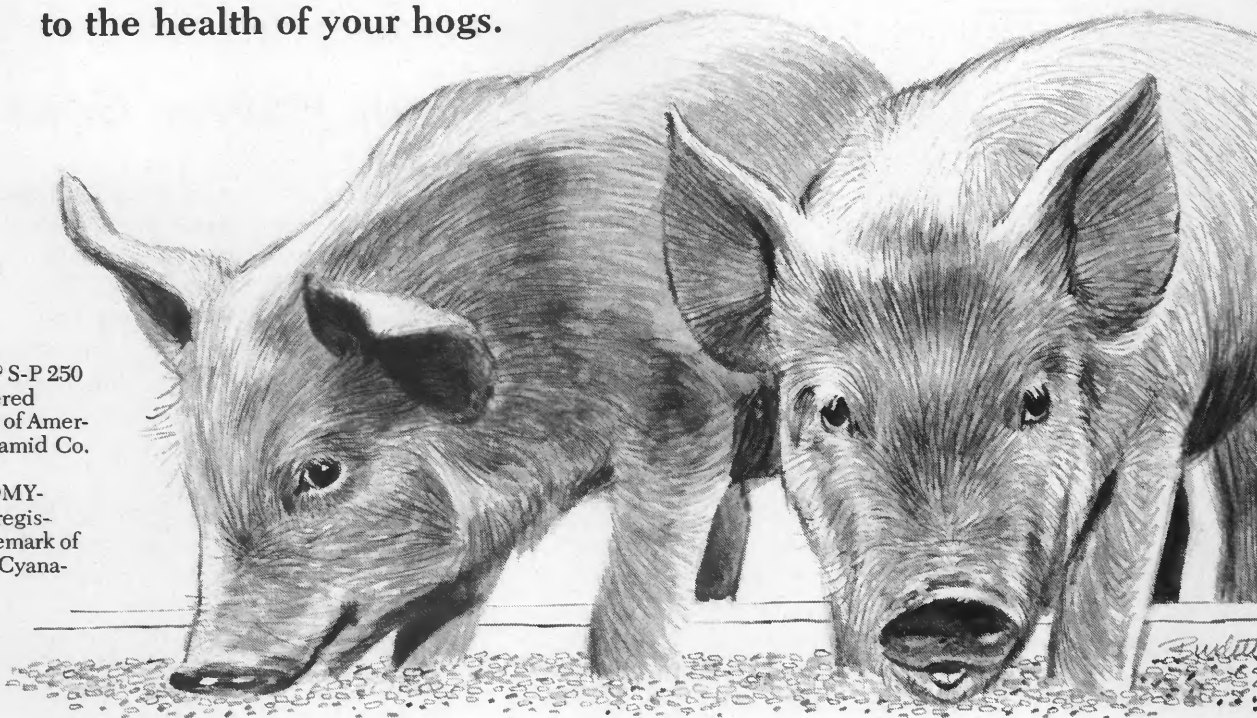


# From Start... To Finish

CO-OP Swine Feed with \*AUREO® S-P 250

helps control the four major threats  
to the health of your hogs.



\*AUREO® S-P 250  
is a registered  
trademark of Amer-  
ican Cyanamid Co.

\*\*AUREOMY-  
CIN® is a regis-  
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mid.

When you feed CO-OP Starter and Grower Feeds with Aureo S-P 250 you get feed savings plus four-way control of atrophic rhinitis, scours, cervical abscesses and stress. And CO-OP Swine Feeds with Aureo S-P 250 give you the proven benefits of fast gains and improved feed efficiency.

And by finishing your animals with CO-OP Finisher Feeds containing \*\*Aureomycin® (20 gms./ton) you get the continued benefits of growth promotion, disease control and improved feed efficiency to market.

These days, saving feed — getting better growth — and protecting herd health are more important than ever. By feeding CO-OP Starter and Grower Feeds containing Aureo S-P 250 and CO-OP Finisher Feeds with Aureomycin you can boost the profitability of your operation.

Ask your CO-OP Feed Man for CO-OP Starter and Grower Feeds with Aureo S-P 250 (the ones with the ASP on the label) and CO-OP Finisher Feeds with Aureomycin (the ones with the G on the label).

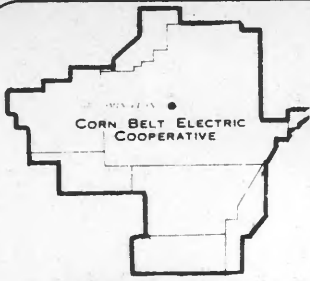
See your double circle Co-op for a complete line of biologicals, pharmaceuticals, instruments and feed additives for specific and general animal health needs.



## Swine Feed

and Animal Health Products

FARMLAND INDUSTRIES, INC.  
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64116



# Corn Belt Electric News

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

309-662-5330

BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

## Annual Meeting and Director Election

by G. V. Beer

The annual meeting of the members of Corn Belt Electric Cooperative, Inc. will be held at the Bloomington High School Auditorium on Saturday, March 6, 1976 beginning at 1 p.m.



G. V. Beer,  
Manager

One of the most important functions of an annual meeting is the election of directors. The board of directors consists of eleven people who are elected for three-year terms. Each year a nominating committee, appointed by the board, meets at the office of the cooperative not later than 40 days prior to the annual meeting for the purpose of

selecting at least one nominee for each office of director that is to be elected.

This year four directors terms expire. They are: John Alpers, Colfax; Thomas Johns, Delavan; Dorothy Rengel, Bloomington; and Frank L. Simpson, Farmer City.

We invite you to come to the annual meeting and take an active part in the affairs of your cooperative. In addition to the business portion of the meeting there will be entertainment, refreshments, door prizes, and a very appropriate presentation concerning the rising cost of electric energy and how it relates to Corn Belt and its operation.

## If Your Power Goes Off

1. Check all your own main fuses or circuit breakers, including any breakers below your meter.
2. Check with your neighbors about their power, and if they have reported a power failure.
3. Call the office number, (309) 662-5330, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. All other times call the service numbers listed on the card you receive with each meter reading card. Please throw away your old card and keep the most current one as names and telephone numbers do change.
4. Please give the following information when reporting an outage: Your name, your account number, time the power went off and whether or not your neighbors are out of service. Any other information you may have about broken poles, wires, trees or limbs, could help us in restoring power more quickly.

## Read Your Meter on Time- It Will Save You Money.

**LOOK UP!**  
*Never touch a wire  
with anything.  
It can kill you.*

## Another Way to Look at Your Electrical Bill:

While electric bills are going up, it's interesting to note that the percent of the family income going for electricity hasn't changed all that much. A recent study by TVA shows the following:

YEAR	AVERAGE HOME USE (KWH)	AVERAGE HOME POWER BILL FOR YEAR	MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME	POWER BILL AS% OF INCOME
1940	1,353	\$ 29	\$ 650	4.5
1950	3,079	46	1,726	2.7
1960	8,806	87	3,674	2.4
1970	14,560	150	7,160	2.1
1975	14,540	256	10,000	2.5

-Reprinted from "Capsule Comments," published by USCC and the Kentucky Statewide.

# For Your Protection: Ground Fault Interrupters

Fuses and circuit breakers usually will do a good job of protecting equipment, but offer very little protection from the danger of shock. Now, however, such protection is obtainable.

An entirely new type of device—the ground fault interrupter—guards people from high and low ground fault current. This device shuts off the electricity when a person receives an electric shock.

Ground fault interrupters are designed to “sense” trouble and open a circuit the instant any stray current greater than 5/1000 of an ampere (5 milliamperes, or .005 ampere) starts to flow to ground through a person or any object not intended to carry it.

The device operates on the principle that the amount of current flowing in the two wires to an appliance is the same when it is operating properly. If there is a “fault to ground,” such as a short, the current flowing through the two wires will not be the same. This difference is sensed by the control circuitry which shuts off the power. Ground fault interrupters are intended to protect personnel, rather than equipment. Also, they can be used in addition to fuses or circuit breakers or instead of them.

Chances are you've received an electrical shock without actual injury. If you are partially insulated by dry soil, dry shoe soles or a similar non-conductor, the electrical current was unable to complete its path through your body to the ground and you were unharmed.

But, given just the right amount of conductivity to the ground, it takes less than 60 milliamps (.060 amps.) to be fatal. That's less than it takes to illuminate one tiny Christmas tree bulb.

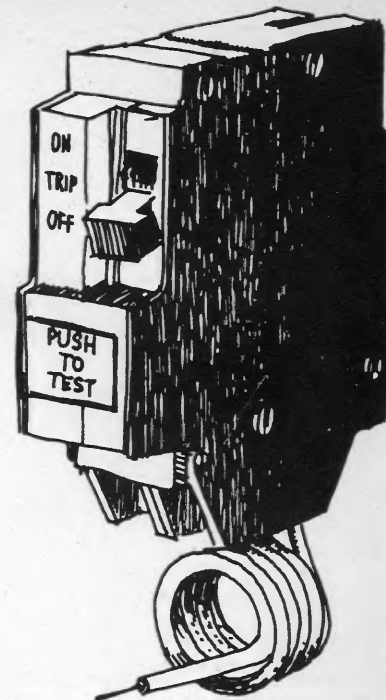
Ground fault interrupters come in 15, 20, 25 and 30 ampere size, either portable or fixed. They range in price from around \$50 to \$100, but that's a small price to pay for lifesaving equipment.

For about \$200, one manufacturer offers a portable ground fault interrupter into which several portable power tools can be plugged at one time. It's an easy way to be sure no tool can possibly become hazardous to personnel from a shock standpoint—while it's in use.

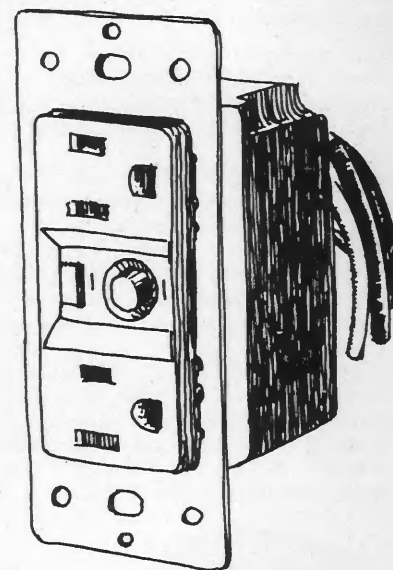
At present, it is probably more feasible to protect only the circuits that pose the greatest risk, such as outdoor, kitchen, basement and garage circuitry. Lighting circuits have a small risk in comparison with utility circuits. A portable unit is available if you want protection that can be moved.

If you frequently use portable tools outdoors, you may be in for a shock, in more ways than one (without GFI protection). Not that portable power tools are that dangerous—especially if they're the double-insulated or three wire grounded type. But, how much is it worth to take additional precautions against even that slight chance?

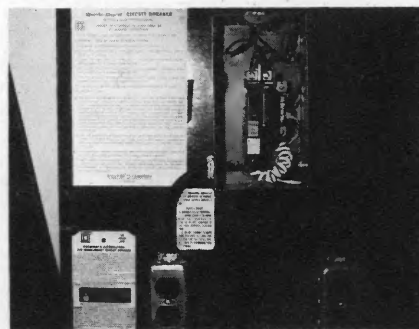
The new 1975 National Electrical Code (1) Section 210-8 (a) on Ground Fault Circuit Protection states, “For residential occupancies, all 120-volt, single-phase 15 and 20-ampere receptacle outlets installed outdoors and in bathrooms shall have approved ground-fault circuit protection for personnel.” The effective date of this requirement was January 1, 1975. Ground fault protection is also permitted in other circuits, locations and occupancies. (reprinted from article by Tri-County Electric Cooperative)



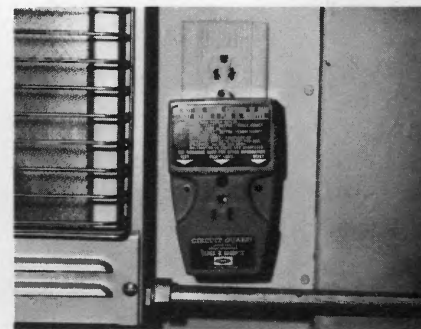
*This GFI circuit breaker has a push-to-test button so the circuit can be checked periodically.*



*This GFI wall receptacle will replace a standard grounded wall receptacle.*

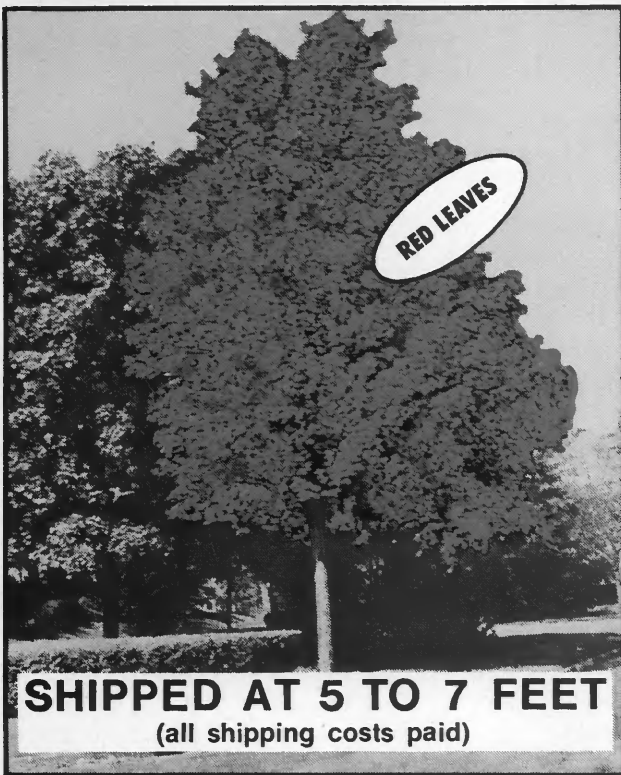


*This GFI circuit breaker fits in a standard service panel and is available in 15, 20, 25 and 30 ampere sizes.*



*This portable GFI receptacle will fit in a standard grounded wall receptacle and give GFI protection.*





**SHIPPED AT 5 TO 7 FEET**  
(all shipping costs paid)

ACTUAL PHOTOGRAPH OF A FIVE YEAR SCARLET MAPLE. (ACER RUBRUM)

- This gorgeous tree is known as the scarlet maple, red maple, or the EVER CHANGING MAPLE.
- Beautiful Red Scarlet leaves in the fall of the year, and beautiful deep dark green leaves in the spring of the year.
- Grows approximately up to 25-30 feet over a five year period, which makes it one of the fastest growing shade trees in America today.
- Many landscape architects and nursery men refer to this native tree as the "2 in 1" tree, because of its dual qualities of beauty and speed and you won't have to wait long for shade because we ship these beautiful trees at 5 to 7 feet.
- **Adaptability** — "The scarlet maple has one of the widest ranges of our native trees, growing from eastern central Canada to Florida, and because of its ease of transplanting it adapts to any type of soil." (From **All About Trees** by E. Johnson.) The one tree experts agree will grow anywhere in the U.S.A.

### OUR PRICES

We guarantee our price to be the best possible and if you find any of these trees advertised for less, (same size and variety) we will refund the difference plus give you a free gift of your choice from our catalogue. How can you lose?

### BONUS TREES

You may purchase up to as many bonus trees as you do shade trees — for example if you purchase 4 shade trees you may order either 1-2-3 or 4 bonus trees or none. Each bonus tree costs only .50¢ each in any combination. All bonus tree orders must be placed at the same time as the shade tree order.

## 3 YEAR GUARANTEE

All trees including bonus trees are guaranteed to live and if by mere chance any fail to live they will be replaced free of charge for three years.

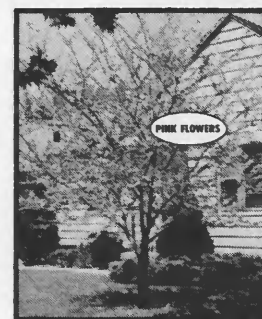
# UNQUESTIONABLY THE MOST BEAUTIFUL FAST GROWING SHADE TREE LESS \$200 each THAN IN LOTS OF 16

**FANTASTIC 50c BONUS OFFER**

**ALL BONUS TREES SHIPPED AT 4 TO 6 FT.**



**White Dogwood** (cornus florida)  
This beautiful flowering tree has large white blossoms, and can be seen in all parts of the country. Its foliage is attractive all summer and has beautiful fall colors, as the red berries hang on most of the winter. Grows to 25 feet. (shipped at 4 to 6 feet).



