs that people are beginning to recognize the severity of the energy problems and he urged his audience to speak out in favor of a sound energy policy.

It is too bad a winter filled with shortages of fuels is necessary to bring a better understanding of the critical nature of the nation's energy problems. Those shortages, and resulting layoffs of millions, can be prevented in the future, if more people heed the advice of leaders such as Bergland and Wagner.



*Left: Roy Brachear, president of Mid-America Products, Inc., and one of the firm's grain bin temperature detection devices, which he describes as having probably the best sales potential of any product in the line. The Taylorville company makes a complete line of grain bin accessories. Below: Don Tappero lines up a piece of sheet metal in the cutter.*



Today's farmer has to maximize profits if he wants to stay in business, and a Christian County manufacturing firm served by one of Illinois' electric cooperatives designs and builds equipment to help farmers get the most out of their crops.

Mid-America Products, Inc., the 4,000th member to be connected on Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative's lines, manufactures a full range of grain bin accessories tailored to work with any grain bins.

The company is the brainchild of Roy E. Brachear, who serves as president, and Jerry R. Newcombe, who is vice president. They are equal partners in the venture and have located just west of Taylorville in a 9,600-square-foot metal building.

One of Mid-America's products is a new addition to the line. It is a grain bin temperature detection control meter. "This meter was in the development stage before we had a company," Brachear says, "and we haven't had it on the market long. This is for elevator operators as well as farmers. It's been a good seller, and we've sold them all through the grain belt and overseas, too."

The detector is set up so it will trigger an alarm when the temperature in a bin gets to a predetermined point, which is set by the farmer. "I think this would be a good way for a farmer to check his bins," Brachear says, adding, "He could have it set up to turn on a warning light outside the bin. All he'd have to do to keep tabs on his grain would be drive by and look for lights. The detector will also set off a bell or a buzzer.

"A lot of grain is wasted through spoilage now, and we're (the nation) not going to be able to get away with it much longer," Brachear notes. "Someday we're going to need every bushel we can grow. That's why we developed this detector. I think it has more potential than any other product we make."

Other products include heater controls for crop drying, aeration controls for grain storage and roof ventilators.

The partners work hard to get the most out of their investment dollars. Of the building space they have, 1,200 square feet is office space, but it actually serves a dual purpose. Space above the offices is used for storage. Brachear says, "Being a closed corporation and not wanting to work for a bunch of stockholders, we built what we could afford. We keep a close inventory. We work closely with our suppliers, and they carry a buffer inventory for us. We have to wear about five different hats in this business. We work in the trucks, work on financing and developing new products, and we have to spend some time keeping up on new laws, too. Business is a lot more complicated now than it was when we got into it, and even though we're just a little business, we have to work by the same rules as the big corporations."

Another way they cut costs is by conserving energy.

"We wanted a well-insulated building," Brachear remarks, "and we insulated to Canadian specifications." Space heating is accomplished by

several electric heaters throughout the building.

The company, which has been in operation for about five years now, was a long time in the planning stage. The two men met in Chicago, while working together at a grain bin plant several years ago. "Jerry had a way of getting a job done well with just a few people, handling them well, and handling the pressures," Brachear relates. "I don't know anyone who can match him for man-hour efficiency. We kind of agreed when we left Chicago that when we could, we'd go into business."

Some time later, they both worked for another grain bin manufacturer in Taylorville, then another in Iowa, while they planned their own company.

"We try to get key people who have had a variety of experience, so we can perform a full range of functions even though we're small," Brachear says. The partners do not do their own engineering, however. "We buy outside engineering," he says, "such as mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, and so on. We take their designs and field test them, and find out what kind of improvements we need to make before we begin actual production."

The company, which as gone from six employees to 14, will be expanding soon, Brachear notes, proving that a well-thought-out business using frugal practices and making the most of opportunities can still make a go of it, if good management is part of its makeup.

# *Helping farmers produce more*



*E. F. Olver (left), professor of agricultural engineering at the University of Illinois and executive secretary of the Illinois Farm Electrification Council, talks with Dean Searls, manager of Adams Electrical Co-Operative of Camp Point, during a break in the IFEC annual meeting. Searls was elected chairman of the IFEC board of directors for 1977 after serving the previous year as IFEC president. Searls is also a director of the national organization.*

## **IFEC:**

### ***Widespread interests and responsibilities***

**D**iversity of the programs, activities and responsibilities of those involved in rural electrification was demonstrated during the annual meeting of the Farm Electrification Council in February at Champaign.

Representatives of Illinois electric cooperatives and investor-owned utilities heard reports on IFEC committee activity, programs by University of Illinois agriculture professors, research and engineering specialists and audio-visual presentations on waste disposal in rural areas, the Illinois Young Farmers Association, new home energy savings and electrical accident control.

University of Illinois reports were: Solar Energy, Dr. G. C. Shove; Electromotion in Animal Feeding, H. B. Puckett; The Soybean Situation, Dr. E. D. Rodda and Dr. M. R. Paulson, and Utilization of Power Plant Waste Heat, Dr. P. N. Walker.

R. E. Favreau, regional engineer, Illinois Department of Public Health, explained the problems of satisfactory disposal of waste in rural areas. He said Illinois soil conditions are poor with respect to use of septic tank waste systems and that special precautions

were necessary in many areas to prevent ineffective treatment. He told of use of sand filtering techniques which had been especially helpful in rural waste disposal in the state.

J. E. Ingles, manager of Dealer Business Management, International Harvester Company, related the growth in recent years of the Illinois Young Farmer program and urged the IFEC members to help further the young program in Illinois.

Ingles, chairman of the IYFA advisory council, said priority funding for educational programs in the state has limited the program. He called for renewal of awareness of the importance of agriculture and the need to assist the young, beginning farmers. "Three percent of the people in Illinois are involved in agriculture," he said. "Those three percent affect all of us. They need to be as educated as we can get them," he added.

Ingles said there are 21 YFA chapters in the state.

R. A. Jones, director of the U of I Small Homes Council, outlined results of his study with the Illinois Lo-Cal Home, a super-insulated structure designed to save energy.

Jones said building techniques

including insulation and solar utilization had resulted in a lowering of heating requirements for the Lo-Cal Home, when compared to a similar home constructed to 1974 Federal Housing Administration standards.

Jones said heat loss studies of the two structures indicated that purchase heat input for the Lo-Cal Home was over 60 percent lower than the 1974 home, due to improved insulation and, as Jones put it, insulation.

The importance of the continuing need to keep electrical safety before consumers was stressed by Lyle Dunham, Member Services Director, Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives.

Dunham said, "There are many accidents just waiting to happen," singling out such hazards as metal buildings too near power lines and combines, grain augers and elevators tall enough to reach power lines.

IFEC members were shown a multi-media presentation on Responsible Electric Accident Control Today (REACT). The presentation stressed the potential accident situations and outlined a program of prevention.

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**J. K. STERN**

Former: **President, American Institute of Cooperation**  
**Trustee, American Country Life Association**

"The years have taught me that adequate insurance of minimum cost is as important to the folks in rural areas as is electricity—and in my opinion C.I.F. is dedicated to serving that need. For this reason more than anything else. I am happy to be on the board and to help in some measure to further the success of this program."

