

the worlds first

DESTROYS ALL ODORS FOR 366 DAYS ^{24 HOURS} A DAY

EVEN ELIMINATES THE ODOR OF A SKUNK.

- **Nothing to Push, Pull or Refill**
- **Leaves No Tell-Tale "Cover Up" Smell**
- **Hangs Like a Small Picture**
- **Self Activating**
- **Rest It On Shelf**
- **Mount On Any Clean, Dry Surface**

Kills odors in bathrooms, kitchens, office, pet areas, automobiles, basements, trucks anywhere!

Now . . . get a year's worth of fresh, odor-free air—for just about ½¢ a day! This amazing new cake air freshener that hangs anywhere, works miraculously to clear the air and destroy odors from smoking, rest-rooms, cooking, garbage, pets, spilled foods, chemicals, perspiration, crowds, staleness, mustiness, sinks—anything.

Dazie Disk, deodorizer cake is not a cover-up; it gives off no odor of its own! Its special formula works to kill ALL unpleasant odors and does it so completely and so swiftly that even if a skunk were to spray your room, the smell would be gone.

Works without, the inconvenience and uncertainties of canned sprays, or the heavy "medicated" aroma of other deodorant disks. It actually makes stale air "come alive!"

Hurry, order now . . . Dazie Disk costs only \$1.99 . . . Put a Dazie Disk in every room in the house. Order them in sets of two for just \$3.50, 6 for \$9.00. (Please add 50¢ postage and handling with each individual order.)

**FOR ONLY
\$1.99**
(Just over ½¢ a day!)

JAY NORRIS CORP.

25 W. Merrick Rd., Dept. SE0-65, Freeport, N.Y. 11520
Serving Satisfied Customers
for over 25 Years

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Jay Norris Corp. 25 W. Merrick Rd.,
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Please rush me _____ Dazie Disk(s)
@ \$1.99 plus 50¢ shipping and handling.

SAVE! Order TWO for only \$3.50 plus
60¢ shipping and handling.

SAVE MORE! Order SIX for only
\$9.00 plus \$1.00 shipping and handling.

Enclosed is check or money order
for \$_____.

(N.Y. residents add sales tax.)

PRINT NAME _____

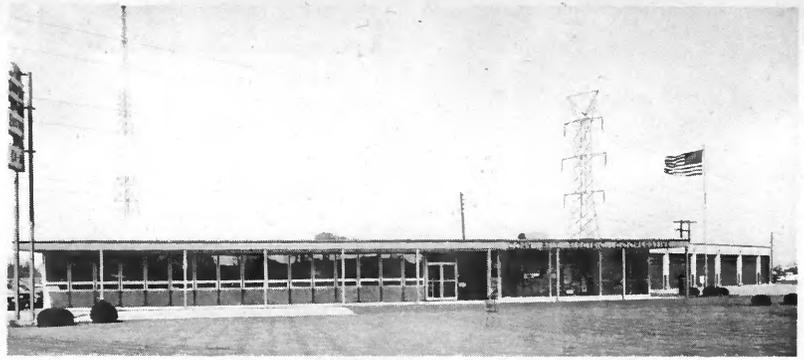
ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

Corn Belt Electric News

Box 816
Bloomington, Illinois 61701
Phone: 309-662-5330



Antique Motif for Modern Office

by Joe Crosno

Remember when the electric cooperatives served only farmers. Today we serve a variety of people in various types of business. We could probably have an interesting story about each one of them. 24U33.

A few days ago I met a very interesting member. Mr. and Mrs. Franklyn Smith live on the cooperative line near Carlock, Illinois. "Hank," as he prefers to be called, is in the insurance business. Although he has a very common name, his office is unusual. In my interview with Hank he related how it all happened:

"I have attempted to make my office unusual. I continued the Indianapolis Life district agency established in 1919 by Samuel Kiefer, who devoted 50 years to his clients and now is enjoying his rocking chair and fishing pole. When Mr. Kiefer entered the insurance business, he purchased an oak file. This old piece of office equipment didn't appeal to me when I acquired the agency in 1966. But when I needed more office equipment, I thought it might be effective to use this piece as the start of an antique office decor. 5/29.

"As I made my calls, I started discussing this idea with my clients and friends. Many people contributed chairs, library tables, a bookcase, a sand urn, an old checkwriter, an Oliver typewriter and numerous other items. Each piece has been refinished by a client who is an expert in furniture refinishing, and another client has made name plates noting each item's previous owner. 61A4

"All of the furniture pieces are in good repair, and I think the fact that

they are old and have a tan oak color lends a relaxed atmosphere to the office. Clients and I visit at the library table, which is kept clean at all times so that my clients will not be distracted. It contains two drawers filled with paper, marker pens, pencils and other items that might be used in an interview." 34D20.

"Hank" Smith has qualified several times for the Million Dollar Round Table and has received the National Quality Award. He is a graduate of Illinois Wesleyan University and holds a master's degree from the University of Illinois. He has completed the LUTC courses and is a member of his company's Presidents Club. A winner of the National Sales Achievement Award, Mr. Smith is a past president of his local life underwriters association and a past chairman of his county heart fund drive. 78A33



Hank's office gives you a casual feeling. It is neat and the antique items bring back memories of the past.



This stained glass window was made by Michelle Bell. It was made from a storm window. The lead was pasted on the glass and then the pieces painted various colors.



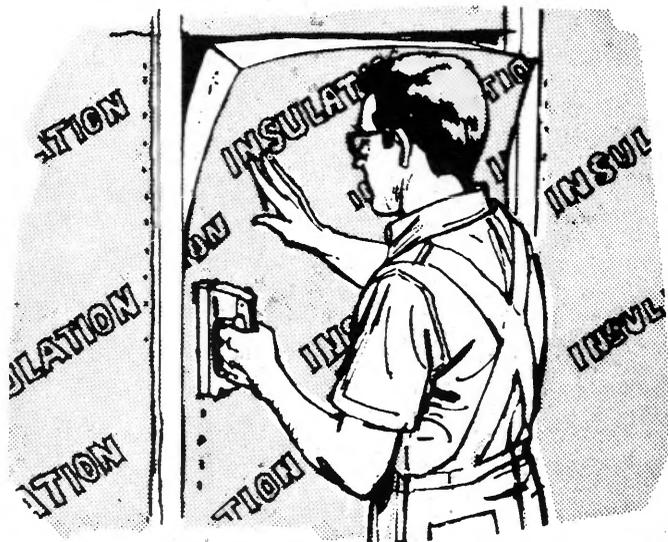
Along with the antique collection, Hank also has the most modern equipment. Shown here is a computer service connection. By dialing the proper code he can use the modern computer service to answer investment questions instantly.

Electric Heating and Proper Insulation - A Money Saving Comfort Team

There are steps you can take to ensure that you get the clean, efficient warmth and comfort expected from electric heating. You'll save money, too.

- PROPER INSULATION of ceilings, walls and floors prevents heat loss and also helps keep you cool on hot summer days. 26A27
- STORM DOORS and windows help, too.
- WEATHER STRIPPING of windows and doors helps prevent cold drafts.
- THE PROPER SIZE heating unit for your home is important. 42C10
- TURN DOWN the thermostat when you leave the house unoccupied over night.

Electricity is too good to waste. Contact your Rural Electric system for money saving, electric saving hints.



The electric way is clean.

LOW THERMOSTAT SETTING CUTS COST

One of the real plus features of electric heating is room-by-room temperature control. The individual room thermostats mean that the exact degree of heat desired in each room may be obtained. A few weeks of experience with your electric heating system will help you determine the settings which provide the most comfort. 18C25

You probably will find you are comfortable at lower temperatures than were necessary with other heating systems. This is because electric heating assures a uniform temperature through each room, and the humidity in the air is retained.

Many people find that living areas are most comfortable at 70-72 degrees, bathroom and dressing areas during

periods of use at 78-80 degrees and bedrooms at about 65 degrees or lower. For sleeping comfort, we suggest you turn your bedroom thermostat down. If you like to sleep with a window open, be sure to close the bedroom door to prevent chilling the entire house.

The lowest comfortable settings naturally mean the greatest economy. The following table illustrates the cost of keeping room temperatures above and below 70 degrees using any type of fuel: gas, oil, coal or electricity. 47C15

We are anxious that your electric heating service be entirely satisfactory and reasonably economical. May we suggest that you place this article in a prominent position in your home.

TEMPERATURE-COST RELATIONSHIP

Heating at	Based on 70 Degrees
68	Costs 6.2% Less
69	Costs 3.1% Less
70	Costs 0
71	Costs 3.1% More
72	Costs 6.2% More
73	Costs 9.4% More
74	Costs 12.5% More

Proper humidity levels in the home are equally important with respect to comfort and health. The

following table is a guide for proper humidity levels. 28A35

HUMIDITY GUIDE

This chart shows proper inside-outside temperature ratios for safe relative humidity control. Use these percentage figures for setting humidistat dial.

If Outside	air temperature is:	-15°	-10°	-5°	0°	+5°	+10°	+15°	+20°
And Inside	air temperature is 70°	18%	20%	24%	30%	35%	40%	45%	50%
Or if Inside	air temperature is 75°	15%	17%	20%	25%	30%	35%	40%	45%

what's new?

Vinyl-Clad Freezer

Kelvinator offers a wood grain vinyl-clad food freezer. The 8.27 cubic-foot unit is especially suitable for use in apartments, mobile homes, family rooms or in other areas where space is at a premium. The freezer features Trimwall construction, a foam insulation that takes up less space. The unit has a capacity of 289 pounds of frozen foods, and is only 35 inches by 23 13/16 inches deep, including handles and hinges.



Dial-A-Matic

The Hoover Automatic Power Drive Vacuum Cleaner is self-propelled by an "action grip." A light touch on the handle moves the unit forward or to the rear. Standard features include a lockout button for manual control, wide angle headlight, a power dial to regulate suction, a signal that lights up when the bag is full and the automatic floating rug adjustment adapts to shag, low pile or anything in between. The suggested retail price is \$169.95.

Price Controls O Asked B

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CNS)—Three leaders of consumer groups asked in a press conference here for price controls on fuel supplies to prevent the poor from being left out and oil companies from getting excess profits.

Speaking in behalf of the consumer were Ralph Nader, the nation's best known consumer advocate; Lee White, chairman of the Energy Policy Task Force of the Consumer Federation of America, and the Rev. Jesse Jackson, director of the Chicago-based PUSH (People United to Save Humanity).

Nader said that industry, which uses 70 percent of the fuel in the nation, could trim consumption by 30 to 40 percent simply by not being wasteful. He mentioned General Motors, International Telephone and Telegraph and Radio Corporation of America as examples of large industries which might save from 10 to 25 percent on fuel without spending a cent.

"They simply apply thrift factors—so as to not use unnecessary amounts of fuel," said Nader. He listed these as cutting down boilers when not needed, trimming electrical use and shutting off machinery when not in use, among other things.

All three charged that oil companies withhold large amounts of oil reserves from the market. They said oil companies could obtain vast amounts of oil through secondary and tertiary recovery methods. They charged that oil firms take only about one-third of the oil from a field because it's cheaper to do so. They then move on to other fields, including overseas, where the drilling costs are much lower than in the U.S. One estimate is that the drilling cost per barrel in the U.S. is \$2.40 compared to 6¢ a barrel in some Mideast nations.

Nader said he will ask the nation's top 100 firms what they are doing to save fuel and will ask teams of

**A FORMULA
FOR LOVE**

A Happy Home Recipe

**Full Color
Linen WALL
HANGING
Makes
Charming
Decoration**

**only
\$1⁹⁹**



Mix 4 cups of love, 2 cups of loyalty, 3 cups of forgiveness . . . Here's a recipe for everyone in the family . . . a recipe that anyone can try and is guaranteed to come out beautifully as long as you follow the instructions! It's a recipe for happiness . . . it's a recipe that will make your life deeper and more profound. Yet it's told so simply and directly, no one can fail to appreciate its message. In fact it's all the wisdom you'll ever need to keep your home full of joy . . . help you over the rough spots . . . and remind you of the contributions you must make to keep love alive and make it grow.

But this piece is more than a message, it's a beautiful decorator piece printed in full color on fine linen and finished with hardwood rods top and bottom. Just to look at it will lift your spirits. An ideal gift . . . a homey reminder that all life expects is for you to put in as much as you'd like to take out. A full 14" x 17" it's yours for only \$1.99, and since it has such universal appeal, why not order another as a thoughtful gift, two for just \$3.50 (please add 50c postage and handling with each order).

JAY NORRIS CORP.

25 W. Merrick Rd., Freeport, N.Y. 11520
Serving Satisfied Customers for over 25 Years

**BUY WITH CONFIDENCE—
30-DAY MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE**

Jay Norris Corp., 25 W. Merrick Rd.,
Dept. SE0-113 Freeport, N.Y. 11520

Please rush me _____ Wall Hanging(s)
\$1.99 plus 50c shipping and handling.

SAVE! Order TWO for only \$3.50 plus 50c
for shipping and handling.

SAVE More! Order SIX for only \$9.00 plus
\$1.00 for shipping and handling.

SAVE More! Order TWELVE for \$18.00
plus \$1.50 for shipping and handling.

Enclosed is check or money order for
\$ _____
(N.Y. residents add sales tax.)

PRINT NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

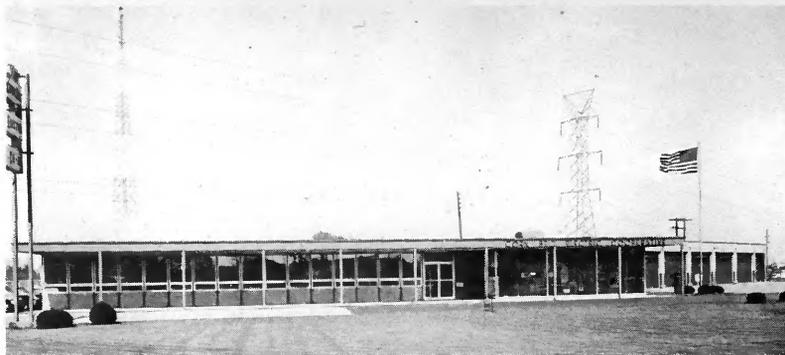
CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

© Jay Norris Corp., 1973

Corn Belt Electric News

Box 816
Bloomington, Illinois 61701
Phone: 309-662-5330



COOPERATIVE ANNUAL MEETING FEBRUARY 23rd

The 1974 annual meeting of Corn Belt Electric Cooperative will be held Saturday, February 23, in the Stevenson Grade School gymnasium in Bloomington.

The annual meeting is your meeting and we hope each of you plan to attend. In addition to hearing brief reports from the officers, you will have the opportunity to participate in the election of directors and other affairs of business. 25B3

Your annual meeting will include a financial statement and brief report outlining the progress of your cooperative during the past year. If you have any questions or suggestions, present them to the directors or staff at the meeting.

Following the business portion of the meeting, we have planned some fine entertainment. There will be a drawing where many electrical appliances and other prizes will be given away. 75D34

An Illinois Power Company official will deliver the keynote address entitled "Nuclear—One Answer to the Energy Problem."

Following the meeting, you can enjoy seeing your old friends, as well as meeting some of Corn Belt's newest consumer-members while coffee, milk and donuts are being served.

Mark February 23rd on your calendar now so you won't forget to load up the family and join us in Bloomington for an enjoyable afternoon. 3C12

NOTICE

36th ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
STEVENSON GRADE SCHOOL GYMNASIUM

Bloomington, Illinois
(East of Rt. 66 on Rt. 9 to
Gettysburg Drive. Go north
to school.)

SAT., FEB. 23, 1974, 1:00 P.M.

PRIZES—ENTERTAINMENT—REFRESHMENTS
BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY

WARNING!

Notice to all Potential Buyers of Crop Dryers

No crop dryers will be energized by Corn Belt Electric Cooperative after July 1, 1974, unless your plans have been approved by our Engineering Department prior to that date.

Consult the cooperative BEFORE you purchase a dryer. We may not have immediate system capabilities to handle the drying load at your location this year. 26A5

PLEASE plan ahead with us to meet your future needs. Contact our personnel in the Engineering Department as soon as possible if you are thinking about buying a new crop dryer or adding to your present system. 39H15

Students! Win a Free Trip To Washington, D.C., in June

WHO MAY ENTER: Sophomores and juniors attending any high school in the area served by Corn Belt Electric Cooperative are eligible to enter the contest. Members of the families of cooperative directors and employees are not eligible.

TO ENTER: Write an essay of approximately 1,000 words on "The Electric Cooperative—Its Role and Function as a Segment of the Electrical Power Industry." Research material and other assistance may be obtained from Corn Belt Electric Cooperative. 47A12

DEADLINE: Entries must be typewritten and submitted to the cooperative's office in Bloomington no later than April 22. The local winner will be taken to Springfield for the Washington trip with other contest winners and their chaperones. 53F7

THE RULES: Essays will be judged by impartial judges, with their decision being final. One student, a boy or girl, will receive the week's trip (June 8-15) to the nation's capitol with all expenses paid. 21U27



BOOSTER GROUPS ADDS STRENGTH TO COOPERATIVE

Nearly 160 persons were welcomed by Vice President Gene Dressler at the Booster Committee meeting held recently in Bloomington. 12D32

Mr. Dressler, of El Paso, explained the purpose of the committee and outlined the responsibilities of a Booster Committee member. "We must have members who are interested beyond the point of simply being a consumer in the business they themselves own," Dressler commented, "if we are to continue to successfully meet the challenges the future holds in store for us."

