



# Bache Chapel

“He who leaves the world better by his having lived, has not lived in vain.”

This was a favorite phrase of Joseph Lloyd Bache (Bay-che), a schoolmaster who compiled a modest fortune through shrewd investments and conservative living.

Bache, a Chicago resident, died October 1, 1965. Having no children, he left two-thirds of his \$1.7 million estate to the trustees of Garrett Township (Cartwright) Cemetery of Tuscola. It was here he grew up and it was here his will directed a fitting memorial be built.

Planning for the memorial began in 1970, keeping in mind the building was to be used for weddings,

community activities, funerals and interdenominational worship.

He wanted the memorial to be constructed of lasting material, designed to provide modern comfort and to have a restful and attractive atmosphere for any gatherings.

The memorial was fashioned in the tradition of English country churches, “bearing in mind modern design.”

To accomplish this, Joseph E. Coble, an architect from nearby Urbana, spent a week in England studying architectural designs of churches.

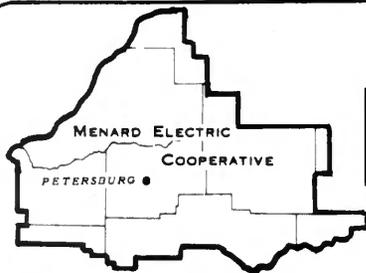
As a result of the study, a unique structure, which would later bear the name Bache Memorial Chapel, be-

gan to rise from the flat Illinois plains.

The memorial was literally poured out of 12 million pounds of concrete, enough to pave a two-lane highway a mile and a quarter long. Its 18-inch thick walls were left bare to resemble stone.

The sheer, rising walls of the building are severed by a steep roof and a 100-foot high clock tower. The tower has an observation platform accessible by 92 steps, from which visitors can view the surrounding countryside. Its roof is formed out of stainless steel terne and the doors are handmade from heavy oak timber.

*(continued on page 21)*



# Menard Electric News

MENARD ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

217-632-7746

PETERSBURG, ILLINOIS 62675

**THE NEW YEAR**  
 The New Year like a book lies  
 before me,  
 On its cover two words, "My Life" I  
 see.  
 I open the covers and look between--  
 Each page is empty, no words can be  
 seen,  
 For I am the writer, I hold the pen  
 That'll fill these pages to be read by  
 men.

Just what kind of book will my book  
 be,  
 My life written there for others to  
 see,  
 Each day a page written, one by one--  
 Will it be worthwhile when finished  
 and done?  
 Lord, help me keep these pages  
 clean and fair  
 By living the life I'd have written  
 there.

--Gertrude Laura Gast



## IMPORTANT NOTICE!

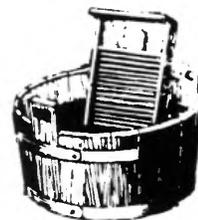
We have been notified there was a change in U.S. Postal Service regulations on November 17, 1974. Beginning on that date, all unpaid mail (mail without any postage) will be returned to the sender if a return address is available. Mail without a return address will be sent to the dead letter office where the contents will be examined to determine the sender.

If nothing identifies the sender, the contents will be destroyed.

If your monthly power bill payment is mailed without postage it will be handled according to the above regulation. We will naturally assume that you have not sent your payment and your account will be declared delinquent.

We urge you to be certain proper postage is on the mailing envelope.

## Grandmother's Recept for the Family Wash



Husbands, the next time your wives complain about doing the family wash, show them this. It was "Grandmother's Recept" for washday back in those days before modern laundry equipment was available.

1. bild fire in back yard to heet kettle of rain water.
2. set tubs so smoke won't blow in eyes if wind is pert.
3. shave one hole cake lie soap in billin water.
4. sort things, make three piles. 1 pile white. 1 pile cullord. 1 pile work britches and rags.
5. stur flour in cold water to smooth then thin down with billin water.
6. rub dirty spots on board, scrub hard, then bile. Rub cullord but don't bile--just rench and starch.
7. take white things out of kettle with broom stick handle then rench, blew and starch.
8. spred tee towels on grass.
9. hang old rags on fence.
10. pore rench water in flower bed.
11. scrub porch with hot soapy water.
12. turn tubs upside down.
13. go put on cleen dress--smooth hair with side combs--brew cup of tee--set and rest a spell and count your blessins.

Gals, hang this up above your automatic electric washer and dryer and, when things look bleak, read it again.

## Co-op Comments

More than 120 attended the annual Christmas Party of Menard Electric Friday evening, December 6, at the Parkview Cafe south of Petersburg. Directors, staff and their families were entertained by Mr. Harry Meinert of Springfield who presented a program entitled "The Miraculous Staircase." Meinert gave an excellent slide presentation encompassing, in part, the beautiful United States of America, as seen through his camera on numerous trips throughout the country.

\*\*\*

Mr. and Mrs. Melford McCoy celebrated their 20th Wedding Anniversary on December 24. Mrs. McCoy is the records clerk in your cooperative.

\*\*\*

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Fricke celebrated their 25th Wedding Anniversary on January 14. Mrs. Fricke is the receptionist-cashier at your cooperative.

\*\*\*

Evelyn McLaughlin completed five years of employment on December 31. Mrs. McLaughlin is the secretary to the manager of your cooperative, John Root.



*During the recent Christmas party, Charles Cowin of Kilbourne was presented with a 25-year service pin. From left are: Cowin, Mrs. Cowin, President Alvin Davis of Beardstown and John Root, manager.*

## DE LONG RETIRES



*Ed DeLong and his wife, Laura, plan to continue living in Petersburg and to take several mini-trips around the country. Ed had been an employee of the cooperative for 32 years, retiring this past December.*

Elwin E. DeLong, staking engineer, retired on December 31, 1974, after more than 32 years of service to the rural electrification program.

He began employment with your cooperative on October 12, 1939, left for a short time and returned to stay August 2, 1951. During the period he was not with Menard Electric, Ed was serving as a safety instructor for the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, Springfield.

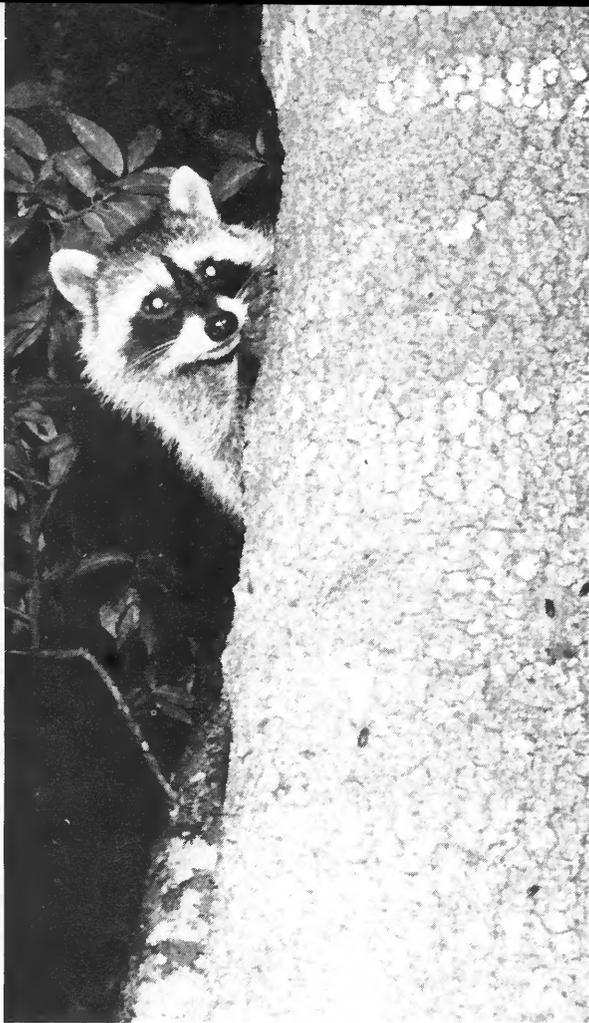
During his years with Menard, Ed served in several capacities. Many members will know him as a journeyman-lineman and serviceman in the Buffalo area. Most recently, he has been working as a staking engineer.

Ed and his wife, Laura, plan to continue living in Petersburg and plan on taking numerous side trips, including visiting their grandchildren in Iowa.

A great many of our members know Ed personally, and we know they join with us in wishing him and his wife a long and happy retirement.



**DON'T  
START BUILDING!**  
until you investigate  
**ELECTRIC HEAT**



# the great american coon hunt

by Jim Pottorf

We were looking for a story at Edgar Electric Co-operative Association in Paris. As I stood out in a farmer's field on a cold, windy and dark November night, I kept thinking, "surely there must have been some OTHER story!"

When I got the invitation to go on a raccoon hunt with Ed Adams, a lineman with the cooperative and raccoon hunting aficionado, my first reaction was "you can't fool this kid." Having been a veteran of several snipe hunts when I was younger, I thought I was in for something similar.

Little did I realize I could have offended thousands of hunters who actually do go after the furry little bandit-faced fellows. Any day I expect a seething editorial from one of the many (I found out there were such things) coon hunting magazines. I guess I could always plead ignorance—it has gotten me through before.

Two days before I ventured to Paris, it was probably one of the most pleasant days of the year. And, as luck would not have it, the night I did go was the night after the first snow storm of the year. It was cold.

It was cold enough for John Robinson, member public relations director for Edgar Electric, to first wonder if I was coming, then shake his head. It was also cold enough for three other Edgar members who were going out to remember previous engagements. Probably the only person it wasn't too cold for was Ed—he seems to thrive on it.

We packed up two coon hounds in Ed's combination pickup and mobile kennel and drove off into the night.

"It all depends on whether the coons are going to go out to feed early or late," Ed said. "You have to be right when you pick for the best hunting."

I was by now feeling a slight chill; I was hoping the coons wouldn't come out, see their shadow and go back up a tree. Or is that groundhogs?

"I have been doing this since I was in my teens," Ed said. "A lot



among hundreds of entrants throughout Illinois, the students will experience a whirlwind holiday and at the same time secure a wealth of knowledge about our government in action.

And, in May, more than 100 contest finalists will meet in Springfield to participate in the annual "Illinois Rural Electric Youth Day" activities.

This will be the third year where finalists from several cooperatives have been honored for their participation with an all-expense-paid trip to the state capital.

If you are interested in winning either tour, the thing to do first is to contact your own cooperative, or perhaps your high school principal, and find out if you're eligible to compete. Do it right away. Deadlines vary from cooperative to cooperative, but not much time is left.

Most cooperatives are determining their winners through essay contests. Most limit participation to high school sophomores and juniors. But find out about your own cooperative.

If you win your local contest, you'll travel to Washington in air-conditioned buses, stay at a fine motel on the bank of the Potomac River close to downtown D.C., dine at distinctive restaurants, meet notable government officials and Illinois congressmen.

It will, in short, be a week you'll never forget. Better get going on those essays . . . NOW!

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# youth to washington

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Some 50 outstanding Illinoisans will converge on Washington, D.C., June 7-14 for a VIP tour, courtesy of 19 Illinois electric cooperatives.

These young adults will join

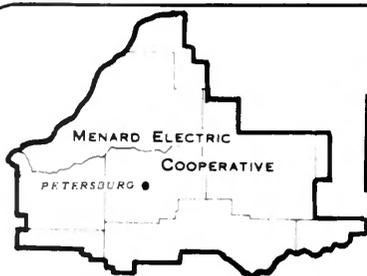
nearly 1,000 other high school students from 23 states and several foreign countries for the annual all-expense-paid "Youth to Washington" tour.

Selected as contest winners from

## Risk of Fatality by Various Causes



Accident Type	Total Number	Individual Chance
Motor Vehicle	55,791	1 in 4,000
Falls	17,827	1 in 10,000
Fires	7,451	1 in 25,000
Drowning	6,181	1 in 30,000
Firearms	2,309	1 in 100,000
Air Travel	1,778	1 in 100,000
Falling Objects	1,271	1 in 160,000
Electrocution	1,148	1 in 160,000
Lightning	160	1 in 2,000,000
Tornadoes	91	1 in 2,500,000
Hurricanes	93	1 in 2,500,000
All Accidents	111,992	1 in 1,600
Reactor Accidents (100 plants)	0	1 in 300,000,000



# Menard Electric News

MENARD ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE 217-632-7746 PETERSBURG, ILLINOIS 62675

## CO-OP COMMENTS

Can you save electricity while you use it? Of course, and recent laboratory tests supervised by home economists and registered engineers have proven it.

Results of the tests are interesting for housewives and exciting for families endeavoring to conserve energy.

Take hamburgers, for example. There's a basic item in most American homes—and here's how to save electricity in cooking them. You can save 30 percent of the electricity needed to cook four-ounce hamburger patties on a range surface unit—by using an electric frypan instead.

Coffee? There's another must for a majority of Americans. You can cut your coffee perking cost by using an electric percolator instead of a non-electric perk on a range surface unit. Using the electric percolator to prepare eleven 5½-ounce cups of coffee requires 42 percent less electric energy than the electric range burner.

### 60 PERCENT

Bake a cake in a frypan? You bet!

And you can save nearly 60 percent of the electricity required to bake the same cake in an oven.

In cake baking laboratory tests, identical yellow box cakes were each prepared in the same manner. One was baked in an electric frypan and the other was baked in an electric range oven, according to instructions. The frypan used 59.5 percent less electricity than the oven to produce the same product—taste, texture and appearance.

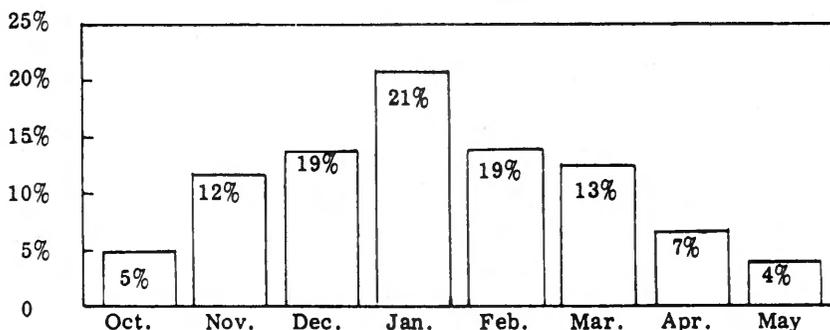
There are other things the

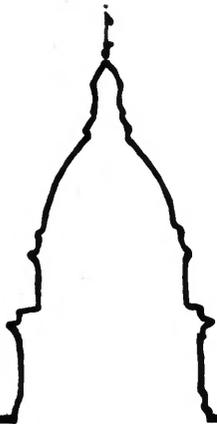
homemaker can do to save energy—both electrical energy and her own. For instance, she can use the portable electric appliance in which she cooks as a serving dish, thus saving the washing of at least one dish.

Another good energy saving idea is to divide a large electric frypan into sections with aluminum foil, then use the pan for two or three separate cooking jobs at the same time. This provides double savings—less power for cooking and less effort and power for cleaning.

## Monthly Requirements For Average Heating Season

The chart below illustrates how home heating requirements vary from month to month in an average winter.





# Essay Contest

The directors of Menard Electric Cooperative are pleased to sponsor an essay contest, which will permit two high school juniors from the cooperative's service area to win a week's all-expense paid trip to Washington, D. C., and other points of interest.

Essays are judged on originality, accuracy of facts, content and composition. Winners will leave Springfield on June 7 and will return June 14.

### Contest Rules

**Who May Enter:** Any high school student enrolled in the eleventh grade and attending a high school serving, or substantially serving the same area as Menard Electric Cooperative.

**How To Enter:** Write an essay containing as least 500 words, but not exceeding 1,000 words, on the subject, "How can we help meet the energy crisis?" Exact title may be of the student's own choosing.

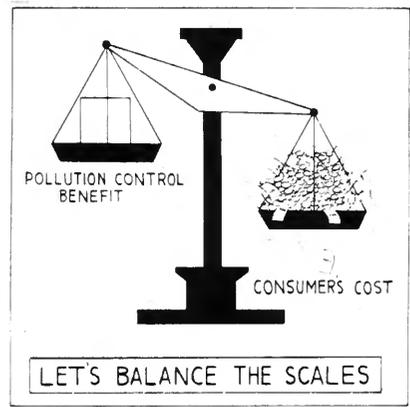
**Form of Entry:** Essays should be typed, on 8½ x 11 paper, double spaced, one side only.

**Mailing the Essay:** Essays should be mailed to Menard Electric Cooperative, Petersburg, Illinois 62675, no later than April 1. Completed entry blank must accompany essay.

**Judging:** Final judging will be based on 20 points each for originality, composition, accuracy of facts, contents and oral answers of judges' questions. Judging will be completed by May 1 by competent business and professional people within the cooperative area.