**Red Bud** (cercis canadensis)  
This beautiful flowering tree is native to both the north and south and thereby extremely hardy. It blooms at the same time as the dogwoods and its gorgeous pink flowers form a lovely combination with the dogwoods. Grows to 25 feet. (shipped at 4 to 6 feet).

TO BEAUTIFY YOUR HOME NOW ORDER  
TODAY ON A THREE YEAR GUARANTEE.

Imagine! These beautiful trees shading your home and the lovely contrast it will give the surroundings, and will bring praise and admiration from everyone. ORDER TODAY DURING THIS PLANTING SEASON AT OUR SPECIAL PRICES AND BONUS OFFERS.

### NURSERY BARN

P.O. Box 712 C-9  
McMinnville, Tennessee 37110

**ALL  
SHIPPING  
PAID**

Please send us the number of these beautiful red maples as indicated below on a three year guarantee. Also we understand we may purchase up to as many bonus trees as we do shade trees at only .50¢ extra per tree if we desire. However we are under no obligation to buy any. All orders will be acknowledged and shipped at proper time in my area.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 RED MAPLES.....\$ 7.98 | <input type="checkbox"/> 8 RED MAPLES.....\$22.98  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4 RED MAPLES.....\$12.98 | <input type="checkbox"/> 16 RED MAPLES.....\$31.98 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6 RED MAPLES.....\$17.98 |  |

AMOUNT OF RED MAPLE ORDER \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
SEND \_\_\_\_\_ BONUS TREES  
@ ONLY .50¢ EACH \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
ADD SALES TAX  
WHERE APPLICABLE \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
GRAND TOTAL ENCLOSED BY  
 CASH  CHECK  M.O. ....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

### BONUS TREES

HOW  
MANY VARIETY  
\_\_\_\_\_ W. DOGWOOD  
\_\_\_\_\_ REDBUD

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

Check here for free fund-raising literature for your club, church or organization. No obligation of course.

high demand during a relatively short period.

The subcommittee, specifically the CIPS Negotiating Subcommittee of the Power Supply Committee, Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, is composed of representatives of the various cooperatives involved. The subcommittee lowered the CIPS proposal in 1974 by almost 13 percent and in 1975 by about 23 percent, thus saving member-owners from even higher costs.

However, as the cost of fuel fluctuates, consumer electric bills may show the changes beyond the basic rate. Some of the cooperatives use a fuel cost adjustment clause, some utilize other methods.

Shelby Electric Cooperative manager William E. LeCrone probably summed up the general opinion of the various affected cooperatives when he said, "I'm very disappointed in the percentage of increase. This means an increase of about 50 percent in the last two years and we'll have to pass it on to our members. We have no other choice."

LeCrone added that the fuel cost adjustment alone had cost Shelby members an estimated \$250,000 in 1975. "We had not anticipated this," he said.

C. E. Ferguson, manager of the Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative, added to LeCrone's comments by explaining that the wholesale cost per kilowatt-hour, a value he considers the most important element in dealing with the final consumer bill, increased sharply in 1975, due greatly to the increases in the cost of fuel.

The 10 cooperatives who are direct purchasers of wholesale power from CIPS include: Clay Electric Co-operative, Flora; Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative, Mattoon; Eastern Illinois Power Cooperative, Paxton; Edgar Electric Co-operative, Paris; Illini Electric Cooperative, Champaign; McDonough Power Cooperative, Macomb; Norris Electric Cooperative, Newton; Shelby Electric Cooperative, Shelbyville; Southwestern Electric Cooperative, Greenville; and Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative, Fairfield.

The seven indirectly involved are members of Western Illinois Power

Cooperative (WIPCO) of Jacksonville, a generating and transmission cooperative which produces about 35 percent of the power it supplies and purchases the remainder from CIPS and Illinois Power Company.

Members of WIPCO are: Adams Electric Co-Operative, Camp Point; Illinois Rural Electric Co., Winchester; Menard Electric Cooperative, Petersburg; M. J. M. Electric Cooperative, Carlinville; Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative Co., Auburn; Spoon River Electric Co-operative, Canton; and Western Illinois Electrical Coop., Carthage.

Cooperatives, as tax-paying businesses owned by the people they

serve, have managed to absorb many cost increases over the years by improving efficiencies and through sound financial management.

It was pointed out that just over a decade ago one of Illinois' cooperatives was considering a seven-percent rate reduction. The logic at the time, based on the history of electric service expansion, was sound. Increasing the volume of sales would make up for the difference.

Now, the pendulum has moved nearly full stroke and the accepted thought on the future of electric service is not whether rates will go up but how much they will have to rise to meet increasing costs.



# PLANNING!



## THE KEY TO MODERN FARMING

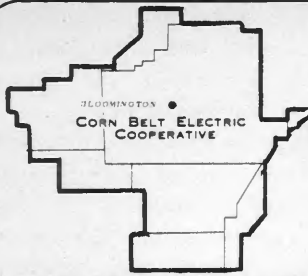
As any successful farmer knows, one of the keys to modern farming is proper building planning. Miracle Span Buildings can assist you in planning your building program. Our staff of professionals can help you get top dollar value from your investment. Miracle Span has put together this information in an precise and orderly form, all you have to do is ask for it. So don't waste your time in makeshift planning, write to Miracle Span and we'll see you get the information you need. Fill out the attached coupon and mail it today, or better still call us collect at (312) 397-0700

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DATE PLANNING TO BUILD	ZIP CODE
SIZE OF BUILDING—WIDTH	X LENGTH

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# Corn Belt Electric News

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

309-662-5330

BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

## Committee Nominates Directors for Election

On January 6, the nominating committee met for the purpose of nominating candidates for four board positions to be filled by election at the annual meeting of the cooperative on Saturday, March 6, 1976.

The following incumbent directors were nominated for reelection to three-year terms: Thomas Johns, Delavan; Dorothy Rengel, Bloomington; and Frank L. Simpson, Farmer City.

Incumbent director John Alpers, Colfax, chose not to run for reelection. Myron Erdman, Chenoa, was

nominated to replace Mr. Alpers on the slate of directors running for election to the board.

The nominating committee consisted of the following members: Russell Streid, Gridley, chairman; Clarence Brucker, Colfax, secretary; James Classen, Delavan; William Dehority, El Paso; David Foulke, Maroa; Cecil Hendren, Farmer City; Duane Johnson, LeRoy; Jeffrey Power, Saybrook; Clifton Short, Delavan; Paul Malone, Maroa; and Roy Basting, Bloomington.

## Booster Committee Meets

Corn Belt's Booster Committee met recently to discuss many issues of importance. Approximately 134 members of the cooperative heard

Vice President Gene Dressler and General Manager G. V. Beer discuss cooperatives, consumers, and the effect inflation has had on each during the past year. The meeting was held at Sinorak in Bloomington. Consumers from Corn Belt's 10-county service area were present at the meeting.



## Notice

### *38th Annual Membership Meeting*

**Corn Belt Electric Cooperative, Inc.**

**Bloomington Senior High School Auditorium**

1202 E. LOCUST STREET  
BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

**Saturday,**

**March 6, 1976 1:00 P.M.**

**PRIZES—ENTERTAINMENT  
—REFRESHMENTS**

**BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY!**



# Degree-Day Figures Foretell Heating Costs

Are your heating bills too high? Of course they are. Everybody's heating costs are too high.

Would you like to know whether it is the weather or your heating system? Would you like to find out if this winter is colder than average for your locality?

You can do this with some simple calculations. Professional heating engineers have been doing it for years and they vouch for the system.

You start with the "degree-day"—the official statistical measure of coldness. For example, when the daily mean temperature is 65 degrees or higher, most buildings require no heat to maintain an inside temperature of 70 degrees.

The daily mean temperature is obtained by adding together the high and the low temperatures reported by the local weather bureau for the day and dividing the total by two. Thus, if the high is 70 degrees and the low 52 degrees, the daily mean temperature is 61 degrees.

Now, each degree of mean temperature below 65 is considered to be one degree-day. In the example given, four of these degree-days accumulated during the 24-hour period. In other words, the mean temperature for the period (61) was four degrees below 65.

For every degree of mean temperature below 65, more fuel is going to be needed to keep a 70-degree temperature indoors. Suppose the mean temperature for a day is 35 degrees. This means 30 degree-days (65 minus 35). Such a day would require twice as much heating fuel as a day with a mean temperature of 50 (65 minus 50 or 15 degree-days).

To apply the degree-day concept to your own home, you should keep a record of the accumulated degree-days and of energy consumption for a week or two. Then divide the cost of heating your home during this period by the degree-day total to find the cost per degree-day to heat your home.

Using the resulting figure, you can estimate the quantity of energy (electric or other) you will use in a

normal winter in your locality (see figure 1). Actually the weather bureau has tables of normal total heating degree-days for all areas of the United States.

This is also one way to check on your heating bills. In fact, according to heating engineers, you should be able to estimate your monthly bill before it arrives by keeping a record of the accumulated degree-days. And you can check on your home heating system to see how efficient it is. Professional engineers do this all the time.

## \*Heating Season Degree-Days Bloomington Area

Month	Average D.D.
January . . . . .	1168
February . . . . .	992
March . . . . .	845
April . . . . .	425
May . . . . .	165
June . . . . .	25
July . . . . .	0
August . . . . .	0
September . . . . .	95
October . . . . .	330
November . . . . .	755
December . . . . .	1100
Total . . . . .	5,500

\*Based on Weather Bureau average

Figure 1  
Degree-Days Effective Heating Costs

A degree-day (heating) is a statistical unit based on temperature difference and time, used in estimating heating energy consumption. For any one day when the mean temperature is less than 65 degrees Fahrenheit, there exists as many degree-days as the difference between the mean temperature and 65. The seasonal total, obtained by adding all the degree-days recorded for the heating season, is used to estimate, among other things, yearly heating costs.

(Reprint from Adams Outlet)

## Students! Win a Trip to Philadelphia and Washington, D.C.

Sophomores and juniors attending a high school in the area served by Corn Belt Electric Cooperative are eligible to enter the "Youth to Washington" essay contest sponsored by the cooperative.

The winner will receive a one week's trip June 11-19 to the nation's capital and a side trip to Philadelphia, home of the first Continental Congress and the Liberty Bell, with all expenses paid. (Members of families of cooperative directors or employees are not eligible.)

An entry blank with complete details of the contest and research material will be sent on request. Write Corn Belt Electric Cooperative, Inc., P. O. Box 816, Bloomington, Illinois 61701, giving name, address, age, high school, class year and parents' names.

## Warning-- Notice to all Buyers of Grain Dryers in 1976

If you are planning to purchase a grain dryer for installation during 1976 you must have your plans approved by Corn Belt's Engineering Department prior to July 1, 1976, or we will not be able to energize your dryer.

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

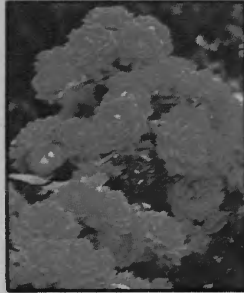
Help us to help you. Come in early and discuss your plans with us.

# AMERICA'S GREATEST ROSE SALE "EVER"



**CRIMSON GLORY**

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



**CLIMBING BLAZE**

Huge clusters of fiery red blooms. A good climber. Former patent no. 10



**MIRANDY**

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



**CHRYSLER IMPERIAL**

Light Crimson with dark overtones. A beauty. Former patent no. 1167



**HAPPINESS**

Brilliant Fire-engine red color. Former patent no. 911



**MONTEZUMA**

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



**TIFFANY**

Bright pink bloom with radiant sunny glow. Former patent no. 1304



**PEACE**

Magnificent blooms of yellow edged in pink. Former patent no. 591



**LOWELL THOMAS**

A lemon yellow with fragrant blooms. Former patent no. 595

LESS THAN **96¢** EACH  
(IN LOTS OF 24 All Shipping Paid)

**FORMERLY PATENTED PRIZE WINNING ROSES AT NON-PATENTED PRICES**

**LEGAL PATENTS HAVE EXPIRED!**

All of these varieties are considered by many experts to be the most popular patented roses of all times. Now their legal patents have expired and they may be sold at these "Super Low Prices" while supplies last. All roses are two year field grown rose bushes ready to prune and plant.

**ALL ROSES:**

1. WILL BLOOM FROM MID-SPRING TO EARLY FROST
2. ARE HARDY
3. WILL BE LABELED AS TO VARIETY
4. WILL HAVE EASY TO FOLLOW PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS
5. WILL HAVE BLOOMS APPROXIMATELY TWICE THE SIZE OF THEIR PICTURE

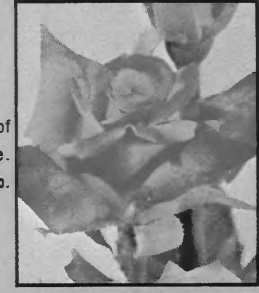
**WHITE KNIGHT**

Elegant pure white blooms. Former patent no. 1359



**MOJAVE**

Gorgeous blooms of glowing orange. Former patent no. 1176



**STERLING SILVER**

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



**ORDER TODAY FOR THE PRIZE ROSE GARDEN**

NO.	VARIETY
_____	CRIMSON GLORY
_____	CLIMBING BLAZE
_____	MIRANDY
_____	CHRY. IMPERIAL
_____	HAPPINESS
_____	MONTEZUMA
_____	TIFFANY
_____	PEACE
_____	LOWELL THOMAS
_____	WHITE KNIGHT
_____	MOJAVE
_____	STERLING SILVER

**PLEASE SEND**

- ANY 6 FOR ONLY **\$698**
- ANY 12 FOR ONLY **\$1298**
- ANY 18 FOR ONLY **\$1798**
- ANY 24 FOR ONLY **\$2298**  
All Shipping Paid

**MORRISON NURSERY CO.**

P.O. BOX 97 DEPT. C-2  
MORRISON, TENN. 37357

Please send us at the proper planting time the roses we have selected. You will acknowledge our order for shipping date.

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**GUARANTEE**

Each Rose is verified by Gov't inspection to be a living plant. Each must bloom or it will be replaced free of charge. Our prices are the best possible, and if these roses can be found at a cheaper price we will REFUND THE DIFFERENCE to you immediately.

On all orders of 6, 12, or 18 please add .89¢ postage and handling.



# Member-owners are selected Master Farmers



Robert Hamilton



Paul Kermicle

Two member-owners of Illinois electric cooperatives are among six state farmers selected as Master Farmers for 1976 by Prairie Farmer magazine.

Robert Hamilton of Potomac (Vermilion County) and Paul Kermicle of Dundas (Richland County) were honored during award presentation ceremonies in Springfield January 27.

Selection for the honor is based on competence as a knowledgeable, effective farmer and involvement in community service such as school, church, civic and charitable organizations.

Hamilton, a member-owner of Eastern Illinois Power Cooperative, began farming in 1940 and currently operates a farm of 1,165 acres, producing corn, wheat and beans and cattle and pigs.

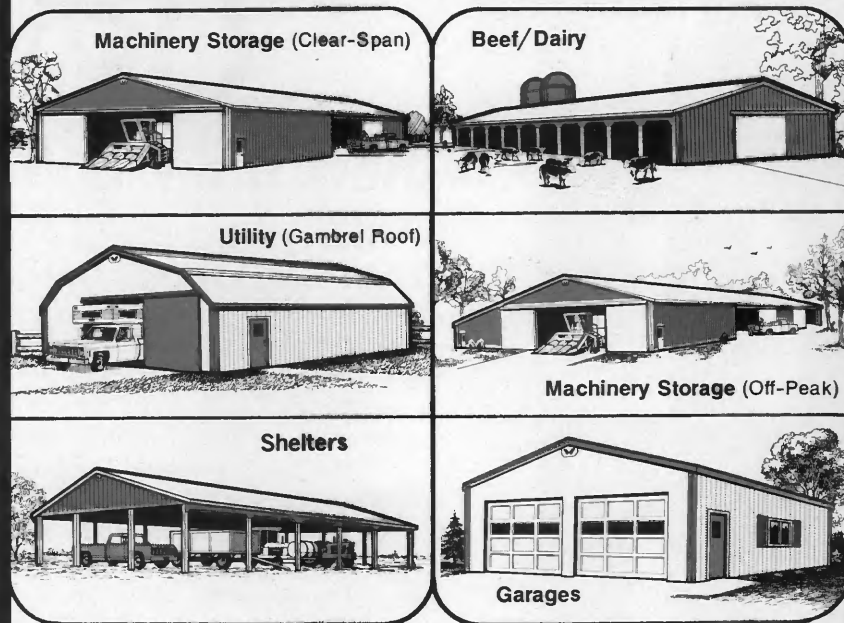
He has found time to involve himself in service on his county's agricultural extension council, extension agronomy committee and soil conservation district.