Ken Stern  
C.I.F. Vice President/Director

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  - **One person in every third family will go to the hospital this year.**
  - **Almost everyone — will go to the hospital sooner or later.**

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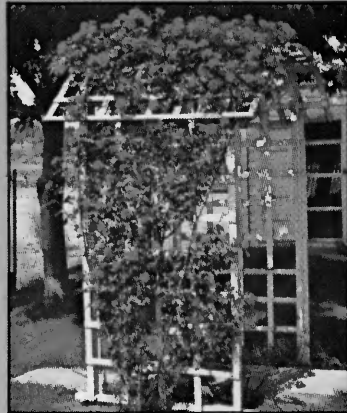
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HOW MANY	VARIETY	PLEASE SEND
	CLIMBING BLAZE	<input type="checkbox"/> Any 3 for only <b>\$3.57</b>
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		<b>Add 99¢ postage and handling</b>

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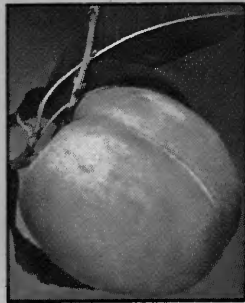
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\$1.85 each



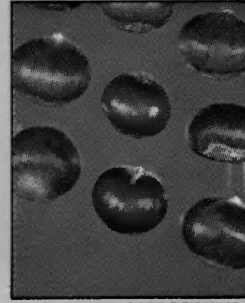
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\$1.79 each  
\$1.75 each



**BLACK WALNUT**  
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3-5 feet  
10 or more  
50 or more

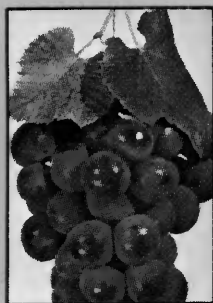
\$1.49 each  
\$1.45 each  
\$1.40 each



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Trees bear young  
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50 or more

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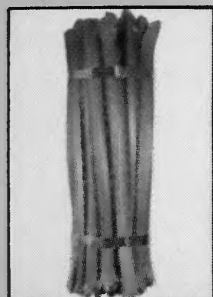
5- \$1.98  
10- \$3.29  
20- \$5.98



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10- \$ 1.00  
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	Blackberries	
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Please send us at the proper planting time the plants we have selected. You will acknowledge our order.

We enclose \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in  
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including 99¢ postage & handling .

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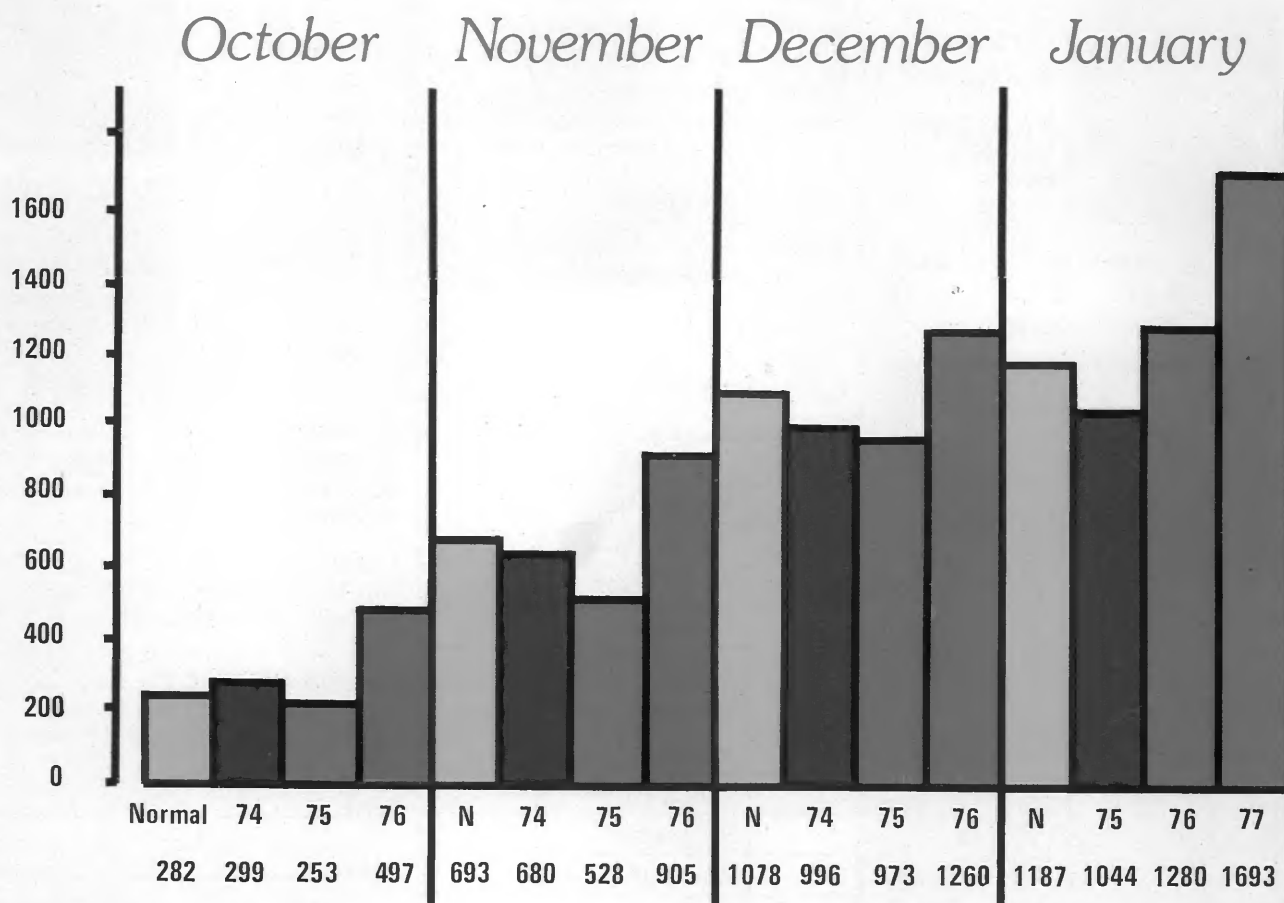
City \_\_\_\_\_

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# Degree-day records illustrate winter's so

## Degree-days



Degree-day records for the past three winters contrast the mild conditions that prevailed in our two previous winters and the harsh conditions of this winter season. The red bar indicates the bitterly cold weather, while the green and blue bars represent the previous two winters. The January 1977 degree days total of 1693 represents an all-time high for such calculations, records for which date to 1880. The figures are for the Springfield area, but are typical of the statewide weather.

# erity



*The arrow running west to east across the upper part of Canada represents the basic winter high altitude wind pattern that has influenced winter weather in North America in past years. The arrow running from western Canada toward Illinois indicates this year's flow of the river of air responsible for the severe cold weather.*

The winter of 1976-77 is, most people hope, soon to be just another chilly part of history, another set of statistics to look at and forget.

But many people in the Midwest and Eastern U.S. will remember this winter as the coldest in memory. Others will recall it as the winter they were laid off from their jobs because their factory had to shut down, just at a time when record high heating bills were coming in.

In areas served by Illinois electric cooperatives, there was electric power, except for short, storm-related outages. While temperatures dropped and costs climbed, Illinoisans were for the most part still at work, and they managed to keep fairly warm, too.

The fact that people in Illinois kept relatively comfortable was due partly to cooperative electricity.

Donald B. Bringman, general manager of Western Illinois Power Cooperative (WIPCO) of Jacksonville, noted that WIPCO used 25 percent more power in January of 1977 than the same month a year ago. "Some of that," he emphasized, "was due to

normal load growth. About 20 of those percentage points were due to the cold, though." WIPCO is a generation and distribution cooperative serving seven Illinois electric cooperatives.

Ora M. Snider, administrative manager of Southern Illinois Power Co-operative (SIPC) of Marion, said, "In January 1977, Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative used 27 percent more power than they did the same time last year. Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative used 43 percent more, and the Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association used 23 percent more. Averaged out, the three distribution cooperatives we serve used 32 percent more power than they did last January. We purchased some peaking power from the Southeastern Power Administration." Revenues to the generation cooperative for January 1977 amounted to a record \$1.125-million, Snider reported.

"The power used this January represents 43,000 tons of coal," he noted, "and that's 11,000 tons more than was needed for the same month

last year."

Charles Youtzy, manager of Jo-Carroll Electric Cooperative of Elizabeth, reported that members of that cooperative had used 36 percent more electricity than they used a year ago. "It was the largest demand ever," he remarked, adding, "some bills doubled, and even at that we were fortunate in that our fuel cost adjustment didn't go up any. But everybody's bills went up because of the cold. We had more consecutive days below zero than we've had since they started keeping records back in the 1880's. I know there was one day when our furnace at home ran continuously all day long. We've had more high bill complaints than we've ever had before."