According to Manager G. V. Beer, each township served by the Corn Belt Electric Cooperative is represented on the committee by a township couple selected by the cooperative's board of directors.

The nominating committee reported that John Butterfield, Gene Dressler, Homer Jeckel and J. D. Moberly were nominated for re-election as directors on Corn Belt's board. 32E33

Director John Butterfield announced Corn Belt's decision to participate in the "Youth to Washington" essay contest in 1974.

ELECTRICITY



IS FOR PEOPLE

Corn Belt Electric Cooperative
P. O. Box 816
Bloomington, Illinois 61701

Dear Sirs:

Please send an entry blank and information concerning this summer's "Youth to Washington" essay contest.

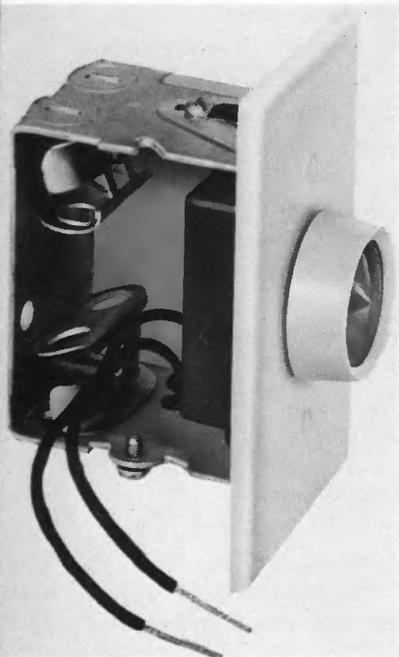
Name _____ Age _____

Parents' Name _____

Address _____

High School _____ Class Year _____

what's new?



Trimatron

Trimatron™, a new compact dimmer device is available from the Leviton Manufacturing Company. The compactness of the switch allows for maximum space inside switch boxes, making installation faster and easier and thin enough for any wall system including mobile/modular structures. Trimatron™ features a full dimming range with clockwise rotary action for reliable switch action. The 600-watt dimmer is backed by a full-year factory warranty.

Microwave Oven

A new "dual-power" microwave oven that allows greater cooking flexibility, as well as improved browning and defrosting, has been introduced by Sears, Roebuck and Co. The unit uses two energy levels, the "high" setting is perfect for fast cooking and the "low" level permits defrosting. There are no temperature controls to set because the oven cooks by time, not temperature. To operate the unit, only the power buttons and the timer is needed. The oven automatically shuts itself off and a bell signals the end of the cooking time. The unit operates on a standard 120-volt household current; no special wiring is needed.



Hard Work And Long Hours

(continued from page 14)

Schewe pointed out that it is important for the consumer to understand the dairymen's side.

"There are other risks to which the dairyman is subjected, such as medical care," Schewe said. "Any cow receiving medical treatment which is necessary to maintain a quality herd, is essentially out of production. Medicine affects the milk and it can't be sold. So, for several days a dairyman is losing money."

Schewe does see a future in dairy farming, particularly, on a larger scale. But the investment for such an operation is complex, too.

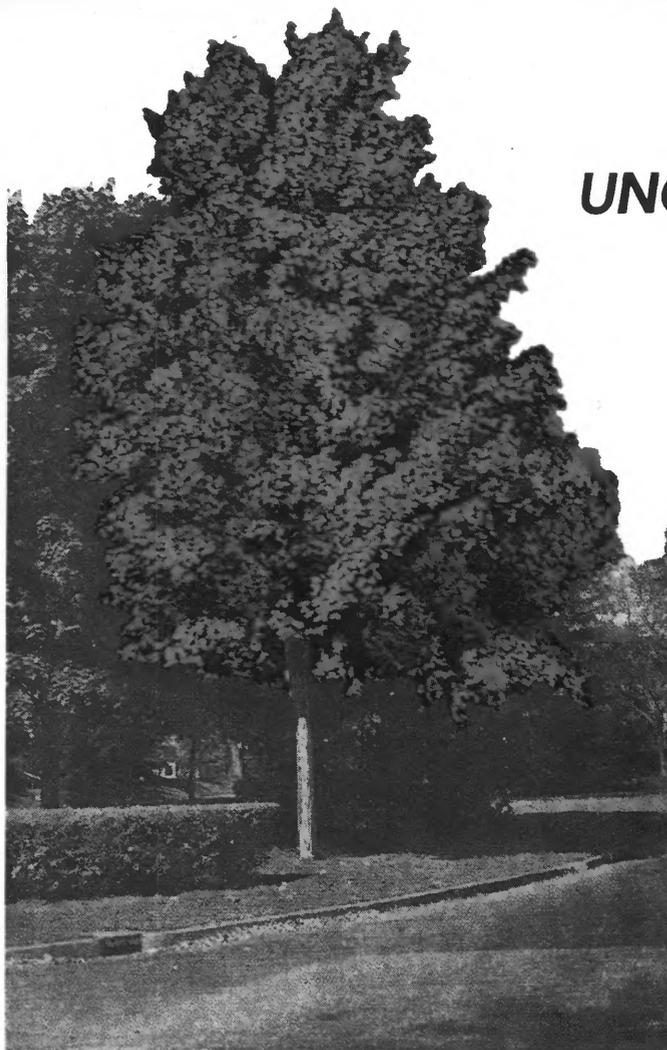
"Eventually I'd like to have a facility which would handle a 125-cow milking herd," Schewe said. "And to comply with new ideas in environmental protection, it would be a deodorized unit so the wind wouldn't carry the scent of the barnyard. But to set up such an operation, it would require an additional investment in equipment, buildings and an extra silo, which would cost about \$95,000."

Schewe's wife, Joy, was raised in St. Louis. But since her marriage, she has adapted to the dairy life quite well.

"I love the farm," she said. "At first it was hard to get used to getting up at 5 a.m. every morning, but now I don't mind at all. We milk twice a day but the only time I'm on duty is in the mornings. It takes us from about 5:30 to 9 a.m. to get the cows fed and milked, even with three of us working full time, Ron, myself and a helper."

Joy doesn't work during the evening's milking. A part-time employee joins with Ron and the full-time helper. It's not an easy job, although it may be enjoyable. It's also a seven-day-a-week, 52-weeks a year job, which doesn't leave much time for a vacation.

But thanks to the use of modern, electrically operated milking parlor, the Schewes do find their time to take a break from the yearly work.



Actual unretouched photograph of a five year scarlet maple.

UNQUESTIONABLY THE MOST BEAUTIFUL FAST GROWING SHADE TREE IN AMERICA TODAY

- This gorgeous tree is known as the scarlet maple, the red maple, or the EVER CHANGING MAPLE.
- Beautiful Red Scarlet leaves in the fall of the year, and beautiful deep dark green leaves in the spring of the year.
- Grows approximately 25-30 feet over a five year period, which makes it one of the fastest growing shade trees in America today.
- Many landscape architects, nursery men, and gardening experts refer to this tree as the "2 in 1" tree, because of its dual qualities of beauty and speed.
- Now is the ideal time to plant this tree.
- Shipped at 4 to 6 feet — all shipping cost paid.
- Due to the tremendous demand for this tree please allow two weeks for delivery.

Beauty — This beautiful shade tree blazes a brilliant red color in the fall and an olive green color in the springtime. Yes, recognized tree experts agree it is the one tree that delivers beauty throughout the year.

Height — This magnificent tree grows approximately 25 to 30 feet over a five year period (see photograph) and eventually soars to a height of eighty feet or more.

Hardiness — This tree is very hardy as the wood from maple trees is recognized as one of the hardiest.

Adaptability — "The scarlet maple has one of the widest ranges of our native trees, growing from eastern central Canada to Florida, and because of its ease of transplanting it adapts to any type of soil." (From All About Trees by E. Johnson). The one tree experts agree will grow anywhere in the U.S.A.

TO BEAUTIFY YOUR HOME NOW ORDER TODAY ON A TWO WAY GUARANTEE

Imagine! This beautiful tree shading your front yard and the looks of admiration and words of praise it will bring to your house and home. You'll agree it lends lovely contrasts to its surroundings. Now the retail price of this tree is \$4.98, but during this spring planting season our price is only \$4.49. Yes, just a mere \$4.49 for this beautiful shade tree. **ORDER TODAY—YOU WILL BE PLEASED.**

TWO WAY GUARANTEE

We are so sure that this is the most incredible shade tree that you've ever seen, here is our 2-way, ironclad guarantee: (1) If, upon arrival, you are not completely satisfied, then return for a full refund; (2) Free replacement, for any reason, up to one full year. When have you ever seen a stronger guarantee?

OUR CHALLENGE TO YOU

It's almost too good to be true, but we feel so sure that these native collected trees are some of nature's most prized possessions that we are making you an outstanding offer. Our knowledge and experience of many years and our own research about this tree gives us confidence in the following challenge. If you can find just one negative comment by an expert printed in any magazine, periodical, or gardening book, we will give you any item from our catalogue of over 400 varieties absolutely free of charge. We send a catalogue with every order. This offer is hard to beat! We are sure that anything you read anywhere about this beautiful scarlet maple will have nothing but praise and acclaim.

NURSERY BARN

P.O. Box 712-C

McMinnville, Tenn. 37110

Please send us these beautiful shade trees, on a two-way guarantee, the trees indicated below.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Shade Tree\$ 4.49 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Shade Trees (Save \$6).....\$11.98 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Shade Trees (Save \$2).....\$ 6.98 | <input type="checkbox"/> 8 Shade Trees (Save \$12).....\$21.98 |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 16 Shade Trees (Save \$16).....\$39.98 |

I enclose \$ _____ in cash check money order

Name _____

Address _____

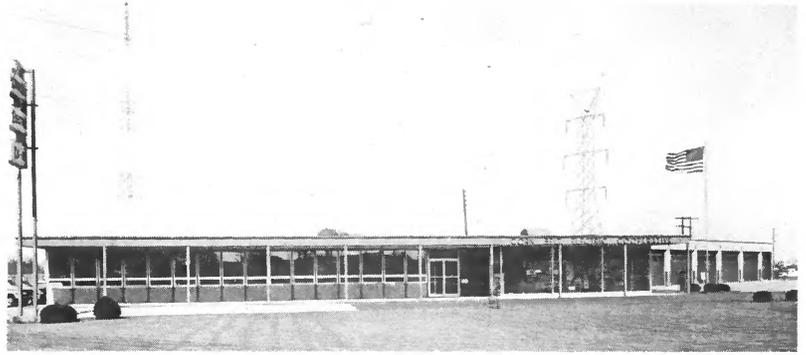
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Corn Belt Electric News

Box 816

Bloomington, Illinois 61701

Phone: 309-662-5330



ENERGY AND PROGRESS

Progress is defined as advancement in general, growth or development, forward or onward movement. Energy is a most vital ingredient for continued progress.

It is said that a government, a business or an individual must progress—that situations cannot remain at a given point, or they deteriorate and slip backwards.

Regardless of nostalgic reminiscing, it is very doubtful that many of us would like to return to the life style of the good old days. But we may have no choice unless something is done to improve the energy situation. Our economy and our way of life is dependent upon an abundant supply of energy.

One of the most practical assessments of the situation was presented at a symposium on energy by Philip Sporn. Mr. Sporn was associated with the electric industry for many years and received numerous honors and awards during his service.

In his opinion, we cannot go back. Our population by the year 2000 is estimated at about 300 million. The aspirations of these 300 million to improve their welfare will be as strong as those of the current generation.

Faith in a better future is commonly called the American dream. This faith will certainly reassert itself after the present, frequently irrational, concern about the environment passes and a more balanced public view becomes accepted. To make this better future a reality, will require greater quantities of energy.

This does not mean that our future energy use pattern will be a mere extension of our past. We must do a much better job to make increased use

of energy compatible with the environment. We can achieve this partly by using energy more efficiently and productively and partly by improving technology.

Mr. Sporn stresses the need for a National Energy Policy. He suggests we drop any serious attention to the so-called exotic energy sources such as geothermal, solar, tidal and fusion, since they offer no solid hope for improving the energy supply set-up until 1985.

At its point of use, electricity is our cleanest form of energy. To be practical, it would seem that technology should be working overtime to make more efficient use of

coal and nuclear energy for generation of electrical power until such time as research provides a better means.

Fluorescent lamps produce considerably more light per watt than incandescent bulbs. A 40-watt fluorescent tube provides five times more light than a 40-watt incandescent and nearly twice the light of a 100-watt incandescent bulb.

The fluorescent tube is also designed to outlive 20 incandescent bulbs of average life. The increased efficiency of fluorescent lighting results in less wattage consumption, conserving energy and producing less heat.

WARNING

NOTICE TO ALL POTENTIAL BUYERS OF CROP DRYERS

No crop dryers will be energized by Corn Belt Electric Cooperative after July 1, 1974, unless your plans have been approved by our Engineering Department Prior to that date.

Consult the cooperative BEFORE you purchase a dryer. We may not have immediate system capabilities to handle the drying load at your location this year. 7C31

PLEASE plan ahead with us to meet your future needs. Contact our personnel in the Engineering Department as soon as possible if you are thinking about buying a new crop dryer or adding to your present system. 34E29

LOCATION NUMBERS

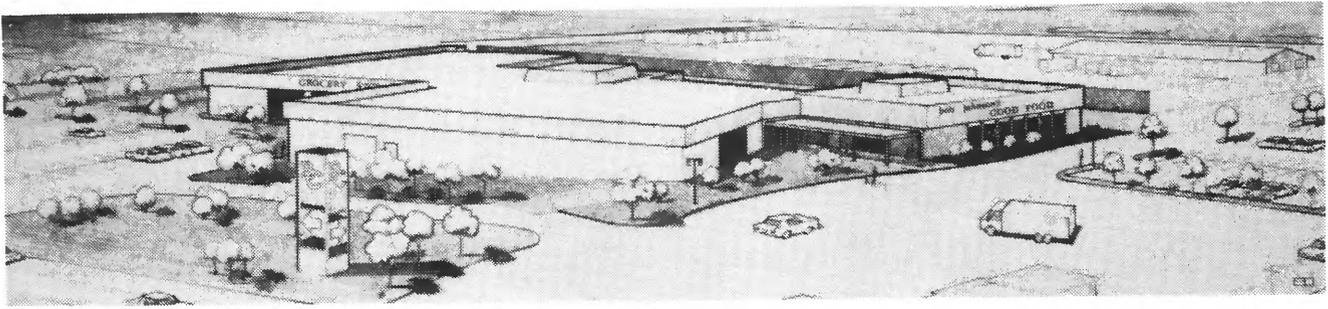
Look closely for your account number on these pages of REN. If you find it, please notify Corn Belt Electric Cooperative's office and we will gladly present you with your choice of an electric blanket, an electric heater, an electric fan or a credit of \$15 against your next power bill. 24B19

FEEL TIRED?

If you are an adult of average weight, here is what you accomplish in 24 hours:

- * Your heart beats 103,689 times.
- * Your blood travels 168,000,000 miles.
- * You breathe 23,040 times.
- * You inhale 438 cubic feet of air.

- * You eat 3¼ pounds of food.
- * You drink 2.9 quarts of liquid.
- * You lose 7/8 of a pound of waste.
- * You speak 4,800 words, including some unnecessary ones.
- * You move 750 muscles.
- * Your nails grow .000046 inch.
- * Your hair grows .01714 inch.



This artist's drawing shows how the shopping center will look when completed.

The new Bob Johnson Restaurant building was designed by Evans and Associates, architects. It has a brick and deep brown cedar exterior. The interior features wood ceiling beams, three massive brick fireplaces and rich turned wood space dividers. Four separate dining areas will seat over 400 in the combined rooms. 24R34-BB

NEW BOB JOHNSON RESTAURANT

Arthur Brandt entered the restaurant business in 1941 when, as a truck line owner, he purchased the Quick and Benson business at the present location (U. S. 66 and 150). The "Cross Roads" restaurant was part of the package. 47A34



This handsome structure houses the area's newest and largest restaurant. The famous rooster can be seen high above the big chicken dinner sign.

Bob Johnson, operator of a cafe on Main Street in Bloomington, took over the Brandtville Restaurant management in 1957 in the newly remodeled "Cross Roads" restaurant. His famous chicken and other specialities have been enjoyed by thousands and thousands for over 16 years. Area families, travelers, plant workers, late-night diners and early-rising hunters are all attracted by the fine food and the 24-hour service that have made Bob Johnson's Brandtville Restaurant a nationally known landmark. 33H18

Inside the new restaurant building, you will find the finest equipment available, including an all-electric broaster, for his famous broasted chicken. In all, the new restaurant represents over a quarter of a million dollars in gleaming stainless steel, fine carpets and smart comfortable seating.