Kermicle, a member-owner of Norris Electric Cooperative, operates a 675-acre farm in partnership with his father.

Kermicle's pork enterprise produces about 100 litters annually. He also gets outstanding production from his low-organic-matter Southern Illinois soils.

A member of the East Richland Board of Education the last nine years, Kermicle served as board president this past year. He also helped organize establish the Olney Community Junior College.

# NOW IT'S EASIER THAN EVER TO BUY THE BEST FARM BUILDING IN ILLINOIS JUST SAY 'CHARGE IT'



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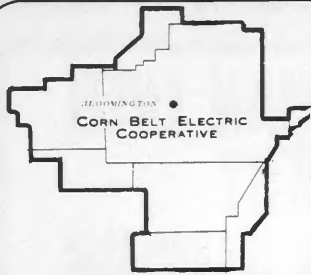
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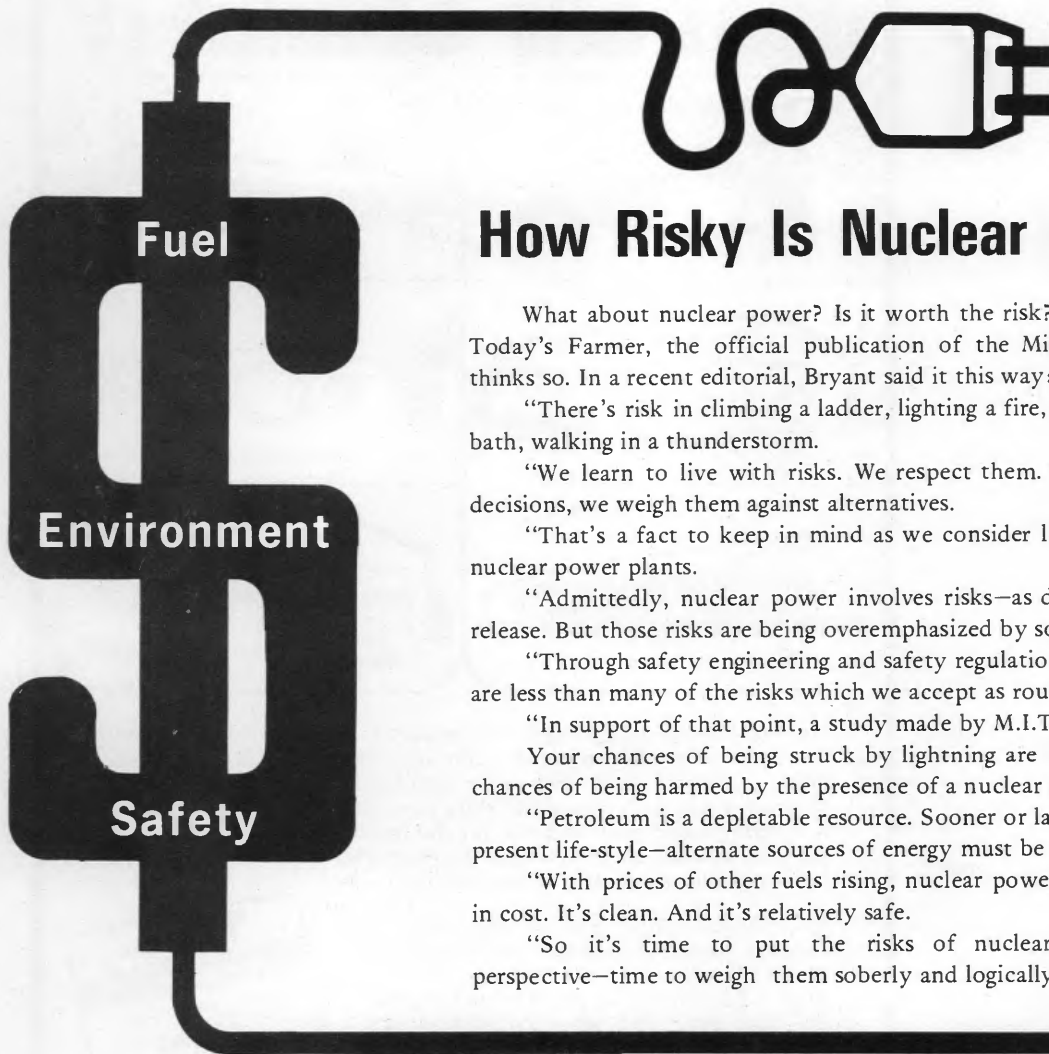


# Corn Belt Electric News

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

309-662-5330

BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS



## How Risky Is Nuclear Power?

What about nuclear power? Is it worth the risk? David E. Bryant, editor of Today's Farmer, the official publication of the Missouri Farmers Association, thinks so. In a recent editorial, Bryant said it this way:

"There's risk in climbing a ladder, lighting a fire, operating a tractor, taking a bath, walking in a thunderstorm.

"We learn to live with risks. We respect them. We accept them. In making decisions, we weigh them against alternatives.

"That's a fact to keep in mind as we consider location and construction of nuclear power plants.

"Admittedly, nuclear power involves risks—as do all other forms of energy release. But those risks are being overemphasized by some.

"Through safety engineering and safety regulation, the risks of nuclear power are less than many of the risks which we accept as routine.

"In support of that point, a study made by M.I.T. scientists concludes:

Your chances of being struck by lightning are 150 times greater than your chances of being harmed by the presence of a nuclear power plant in your area.

"Petroleum is a depletable resource. Sooner or later—if we're to maintain our present life-style—alternate sources of energy must be developed.

"With prices of other fuels rising, nuclear power is increasingly competitive in cost. It's clean. And it's relatively safe.

"So it's time to put the risks of nuclear power development into perspective—time to weigh them soberly and logically against alternatives."

## Whom Should We Believe?

Ralph Nader is heading a group whose objective is to stop all nuclear development in this country, claiming it is dangerous to health and the environment and no satisfactory method is available for disposal of nuclear waste material.

On the other hand, 30 of the nation's top scientists, recently issued a statement saying they feel the

responsibility to speak out during these crucial times in our nation's history.

"We see no reasonable alternative to an increased use of nuclear power to satisfy our energy needs. On any scale the benefits of nuclear power far outweighs the possible risk. The U.S. choice is not coal or uranium, we must have both."



# Save by Converting Your Furnace to a HEAT PUMP

There is no doubt that a heat pump is often your best choice in heating and cooling equipment when you build a new house. Your savings soon catch up with the increased cost. If you aren't ready for a new house and you are heating and cooling with a regular resistance-type electric furnace or a bottled gas or oil furnace, you can still benefit from the savings offered by heat pumps.

Heat pump manufacturers have introduced conversion units consisting of an "A" coil heat exchanger and a remote (outdoor) compressor unit. Using your present furnace as the air handler, the "A" coil (placed in your furnace's return air duct) becomes the prime source of heat, while the existing furnace becomes the auxiliary source of heat.

## Heat from "Cold" Air

As is the case with all heat pumps, heat energy is pumped to the "A" coil by the compressor in the outdoor unit. In other words, heat is picked up from the outside air by the refrigerant in the outdoor coil and is transferred by the compressor to the indoor "A" coil. Only two things, free air and electrical energy for turning the motors, are required to operate a heat pump system.

At outdoor temperatures of about 30 degrees F, for every single kilowatt of electricity used to operate

the heat pump, two kilowatts or more of energy are pumped into the house. At 0 degrees F, one kilowatt of energy pumps in 1-1/4 kilowatts of heat energy.

## The Energy-Giving Sun

Where does this extra energy come from? It comes from God's great sun, the original and only source of primal energy. Even when the sun isn't shining, a residue of solar heat is left in the air.

A wall-mounted, two-stage heating and single-stage cooling thermostat is utilized with this "add-on" system. The first stage of the thermostat brings on only the heat pump. If properly sized, the heat pump should take care of your home's heating requirements until the outdoor temperature drops to about 30 degrees F. When the indoor temperature drops about 1-1/2 degrees, the second stage of heating will kick on.

If the furnace burns fossil fuel (gas, oil or coal), the furnace comes on and heats the house when the outdoor temperature drops below 30 degrees F. Most heat pump manufacturers prefer that the pump be cut off automatically when the oil or gas furnace comes on. However, on an electric furnace, the heat pump need not be cut off because of additional staging.

In the case of an electric furnace, when the second stage of the ther-

If you plan to build a new home or change the heating system in your existing home, let us give you suggestions for conserving energy.

mostat calls for heat, all of the resistance heating elements in the furnace come on. However, an outdoor thermostat can be utilized to prevent half of the furnace coils from coming on until the outdoor temperature reaches a low of 15 degrees F or thereabouts. This in reality gives three stages of heating.

## Words of Caution. . .and Advice

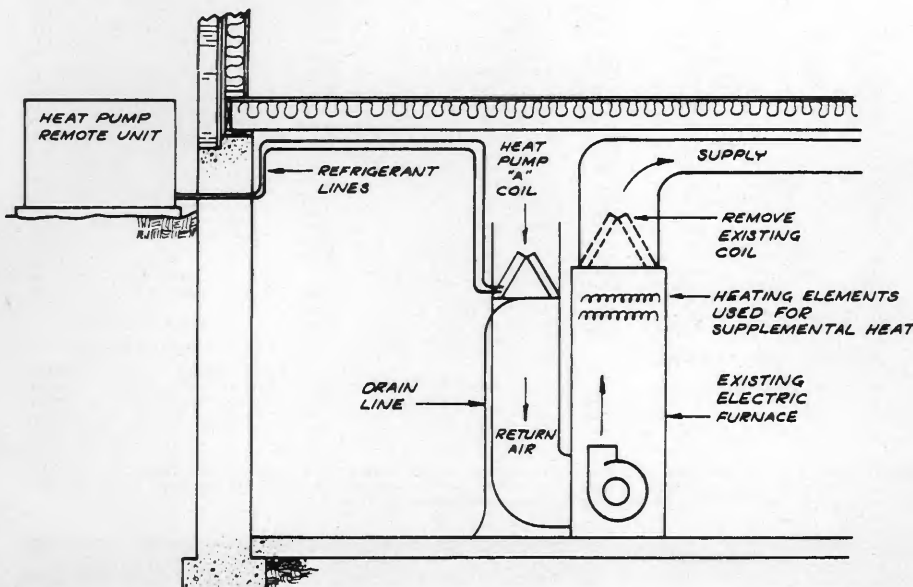
A few words of caution are in order if you plan to convert to a heat pump: Your present fan or fan motor must be large enough to move approximately 400 to 450 cfm of air across the new "A" coil.

If your present furnace needs replacing, it may be wise to replace it with a conventional heat pump that already has auxiliary heaters built-in by the factory.

If you have a furnace with central air conditioning and the air conditioner is in need of replacement, by all means consider either the add-on heat pump or the conventional heat pump as a replacement. The heat pump reverses itself and cools the house in the summer. Unlike most conventional air conditioning coils, a heat pump coil must be placed in the return air duct. In most cases, it would be advisable to remove an existing central air coil in order to maintain the proper volume of air movement through the system without undue pressure against the fan and overloading of the fan motor.

Over 80 percent of the nation's heating hours occur when temperatures are between 32 and 65 degrees F. It is within this temperature range that a heat pump performs best. However, there is some heat at temperatures down to -460 degrees F and it has been found that 89 percent of the heat which was available at 100 degrees F is still in the air at 0 degrees F!

Scientists all over the world are working on ways to extract solar heat in an economical way. The only mass produced, nationally-available, proven method of extracting heat today from air or water is the heat pump!







# Million-dollar Fire Brings Out Good Neighbors

(Continued from page 7)

"The people worked from early morning until sundown," Briscoe said. "They came from as far as 25 miles away to help."

"The only thing I got tired of was hearing somebody yell for the blueprints," Briscoe laughed.

The offices and warehouse are not completely finished but business goes on as usual. There are tons of seed beans back in the warehouse and fixtures are being placed in the office and showroom area.

Briscoe has added a kitchen to the new place and fixes lunch. He said he may put in a pool table to help customers pass the time during the busy season. On a mid-March day, a visitor could find Briscoe running back and forth from his office to the kitchen fixing lunch.

The Clay County native has been in business at his present location, just off Highway 50 three miles east of Flora, for about five years, he said. Before that he and his wife operated their own fertilizer business in Flora for about 15 years.



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# Corn Belt Electric News

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

309-662-5330

BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS



*A member of the cooperative registers.*



*A Corn Belt employee collects members' ballots during the cooperative's election of officers.*



*Thomas Johns, left, and Dorothy Rengel, who were reelected to the Board of Directors of the Corn Belt Electric Cooperative, look on as Myron Erdman is congratulated on his election to the board. Offering his congratulations is Frank L. Simpson, right, president.*

## Coal's Importance Stressed by Beer

"Coal and the cost of coal is the key to the escalating cost of electricity," Manager G. V. Beer said March 6 as he outlined for cooperative members the reasons behind their rising electric bills. The cooperative held its 38th annual members' meeting at the Bloomington Senior High School. More than 350 members and guests heard reports from Beer and cooperative officers, elected directors and voted to raise the cooperative's borrowing authority from \$5 million to \$25 million. "Roughly 80 percent of the cost of operating a coal-fired generating plant goes for fuel," Beer said, "and when coal skyrockets from nine dollars a ton in 1973 to over \$21.50 only 24 months later, you know what that does to a budget!"

The effect on Corn Belt's budget was an increase in the cost of power purchased for distribution to its members from \$1.35 million in 1974 to \$1.9 million last year, according to Secretary-Treasurer Dorothy Rengel of Bloomington. Her report noted that a rate increase early in 1975 was sufficient to cover wholesale power cost increases and allow the cooperative to end the year with a two percent operating surplus.

Beer said that although the cooperative ended 1975 with a small operating surplus, the margins were dangerously low and not sufficient to meet the cooperative's debt service requirements. Another assessment increase went into effect this January that averages about 10 percent. "The only way we can continue to serve our members is to raise rates to cover our increasing costs," Beer said.

During the period 1968 through 1975 the cost to the member for 1,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity had increased from \$21.37 to \$33.59. Beer said this retail cost increase amounted to a 57 percent increase while the consumer price index had increased by 66 percent. Corn Belt's wholesale power cost per kwh sold increased by 105 percent.

Beer urged members to conserve electricity and to express to their government leaders their concern over rising fuel costs. He also said the members should urge their legislators to adopt a meaningful energy policy that will assure that sufficient electricity is available in the future at a price consumers can afford.

Myron Erdman of Chenoa was elected to a three-year term on the board of directors. He succeeds John Alpers, who did not seek reelection. During the business meeting





*In the photo at left, Frank J. Simpson, (left) president of Corn Belt Electric Cooperative, conducted the meeting assisted by Attorney William J. Bach. Above: Susan Reynolds, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Reynolds, Route 3, Bloomington, draws names for door prizes, while Manager G. V. Beer looks on.*

members reelected Thomas Johns of Delavan, Mrs. Rengel and Frank Simpson of Farmer City as directors.