This winter was an early one, and many will remember it as the coldest and longest in memory. Chances are, it will be the most expensive, too.

Answering most of the questions about the cold weather are a series of statistics called degree-days.

Heating degree-days are determined

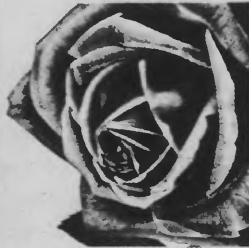
*(continued on page 14)*

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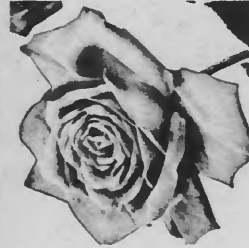
**CRIMSON GLORY**  
Large full velvety crimson blooms. Very fragrant. Former patent no. 105



**MIRANDY**  
Huge full blooms of dark red. Fragrant. Former patent no. 632



**CHRYSLER IMPERIAL**  
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**HAPPINESS**  
Brilliant Fire-engine red color. Former patent no. 911



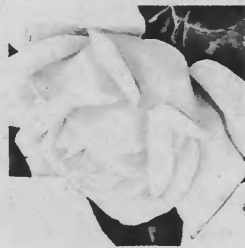
**SHOW GIRL**  
A rich deep pink, long buds. Former patent no. 646



**MOJAVE**  
Gorgeous blooms of glowing orange. Former patent no. 1176



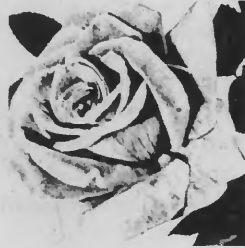
**STERLING SILVER**  
A pastel lavender tone. Sterling silver look. Former patent no. 1433



**PEACE**  
Magnificent blooms of velvety pink. Former patent no. 591



**LOWELL THOMAS**  
A lemon yellow with fragrant blooms. Former patent no. 595



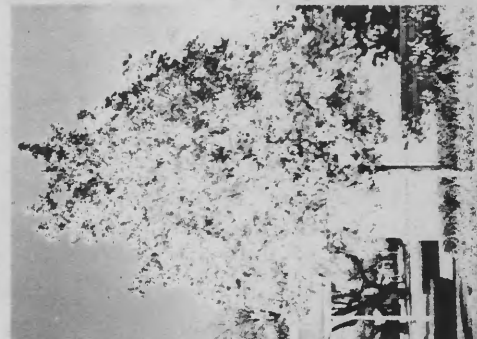
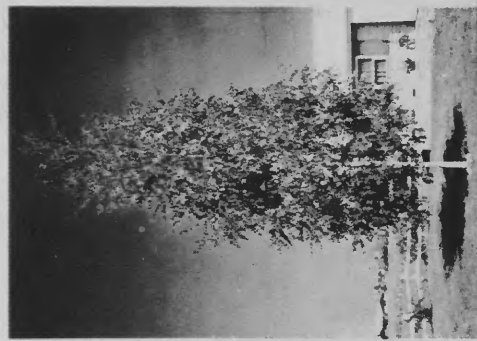
**NOCTURNE**  
Long perfectly formed buds. Velvety red. Former patent no. 713



**DIAMOND JUBILEE**  
A yellow and orange combination. Former patent no. 824



**MONTEZUMA**  
Gorgeous blooms of scarlet-pink. Former patent no 1383



hues make it a sight to remember due to the foliage thickness—A very hardy shrub to the north and will grow up to 60 feet.

compact form—it can be seen growing in all different climates and the multi-trunk (clump) effect can be obtained by planting two or more trees next to one another. It is also a rapid grower, (shipped at 3 to 5 feet).

golden leaves in the fall has tulip shaped flowers in the spring. Rapid all for its "fast growth rate" up to 40 feet at maturity.

4 Trees \$ 3.99  
8 Trees 6.99  
16 Trees 12.99

scarlet red leaves in the fall of the year, it has another excellent trait—it is an extremely fast grower. It is very easily transplanted and many experts agree it will grow practically anywhere in the U.S.A. Grows to 60 feet.

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yellow leaves in the fall has tulip shaped flowers in the spring. Rapid all for its "fast growth rate" up to 40 feet at maturity.

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4 Trees \$ 3.99  
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- White Flowering Quince, 1 to 2 ft. \$ .29 ea.
- Diagnon Liliac-Purple, 1 to 2 ft. \$ .69 ea.
- Diagnon Liliac-White, 1 to 2 ft. \$ .69 ea.
- Bridal Wreath Spirea, 1 to 2 ft. \$ .39 ea.
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- Oak Leaf Hydrangea, 1 to 2 ft. \$ .37 ea.
- Mockorange White, 1 to 2 ft. \$ .36 ea.
- Sweet Shrub, 1 to 2 ft. \$ .39 ea.
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- Pussy Willow, 4 to 6 ft. \$ .39 ea.
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- Red Barberry, 1 to 2 ft. \$ .79 ea.
- Red Snowball, 1 to 2 ft. \$ .69 ea.
- Red Snowberry, 1 to 2 ft. \$ .69 ea.
- French Liliac-Red, Pink, White, Purple, 1 to 2 ft. \$ .69 ea.
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# Degree-day records illustrate winter's severity

(continued from page 11)

by adding a day's high and low temperature readings, dividing that figure by two, and finding the difference between that resulting number and 65 degrees. For example, if the high on a given day is 40 and the low is 20, the mean temperature is 30 (40 plus 20 divided by 2). Subtract 30 from 65 and the total of degree-days is 35. The higher the number of degree-days, the colder the weather has been, and, the more heating is required.

The graph accompanying this article

shows just how severe the heating season of 1976-77 has been, compared to the previous two and the "normal." (The "normal" is the average for the 30-year period of the previous three full decades. During the 1970's, the normal is based on degree-days of the 40's, 50's and 60's.)

October's heating seasons in 1974 and 1975 were very close to the normal. But, October 1976 was much colder than the normal for the two previous Octobers, by a considerable margin. Apparently, October 1976 was

attempting to tell us something.

The graph portion devoted to November quickly illustrates what happened from 1975 to 1976. November 1975 was well below normal, while this past November's degree-day totals surged to near the normal for the usually colder December.

In December 1976, the story continued. That month was colder than, the average January, easily exceeding the normal and Decembers of 1974 and 1975.

The heating season was already bad, but the worst was yet to come.

January 1977 broke all records, the Illinois Commerce Commission said. The 1693 degree-day total was 43 percent above normal and it was over one-third colder than January 1976.

What happened has been record cold temperatures on the heels of two years during which the degree-days averaged out less than normal. We simply had two mild winters leading up to a terribly cold one.

To make matters worse, the weather experts claim that the U. S. has enjoyed better-than-average weather, except for a few years, over the past 20 years or so, and that wide fluctuations are the rule rather than the exception. During the mild years we became accustomed to the relatively good weather and took it for granted.

Only a few years ago a severe winter once in a while meant inconvenience, and perhaps a little danger for some. Heating the house wasn't much trouble nor very expensive. Then, fuel costs started to climb, and severe winters offered all the old problems, plus the costs of heating the large, big-windowed homes to which we have become accustomed. For many, their winter heating bills came as a shock,

(continued on page 18)