All of this is just Phase I of the new 70,000 square foot Brandtville Center to be served by the Corn Belt Electric Cooperative, Inc. Phase II will contain 37,000 square feet of totally enclosed shopping convenience. 77A27

Construction of the mall will begin immediately, with completion scheduled for next May. Phase III, with an additional 21,000 square feet of fine stores and shops, will open in the fall. In all, the total Brandtville Center complex, including Adolph's Discount store and parking areas will occupy 22 acres. 39I12



The rooster motif above the large fireplace is typical of the interior art. Many pictures of roosters can be found throughout the dining areas.

ELECTRIFY

 Conserve fuels in short supply



*** Over \$17,000.00
total protection
for less than \$15.00/month**

In an insurance plan, Dad needs the most protection. But Mom should be protected, too, especially while the children are young. And the kids need some insurance to start with . . . protection they can always be sure of having, regardless of later health problems.

All of these are combined in Congressional's Life Plan -- an excellent, low-cost, starting plan for any family, and an equally good supplement for the family who needs added protection.

The total amount of coverage and the monthly premium will depend, of course, on Dad and Mom's age and the number of children in your family. Just send us the information on the form below and we'll tell you exactly how much protection your family would have and what it would cost.

Remember, you're not buying a thing. . . just getting the facts to make a decision. So clip the form below and mail now, while it's handy. Then, when you get the details, talk it over with your wife (or husband) and let us know if you're both interested. Fair enough?

**The above plan is based on family group of husband, age 30; wife, age 28; and four children. Similar coverage available at comparable rates for ages 21 to 55.*

Husband's Name _____ Age _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Wife's Age _____ No. of dependent children _____

GR/C Congressional Life Insurance Company
 GOLDEN RULE BUILDING • LAWRENCEVILLE, ILLINOIS 62439



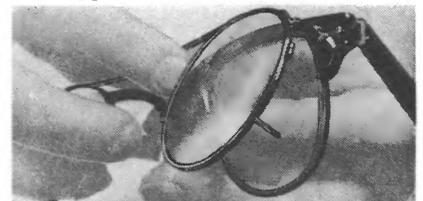
"You can't use it for a few minutes -- it's busy mixin' up a batch of biscuits."

If Ruptured TRY THIS OUT

**Modern Protection Provides Great
Comfort and Holding Security**

An "eye-opening" revelation in sensible and comfortable reducible rupture protection may be yours for the asking, without cost or obligation. Full details of the new and different Rice Support will be sent you Free. Here's a Support that has brought joy and comfort to thousands--by releasing them from Trusses that bind and cut. Designed to securely hold a rupture up and in where it belongs and yet give freedom of body and genuine comfort. For full information--write today! WILLIAM S. RICE, Inc., ADAMS, N. Y., 13605 DEPT. 9P

Clip-On Magnifiers



Clip MAGNIFIERS on regular glasses. SEE CLEARER INSTANTLY. Read fine print. Do close work. Neat, metal frame. 10 day trial. SATISFACTION GUARANTEED. Send age, sex. On arrival pay postman \$4.95 plus C.O.D. or send only \$4.95 and we pay postage. PRECISION OPTICAL CO., Dept. 109-H Rochelle, Ill. 61068

Get rid of all ROACHES
and WATERBUGS with

SURE KILL

Or You Pay Nothing

Roaches eat Sure Kill greedily and return to their nests which they contaminate, starting a chain reaction that wipes out all other roaches and eggs. Sure Kill never wears out, is absolutely odorless and safe to use. It contains no D.D.T. A single can cleans out six rooms and keeps them free of roaches and waterbugs for years. Money back guarantee. Send just \$3.98 for one can, two for \$6.98 postpaid.

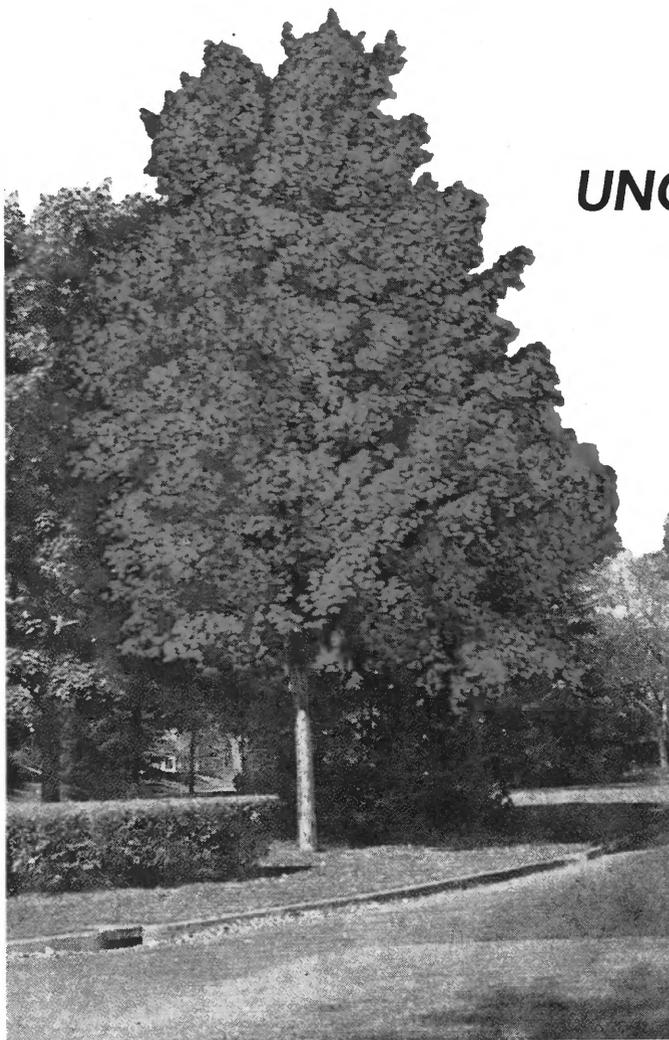
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ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS



UNQUESTIONABLY THE MOST BEAUTIFUL FAST GROWING SHADE TREE IN AMERICA TODAY

- This gorgeous tree is known as the scarlet maple, the red maple, or the EVER CHANGING MAPLE.
- Beautiful Red Scarlet leaves in the fall of the year, and beautiful deep dark green leaves in the spring of the year.
- Grows approximately 25-30 feet over a five year period, which makes it one of the fastest growing shade trees in America today.
- Many landscape architects, nursery men, and gardening experts refer to this tree as the "2 in 1" tree, because of its dual qualities of beauty and speed.
- Now is the ideal time to plant this tree.
- Shipped at 4 to 6 feet — all shipping cost paid.
- Due to the tremendous demand for this tree please allow two weeks for delivery.

Actual unretouched photograph of a five year scarlet maple.

Beauty — This beautiful shade tree blazes a brilliant red color in the fall and an olive green color in the springtime. Yes, recognized tree experts agree it is the one tree that delivers beauty throughout the year.

Height — This magnificent tree grows approximately 25 to 30 feet over a five year period (see photograph) and eventually soars to a height of eighty feet or more.

Hardiness — This tree is very hardy as the wood from maple trees is recognized as one of the hardiest.

Adaptability — "The scarlet maple has one of the widest ranges of our native trees, growing from eastern central Canada to Florida, and because of its ease of transplanting it adapts to any type of soil." (From *All About Trees* by E. Johnson). The one tree experts agree will grow anywhere in the U.S.A.

TO BEAUTIFY YOUR HOME NOW ORDER TODAY ON A TWO WAY GUARANTEE

Imagine! This beautiful tree shading your front yard and the looks of admiration and words of praise it will bring to your house and home. You'll agree it lends lovely contrasts to its surroundings. Now the retail price of this tree is \$4.98, but during this spring planting season our price is only \$4.49. Yes, just a mere \$4.49 for this beautiful shade tree. **ORDER TODAY—YOU WILL BE PLEASD.**

TWO WAY GUARANTEE

We are so sure that this is the most incredible shade tree that you've ever seen, here is our 2-way, ironclad guarantee: (1) If, upon arrival, you are not completely satisfied, then return for a full refund; (2) Free replacement, for any reason, up to one full year. When have you ever seen a stronger guarantee?

OUR CHALLENGE TO YOU

It's almost too good to be true, but we feel so sure that these native collected trees are some of nature's most prized possessions that we are making you an outstanding offer. Our knowledge and experience of many years and our own research about this tree gives us confidence in the following challenge. If you can find just one negative comment by an expert printed in any magazine, periodical, or gardening book, we will give you any item from our catalogue of over 400 varieties absolutely free of charge. We send a catalogue with every order. This offer is hard to beat! We are sure that anything you read anywhere about this beautiful scarlet maple will have nothing but praise and acclaim.

NURSERY BARN

P.O. Box 712-C

McMinnville, Tenn. 37110

Please send us these beautiful shade trees, on a two-way guarantee, the trees indicated below.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Shade Tree \$ 4.49 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Shade Trees (Save \$6) \$11.98 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Shade Trees (Save \$2) \$ 6.98 | <input type="checkbox"/> 8 Shade Trees (Save \$12) \$21.98 |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 16 Shade Trees (Save \$16) \$39.98 |

I enclose \$ _____ in cash check money order

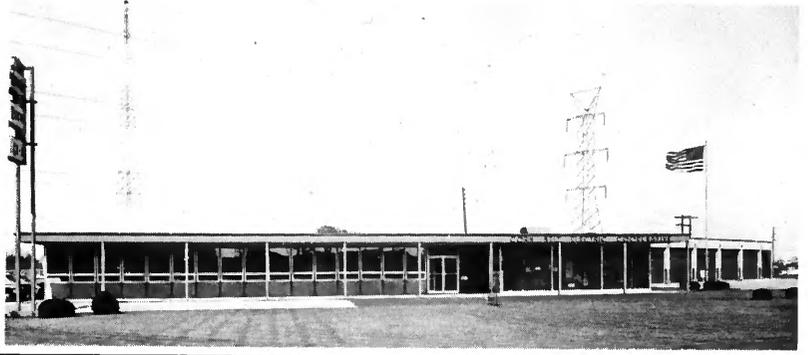
Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Corn Belt Electric News

Box 816
Bloomington, Illinois 61701
Phone: 309-662-5330



A Year of Problems, Progress, Reported at Annual Meeting

The news there would be no rate hike during 1974 was the item of greatest interest at the 36th annual meeting of Corn Belt Electric Cooperative, Inc., held recently at the Stevenson Grade School Gymnasium in Bloomington.

Over 400 people heard Manager G. V. Beer report that "based on the results of in-depth studies conducted by our staff, the present rate structure will be sufficient to meet our needs through all of 1974." Beer added, however, "Though funds are sufficient now, we will probably have to make a rate adjustment in early 1975."

Beer said the reasons for the rate increase in 1975 would be a combination of inflation and ever-rising fuel and material costs.

He added that several problems face the cooperative in the future, specifically:

"We will need adequate financing to manage the continuing growth of the organization at manageable interest levels. We will need an adequate power supply. We must continue to maintain the latest technology and methodology so we can best meet the needs of our consumer-members."

Beer also said that the cooperative would soon have to decide whether it should remain totally dependent on wholesale power supplies from the investor-owned utilities or whether it should move towards self-generation, or at least partial generation of its own

power.

Since the cooperative's board of directors was granted permission by the membership at a special meeting to apply for up to \$5-million in loans over a five-year period, Beer reported, loan applications have been submitted for funds totaling \$3,371,000. The funds will be used to finance the work plan of the cooperative over the next two years and to retire a short term loan made by the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation.

Board President Frank Simpson of Farmer City told members over 399 new consumers joined Corn Belt's

system last year.

"From the original 200 people on 100 miles of line, we have grown to 8,260 members over 2,500 miles of line," Simpson said. "I think our growth indicates we are a dynamic organization and that we are providing a vital service in the continuing growth of rural America."

Simpson reported that last year the total cash additions to the plant represented \$797,180, but that the engineering plan for 1974 indicates \$1,567,000 will be spent and the 1975 work plan calls for \$1,234,000.

"Most of the funds will be spent for system improvements," Simpson said. "It includes new 5,000 KVA substations in Saybrook, Farmer City and the Goodfield area." He added that the new stations will improve Corn Belt's capacity and will enhance both voltage conditions and service continuity.

Board Secretary Dorothy Rengel



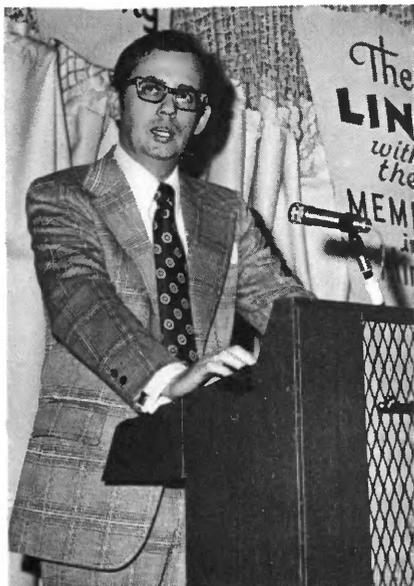
A variety of electrical appliances were offered for sale at the cooperative's annual meeting and many of the members attending stopped to take a second look.

of Bloomington presented the operating statement for the cooperative which showed 14 percent increase in the cost of purchased power. In 1973 the cooperative paid \$1,105,245 for 108,986,700 kilowatts purchased. Over \$133,000 of the increase, according to the report, represents a fuel cost increase passed on to the cooperative from the power supplier.

Mrs. Rengel's report also showed a



President Frank L. Simpson welcomed members, both old and new, to the 36th Annual Meeting of the cooperative.



Manager G. V. Beer reported on the problems facing Corn Belt in the near future.

APRIL 1974



Corn Belt's Board of Directors were elected during the meeting. Seated from left: Frank L. Simpson, Gene Dressler, Dorothy Rengel, J. D. Moberly and Homer Jeckel. Standing, from left: Manager G. V. Beer, Harry A. Miller, John Butterfield, John W. H. Tompkins, Attorney William J. Bach, Thomas Johns and Willis Sommer. Not shown: John Alpers.

tax expense for the cooperative of over \$66,131 last year.

Guest speaker J. M. Williams, manager of energy supply for Illinois Power Company, told the members the energy crisis was both real and critical.

Williams cited as reasons for the crisis the conversion from coal to oil by industries, the increased use of pleasure boats and campers, the increasing number of air conditioners and generally larger use of electricity by consumers.

"I find it difficult to imagine that our energy crisis is either contrived or surprising, in view of these facts," Williams said.

He believes the one bright spot for Illinois residents is electricity. Williams said power officials were optimistic about maintaining a reliable electric supply in Illinois, but felt it would require the resolving of several environmental problems before the building of new facilities can get underway.

During their business session, the members re-elected John Butterfield of Maroa, Gene Dressler of El Paso, J. D. Moberly of Clinton and Homer Jeckel of Delavan to serve three-year terms on the Board of Directors.

Other members of the board are John Alpers of Colfax, Thomas Johns of Delavan, John Tompkins of

LeRoy, Harry A. Miller of Delavan and Willis Sommer of Gridley.

After the meeting, the board elected Simpson, president, Dressler as vice president, Mrs. Rengel as secretary-treasurer and Moberly as assistant secretary-treasurer.

Entertainment was provided by the Normal Community High School Madrigal Singers under the direction of Mrs. Ruth Artman and refreshments were served following the meeting.



Guest speaker J. M. Williams told members he believed the one bright spot in the energy crisis was an abundant supply of electricity.

Will they go on to college . . .



**if you aren't around
to help pay the costs?**

In less time than you think, your grade-schoolers will be ready for college. But college costs come high these days...even higher in the future.

So if you have college plans for your son or daughter, let Congressional show you how life insurance can help.

Life insurance can GUARANTEE the financial help you'd provide...even if you aren't around to pay tuition and monthly costs yourself.

Life insurance can GUARANTEE cash values in a program that will help both you and your children meet the financial costs of a college education.

Congressional Life offers a handy, 48-page booklet of current, up-to-date costs at over 1,200 colleges throughout the nation. It's free, yours for the asking. Just complete and clip the form below, then tape or paste to a postcard, or insert in an envelope. Mail it to "College Costs Booklet", Congressional Life Insurance Company, Golden Rule Building, Lawrenceville, Illinois, 62439.

Yes, I'd like to have a free copy of the
"College Costs Booklet"

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____



Congressional Life Insurance Company

GOLDEN RULE BUILDING • LAWRENCEVILLE, ILLINOIS 62439

Whittling away on his retirement

(continued from page 8)

gether, not put together after the links are made.

"A lot of people are always wondering how I make them," Day said. "It really isn't that hard after you make the first one. One boy who saw them kept looking at them and wondering where the cuts were to glue them together."

None of Day's work is for sale, because as he puts it, "I really can't put a value on it, so I don't sell my work. I just like making them."

There are a lot of people who have heard about Day's craftsmanship in making wooden objects. A local teacher has made tapes explaining Day's hobby for members of the United States Army overseas.

Day doesn't advocate whittling for everyone who retires. It takes a lot of time and a good deal of ability. If you are as good at it as he is, however, it might be worth the effort.

Get rid of all ROACHES
and WATERBUGS with



SURE KILL

Or You Pay Nothing



Roaches eat Sure Kill greedily and return to their nests which they contaminate, starting a chain reaction that wipes out all other roaches and eggs.

