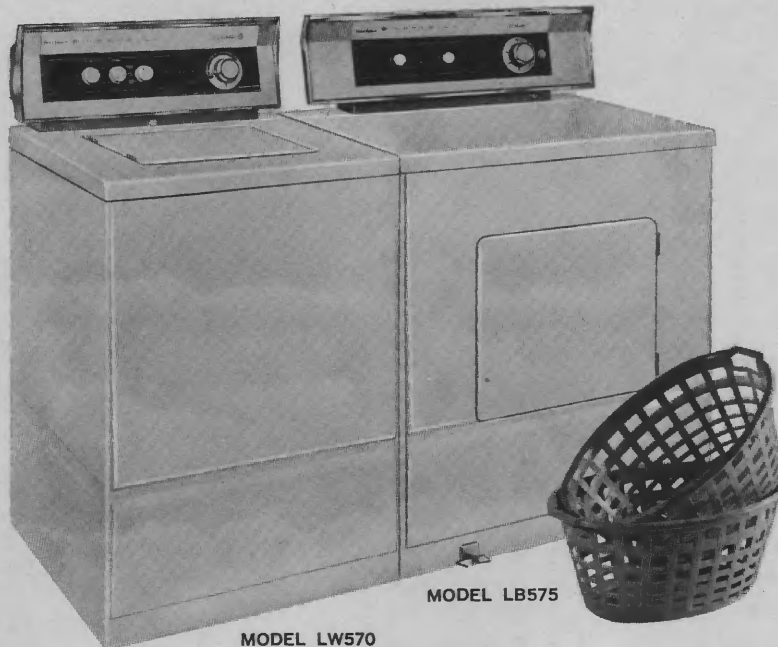




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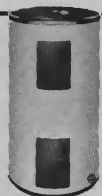
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REA Chief Tells Need for Co-ops

The job of rural electrification is far from done, Norman M. Clapp, administrator of the Rural Electrification Administration, said in commending member-owners of Spoon River Electric Cooperative, Inc., on their accomplishments in furnishing electricity to rural people.

Mr. Clapp, the principal speaker at the cooperative's annual meeting recently, traced the history of REA and the nation's 1,000 electric cooperatives, and said "this is a magnificent success story."

L. C. Groat, manager of the cooperative, estimated about 1,600 persons attended the meeting held in Canton.

They heard the REA administrator say rural electric systems must be strengthened for the country's future prosperity. "This approach not only helps create greater opportunity for rural America, but in the long run saves tax dollars. Building strong, self-sustaining systems will diminish the need for government assistance through such programs as REA."

Mr. Clapp said those political candidates who advocate the abandonment of rural electric cooperatives are entirely wrong. Such a course of action, Mr. Clapp said, would cause a greater need for federal assistance and would result in a collapse of rural electrification.

BETTER SERVICES

Spoon River Electric Cooperative, Inc., is constantly seeking to improve its service to the ever increasing and varying needs of its member-owners.

L. C. Groat, manager of the cooperative, said problems confronting the cooperative seem to grow with the years.

"Our members continue to use greater and greater amounts of electricity and our original idea of adequate lines to provide this service was far short of present requirements, and, even today, the rate of increase of use is such that I can see no end to the job of rebuilding



L. C. Groat (left), manager of Spoon River Electric Cooperative, confers with Norman M. Clapp, administrator of the Rural Electrification Administration, during the cooperative's annual meeting. Mr. Clapp was the principal speaker at the meeting.

and improving existing lines, building new substations and in other ways providing for the increased loads.

"Your cooperative must grow or it will fail. It is growing and we are working continuously with representatives of companies, as well as with our farm population, to get increased loads to produce increased revenues," Mr. Groat said.

The manager reported that road

widening and other changes caused the cooperative to incur an excessive expense by moving lines during the past year. A major item was moving a portion of the new 69,000 volt transmission line in the London Mills area. That work was prompted by the change in Route 116.

Another major item, Mr. Groat said, was repairing one of the "H" fixtures in the old 69,000 volt line east of Ellisville. High winds de-

stroyed the fixture, causing an interruption to service.

Member-owners of the cooperative were called upon to continue their fine support to the organization in providing low-cost electricity.

Marshall D. Thompson, president of the board of directors, also told the members that they "should take advantage of the opportunity to serve" on the board if called upon to do so.

Mr. Thompson said "I am anxious to express to you my appreciation for having been selected as a member of the board of directors of this cooperative and particularly of being allowed to serve as the president of your board of directors during the past year."

Member-owners of the cooperative heard Treasurer Leo Arnett report that net margins for the year ending Dec. 31, 1963, totaled \$26,387.88.