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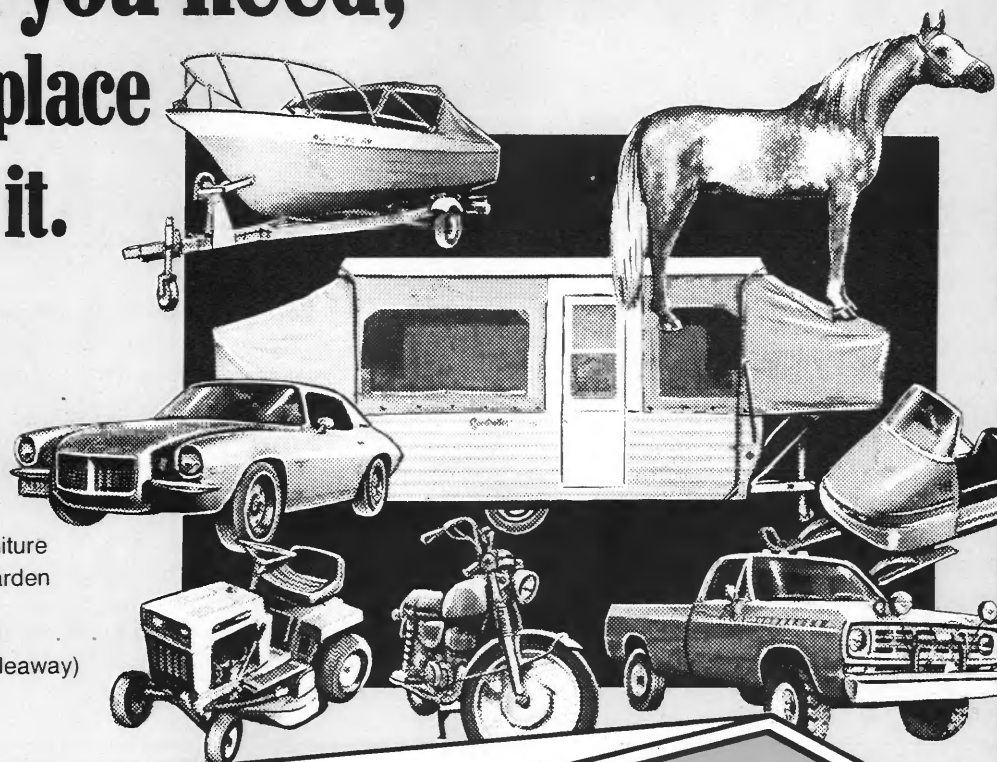
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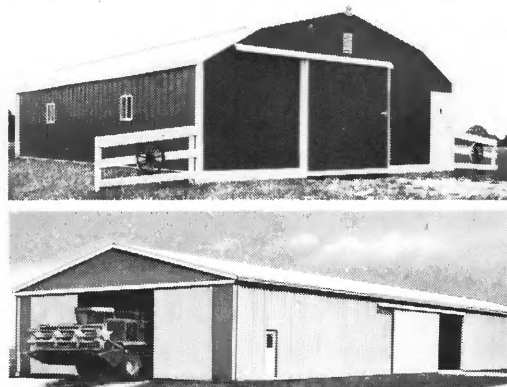


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IR 384

# Preventive action shop ac

Numerous accidents—many serious and some fatal—occur in farm and home workshops every year. Most of these accidents can be prevented if fundamental shop safety rules are observed.

A few minutes of preventative inspection and planning can save hours, weeks and even years of misery and agony.

The boxed material printed here is a shop checklist, designed to point out the component parts of a workshop and associated power equipment. Those parts and equipment should be inspected periodically (at least once every six months) and necessary corrective measures taken to ensure a safe work area and safety in the use of shop tools and equipment.

In addition to use of the checklist, persons who operate farm and home workshops and those who perform work in the shops should consider use of a safety color code commonly used by industry to identify specific danger areas and improve vision:

*Red* designates danger and can indicate fire

protection equipment and emergency stop controls.

*Orange* designates hazardous areas or parts, such as energized equipment, exposed gears and cutting devices and movable guards.

*Yellow* designates caution, such as that involving operating controls, flammable liquid storage and physical hazards.

*Green* designates safety areas, equipment parts or supplies, first aid equipment and supplies, safety equipment and safety signs.

*Blue* is used for informational or warning signs.

*Black and white* designates traffic or housekeeping markings.

## Check Your Shop Now!

### Workshop Area

- .....grounded electric outlets
- .....good shadow-free lighting—30 footcandles (fc) general area, 50 fc on work areas, 100 fc for delicate repair work
- .....debris-free, orderly, uncluttered area
- .....dry floors
- .....fire fighting equipment available
- .....first aid kit available and stocked
- .....adequate ventilation
- .....adequate space for tools and machines
- .....adequate and safe storage for paints, thinners, chemicals, and other flammable materials
- .....adequate exits from work area
- .....safety goggles, glasses, face shields available
- .....suitable receptacles for oily rags, scrap wood, scrap metal, used oil
- .....appropriate warning signs displayed

### Power Saws

- .....power cords in good condition
- .....free area to work
- .....saw blades properly selected, sharpened, installed and adjusted
- .....blade guard and anti-kickback devices in place and in good working order

- .....eye protection available
- .....push stick available
- .....switch in prominent and convenient place
- .....lock-out switch (to prevent children operating)
- .....roller stands available for long stock
- .....saw properly anchored
- .....saw blade safety clutch (if present) properly adjusted
- .....electric or hand brake (if present) operable and properly adjusted

### Power Grinders

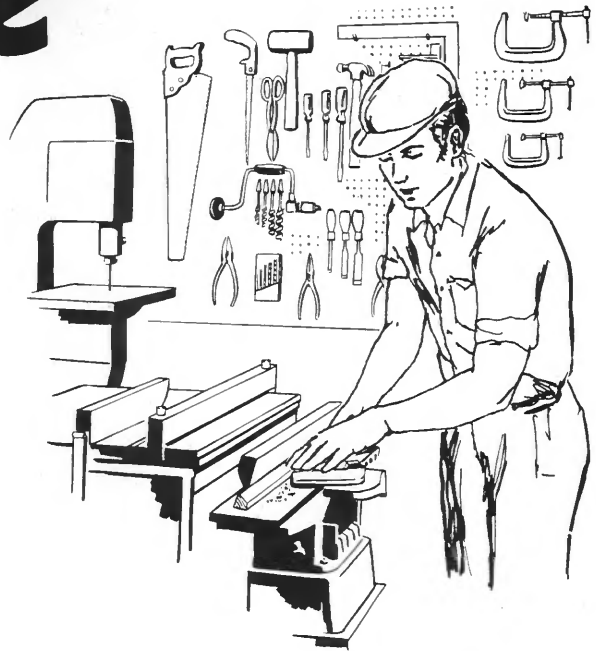
- .....power cords in good condition
- .....switch in prominent and convenient place
- .....lock-out switch (to prevent children operating)
- .....cooling container nearby and filled
- .....grinding wheel of the right type and in good condition with no cracks, diameter over half of original size
- .....wheel dresser available
- .....tool rests in place and properly set 1/8" from wheel
- .....grinding wheel housing in place
- .....spark deflector in place and properly set 1/4" from wheel
- .....illuminated shatterproof grinding shield in place
- .....plastic face shield available

### Jointer

- .....power cord in good condition
- .....switch in prominent and convenient place
- .....lock-out switch (to prevent children operating)
- .....blades sharp and in good condition
- .....blade guards in place



# can reduce idents



*White or ivory* is used on edges of equipment, benches and fixed tools.

*Light gray* should be used for equipment stands, working bench surfaces, cabinets, etc.

Walls and ceilings should be painted in light color (soft blue-green, ivory or cream) to improve visibility and contribute to a safe working area.

Prevention of accidents can also be supported by placing a brief operating instruction or checklist on or near each piece of equipment. The owner's manual should be read thoroughly and each operational instruction and safety precaution or rule heeded carefully before the cord for a new stationary or portable power tool is plugged in.