*John Kennedy, Jr., Chandlerville; Kenneth Buck, Manito; and Debbie Jones, Kathleen Fricke, Howard Pillsbury and Vicki Satorius all of Petersburg were among 50 outstanding high school students from Illinois which toured Washington, D. C., as part of the annual "Youth to Washington" tour sponsored by the Illinois electric cooperatives. They represented Menard Electric Cooperative at Petersburg. From left are Bob Patton, AIEC tour director; John, Debbie, Kenneth, Kathleen, Vicki and Howard.*



## F.R.O.G.

In our modern society we have committees for just about everything, and most of them have titles which, when reduced to the first letter of each word, end up in such catchy words as "COPE," "CREEP," etc.

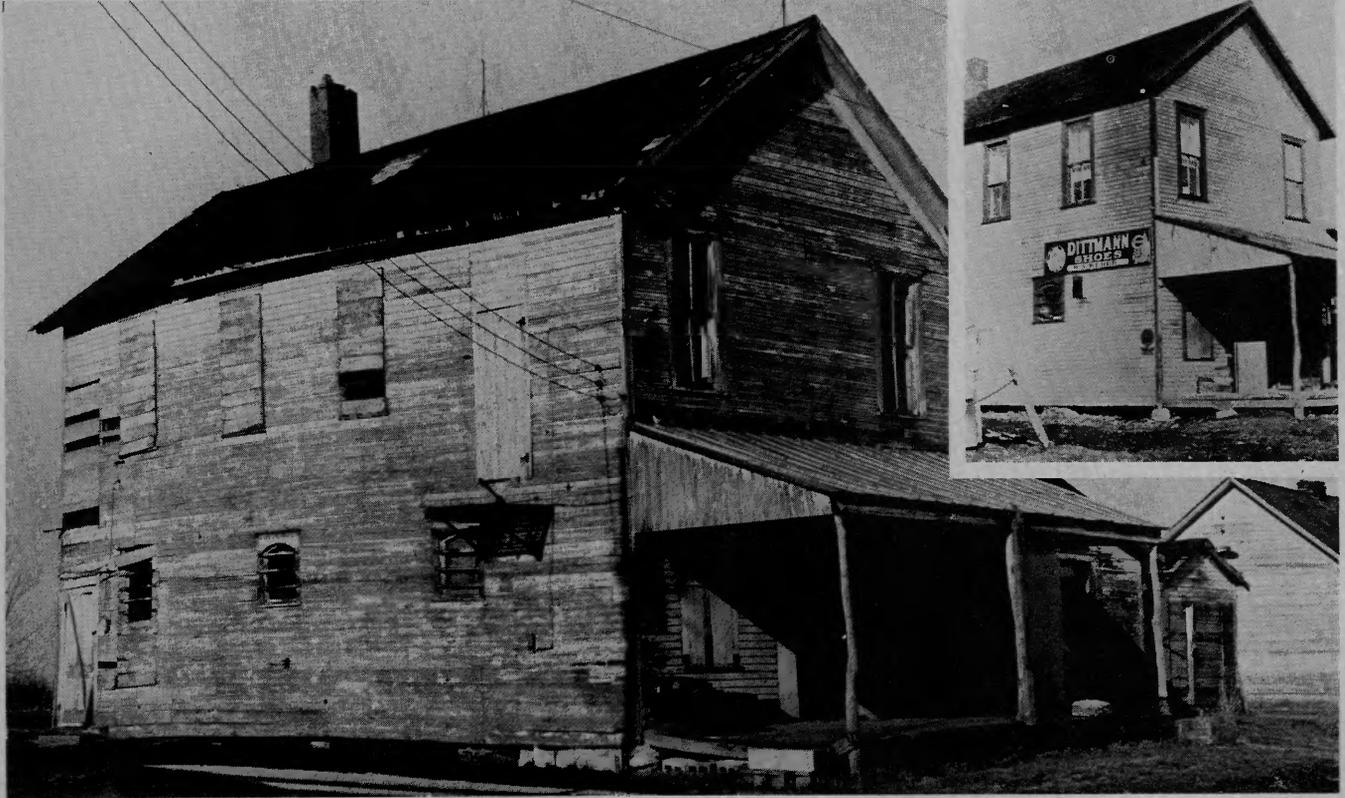
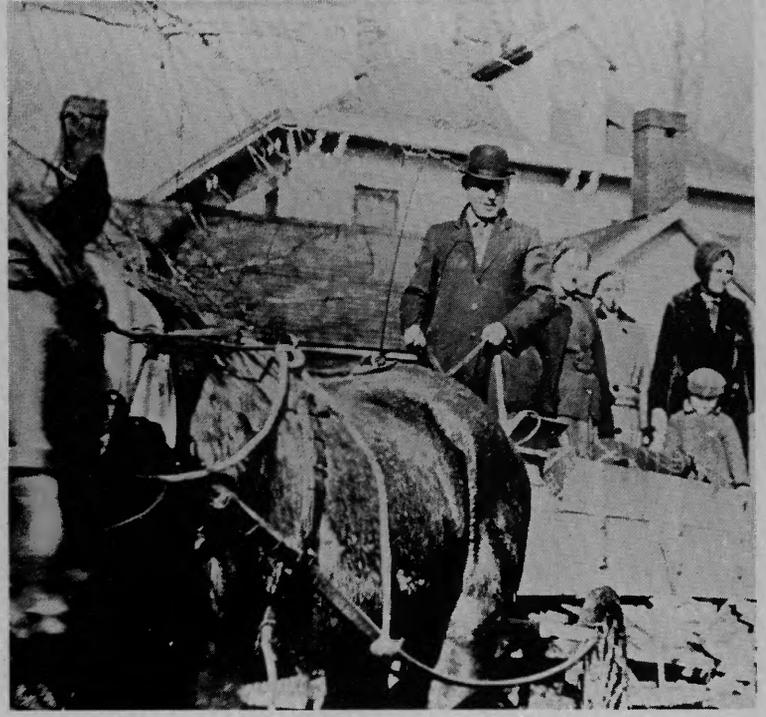
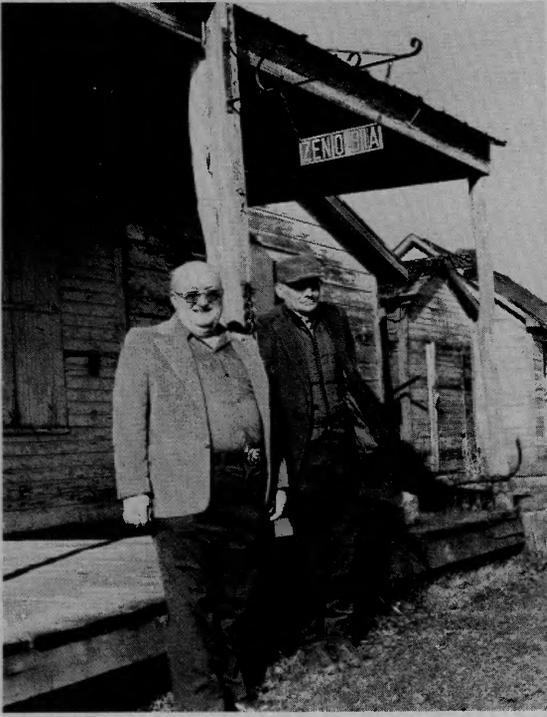
We'd like to propose a committee called "Fairness and Respect for the Ordinary Guy." This would become FROG. Sounds good, and maybe it would get someone hopping.

## A Willie Conserve-A-Tip



You can save nickels and dimes turning off lights in your home . . . but you can save dollars conserving the big three: heating, cooling and water heating. They account for three-fourths of your energy bill.

### Conservenergy



zenobia:



*BOTTOM: Six of the Hammann's 11 deer graze on the lakeshore. LEFT: Tinsel, the family favorite, takes a cracker from the youngest Hammann, Chris. BELOW: Leonard and Roberta pose by the fireplace at Deer Run Inn.*



## *Deer Run Inn*

# 25 Years of Dreaming

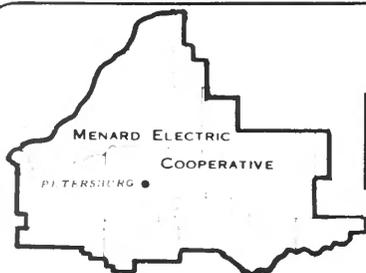
## About The Guy Wires . . .

Please do not remove guy wires. Removing a guy wire is a very dangerous thing to do as it will probably cause the pole to lean, resulting in low ground clearance. If there is enough strain on the line, the pole might break and thereby cause an outage for a large number of consumers. A loose guy wire dangling around on the pole can also cause serious injury to an animal or person if it comes in contact with the energized conductor.

While it is quite obvious that in some instances guy wires are an inconvenience to you while working around the farm or home, they are necessary for an electric distribution system to withstand the stress and strain which is placed on the electric line. Unfortunately all of them cannot be placed in the fence row and out of everyone's way.

From time to time you may notice some guy wires appear to be slack and apparently not serving any purpose. However, when there is a heavy load on the line, such as high winds, ice and etc., the guy wire plays a very important part in helping the line to weather the storm and prevent an outage. Should you observe a guy wire which has been disconnected and is wrapped around the pole or dangling in the air, please notify the cooperative office so necessary repairs may be done before an outage or injury occurs.

In addition, livestock which have access to areas near and around a guy wire, sometimes cause an outage on that particular line. Should you know of any location where this is occurring, the operations department of the cooperative would also appreciate hearing from this.



# Menard Electric News

MENARD ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE 217-632-7746 PETERSBURG, ILLINOIS 62675

## DON'T FORGET, ENERGY SAVINGS TIME STARTS AT 8 P.M. TONITE!



A major factor in the cost of electricity to your cooperative and any electric utility, is the costly mountain of electricity consumed at home and in business during daylight hours. Usually this peak begins at approximately 7 a.m. It rises and falls and reaches a peak again in the early evening hours. Obviously this is caused by breakfast, lunch and dinner meal preparations during the course of a day. The daytime load on all generation stations of any electric system creates the taxing of the generation facilities, and results in costly daytime peak loads to all power suppliers.

The high cost of producing electricity during the daylight time affects each and every consumer, irregardless of their energy consumption. One way each of us can assist in providing relief from the situation is to keep our eye on the clock. For an example: If we washed

and dried our laundry, used the dishwasher and did our baking after 8 p.m. in the evening, the end result would be a lessening of the daytime demand and would tend to make more efficient use of the generators by increasing our evening load. Keeping an eye on the clock can be just as important as keeping an eye on how much electricity we use.

Yes, energy savings time starts at 8 p.m. That's one special hour of the day that you cannot afford to forget.

## Attention: High School Juniors

Time is of the essence, but it is not too late to write an essay and enter it in the Menard Electric Cooperative "Youth to Washington" contest. Two winners will receive an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. during June. We would encourage all juniors to make a special effort in attempting to win this most valuable prize. Essays should be mailed to Menard Electric Cooperative no later than April 1.

## Co-op Comments

The actual production of food and fiber consumes about three percent of the total energy used in the U.S. In 1950, farming in the U.S. used four percent of all energy and in 1939 about three percent, the same as today. Production of food and fiber in all their parts, manufactured inputs, growing, processing, transporting, wholesaling, retailing, refrigerating, and cooking account for up to 13 percent of the total U.S. energy requirement. If we turned back the clock to 1939 in agriculture, and used horses and mules to produce today's volume of food and fiber, we would need 27 million horses and mules to replace the tractors. In addition, we would need 16½-million people in the farm workforce instead of the 4.4 million now working on farms.

\*\*\*

Manager John E. Root, completed 10 years of service March 8. He came to the cooperative from Millboro, Virginia, and is only the third manager to serve Menard since its organization in 1936.

\*\*\*

Mrs. Orene Haynes, assistant data processing operator, has returned to work after being a surgical patient at Memorial Hospital during the early part of February.

\*\*\*

News from retirees indicates that Harold E. Brunk, who retired in 1974, is enjoying the warm weather in the state of Florida, and Glen Worth was most recently heard from as being in the state of Texas. Warm weather will probably return each of the above to the central part of Illinois.

\*\*\*

One of the most important trips a person can make is that involved in meeting the other person halfway.

\*\*\*

Many a small boy is the kind of kid his mother wouldn't let him play with.

\*\*\*

Nobody who can read is ever successful in cleaning out an attic.

\*\*\*

## CROP DRYERS FOR 1975

One of the first things our members should do in making advance preparations for electric service for new grain dryers or the addition of drying equipment to present facilities is to contact the cooperative office prior to the purchase of new equipment. It is possible the electric distribution system for a proposed location might not be sufficient to handle the additional load without substantial upgrading of the cooperative facilities, as well as the member's facilities. In addition, some additional line extension might be involved. This type of work cannot be done overnight. It requires staking for the new construction, material being ordered and issued and a reasonable construction schedule provided.

If you are contemplating a new drying system or upgrading of your present system, please advise your cooperative office of plans prior to June 15, 1975. The cooperative cannot guarantee service to your new system if applications are made after the above date.

## Thinking Electric Heat

Building a new home? If you are planning on building a new residence, or remodeling and changing the heating system in your existing house, please contact the cooperative office prior to the actual beginning of the project. We can offer you some help on choosing the best type of heat and in addition, provide you with information, pamphlets, etc., on good insulation.

Good insulation provides a quick and easy way to conserve energy and by so doing reduces your annual heating charge.

The greatest heat loss in a home comes through air change—air change, 39.6 percent; windows and doors, 27 percent; ceiling and roofs, 12.8 percent; walls, 15.2 percent; floors, 5.4 percent. Air change heat loss

comes through leaks around windows, doors, through the siding, fireplace dampers left open, electrical ceiling fixtures, around plumbing and pipes and through kitchen and bathroom fans which jam wide open.

Building authorities report that anything beyond a 15 percent air change is wasteful. To reduce air leaks to an acceptable percentage you can apply inexpensive remedies. These include sealing all cracks carefully, selecting doors and windows with quality weather stripping, installing hydraulic door closers on every exterior door and specifying fireplace, kitchen and bathroom fans that close effectively.

To reduce window and door leakage, use insulated glass for all windows and storm windows,

louvered-type screening for natural ventilation, drapes and shades that can be closed in summer and open to the sun in winter, and natural foliage for shading. Walls should be insulated with three and one-half inches of quality insulation between stud spaces.

To reduce heat loss through ceilings and roofs, insulate the space above the ceiling and between exposed rafters with six to 10 inches of insulation. Ventilate the attic space with substantial fans and use light colored roofing materials. To reduce loss through floors, insulate heating and air-conditioning ducts, the floor itself, including slabs, basements and crawl spaces. This can be done on slab construction by means of perimeter insulation.

Almost without exception, on high bill complaints on electrically heated homes, it has been this writer's experience that insufficient insulation is installed in the side walls, ceilings, floors, basement and crawl space areas.

# Flints, Frizzens and Flashpans

(continued from page 13)

"Usually, in foreign-made flintlocks, the grooves in the rifle aren't cut well . . . the rifling isn't always properly done. They just aren't as good," Lilly explained.

Lilly is as knowledgeable about the history of the muzzleloaders as he is about the ones he makes. Each one of the rifles he has made has at

least one story he can tell about the original weapon.

"This is a .38-calibre slug rifle," Lilly said as he held up a 40-pound monstrosity outfitted with a telescopic lens. "It was used first during the Civil War and today is used as a match rifle.

"A group of Union Army sharpshooters called Burden's Riflemen

used a similar gun during the Civil War to pick off Confederate officers from about a half-mile away.

"As the story goes, one of the sharpshooters was trying to hit a Confederate general who was sitting at a desk. Another officer came out of a tent. The Union rifleman fired. By the time the slug got to the Con-

(continued on page 22)

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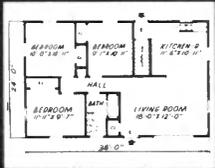
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Our own Gardener's Pride™ climbing strawberries will bear three times a year, from the very first year — in the Spring, Summer and Fall — right in your own back yard, in as little as 60 days from the day you plant them! Then pick up to 4 pints a year off your own vines. The best and biggest grade. Strong well developed crowns and climbing roots withstand all climates.

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Don't miss out on this amazing offer! Shipment will be made at just the right time for planting in your area. Planting instructions included. Tell us when to ship.

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I have enclosed my  check  money order  cash for \$\_\_\_\_\_ Please send me the following number of Climbing Strawberries, postage paid.

12 plants — \$2.49 plus 40¢ postage  
 25 plants — \$4.89 plus 50¢ postage  
 50 plants — \$9.49 plus 80¢ postage  
 100 plants — \$17.95 plus 95¢ postage

Sorry—No C.O.D.'s at these fantastically low prices!

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

A place named the Garden of the Gods should have at least a little trouble living up to its billing.

It should, but it doesn't. In fact, having once walked around the recreation area and feasted on this particular example of nature's majesty, one might well imagine it as a place where the Gods would establish a latter-day Eden.

The Garden of the Gods recreation area is located in the northern part of the Shawnee National Forest approximately 15 miles southeast of Harrisburg in Saline County. Power for the area is provided by Southeastern Electric Cooperative, Inc., Eldorado.