Sure Kill never wears out, is absolutely odorless and safe to use. It contains no D.D.T. A single can cleans out six rooms and keeps them free of roaches and waterbugs for years. Money back guarantee. Send just \$3.98 for one can, two for \$6.98 postpaid.

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ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS



friends

A farm sale is a little bit of Americana reminiscent of quilting bees and roof-raising parties a century ago. It is a time for people getting together in rural areas, which is perhaps more important than the actual sale of goods.

A farm and household goods sale is a sad time also. Another man who tilled the soil and raised beef for others is leaving for the city or retiring to enjoy his later years. For the people at the sale who know him, it's almost a way of saying goodbye; we are glad to have known you.

Few farmers go through life without collecting a lot of household goods, antiques and assorted memorabilia, in addition to farm machinery and equipment. James Monti and his wife of rural Carlinville were no exceptions.

Monti, a member of M.J.M. Electric Cooperative, Inc., Carlinville, held a sale recently to divest himself of articles he no longer needed and to accumulate some cash for his retirement.

You could see the site of the sale a couple of miles away. Cars and trucks lined the county road several hundred yards in either direction. Easily 200 people walked the grounds looking over the items for sale, deciding how much they would bid for a choice article and wondering if their bid would take home the prize.

Inside one of the sheds, area ladies started brewing the coffee, making the sandwiches and slicing the pie. Farm sales are all-day affairs and bidding tends to make one hungry.

Roy Weller, an auctioneer from Carlinville, started the sale with small household items such as clothes,

kitchenware and lamps. The bids didn't range too high, but they weren't expected to. The larger, more expensive items would come later. An antique wall telephone brought over \$50—a set of pictures only \$1.

Bidding itself is an art. For the uninitiated it often looks like no bid has been made, yet the auctioneer goes higher in his asking. A raised finger, a muffled voice from deep in the crowd and another item has been sold.

A sale moves quickly. The auctioneer seems never to cease his chatter. A pair of wine presses, wooden barrels, two antique stoves, a rifle and other items move quickly. Later in the day, the farm machinery—tractors, truck, plows and a combine—all go up for sale.

Underneath the exterior of the sale is a current of rural friendliness, where everyone is a neighbor and everyone wants to have a good time. People form in little groups around the yard, talking about the crops, the weather or maybe just about the people they've seen at the sale.

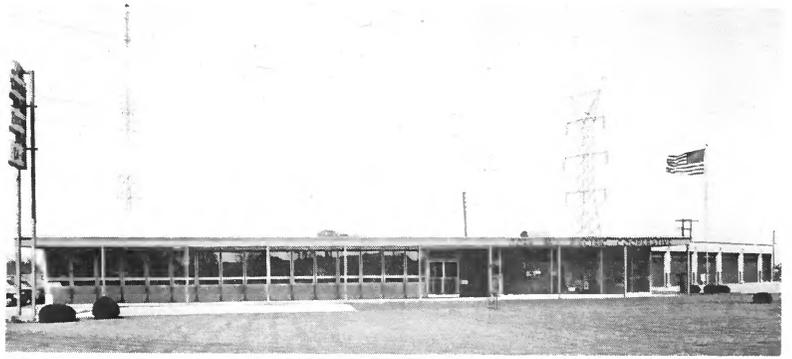
A farm sale isn't limited to farmers, nor to men or those over 40. Half the people are women, some coming to help with the food, others to bid. People you would automatically label "city" blend in and are made to feel welcome. Ages of the people range from babies in their mother's arms through teenagers to older people.

Late in the afternoon the last item goes up for bid and is sold. The auctioneer lays down his microphone, the ladies pick up their baked goods, the crowd trickles slowly home and the line of vehicles disappears.

For Jim Monti the sale was a successful venture. For his neighbors, it was a good way of saying goodbye.

Corn Belt Electric News

Box 816
Bloomington, Illinois 61701
Phone: 309-662-5330



4-H ELECTRICITY SCHOOL

by Joe Crosno
Power Use Advisor

The local 4-H electricity classes were held on Monday, March 4, for approximately 75 4-H boys and girls from McLean and Livingston Counties. The school was sponsored jointly by Illinois Power Company and Corn Belt Electric Cooperative. The school was conducted by Assistant Farm Advisors Dave Baker of McLean Co., Jerry Hicks of Livingston Co., Assistant Home Advisers Donna Nikkel of McLean Co. and Judith Skelton of Livingston Co., with the help of Tom Moore and Don Ruby from the Illinois Power Company and Vince Ijams and Joe Crosno from Corn Belt Electric Cooperative.

Ed Henderson from the F. S. Company gave a talk and slide presentation on the energy crisis.

The meeting was held in the Old Main room of the new Illinois State University Union Building. Lunch was served at noon.



Nola Boyd, home economist for Illinois Power Company, explains motor driven kitchen appliances to the 4-H students.



Vince Ijams, assistant power use advisor for Corn Belt Electric Cooperative, explains the different types of electric motors used around the farm and home.



Various motor controls used around the home and farm are explained by Joe Crosno, power use advisor for Corn Belt Electric Cooperative.



How an electric motor works is explained to the 4-H students by Ron Ruby, energy use advisor and residential sales supervisor for Illinois Power Company.

To help you

PLAN YOUR HOME'S COMFORT CONDITIONING

For assistance in planning a comfort conditioning system for your present home, Name _____ Phone _____ complete this form and take or mail it to your electric cooperative. Address _____

OUR PRESENT HOME:

TYPE is a ranch; split level; two-story; other (describe briefly) _____ with attic; attached garage; no basement (indicate slab or pier and beam); partial basement; full basement. If partial or full, concrete basement walls are partially exposed; fully exposed. Indoor ceiling heights downstairs are _____ ft.; upstairs are _____ ft.; extra high (cathedral) ceilings in _____ room(s), _____ ft.

AGE is _____ years old. Construction is wood; brick; concrete block; stone; other (describe briefly) _____

INSULATION no insulation; _____ inches of (type) _____ insulation in the walls; _____ inches of (type) _____ insulation in the ceiling.

WINDOWS & DOORS—indicate the number of: _____ windows 3' x 4' or smaller; _____ windows 3' X 4' or larger; _____ outside doors; _____ sliding glass patio doors, size _____ X _____ ft. We have storm windows; storm doors.

ELECTRIC SERVICE ENTRANCE: rated 60; 100; 150; 200; other _____ amperes; 120; 240 volts.

PRESENT HEATING SYSTEM is (describe type briefly) _____

It is _____ years old.

HEATING PLANS:

We prefer:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central system with | <input type="checkbox"/> Room-by-room units with |
| <input type="checkbox"/> electric furnace | <input type="checkbox"/> resistance baseboards |
| <input type="checkbox"/> heat pump | <input type="checkbox"/> ceiling cable or panels |
| <input type="checkbox"/> hot water baseboard | <input type="checkbox"/> hot water baseboard |

AIR CONDITIONING:

We want: central— with heating system separate system
 individual room— window through-the-wall

SPECIAL EQUIPMENT:

We are considering the following:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> air purification/filtration | <input type="checkbox"/> snow melting cable |
| <input type="checkbox"/> humidification | <input type="checkbox"/> central vacuum cleaner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> dehumidification | <input type="checkbox"/> intercom/central music system |
| <input type="checkbox"/> attic ventilation fans | |

We need help to plan for:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> insulation | <input type="checkbox"/> storm windows/doors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> vapor barriers | <input type="checkbox"/> noise control |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ventilation fans | <input type="checkbox"/> wiring needs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |

and lighting of:

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> total interior | <input type="checkbox"/> laundry | <input type="checkbox"/> foyer/entryway |
| <input type="checkbox"/> living room | <input type="checkbox"/> bedroom(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> basement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> dining room | <input type="checkbox"/> bath(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> workshop |
| <input type="checkbox"/> kitchen | <input type="checkbox"/> family room | <input type="checkbox"/> walk/driveway |

To assist in planning, use a grid paper (1/8 x 1/8 inch) and sketch to scale the exterior dimensions of each floor (except basement and attic), indicating outside wall lengths, rooms, windows and doors.

what's new?



(continued from page 5)

sulphur made at the meeting.

"This fixation with sulphur," Bagge claimed, "is impeding the coal industry's expansion and hurting the nation's chances of ever attaining energy self-sufficiency."

Bagge also warned against putting too much faith in the development of synthetic fuels from coal.

"If coal is to contribute to meeting short to mid-term energy needs, its largest contribution will have to come from coal burned as coal," Bagge said. "Illinois coal can be burned in many locations in this state without damage to public health, property or state air standards."

Charles Schulze, senior fellow with the Brookings Institution in Washington, said the public should not be locked into paying "artificially high" prices for energy. He said the idea that higher energy prices should be welcomed is "just nonsense."

"The American consumer is paying \$19 or \$20-million more for his energy and getting less," Schulze said. "Forty percent of that went abroad and 50 percent goes into the domestic profits of the oil companies."

Attending the two-day conference from the Illinois electric cooperatives were: John Adkisson, Norris Electric Cooperative, Newton; Roy E. Horton and M. M. Jontz, Illinois Valley Electric Cooperative, Princeton; Maurice Johnson, Edgar Electric Co-operative, Paris; Wayne Lanning, Adams Electric Co-Operative, Camp Point; Stanley Otten, Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative, Auburn; Arthur Peyton, McDonough Power Cooperative, Macomb; Dale Smith and James Holloway, Egyptian Electric Cooperative, Steeleville; Charles Witt, M. J. M. Electric Cooperative, Carlinville, and William Dean, Joe Spivey and Jim Pottorf, Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, Springfield.



Electric Range

A new 30 inch eye-level Connoisseur electric range is now available from the Whirlpool Corporation. The smooth-top is designed to provide heat distribution through the ceramic glass top. It features continuous cleaning ovens, controls under glass fluorescent light illuminate work areas and a digital clock controls the automatic oven and appliance outlet.



Energy Saver Decals

Whirlpool Corporation is offering free energy saver decals with consumer tips for conserving energy on major home appliances. Included in the set are energy stickers for ranges, dishwashers, washers, dryers, refrigerators and room air conditioners. Interested homemakers can get a set of the six energy saver stickers by writing: Whirlpool Corporation, Energy, Benton Harbor, Mich., 49022.

Governor Dan Walker thought it important enough to proclaim a special day for it to be held . . . Lt. Governor Neil Hartigan took time from his busy schedule to talk about it . . . and Illinois electric cooperatives were extremely pleased to sponsor it.

IT was the first "Illinois Rural Electric Youth Day" and the second year of the "Youth to Springfield" tour. Over 110 essay finalists and chaperones from 10 Illinois electric cooperatives met in Springfield on May 8 to participate.

Cooperatives sponsoring the youth tour were Adams Electrical Co-Operative, Camp Point; Clinton County Electric Cooperative, Inc., Breese; Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative, Mattoon; Eastern Illinois Power Cooperative, Paxton; Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association, Steeleville; Illinois Rural Electric Co., Winchester; Monroe County Electric Co-Operative, Inc., Waterloo; Southwestern Electric Cooperative, Inc., Greenville; Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative, Fairfield and Western Illinois Electrical Coop., Carthage.

This year, 19 electric cooperatives in Illinois sponsored an essay contest in their area to select rural students to represent the cooperative in the annual "Youth to Washington" tour. This is the second year where finalists from many of the cooperatives have been honored and rewarded for their participation with an all-expense, full-day trip to the State Capital.

IT was the VIP's tour, too.

Governor Walker, although personally unable to attend, welcomed the students with

a proclamation which praised the young people for "their interest and achievements in rural electric youth activities, for taking advantage of the educational experience they are offered and for the responsible leadership they are developing." The Governor also wished them a most enjoyable and profitable visit.

After assembling at the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, Springfield, for a tour of the state-wide facilities, the students boarded three buses and were whisked away for a tour of the Illinois House and Senate Chambers at the State Capitol Building.

While at the Capitol, the delegation was recognized on the floor of the Senate and given a round of applause by their legislators.

One of the day's highlights was an address from Lt. Governor Hartigan at a noon luncheon held in the students' honor at the Ramada Inn Forum XXX, Springfield's newest hotel and banquet center.

The Lt. Governor praised the students for their "outstanding achievements" as leaders in their respective

schools and for their willingness to participate when others have shrank from responsibilities and duty.

"You are the people who will lead this state and this country in future years," Hartigan said. "It is never too early to start thinking about what you want to do with your life. Take part. Participate. Get involved in the running of your state government. I have been in government for the past 12 years and I believe it is one of the most responsible and rewarding things one can do with their life."

During the luncheon, Miss Kathy Harriss of Fairfield, who is presently reigning as "Miss Illinois Electric Cooperative" and "Miss Rural Electrification, 1974" was presented a \$1,500 scholarship check by W. J. Shields, District Manager, Apparatus Distribution Sales Division, General Electric Co., St. Louis, Missouri. The check was presented to Miss Harriss on behalf of the General Electric Company for having been selected "Miss Rural Electrification" at the NRECA Annual Meeting held in February.

Other activities during the day included a tour of the Illinois State Museum, the Old State Capitol Building and the Lincoln Home and Tomb.

While students from seven of the cooperatives returned home in the late afternoon, more was in store for essay finalists from Adams, Illinois Rural and Western Illinois electric cooperatives. The group had the singular opportunity to meet with nine legislators, representing the 47th, 48th and 49th Legislative Dis-

(continued on page 15)

Illinois Rural Electric Youth Day

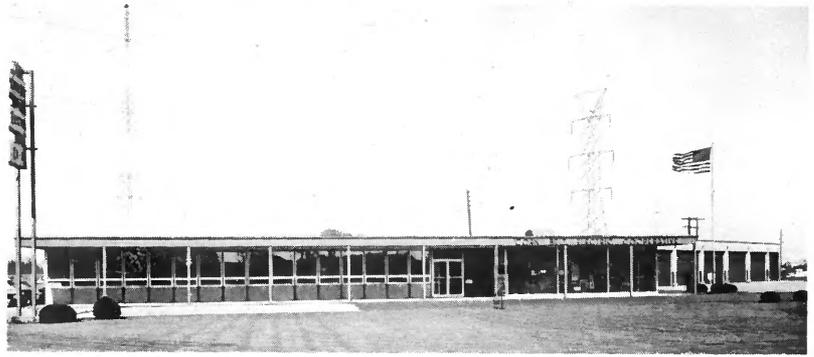


Corn Belt Electric News

Box 816

Bloomington, Illinois 61701

Phone: 309-662-5330



Marna Floyd Wins Trip to Washington

Corn Belt Electric Cooperative's 15th annual essay contest is history and the four finalists did an outstanding job of telling an interested audience about the electric cooperative and its role and function as a segment of the electrical power industry.

The winner of a week's trip to Washington, D. C. is

Marna Floyd, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Floyd of Weldon. Marna is a junior at Deland-Weldon High School.

Judges for this year's event were T. H. Hafer and Ken Decker. Marna's essay, "The Electric Cooperative: Its Role and Function as a Segment of the Electric Power Industry," is printed on the opposite page.



Marna Floyd, trip winner



First runner-up Kenneth Sauder, Tremont, with his parents Mr. & Mrs. Robert Sauder.



Finalist Jeanie Sinn, Delavan, with her parents Mr. & Mrs. George Sinn.



Finalist Terri Lynn Grout, Clinton, with her English teacher and sponsor Reta Rinkenberger, left, and her mother, Mrs. Joseph Grout.

THE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE— ITS ROLE & FUNCTION AS A SEGMENT OF THE ELECTRICAL POWER INDUSTRY

The electric cooperative has played a very important part in developing the rural electric power industry. Shortly after Thomas Edison built the first central station electric system in 1882, cities were being supplied with power. But as late as the mid-1930's, nine out of every ten farms were still without electricity. There were many reasons for this lack of rural electrification. Many people thought that farmers had no use for, and did not want, electricity. Also, the cost of building transmission lines to the farm homes was prohibitive. It cost \$2,000 to \$3,000 per mile to extend the lines to the farms and 10 to 12 cents per kilowatt-hour for electricity used. These prices were completely out of reach for most of the farmers.

Farm leaders realized something had to be done to provide electricity to the rural area. The existing utility companies were not interested in extending electrical services to farms because there were so many more customers per mile in the urban area. After a legislative bill calling for the existing power companies to extend their lines to include the rural area failed, President Roosevelt signed an executive order that established the Rural Electrification Administration (REA). The REA was actually started as a general program to relieve unemployment. Later, the Rural Electrification Act was passed to supply federal loans for the construction of power lines to the country. Since power companies did not show any interest in using these funds to supply electricity to the farms, rural electric cooperatives were formed. A rural electric cooperative is a non-profit organization, locally owned and controlled by the members it serves. REA sent representatives to assist with the many problems faced in this new endeavor. However, World War II curtailed the federal funds for three years. After the war, construction of new lines proceeded at a rapid rate. At the present time, because of the Rural Electrification Act and the rural electric co-ops, more than 98 percent of the nation's farms

are supplied with electric power.