- .....jointer in proper adjustment
- .....material stands available for long stock
- .....push stick available

#### Planer

- .....power cords in good condition
- .....switch in prominent and convenient place
- .....lock-out switch (to prevent children operating)
- .....knives sharp, properly adjusted
- .....feed rolls clean, free of sawdust, chips, resin
- .....guards in place

#### Welding Area

- .....area dry and free of debris
- .....flammable material removed from area
- .....adequate ventilation with exhaust hood
- .....fire fighting equipment (dry chemical extinguisher) easily accessible
- .....tongs available for use
- .....protective clothing and gloves available

#### Electric Arc Welding Equipment

- .....case properly grounded
- .....cable terminals guarded or insulated
- .....cables in good condition
- .....lock-out main switch (to prevent child play)
- .....ground clamp serviceable
- .....electrode holder serviceable
- .....welding helmet or shield with at least number 10 lens, clean and in good condition

#### Oxy-Acetylene Welding Equipment

- .....tanks held securely

- .....hoses in good condition
- .....connections tight (use soap suds to test)
- .....torches serviceable
- .....gauges functioning accurately
- .....flint lighter in good condition, accessible
- .....tip cleaner in good condition, accessible
- .....anti-flashback devices properly installed
- .....welding goggles in acceptable condition
- .....spare tanks held securely; oxygen and acetylene stored separately
- .....all spare tanks stored with metal valve covers in place

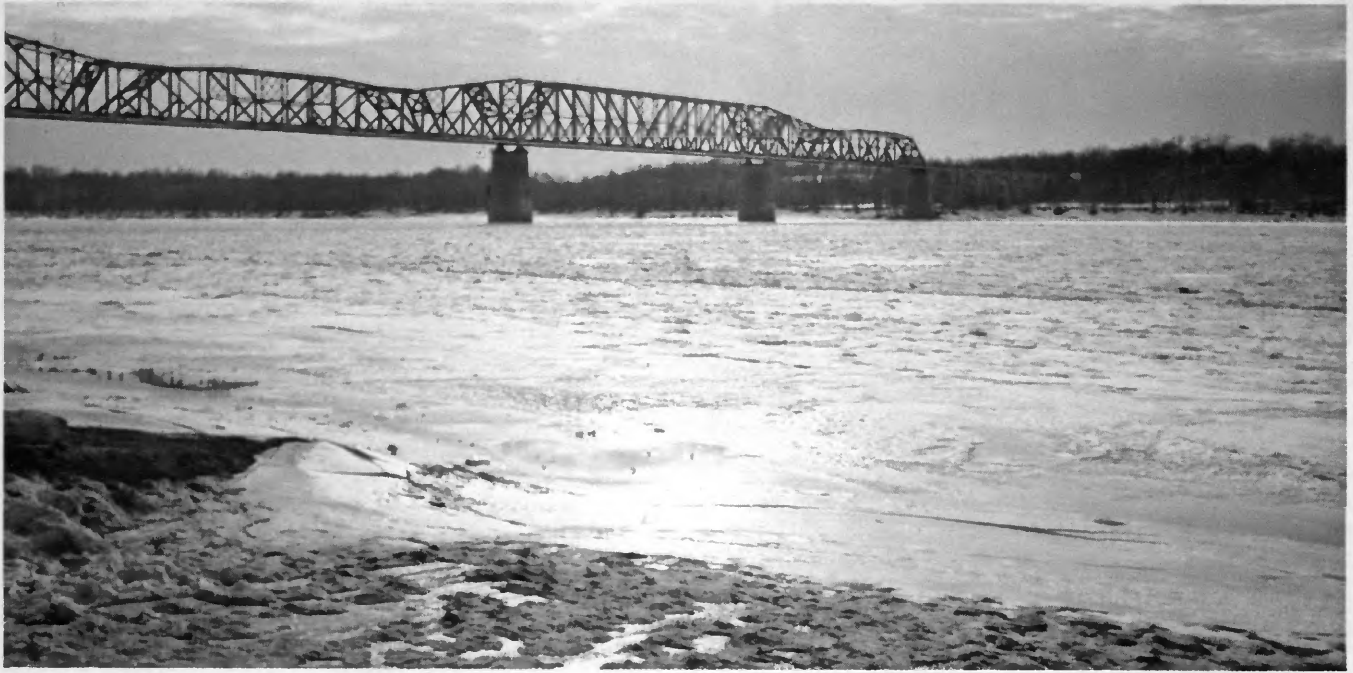
#### Drill Press

- .....cords in good condition
- .....switch in prominent and convenient place
- .....chuck key in convenient place
- .....drill press vise and/or other clamping device available for securing material while drilling
- .....drilling lubricant or coolant available
- .....drill-speed chart available
- .....drills sharp and in good condition
- .....auxiliary support for long material
- .....plastic face shield available

#### Miscellaneous

##### Portable Power Tools

- .....adequate electrical grounding or double-insulated case or housing
- .....face and eye protection available
- .....electrical cords in good condition with three-wire types properly grounded
- .....tools serviceable, well maintained, clean



Winter bitterly cold temperatures froze the Mississippi along Illinois' western border, halting barge traffic and delaying shipments of vital supplies north. In addition, Ohio River barge traffic was halted because of ice, leaving hundreds of barges and towboats virtually stranded.

## Degree-day records illustrate winter's severity

(continued from page 14)

no matter what kind of energy provided the heat.

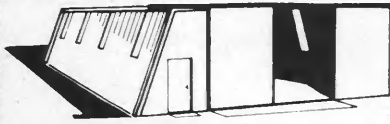
To make matters worse, the degree-day figures do not take into account the wind-chill factor. As far as the degree-day is concerned, the wind makes no difference at all. And, when it comes to heating your home it may not—provided your home is well-sealed against the wind with caulking, weather stripping and storm windows.

Even as cold and expensive as the weather has been here, we have been fortunate. To the east of us, the weather was much worse. Schools closed and factories reduced hours or went completely out of production. Millions of workers were idled; many are still not back at work.

All in all, it has been the kind of winter our grandparents talked about, but this one was worse, according to the records. Throughout Illinois, it has been a winter to remember, even though most of us would rather forget it.

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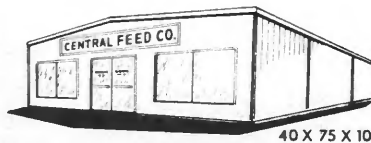
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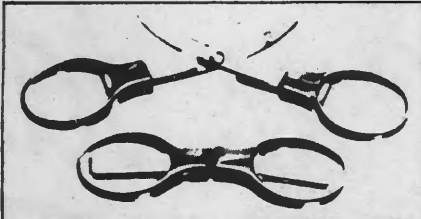
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# People 'hungry for facts of Block tells Farmers Union

*John R. (Jack) Block, director of the Illinois Department of Agriculture, was a featured speaker at the 23rd annual meeting of the Illinois Farmers Union at the Forum Thirty in Springfield. Block, a 41-year-old hog and grain farmer from Knox County, remarked that farmers have gotten more consumer understanding in the last three years than they had had in the past, but that farmers will still have to work hard to get their message across to a largely urban audience. Seated is Harold Dodd, president of the Illinois Farmers Union.*



**I**n the last three years farmers have gotten more understanding than they've had in a long time. I've visited with people, and they've been hungry for facts about agriculture." Those were the words of John R. (Jack) Block, new director of the Illinois Department of Agriculture, at the 23rd annual meeting of the Illinois Farmers Union in Springfield in February.

However, in spite of the fact that farmers and their problems are better understood now than in the past, Block warned his audience, "Half of the people in the Congress have been in Washington, D.C., four years or less. They have new staffs, with fewer of the old timers, fewer people who understand agriculture.

"Since farmers' numbers are getting

smaller all the time, that puts a burden on us. Farmers are more important than ever, but you've got to work harder to get your message across.

"With as few farmers as we have in agriculture today, we won't have as many people in the legislature who have a love of—and an appreciation for—agriculture as we have."

Block, speaking at his first meeting since his February 2 appointment, also noted that the tax burden carried by farmers is out of proportion in comparison to the return in education and services received, and went on to comment on one of the Department of Agriculture's main goals.

"We're dedicated to keeping Illinois number one in agricultural exports. We can't let exports be reduced by some government agency," he concluded.

Congressman Edward Madigan of Lincoln, representative from Illinois' 21st district, explained his opposition to the construction of a new facility to replace Mississippi River Locks and Dam 26 near Alton. Proponents of the plan to replace the structure say it is in poor repair, if not near total collapse, and that, at best, it is a navigation bottleneck on the Mississippi.

"One of the reasons the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers wants to replace the Locks and Dam 26 facility is because it's built on friction wood pilings in sand," Madigan said, "but so is the Merchandise Mart in Chicago, and so is the state Capitol building, and so are 75 percent of the highway bridges in Illinois. In fact, so are 21 of the 27 locks and dam structures on the river," Madigan said.