Although the history of the Garden as a recreation area is only a little more than 12 years old, its history as a spectacular and beautiful area far predates the advent of man. The unique, picturesque rock formations the area is noted for were formed about 200-million years ago as the land underwent a geological uplifting and went through subsequent wind and water erosion.

Even man, a late arrival, has been able to partake of the Garden's beauty for the past few thousand years. Garden of the Gods and the Shawnee National Forest have also been his home for 10-thousand years.

But man also gradually let the area fall in disrepair. The vegetation became overgrown, the rich soil was washed away and the streams were clogged with sediment.

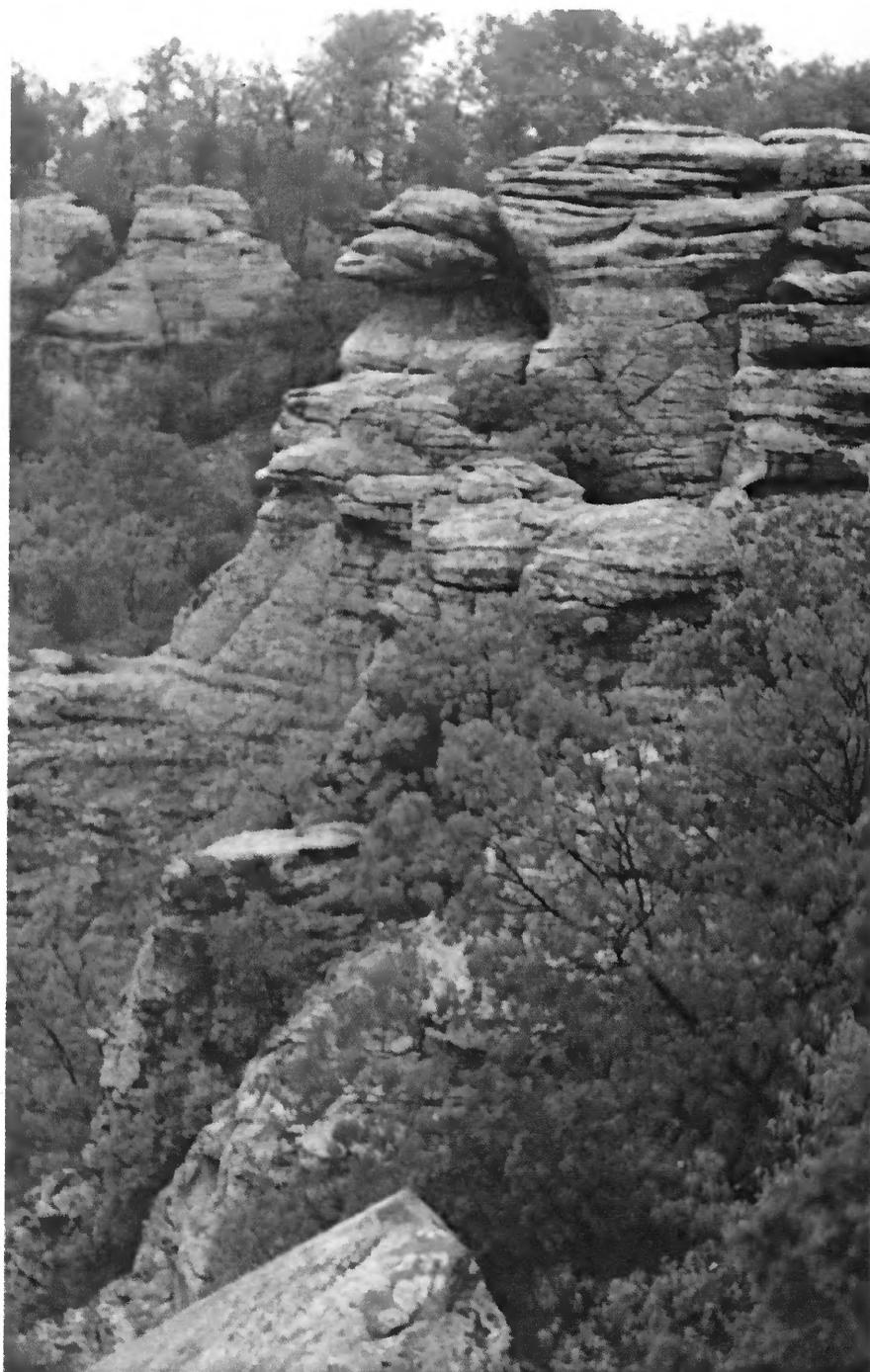
In 1963 the recreation area was revitalized by the Elizabethtown District of the Shawnee National Forest with help from the Job Corps.

The stars of the Garden of the Gods are the rock formations. But you have to have imagination and take the time to study them.

Some of the more picturesque and interesting formations are Cathedral Rock, Woman's Cave, Fat Man's Squeeze, Anvil Rock, Mushroom Rock and Camel Rock, one of the most impressive.

Without man, the Garden of the Gods became a beautiful place. And now, with his help, it should remain a beautiful place for many years to come.

# GARDEN OF THE GODS



# Would You Like To Help?

There are many things members of Menard Electric Cooperative can and are doing to lower the cost of electricity. Electric cooperatives are unique in many respects. They were formed to provide electric service at cost to its members. In the formative years of the cooperative the price of electricity was not the immediate concern, it was the availability of electricity.

Cooperative officials did everything possible to decrease the cost of service, knowing that serving in the rural area itself would not generate sufficient revenue. Members of Menard Electric Cooperative have donated

their rights-of-way, read their own meters and generally have been most cooperative throughout the history of this organization. These things have greatly reduced the cost of providing service.

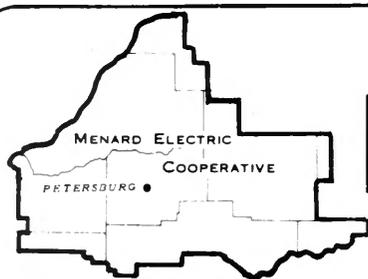
It is quite evident cooperatives must have some economics built in to their operation. Most of the economics comes from the help the members provide. There are always a few other ways in which members can help their cooperative to keep rates as low as possible. Overdue bills are very time consuming and expensive. Extra work is provided on every overdue account. Notices must be sent and many times

linemen must be dispatched to collect unpaid accounts.

Outage calls are another example. Some outage calls are for members' own wiring problems, blown fuses, etc. It is quite expensive to send our linemen out on overtime for outages of this nature. If an outage does occur, a phone call will get the linemen out quickly.

When calling to report an outage, check with your neighbors first to see if they have power. This information helps us to locate the problem faster. The end result is the lights are back on quicker.

We offer the above suggestions to help you help us. We want to keep your rates as low as we possibly can.



## Menard Electric News

MENARD ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE 217-632-7746 PETERSBURG, ILLINOIS 62675

### Belated New Year Resolutions

**EMPLOYEES:** We resolve that during the year 1975 we will always remember that:

A MEMBER—is the most important person in our electric cooperative.

• A MEMBER—is a part owner of our business—not an outsider.

A MEMBER—is not just an account number. He is a flesh and blood human being with feelings and emotions like our own.

A MEMBER—being human, is apt to blame the meter or the cooperative for a high electric bill.

A MEMBER—is entitled to ask for information about his cooperative. He deserves a correct and definite answer to all inquiries.

A MEMBER—is entitled to the most courteous attention we can give him.

#### MEMBERS

I resolve that during the year 1975, I will read my meter and mark my bill correctly on the 20th.

Always pay my electric bill on or before the 1st of each month.

Bring my electric bill when I pay at the office.

Notify the office well beforehand when I want a special service, such as a connection, disconnection, or service updated.

Check my fuses and contact my neighbor to see if he has electric service before reporting an outage to the cooperative office.

Cooperate with the cooperative staff when asked for permission to remove trees that endanger lines.

Treat the cooperative employees as I wish to be treated.

Attend the cooperative's Annual Meeting, June 28, 1975.

### Co op Comments

A wink, a smile and a firm handshake are still excellent means of communication.

\*\*\*

#### Congratulations

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Bradley of Petersburg are the proud parents of a son, Ryan Dean, who arrived on March 19. He is their first child. Mark is an apprentice lineman for your cooperative.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles McLaughlin of r. r. Petersburg celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on April 9. Evelyn is the secretary for the cooperative's manager, John Root.

\*\*\*

Perhaps the most impressive tolerance testimony is the Golden Wedding Anniversary.

# If Your Food Thaws, Don't Panic

To refreeze or not to refreeze? A question that can send a housewife scurrying around for her freezer instruction book or calling the extension agent.

Did the strawberries get soft on the way home from the market?

Can you return a partially thawed turkey to the freezer when weekend guests cancel out?

Or the big question—when the freezer goes on the blink or someone pulls a plug and the whole food budget is at stake. What then?

Her answer to the question "Is it all right to refreeze the food?" "Yes—if there is any evidence of ice crystals or if the food is still cold (about 40 degrees) and if it has been held no longer than two days at refrigerator temperature after thawing.

In general, if a food is safe to eat, it is safe to refreeze."

The process of thawing and refreezing does not itself make the fruits and vegetables unsafe. But thawed foods spoil more rapidly than fresh foods and may quickly become unsafe if not refrigerated.

Refrozen vegetables may toughen and refrozen fruits become soft and mushy. If flavor and texture of such refrozen fruits make them unsatisfactory for eating uncooked, they may be satisfactory for use in cooking.

A government bulletin on freezing meats and poultry products advises that these foods should be cooked promptly after thawing. However, if they thaw slowly in the refrigerator, they will keep for a day or more after

thawing.

If power is interrupted or the freezer fails to refrigerate properly, do not open the door unnecessarily. Food in a loaded freezer usually will stay frozen for two days, even in summer, and in a half loaded freezer, it may not stay frozen more than a day.

## Your TV Antenna- Jekyll or Hyde?

Your television antenna is a link with enjoyable entertainment for you and your family—especially in fringe reception areas such as the Menard Electric service area. Here an antenna makes the difference between a snowy and a sharp picture.

But under certain circumstances, a tv antenna is capable of displaying a Jekyll-and-Hyde kind of split personality. As long as Doc. Jekyll is in command, he rules like a genial master of ceremonies in your household. But if Mr. Hyde even momentarily wins the upper hand, you might find that in one blinding flash you have been brutally and unexpectedly switched to Channel Zero!

What happens when a tv antenna contacts a power line? Your set will probably be ruined if the antenna is connected to it. Fire might break out, so there is danger you will be badly burned and your home will be destroyed. Worst of all is the possibility of electrocution—particularly if you are in the midst of installing the antenna when contact is made.

Help the genial Jekyll-side of your antenna to remain in command by

keeping yourself tuned in to the following precaution channels:

1. Don't erect an antenna that is high enough or close enough to a power line so that contact could be made if the antenna should fall.
2. Be sure your antenna is well secured and guyed, so a windstorm isn't likely to topple it into a power line.
3. Never try to free an antenna from a power line. Call your power supplier.
4. If you plan to install an antenna and there is any chance of electrical contact, call your power supplier for advice. In such circumstances, remember it will cost you more for experienced installers to erect the antenna than doing it yourself—but it might save you the remainder of your lifetime.

Keep the widest possible clearance between your tv antenna and the closest power line. Stay tuned to yours and Doc. Jekyll's favorite channel—and don't be unexpectedly switched to Mr. Hyde's Channel Zero with its Too Late Show!

## Map Your Underground Utilities

Today, the trend is to bury wires and other utilities underground. This makes the farmstead neater and lessens danger of damage by natural elements or man-made equipment. But when these utilities need maintenance, or when new construction digging is required, it is important to know exactly where every wire, pipe, tile, or tank is located.

Use a sheet of graph or grid paper to record the location of underground utilities. Keep this record with other property ownership papers where it can be found quickly when needed.

Here are some suggestions for preparing such a record:

- Label sheet as "Record of Underground Utilities."
- Use one sheet and scale for farmstead or building area; another for field areas
  - List property owner's name(s)
  - List legal description of property
  - Establish scale for drawing—number of feet per square or per inch
  - Locate and sketch in, approximately to scale, all buildings, driveways and other permanent farmstead fixtures
  - Draw path or location of each underground utility using the accompanying coded lines and symbols. Identify all utilities owned by city, county, community or commercial interests with a large "C".
  - Make and mark measurements from fixed reference points to pinpoint exact locations as needed
  - Indicate date of installation and type, size and depth of each utility. This information is helpful for planning future expansion of facilities.
  - Whenever you buy or rent new property, ask for complete data on buried utilities.

UE—Electric wire	_____
UW—Water pipe	_____
UT—Telephone cable	—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—+—
US—Sewer pipe	—○—○—○—○—○—○—○—○—○—
UG—Gas pipe	—x—x—x—x—x—x—x—x—x—
UD—Drainage tile	- - - - -
ST—Septic tank	■
SF—Septic drain field	X
OT—Fuel oil tank	●
GT—Gasoline tank	▲

# ILICA



Albert J. Cross



Dale Knuppel

## *dedicated to soil and water conservation and improvement of the environment*

by John Temple  
former editor, Illinois Rural Electric News

Seventeen years ago a group of land improvement contractors around Trivoli in Peoria County decided the time had come to organize. They recognized an organization could provide services, promote the welfare and protect the interests of individual contractors in a manner they could not do alone.

The result was the formation of the Illinois Land Improvement Contractors Association, Inc. (ILICA) with Ed Williams of Trivoli as its first president.

Subsequently, the Illinois Land Improvement Contractors Association became the Illinois Chapter of the Land Improvement Contractors of America (LICA). The LICA has offices in Brookfield, Ill., with Paul A. Bucha as executive secretary.

Land improvement contractors are dedicated to soil and water conservation and improvement of the environment. They construct grass waterways, build ponds and engage in other water diversion activities, construct terraces, install tile for better drainage and work on pasture improvement and land rehabilitation. In addition, a number of the contractors are active in farming and engage in other construction programs.

A land improvement contractor must be a good businessman and a skilled worker. The occupation requires a large investment in expensive machinery and equipment, and the work must meet high standards. Contractors work closely with representatives of the U.S. Soil Conservation Service, county soil and water conservation districts, the Illinois Department of Agriculture, the general farm organizations in Illinois and all organizations and agencies established to serve the rural people of the state.

Since its inception the ILICA has received invaluable assistance from Prof. Ralph C. Hay and Prof. Car-

roll J. W. Drablos of the University of Illinois, Department of Agricultural Engineering. Drablos now serves as educational adviser to the ILICA. Since Hay retired from university service he has continued to serve as a consultant to the state organization.

Some of the more important activities of the Illinois Chapter, LICA, throughout the years have included:

1. Members have conducted five soil and water conservation demonstrations in Illinois. The purpose of the demonstrations was to show the most up-to-date practices in soil and water conservation.

2. Each year members have participated in several conservation workshops in cooperation with the Department of Agricultural Engineering, University of Illinois, and the U.S. Soil Conservation Service.

3. An annual meeting is held where members obtain information on the latest soil and water conservation practices and procedures.

4. The ILICA has an active and effective state legislative program. From 1968 through 1974 the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC) worked with members of the ILICA to provide this service. During this period the ILICA gained recognition as one of the responsible rural organizations in the state. According to Dale Knuppel of Mackinaw, ILICA president, "Tom Moore, the AIEC board of directors, the organization's staff and membership deserve our deepest thanks for what they have done to help us grow and develop, not only with a strong legislative program but with publicity, organization and management and in numerous other areas."

5. Frequent conferences with departments and agencies of the state have been held on problems affecting land improvement contractors.

The ILICA has received numerous national honors. Two members, Ed Williams and Max H. Norris of Polo,

*(continued on page 22)*



city. "Another of the election promises was, that should we feel anything was going to be controversial, there would be a hearing on it," Aeilts said. "By the attendance at the hearing on the airport, we were glad we had one. Besides giving the people a voice in their government, it also gave the council an indication of the feelings of the community. A majority felt we should look into the possibilities and come up with a proposal."

The mayor believes that although

## Mayor

there are few major problems that the city faces, there are many immediate needs the council and mayor must try to meet.

"It seems like there is an almost constant need for improvements in streets and roads, as well as surface water drainage," Aeilts said. "These are the kinds of problems we are working to solve and hopefully anticipate in the future."

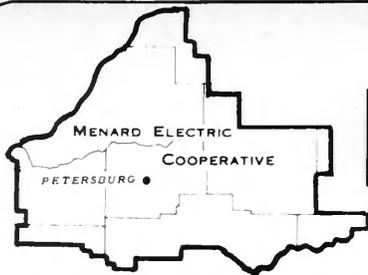
What he feels would be the major accomplishment of his administration and of immense benefit to Carthage is the placement of new money in the city by new industry.

"Carthage's economy is presently centered almost entirely around agriculture and agricultural products," Aeilts said. "In the past, either a low crop yield or a low crop price would adversely affect the city's sales and growth.