Included in the expenses of \$690,038.26 were \$282,903.21 for cost of power, \$29,279.50 for operations, \$85,529.88 for maintenance, \$14,584.38 for consumer billing, \$15,133.98 for power use, \$83,168.14 for administrative and other costs, \$97,560.73 for depreciation, \$32,965.03 for taxes and \$48,913.41 for interest and long-term debt.

LOAN GRANTED

Receipt of a \$306,000 loan to provide service to new members and to improve existing service was announced at the annual meeting.

The loan from the Rural Electrification Administration will be used to build a new 1,500 KVA substation at DeLong, install 60 new transformers, increase the capacity of 60 distribution transformers, build nine miles of new pole line for 100 new consumers and other purposes.

Marshall D. Thompson, president of the board, and L. C. Groat, the cooperative's manager, announced that the loan had been approved.

Upon completion of the facilities provided for in this and prior REA loans, the cooperative will be serving 3,701 consumers over 1,181 miles of line in five counties.

In reporting receipt of the loan, Mr. Thompson said "Our members continue to use more energy and the installation of larger and heavier equipment such as grain dry-

ers, air conditioning units, automatic feeding installations, and many others are continually requiring that transformer and service capacity be increased, that lines be increased and that additional substations be installed."

NEW DIRECTORS

Three new directors were elected to the board during the annual meeting.

The new directors are Howard Saunders of Trivoli, who previously served on the board, Paul W. Ladd of Ipava and William G. Dean of Astoria.

They replace Marshall D. Thompson of Browning, the current board president; Robert S. Dohner of Vermont, board secretary; and Darrell L. Parish of Canton.

New officers will be named at an organizational meeting in December.

Hold-over directors are Vice President Forrest Beird of Ipava, Treasurer Leo Arnett of Lewistown, Assistant Treasurer Bernard Camp of Smithfield, Edwin Barrett of Lewistown, Donald L. Elliott of Canton and Elwood Wheeler of Mauquon.



One of the 1,600 member-owners who attended the meeting in Canton is shown here as he prepares to enjoy some of the delicious food served the guests.



Three new directors elected at the meeting are (from the left) Paul W. Ladd of Ipava, Howard Saunders of Trivoli and William G. Dean of Astoria. Mr. Saunders previously served on the board of directors.

Ellis Urges Continued Drive

The drive and dynamics generated in the rural electric program in the past year must be maintained, Clyde T. Ellis, general manager of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, told Region V delegates meeting in Eau Claire, Wis., recently.

A total of 529 cooperative leaders from Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin attended the meeting where major emphasis was placed on means of strengthening the rural electric systems. Past activities were reviewed, plans were mapped for the future and attention was called to the upcoming election.

Mr. Ellis, in his annual message, said "We need strong support in both of the great parties." He expressed hope that all those interested in the rural electric program will consider the views of candidates on rural electrification.

"In my opinion this is not just another election," he said. "I am convinced this is the most important presidential election of this century. If the facts and the record do not become blurred and obscured, the people of this nation on Nov. 3 will decide whether the programs to which we have dedicated our lives are to endure or perish."

MR. ELLIS pointed out the sharp difference between the candidates in respect to their views regarding electric cooperatives. President Johnson and Senator Humphrey have long and outstanding records of supporting rural electric cooperatives, but the reverse, he said, is true of their opponents.

A renewed sense of purpose has been given the rural electrification program and the energies expended for the development of rural America must not be forsaken.

That is how Norman M. Clapp, administrator of the Rural Electrification Administration, called upon Region V delegates to remain vigilant and persevering in keeping electric cooperatives a vibrant part of our society.

MR. CLAPP said "As we take stock of the many aspects of rural electrification, your objective might well be described as parity, progress and permanence. Our objective at REA is to help you achieve them.

"You should be seeking parity of service and rates for the rural consumer so that neither the lack of electric service nor the high cost of electric power shall long remain a penal-

(Continued on Page 19)



Nine Illinois cooperative leaders received certificates of achievement for completing a management course. John Myhre (right), of the NRECA staff, presented the awards to (from left) Richard Seger, Adams Electrical, Audace Herzberger, Menard Electric, Lawrence C. Daily, Coles-Moultrie Electric, Ralph V. White, Rural Electric, and John Sargent, Adams Electrical. Other recipients were Maurice Johnson, Edgar Electric, Dennis L. Tachick, Eastern Illinois Power, Fred Jenkin and Roger Mohrman, both Adams Electrical staff members.



Dean Searls (right), Adams Electrical Co-operative manager, received a special award for his recent work in Guatemala from Clyde T. Ellis, NRECA general manager. Mrs. Searls is at the left. Adams Electrical also received a special "Exporting the REA Pattern" award.



Jerry L. Campbell (second from right), AIEC administrative assistant, participated on a regional meeting panel. Other speakers (from left): Jerry Anderson, and William S. Roberts of the NRECA staff, and James N. Sherwood, Dairyland Power Cooperative, La Crosse, Wis., agricultural engineer.