# it agriculture,'

"I think we need the railroads and the river transportation, as well as trucks. I think we should do all that's necessary to maintain Locks and Dam 26, but not enlarge it," he added.

Madigan also commented on what he expected in the Congress. "I think Congress will extend the existing agriculture act, the food stamp act, the agriculture and consumer protection act and the agriculture environmental act," he reported. "I think there will be some changes," he continued, "but I don't think there will be an attempt to rewrite these laws entirely."

Harold Dodd, a Loami farmer and president of the Illinois Farmers Union, disagreed with Madigan about Locks and Dam 26. "The railroads say they can carry all the grain we produce, but where I live, I would grow two crops before I could get rid of one if I had to rely solely on rail shipments. As a rule of thumb, those of us who can use barges to move our commodities that are destined for export can receive about 10 cents per bushel more for our products because of the cheaper freight rates. And Locks and Dam 26 is the weak link in our whole chain of waterways. I urge all you farmers to write your legislators and make your thoughts known to them."

Ronald F. Schrader, executive director of the National Committee on Locks and Dam 26, argued in favor of a new structure, noting that the river network is a two-way street, taking agricultural products out of the Midwest and bringing in essential bulk commodities, such as coal for power plants, fertilizer, heating fuel and other commodities.

"Opponents of the project say building a new facility means the present nine-foot channel will be

(continued on page 28)



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# Lines With People In Mind...

## Beltz appointed ITCA Advisory Council chairman

Tom L. Beltz, manager of Hamilton County Telephone Co-Operative, Dahlgren, has been appointed chairman of the Advisory Council for the Illinois Telephone



Tom L. Beltz

Cooperative Association (ITCA). ITCA represents the six telephone cooperatives operating in Illinois.

A native of Carterville, Beltz was employed by General Telephone as a commercial representative for nearly four years prior to becoming manager of Hamilton County Telephone in 1969. He is a member of the board of the Illinois Small

Independent Telephone Association, served as its president in 1973 and 1974 and is also a board member of the Hamilton County Chamber of Commerce. Beltz and his wife, Sharon, have two sons: Chris, 7, and Scott, 5.

## Busby to succeed John Sargent

Ivan Busby, a livestock and grain farmer of Route 4, Rushville, has been named to succeed the late John Sargent as a director of Adams Electrical Co-Operative, Camp Point. He was selected to fill Sargent's unexpired term during the board's regular meeting in January. Born and reared in the

Rushville area, Busby and his wife, Rose, and son, Michael, farm approximately 500 acres near Rushville.

A member of Adams Electrical for over 35 years, Busby is also a member of the Schuyler County Farm Bureau, Rushville Masonic Lodge No. 9, the Chapter Commandery, Springfield Chapter Shrine and the First United Methodist Church of



Ivan Busby

Rushville. A veteran of World War II, he served overseas in the Quartermaster Corps.

Rose Busby is nursing supervisor of surgery at Culbertson Memorial Hospital in Rushville. Their daughter, Mrs. Donald Ward, is also a nurse.

## Ernst is president of IYFA

Harold Ernst of New Douglas is the newly elected president of the Illinois Young Farmers Association.



Harold Ernst

Ernst succeeds Troy Parks of Augusta.

Other new officers are: Doug Geoken of Green Valley, president-elect; Donald Bumphrey of Mt. Carroll, secretary-treasurer, and George Dixon of Colchester, reporter. Allan Utech of Springfield is the state advisor and Jim Ingles,

manager of dealer business management for International Harvester Company of Davenport, Iowa, is chairman of the advisory council.

## Burtle is new RECC director

Robert J. Burtle, a lifelong resident of the small community of Glenarm, is the newest member of Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative's board of directors. Elected to his first three-year term at the Auburn-based



Robert J. Burtle

utility's annual meeting last September, Burtle replaces former director A. Leo Goleman of Divernon, who did not seek reelection.

Burtle, 46, farms approximately 450 acres in the Glenarm area. A member of the Sacred Heart Church in Divernon, Burtle is also a member of the board of directors of the Sangamon County Health Improvement

Association and the Sangamon County Farm Bureau. He and his wife, Betty, have five children at home.

## Knight joins SEIEC board

Victor Knight, a grain farmer and pork producer of Route 5, McLeansboro, has been named a director of



Victor Knight

Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Eldorado. He succeeds W. E. Hunt, formerly of Route 2, Broughton, who retired from the board on December 28. Hunt moved to Norris City.

A native of Hamilton County, Knight began farming in 1963 with 200 acres. After 14 years, he presently farms 2,500 acres north of Dale. He is a

member of the board for the Dale Water District and a member of Hamilton County Telephone Co-operative, Dahlgren. He and his wife, Janet, have four children: Vickie, 12, Timmy, 10, Roger, 8, and Connie Jo, 3.



Energy  
Conservation  
Now

## Shield from sun and wind

*This is another in a series of articles designed to help you save money through the wise and careful use of electricity.*

You can conserve energy, believe it or not, by planting trees and shrubs around your house. Trees offer you shade in the summer and break the wind in the winter. Vines can deflect sunlight in the summer and insulate in the winter.

Heavy winter winds in Illinois usually come from the north and west, so windbreak trees are generally most useful when planted on those sides. You may find it helpful to plant an extension on the east, too. At any rate, you should be sure to find out the direction of prevailing winter winds and plant your windbreak—or windbreaks—where they will be most effective.

Trees which reach a height of one and one-half times the height of the house should be planted at a distance of four to six times their mature height from the house, if space permits. While a single row of trees is adequate, another row would help, again if space permits. Remember, you aren't trying to build a solid barricade against the wind. You just want to break it up somewhat.

Since windbreak trees work for you in the winter, you'll need to plant evergreens on the windward side of your house.

For shade, plant deciduous trees on the west and south sides of your house. In the summer, they will fill out and shade your buildings and the leaves will fall off early enough that they will not keep the sun off during the winter cold.

If, for some reason, you cannot shade your house with trees, awnings or permanent sunshades will do the job, but only on the south side. They will not work on the east and west.

When planning, it is extremely important to be careful where you plant your trees! Do not plant them where their roots can get tangled up in water pipes or underground utility lines. Also, be careful not to plant them where they will grow into overhead electric lines. You should also avoid planting trees where their limbs may hang over a driveway and get in the way, or where limbs may fall onto the house during high winds. You may choose to avoid those trees that drop sticky fruits on the ground. Whatever the case, the choice of trees is a matter of taste. You would be wise, probably, to consult with your friendly nurseryman or landscape architect about your tree planting plans.

Vines can help, too. Deciduous vines, such as Boston Ivy or Virginia Creeper, can help you save energy, if

you plant them along your south and west walls where they will deflect sunlight. This cooling effect is even more noticeable when the vine is grown on a trellis attached to the wall so air can circulate between the vine and the building.

For winter warmth, an evergreen vine such as English Ivy is effective when grown on a sun-starved north wall, where leaves deflect cold and stems have an insulating effect.

You would be wise to use a wall trellis for your vines if yours is a frame home, because this prevents clinging ivy from growing in between boards and causing rot.

While shading your home and building windbreaks will not work miracles for you, they can help. Any method that stops the sun before it gets into the house is seven times as effective at keeping you cool as curtains and blinds on the inside.

So, with spring almost here, it is time to start thinking about where to plant those trees to save energy in the future, for the future.

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**I**t's all downhill for Phil Bridwell. No, he doesn't have it made, as might be implied by that lead sentence.

Rather, the Anna businessman has a theory that he believes will lead to a solution for the nation's energy problems.

The member-owner of Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative of Dongola theorizes it is possible to recover a portion of the energy wasted in transportation, especially rail, and turn it into sufficient force to generate electricity in a manner which "does not consume fuel and does not pollute."

Termed "Bridwell's Downhill Theory" by its developer, the idea, as Bridwell explains it, is to take advantage of force created by train cars "pumping" the rails and, if practical, the wasted energy of cars and trucks on our highways.