"By bringing in an industry—not just any industry, but one we feel will not pollute our air, water or soil—we will be able to stabilize the

*(continued on page 21)*





# Menard Electric News

MENARD ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE 217-632-7746 PETERSBURG, ILLINOIS 62675

## CO-OP COMMENTS

### New Employee

H. Edwin Sinclair of Petersburg began employment with your cooperative on February 12 as a mechanic. Edwin works in the warehouse in Petersburg. He and his wife, Peggy Sue, have three children and reside in Petersburg. He formerly was employed by Ideal Industries. We welcome the Sinclair's to the Menard Electric family.

\*\*\*

Light bulbs can create a fire hazard if located near combustible material, such as found in confinement livestock buildings and areas where dust accumulation is a problem. Normally, incandescent lamps in approved lampholders and fixtures or where properly guarded do not create a hazard. We suggest that should you have a light bulb in a hazardous area that you keep the bulb and area free of dust accumulation.

\*\*\*

Sooner or later most conversations about the excesses of weather get around to the humidity. We recognize the discomforts of too much or too little humidity but do we actually understand the relationship between humidity and comfort. Frequently during the winter, relative humidity drops to 10 or 15 percent when the cool dry air from outdoors is brought inside and heated. Successively dry air absorbs moisture from our bodies, furniture and woodwork from our residence, in addition, nasal and bronchial passages are dried causing cracks in the membranes that can admit germs, viruses, etc. and make us all fair game for colds and infection.

The resulting discomfort is combated by air-conditioning in the

summer which removes moisture from the air as well as lowering the temperature.

Relative humidity is the amount of water vapor in the air compared to the amount of water vapor it can hold at that temperature. As the temperature varies the amount of water vapor it can hold also varies. As air cools it contracts and there is less space for moisture. As it warms, expansion permits more room for moisture.

More and more homeowners are installing power humidifiers to maintain a comfort level of humidity indoors during the winter, and installing dehumidifiers to obtain the same result during the summer.

\*\*\*

With the awareness of an energy crisis in 1973, many homes have been built since then with electric furnaces. Many of these have been conscientiously installed but a high percentage of the electric furnaces have not been properly installed. The builder and/or heating contractor has left an unhappy homeowner, in many cases, due to high electric bills.

Quite often employees of your cooperative have discovered a disappointed consumer because of a furnace being oversized due to a lack of understanding on the part of the installer and the comfort potential of an electric staged furnace and control system. In addition, many times we have found that the furnace was not staged and that each time that heat was called for, the full capability of the furnace was energized. It is our opinion, and the opinion of most electric suppliers, that electric furnaces cost from 15 to 20 percent more to operate than electric ceiling cable heat or electric baseboard heating. In addition, the cost may well exceed 25 percent over and above an electric heat pump. It is often considerably more difficult to insulate a house properly

for an electric furnace because of the duct work extending from the furnace to every room in the house. Furnaces should be installed within a heated area but never in a garage or unheated crawl space and, in addition, should be centrally located within the home. Should you be considering an electric furnace please contact your cooperative office and let us discuss the installation and insulation with you. Who knows, we may be able to suggest ways to cut your energy bills.

\*\*\*

Why not mark your calendar now so you will save June 28 to attend the annual meeting of your cooperative.

### ---NOTICE---

The cooperative office will be closed on Memorial Day, Friday, May 30.

## A Willie Conserve-A-Tip



© NRECA

Attic temperatures can reach 150°F in the summer. An automatic exhaust fan installed in the attic or gable will remove hot air . . . and make your home more comfortable. It cuts down the cost of air conditioning too!

**Conservenergy**



*Michelle Umbach*  
 "Miss Menard Electric Cooperative 1974"

MAIL BEFORE JUNE 10

MAIL TO:  
 MENARD ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE  
 P. O. Box 279  
 Petersburg, Illinois 62675  
 ATTN: Beauty Contest Committee  
 Please send beauty contest entry blank to:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

SENT IN BY \_\_\_\_\_

## 18th Annual Beauty Contest

Selection of "Miss Menard Electric Cooperative, 1975" will be one of the highlights of your cooperative's annual meeting on June 28. Qualifications for candidates are listed below. Young ladies who qualify are asked to send in the coupon requesting an entry blank as soon as possible.

### RULES

1. Unmarried girls between the ages of 16 and 21 (must not have reached 22nd birthday before March 1, 1976) are eligible to compete.
2. Contestants must be a member of a family residing in a home served with electric service from Menard Electric Cooperative.
3. Previous first-place winners are not eligible to enter.
4. Previous contestants in the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperative's beauty contest are not eligible, regardless of placing or year entered.
5. Number of contestants: Contest will be limited to 15 contestants. Entries will be accepted on first-come, first-served basis. Contest manager will determine eligibility of entries and when entries will no longer be accepted.

### AWARDS

First Place: \$25, trophy, sash emblematic of title, tiara and all-expense paid trip to the Association

of Illinois Electric Cooperatives' annual meeting in Springfield representing Menard Electric Cooperative in the 1975 "Miss Illinois Electric Cooperative" contest.

Second Place: \$25, trophy, second-place ribbon and the opportunity to serve as an alternate to the AIEC beauty contest.

Third Place: \$25, trophy, third-place ribbon and the opportunity to serve as second alternate to the AIEC beauty contest.

Twenty-five dollars will be given all other contestants for their appearance.

*Vivacious young ladies who competed for the title of "MISS MENARD ELECTRIC 1974"*



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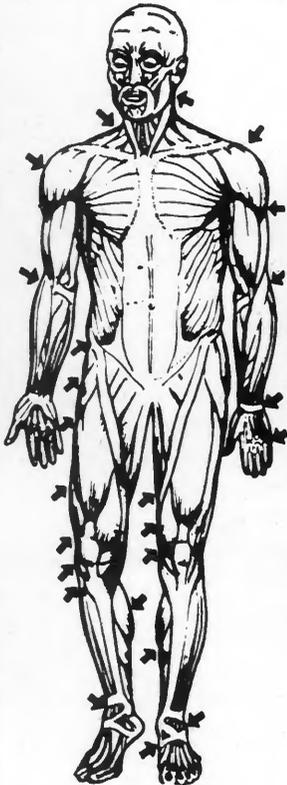
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50 TOWEL CO. Dept TO-272, Box 662, St. Louis, Mo. 63101

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Rheumatic and Arthritic Pain can strike the joints in any of the indicated areas. (see arrows on chart)



**Puts Pain To  
SLEEP**

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Icy-Hot's creamy balm over the affected joints or muscles, and you can actually feel the pain start lessening. Begin to sleep peacefully again. If you don't have relief in 24 hours we'll refund your money. Not available in stores. Send \$3.00 for 3½ oz. jar or \$5.00 for 7 oz. jar.

SEND ME ICY-HOT QUICK!

**J. W. Gibson Co., Dept. IRE 5  
2000 N. Illinois St., Indianapolis, Ind. 46202**

Please rush ICY-HOT to me. I must be completely satisfied with the results or I will send you a note for a full refund. (I won't bother returning the unused portion.)

- I enclose \$3.00 for the 3½ oz. jar.       Cash     Check  
 I enclose \$5.00 for the 7 oz. jar.         Money Order

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

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

Or is it?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

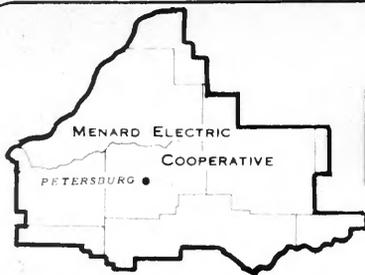
Howlett congratulated the contestants on their well-written and thoughtful essays and said he hoped they would consider "parlaying your talents by competing in our statewide Bicentennial Essay Contest." He said that his office is accepting entries in the contest on the theme "What is the Spirit of '76?"

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

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

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

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



# Menard Electric News

MENARD ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE 217-632-7746 PETERSBURG, ILLINOIS 62675

## CO-OP COMMENTS

Plan now on attending the annual meeting on Saturday, June 28, at the Menard County Fairgrounds located north of Petersburg.

In addition to the regular business of the cooperative, three directors will be elected for a term of three years.

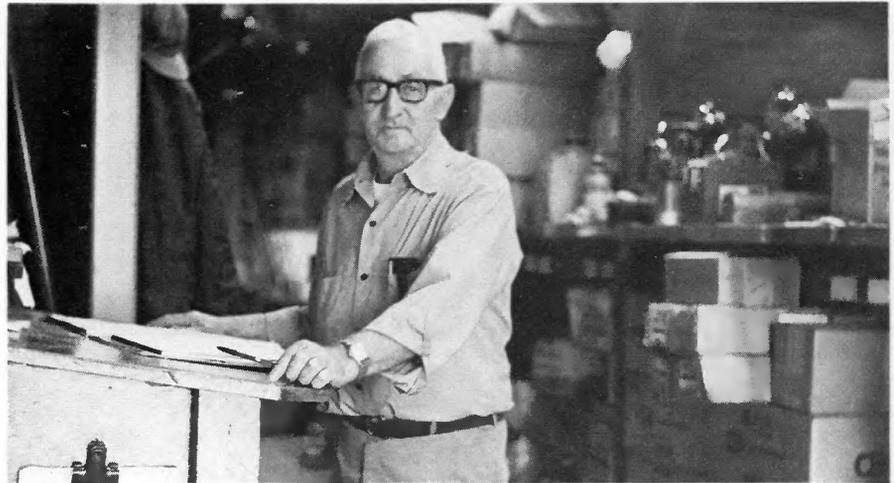
The directors have planned an informative program, with prizes to be given away during the meeting, and a free barbecued lunch for all. Food service will begin promptly at 5:00 p. m. In addition, several electrical suppliers have been invited to display the latest in insulation, electric heating systems and small appliances. The exhibits should be open at 3:00 p. m.

One of the highlights of the annual meeting will be the selection of "Miss Menard Electric Cooperative, 1975". You are invited to attend the beauty contest, which will begin at 4:00 p. m. We encourage all of our members to come early, view the exhibits, attend the beauty contest, and partake of the barbecued lunch, in addition to attending the annual business session of your cooperative at 6:30 p. m.

\*\*\*\*\*

Congratulations to the graduates of 1975!

Michael Atterberry, son of Mr. and Mrs. David Atterberry of Buffalo, Tri-City High School; Don Harden, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ron Harden of Springfield, Lanphier High School; Kathleen Fricke, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Fricke of Petersburg, PORTA High School; Doris McCoy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Melford McCoy of Petersburg, PORTA High School; Douglas Pillsbury, PORTA Junior High; Howard Pillsbury, PORTA High School and Paula Throckmorton, Lincoln Land



Manager John Root, left, and Vice President Howard W. Montgomery congratulate Diane and Roger as this year's "Youth to Washington" contest winners.

## Diehl Retires

John H. Diehl, stores clerk for your cooperative, retired on June 1, 1975 after 23 years of service in the rural electrification program.

John was employed by your cooperative on July 14, 1952 and has served in numerous capacities. Many of our members will recall Mr. Diehl as a lineman for your cooperative and a

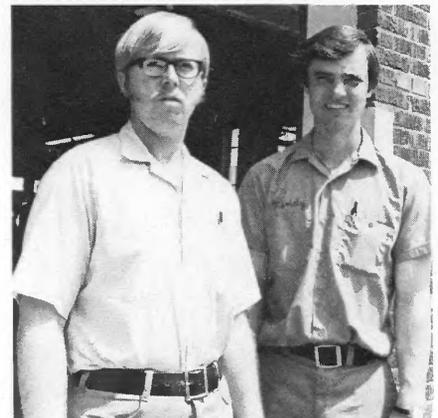
Community College, children of Mr. and Mrs. Earl L. Pillsbury; Ronald Rogers, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Rogers of Virginia, Virginia High School; and Lonny Sinclair, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Sinclair of Petersburg, PORTA Junior High School.

\*\*\*\*\*

Our thanks to all of our members living in the Riverton, Mechanicsburg, Buffalo, Lanesville, Illiopolis, Niantic and Harristown areas for their patience and assistance during the tornado which struck in this general area between Springfield and Decatur on May 26. A special thanks also goes to our employees who worked long into the night restoring service to members of the cooperative in the areas above.

few years ago he became the stores clerk, where he did an outstanding job in the warehouse in Petersburg.

John and his wife, Margaret, plan to maintain their home at r.r. Greenview, and spending a great deal of time fishing, traveling, and visiting their grandchildren. A great number of our members know John personally, and we know they join with us in wishing he and his wife a long and happy retirement.



Daniel M. Patrick of Greenview, left, with Randy Avery, stores clerk. Dan began employment on April 21, upon his return from his honeymoon with his lovely wife, Linda. We welcome the Patricks to the Menard Electric family.

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS

# "Youth to Washington" Contest Marked by Close Competition



Manager John Root, left, and President Alvin R. Davis congratulate Diane and Roger as this year's "Youth to Washington" contest winners.

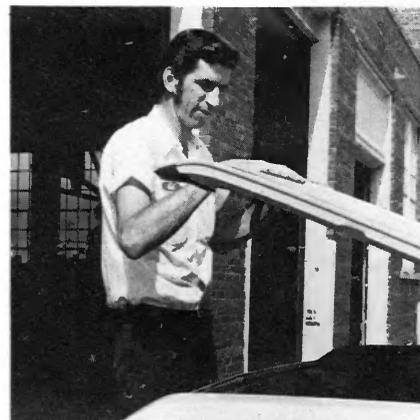
All students who entered the contest displayed talent, indicating considerable study, preparation and originality, and we are extremely proud of each of them.

Howard W. Montgomery, vice president of the cooperative said: "It is a privilege to send outstanding young leaders to our nation's capital. The tour of Washington, D. C. is one of the finest and I am sure it will be a memorable and educational experience for those who participate."

Diane Hettinger, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Hettinger of Petersburg, and Roger Stiltz, son of Mr. and Mrs. William A. Stiltz of Tallula, were named winners after final judging held during a banquet on May 21. The judges made the selection from among ten finalists.

Twenty-two students wrote essays detailing their views on "How we can help meet the energy crisis." Preliminary judging selected the ten outstanding essays, and the final selection was made by a panel of five judges who were: Mrs. Glen Brown of Springfield; Miss Mina Terry of Petersburg; Mr. Charles DeHart of Greenview; Mr. John Giavaras of Springfield, and Mr. Jerry Moskus of Springfield.

Other finalists in the contest were: Theresa Rawe, Carrollton; Laurel Ann Edge, Chandlerville; Kathy Niehaus, Jacksonville; Janice Leigh Davis, Petersburg; Elizabeth Kaufmann, Jacksonville; Brenda Gehrke, New Holland; Lisa Kirchner, Virginia; and David J. Richard, Chandlerville.



Edwin Sinclair, mechanic, makes sure all of the cooperative's vehicles will be ready for the road first thing in the morning.

---

## Attend Your Annual Meeting June 28, 1975

Location: Menard County Fairgrounds  
Schedule of Events:

3:00 p.m. Exhibits Open

4:00 p.m. Preparation for  
Beauty Contest

5:00 p.m. Free Barbecue Lunch

5:15 p.m. Final Appearance of  
Beauty Contestants

6:30 p.m. Business Meeting Begins

Plenty of free parking. Meeting will be held in the grandstand at the Menard County Fairgrounds. Plan now on attending the Annual Meeting of your Cooperative.

# Legislative Rally: inroads into congress



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

**F**eedback.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

*(continued on page 17)*

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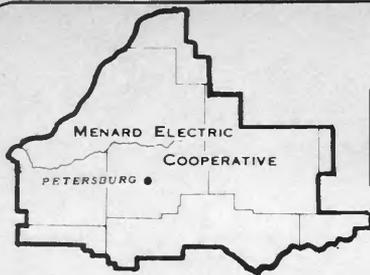
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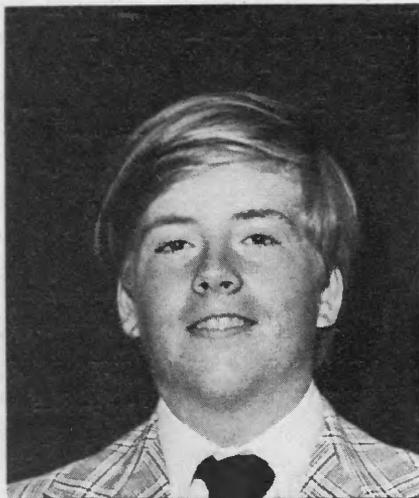
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# Menard Electric News

MENARD ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE 217-632-7746 PETERSBURG, ILLINOIS 62675

## "R.E.A. Address"



by Roger Stiltz

Two score years ago, the Rural Electrification Administration brought forth among the farms of rural America a system of electric cooperatives conceived in consumer control and dedicated to the task of electrifying rural America.

Now we are beset by a great energy crisis testing whether that system or any system so conceived and so dedicated can long endure. We are involved in a national crisis to determine how we can meet the energy shortage. We have all become involved in a search for methods to conserve this natural resource for assurance that this way of life may continue to exist.