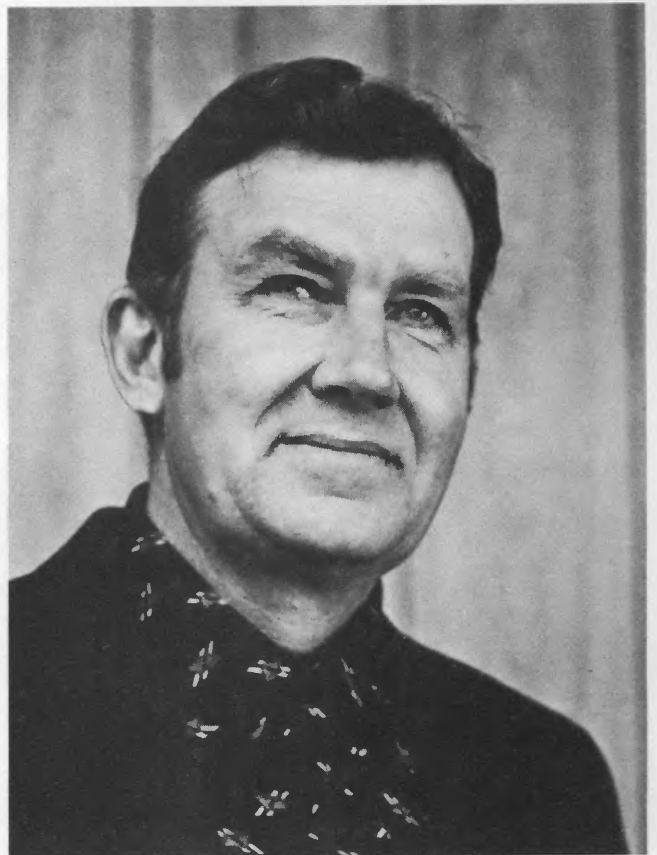
During an organizational meeting of the board of directors following the members' meeting, Simpson was reelected for another year as president. Other officers elected to serve the cooperative were Gene Dressler as vice president, Mrs. Rengel as secretary-treasurer and John Tompkins as assistant secretary-treasurer.

## ***Myron Erdman Elected to Board of Directors***

Myron Erdman, Chenoa, was elected to the Board of Directors of the Corn Belt Electric Cooperative at the cooperative's annual meeting March 6. He succeeds John Alpers, who did not seek reelection.

Erdman operates a 600-acre dairy farm, with 135 registered Guernseys in production. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Illinois Guernsey Breeders Association, and District President of the Associated Milk Producers, Inc. He is a member of the council of the Lutheran Church and sings in the choir.

Erdman and his wife, Neta—who teaches school—have two daughters and a son.



*Myron Erdman*

# Conservation Project

# Making New



*TOP: A tractor-drawn distributor applies alfalfa and bromegrass seed to a roadside as part of a wildlife project sponsored by the Illinois Department of Conservation.*

*RIGHT: Dennis Kirkham, a conservation biologist, observes from the bed of a pickup truck as Bill Wood checks their innovative bromegrass seed distributor.*



A ten-year study begun in the early 1960's by the Illinois Natural History Survey to determine if pheasant production could be increased has developed into a full-time project of the Illinois Department of Conservation.

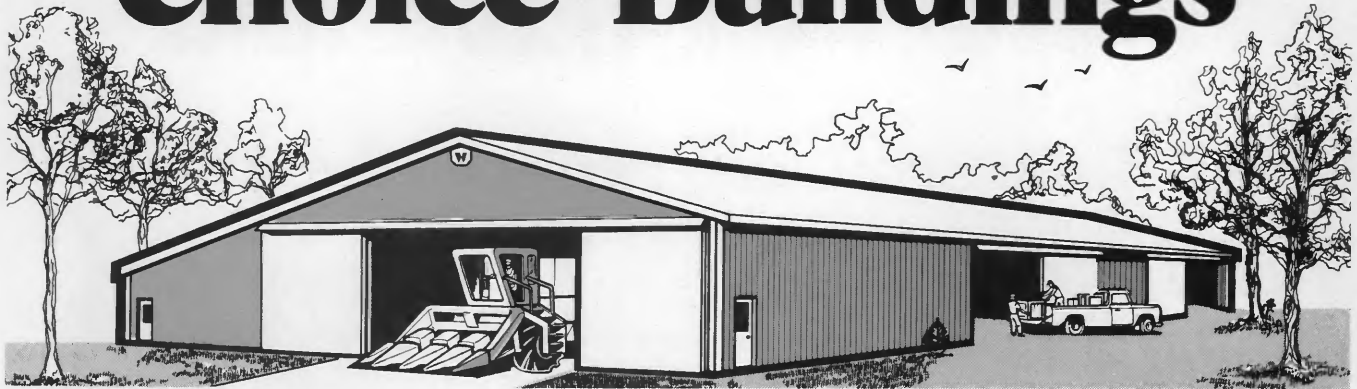
The basis of the study was to find out if roadsides could be a source of habitat in the form of undisturbed nesting cover for the pheasant. The findings, according to Dennis Kirkham, a biologist with the Roadside Seeding Project headquartered in Gibson City (Ford County), show that use of roadsides for habitat can significantly increase the pheasant population. In fact, Kirkham says, other types of game birds, as well as rabbits and nongame birds, thrive in areas where the seeding project is currently taking place.

Kirkham, a member-owner of Illini Electric Cooperative, says, "The key to future wildlife populations is good habitat, and as Illinois farming intensifies, with hay and pasture (which is used for nesting cover) being replaced with corn and soybeans, the remaining acres become increasingly important for the survival of ground nesting wildlife."

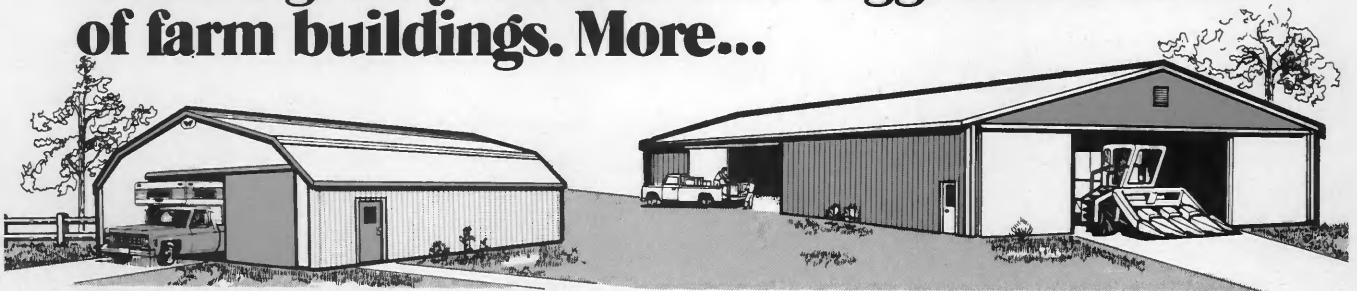
"Today the total quantity of habitat is limited by economic considerations and an increasing need for food production," Kirkham points out. "Wildlife must now utilize what habitat remains and Illinois Department of Conservation biologists must work to improve the quality of and preserve existing habitat," Kirkham says.

Kirkham's job, briefly, is to work with land-

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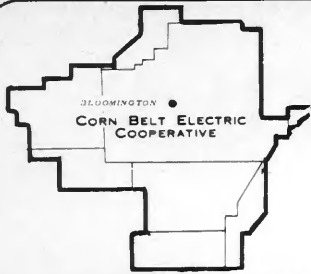
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# Corn Belt Electric News

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

309-662-5330

BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

## Across the manager's desk



G. V. Beer  
Manager

### Telephone Answering Service Installed at Corn Belt Office

A "message only" answering device has been recently installed at the headquarters office at Corn Belt Electric Cooperative to respond to calls made to the office during non-office hours.

If you should call the office before 8:00 a.m. or after 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, or on weekends or holidays, you will hear a message similar to the one printed below:

*"This is a recording. Our business office is closed. If you are calling to report a power failure please call Frank Stevens at 829-2726; if Mr. Stevens doesn't answer, please call Lee Thomas at 828-0237. If Mr. Thomas doesn't answer, please try one of the following numbers: 829-3767, 828-2169, 827-8381 or 452-1804. Please call the above numbers collect and report your problem. Our office hours are 8-5, Monday through Friday. Thank you."*

We urge you to keep the card you receive bimonthly with all of the current telephone numbers listed on it in a convenient location. This will enable you to hopefully make one collect call to report your problem. Should you misplace your card, call the office number and you will hear the recorded message listing the current phone numbers you are to call. We hope, when needed, you find this service helpful.

The body travels more easily than the mind, and until we have limbered up our imagination we continue to think as though we had stayed home. We have not really budged a step until we take up residence in someone else's point of view.

-- John Erskine

# Think Cool

The air conditioning season is upon us and you should be giving serious thought to how you can cut the cost of cooling your home. Here are some helpful tips:

1. Don't overcool. It's expensive. The temperature difference between indoors and outdoors should be no more than 15 degrees.
2. Properly insulate your attic. There should be six-inches minimum insulation thickness covering the ceiling area.
3. Vent your attic. Use a power fan.
4. Plant trees and use window awnings to shade your windows and house.
5. Keep drapes at windows closed.
6. When building or remodeling, use light-covered roof materials and exterior paints.
7. Properly weatherstrip doors and windows.
8. Inspect and change or clean air filters as needed.
9. Do your "hot jobs" such as dishwashing, ironing and laundry during off-peak hours—early morning or late evening.
10. Keep storm windows in winter and summer.
11. Turn off lights and heat generating appliances except when needed.

SAVE MONEY—KEEP COOL IN—HOT OUT

## 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.

© NRECA

It pays to conserve energy

# Welcome to Wildwood Campgrounds

by Vince Ijams,  
Power Use Adviser

We have another very nice campground in our area owned and operated by Norm and Irene Baird. It is located three miles south of Ellsworth and then east about one-fourth mile.

Wildwood Campground is a completely wooded area with good cold deep well water, electricity, sanitary station, children's play area, hot showers and modern toilet facilities. They also have free firewood and tables.

For recreation they have hay rack rides, ping pong tables, horseshoe pitching, and fishing. The fishing is free to campers and there are carp, channel cat, bullhead, bass, crappie and bluegill in the lake they have in the center of the campground.

They also have open air church services each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. on the grounds.

Throughout the season there is country and western music, along with other scheduled activities.

You can rent space at this campground for overnight, weekly, seasonally, or by the year.

An extra bonus for Wildwood is that it is only about a quarter mile from a state-owned lake ideal for boating and fishing.

So sometime when you can, stop by and say hello to Mr. and Mrs. Baird and they will be glad to show you around and make arrangements for you to move your camper into the area.



*A restful place to go.*



*A nice lake for fishing.*

## Check With Us Before Digging

Many times people are out of electrical service because they didn't check before digging.

If you have underground wiring from the road to the house, there is bound to be some wire buried. If you decide to run a water line across this area, chances are that you would go deep enough to hit the buried cable.

Another thing that can happen is digging for post holes or footing for a building, a person can hit the cable there too. When the cable is cut it puts you out of service plus it is rather expensive to repair. So again we say—be sure to check before digging.

# Henri Servais: A 'MAJOR' PIPE COLLECTOR



Hobbies are funny things, and a precious little excuse is needed for an enthusiast to begin some kind of avocation or another. The existence of a mountain is reason enough for some to start climbing, and the existence of a piece of string is all some people need to start winding a ball. As for pipes, Henri Servais explains how he began pipe collecting even though he doesn't smoke.

"I was working for the Salvation Army and we used to get a lot of rummage—old clothes and stuff. We found five or six pipes in with a bundle of old clothes, and I polished them up and put them on my desk."

From that small beginning grew a collection of 586 pipes of all shapes and sizes.

"People would come into my office and see those pipes on my desk. They'd say, 'why, I've got some old pipes at home and I don't smoke—I'll bring them in,' and before long I had a whole bunch of pipes. Then people started giving them to me as gifts, like for my birthday."

The French-born Servais and his wife, Hortense, live near Hillview, on





however. Visitation projections for 1985 indicate 650,000 persons annually will use the lake and its facilities for picnicking, swimming, boating, fishing, camping, waterskiing and hunting.

Certain developments near the eastern extremity of the lake were recommended for early or first phase development, such as Kinkaid Lake Village. These plans included a marina, launching site, campgrounds, house-keeping cabins, lease sites for permanent cottages and possibly a restaurant. Other developments outside the Kinkaid Lake Village area recommended for early development included field trails area, administrative headquarters, Old Mud Line Road launch site, stables, overlooks and picnic area at the dam.

Ultimately a lodge resort is proposed on a major peninsula on the north side of the lake.

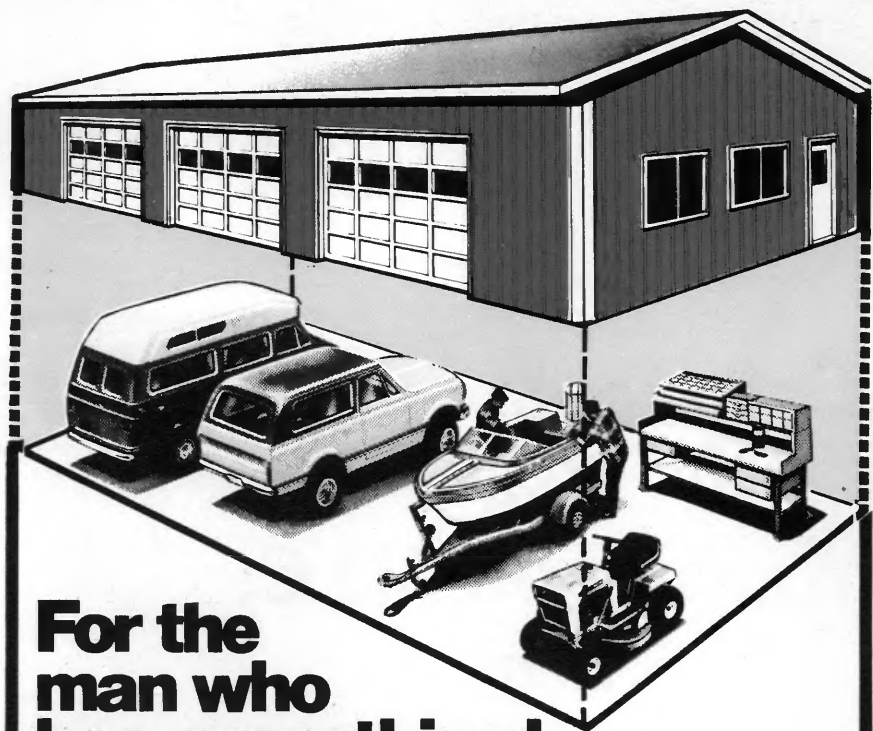
A major portion of each of these proposals relates to necessary utility and road improvements to support these developments.

The recreation concept for the lake is being developed from two major sources. One is recreational facilities for the public furnished with public funds. The other is recreational facilities furnished by private enterprise.

Various recreational developments proposed in the plan will be put to bid to receive proposals from potential concessionaires. Several smaller recreational proposals may be grouped to be offered to a single successful bidder. Income realized by the conservancy district from the operation and management of district lands (including concession rental fees) will be utilized to reimburse the state for construction of the lake.

A major portion of the cost of the lake and surrounding land was advanced by the State of Illinois and must ultimately be returned. Therefore, revenue-producing recreational facilities are a must.

The water treatment plant, located on the eastern area of the lake, has a capacity of three million gallons per day. Present demand, according to district manager David Fligor, is between 1.8 million and two million gallons daily.



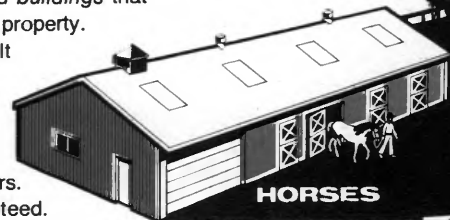
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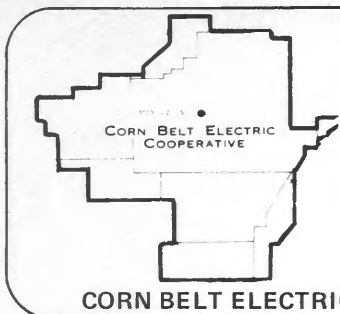
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# Corn Belt Electric News

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

309-662-5330

BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

## Carla Schmidgall Wins Washington, D.C. Trip

Carla Schmidgall of Danvers has been named winner of Corn Belt's annual "Youth to Washington" essay contest.

Carla will journey to Springfield on June 11, where she will join 70 other high school students from 18 other Illinois electric and telephone cooperatives and board buses for a week long, all-expense paid trip to Philadelphia and Washington, D. C.