Because he has spent over 20 years in industrial salvage and learning basics of engineering, Bridwell says he feels his idea has merit. In fact, he calls it "one of the most important discoveries." Harnessing wasted transportation energy will make reliance on fuels currently in use unnecessary in the future, he predicts.

He has spent considerable time and effort to develop his theory.

"I came upon this idea

accidentally," he says. "My wife and I were traveling and she said, 'Isn't it a shame we can't harness all this energy that is being wasted by these cars.'

"The first thought I had was a hose across the highway and squirting a little air out, and further, trucks on the interstate mashing down the scales at weight stations. My first thoughts were of an air cylinder and compressing air. Then I discovered that hydraulic action was more efficient than air," he says.

However, Bridwell did not think cars driving over hoses or trucks on scales was the real answer.

"Sometime later we were at a railroad crossing and I observed those cars pumping. Then the idea struck me about the pump. Just how much energy could trains produce going down the tracks."

He carried that idea a step further.

Using his on-the-job engineering learning, he assembled a model of a section of track and a group of cylinders. His model led him to believe the theory was logical.

Those exposed to Bridwell's idea quickly point out that it is going to require energy to depress the pistons and build up the hydraulic pressure and that there is really nothing to gain. The devices to be used would actually impede the vehicles or trains, creating a greater energy requirement.

That is why it is called Bridwell's Downhill Theory, rather than Bridwell's Energy Theory or Bridwell's Hydraulic Theory.

He envisions a series of pistons under the rails of certain long downhill grades. These pistons, pumped by the force of the train, create the hydraulic motion which drives a hydraulic motor which drives a generator.

But that isn't free motion, people quickly respond. "You are going to slow that train down and make it use more energy to regain its lost speed," is a typical reply.

That is where the downhill theory also fits into place. Bridwell says trains must use their brakes or reverse their engines on these long grades or risk a runaway. Therefore, even though the pumping and subsequent pressure buildup would tend to slow the train, the actual effect would be beneficial and save the train's brakes and would not require the train to use any more energy than it normally would.

His theory is complex. He talks of revolutions per minute, piston size, stroke, horsepower per mile, and so on. Basically, what he wants to do is harness the rail movement, pump up pressure to drive the motor and generate electricity at a cost lower than other methods.

That is going to require a pipeline, he points out.

Bridwell's downhill theory-

An unusual idea  
to save energy



Will the railroads be pleased to tear up all those rail beds to put down a pipeline?

Bridwell says the railroads need to make repairs on a large portion of their rail beds and that installing the pipeline when the reconstruction is underway is the way to accomplish that part of the job without a lot of extra expense.

In the past several months, Bridwell has put much effort into making his theory widely known. He has been the subject of newspaper articles and radio and TV interviews. He has written Congressmen, governors and Federal officials.

As would be expected in a time when there are all sorts of alternative energy proposals, he has not received a great deal of response from those who could show the greatest interest: private business interests, government officials, scientists and engineers.

Bridwell quickly admits there may be weaknesses to his theory. He isn't afraid of that, though. He says he welcomes input, negative as well as positive. If he is headed in the wrong direction, he wants to know, he explains. He also wants to know if he is headed in the proper direction, too.

Bridwell has worked hard to publicize his theory. What he hopes to reap from the publicity is the answer as to whether he is on the right track.



*Phil Bridwell of Anna studies a drawing of the hydraulic system he believes has a place in this country's energy future. Called the "Bridwell Downhill Theory," it incorporates the idea that wasted energy can be used to generate electricity.*

### CELEBRATION COFFEE CAKE

1/3 cup margarine, melted  
1/3 cup light brown sugar, packed  
16 pecan halves  
3/4 cup margarine  
1 1/2 cups sugar  
3 tablespoons orange juice  
1 tablespoon grated orange rind  
3 eggs  
3 cups flour  
1 tablespoon baking powder  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
1 cup milk  
3/4 cup raisins

Pour margarine into bottom of well greased and floured 12-cup bundt pan; cool 15 minutes. Sprinkle brown sugar over margarine. Press nuts firmly into sugar mixture. Heat oven to 325 degrees. Cream margarine and sugar until light and fluffy; stir in orange juice and rind. Add eggs, one at a time, mixing well after each addition. Sift together 2 3/4 cups flour, baking powder and salt. Add to creamed mixture alternately with milk. Combine raisins and remaining 1/4 cup flour; fold into batter. Carefully spoon batter into pan. Bake at 325 degrees, 1 hour and 5 minutes or until wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Remove from pan immediately.

### BRUNCH PORK TRIO

6 smoked pork chops, cut 3/4 inch thick\*  
12 fresh pork sausage links  
2 tablespoons water  
6 slices bacon  
6 tomato slices, cut 1/2 inch thick  
Dill weed

Place sausages and water in frying-pan, cover and cook slowly 5 minutes. Wrap each bacon slice (in spiral fashion) around 2 sausages, securing at end with a small round wooden pick. Place smoked pork chops on rack in broiler pan so top of meat is 4 inches from heat and broil 5 minutes. Turn chops, place sausage bundles on broiler pan with chops and broil 5 minutes. Sprinkle tomato slices with dill weed and place on chops; turn sausage bundles. Continue broiling 4 to 5 minutes. Remove picks and place a sausage bundle on each tomato slice. 6 servings. \*6 slices of Canadian-style bacon, cut 3/4 inch thick, can be substituted for the smoked chops. Note: To serve 12, double recipe and first complete 6 Pork Brunch Trios, place on hot platter, cover with foil and keep warm.

### BRUNCH SALAD

2 qts. torn spinach  
2 qts. torn assorted greens  
1 32-oz. jar chilled unsweetened grapefruit sections, drained  
2 avocados, sliced  
French dressing

Combine spinach and greens; place on large salad platter. Arrange grapefruit and avocados on top. Serve with dressing. 12 servings.

# Easter brunch

Easter brunch consists of cranberry cocktail, Pork Trio, salad, coffee cake, rolls & coffee.



# Old-fashioned cooking

## FARMER'S CHICKEN STEW

- 1 5-lb. stewing chicken, cut-up
- 2 cups water
- 3 small onions, cut in half
- 5 whole cloves
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 tablespoon salt
- 1½ teaspoons paprika
- ¼ teaspoon pepper
- 2 cups carrot slices, cut diagonally in ½-inch pieces
- 2 cups celery slices, cut diagonally in ½-inch pieces
- 1 10-oz. pkg. frozen peas, unthawed
- 2 cups milk
- ½ cup flour

Place chicken in 4-quart Dutch oven. Add water, onions and seasonings. Bring to a boil. Cover; simmer 2½ to 3 hours or until chicken is tender. Remove bay leaf and cloves. Add vegetables; bring to a boil. Cover; simmer 15 to 20 minutes or until vegetables are tender. Drain and reserve broth. Skim off excess fat. Pour 3 cups broth into saucepan. (If necessary, add water to measure 3 cups.) Gradually add milk to flour, stirring until smooth. Add to hot broth; bring to a boil over medium heat, stirring constantly until gravy is thickened. Pour gravy over chicken and vegetables. Heat thoroughly. Sprinkle with paprika before serving, if desired. 6 servings.

## PIMIENTO CHEESE BISCUITS

- 2 cups buttermilk biscuit mix
- 1 cup (4 oz.) shredded sharp Cheddar cheese
- 2 tablespoons chopped pimiento
- ¼ teaspoon oregano leaves, crushed

Combine biscuit mix, cheese, pimiento and oregano. Prepare as directed for drop biscuits. Bake at 425 degrees for 8 to 10 minutes or until lightly browned. Serve warm. 10 biscuits.

## GOLDEN TRIFLE

- 1 4½-oz. pkg. vanilla pudding and pie filling
- 3½ cups milk
- 4 teaspoons sherry
- ⅛ teaspoon almond extract
- 1 7½-oz. pkg. dessert rolls, cut in 12 slices
- Orange slices, cut in half, drained
- Maraschino cherries, chopped, drained

Prepare mix as directed for pudding except use 3½ cups milk. Cool. Stir in sherry and almond extract. Arrange dessert roll slices on bottom and sides of 1½-quart glass bowl. Pour pudding over slices; chill. Arrange fruit on top before serving. 8 servings.