It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this in order to perpetuate the ideals of the REA, which was created in 1935 by Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The advocates of the rural electrification program, men who helped to sponsor the Rural Electrification Administration, such as Senator George Norris and Representative Sam Rayburn, had several principles in mind when they helped to found the REA. These objectives have, in turn, been reflected in REA and individual cooperative practices. The founders of the Administration envisioned a system of consumer-owned cooperatives, which would be financed largely through long-term, low interest government loans. These loans would be offered by the Administration and the cooperatives would operate on a non-profit

basis to electrify vast rural areas of the nation. These principles were based on the availability of this energy, the REA has incorporated additional facets into its policy. They include measures for the augmentation of our power sources and the more efficient use of our energy. One of these measures is the determination of the fuel resources left in this country at the present time. Another measure is the development of production facilities which have already been researched and approved. In addition, the REA advocates the research and development of new energy sources. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, these plans call for the formulation of a concrete national energy policy to coordinate the use of available power. These measures are generally characterized by innovative in-depth studies of plans for expansion and improvement.

But, in a larger sense, we cannot blindly or selfishly accept these plans without real concern for the welfare of future generations. The founders of the REA cooperatives have struggled here in several ways to make certain that there will be an ample supply of energy for the future. In this interest, they have constantly advocated sweeping energy saving and energy providing programs. One of these is the conservation of natural resources and the protection of consumer interests. Another phase of these objectives is a national program of research and development of new energy sources. This has been prompted partially by the prediction that our supplies of petro fuels may be exhausted by A.D. 2000. In order to combat this attrition against our power reserves, the REA has advocated research and development of such power sources as coal gasification, solar energy, breeder reactors, fuel cells, geothermal power, and nuclear fusion. These plans have been made because the REA realizes that the development of viable sources from among these could result in virtually limitless energy sources. Finally, and, perhaps most importantly, the REA advocates the inclusion in a national energy policy of a system to help use our energy in the most efficient and advantageous way. This would necessitate the organization of existing power systems into a grid, or electric power network, for the purpose of shuttling energy from some regions to others, based on climate and time differences. This would get electricity where it is required when it is needed. Not only would such a system

increase the efficiency of our power system, but it would also insure that all Americans receive reliable electric service.

The world will little note nor long remember the REA's proposals, but it can never forget the positive good which may result from its policies. It is for us, the consumer, rather, to be dedicated to the remaining task of fulfilling the ideals which the REA has so greatly advanced. This will necessitate sacrifices on our part, such as checking insulation, caulking and weatherstripping, furnace air filters, and freezer door seals, shutting off freezers, air conditioners, appliances, and lights when not in use, and generally minimizing energy use. If these measures are practiced faithfully, many kilowatt-hours, as well as much money, will be saved. The consumer must play a leading role in the defeat of the energy crisis. This will also involve urging congressmen to support REA sponsored reforms. It is for the government and the consumer to cooperate with the REA's proposals to increase energy capability.

If we meet the challenge of this energy crisis, if each consumer continues to help conserve his power resources, and if the REA continues to boldly lead the way in the struggle to preserve and increase our energy resources, then energy provided by cooperatives of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish but shall be available for generations to come.

## CO-OP COMMENTS

For highlights of the 38th annual meeting of your cooperative, which was held on June 28, watch for the August issue of the *Illinois Rural Electric News*.

\*\*\*

Mr. and Mrs. Terry L. Cutright, Petersburg, celebrated their fifth wedding anniversary on June 28. Terry is an apprentice lineman for your cooperative, working out of Petersburg.

# The Energy Crisis



by Diane Heflinger

There is an energy crisis all right, and no one can deny it. But the energy crisis is not what many people think it is. While we are suffering from shortages of those power resources on which we have learned to depend, the more perplexing shortage can be found in the lack of capable leadership and imagination.

The natural resources which we seem so worried about can be found here, within our own borders. For example, usable and recoverable resources, estimated at about 48 billion barrels of oil and 220 trillion cubic feet of natural gas, are waiting to be used beneath the continental shelf, all within 100 miles or less of the Atlantic Coast. But we have refused to further our research or use the knowledge we do have to explore and develop this area wisely. What we need, and need right now, is an all-out, fully coordinated energy program that could meet our problems head on.

At present 14 congressional committees, which have varying control over energy development, must deal with six White House offices, nine departments of the Executive Branch, and six independent commissions. Altogether, about 65 governmental agencies have responsibility over some aspect of our energy needs, production, resources, and their relation to the environment. Nixon took a small step in the right direction when he established the Federal Energy Administration to handle the pressing gasoline and heating oil emergency.

But the government has not moved far enough fast enough. The functions of many of those 65 agencies should be consolidated and put under one national energy administration. The administration would be developed with a single goal in mind: To wage an all-front war against the energy problem and carry it through to one solution—developing national self-sufficiency.

With this approach, and only with this approach can we hope to reverse the current trend. Through this approach we could hope to become self-sufficient within five years or so, and be proud of the way in which we accomplished the goal. The new technology which would develop as a result could ultimately help the rest of the world to reach their potential in becoming self-sufficient, and help avert the poverty and degradation that seems to accompany underdeveloped energy supplies.

Meanwhile, if the Arabs chose to boycott the United States, as they have done, we would be able to show them that we can get along without their oil. We should be able to call on Americans to help. We can conserve energy until we reach a stage where we could boast self-sufficiency. Moreover, the \$10 million we spend every day on foreign oil could be invested in our own country, creating jobs, helping our people, and strengthening our economy.

After making a thorough investigation of all possible energy resources, and making special note of those on public lands, in offshore areas, and on the continental shelf, the proposed energy administration could decide which resources would be the best to develop, and the locations on which to develop them. The areas decided on must be given a complete go-ahead as soon as possible, and be supervised carefully to be sure that the resources are being used to a maximum benefit.

Concern for our environment is a legitimate concern, but we must not shirk other more important responsibilities. If we proceed in a proper and correct manner, we should be able to protect our environment while we are taking advantage of our natural resources. With constantly more rigid regulations and with constant government policing, we can confidently produce energy without producing unnecessary pollution.

Our short-range goals must include developing offshore oil and drilling deeper on land. We should develop more than one Alaskan pipeline. We know that there is

more than enough oil to warrant a second line. With two pipelines, the United States could produce an additional 4-million barrels of oil a day. If these pipelines were in operation now, they would substantially decrease our needs for oil imports.

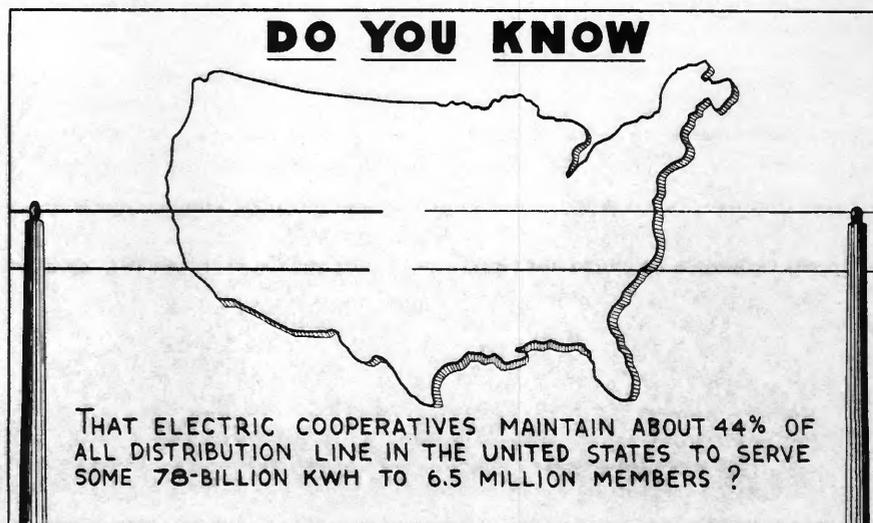
Years ago we set aside for the Navy great petroleum reserves in Elk Hills, California, and in the Arctic. These reserves were to be saved for an emergency. Perhaps now is the time to use them while we are developing new sources of power.

Yet oil is only the beginning. We must also consider our vast coal reserves as a potential supplier for natural gas—one of the cleanest sources of power known. We must find economical methods for getting the oil out of shale. We must work on developing revolutionary new fuels such as hydrogen. We must encourage the development of solar energy as a future means of cooling and heating buildings. We must come up with practical ways to obtain the energy locked in tides, from windmills, and from the unlimited heat from the earth's interior. Private industry must be allowed to exercise its leadership, expertise, and imagination in solving this problem. Above all, we must see that our scientists have the funds to pursue many extensive investigations.

Further, the proposed energy administration would be responsible for a program to crack, once and for all, the perplexing problem on nuclear fusion. When this is mastered, man will have captured the secret to the power which the sun uses to produce its energy. Unlike fission, fusion relies on an inexhaustible, inexpensive fuel supply—water—which would leave no waste disposal problems.

Do these suggestions sound extreme? Does it seem that we are trying to develop unnecessary fuel supplies? Are conditions really all that urgent?

Let's not kid ourselves. As Americans we are born with a birthright: Independence. It is up to us to see that we are not forced to sell that birthright for a barrel of oil.



*learning about electric cooperatives*

# Foreign Trainees Visit Monroe County

Rural electrification has been, and still is, one of the greatest single factors for the raising of living standards in rural areas. It is for this reason other countries, still in the infancy of rural electrification compared to the U.S., send personnel here for a two-month study tour and seminar on the development of distribution systems.

This international training program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agency for International Development, NRECA, universities, colleges and other organizations.

Monroe County Electric Co-operative, Waterloo, recently hosted four foreign visitors as they examined the workings of a typical rural electric cooperative in the midwest.

Manager LeRoy Hard gave them free run of the cooperative, and, as he put it, "threw open the doors" allowing his guests to ask any and all questions while observing the day-to-day operations of the cooperative.

The visitors were Mejardo Pulanco Arcelo, chief of the training division of the National Electrification Administration (NEA) in the Philippines; Antonieto Figueras Tacazon, head of the management audit section of NEA in the Philippines; Karjundi Wirapradja, chief of the Technical Department at the State Enterprise for Electricity in Bandung, Indonesia; and Abdul Wahid, executive construction engineer for the State Electrification Administration in Karachi, Pakistan.

The guests began their three-day

visit with a briefing. Manager Hard outlined the services offered, discussed the office procedures and in general gave a quick verbal picture of the cooperative.

The visitors separated into groups with Arcelo and Tacazon spending the rest of their first day in the office examining bookkeeping and billing procedures and talking with personnel in the engineering department and the warehouse.

Meanwhile, Wirapradja and Wahid journeyed southwest of Waterloo where they observed line construction. A cooperative crew was hanging transformers to provide power for construction of a pumping station on the levee near the Mississippi River.

The following day, the two groups traded places, thus giving each a long look at the total operation of the cooperative. For a bit of relaxation, Manager Hard and Monroe President Robert Ripplemeyer gave the visitors a taste of American hospitality and took them to St. Louis for dinner and a baseball game.

On their last day the trainees toured the cooperative area with members of the Monroe staff. They visited farms, a quarry and several businesses, to give them a closer look at how electric power is utilized in the rural area.

Leaving late in the afternoon, the four boarded a plane for Little Rock, Arkansas, the next stop on the two-month training tour.

Prior to coming to Monroe, they had gone through several training seminars, lectures and presentations



*TOP: The trainees gave a cooperative line crew a hand with a sticky conduit coupling. ABOVE: Manager LeRoy Hard discusses the day with visitors, prior to an outing in St. Louis. RIGHT: The group watches a line crew finish wiring the transformer installation.*

by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Electrification Administration and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. They also had toured cooperatives in North Carolina, South Carolina and Florida.

In Little Rock, the trainees will examine the operations of a statewide association and the services it provides to member cooperatives. They will then spend several days at



Nuel Downs

amateur  
archæology  
expert

much as he can about artifacts and archaeology in general, has made him both an avid reader and a person many professional archaeologists have come to respect almost as an equal.

"When I became interested in artifacts, I started reading everything I could get my hands on," Downs said. "I guess I have read more than 800 books and I don't know how many periodicals.

"If you want to get into this you need to read everything from the Sears catalog to the Bible," Downs added. "It takes a lot of time and you have to grab every spare moment to read."

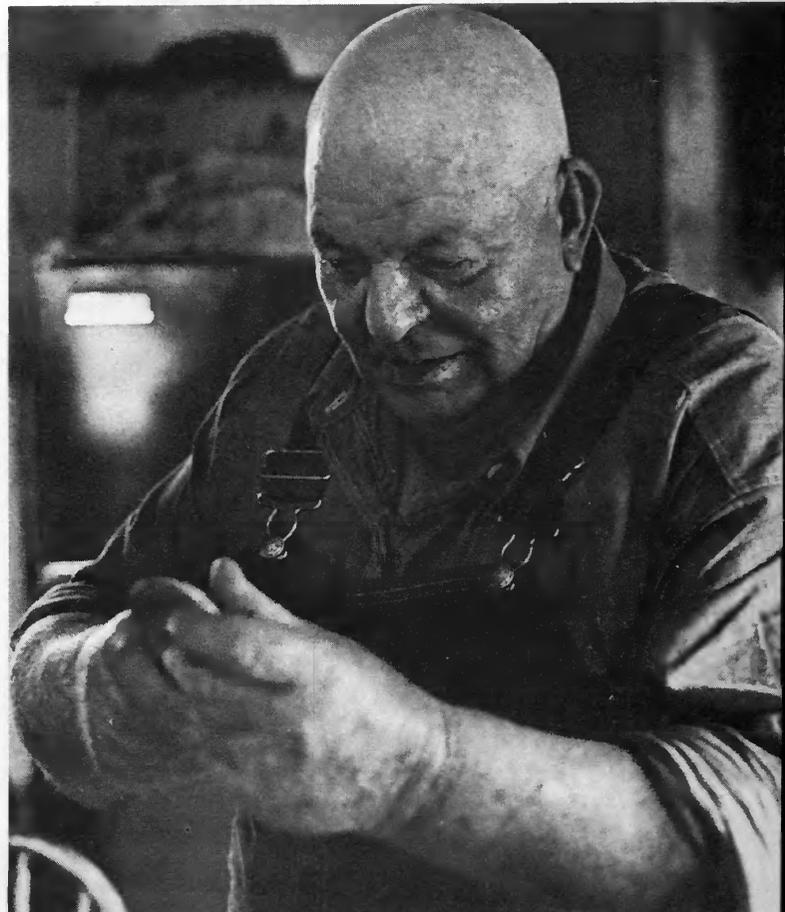
Downs has even read books on archaeology written in Russian, although he admits "I had to look at the pictures to try to match them with the words.

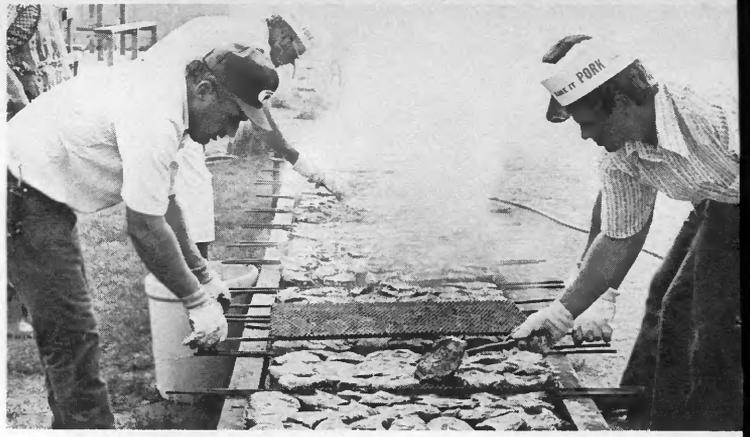
"People all over the world are ahead of the Americans in studying their pasts," Downs said. "We are only beginning to learn how to look and study."

Downs has become knowledgeable about the different cultures in Illinois and can identify most of the periods of Indian history through artifacts. At least 25 and perhaps as many as 50 separate cultures inhabited Illinois. The oldest culture started anywhere from 20,000 to 60,000 years before the white man first landed on American shores.

"There may have been hundreds of cultures, too,  
*(Continued on page 16)*

*LEFT: A major part of looking for Indian artifacts is walking the fields. Downs puts more mileage on his boots in front of his farm. BELOW: Downs examines a promising artifact for his collection.*





*At Menard Electric:*

# Adequate Power Ass

"An adequate supply of power is assured at the present time, but the cost of that power is likely to continue to rise."

Over 650 members and guests Menard Electric Cooperative received this message from Manager John E. Root during the cooperative's 38th annual members' meeting held Saturday, June 28, at the Menard County Fairgrounds.

In addition to reports by Root and other cooperative officials, members also conducted cooperative business and saw Judy Lehmann, 17, crowned as "Miss Menard Electric Cooperative"

for 1975. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Lehmann of Petersburg.

"I feel it is my duty to tell you that I do not expect electric rates to stop rising over the next several years," Root said. "And no one in the electric industry can tell how high or at what rate the rise will occur."