Since 98 percent of the rural population is now supplied with electricity, some people think the "rural electrics" role is fulfilled. In fact, in December 1972, the Administration announced the termination of the REA's direct loan program. An insured loan program replaced the former plan. The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association and its members were able to gain approval of both the Senate and House for an amendment to the Rural Electrification Act of 1936. President Nixon signed a bill on May 11, 1973 in which REA guarantees or insures loans to rural electric systems to continue its service to rural America. The co-ops continue to provide electricity to the people in the service areas that developed several years ago. This power is presented to the consumer at lower rates than they can usually obtain it otherwise. In 1971, the cost per kilowatt hour was only two cents. This is possible because a cooperative is basically a non-profit organization. Although prices for the electricity are kept as low as possible, they still meet expenses. Many of the electric co-ops generate their own electricity or at least part of it. This has to be done as efficiently as possible to save costs.

Regardless of how it is obtained, the cost of the energy accounts for about 45 percent of the operating expenses. Other expenses include keeping equipment and transmission lines in good working conditions. Besides maintaining the present lines, new ones must be constructed each year to serve the new homes, industries, and schools being built in the rural areas. Also, the existing lines must be updated with three-phase lines to handle the ever-increasing power load. In the rural areas the demand for electric power is doubling every seven years. Although fewer in number than when electric cooperatives were started, the farmer uses much more electricity today. Hay conveyors, heat lamps, power tools, grain dryers and electric welders are just a few examples of the work-saving equipment

used on the modern farm.

Besides supplying electricity to the people, the rural electric cooperative provides many different community services to the areas it serves. They are concerned with the well-being of the rural communities, both the rich and the poor. In the past, different cooperatives have helped with drives for community colleges, started housing projects, and helped to develop central water and sewer systems. At many different times, co-ops encouraged job-providing enterprises to build in the rural areas, thus bringing about a more stable rural-urban economy. In some areas, the co-op helped obtain better telephone service. The co-ops also help the communities through the taxes it pays. It does not pay any income tax since it is a non-profit organization, but it does pay sales, property, excise, vehicle, and other taxes.

At the present time, our nation is faced with a critical power crisis. The electric cooperative has taken on the task of informing the public about the situation. The cooperative believes that there are three steps that must be taken immediately to insure a sufficient supply of electric power in the future. They are: (1) form a comprehensive national policy on energy and resources, (2) start a well-funded research and development program on energy, and (3) link the nation's power system into a coast-to-coast network. The "rural electrics" sincerely believe that "ensuring an adequate supply of energy within a clean environment, and at reasonable cost" is the responsibility of the citizens of America.

A few hours without power is all that is needed to show each of us how much electric cooperatives have done for the rural people and what an important role they play in our lives. Light, water, heat, television, stereo, vacuum cleaners, and dishwashers are just a few items that are taken for granted in the rural home today. Just 40 years ago most rural homes did not even have the convenience of one, bare electric bulb with a pull chain. Considering this, we realize that somebody has really done a lot in the modernization of the rural area. As part of the past history of electrification has been presented, it can be seen that the electric cooperatives played an important role in this accomplishment. The cooperatives are not content to rest with their past successes, but are continuing to function as an active part of the electric power industry.

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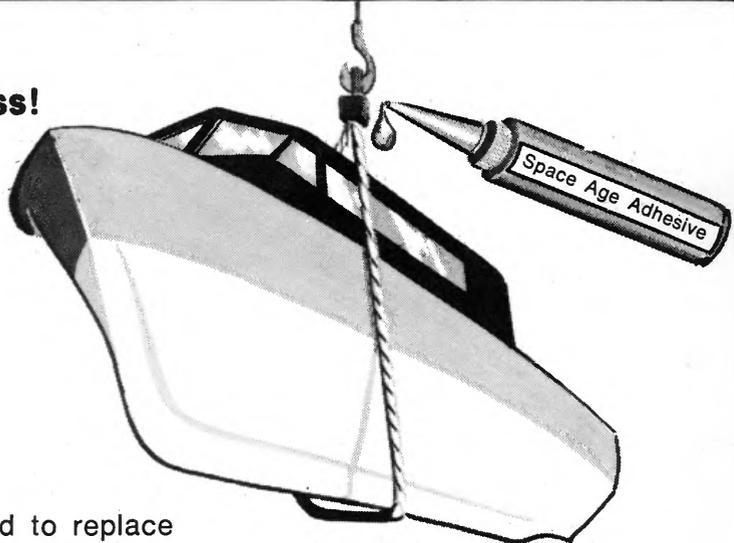
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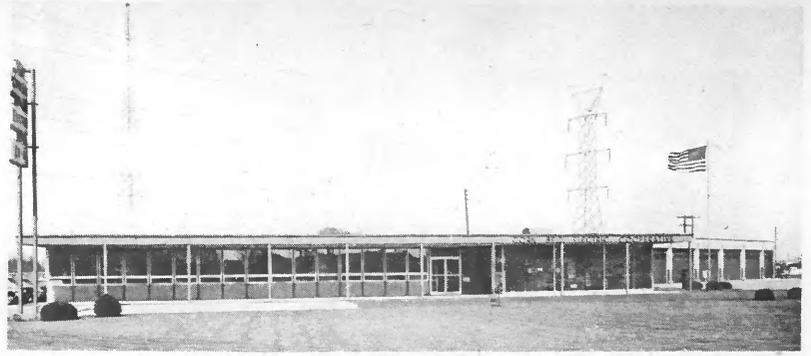


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FUTURE FARMERS RECOGNIZE CORN BELT

Section 9 FFA President Donald Meyer of Gridley recently presented a plaque to Corn Belt Director Harry Miller, in recognition of Corn Belt's 13th consecutive year of contribution to the work of the Foundation in promoting the Future Farmer Program in the State of Illinois. 17A7-J



From Left: Darwin Hall, Sycamore, vice president of the Illinois FFA; Director Harry Miller; Donald Meyer, and John Larkin, Normal, Section 9 Reporter.

SOME people who wouldn't dream of speaking ill of their neighbors are only too happy to listen to someone else do it for them.

ONE OF THE MOST exciting ways to travel is by wet soap.

A KISS that speaks volumes is seldom a first edition.

HORSE sense dwells in a stable mind.

CONSERVING ENERGY--

SUBSTITUTE INSULATION FOR HEAT LOSS TO GAIN ENERGY SAVINGS

"Important amounts of the nation's dwindling energy resources are literally escaping through the roofs and walls of the average home," a housing industry executive recently observed. "If we could begin today to build only energy-efficient new homes and if we could reinsulate the many older homes in the country, residential energy consumption in 1980 could be reduced 20 percent from present predictions of need. 45D9

"While new homes built under the new FHA standards requiring extra insulation will be energy-efficient, there are no insulation requirements for homes built under non-FHA insured mortgages. To overcome this deficiency, several states are considering legislation to make the FHA insulation standards apply to all new homes, regardless of the type of financing used."

The National Bureau of Standards reports that proper insulation and construction practices in residential and commercial buildings could reduce the nation's total heating and cooling requirements by 40 to 50 percent. 75B33

By substituting proper insulation for lost heating and cooling, you maintain the same comfort level with less energy expenditure. Correct insulation minimizes heat flow through walls, floors, foundations, doors and ceilings, thereby reducing the work load and the cost of operating comfort conditioning

equipment. 26B7

A variety of sizes and shapes of insulating materials is available. To select the best insulation for your home consider:

adaptability to use in your building

cost

ease of installation

thermal effectiveness

Insulation is evaluated in "R" values, which indicate the material's ability to resist heat passage. The higher the "R" value, the greater the insulating ability. The All Weather Comfort Standard developed by the building industry calls for the following minimum "R" values for well-insulated comfort-conditioned homes:

Ceilings R-10 to R-24

Outside Walls R-11 to R-13

Floors Over Unheated Spaces . . R-13

Basement Walls R-11

In most homes the single greatest heat loss or gain area is the roof. This area is also the easiest in which to install adequate insulation, which should be up to the top of the joists or eight inches (whichever is greatest). If insulation has settled, bring it up to this level with the highest "R" value insulation available. 59D29

**Insulating Values
of Various Materials**

Material	"R" per inch thickness*
BATT OR BLANKET	
Wood or Cellulose fiber with paper backing and facing	4.00
Mineral wool (rock, slag or glass)	3.80 - 2.80
Pulp or paper	3.70
Wood fiber	3.33

LOOSE FILL

Mineral wool (rock, slag or glass)	3.80 - 2.80
Pulp or paper	3.70
Cork (dry)	3.57
Wood fiber	3.60 - 3.33
Sawdust or shavings (dry)	2.22
Vermiculite, expanded	2.20 - 2.08

BOARD OR RIGID

Expanded Urethane, foamed in place, sprayed or performed	8.33 - 5.88
Polystyrene foam, extruded or expanded	4.50 - 3.85
Glass fiberboard	4.34 - 4.00
Polystyrene molded from beads	4.17 - 3.45
Corkboard	3.70
Wood fiberboard, laminated sheathing	2.90 - 2.00
Foam or cellular glass	2.50
Homosote	2.38

CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS

Plywoods and Softwoods	1.25 - 1.02
Hardwoods	0.91
Air space, vertical, tight construction**	0.90
Gypsum board	0.90
Asphalt shingles	0.88
Pressed wood fiber hardboard	0.72
Vertical wall air surfaces	
Indoor, still air	0.68
Outdoor, 15 mph wind	0.17
Concrete	0.59 - 0.08
Concrete block	0.40 - 0.10
Asbestos-cement board	0.25
Plaster, stucco, brick	0.20 - 0.11
Glass	0.17
Steel and aluminum	0.003
	-0.0007

Approx. "R" of unit***

DOORS

Solid wood, 1-inch	1.56
Solid wood, 2-inch	2.33
solid wood, 1-inch plus metal/glass storm	2.56

Solid wood, 2-inch plus metal/glass storm	3.44
Solid wood, 1-inch plus wood/glass (50%) storm	3.33
Solid wood, 2-inch plus wood/glass (50%) storm	4.17
Doors with rigid insulation core	up to 7

WINDOW (Glass area only)

Single glazing	.88
Double glazing with ¼-inch air space	1.64
Double glazing with ½-inch air space	1.73
Single glazing plus storm window	1.89
Double glazing plus storm window	2.67

"R" (Resistance) indicates amount of heat a material will prevent from passing through it in a given time. The higher the "R" value, the more heat the material will hold back, hence the better the insulation. To find "R" of a building material, multiply above "R" value by actual thickness of material. **"R" value for vertical air space is for air space from ¾ to 4 inches thick. *"R" values for glass are actual for type of window listed.*

To check walls and floors, place one thermometer against the inside surface of an outside wall and another in the center of a room. After four hours, check the reading. If the outside wall thermometer is more than five degrees lower than the other, your insulation should be improved. 3C15

When installing insulation, keep in mind the following points:

1. Use enough insulation. Consider summer and winter conditions. 49B16
2. The insulation value of sheathing is small compared to insulation material itself. Apply the insulation required inside the wall. Choose a sheathing for its durability, ease of cleaning and appearance. 30D29
3. Provide a good vapor barrier. Insulation materials with a satisfactory rating against vapor transmission still need vapor-tight joints.

4. Insulate all areas. In metal frame or masonry buildings, columns or other assemblies may extend through the wall and, if uninsulated, may be cold. 71S18

5. Be sure to check fireproof rating of foam-type insulation.

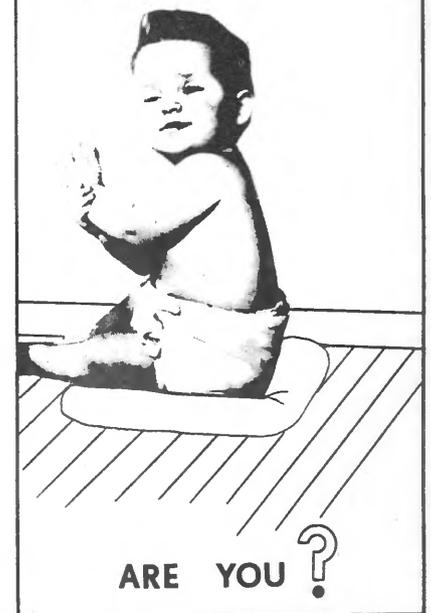
Slab floors cause special problems. Cold air coming into contact with outside concrete foundation wall areas will cause heat transfer by conduction from inside the house through slab floors. This heat transfer can be reduced with perimeter insulation installed from the top of the concrete foundation wall to at least 12 inches below grade, or from the top of the foundation wall to a depth sufficient to extend below the slab and heating ducts and then turned in 18 inches under the slab and heating ducts.

Ceiling or hallway openings for attic fans and uninsulated attic doors can be covered with an insulating material such as styrofoam to diminish heat loss. 26A29

Between 15 to 20 percent of most exterior wall areas in modern homes is glass. This can account for up to 30 percent of a building's heat loss, so good quality windows and doors combined with insulating glass and/or caulking around windows and doors, reduces air leakage. (from Electricity on the Farm)

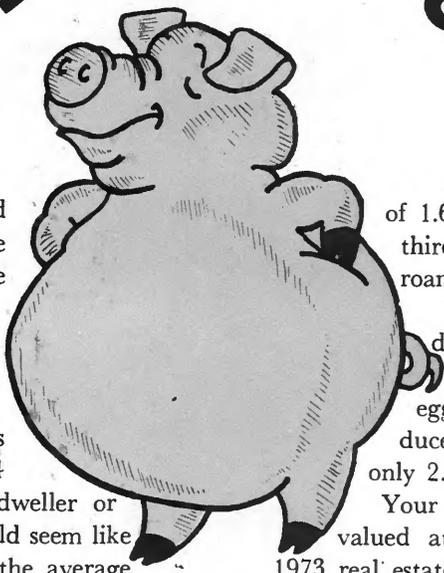
**Our house has plenty of
good insulation.**

I'M COMFORTABLE!



ARE YOU?

everybody's farm



If all the land used for farming in the United States were divided equally among U.S. families, what would be your family's share?

The answer is slightly less than 24 acres. To the city dweller or suburbanite this would seem like room to roam. But the average farmer, accustomed to 385 acres, might feel a bit cramped.

About 20 of your 24 acres would be actually in your farm. Nearly 7.5 acres of your farm would be cropland; 9.5 would be grassland or range. You also would have about three acres of woodland which you use for grazing, and less than an acre in farmstead, roads and non-farm uses.

In addition to land in your farm, you would run livestock on about four acres of land rented or leased from the Government. About half would be grassland, pasture and range, and the rest would be woodlands—mostly lands administered by the Forest Service.

Although your farm contains nearly 7.5 acres of cropland, you planted less than five acres to crops in 1973. The rest of it was in farrow used for pasture, held out of production under Government programs, or idled for one reason or another. You had over an acre in corn and in hay, and soybean and wheat fields of nine-tenths of an acre. Most other crops were on garden-sized plots.

Your herds and flocks present some puzzling biological problems. You had only one-fifth of a dairy cow, but she managed to produce 2,150 pounds or 250 gallons of milk in the year. The beef cattle herd of 2.0 head dropped nine-tenths of a calf, while your lone hog had a litter

of 1.6 pigs. Only one-third of a sheep roamed your pasture.

You had 5.6 hens during 1973. They laid 103 dozen eggs. You also produced 56 broilers, but only 2.5 turkeys.

Your family farm was valued at \$4,814 on the 1973 real estate market. As the year began, you had \$638 worth of livestock and poultry on hand and \$262 worth of crops. Investment in machinery and motor vehicles amounted to \$726.

If you are a city man, this farm may give you more elbow room than you are accustomed to, and perhaps something of the spirit of agrarian living. But, as every farmer knows, it won't make you rich.

Your 24 acres grossed \$1,684 in

1973. Production expenses took \$1,198 of that, leaving you a net income of only \$486.

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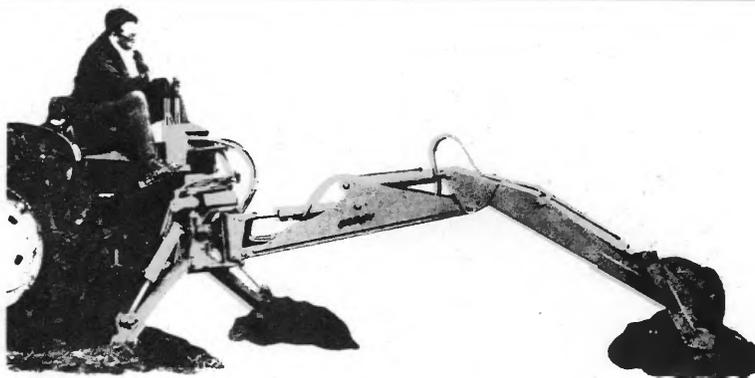
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mission, the Federal Power Commission, the U.S. Justice Department or other governmental or regulatory agencies.

Cooperative leaders are resigned to paying a higher price for wholesale power but insist that such increases be reasonable and consistent with the actual cost of providing service to the cooperatives. Some increase, however is, as one official put it, "a sign of things yet to come."

Air pollution control facilities at power plants is a relatively new, but an increasingly expensive, factor in the cost of wholesale power cost which you, the consumer, must ultimately pay.