During their week in Washington, the Illinois winners will join nearly 1,100 students from some 30 states who will be participating in "Rural Electric Youth Week" activities sponsored by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Planned program activities include touring the battlefield at Gettysburg, the U.S. Capitol Building, the Library of Congress, Arlington National Cemetery, the Smithsonian Institute, and other national shrines. The group will also be special guests at the White House and meet with several Illinois Congressmen and Senators.

Carla was selected at a recent dinner for essay finalists. Students wrote essays on: "The Electric Cooperative—Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow."



*Finalists in this year's contest were: Lynn Doran, Laura Milligan, and Martin Kohn, all of Normal; Laura Oltmanns, Hartsburg; and Carla Schmidgall, Danvers.*



*FROM LEFT: Richard McMullen, Mrs. McMullen, Mrs. Carl Schmidgall, Carla and Carl Schmidgall. Carla with her parents and the McMullens, who encouraged her to write the essay.*



*Carla Schmidgall, essay winner*



*Laura Oltmanns, runner-up*

# The Electric Cooperative— Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow

## by Carla Schmidgall

When I first sat down to write this essay I didn't know where to start. Then I decided to start like the Bible. In the beginning—Benjamin Franklin flew his first kite, whereby, he discovered electricity and that's where the trouble began.

As early as 1915, when engineers learned to transmit power as far as 100 miles, it was then possible for anyone within 100 miles of a power station to have lights. Technically possible that is! For the next 20 years most people connected with electrical power felt Rural Electrification would not pay its way. A few companies agreed to extend their service to rural areas, but the price was usually prohibitive.

By 1935 it was evident to many, including President Franklin D. Roosevelt, that rural people would not get electricity at prices they could afford without the federal government lending a hand.

As a result, the Rural Electrification Administration (REA) was created by Executive Order of the President on May 11, 1935.

The REA Administrator had powers to "initiate, formulate, administer, and supervise a program of approved projects with respect to the generation, transmission, and distribution of electric energy in rural areas."

A two percent loan from the federal government was offered to any public utility or cooperative that would furnish electric energy to unserved persons in rural areas. In 1938 the people of McLean County had made several attempts to get the service from local power companies. It was finally agreed by both the local power company and the people of the county that the only way to get this job done here would be to form an electric cooperative and borrow the money from REA. This was done on September 13, 1938 and included in addition to McLean County parts of Woodford, Tazewell and Logan. Later parts of Dewitt, Macon, and Piatt were also added.

After many years of hard work and long periods of waiting the lights came on. After all of this was accomplished, the private utility companies opened war on the electric cooperative.

The issue involves territorial rights, and more fundamentally, survival of organizations that have brought electrification to the rural areas of the state.

This fight need never have developed. It came about because of complete failure of the private utilities to serve rural areas.

Private utilities called the two percent loans subsidies but the last money to be borrowed from REA was at a time when the cost of money to government agencies was less than two percent, therefore, the original loan is not considered a subsidy.

Private utilities also called the cooperative a many-headed monster. On the contrary, "cooperatives are people. They aren't monsters. They aren't selfish, greedy, sponging, grasping, free-loaders who want unfair advantages. Cooperatives are consumer-owned, customer-owned, patron-owned businesses that belong lock, stock and barrel to the same people who use their services."

Private utilities have stockholders and their main interest is to make money, but in a cooperative each member is an owner so their main interest is lower cost with better service. Prices still seem to go up! Fossil fuels such as oil for steam plants have made an increase of 440 percent since 1972. Distilled fuels more than doubled between 1973 and 1974, just to name a few.

After the power is produced it still must be carried to the consumer. The suppliers of nearly all materials used in providing electric service have also raised their prices. Labor, too, is costing more today, as utilities try to pay

their employees fair wages.

With all this going on as of 1975 rural electric rates had a raise of less than 20 percent.

The power supply agency must try to meet the peak demands as well as the total energy requirements. The total amount of electric power for rural consumers doubles about every seven years. Bigger and better lines are then required.

A United Airlines pilot, Dale Chapman, was flying over New York and had just remarked to his copilot "the city shone like a diadem of diamonds against black velvet" when all of a sudden the dazzling jewel disappeared as if by magic. All the lights in the city had suddenly gone out! It is very easy to imagine the surprise and confusion of hundreds of persons caught in skyscrapers, deep subway tunnels, trains, restaurants, moviehouses, and stores by sudden paralyzation and total darkness.

A power company must have heavy-duty lines to carry the amount of electricity needed and the lines must also be insulated well or problems will arise.

After a large 765-kilovolt transmission line was constructed across Ohio, several families reported receiving strong electric shocks under varying circumstances—from farm machinery, fences, buildings, and even clotheslines. Two women dreaded to go to the bathroom because of the shocks received when they sat on the toilet. In the case of these lines more research is needed for a better brighter tomorrow.

We don't have to give up our many pleasures and comforts, we can find new ways to produce electricity with more plentiful fuels that don't pollute.

Power companies are moving to build nuclear fission plants before time runs out. This unfortunately is frustrating to panicky residents who associate nuclear fission to bombs and danger.

Another source of power largely forgotten by many is the windmill, that is, until the specter of diminishing resources and shortages raised itself over a once energy-drenched nation. Scientists and engineers concerned about the safety of nuclear power and the scars left by coal mining looked into the skies and saw clean, free, undeploable power.

The problem of pollution and energy shortage may be solved in one sweep. A year's accumulation of sewage would be unbelievable. The waste products from one cow for one year would make an equivalent of methane gas to equal 50 gallons of gasoline. To produce this gas, sewage is placed in a large tank and sealed for a period of time. Oxygen will be removed leaving only CO<sub>2</sub> and the methane gas, formed from the bacteria in the sewage waste. The gas is taken out of the digestion tank and placed in storage tanks. The residue left in the tank has been found to be a better, odorless fertilizer. With further study of methane gas, it may be able to be used to generate electricity.

A fantastic power source is the heat bottled up in the earth's core. Instead of drilling for oil or gas, in the future we may be drilling to tap this heat source which combined with water would make steam to drive electric generators. This would be a pollution free energy source which, unlike the present geothermal plants, could be located any place there is a water supply.

Ideas of such power may sound exotic. But years ago farmers formed cooperatives because they wanted a luxury in life. Rural America had the desire for electricity and the desire has changed into necessity. Without it, rural America would not function. Looking toward the future—will we drill to China and along the way get some of that pollution free energy? All I can say is: "Today's wildest dreams may become tomorrow's reality."



# Macrame

Macrame, the tying of knots into a patterned design, is one of the simplest textile crafts suitable for creating works of art in clothing apparel and home furnishings. Although macrame is an old craft, it has gained great popularity because of the "boutique," "peasant," or "ethnic" look now currently in fashion.

The basic equipment needed for macrame knot-tyings is simple and inexpensive. The equipment needed includes scissors, "T" pins, knotting board and yarn. All other items, such as beads, metal rings, etc., are used only as added decorations.

## Knotting Board

The knotting board is the working surface for macrame. Any inexpensive, lightweight, yet rigid board that is porous enough for pins to be easily inserted is acceptable. Board sizes do vary, but an 18-inch by 24-inch board is easy to hold while tying the knots. The top knotting surface of each board should be covered with brown wrapping paper that has been stretched tightly over the working surface and taped to the back side. After the board has been covered, the brown paper surface should be marked off in one-inch squares. These one-inch guidelines help in making all belts, dog-collars, sashes, etc. the correct width.

## Yarns

Yarns used in macrame work need to be strong enough to hold the knots, yet non-elastic, since macrame does not need any stretch. Smooth-surfaced yarns are best to use since they handle easily and do not detract from the textural pattern of the knots. Yarns which may be used are seine or marline twine, leather lacings, and wool, linen, silk or cotton cable cord.

## Preparation of Yarn

The yarn is prepared for knotting by measuring the length needed for each end. An end is one length of yarn. The ends should be  $3\frac{1}{2}$  to four times longer than the macrame piece you plan to make. But since each end is doubled in half when the knots are tied, the amount of yarn needed for each end is seven to eight times the length of the finished article.

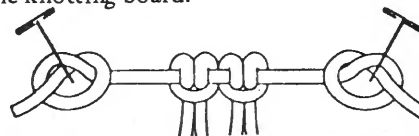
Example: Finished belt length equals 36 inches, 36 multiplied by eight equals 288 inches for each end. Measure each end generously and then add an extra amount of yarn to it. It is better to have extra yarn left over than to have too little for the completed article. The amount of yarn needed for each end is multiplied by the number of ends needed to make the article, which is stated in the macrame directions.

(Note: Heavy yarns take up more length in knotting than lightweight yarns, so allow for extra twine or cord in cutting each end.)

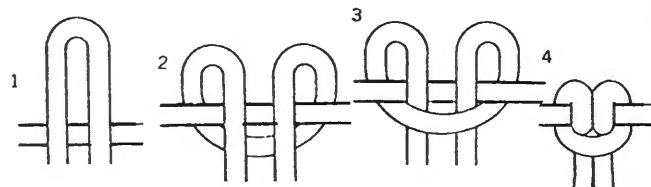
The ends are wound into hand bobbins whenever the length of each end is too long to be easily handled. Wind the ends in figure eights, going around the thumb and then

around the little finger as shown above.

The ends are knotted onto a holding cord—a short length of yarn stretched tightly between two "T" pins. An overhand knot is used to fasten the "T" pins and holding cord to the knotting board.



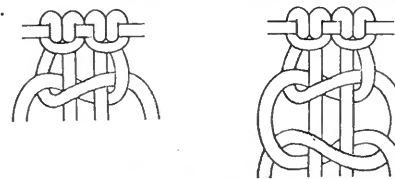
As each end is knotted onto the holding cord, pin the knot to the board. Move each pin down as the knots are tied. The pins should NEVER be more than one-inch away from the knots being tied. Slant the pins away from you and fasten them FIRMLY to the board. If the knotted design looks uneven, either the pinning is too far away from the knots or the knots are tied too tightly.



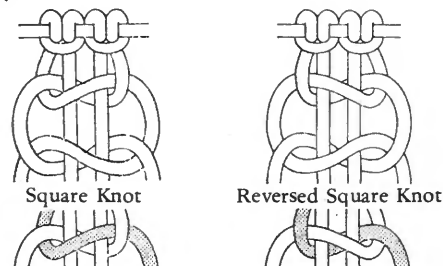
A reversed double half-hitch knot is used to tie the ends of the holding cord.

## Square and Half Knots

The square knot is made with two half knots—one knot going from left to right, the other from right to left. Four ends are used. The middle two ends are called core ends and are held tightly pinned to the board until the knot is finished.



Make a cord of square knots (suitable for a dog-collar neckband).



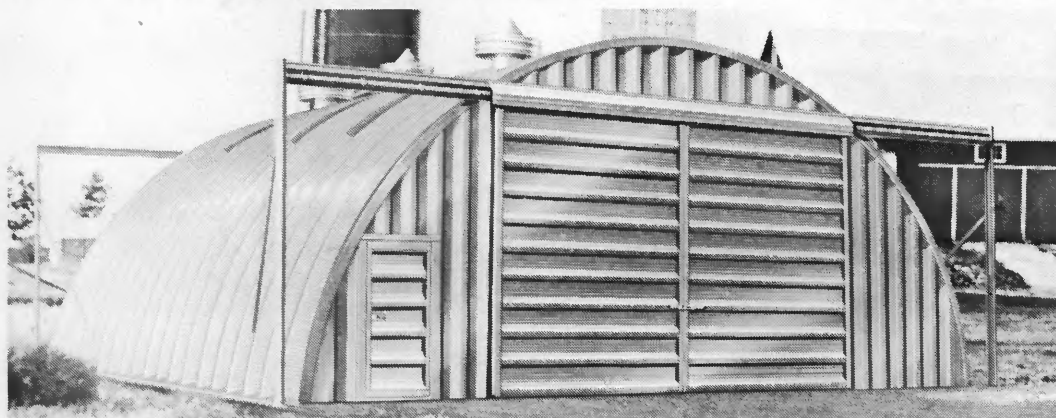
Continue Half Knot, left-right, to make twist.

Continue Half Knot, right-left, to make twist.

LEFT: Make a cord of square knots with a half-knot twist—suitable for a chain belt. RIGHT: Make a cord of reversed square knots with a half-knot twist—suitable for a chain belt.

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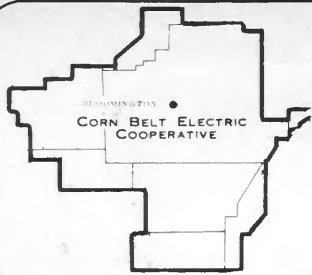
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CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

# Corn Belt Electric News

309-662-5330

BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

## Across the manager's desk



G. V. Beer  
Manager

## Delegates Visit Legislators During Rural Electric Rally

Representatives of Illinois' electric cooperatives urged the state's U. S. senators and representatives to consider the impact of a number of legislative issues on the state's residents during the annual Rural Electric Rally May 3-5 in Washington.

Directors Frank Simpson of Farmer City, John Tompkins of LeRoy, and Manager G. V. Beer were among the delegation of over 60 representatives from the 27 Illinois electric distribution cooperatives and the three generating and transmission cooperatives in Washington for the event. The cooperative leaders met with members of the Illinois congressional delegation, including Senators Charles H. Percy and Adlai E. Stevenson and Congressmen Edward Madigan and Tim Hall, to discuss matters affecting rural electric cooperatives and their member-owners.

Among the topics of discussion with congressmen and their staffs were:

Amendments to the Clean Air Act of 1970, especially those which relate to the "no significant deterioration" provisions,

Stringent requirements governing installation of technically unproven "scrubbers" at coal-fire generating plants,

Authorization of replacement of Lock and Dam No. 26 on the Mississippi River near Alton, Illinois,

A proposed limit on the guaranteed loan program for electric cooperatives,

Development of nuclear energy to meet the needs of the near future,

The continuing energy crisis,

Electric rate reform, especially that regarding the so-called "lifeline" rates, and



*Corn Belt Electric Cooperative was one of 27 Illinois electric distribution and three generating and transmission cooperatives sending delegations to the annual Rural Electric Rally May 3-5 in Washington, D. C. Members of the Corn Belt group are shown above with Congressman Edward Madigan, who is second from the left. They are, left to right: John Tompkins, President Frank L. Simpson, and Manager G. V. Beer.*

General avenues by which the short- and long-range energy needs of the state and nation can be met at a reasonable cost to the individual consumer.

Response to these concerns was considered encouraging, according to the local men who participated in the discussions.

Senator Charles Percy told the group, "You have helped us by coming here," referring to the interest and information provided by the cooperative representatives. Percy and several members of his staff met with the group early Tuesday, May 4.

Later that morning, Senator Adlai Stevenson said he was pleased to have the Illinois cooperative leaders show such interest and commented, "The public doesn't fully understand the energy crisis," adding that the nation should continue to develop nuclear energy sources and "proceed rapidly with the development of all energy sources."

Percy had earlier said, "There was a strong movement to stop nuclear plant construction. I see a potential for solar energy but I can't say it is just around the corner."

Both senators expressed support for the replacement for Lock and Dam No. 26.

Lock and Dam No. 26 is considered a vital link in the state's transportation chain. The 37-year-old facility's structural defects have led to disruptions of barge traffic on the river and there is concern that serious economic losses could occur for Illinois and midwest farmers if a major structural or mechanical failure should take place. In addition, power generating plants along the river, both cooperative and investor-owned, could be shut down if coal shipments were hampered.

*(continued on page 13)*



(continued from page 12)

The cooperative representatives told the congressmen changes proposed in both the Senate and House of Representatives establishing the "no significant deterioration" standards for the Clean Air Act were arrived at subjectively and have no relationship to individual air quality needs of local areas.

Support was recommended for an amendment by Senator Frank Moss of Utah to impose a one-year delay on implementation of such standards to allow for further study as to the environmental and economic effectiveness of the standards.

Electric cooperative leaders said they felt the more rigid standard would lead to greatly increased consumer costs for electricity and would also make the nation much more dependent on foreign nations for basic energy sources.

An Office of Management and Budget proposal to limit the guaranteed loan program to \$1.2-billion in fiscal year 1977 should not be put into effect, the congressmen were told. It was pointed out the loans do not involve any federal money and there had never been a default on a guaranteed loan to an electric cooperative.