Root cited the cost of fuel as the major factor contributing to increased rates, although costs for labor, materials and construction are also skyrocketing.

"Presently, the cooperative spends more than half of every dollar on wholesale power, a matter of nearly

\$1.2 million in 1974," Root said. "Only two years ago, the cost of wholesale power was around \$900,000. Much of the difference can be directly attributed to how much it costs our wholesale supplier to purchase fuel to generate."

Root added that only when people were willing to make a concerted effort and demand of their elected officials that action be taken would the cost of power be stabilized.

President Alvin R. Davis of Beardstown said that one way the cooperative hoped to hold down costs was by purchasing part of the proposed Clinton Nuclear Plant through its power supplier, Western Illinois Power Cooperative, Jacksonville. "By purchasing part of the plant we will not only be assuring ourselves of a continued electric supply, but we will also be hedging against the decline of fossil fuel supplies and their rising cost."

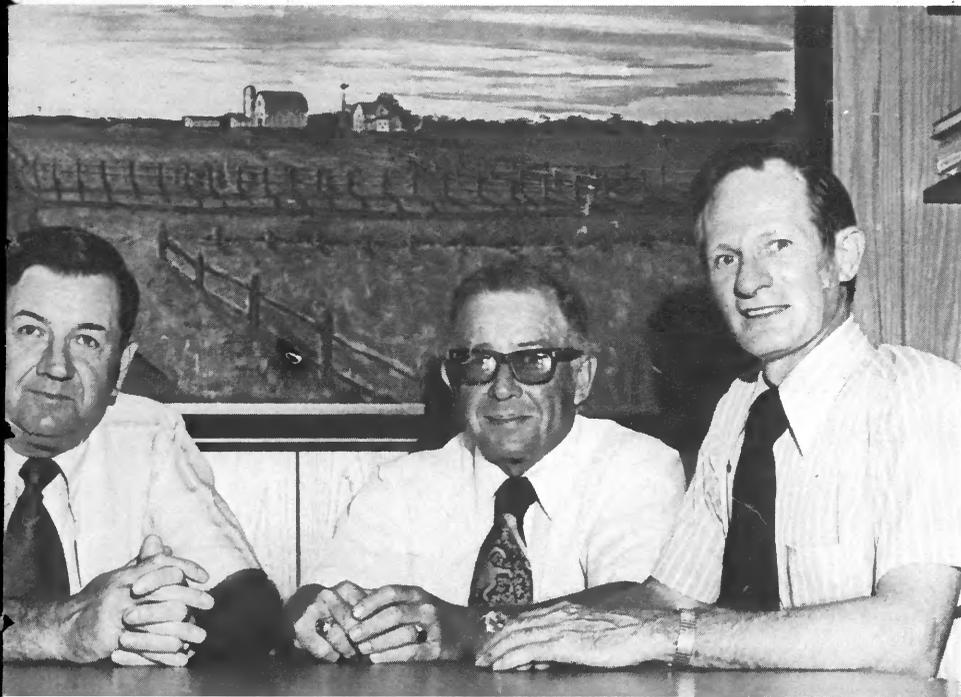
In his treasurer's report, Robert Zook of Athens reported that the cooperative had assets of \$6.9 million including a system valued at \$5.8 million.

"Despite rising costs, Menard Electric remains in sound financial condition," Zook said. "We are maintaining an average 6.7 percent margin which is neither excessive nor too low for solid financial responsibility."

Zook also said the cooperative paid more than \$160,000 in taxes last year and owed a net obligation to the Rural Electrification Administration of \$4.4 million for long-term loans.

During the business session, members reelected three directors to terms on the board of directors. They are Zook, Davis and James G. Graff of Middletown.

*TOP LEFT: "Miss Menard Electric Cooperative," Judy Lehmann of Petersburg. TOP RIGHT: Corn Belt Pork Producers cook the delicious pork chops served. LEFT: Ronda Shoemaker and the Country Drifters entertain members and guests prior to the business session. BOTTOM LEFT: Participants in the beauty pageant were from left, Judy Lehmann of Petersburg, Melinda Hubbert of Petersburg, Peggy Schmidt of Mason City, Stephanie Jordan of Petersburg, Kelley King of San Jose, Mary Giehl of Mason City, Carrie Agrall of Athens, Connie Keith of Mason City and Jacque Minor of Petersburg. BELOW: Reelected directors are, from left, Robert F. Zook of Athens, James G. Graff of Middletown and Allen R. Davis of Beardstown.*



# ired, But Cost to Rise

# energy realities

(Continued from page 9)

plant on the ground and provide data needed to determine the level of pollution. If a high level of sulfur dioxide is present, the plant could be shut down, slowed down or use more expensive low-sulfur coal until an acceptable level is achieved.

"And if the plant is not polluting, then there is no reason to impose a regulation," Clevenger said. "As it stands, the EPA regulation assumes there is a problem. Provisions of this bill, intermittent controls, would determine if that problem actually exists."

The only alternative offered to power producers by the EPA is the implementation of scrubbers to remove the sulfur dioxide. "The EPA calls scrubbers an answer, but they don't say that the scrubbers now being made are both of unproven reliability and questionable impact,"

Clevenger said. "They are also so costly that they often will total about 25 percent of a power plant's total investment. By necessity, this additional cost will be passed on to the consumers in the form of higher rates."

Impact statements prepared by the Pollution Control Board (PCB) to determine environmental effects should include the cost-benefit ratio of an EPA impact study. At present, there is no effective mechanism—staff, governing body or financing—to provide these vital additions to the studies. Thus, a PCB regulation does not presently consider financial costs against the specific benefit to the environment.

Senate Bill 805 would amend the Illinois "Environmental Protection Act" to require the Institute for Environmental Quality to prepare and

publish economic impact statements for rules of the Illinois Pollution Control Board as selected by the Economic Technical Advisory Committee, also created by S.B. 805. The bill also requires an economic impact hearing by the Illinois Pollution Control Board before adoption of an amendment to its regulations.

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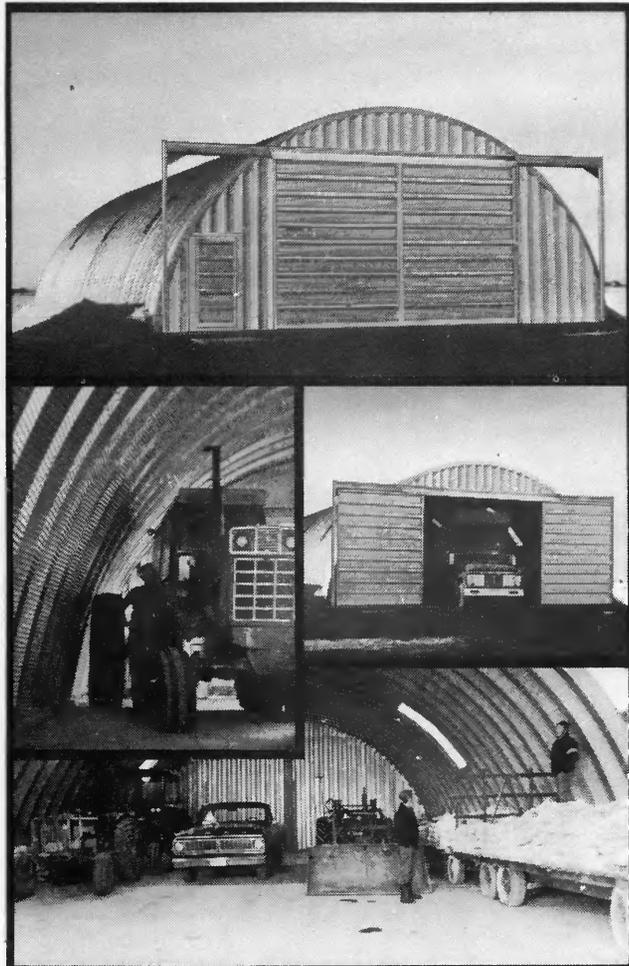
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FROM LEFT: Handcrafted jewelry by Helen Schumm of Secor gains the attention of ladies at the Goodfield Saturday Market. Lapidarist Lawrence Nichols of Congerville shows customers the different stones in his collection of handcrafted items. Fine handmade quilts are the family pride of Ora Koehne, daughter Ruth Sayer and granddaughter Melanie. Marie Bour and daughter of Eureka turn ordinary satin Christmas tree bulbs into highly decorative ornaments.

# Market

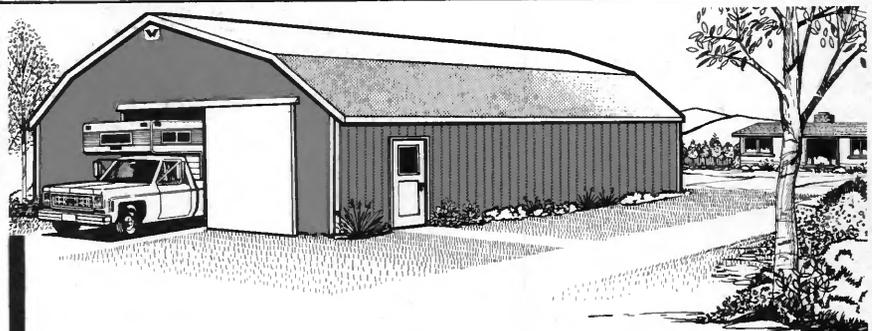
year got us off to a good start," said Guild President Mrs. R. L. Holder, "but this year more people know we are here and the crowds have been excellent."

Featured at the market are drawings and paintings, macrame, leathercraft, ceramic and eggshell jewelry, lapidary work, Christmas ornaments and needlework.

Also at the market, visitors may purchase vegetables from the gardens of members of a newly formed produce cooperative.

Home baked goods are available and for those who wish to do their own, one exhibitor sells freshly ground wheat flour, corn meal and cracked wheat, along with appropriate recipes.

One of the best items at the market, however, is not for sale. It is the friendly atmosphere, which is free to all and maybe is one reason why people keep coming back to the Goodfield Saturday Market.



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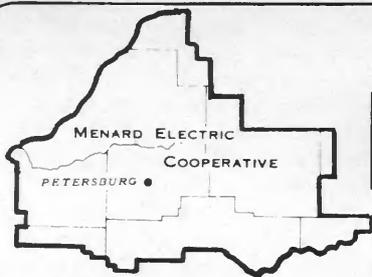
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State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

IR 9

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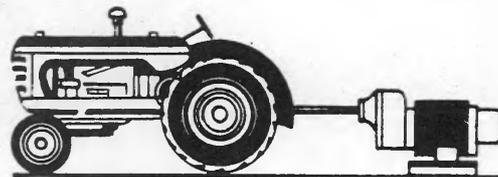


# Menard Electric News

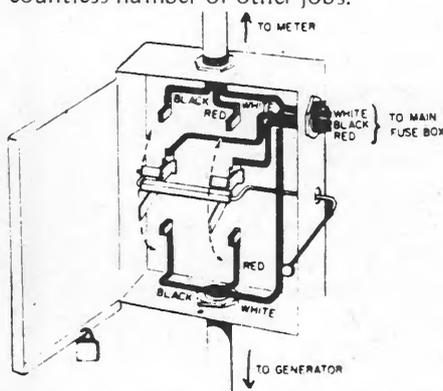
MENARD ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE 217-632-7746 PETERSBURG, ILLINOIS 62675

## STANDBY ELECTRIC POWER

Tractor-driven standby generators are easy to hook up and can be put to work quickly in the event of a power failure.



In the early days of rural electrification, electric service was looked upon by many as a luxury. Today, electric service is a necessity. Modern farming operators are dependent on electricity to power milk coolers, water pumps, heating systems, ventilating fans and a countless number of other jobs.



A double-throw switch is of utmost importance when installing a standby unit.

Unfortunately, the power lines which serve rural homes and farmsteads are exposed to the whims of nature. This type of exposure can result in a power outage.

Be prepared by installing a standby power plant to keep your critical electrical equipment going during a power failure. A standby generator will insure you against lost time, inconvenience and the possibility of financial loss.

There are various kinds ranging from complete electric plants with automatic control to smaller

self-contained engine units with manual controls to the most commonly used plant on the farm, the tractor driven power take-off unit.

The unit size required for your operation depends on the size of equipment you essentially need to operate.

Generators are rated as to power output, generally in watts. In most cases, an average farm requires a 15,000 watt generator to adequately satisfy critical electrical needs.

As a general rule, a tractor used to power a tractor driven PTO type generator should be large enough to provide at least 2 to 2½ horsepower for each 1,000 watts of generating capacity.

The standby unit must be correctly installed to guarantee safe and convenient service. It is very important that the generator be connected to your existing secondary wiring by means of a double-throw switch. Why is this switch so important? If a double-throw switch is

not used:

1. Your generator would not be isolated from the rest of the REC system. A lineman working on the lines which he thought were dead, could be electrocuted.
2. Your generator would possibly burn out from overload.
3. When electric service is restored, your generator would experience a reverse power surge which would possibly burn it out.

There are some electrical appliances which should not be operated with a tractor driven generator. It is not advisable to operate television sets, radios or any electronic equipment with this type of generator.

Do you have a real need for standby power? Picture yourself without power for an extended length of time. Now is the time to prepare for that situation. Your rural electric member services department will be glad to help you plan for emergency power.

## Co-op Comments

David Atterberry, lineman from the Buffalo area, completed 25 years of service with your cooperative on July 24, 1975.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Rogers celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary on August 13, 1975. Ed is

the lineman in the Virginia area.

\*\*\*

Question of the Month: Isn't it dangerous how some motorists ahead of you drive so close?

\*\*\*

# HOW MUCH ENERGY

# ARE YOU USING?

Do you ever look around your house at all your electrical conveniences, and feel a bit guilty, trying to estimate how much you are contributing to the energy crisis? The chart below was compiled to give you an idea of the number of kilowatthours one appliance uses compared to another. The values will vary with appliance size, number in family, and individual usage.

Also the wattage rating of an appliance determines how much energy it uses at any one moment. But a low - wattage appliance that runs continuously may well use more total energy each year than high - wattage unit used occasionally.

	Average Wattage	Average Hours Per Year	Est. Kw-hr. Used Per Year		Average Wattage	Average Hours Per Year	Est. Kw-hr. Used Per Year
<b>FOOD PREPARATION</b>				<b>LAUNDRY</b>			
Blender	386	39	15	Clothes Dryer	4,856	205	1,300
Broiler	1,436	70	100	Iron (Hand)	1,008	143	144
Carving Knife	92	87	8	Washing Machine (Automatic)	512	201	103
Coffee Maker	894	302	106	Washing Machine (Non- Automatic)	286	266	76
Deep Fryer	1,448	57	83	Water Heater	2,475	1,705	4,219
Dishwasher	1,201	119	363	Water Heater (Quick Recovery)	4,474	1,075	4,811
Egg Cooker	516	27	14	<b>COMFORT CONDITIONING</b>			
Fry Pan	1,196	155	186	Air Cleaner	50	4,320	216
Hot Plate	1,257	72	90	Air Conditioner (Room)	860	1,000	860
Mixer	127	102	13	Blanket	177	831	147
Oven, Microwave	1,450	131	190	Dehumidifier	257	1,467	377
Range With Oven	12,200	96	1,175	Fan (Attic)	370	786	291
Range With Self-Cleaning Oven	12,200	99	1,205	Fan (Circulating)	88	489	43
Roaster	1,333	154	205	Fan (Rollaway)	171	807	138
Sandwich Grill	1,161	28	33	Fan (Window)	200	850	170
Toaster	1,146	34	39	Heater (Portable)	1,322	133	176
Trash Compactor	1,380	24	36	Heating Pad	65	154	10
Waffle Iron	1,116	20	22	Humidifier	177	921	163
Waste Disposer	445	67	30	<b>HEALTH &amp; BEAUTY</b>			
<b>FOOD PRESERVATION</b>				<b>HOME ENTERTAINMENT</b>			
Freezer (15 cu. ft.)	341	3,504	1,195	Radio	71	1,211	86
Freezer (Frostless, 15 cu. ft.)	440	4,002	1,761	Radio/Record Player	109	1,000	109
Refrigerator (12 cu. ft.)	241	3,021	728	B/W TV (Tube)	160	2,188	360
Refrigerator (Frostless, 12 cu. ft.)	321	3,791	1,217	B/W TV (Solid State)	55	2,182	120
Refrigerator/Freezer (14 cu. ft.)	326	3,488	1,137	Color TV (Tube)	300	2,200	660
Refrigerator/Freezer (Frostless, 14 cu. ft.)	615	2,974	1,829	Color TV (Solid State)	200	2,200	440
<b>HOUSEWARES</b>							
Clock	2	8,760	17				
Floor Polisher	305	49	15				
Sewing Machine	75	147	11				
Vacuum Cleaner	630	73	46				

# Farm Productivity— A Success Story

The chronicles of agricultural productivity—fewer and fewer farmers producing greater amounts of food for more and more people—is a success story unparalleled in U.S. history.