## APPLE BREAD PUDDING

- 2 cups milk
- 3 eggs, slightly beaten
- ½ cup light corn syrup
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- ½ teaspoon cinnamon
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 6 day-old white bread slices, cut in 1-inch pieces
- ¼ cup butter, melted
- 2 cups peeled sliced apples

Scald milk; cool 3 to 5 minutes. Combine milk, eggs, syrup, vanilla, cinnamon and salt. Toss bread with butter; place in buttered 1-quart shallow baking dish. Pour milk mixture over bread. Arrange apples on top. Place baking dish in larger shallow pan on oven rack. Pour hot water into pan to 1-inch depth. Bake at 350 degrees, 55 to 60 minutes or until knife inserted near center comes out clean. Serve with preserves, if desired. 6 to 8 servings.

## INDIVIDUAL BAKED CUSTARD

- 4 cups milk
- 6 eggs, slightly beaten
- ½ cup sugar
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- ¼ cup coconut, toasted

Scald milk; cool 3 to 5 minutes. Combine milk, eggs, sugar, salt and vanilla. Pour milk mixture into eight to ten 6-ounce custard cups; set in large shallow pan on oven rack. Pour hot water into pan to 1-inch depth. Bake at 325 degrees, 40 to 45 minutes or until knife inserted near center comes out clean. Cool. Refrigerate. Top with coconut before serving. 8 to 10 servings. VARIATION: Pour milk mixture into 1½-quart shallow baking dish instead of 6-ounce custard cups. Bake about 60 minutes.

## PINTO BEANS

- 1 lb. dried pinto beans
- Large piece of dry salt meat (about ½ lb.)
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 1 teaspoon chili powder
- Salt and pepper to taste (one whole red pepper pod may be added)

Wash beans well. Cover with cold water, let set overnight. Do not drain. Add salt pork, sugar, chili powder, salt and pepper. Cook slowly over moderate heat until tender. (Usually all morning). Serve with the following bread: Make bread as for 1 loaf white bread. Let rise, knead and roll in a rectangle about ½-inch. Cut in strips 1" wide x 3" long. Let rise till doubled. Drop in hot, deep fat and fry till brown. Drain on paper towel. Serve warm.

## DELUXE MEAT LOAF

- 2 med. stalks celery, chopped
- 1 med. onion, minced
- 1 med. carrot, minced or grated
- 2 strips bacon, finely diced
- 1 can (3-4 oz.) mushrooms, diced
- 1 med. green pepper, minced
- ½ teaspoon each monosodium glutamate, celery flakes, dry mustard, sage and salt
- ¼ teaspoon each garlic powder and pepper
- 1 tablespoon soy sauce
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire
- 1 cup milk
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup dry breadcrumbs
- 1 lb. lean beef, ground

Combine all ingredients except beef, mix well; let stand 30 minutes to 1 hour. Add beef, mix thoroughly. Spoon into 8x5x3 loaf pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour and 15 minutes. If desired, top with 1 can (8 oz.) tomato sauce for last 15 minutes of baking time.

## TWENTY-FOUR HOUR SLAW

Shred 1 large head of cabbage. Slice two large Bermuda onions. Put in a large bowl in alternate layers. Sprinkle lightly with salt and pepper. Bring following to a boil:

- ¾ cup sugar
- 1 ½ cups vinegar
- 1 teaspoon celery seed
- 1 teaspoon prepared mustard
- 1 teaspoon salt

Then add 1 cup salad oil. Pour over cabbage and cover tightly immediately. Store in refrigerator until ready to eat, preferably 24 hours.

## BREAD

- 5 pounds flour
- 2 cups sugar
- 1 tablespoon salt
- 1 quart scalded milk with 1 cup shortening
- 4 packages yeast
- 1 cup lukewarm water
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 6 eggs

Scald milk with shortening. Dissolve yeast in cup of lukewarm water. After milk has cooled, add yeast mixture, sugar and salt to milk. Beat eggs and add vanilla, and sugar. Gradually add flour, beating after each addition. Cover and let rise 2 hours. Knead thoroughly and put into loaf pans. Let rise again and cook in slow oven until golden brown. Makes about 6 loaves.

## GRANDMOTHER'S TEACAKES

- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup oleo
- 2 eggs
- 4 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- ½ teaspoon cream of tartar
- 1 teaspoon soda
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 2 tablespoons buttermilk

Cream oleo and sugar together. Mix with eggs. Sift flour, soda and cream of tartar. Put salt in milk and mix with other mixture. Roll thin, cut and bake.

## DOUGHNUTS

- 3 tablespoons butter
- ¾ cup sugar
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 cup riced potatoes
- ¼ cup milk
- 2½ cups sifted cake flour
- 3 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon mace
- ½ teaspoon nutmeg

Cream butter and sugar thoroughly. Add eggs, potatoes and milk. Sift flour with baking powder, salt, mace and nutmeg, add to first mixture. Add a little more flour, if necessary, to handle lightly. Fry in deep fat at 375 degrees. Drain on paper.

# People 'hungry for facts about agriculture'

(continued from page 21)

deepened to twelve feet. That is not true. This committee is opposed to a 12-foot channel, and so is the Corps of Engineers," Schrader reported.

Thomas H. Moore, executive vice president and general manager of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, commended the group on its meeting, and commented on the Farmers Union's closeness to the electric cooperatives of Illinois.

Tony Dechant, national president of the Farmers Union, speaking at the event's concluding banquet, said, "The output of Illinois farms has a value of nearly \$6-billion, but it could be at least a billion dollars higher if more reasonable price floors can be placed under the major commodities."

Dechant said that the "market oriented" farm policy of the past few years actually "has been a high-risk policy," and expressed the hope that President Carter and Secretary of Agriculture Robert Bergland would work for support levels "which more fully share the risks farmers are undertaking in sustained full-scale production."

## NERVOUS

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## ARTHRITIS

### True Life Story

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"Our agricultural program as it stands now is based on catastrophe," he said, adding, "We plant to the fence rows on the assumption that there is going to be a crop failure in Russia, or Australia, or in at least one of the major producing countries in the world. If all the countries in the world have a good year at the same

time, the bottom will fall out of our prices. America's farmers need protection from that possibility. This could be accomplished through improved farm support levels, but all the proposals we have seen so far have been on the low side. We hope the Carter-Bergland recommendations will be better," he said.

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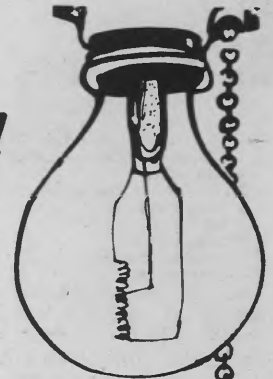
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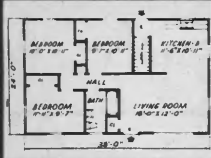
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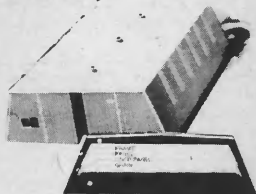
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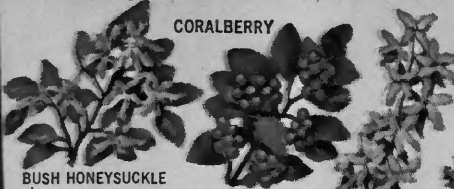
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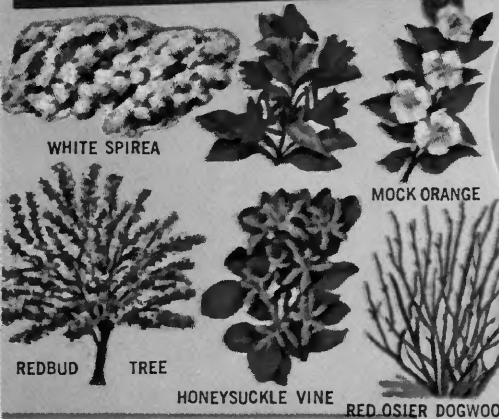
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