Congressmen were generally in agreement with the

visitors that the nation's near future energy needs could best be met with utilization of nuclear energy and the nation should embark on a development program for a number of potential energy sources, including solar energy.

Illinoisans representing generating cooperatives pointed out the stringent "scrubber" requirements and stressed that the technology is not advanced enough to prove that the Environmental Protection Agency required scrubber standards are serving the intended purposes. Ralph Erb of Ipava, president of Western Illinois Power Cooperative of Jacksonville, explained that the process required to reduce air emissions resulted in water pollution. He went on to say that the scrubber installed and now being tested at the Pearl Station has not proven efficient during the past several months.

The question of dealing with unclearly defined groups expressing environmental concerns was also brought out, as was the problem of the continuing energy crisis and proposed electric rate reform. The latter included "lifeline" rates, which cooperative spokesmen said could lead to a welfare approach to electric service.

The Illinois delegation to the Washington rally was part of over 1,300 electric cooperative leaders from more than 40 states who participated in the three-day event.

## What Every Family Should Know. . .

By Vince Ijams, Power Use Adviser

In every home there is a load center. This is the fuse box or circuit breaker panel. Every adult in your household should know where it is located and that its function is to protect the circuits in the house.

A fuse blows or a circuit breaker kicks out because the circuit is overloaded or has developed a short circuit. If a circuit is shorted you have something wrong and should call an electrician. An overload means you have too many appliances plugged into the circuit and the fuse or breaker can't carry it. In that case you should unplug some of the load and replace the blown fuse or reset the circuit breaker, whichever the case may be. The way you determine a short circuit is that your fuse will blow immediately whereas if its an overload it will take time to blow.

All of this is simple if you know which fuse protects which circuit. There's an easy way to do this at a time when there is no trouble and to avoid guesswork when there is. Turn

on all the lights. While you loosen each fuse, one at a time—or shut off each circuit breaker—have someone write down which lights go out each time. Check to see which fuse controls which outlets.

When the operation is completed, make a diagram of the setup and paste to the fuse box or circuit breaker panel. Then, when the lights go out or appliances stop running, you will be able to tell which fuse needs replacement or which breaker needs resetting.

Always replace a fuse with the one of the same size. If you remove a 15-amp fuse, put in a new 15-amp fuse. Replacing it with a larger fuse will allow the wire to get hot and could cause a fire. A 30-amp fuse should never be used on a house circuit.

Most homes are wired with 14- and 12-gauge wire. On the 14-gauge wire a 15-amp fuse or circuit breaker is the size to use. On 12-gauge wire a 20-amp fuse or circuit breaker. A larger amperage fuse can cause trouble.

Also, some farmsteads have a breaker under the meter on the meter pole. This breaker will trip when overloaded and cause your power to go off. When this happens and you have a breaker, be sure to check this before calling in on an outage. It will save everyone time and expense.

## Billing Soon to Become Computerized

In the very near future the electric bills you receive will be from a computerized billing system. Your bill will be computed by Central Area Data Processing Corporation of St. Peters, Missouri, a nonprofit organization which is owned, operated, and controlled by some 90 electric cooperatives using its services.

Central Area Data Processing was developed by 14 statewide organizations to afford Corn Belt Electric and other electric cooperatives the benefits of group sharing of a large computer complex.

This new system will allow Corn Belt Electric to bill every month, instead of bimonthly. Other operations will also be included in the new system, such as operating information very useful to the engineering and accounting departments, managerial data, and increased efficiency in the billing department.

We will keep you posted on the schedule on the new billing system and how it may effect you as a member.

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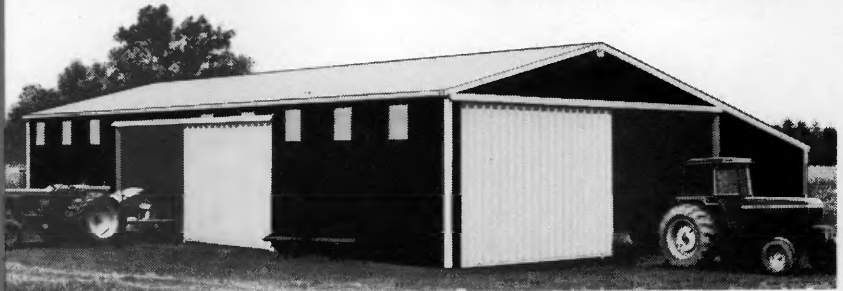
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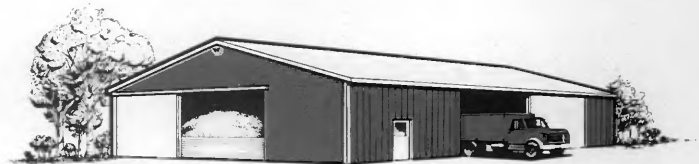
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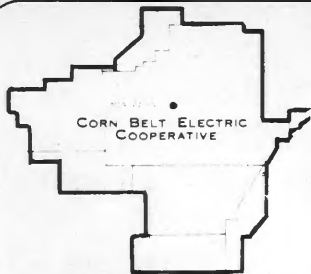
IR853

# Safety



*TOP PHOTO: Richard "Slim" Rutschke explains the finer points of bandaging during a multi-media first aid class. ABOVE: Don Moranville at the blackboard.*





# Corn Belt Electric News

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

309-662-5330

BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

## Across the manager's desk



G. V. Beer  
Manager

### FOOD— ENERGY— AND POVERTY

Three-fourths of the world is struggling to overcome the grinding, binding grip of poverty. The kind of poverty that kills through malnutrition and disease. The kind of poverty that breeds hatred and hopelessness. There is no single cure for the world's poverty, but well-meaning persons who would never dream of adding to the crushing burden of poverty are urging a course of action on our country and the world that will suppress the hopes and dreams of millions for a better way of life, and force countless millions still further down the bottom of the economic ladder.

#### HOW?

Every upward step that civilization takes on the economic ladder away from poverty is tied to the availability and use of energy. Today there are four billion persons on the earth. By the year 2000 there will be seven billion. If we continue to use energy at the same per capita level as the world does today, our energy requirements will have to increase by almost three-fourths to feed and clothe these seven billion persons. This assumes we could perpetuate the poverty levels of today for over five billion persons. I doubt if any of us believes this is likely to happen. So it is obvious that **by the year 2000, the world is going to require and need twice as much energy as we are using today.**

#### WHERE WILL IT COME FROM?

Today almost 60 percent of the world's energy comes from oil and gas. The world's reserves of these fuels are rapidly running out. There is simply no way we can develop and implement new technologies such as solar and other energy sources in time to make any significant impact on our vast energy requirements by the year 2000. This means there is simply no way the world can get along without nuclear energy. Yet, sincere and well-meaning people acting on emotions and insufficient information who would never in their wildest imagination be aligned on the side of increasing poverty, suffering and starvation in the world, are through their opposition to nuclear energy development and their support of various restrictions and hindrances to

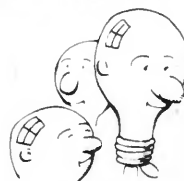
other types of energy development doing that very thing.  
Credits—Louis B. Strong, President  
Capsule Comments.

## If Your Power Goes Off

1. Check all your own main fuses or circuit breakers, including any breakers below your meter.
2. Check with your neighbors about their power, and if they have reported a power failure.
3. Call the office number, (309) 662-5330, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. All other times call the service numbers listed on the card you receive with each meter reading card. Please throw away your old card and keep the most current one as names and telephone numbers do change.
4. Please give the following information when reporting an outage: Your name, your location number, time the power went off and whether or not your neighbors are out of service. Any other information you may have about broken poles, wires, trees or limbs, could help us in restoring power more quickly.

## Read Your Meter on Time- It Will Save You Money.

**Look Up!**  
**Never touch a wire  
 with anything.  
 It can kill you.**



## Savings Suggestions

Do you see the light? Fluorescent tubes are more economical than incandescent bulbs. For example, a 40-watt tube produces more light than a 100-watt bulb at half the energy cost—and the tube will last seven to 10 times longer than the bulb!

# Attic Ventilation

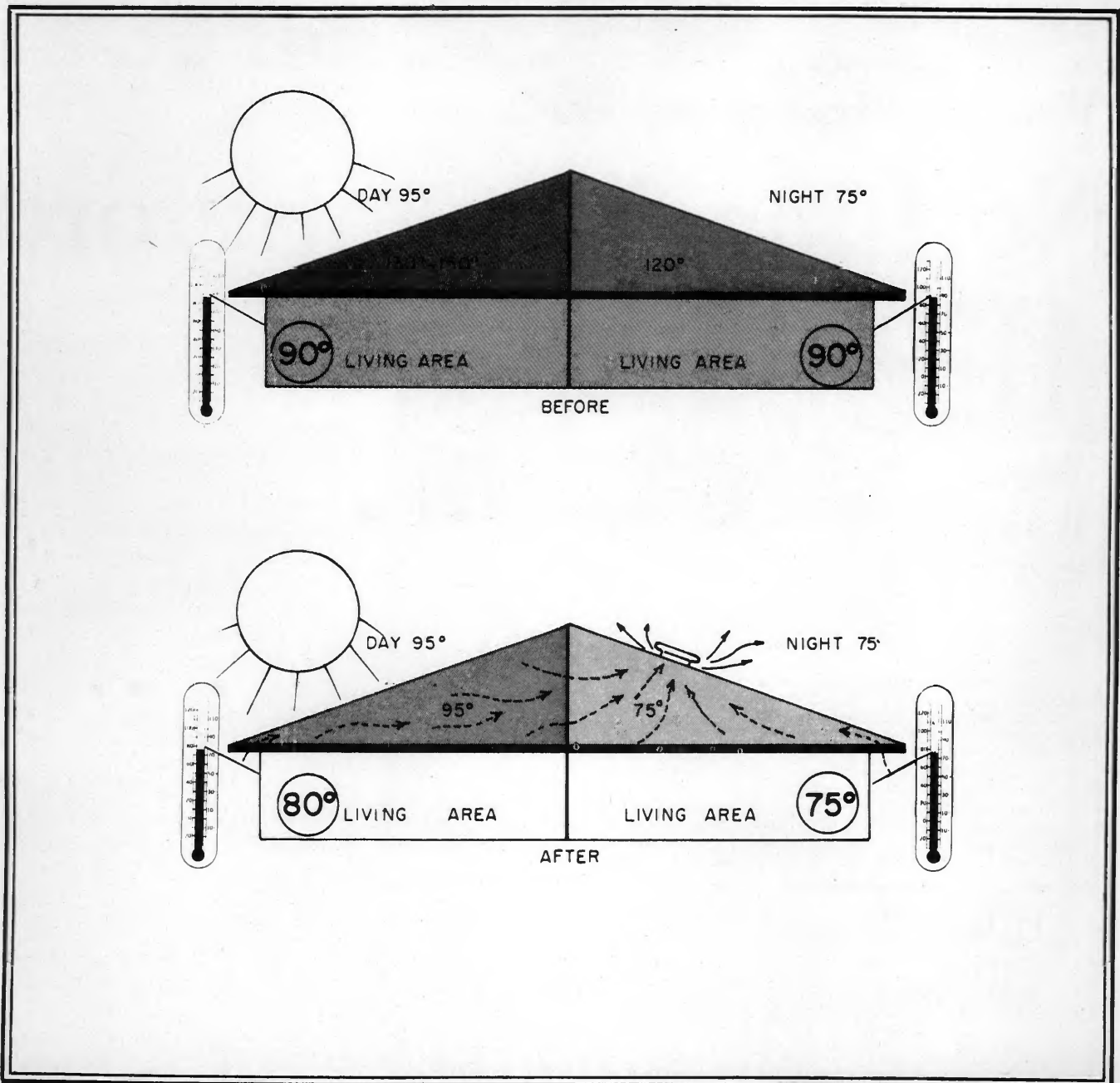
During a normal summer day, attic temperatures can often reach 150 degrees or more! This excessively hot air acts just like a furnace in your attic. Hot air trapped in your attic will penetrate downward into the living and sleeping areas and it will keep the entire house uncomfortably warm both day and night. A superheated attic not only makes your home uncomfortable but presents a hazardous fire condition.

What's the answer then?

An attic cooling fan can be easily installed in any

home, old or new. It is thermostatically controlled for convenient, completely automatic operation. An attic cooling fan also reduces the possibility of spontaneous combustion in attic — protects roof sheathing, shingles, insulation, etc., against premature deterioration caused by excessive heat.

Your whole house stays cooler, more comfortable day and night. It also can reduce your air conditioning load as much as 30 percent. This helps to save electricity. Electricity is too good to waste.





## 'Youth to Washington' Tour:

# Nothing like it before

(continued from page 9)

## THINK A HOME OF YOUR OWN IS IMPOSSIBLE?

Well, it isn't.



Lots of people want — and need — a home of their own. They're fed up with renting... living in cramped quarters... but they don't have the cash down payment or the pay check to qualify for a bank loan today. Many families just like these now own a beautiful new Miles Home because Miles does have an answer!

The Miles Way gets back to basics. We put a lot of trust in do-it-yourself people... their willingness to work hard... their determination. We've found do-it-yourselfers a good investment, so we back them with special, low-cost credit they need.

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materials to save you time. You don't have to be an experienced carpenter, either.

All we ask is that you do much of the building with simple tools. Build your home anywhere... city or country... even if your land isn't fully paid for yet.

The Miles Plan offers you low monthly payments while building and up to three years to complete your home.

When you've finished your Miles Home, you'll find it's worth a lot more than you owe because you've built it yourself instead of paying for expensive carpenters. Your labor is worth a lot of money. You and your family will be proud of the lovely home you built together.

Thousands of families have found the Miles Way their best... and only answer. Fill out and send the coupon today! We'll have your local Miles Man supply all the details without obligation.

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Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

I plan to do  all  part of the work

conducted a whirlwind campaign and was subsequently elected by state delegates representing over 900 students from throughout the country. He will serve as the official youth spokesman for the nation's more than 1,000 electric cooperative systems and represent NRECA at national youth functions, including the National FFA and 4-H conventions.

Illinois students were the special guests of Senator Charles Percy in the U. S. Senate Gallery during debate on national energy legislation. After leaving the Senate floor to meet with the students on the Capitol steps, Senator Percy spoke briefly on the great need for a more effective national energy policy. Senator Adlai Stevenson also took time from his busy schedule to meet with the Illinois tour participants and answer questions.

Representative George Shipley of Olney hosted a congressional breakfast for the students, who were joined by Representatives Paul Simon of Carbon-dale and Tim Hall of Dwight. Repre-



# annual meeting

(continued from page 11)

Illinois Farm Bureau, and John Davenport, director of the Government Relations Department, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association of Washington, also addressed the meeting.

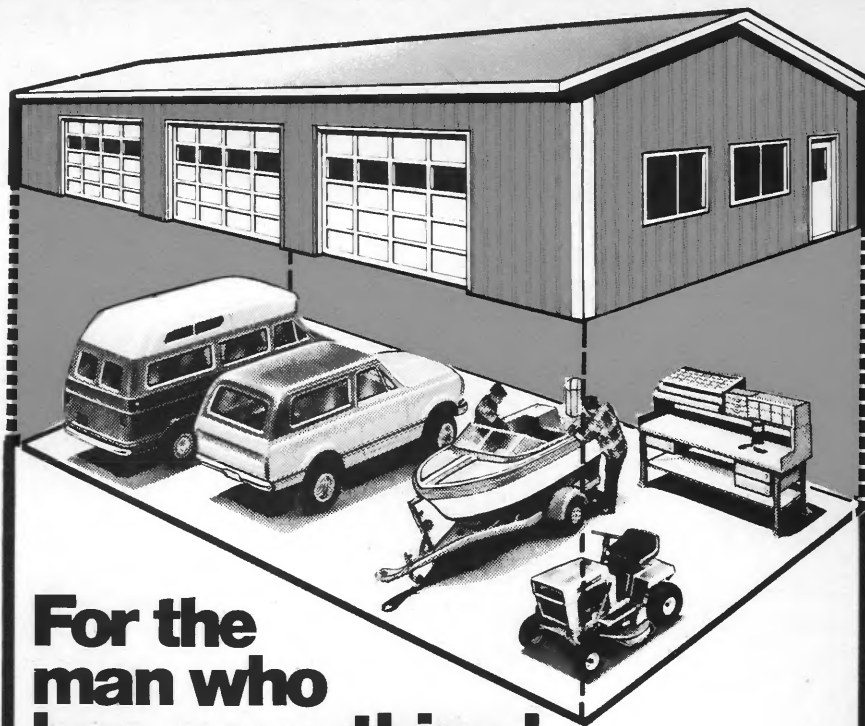
Cindy Morton, 19, of Paloma, was crowned "Miss Illinois Electric Cooperative." Miss Morton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn B. Morton of Paloma, succeeded Anita Carlson of Milford. She is a graduate of Camp Point's Central High School and will be a sophomore at Quincy College this fall. She represented Adams Electrical Co-Operative of Camp Point in the beauty pageant.