From 100 percent of the original settlers working the land for their own survival to the present total of less than five percent of the U.S. population engaged in farming to feed the remainder of the country and a sizable part of the world, it's a story of amazing agricultural statistics.

At the time of the Revolution, more than 90 percent of the population of the new nation was still engaged in farming.

By 1820, the percentage of farmers had dropped to some 83 percent and about 60 man-hours of labor were needed to produce an acre of wheat.

Gradually, the number of Americans in agriculture continued to slip until by 1870 farmers were no longer in a majority in the U.S. By then, only 47 percent of the country's population could be classified in agriculture.

The number of farmers dwindled further and by 1910 only a third of the growing population was in agriculture.

With only 21 percent of the population in farming in 1930, total man-hours required to produce an acre of wheat fell to just three.

In the 1950's, the farming population dipped to less than 15 percent and continuing declines reduced that percentage to less than five presently. But agricultural production maintained its upward climb and output per man-hour jumped some 3½ times in the past two decades.

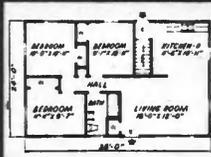
Never have so few given so much to so many. And never will the challenges be so great as in the future.

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### EASY WAY TO RAISE MONEY

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I enclose 25¢ for my colorful Jack-O-Lantern and information on other easy ways to earn money from Midwest at absolutely No Obligation.

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Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Also send Fund Raising Plan for Organizations

Name of Organization \_\_\_\_\_

**Now Available To You: The Professional Exterminator's Secret Weapon!**

# AMAZING SMO-CLOUD SEEKS OUT AND DESTROYS ROACHES & OTHER BUGS!

## PENETRATES DEEP INTO CRACKS & HARD-TO-REACH HIDING PLACES!

**THE FIRST  
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**GUARANTEED TO WORK  
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Used as directed, SMO-CLOUD *must* clear 6,000 cu. ft. of crawling bugs, and 15,000 cu. ft. of flying insects — or we'll refund your money!



Never again be plagued by roaches or other dirt-carrying bugs. Don't just try to stamp them out the old-fashioned hit-or-miss way — with your feet or ineffective sprays. Use SMO-CLOUD — the extra powerful penetrating fog that kills bugs which sprays and liquids can't reach. It's made and used by professional exterminators to destroy roaches, waterbugs, spiders, ants, wasps, flies, mosquitoes and many other crawling and flying bugs.

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SMO-CLOUD is so easy to use. Just light contents of can. (Don't worry about fire — there's no flame.) Immediately a clean, white "fog" rises into the air and penetrates deep into cracks and crevices, attacking and killing roaches and other bugs where they're hiding in nests in the hard-to-reach places of your home.

SMO-CLOUD — the first pesticide registered with the Environmental Protection Agency — is so powerful, you can do three connecting rooms with just one can! Effective for 15,000 cubic feet against flying insects; 6,000 cubic feet for crawling bugs!

So don't waste your hard-earned money on sprays that don't work. No need to hire a professional exterminator either. Do it yourself and get professional results — at a fraction of the price!

Order SMO-CLOUD today! And enjoy the wonderful feeling of not being "bugged" every time you walk into your home!

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Please rush me \_\_\_\_\_ Can(s) of Smo-Cloud Bug Killer @ \$2.99 plus 75¢ shipping and handling.

**SAVE!** Order TWO CANS for only \$5.50 plus \$1.00 shipping and handling.

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**SAVE EVEN MORE!** Order SIX cans for only \$13.99 plus \$2.00 shipping and handling.

Enclosed is  check or  money order for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Sorry, no C.O.D.'s—(N.Y. residents add sales tax.) **PLEASE PRINT:**

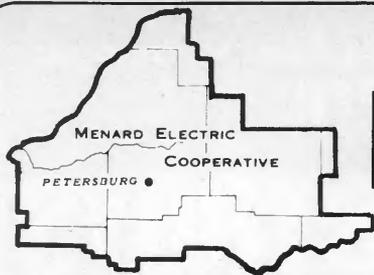
NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

© Jay Norris Corp., 1975



# Menard Electric News

MENARD ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

217-632-7746

PETERSBURG, ILLINOIS 62675



*Menard Manager John Root wishes Morgan the best in his retirement years.*

## After 29 years at Menard William Morgan retires

William H. Morgan, groundman, retired on October 1, after 29 years of service with your cooperative. He was employed on October 29, 1946, and served in several capacities as lineman and groundman.

During the time that William worked for your cooperative his residence has been Petersburg and presently resides on R. R. 3, with his wife Marjorie. They have just recently

moved into a new home and when asked what he would do, now that he is retired, Bill indicated that "with a new house there really wasn't much question as to what his spare time would be taken up with."

Many of our members knew Bill personally and I am sure join us in wishing he and his wife Marge a long and happy retirement. The Morgan's celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary on September 28.

## Cooperative poles being tested and replaced

For the past several weeks your cooperative has been testing poles at the Athens substation area. Crest Chemical Company has been retained and thus far has tested approximately 2000 poles. Most of these poles were originally installed in 1937 and 1938 and they are finding approximately 10 percent which need to be replaced. Presently we have a contractor hired to replace the poles that have been declared unsafe.

Most of the bad poles are damaged at the ground line or below. Ground line and below ground line rot creates a substantial hazard to our lineman. The poles can fall without warning and could very well injure a lineman or for that matter any person or property located in the area of the defective pole.

We expect to complete the replacement of the defective poles which have been tested in early November and anticipate that a similar testing and replacement program will continue in 1976.

The original poles on the Menard Electric system are now 38-years-old and we can expect the replacement to be a major maintenance expense in the years ahead.

Those poles tested which are found to be in good condition are treated and proper records are being kept on their condition as well as those which need replacement.

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS

# New Employee: Mike McCall



Michael McCall of Ava, Missouri, began employment with your cooperative on July 7, 1975, as an Engineer. McCall received his degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Missouri at Rolla in June, 1975.

Michael is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Theo McCall of Ava, Missouri and has two brothers and two sisters, all of which are younger than him and are still living at home.

Though born in Ava, Missouri, Mike is no newcomer to Illinois as he attended kindergarten through eighth grade while his parents lived in Hoopeston. Thereafter, the McCall's moved to Florida and returned to Missouri, where Mike finished his education at Ava before attending the University of Missouri.

His responsibilities at Menard Electric, in addition to being a member of the staff, will be complete responsibility as the System Engineer, will be responsible for any contractor's working for the cooperative and in addition, will be responsible for right-of-way clearing contractor's, right-of-way procurement and all mapping for the system.

Mike's interests, in addition to golf, are mechanical in nature. We welcome Mike and his talents to the Menard Electric Cooperative family and we are sure that all of our members will get to know and appreciate him as time goes on.

## Co-op Comments

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Borchert of Petersburg celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary on September 28. Mrs. Borchert (Evalena) is the Office Manager for your cooperative.

\*\*\*

Roy McDaniel of Mason City completed 30 years of employment with your cooperative on September 19. Roy was a lineman in the Mason City area for many years and for the

past few years has been working out of the Petersburg warehouse as a crew leader.

\*\*\*

Lawrence D. Kyes completed his Apprentice Lineman training and was promoted to journeyman lineman on September 9. Larry has spent the last 12 years with the cooperative, the first eight of which were as a stores clerk in the warehouse. Congratulations Larry!!



*Several prizes were given away at the Annual Meeting held on June 28 to persons who had sent their proxy in and were not present. Shown receiving their prizes from Mrs. Borchert, Office Manager of your cooperative are: Mrs. Wilbur Bell, Chandlerville (above) and McHarry Lynn, Mason City (below).*





TOP: An FEC publication "Food and Energy," depicts the sun working its miracle. LOWER LEFT: Administrator David A. Hamil, of REA (left), lunches with Dean L. Searls, manager of Adams Electrical Co-Operative. LOWER RIGHT: Hamil and Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz, right center, listen during the symposium.

# CLASS BACK IN THE CLASSICS

(Continued from page 13)

and spend all his time writing and doing illustrations.

His artistic talent and knack with mechanical things may have been inherited from his grandfather Guy P. Smith. Although his grandfather didn't know much about vintage cars, he was a part-time inventor who came very close to fame and fortune.

Grandfather Smith, a photoengraver with a St. Louis newspaper lived in Richmond Heights, Missouri. It was there, in 1912, he built the world's first 35mm camera—years before a similar version was introduced by foreign camera manufacturers.

At the time of his invention, the only film available was movie film. It was extremely grainy and any enlargements from it were extremely poor. Because of the problems with the film, Smith didn't patent the invention and put it on the shelf.

Grandfather Smith's invention was written up in the December, 1938 issue of *Popular Science*. The article posed the editorial question, "Who Invented the Miniature Camera?" and explained about Smith's invention.

Although Grandfather Smith never achieved any great acclaim, he did live a very interesting life. In his early years, he lived for a period of time on the Sioux Rosebud Indian Reservation. His father was a doctor there and he was the only white child on the reservation.

Growing older, Guy Smith took up oil painting and began his inventing. Most of his inventions took their shapes in wood, a material he was very skilled with.

Picture frames, mandolins that were inlaid with mother-of-pearl, were later followed by the first 35mm camera, which itself had a wooden body.

While the elder Smith was intrigued with inventing new things, his grandson at the present time seems content with restoring autos of the past. But the same restlessness the elder Smith had is apparent in the ever-searching work of his grandson.

And maybe someday, someone will be restoring one of his classics.

NOVEMBER, 1975

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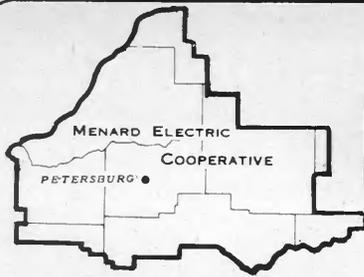
DATE PLANNING TO BUILD \_\_\_\_\_

SIZE OF BUILDING—WIDTH \_\_\_\_\_ X LENGTH \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK TYPE OF BUILDING

- Combination Machinery/Grain Storage
- Machinery Storage/Workshop
- Grain Storage
- Other





# Menard Electric News

MENARD ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE 217-632-7746 PETERSBURG, ILLINOIS 62675



**It's  
that  
time of  
year...  
and we'd  
like to  
express  
our thanks**

... to those determined people who, some 40 years ago, had the vision and persistence to form rural electric cooperatives.

... to our members, who care about this system and keep it responsive to changing needs.

... to our community, for being our community — interested and concerned about our progress.

**We wish you  
a good Thanksgiving**

**Board of Directors  
Employees of Menard  
Electric Cooperative**

## *OCR maintenance program initiated*

In last month's edition of the *Illinois Rural Electric News* we pointed out pole testing and replacement work that has been going on for several weeks. Also, your cooperative has a continuous tree trimming and removal program and for the past few weeks has been noticeable along the state highways. Your cooperative has two independent contractors trimming trees that were interfering or could interfere with the electric lines throughout or service area.

Another maintenance program which could easily be unnoticed, has been the servicing and replacement of oil circuit reclosers throughout the cooperative area. These OCR's are strategically located on our electric lines with the purpose of attempting to clear faults when they occur. I am sure you have noted that your lights may flicker once or twice and then stabilize. When this occurs this shows that the OCR's are functioning and have in fact, cleared the temporary fault without creating an outage. OCR's must be maintained and after 50 to 100 operations have to be removed from the line and either sent in to the factory for maintenance, or as we just experienced during the month of October, these OCR's have been checked, overhauled and new oil placed in the tanks by a mobile repair unit from Fletcher-Reinhardt Company of St. Louis. A large number of OCR's have been checked, overhauled and are ready to be returned to line operations, by the gentlemen shown in the photograph. Before, we have had to send these units away at great expense and they have not been returned for two or three months.

We believe with this type of maintenance a substantial savings has been obtained, in addition to having available for operation these reconditioned units.

Throughout our system there are some 550 oil circuit reclosers and sectionalizers, which are being serviced over a period of some two to three months. It is anticipated that at least every two years this automatic equipment will be serviced. Obviously some of these will be serviced more often, depending upon size and number of operations or faults which occur in a particular area.



ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS

# Co-op Comments

Congratulations—

Mr. and Mrs. Emerson Crawford of r.r. Petersburg, celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary on October 23. Marjorie is the work order clerk for your cooperative.

Terry Entwistle, Petersburg, completed five years of employment with your cooperative on November 5. Terry is a journeyman lineman, and works out of the Petersburg warehouse.

William A. Sams, Petersburg, completed 30 years of service on November 1. "Bud" is a journeyman lineman and works out of the Petersburg warehouse.

William L. McCoy, Kilbourne, completed 15 years of employment on November 10. Bill is a forestry journeyman and works out of Petersburg.

Kenneth Pflingsten, Petersburg, completed 10 years of service on November 8. He is the accountant for your cooperative.

\*\*\*

The cooperative office will be closed on November 27 and 28 in observance of Thanksgiving Day.

\*\*\*

A cold is both positive and negative. Sometimes the eyes have it and sometimes the nose.

## Seasonal Service Billing

During the month of November, our linemen will read all seasonal service meters and the billing, if any, will be mailed on December 20th. This billing will be for kilowatt-hours used in excess of the amount allowed for the prepayment, and will be due not later than January 1, 1976.

The seasonal service rate is applicable only for uses which in the aggregate are not more than nine months per year and which require five KVA or less of transformer capacity. Service will not be disconnected during periods of nonuse but will be available throughout the year. The annual minimum charge will be paid in advance on the billing rendered February 20, 1976, and are due and payable when presented.

## New Safety Requirements on Ranges

Underwriters Laboratories (UL) has stiffened significantly the safety requirements on electric ranges effective September 30, 1975. Three new standards are corrected for reducing injuries. They include requirements that backguard controls be placed at least six inches above surface elements, front elements be recessed at least two inches and back elements be recessed sufficiently to pass a potholder ignition test. UL further requires ranges be equipped with individual lights, clearly indicating which elements are in operation.

No electric range on the market today meets all of these new requirements. Most range manufacturing engineers decline to say how much this safety improvements will cost. In addition there will be no 120 volt convenience outlet on any manufacturer's ranges. UL says the 120 volt outlet can be a hazard when someone plugs a cord in the outlet and lets it lie across the cooking unit and then turns that unit on without noticing the cord. Another possible hazard is pulling on the cord and causing the plugged in appliance to fall off the range. There is also the reaching over the unit hazard when plugging in an appliance.

The industries' standards formulator has taken this action to reduce the most frequent injuries caused by electric ranges.

## "Potpourri"

General Manager, Robert D. Partridge of National Rural Electric Cooperative Association said recently "Producing sufficient food without sufficient energy is impossible."

Although additional methods of conserving energy will be developed, the shortages of other types of energy will necessitate the increased utilization of electricity. In the production of food, producers will increasingly depend on electric energy for ventilation, feeding, material handling, cooling, drying, irrigation, the list is endless. Success in meeting the responsibility of providing adequate electrical energy for the agricultural industry of our state will require planning and joint effort on the part of everyone.