If a power company burns coal with more than one percent of sulfur content, current federal regulations require that the company remove the sulfur dioxide waste-product before it is emitted into the air.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) urges utilities to buy gigantic scrubber control systems to remove the sulfur dioxide.

The EPA estimates by 1980 one of every three plants burning coal will have to use scrubbers. Cost of these scrubbers is an estimated \$5.4

billion.

Furthermore, the EPA encourages state utility commissions, the agencies which decide if and when a private power company can increase its rates, to allow such costs to be passed on to consumers.

Increased wholesale power cost is only one of the reasons your electric bill is going up. The cost of electricity is rising for much the same reasons the cost of everything else we buy is rising—inflation.

Electric loads continue to grow and cooperatives must continually increase their plant by extending service to new customers and by replacing old worn out equipment with new.

In fact, many of the poles the cooperatives installed are now as much as 35 years old and nearing the end of their useful lives. The poles to replace the decaying ones will cost five to 10 times as much as the originals did 35 years ago. Maintaining service while the pole is being replaced is even more difficult than new construction and adds to the cost.

Poles are just one example.

Dean Searls, manager of Adams Electrical Co-Operative, Camp Point, recently presented a staggering

list of rising material cost figures to members at the cooperative's annual meeting.

Consider the following prices Adams Electrical, as well as other cooperatives, are now paying compared to prices paid at the end of 1972, just a year and a half ago:

—Crossarms to support the distribution lines have nearly tripled in price—from \$4.88 to \$14.88 each.

—Copper wire, used in transformers and in line construction, has jumped 50 to 75 percent.

—Conductor used in the lines you see along the road has in some cases doubled and tripled in price since the end of 1972 and is often hard to find at any price.

"Construction costs have almost doubled during the past two years," Searls said. "The most serious question is—when will prices level off?"

If high prices for materials were not enough to contend with, cooperatives are also facing shortages of steel, aluminum, copper, timber and other construction material. If a

(continued on page 28)

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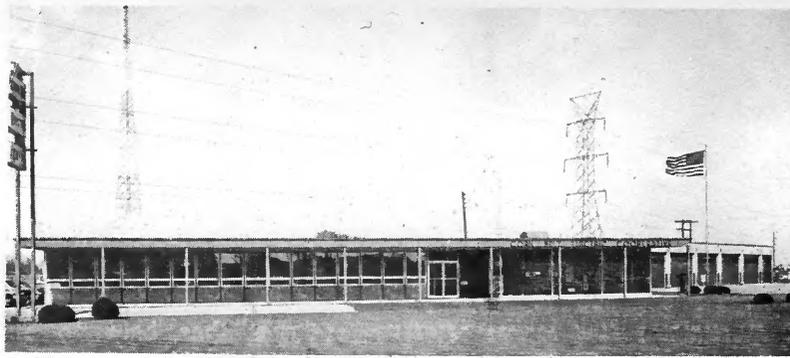
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CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE RECEIVES CONCURRENT LOANS FOR OVER \$2-MILLION

The Rural Electrification Administration (REA) announced approval on May 31 of a loan for \$1,466,000 to Corn Belt Electric Cooperative, Inc.

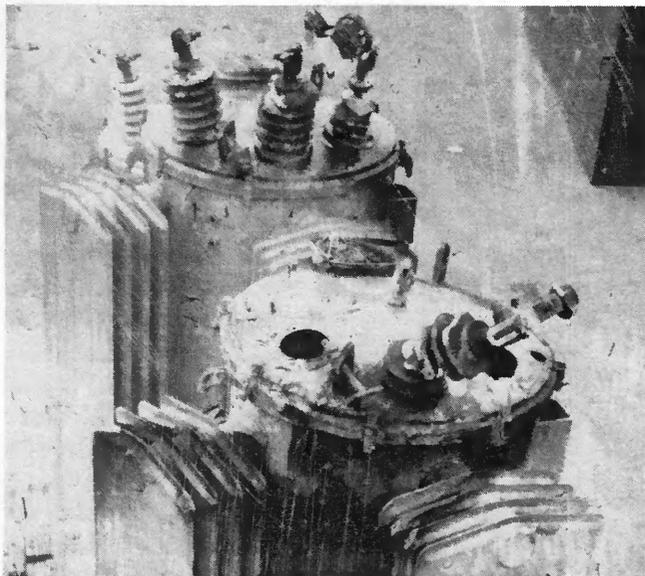


G. V. Beer
Manager

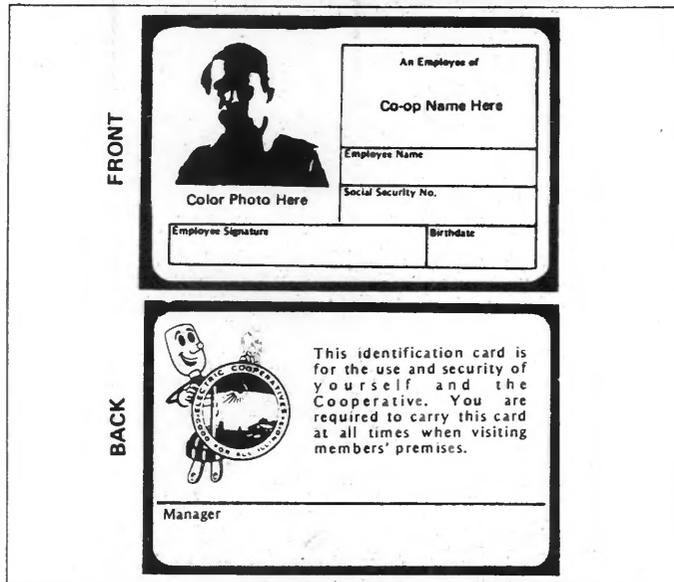
The loan will finance 70 percent of a project which includes service for 535 additional consumers, 26 miles of distribution line, 24 miles of transmission line in the Saybrook-Farmer City area, a new warehouse building and various system improvements including substation facilities. 15C25

Corn Belt will also obtain supplemental financing for 30 percent of the project from the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation totaling \$628,000.

On completion of the project, Corn Belt will be serving over 9,000 member-consumers on over 2,575 miles of line in 10 counties. This is the first REA loan to Corn Belt since it borrowed funds in the early 1950's to construct its present headquarters facility in Bloomington. 36N3



Armington substation sustained extensive damage on June 19 as a result of a fire caused by lightning damage to the voltage regulation equipment.



CORN BELT INITIATES EMPLOYEE IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM

Corn Belt Electric Cooperative, Inc. has announced a new employee identification program to provide instant identification of cooperative personnel to all member-consumers of the cooperative.

The ID card, which has a colored photo of the employee on the front, includes the name of the employee, name of the cooperative, employee's social security number and age. On the reverse side of the card, laminated in clear plastic, is the signature of G. V. Beer, manager of Corn Belt Electric Cooperative, Inc. 33T6

This new ID program is designed as a method to protect unsuspecting cooperative members and consumers from "fake" employees. Cooperative members may come into contact with impostors pretending to be bona fide cooperative personnel in the course of a seemingly routine "wiring inspection" or possibly to check room thermostats to determine if the homeowner is "complying with the 68 degree energy conservation program."

Numerous ruses have been reported across the state during the past several months used by persons to gain access to homeowners' premises to survey the location for further unknown "activities." 50E4

Cooperative personnel involved in member contacts at Corn Belt Electric Cooperative, Inc. have been carrying the cooperative ID card since July 1, 1974. An employee will present the card at the request of a member.

If an individual identifies himself as a cooperative "employee" but refuses to show his ID card, the member is requested to report the incident to the cooperative headquarters immediately. 20A26

FAMILY DESIGNS, BUILDS NONAGON

by Joe Crosno

The Davis family of rural Armington designed and built this eight apartment, nine-sided building. It



Joe Crosno
Power Use Advisor

is located on a secluded 45-acre tract in a quiet rural setting. It was designed and built with the retiree, or soon to be retired family, in mind. 6E20

The nine sided, one story structure of unique and original design is called a Nonagon and is located on a knoll with parts of the units facing a wooded creek and meadow and others overlooking a small lake and rolling fields. It has eight living units. Each unit has access at the kitchen end to a circular, carpeted atrium open domed, with a fountain in the center.

The ninth side is a game room where all families can gather and play cards or visit and watch television. There are two washers and dryers for families to use. One of the unusual features is a sauna bath and adjoining shower room. 39D27

Each apartment contains a large picture window in the living room and dining area. It has one bedroom and bath and complete kitchen facilities. 75B30.

The apartments are all electric and each apartment has its own electric furnace and air conditioner.

Due to the design each apartment has only one outside wall which cuts down heating and air conditioning costs. It has insulation on the partition walls to cut down sound transfer and for more economical heating and cooling. 17A34

Andy Davis was an electrician until he was disabled. Now he has to take it easy, so he supervised the operation from his lawn chair. Most of the building was accomplished by his wife, Margaret, and two sons, Marty, 18, and Jim, 15-years-old.

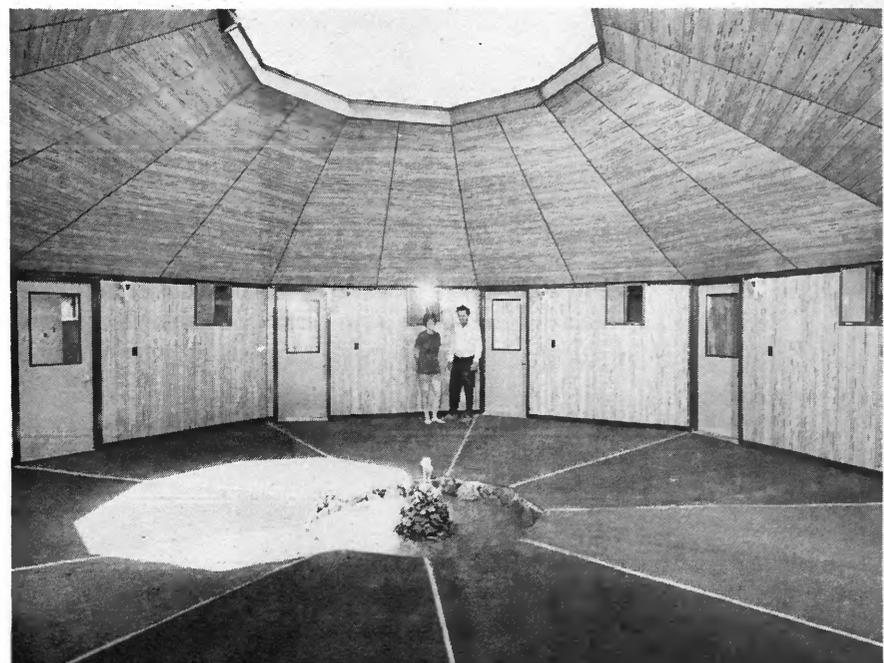
The family believes the location has a lot to offer. It is located on the Corn Belt Electric Cooperative, Inc., lines one and one-half miles northwest of Armington. 25A23-BY

AUGUST 1974

There is free fishing in the lake only 50 yards from the apartment. Each tenant will have a front yard which can be landscaped at the renter's option. The unique design permits each tenant to sit on their patio out of the vision of other tenants. Each tenant is furnished ground nearby for a small garden.



Andy Davis supervises construction of the apartment building from his lawn chair.



The atrium opens into each apartment and has an open dome. Davis says they may cover it in the winter. Shown in background are Mr. and Mrs. Davis.

With its buggy and train rides, one might call it an amusement park. But Old Bagdad Town and the Amish community proclaim it a historic site and the floral and rock displays make it a flowery paradise.

Perhaps it's better just to call Rockome Gardens one of a kind.

The curious blend of amusement park, historical site and floral wonderland is what makes Rockome unique. It also makes it one of Illinois' most attractive and visited tourist spots.

Located five miles west of Arcola off I-57, Rockome is the product of two different designers—Arthur Martin and the present owner, Elvan Yoder—and one great ethnic influence, the Amish community which surrounds it. Electrical power for Rockome Gardens is supplied by Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative, Mattoon.

Martin, a wealthy industrialist from Arthur, started the floral design of the Gardens in 1939, during the latter days of the Depression.

When his business could no longer sustain his employees, Martin used them to work on his estate, rather than turn them out on the welfare roles. He bought tons of native Illinois rocks, which his workers broke by hand and inlaid into cement to form the rockwork and fences for which Rockome is noted for today.

In 1951, Martin donated the 208-acre farm to the Mennonite Board of Missions and Charities for use as a retirement haven for missionaries. Seven years later, the Board sold the farm and gardens to Yoder, himself a Mennonite who had been reared in the Amish faith.

"I bought the land originally to farm it," Yoder said. "My wife and I were raising three sons and a daughter and everyone helped plant and weed the flowers and keep the rock formation patched."

And when thousands of people drove by to view the gardens from the road, Yoder realized farming



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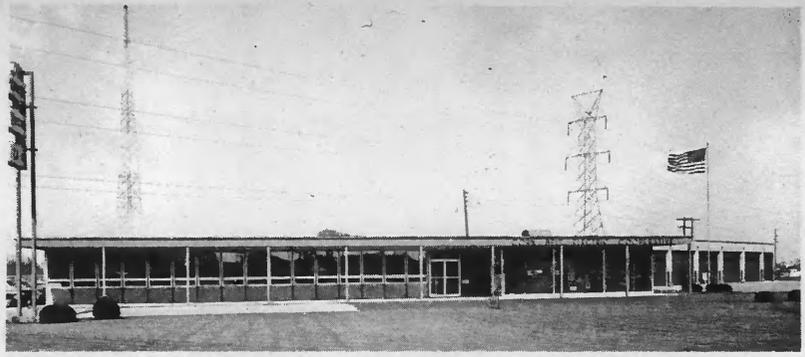
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G. V. Beer
Manager

The current shortage of newspaper is caused by a shortage of a virgin newsprint and a growing domestic demand for waste paper. The biggest factor is the foreign export market.

Less than 20 percent of the waste paper in this country is recycled; therefore, you can see the possibilities are unlimited.

Some of the reasons why we should recycle newsprint are listed below:

1. Conservation: One ton of newsprint saves 17 trees. Recycling a stack of newspaper about 36 inches high saves one tree.

The recycling process is less damaging to our environment because the process uses less virgin chemicals and, therefore, is not as great a demand on our resources as new paper.

Recycling a ton of newsprint eliminates a major cause of pollution associated in producing new pulp. A ton of new pulp uses 275 pounds of sulphur, 350 pounds of limestone, 60,000 gallons of water, 9,000 pounds of steam and 225 kilowatts of electricity.

2. Reduces the solid waste in our land fill areas. Fifty percent of the

solid waste in the land fill area is paper.

3. Relieves the energy crisis by saving heat through better insulation.

I hope these facts will help you in your decision to recycle used newspaper.

"WHEN I was an apprentice," said the old-time plumber, "we used to lay the first two lengths of pipe — then the boss would turn on the water and we had to stay ahead of it."

A Willie Conserve-A-Tip



© NRECA

It pays to conserve energy

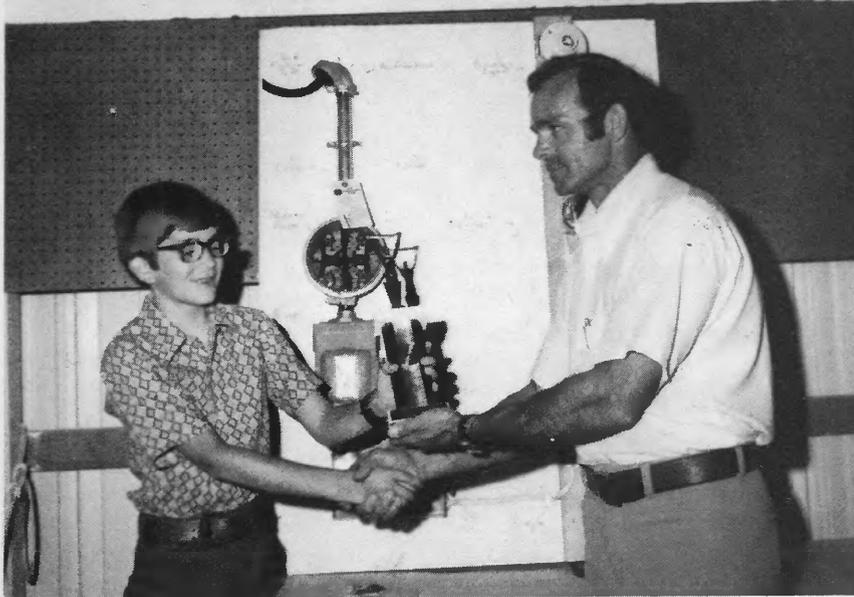
Thaw frozen foods before cooking and plan oven meals. Bake a double batch, then store the extras. Thoughtful use and care of household equipment saves time, money and energy.

DO YOUR PART

Energy conservation is a big part of your electric cooperative's long-range solution to the energy crisis. Your cooperative hopes you will do your part to help ensure adequate power supply for everyone. Follow your cooperative's recommendations for installing insulation and electric heating systems correctly. This advice can help make the most of your energy dollars. As member-owners we need your help to make our energy conservation programs successful.