It was the last state beauty pageant, ending 22 consecutive years of service by two persons, Viola Suits and Lyle Dunham. Mrs. Suits, a former Miss Illinois, served during that time as pageant director, and Dunham, Director of the AIEC's Member Services Department, was master of ceremonies for all except the first contest.

Greathouse, a Wayne County school principal and director of Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative, was reelected for a second term as AIEC president. Clement Ikins of Onarga was reelected vice president, Donald Kerr Sr. was elected secretary and Paul Mallinson was chosen treasurer.

Three new directors and their alternates were also elected. Delegates chosen were Thomas Johns of Delavan, Corn Belt Electric Cooperative of Bloomington; A. C. Hayer of Sparta, Egyptian Electric Cooperative of Steeleville, and Gene H. Burton of Browning, Spoon River Electric Cooperative of Canton. Alternates names were Harry Miller of Bloomington, Corn Belt; Edward Timpner of Pinckneyville, Egyptian, and Richard R. Turner of Smithfield, Spoon River.

Stanley Otten of Modesto was elected president of the Illinois State-wide Power Cooperative, succeeding the late Ernst R. Hild of Illiopolis. Roy E. Horton of Princeton was elected vice president and Paul Mallinson of Geneseo was chosen secretary-treasurer.



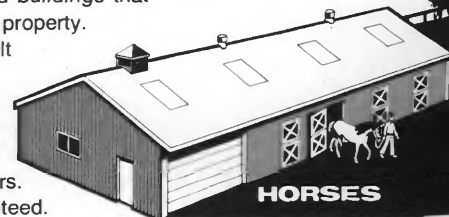
**For the man who has everything!**  
(except a place to put it)



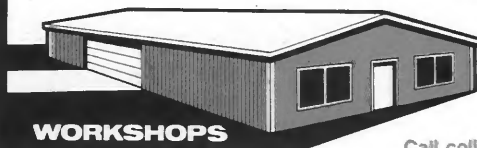
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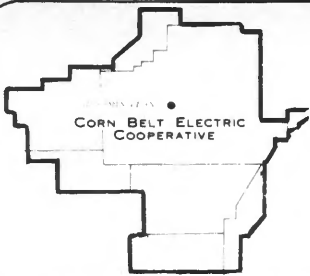
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# Corn Belt Electric News

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

309-662-5330

BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

## 4-H Club Exhibits

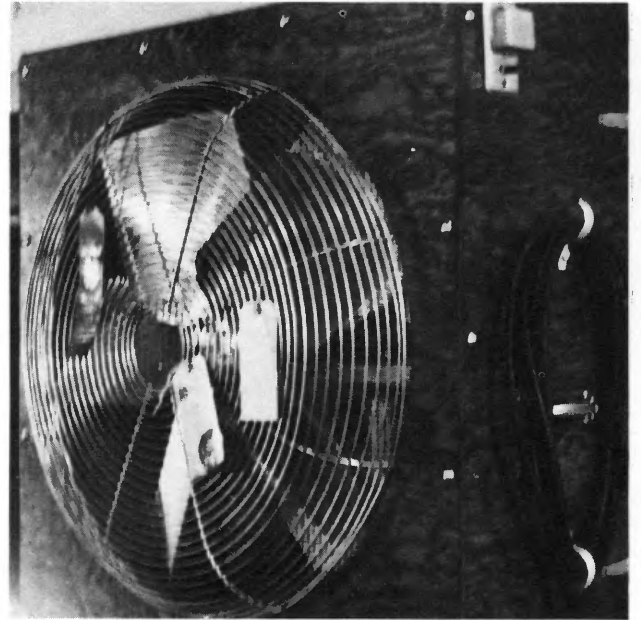
Vince Ijams, Power Use Adviser

At the McLean County 4-H Club Fair this year we had around 32 electrical exhibits and they were all of very good quality. These exhibits covered 12 different classes, from cooling fans to farm wiring.

Two trophies were given, from Illinois Power Company and Corn Belt Electric Cooperative, Mark Hines won the Illinois Power Company trophy with his box fan. Rod Litwiller won the Corn Belt Electric Cooperative trophy with his combination coffee table and lamp.

Pictured below are Mr. and Mrs. Karl Mays and their son, Doug. Mr. and Mrs. Mays have been superintendents of the electrical projects for around 20 years. They have done an excellent job in the past and hope that they can continue to help with the electrical program.

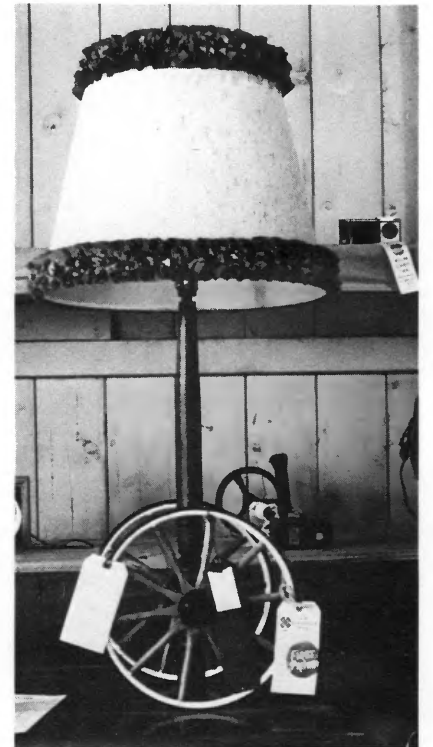
At our booth this year we had people register for a colonial cooker. Barbara Bachman from Washington, Illinois was the winner.



Mark Hines, Bloomington, R. 1, built this trophy winning box fan.



Mr. and Mrs. Karl Mays, superintendents of 4-H electrical projects, and son, Doug.



This coffee table-lamp won a trophy for Rod Litwiller; R. R., Heyworth.

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS

# Computerized Billing to begin in November

The bills you receive in November will come from a computerized system. Your bills will still be a post card type but you will be receiving a bill each month, rather than a bill every other month.

Each month members will receive a bill that will show the amount which they owe. Pay the amount as shown and enter the same day's meter reading on the right hand portion of the card, returning both the payment and the reading to the office.

To begin this type of billing, all members will receive a meter reading card, the first part of October. Even though some members will have just received an October 1st bill, they will also need to send their meter reading into the office.

Then on November 5, 1976, all members will receive their first computerized bill. At that time please read your meter and insert that

reading in the proper place on the card. Then return the card along with the payment to your cooperative.

Each month thereafter follow the same procedure. As a result of this new system you will not receive a meter reading card after October. All readings will be written on the bill stub. Basically you will be paying for usage a month previous to your billing.

As was mentioned in the July issue of *Corn Belt News* which you find in the center of your *Illinois Rural Electric News* magazine, your bill will be computed by Central Area Data Processing Corporation at St. Peters, Missouri, a nonprofit organization which is owned, operated and controlled by some 90 electric cooperatives using its services.

This new system will allow Corn Belt Electric to bill every month, instead of bi-monthly. Other operations will also be included in the


new system, such as operating information very useful to the engineering and accounting departments, managerial data, and increased efficiency in the billing department.

The billing cards you will receive will look exactly like the one on this page. It will show you the previous month's reading; the net bill, gross bill; KWH used; any balance; tax and the meter serial number associated with the location. This will be particularly beneficial to members who have more than one meter to read. The meter serial number will be associated with only one location and account number.

**PLEASE REMEMBER EVERY MEMBER WILL RECEIVE A METER READING CARD THE FIRST PART OF OCTOBER. READ YOUR METER AND RETURN THE CARD TO YOUR COOPERATIVE.**

## Your new card-bill will look like this:

**READ METER TODAY**



First Class Mail  
U. S. Postage  
1 oz. PAID  
Permit No. 12  
Bloomington, IL  
61701

**BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS P.O. BOX 816 61701**      Address Correction Requested  
Return Postage Guaranteed

Previous Reading	Present Reading	KWH Multiplier	KWH Used	Amount S	¢	C	R	Code

**THIS STATEMENT IS FOR KWH'S USED TO**

Rate Schedule:  Bill is Past Due and additional Charges apply after this date →

Cooperative Code:      Meter Number:      Service Number:

Mo. Day Yr.      Amount of Bill S      C      R      Code

Amt. Due After S      ¢      CR      C      Code

Billing Date Mo. Day Yr.      Previous Meter Reading

**ENTER METER READING HERE**

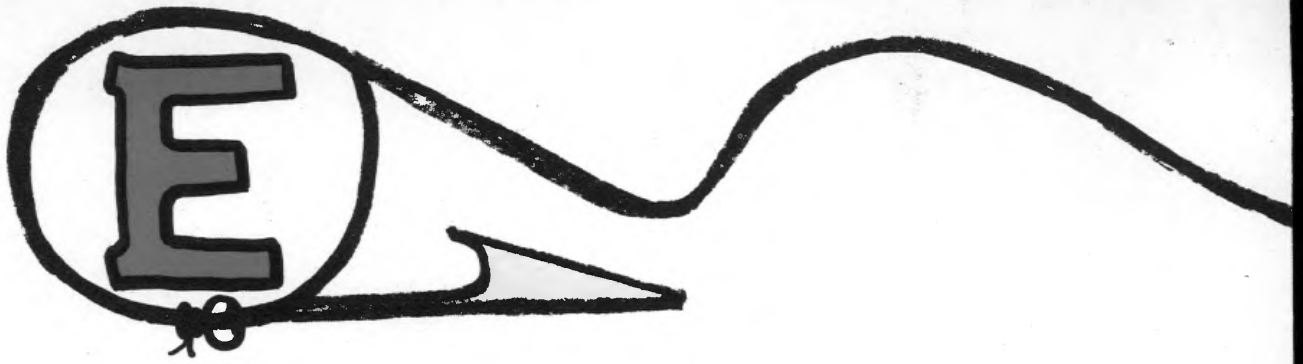
Service Number      Amt. Due After S      ¢      CR      C      Amount of Bill S      ¢      CR

**RETURN THIS PORTION 5TH OF MONTH**

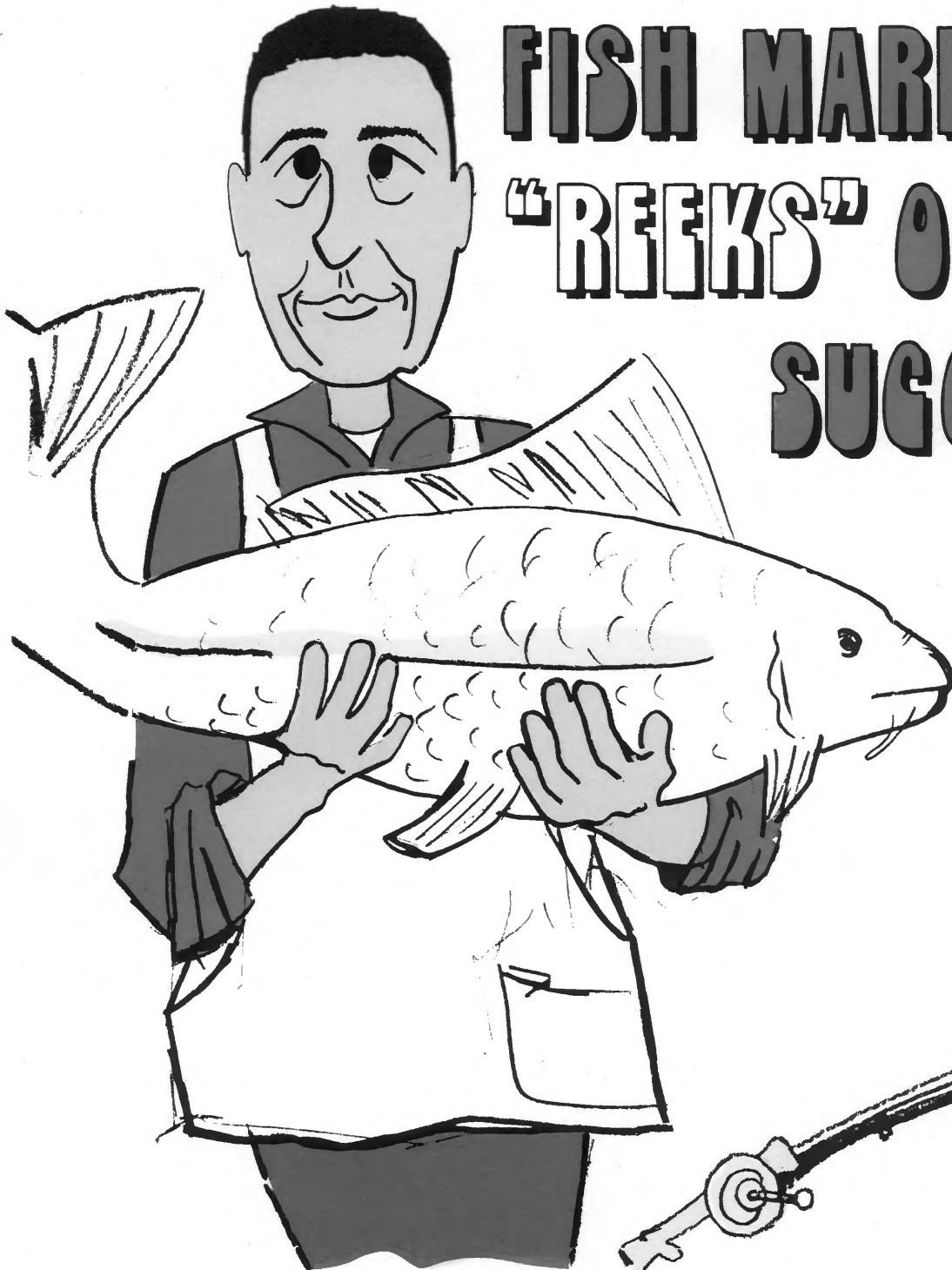
Pay Amount Shown Here.

Enter Meter Reading Here.