Only a few years ago, electricity on the farm and in the home was used mainly for lights and the radio. Today when electric services is interrupted it is an entirely different story. There seems to be no end to the uses for electricity in the home and on the farm. We really don't have to tell you what would happen if our area had a severe storm of one kind or another. Many of our consumers are taking chances when they do not provide for some source of electric power in an emergency. There are several different

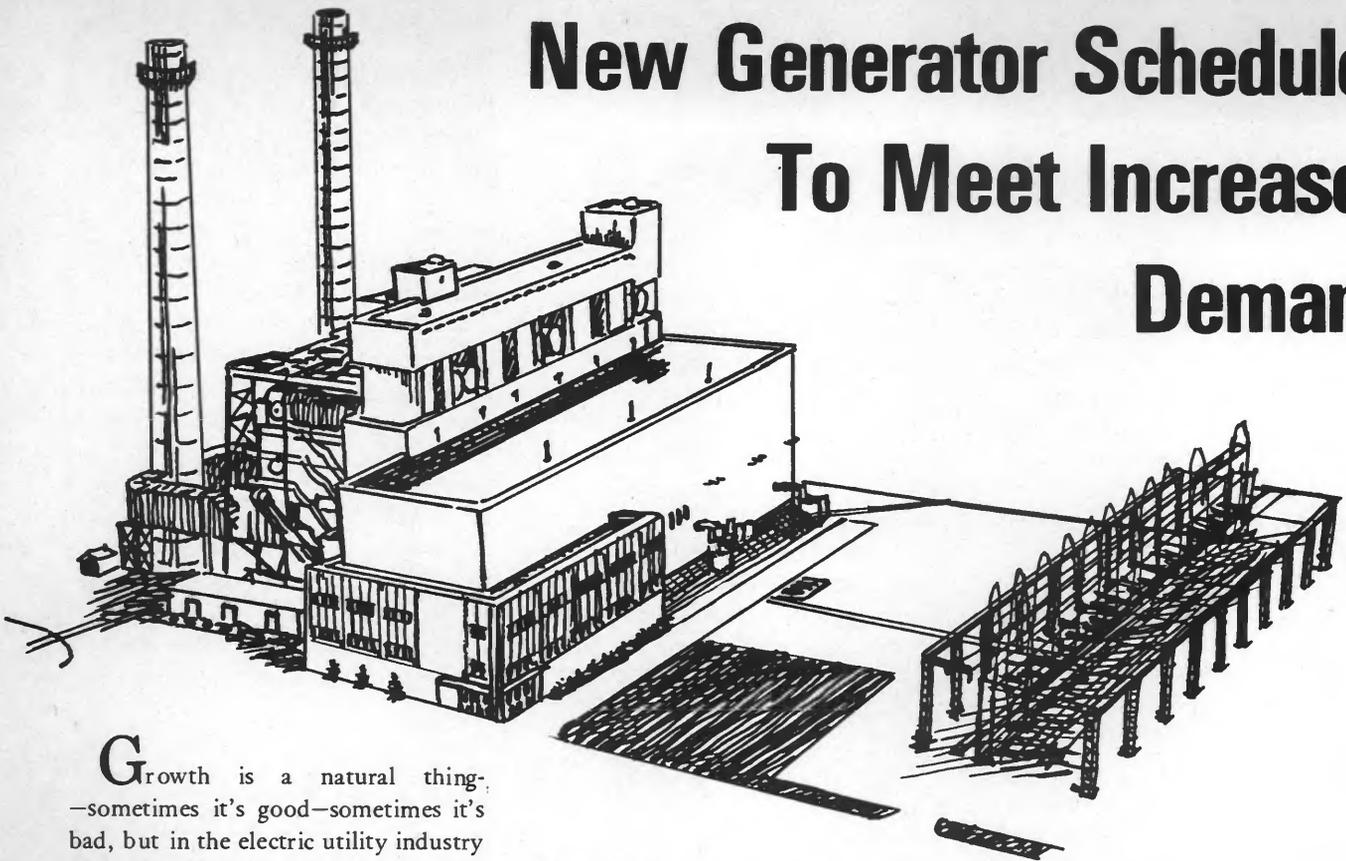
types of standby generators. We urge our consumer members to consider the inconvenience that an extended outage would cause at their home and to explore the possibilities of securing a standby generator. It may be that you really cannot afford to be without one.

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On a sunny day in an attic without proper ventilation the temperature will soar to 150-160 degrees. Insulation is important and is needed, but insulation is only a deterrent not a barrier. If attic temperatures continue to run extremely high for long periods of time, the ceiling within the structure will begin to radiate heat.

This undesirable heat not only creates uncomfortable conditions but places an additional load on your air conditioning system as well. The solution to this problem seems simple enough, just change the air often enough to keep the attic temperature within five or 10 degrees of ambient. This will remove most of the heat that penetrates the roof of the building. Attics must be ventilated if the insulation is to perform at its best. Ventilation is just as necessary in the winter as in the summer. Don't close the vents in winter, the insulation will keep the heat in while the open vents let unwanted moisture vapor escape.

# New Generator Scheduled To Meet Increased Demand



Growth is a natural thing—sometimes it's good—sometimes it's bad, but in the electric utility industry it is always necessary, necessary that is, if the supplier is to stay ahead of the consumer and his ever-increasing use of electricity.

Southern Illinois Power Cooperative (SIPC) located about eight miles south of Marion, presently supplies electric power generation for three electric distribution cooperatives in Southern Illinois. In taking steps to meet the projected growth in the service area of Eldorado-based Southeastern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Steeleville-based Egyptian Electric Cooperative and the Dongola-based Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative, SIPC is in the process of more than doubling its capacity.

Although the increased capacity is extremely necessary, it is also expensive on the other hand. The original plant, which was dedicated in August in 1965 by Governor Otto Kerner, cost \$12.5 million. SIPC financed the plant, Lake of Egypt and 460 miles of transmission line with a \$25.8 million Rural Electrification Administration (REA) loan.

In today's inflated monetary terms it is going to cost \$83 million to double the plant's capacity. Breaking down the total costs, \$66 million will go for the generating capacity and approximately \$17 million will be used to purchase and install required

pollution control equipment.

Funds for the needed expansion have come to SIPC through a loan from the REA and is the first power supply loan of its type in Illinois. The money comes from the Federal Finance Bank, which was set up several years ago to handle all government loans. The loan is guaranteed by the government and is issued at the bank's going interest rate.

Presently the three generators in service provide net generation capacity of 35 megawatts (Mw) each. The new fourth unit alone will have 160 Mw of net generating capacity, some 55 Mw more than the present facility. Together they will produce enough power to meet short term needs.

According to SIPC officials, 80 percent of the material for the plant are on order and are being fabricated. However, no actual construction will begin until the first of January. Plans are for the unit to begin commercial operation in June of 1978, supplying a needed total (projected for 1979) of nearly 750 million kilowatt-hours (kwh) to consumers in the three cooperative area.

The projected figure for 1979 can be readily compared to the present three cooperative consumption of 482 million kwh's a year, and the projected

total consumption of 1031 million kwh by the year 1985.

These figures are from studies made by each of the cooperatives during the past year. The projected figures are growth that can be expected today for the next 10 years. It may be that these projections will be low, but it is very unlikely that they will be high.

Growth in the Egyptian Electric Cooperative service area is expected to climb more than 131 percent in the next 10 years. Canalization of the Kaskaskia River played a big part in boosting the growth figures. Industrial growth, bringing with it residential growth in the Kaskaskia basin has played an important factor in the Steeleville-based cooperative's plans for the future.

Along with this potential, the proposed coal gasification plant south of New Athens, will itself bring in satellite residential growth of a proportion that must be considered in any future power requirement planning.

Along with these factors, Egyptian officials are expecting a tremendous growth in the Carbondale-Murphysboro area, where it already serves over 2200 members.

Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative  
ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS

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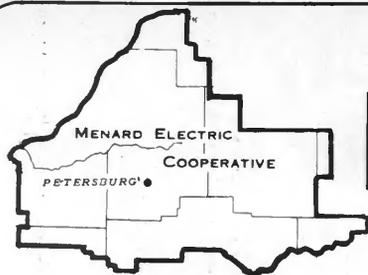
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# Menard Electric News

MENARD ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

217-632-7746

PETERSBURG, ILLINOIS 62675

## Members may get audit statements

Johnson & Reed Company of Bloomington, Illinois, Certified Public Accountants, is auditing our books as of December 31, 1975. This is done every year in order to certify to the Board of Directors the correctness of transactions for the past year.

Statements will go out to a selected number of members asking them to verify the accuracy of their account. Please do not mail your electric bill payment to the auditors office in Bloomington.

The statement from the auditor is not a request for payment. They ask that you examine the balance of your account appearing on the statement and if it is not in agreement with your records, please explain any difference and notify the auditors. Their name and address will appear thereon when you receive this statement.

## Co-op Comments

Mr. and Mrs. Glen Worth, r. r., New Holland, celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary on October 6. Mr. Worth was a long time bookkeeper for the cooperative having retired on April 30, 1972.

\*\*\*

Ronny R. Harden of r. r. 5, Springfield, journeyman lineman for your cooperative was injured on November 17, when he fell from a 45-foot utility pole, northwest of Ashland. He suffered three broken ribs and we wish him a speedy recovery.

\*\*\*

The cooperative office will be closed all day on December 25 and December 26 in observance of Christmas. The cooperative will also be closed on January 1, 1976.

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS



## Power Cost Adjustments and Your Bill

Power cost adjustments and state utility taxes add more than a few dollars to your monthly energy bills. Even though kilowatt-hours are used in estimating bills should the usage actually be greater, the power cost adjustment and tax will make the bill substantially larger on an adjusted bill.

If you plan to be away at the time your energy bill normally arrives, either call in your reading early or ask someone to read it for you or if you are going to be away for the winter please contact the cooperative office prior to your leaving so that arrangements may be made.

In addition, it is to your advantage to read your meter on the same day each month. We believe, that it is good practice to read the meter on the day that you receive your energy bill even though you do not pay it at that time.

It is surprising what the difference can be in your consumption if the meter is not read at a consistent time of the month.

In addition, substantial savings can

be made to your cooperative if payment of your energy bills are made promptly. Additional charges mount up substantially when our linemen are required to go on collections, this means added cost to you and the cooperative.

Your cooperation in reading the meter promptly and paying your energy bill by the first of each month will make a substantial reduction in the cost of doing business for your cooperative and yourself.

## Avoid Estimated Bills

In the interest of your economy and of your cooperative, we would encourage you to avoid receiving estimated bills. You may do this by reading your meter on the date that you receive your bill and return the reading on, the bill stub when payment is made. If you should not receive a bill on or about the 20th of each month when it customarily arrives, please call the office immediately and advise us.

# Another Era Passed



*Menard Manager John Root congratulates Albert Hinrichs.*

The area around Menard County and the area served by your cooperative is rich in history.

Back in 1830, for example, a lanky young Kentuckian came to New Salem in Menard County to make his home. Only a cluster of crude frontier type cabins, the hamlet never would have rated a second look had it not been for the fact that it became the home of Abraham Lincoln.

Similarly a handful of people who came to the Farm Bureau building in Petersburg, only two miles from New Salem on a June night in 1936 had no idea that they were writing an important page in the agricultural history of Central Illinois. Yet the steps they took that night were to result in the emancipation of rural people from the drudgery of the kerosene lamp era.

The first pole was set on Menard Electric Cooperative's first section of line on February 26, 1937. Construction was pushed steadily in the spring and summer of 1937 and the historic day when the first section of line was energized was August 7, 1937.

Actually there was no real celebration that day, says Albert L. Hinrichs, who has served for 38 years as an employee for your cooperative. "I'm not even sure whose house was the first to be energized. We were so busy at work fusing the transformers and installing the meters we didn't take time off for a special program," he said.

While the records of the cooperative indicate that Hinrichs was employed January 1, 1938, he was employed by various contractors who built the first and second sections of cooperative lines in 1937.

In fact, the first manager of the cooperative A. E. Becker, talked with Hinrichs in 1937 and suggested that he work for the contractor during the balance of that year and then become an employee of your cooperative and serve as line foreman in 1938. Obviously, this is what happened.

Hinrichs officially retired from your cooperative on December 1, 1975, after 38 years of service. Obviously, there were many thrilling moments for him all during these years, starting back with the first sections of line to be built, the first line to be energized, moving of the cooperative headquarters from the old Farm Bureau building to its present site. He remembers the expansion of the electric facilities throughout an eight county area, the expanded use of electricity for farms and homes, upgrading of electric facilities throughout the cooperative service area.

He has seen the continued improvement and equipment for building and maintaining electric distribution lines, new substation locations as growth developed and many other items of progress during the 39 year history of your cooperative.

When Hinrichs was asked recently what the most outstanding item that occurred during his 38 years of association with the cooperative he indicated that none really stood out, other than the fact that he cherished every day he was employed with your cooperative.

Every day was a new challenge and every member became a new friend. No one in the organization is known by more members or knows more members than Hinrichs. Almost every section line, every storm, every major change that has occurred during these years can be pinpointed by Hinrichs as he reminisces.

He and his wife, Irene, plan to maintain their residence in Petersburg and do many things which they have not had time to do in years passed.

It has also come to this writer's attention that if Hinrichs really wanted to, he could keep busy most of the time by doing electrical wiring for various people throughout the Menard County area. It is my understanding that he has quite a waiting list already, but Hinrichs has indicated that there are several weeks of the year that must be reserved for hunting and fishing and maybe even a little travel.

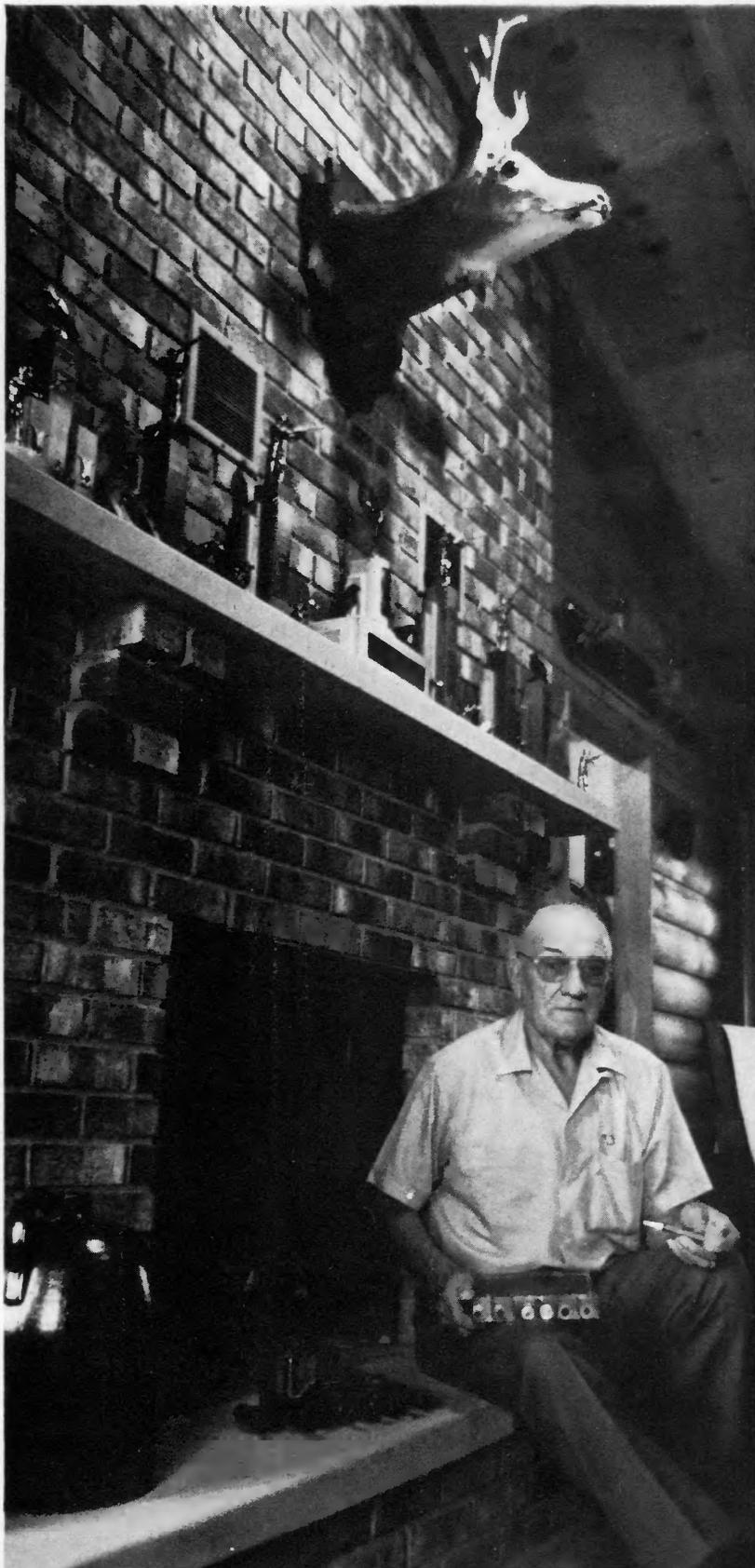
During Albert's span of employment, the cooperative grew from its first few miles of line to the 2355 miles in the system today; from its first few consumers to the 6300 which is served today and from the first few employees to the 39 which are employed today.

He pointed out that for quite some time his paychecks were by regular counter checks and also remembers vividly the many days that he was working in the field, before having a modern communication system. Some days he would return to the office at 5 p.m. and find that he had to return to almost the same area to take care of an electrical outage which existed.

Our congratulations and best wishes go to Albert and Irene as they enjoy the golden years of their life.

As this page of history of your cooperative is written, I am sure that you join with the employees and directors in wishing the Hinrichs many years of enjoyable retirement.

former  
national  
crow  
calling  
champion



The life a national crow calling champion leads while he is still in competition isn't all glory, Herb Dieckmann of Vandalia can attest to that.

"Mess up once and come back with only one lousy crow and you'll never hear the end of it," Dieckmann said, telling how that happened to him during the 25th annual crow shoot which was held in Southern Illinois. And how as the old saying goes, he had to "eat crow" because of it.

What was even worse, a photographer was present, the crow was placed on a meat platter, Dieckmann was given a bib and carving utensils and the whole humiliating scene was captured on film and reproduced in a number of newspapers.

Dieckmann still chuckles when he tells the story and swears it was an "isolated incident" and has over 30 trophies won in crow calling and shooting competition to prove it.

He won his first championship in 1954 and topped the field once again in 1964, placing well up in the running all the years between, with the exception of that one year.

A crow shooting and calling championship is held over a specified area of several counties. Hunters draw by lot, an area in which they are to hunt and are given an hour to get there, three hours to "call in" and shoot the crows and an hour to return to the tourney headquarters.

To win the 1954 championship, Dieckmann killed 27 crows in his