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS

4-H EXHIBITS



This year's 4-H Fairs are history. And they were generally bigger and better than last year.

There were approximately 60 entries in the 4-H electrical exhibits including table lamps, floor lamps, outdoor and shop lamps, cooling fans, wiring display boards and other miscellaneous items.

The outstanding exhibit was a wiring display board built by Roger McKeon, a 15-year-old member of the Old Town 4-H Club.

The board showed the complete assembly from the weatherhead through the meter assembly, disconnect switch, service entrance switch and the outlet boxes and devices inside the home. A trophy for the outstanding exhibit was presented by Illinois Power Company. Tom Moore, commercial energy use adviser of Illinois Power Company, made the presentation.

The outstanding exhibitor award went to Richard Schlipf, a 16-year-old member of the Gridley Golden Banner 4-H Club. He built a wiring display board and a portable motor.

The judges were Tom Moore and Ron Ruby of Illinois Power Company and Vince Ijams and Joe Crosno of Corn Belt Electric Cooperative. Cy Anderson, director of member services from Eastern Illinois Power

SEPTEMBER 1974

Cooperative of Paxton, assisted with the judging at the Woodford County Fair at Pontiac.



TOP LEFT: Tom Moore of Illinois Power Company presents the trophy for the outstanding exhibit to Roger McKeon. The display board can be seen in the background. TOP RIGHT: Richard Schlipf holds the trophy for the outstanding exhibitor award presented by Corn Belt Electric Cooperative. In the background is the working display model home and the portable motor which won him the honor. ABOVE LEFT: Judges Tom Moore, left, and Ron Ruby, both energy use advisers for Illinois Power Company, examine one of the many shop flood lamp entries. ABOVE RIGHT: Cy Anderson of Paxton checks the fan which won the outstanding award at the Livingston County Fair as Cindy Wells, assistant supervisor, looks on.



4-H FAIR, 1974

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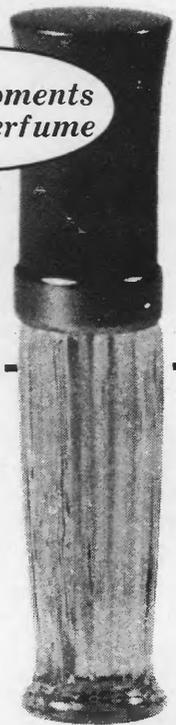
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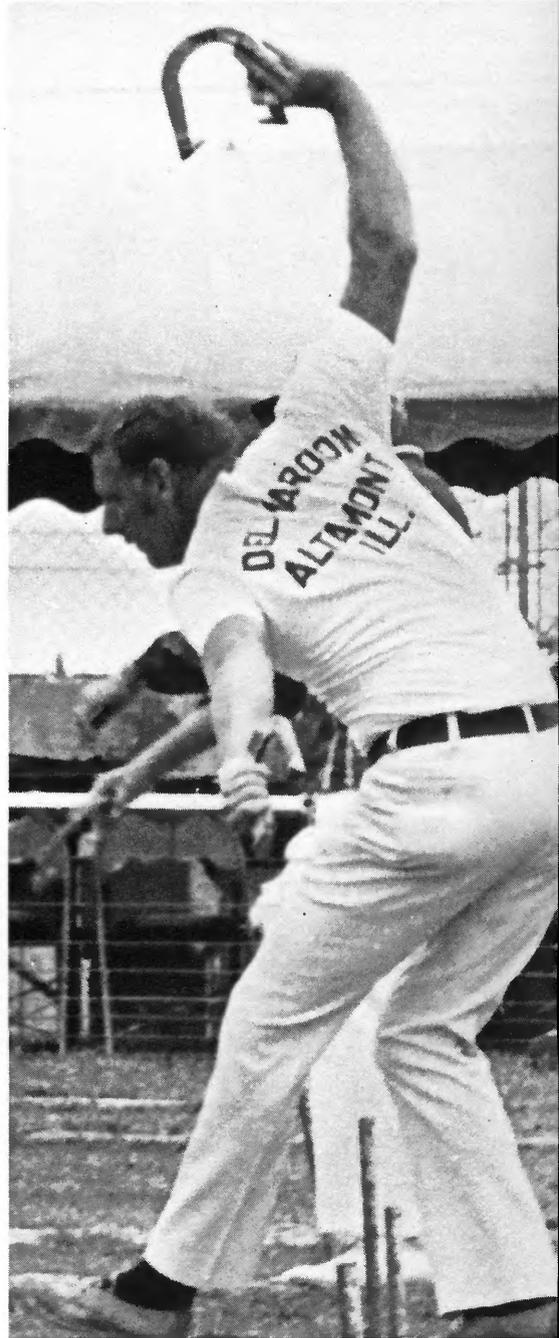
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Illinois Style



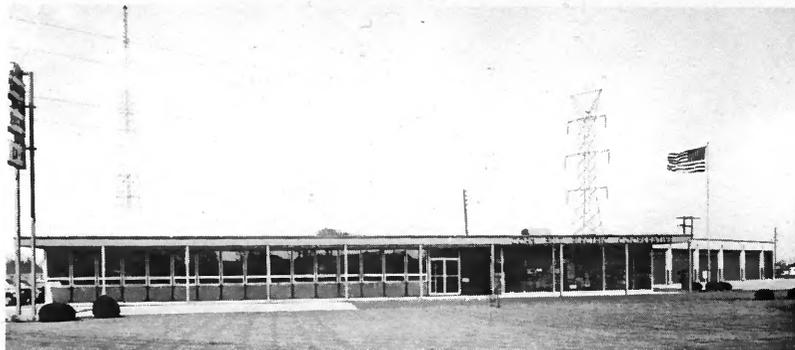
Horseshoes

Corn Belt Electric News

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CORN BELT ANNOUNCES RATE INCREASE

Rising fuel, labor and material costs will force Corn Belt Electric Cooperative, Inc. to increase electric rates beginning in November or December of this year, according to Manager G. V. Beer.

Spiraling inflation has increased

costs in all areas to the extent that Corn Belt has experienced a yearly deficit operating margin of \$119,065 through July 31, 1974.

A study being conducted by the Corn Belt staff and rate specialists of

the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives is nearing completion.

The new rates will be announced to the membership by letter as soon as they are finalized and adopted by the Board of Directors.

these
myths about
energy-saving
may cost
you money

(Reprinted from August 1974 issue of Good Housekeeping.)

Knowing the difference between energy myths and energy facts can help you conserve energy and soften the impact of increasing utility rates.

USING APPLIANCES

Myth: There is a surge of excess power each time a light is turned on, so leave a light on rather than turn it off when you leave a room for only a few minutes. **Fact:** No. A light turned on for only one second uses only one second's worth of energy. Energy is saved by turning lights off—even if only for a few minutes.

Myth: Wattage indicates the amount of light given off by a light bulb. **Fact:** Wattage measures the energy the bulb uses, not the amount of light it gives off. The amount of light is measured in lumens.

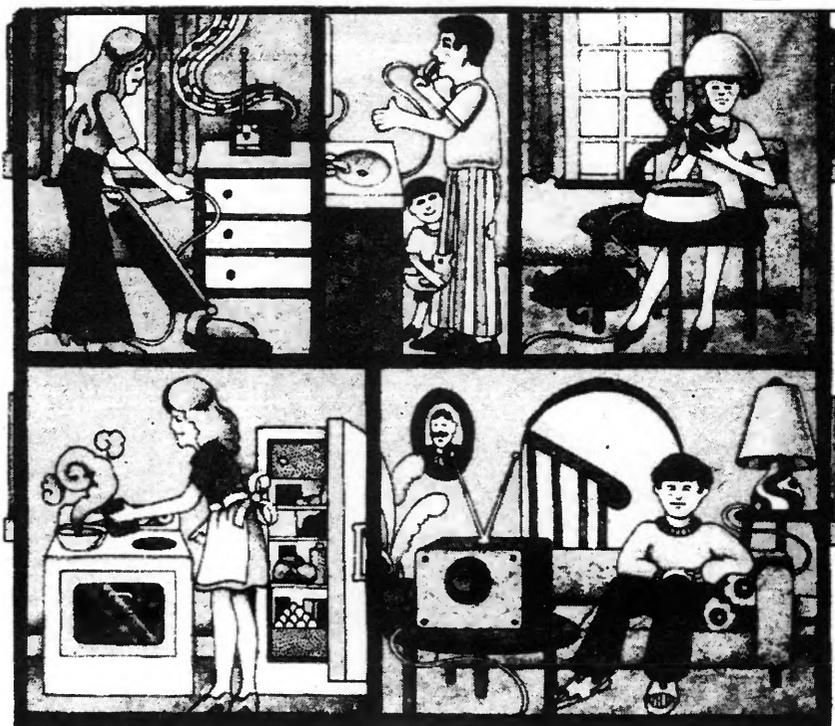
When buying light bulbs, check the package for the number of lumens

each bulb produces. You will find that a low-watt bulb generates less lumens for each watt of energy consumed than a bulb of higher wattage. For example, it takes four 40-watt bulbs to give the same amount of lumens as one 100-watt bulb.

Myth: Fluorescent and incandescent lighting each produce the same light for the same amount of energy. **Fact:** Fluorescent bulbs produce up to five times as much light for the same energy and last more than ten times

longer than do regular light bulbs. Fluorescent light is, therefore, more economical than incandescent.

Myth: Small kitchen appliances waste energy and should not be used often. **Fact:** Small kitchen appliances such as electric grills, skillets and toaster ovens can save energy in preparation of meals because they require less energy than an electric range. So if a toaster oven, for example, is large enough to accommodate what you want to cook, use it.





Instant Housing With a Modular Touch

If you want a new home in a hurry, you might be interested in a modular home.

A modular home is a factory-built home that is assembled at the home site in about eight hours or less.

Modular homes are available in almost any size and description from small retirement homes to offices, duplexes or three and six apartment sizes.

They are well built and can be ordered with all electric utilities including an electric furnace and air conditioning.

They can be purchased with insulation suitable for electric heat. This would mean it should have values of at least R11 in the walls and R19 in the ceiling. This can be accomplished with three and one-half inch fiberglass batts in the walls and six inch batts in the ceiling.

There is nothing cheap about modular homes. Unfortunately, there are a lot of people who associate manufactured housing with pre-fabricated construction. There is no justifiable base from which to draw a comparison of the two.

If you have a home site where a residence has been torn down or a
OCTOBER 1974

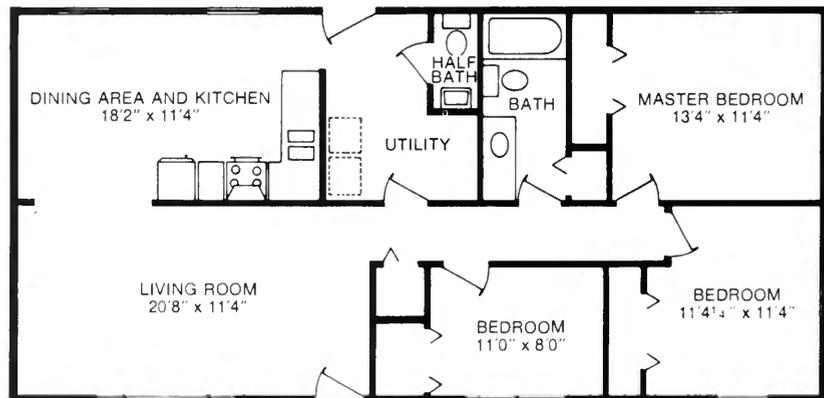
wooded area that would make a home site, you might consider one of these for retirement or for renting as a retirement income.

The price of modular homes vary, but will be in the vicinity of \$20.00 per square foot on a crawl space, excluding utilities and land costs. Many meet requirements for financing through the Farm Home Administration.

Be sure and check with your local

zoning regulations. There will be a minimum size lot you can build on depending on which county your lot will be located in.

Model Homes, Division of Park City South Sales, Inc. has the 1,200 square foot model home (shown on this page) on display at their sales lot located on U. S. 51, two miles south of Bloomington. There are other sales organizations in this area also featuring modular homes.



A. Leo Goleman of Divernon is a person who enjoys people, seeks to understand problems and, above all, likes to be involved. These are probably only a few of the attributes which led to his selection as president of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC).

How he became involved with the work of electric cooperatives, and the organization he now heads, is a different story. In the beginning, at least, it was due to embarrassment.

Goleman was selected as president by directors of the AIEC during the recent annual meeting of the organization. The AIEC is a statewide organization which provides services to the 27 distribution cooperatives and two generation and transmission cooperatives in Illinois. Goleman is also vice president of Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative Co., Auburn.

"I guess I was like a lot of people who take their electrical service for granted," Goleman said. "I had never attended an annual meeting of our local cooperative or even went inside the office except maybe to pay a bill. When the board asked me to serve, I felt a certain amount of real embarrassment."

And because he is the type of person who doesn't like to settle for just a little knowledge, after he became a director, Goleman set about to learn all he could about the electric business. "We are able to respond as we understand," Goleman said.

That understanding, over a five-year period, led to his selection as only the 12th president of the AIEC. He succeeded Robert Zook of Athens.

At one time in his life, however, Goleman would have been an unlikely candidate to even belong to a rural-oriented organization, much less be its president. He was much more at home in the classroom or with his paintbrush and easel.



ABOVE: Goleman farms 760 acres near Divernon and maintains an interest in the problems of the rural area. RIGHT: Goleman is married and has four children. Front, from left are: Anne, 19, and Goleman. Back row, from left are: John, 21; Andy, 12, Mrs. Goleman, and Melinda, 16.

The son of a minister, Goleman was born in the small town of Oakland in Coles County. His first ambition was to become an athletic coach. When illness prevented the realization of that dream, he turned to his second love—art.

"I didn't take my first art course until I was in college, so it took me quite a while to develop my style," Goleman said. "I used to sit at the kitchen table and paint for hours working on my technique."

"I wanted to paint things that people could laugh at and understand . . . things people might enjoy," Goleman added. "I guess my paintings reflect my philosophy of life. They are my way of expressing what I feel."

After receiving his Bachelor's Degree in Education and his Master's Degree in Fine Arts, Goleman taught art in the Springfield public school system for four years. He left teaching to become a farmer.

Goleman did not start farming until he was 27 years old. He and his wife, Dorothy, moved into a house near Divernon, owned by her father, and rented 120 acres to farm. Goleman, 21 years later, now farms

aiec's new



Thousands recently stepped back into yesteryear for a few hours and enjoyed the sights and sounds of their forefathers.

The scene was the Land of Lincoln Crafts Festival, held annually each fall at the New Salem Carriage Museum, one-half mile south of New Salem State Park. Because of the central location, the festival has become popular with visitors from all corners of Illinois and neighboring states.

More than 160 local people, many of them electric cooperative members, demonstrated 60 crafts which our ancestors took for granted in

their everyday lives, but today have been forgotten by most people.

The annual event was sponsored by Petersburg Town and County Women's Club. Electric power for the site was provided by Menard Electric Cooperative, Petersburg.

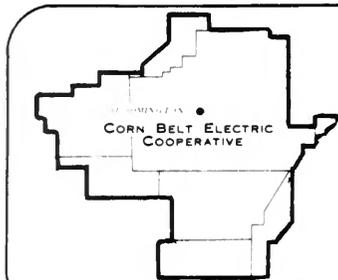
Much of the festival was a gourmet's delight with fresh smoked ham, sassafras tea, bittersweet, paw-paws, pumpkin bread, cottage cheese, kraut, hominy, sorghum and sweet cider.

There was something for all ages. And although it only lasted a weekend, it brought back many fond memories of days gone by.

Festival

BELOW: Chester Pettit of Springfield (left) and Homer Lounsberry of Oakford, a member of Menard Electric Cooperative, set their team to work. BOTTOM: Dell Price of Petersburg, also a cooperative member, slowly stirs a fresh batch of sorghum. CENTER: The fine art of rail splitting was handled by several hearty young men. FAR LEFT, BELOW: Mary Hurie of Petersburg demonstrated chair caning. FAR LEFT, ABOVE: According to Mrs. Ernest Ayers of Pawnee, a member of Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative Co., Auburn, goose plucking really doesn't hurt the pluckee.





Corn Belt Electric News

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

309-662-5330

BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

Study Shows Rate Adjustment Needed

By G. V. Beer, Manager

Just a reminder of the economic fact that electricity is not a free or fringe benefit which jumps directly from our nation's natural resources to the point of use, bypassing generation plants and transmission and distribution lines—all of which have a cost. 23B6



G. V. Beer
Manager

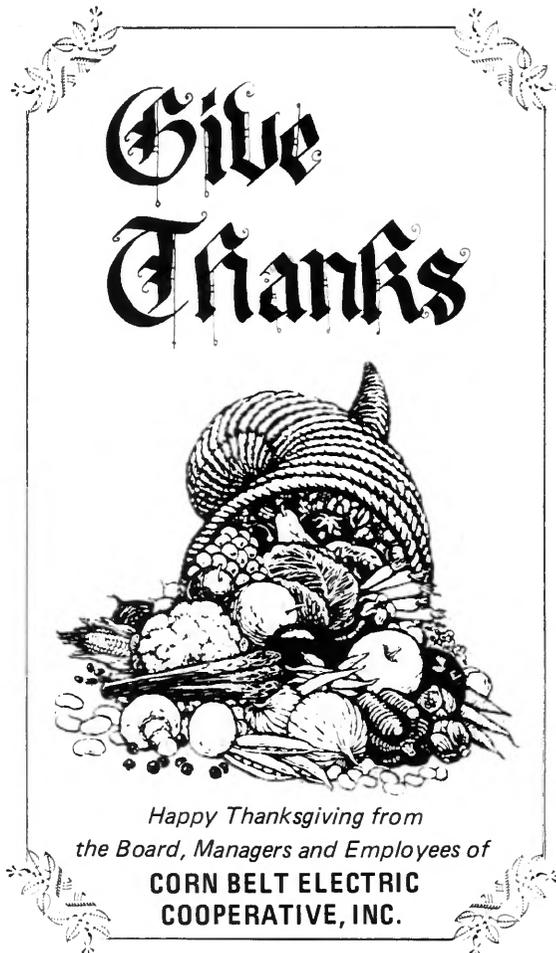
The utility industry must invest approximately four dollars to get a dollar of revenue. This cost is rising rapidly as the result of spiraling inflation and the ever-increasing environmental regulations being impressed upon the utility industry.

In reality, you member-consumers are not really paying for kilowatt hours but for kilowatts of generating, transmitting and distributing capacity. 49A22

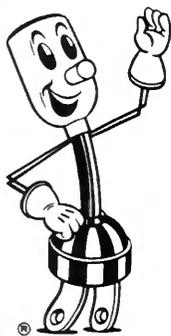
Corn Belt does not generate its own electricity, but purchases it from Illinois Power Company and Central Illinois Light Company. Therefore, we are known as a distribution cooperative. The costs of generation and transmission are passed through the wholesale power cost and are reflected in the bills each of you pay. 77C28

As I reported last month, these costs continue to rise and necessitate an increase in the rates of all Corn Belt member-consumers. The rate study has been completed and if you have not already been advised by letter as to the effective date of the increase and how it will affect you directly, you should receive it in the very near future.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please call or contact me personally. 7D21



A Willie Conserve-A-Tip



Mobile home owners can save money, and save energy too. Skirt boards around the foundation help reduce air flow underneath the unit and cut unnecessary heating costs.

It pays to conserve energy

A Willie Conserve-A-Tip



Fireplaces can add an extra special touch to your home, **but** your heating bill will go up if you leave the damper open when the fireplace is not in use. Wind blowing across the chimney will draw heat out of the house. Close the draft!

It pays to conserve energy

INDIAN SUMMER

By Joe Crosno

Indian Summer is my favorite time of the year. It gets its name from early history when the Indians harvested their crops for the winter food. Indian corn was their main crop and is the forerunner of our present corn.

The first corn was known as pod corn, and each kernel had its own husk in addition to the husk on the entire ear. Through the years, by selective seeding, the quality gradually improved. In the old days the corn was all open pollinated. 25A30-B



Joe Crosno
Power Use Advisor

Indian corn that is grown today as a hobby is for decorative purposes to signify the harvest season.

Arthur Blackmore of rural El Paso raises about two acres of Indian corn, as well as other crops of a decorative nature. It all started back in 1936 when he bought two pounds of Canadian rainbow flint seed corn in a small Minnesota town.

He has saved seed down through the years and has added other varieties. 14B25

The Indians liked the rainbow flint variety because it was high in starch and low in oil content. The kernels are almost all colors of the rainbow but mostly reds, yellows, brown and a few white. It matures in about 85 days.

Blackmore has one unusual variety not usually found in the seed catalogs. It is called King Philip Indian corn. The stalk, husk, tassel and even the cob is a deep purple color. The kernels are from reds to purple. Some is raised in the New England area for silage because of its sturdy stalk. It will mature in about 115 days from planting. One variety, a deep brown color, is called Root Beer corn. 35B8-C

He also has several varieties of popcorn. The most decorative is probably the Strawberry popcorn so named for the ear shape and color. The color still is evident in the kernel after it is popped.

Mr. Blackmore picks his seed for color and size. The darker colors are the most popular. He prepares about

3,000 decorative clusters each year. He sells it to hobby shops and has a small stand at the Phillips 66 Service Station on U.S. Route 24 at the east side of Gridley. 39B11

I asked Mr. Blackmore if the varieties tend to mix. He said it was not a problem because of the different maturity dates. But occasionally, he gets some unusual crosses that tend to start a new variety. 64P32

Mr. Blackmore also raises about eight varieties of squash, 10 or 12 varieties of gourds and three varieties of pumpkins. Some are edible, but most are for decorative purposes for Indian Summer season. 35J1-CC

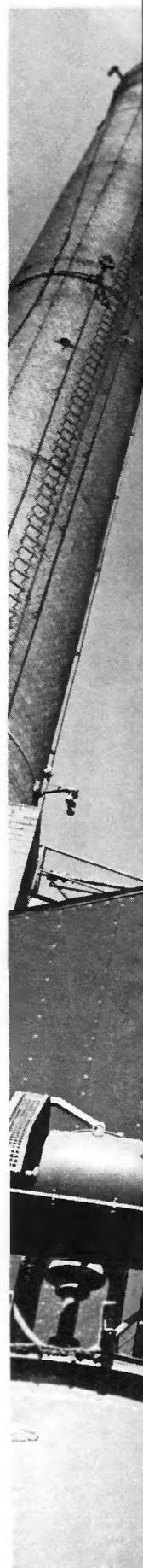


TOP: Some seeds are selected for next year's planting and kept over the winter. CENTER: Blackmore and his wife, Goldie, look over some of their corn which is being dried in preparation for taking it to market. LEFT: In addition to corn, Blackmore also raises several varieties of pumpkins and squash.

Illinois Coal '92

the challenge

Mines to Market:



It's easy to get along with Harry Davidson—just don't make fun of his mules. According to him, you could do a lot worse than having a mule for a pet. You could have a horse for instance.

Davidson, who lives on a small farm south of Nashville, has one of the best team of mules in the state—maybe the nation, considering the declining mule population. At least, when he took his team to the National Mule and Donkey Jubilee in Indiana recently, they were good enough to win the half-mile chariot race and place fifth overall in the halter or show class from among 1,400 animals.

The mules' home is located 27 miles west of Mt. Vernon, headquarters of Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Inc., which supplies electric power for the farm.

Davidson doesn't exaggerate about his mules' capabilities. In fact, he has a tendency to understate them—which often leads the interviewer to ask one question too many.

"I got a stallion out in the pasture," Davidson said, "but he hasn't got much of a bloodline."

The first mistake. "How far back can his bloodline be traced?"

"Well, he is a great-great grandson of General Ulysses S. Grant's horse, Leopard," Davidson said. "Guess he does go back a ways, doesn't he?"

Or, "Got me a mule across the road, but he can't jump very high and he's pretty slow, too."

Haven't you learned. "How high and how slow?"

"Well, he once cleared a four-foot fence and did a quarter mile in 26 seconds," Davidson said. "Never seen any other mule jump that high. And the speed is up to a quarterhorse's."

When Davidson talks about his mules in a serious vein though—listen. He probably knows as much about them as any self-proclaimed expert. He has been around mules most of his 58 years. Davidson's father spent his life breaking mules he had purchased and Davidson picked up his father's habit early.

"I had my first mule when I was six," Davidson said. "When I was 12, I traded a heifer for a mule and the mule for an old car. Been swapping ever since then."

Davidson now has only four mules. A heart attack in 1971 forced him to sell most of the 13 head he had. Eventually though, the heart attack

also forced him to give up his job as a railroad switchman in St. Louis, so he's back in the mule-raising business again—if on a much smaller scale.

"Before I had the heart problems, I used to do some serious swapping," Davidson said. "Figure I probably traded more than 300 in the years I been around them. Anymore though, it's just a hobby with me."

Davidson only recently has begun entering his mules in competitions. And they have done exceptionally well, even though his mules are considerably smaller than most of the mules and ponies they compete against.

"These are 'mini-mules,' Davidson said. "They are a cross between a donkey and a pony instead of a donkey and a regular-sized horse. The biggest one stands an inch under four-feet high, the smallest is only 45 inches tall."

In another era and area, the mules Davidson breeds would be called cotton mules, bred in the Old South to do work in cotton rows that a large horse could not negotiate.

Which brings us rather obliquely to the horse. In many ways, Davidson feels the mule is maligned when compared to his larger cousin, the horse. According to him, it should be the other way around.

"The mule is superior to the horse, intelligence-wise and most other ways," Davidson said. "For one thing, they are easier to train than a horse. I can train a mule to do things in one year it will take a horse three years to figure out.

"That's why you mostly see trick mules in rodeos instead of trick horses. Same thing with being used as a pack animal. Mules are just more surefooted going up a mountain slope, and they are about half-again as strong as a horse of the same size."

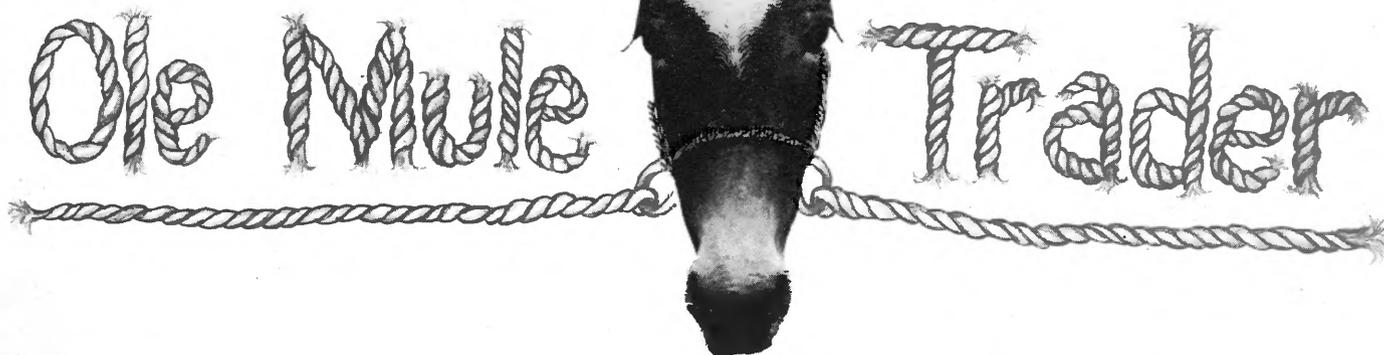
"Mules aren't stupid, but the people that own them can be," Davidson said. One story he uses to illustrate the point is about a mule pulling a load of hay.

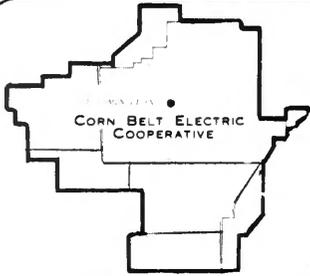
"The mule pulled until it couldn't pull anymore, which made the farmer mad. He lit a fire under the mule to get it going. Well, the mule moved alright. It moved until the fire was under the wagon and the hay was blazing.

"Same way with hurting a mule," Davidson added. "Besides showing how dumb some people are, it also proves how intelligent the

(continued on page 16)

HARRY DAVIDSON IS BASICALLY JUST AN . . .





Corn Belt Electric News

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

309-662-5330

BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

Season's Greetings

FROM
CORN BELT ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE



Employees

Richard Albert
Walter Armstrong
Deanna Beard
G. V. Beer
William Berg
Marcella Brienen
James Buggar
Michael Butler
Howard Campbell
Keith Campbell
Robert Campbell
James Coan
Darrel Cobb
Dolores Cook
Joe Crosno
Russell Curtis
Roger Dahl
Rolland Dahl
Gerald Durflinger
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Roy Raney
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Clifford Williams
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Corn Belt's New Rates Effective January 1, 1975

Beginning January 1, 1975, bills received will reflect the new rate schedules. Every member has been mailed a copy of the new rates including a comparative cost sheet. This will show the increase in dollars and cents at a given KWH level.

We are frequently asked, "Why is the cost of electricity going up?" The answer covers a multitude of items.

About 80 percent of the production costs in generating electric power is for coal. The cost of coal has increased more than 130 percent in the last five years! Further increases are predicted. Environmental controls, regulations governing strip mining, new labor contracts and stricter safety regulations will all account for these increases.

Shown (right) is a chart outlining the increase in fuel costs realized by Corn Belt Electric Cooperative during the first 10 months of 1974. You will

note that fuel costs have risen 130 percent above the base cost for a total of \$220,584.98.

In addition, we have experienced increases in labor, material and equipment costs.

Because of these reasons we have a

deficit margin or operating loss through the third quarter of 1974 in the amount of \$132,388.38, therefore necessitating the rate increase.

If you have any questions concerning the rate increase, please call or stop by the office.

1974 Month	Amount of Fuel Adjustment	Percent of Fuel Increase Above Base
January	\$16,551.28	68.7
February	17,642.51	75.7
March	17,455.92	81.5
April	19,190.76	86.7
May	15,325.65	85.4
June	15,114.96	88.8
July	25,396.80	98.7
August	26,562.88	111.6
September	29,069.30	130.5
October	38,274.92	129.8
Total	\$220,584.98	

Post Office Warns About No Postage

Envelopes received at the Post Office without postage will not be delivered to the addressee. Such mail will be returned to the sender, if possible, or placed in the DEAD LETTER FILE.

Each month we receive 12 to 15 payments (letters) without any postage. This mail will not be delivered to us in the future.

BE SURE YOUR PAYMENT OR LETTER HAS A WELL-GLUED STAMP ON THE ENVELOPE AT THE TIME OF MAILING.

THE LONGEST railroad tunnel in the world, excluding subways, is the 12.3 mile Simplon Tunnel in the Swiss Alps. It was opened in 1905. The longest in the United States is the 7.8 mile New Cascade Tunnel, opened in 1929 in Washington State.

A Willie Conserve-A-Tip



Fireplaces can add an extra special touch to your home, but your heating bill will go up if you leave the damper open when the fireplace is not in use. Wind blowing across the chimney will draw heat out of the house. Close the draft!

Conservenergy



Christmas Lighting Facts

1. All Christmas bulbs are low wattage—with more than 70 percent being only seven watts or less.
2. Christmas lights are usually on for only three to four hours a night during the two or three week period prior to Christmas.
3. Many homes turn off their higher wattage floor and table lamps when their Christmas lights are on and this quite often reduces power consumption.
4. The actual power cost of Christmas lights is insignificant. Merry Christmas.



Is it true that Santa Claus lives on Bannon Hill near Grayville rather than the North Pole?

Not really, but one of his helpers who has portrayed the jolly old gent for the past 49 years does live there. And from time to time he receives mail addressed: Santa Claus, Route 1, Bannon Hill, Grayville, Illinois.

Santa's helper is Willard Bannon. And with almost a half century of ho-ho-hoing, one might say he has quite a bit of experience under his wide, black belt.

Bannon, a director of Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative, started as Santa's Grayville area representative in 1925. He enjoyed it so much he hasn't been able to resist donning that fancy red suit since.

Bannon's interest in portraying Santa came after seeing an uninteresting portrayal by another of Santa's helpers.

"What bothered me," Bannon said, "was the person, not wanting to give away his identity, wouldn't speak. A Santa without a voice isn't worth a hoot—I felt I could do a better job so I gave it a try.

"I soon realized it wasn't an easy job to be an interesting Santa. I remember waiting to make one of my first appearances and I noticed an elderly couple walking out. Asking where they were going, they

replied 'Santa Claus is not for old folks.'

"Since then I've tried to make my program interesting to young and old alike. I've found out the red suit alone fascinates children, but the older people tend to listen to what you say."

Bannon works out a special program for every appearance. His repertoire includes stories, joke gifts and various types of letters to Santa.

"As far as Santa's concerned," Bannon said, "everyone's a child—men are boys and ladies are little girls. Just referring to an elderly lady as a little girl creates a jovial atmosphere.

"Whatever I do, I just try to keep the program interesting," Bannon said.

And interesting his programs must be, for he has played the role many times in an area from Fairfield to as far away as Evansville, Indiana.

He counted 10 churches and eight schools he has played many times. Sometimes he plays as many as three different engagements in one night.

"Santa, like a mailman, has to go rain, ice or snow," Bannon said. His wife does the driving when he is in costume and she keeps track of his engagements. She also makes, repairs and maintains his fancy red suit. He has worn out several over the years.

Bannon proudly says he has never missed a year in nearby Fortney. His endless list of other engagements include the Edwards County Fair, Grayville Christmas festivities, service organization parties and many private parties. Bannon has been Santa to five generations of one area family.

He is also proud of the times he has been able to bring Christmas to less fortunate families because of the generosity of many people in the Grayville area.

The years have provided many memorable experiences, some humorous. He recalled one school program where he was supposed to appear, and when dressing found the pants to his costume had been left at home. "Luckily, it was a short drive and I had enough time," Bannon said.

"Children can be mischievous at times," he said recalling an incident after another school program. "Three 12-year-old boys decided they would disrobe Santa and were waiting for

Grayville Area Resident

Nearly 50 Years of Ho-