**Keep For Your Records**



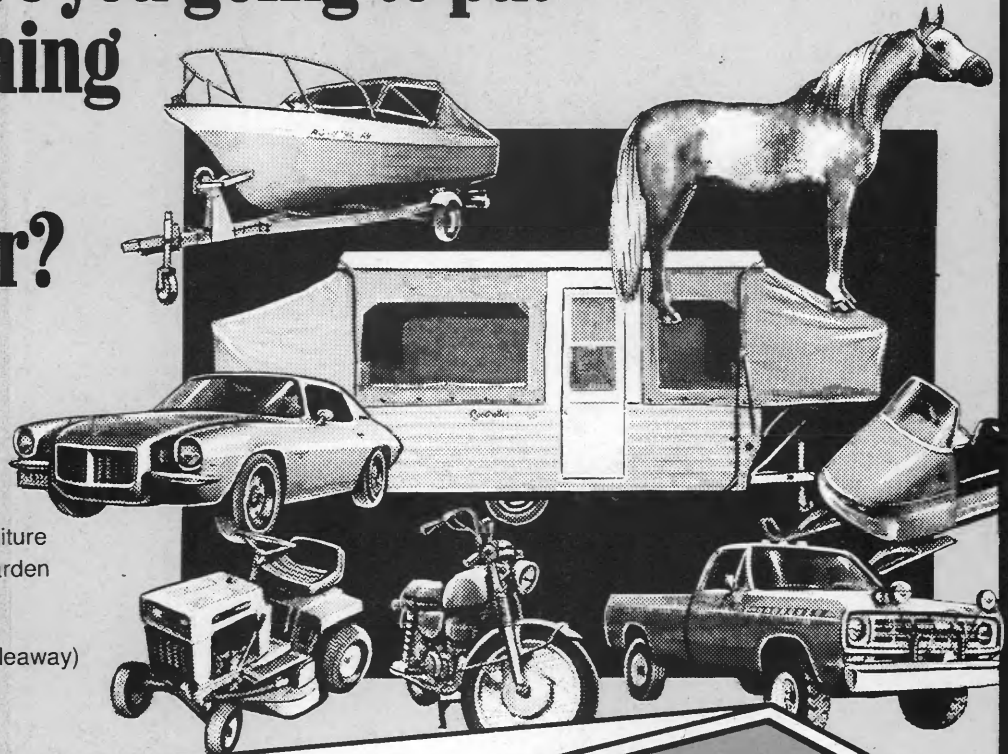
# FISH MARKET "REEKS" OF SUCCESS





# Where are you going to put everything this Winter?

- Trucks
- Cars
- Boats
- Bikes
- Campers
- Trailers
- Outdoor Furniture
- Lawn and Garden Equipment
- Snowmobiles
- (A Handy Hideaway)

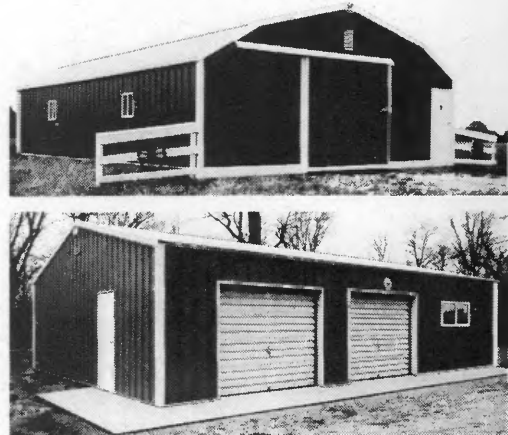


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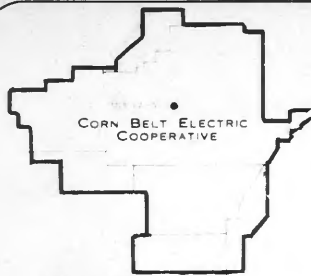
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State \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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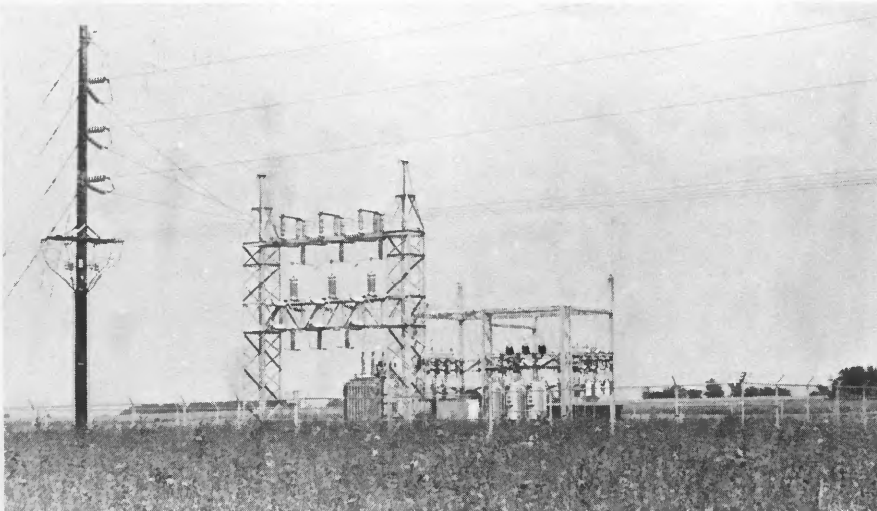


# Corn Belt Electric News

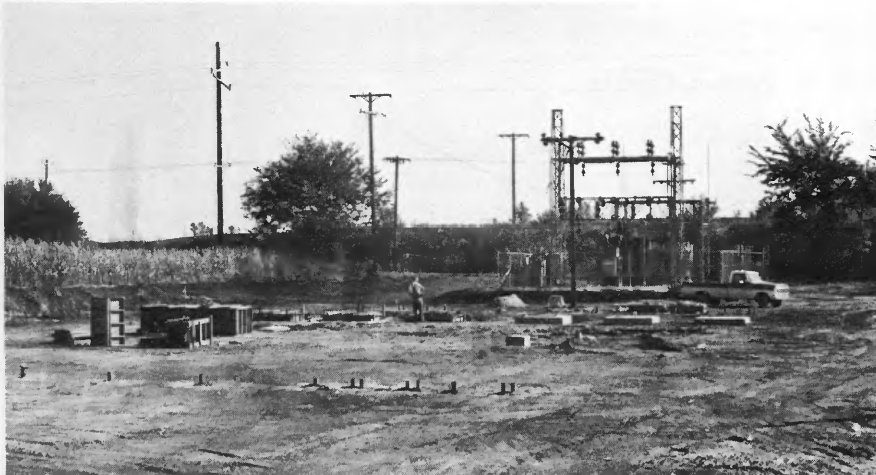
CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

309-662-5330

BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS



*Pictured above is the new 5,000 KVA Saybrook substation energized on July 19, 1976. The station is located 3½ miles west and one mile south of Saybrook and serves 471 Corn Belt members. The new station is fed off a new 69,000-volt line built this past summer connecting the new station to an Illinois Power Co. delivery point located at Holder, some 15 miles away. The transmission was built at a cost of \$33,100 per mile. Some 22 miles of three-phase distribution was also built to get the power out of the station and to the members in the surrounding area.*



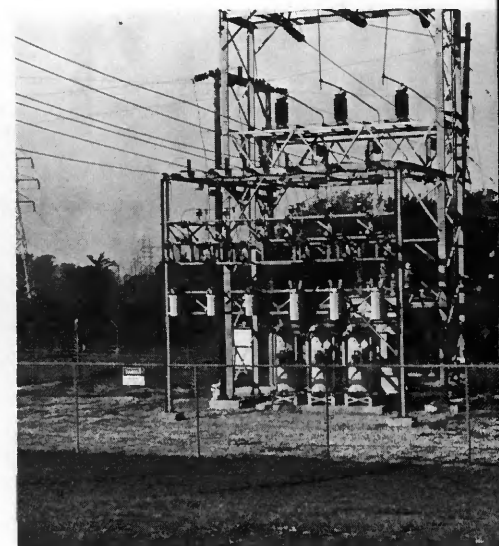
*Pictured above is the construction site of the new Beltline substation located on the south edge of Bloomington. The new double station will include two-5,000 KVA transformers. The old station will be disassembled and moved to Maroa. This will uprate the Maroa station from 1,500 KVA to 2,500 KVA. The new station will be energized early next year.*

## Busy Summer

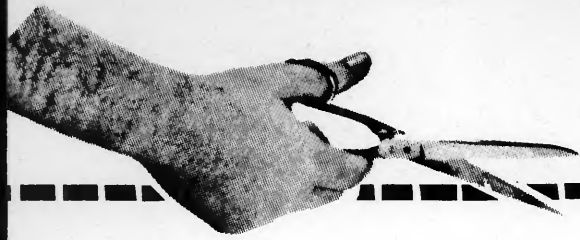
Through September of this year Corn Belt Electric Cooperative has spent \$1,417,000 on system improvements. This is a 56 percent increase over the same period last year.

Corn Belt line crews worked 10-hour days through most of the summer months assisted by outside contractors to meet scheduled work-plan deadlines. More than 70 crop dryer installations were added to the system this year.

Following completion of the new Deland substation in December of this year, Corn Belt will have 18 distribution substations energized and will be serving more than 9,100 consumers in portions of 10 counties.



*On July 23, a new 5,000 KVA substation was installed in Corn Belt's Argenta substation. It's interesting to note that even though the old 1,500 KVA transformer, still sitting on the extreme right, is less than one-third the capacity of the new transformer, it's larger in size physically.*

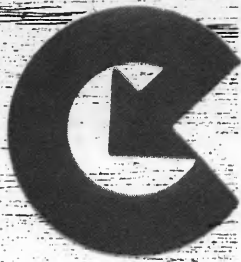


# Thirty Ways To Cut

## The Cost Of Heating Your Home

1. Be Comfortably Cool—set your thermostat as low as you comfortably can. Besides saving fuel—it's healthier.
  2. Reduce Heat at Night—before retiring, turn the thermostat down about five degrees. . .turn it back to normal in the morning.
  3. Wear Warm Clothing—and you'll be comfortable with less heat. If you're chilly when you sit down, use a sweater or afghan.
  4. Watch that Open Door—just a few seconds can let in a lot of cold air. Say your "good-byes" before you open the door.
  5. Use Fireplace—on those "in-between" days in the spring or fall—to take the chill off without using the furnace.
  6. BUT—Cold Weather Fireplace Fires Waste Heat—because more heat goes up the chimney than the fire gives off.
  7. Use Nature—open shades and curtains to let in the warmth of the sun. If window coverings fit snugly, close them when sun goes down or doesn't shine.
  8. Turn Thermostat Back (at least to 60 degrees) if you take a winter vacation or leave for the weekend.
  9. Humidity in the air makes it feel warmer so you can be comfortable with less heat. And it's healthier—fewer winter colds. Install a humidifier—furnace or console type.
  10. Locate Thermostat away from windows, doors and possible drafts. . .so that it won't keep the furnace going when the rest of the house is warm enough.
  11. Arrange Seating away from the chillier outside walls—so you won't be tempted to keep turning up the thermostat.
  12. Heating Units shouldn't be blocked by furniture or draperies. This prevents even distribution of heat, can damage furniture and is a fire hazard.
  13. Portable Heaters can be the most economical way to fill limited needs for extra heat.
  14. Garages need not be heated. It's less expensive to buy a good battery that will start your car when cold.
  15. Shut off Unused Space Areas (such as spare rooms) that can be closed and not heated. Doors to all unheated areas should be kept closed.
  16. Maintain your Heating System for maximum efficiency. Have it checked annually by a professional. If you have a forced air system, change filters several times a year and have blower adjusted for constant running.
- Keep Heat In With Insulation**
17. Roof and ceiling—You can easily pour loose insulation between ceiling joists—or put down foiled batting either on the floor or between roof rafters.
  18. Storm Doors and Windows pay for themselves in just a few seasons. They create a dead air space which is an excellent insulation.
  19. Crawl Space that opens into cellar for ventilation should be sealed from cold outdoor air and cracks in foundation should be patched periodically with cement. If crawl space opens to outdoor air, insulate the floor with batting.
  20. Chimney Damper—should fit tightly to prevent fireplace drafts. Check to make sure it's closed—except when using fireplace.
  21. Outside Walls—Batting or blanket insulation can be added when building a new house or renovating an old one—or blown fill can be put (by a professional) between inner and outer walls.
  22. Trees and Shrubs can be planted near the house to break the force of the wind.
  23. Vapor Barrier between insulation and living area will keep insulation dry. This may be part of the insulation or may be installed separately.
  24. Weather stripping around doors to outside or to unheated areas will keep out drafts. Metal weather stripping is more durable than felt.
  25. Masking tape or temporary putty around windows will prevent drafts.
  26. Spackling Compound can be used to patch cracks in interior walls. Be sure to fill in cracks around outlets and switches.
  27. Paneling or furring strips create an air pocket—adds warmth to a chilly room. Insulation can be added between furring strips.
  28. Caulking around window and door frames on the outside of the house seals cracks.
  29. Paint—a good coat of exterior paint after caulking will seal tiny cracks you may not notice.
  30. Any wall, floor or ceiling covering will have some insulation value for your home.





## Energy Conservation Now

### Caulking and weather stripping

By Lyle E. Dunham  
Director, Member Services  
Association of Illinois  
Electric Cooperatives

Energy-saving applications made to your present home will provide more comfort for your everyday living and, at the same time, save heating and cooling dollars.

Many people consider that insulation should be added or installed to cut down on the cold winter chills that seep through the structure or home during the winter heating months. This same leakage of outside air goes on during the summer months but the cost of these leaks is paid for through your cooling charges rather than your heating bill.

Over half the heat that escapes from a house in the winter is lost through windows, cracks and open doors, and simple remedies can be made to existing homes with energy leaks without a great outlay of cash. Some of these energy leaks can be handled on a piecemeal and spare time basis, and in the end will save energy dollars and provide more comfort.

Let's start with caulking (preferably latex, butyl or polyvinyl type). Caulking should be applied wherever two different materials or parts of the house meet. Seal cracks around doors, windows and foundation. Dig out old, cracked caulking and add new filler. Don't forget to caulk where chimney or masonry meets the siding.

As a starter, estimate the number of cartridges to purchase in the following manner: one-half cartridge per window or door, four cartridges for the foundation sill and two cartridges for a two-story chimney. One caulking gun will do the job unless you enlist help. Take your time: all windows and doors do not need to be done today. What you do get done today will save you dollars and cents in comfort

conditioning costs tomorrow.

While working with windows and doors, why not go a step further for energy conservation? Check the existing weather stripping. Is it worn and ill fitting? Damaged? Missing?

As with caulking, it can be repaired or replaced very economically. Generally, complete replacement will be the most efficient repair.

Visit your hardware or lumber dealer. He has several types of weather stripping for doors and windows, each with its own level of effectiveness and durability. Some are easier to install than others. Select the one that seems best for you. Instructions for installation of each are generally included with the package you purchase. Normal household tools are all that's needed to close these drafty crevices.

The threshold of each door needs to be handled separately. Heavily used doors need a more durable threshold seal than those seldom used. A variety of types is available for your choice of use, all reasonably priced and economical for the use intended.

While shopping for these energy conservation items, look at the installation instructions. If they seem too complicated for you to install, ask to see other types that you can handle. Don't purchase something you can't install. The whole purpose of these suggestions is to provide you with ideas for energy conservation and comfort that you can accomplish in your spare time with minimal cash expenditures.

*For a complete book on energy saving techniques for your home, send \$2.00 to the AIEC Member Services Department, P. O. Box 3787, Springfield, IL 62708.*

*This is the first in a series of articles designed to help you save money on your energy bill through the wise and careful use of electricity. The articles will outline procedures from simple caulking and weather stripping to appliance selection to installation or addition of insulation and to new heating and cooling systems designed to save energy. The pros and cons of shade trees, windbreaks, solar and wind power, and the new super-insulated homes will be discussed. In short, the series will deal with anything that will help you save dollars and conserve energy. If you have questions or comments regarding energy conservation, we'd like to hear from you. The symbol used on this page is made up of three fundamental elements: "c" for conservation, "e" for energy and the inward-pointing arrow representing the need for energy conservation and energy independence.*



# The Christmas flower-

## Mason County family produces thousands

(continued from page 9)  
month to six weeks later the second flushing is taken. Although the second

flushing produces up to 2,000 cuttings, three to four cuttings are placed in each pot, primarily because

of the late start for this particular batch. Each cutting is three to four inches long.

From there, proper temperature, watering, feeding, lighting and darkening lead to plants 12 to 18 inches high which are ablaze with the vivid red colors in December.

It really isn't correct, however, to say all the plants will be red. Knoles produces two other varieties. One is white and the other pink. Both these colors are grown in much smaller number than the bright red.

Each of the pots atop the long benches has its own watering tube which is connected to a main watering hose running the length of the bench.

Knoles repeated what many authorities say about plants: don't water them too much. The correct amount depends on several factors, Knoles said. For poinsettias, watering every other day during bright, sunny weather is necessary. Cloudy, overcast conditions reduce the plants' water needs.

Preservation of a poinsettia after its Christmas coloring is not easy, Knoles said. "They are difficult to re-bloom," he explained. A lot of the difficulty is because of the plant's long-night needs. Because of the decreasing night that follows the Christmas season, the plants simply do not receive the proper balance of night and day, he said.

To create a new branching, it is necessary to pinch the stem just below the colored leaves. Then, proper watering, feeding, temperature and light are needed to insure bright red bracts for Christmas. Knoles explained that a night-time temperature of 65 is optimum to induce the bracts to change colors. Then, a night temperature of 60 is best to hold the coloring. During the daytime, temperature was 72 in the greenhouse.

(continued on page 14)

## TURN ON to a BRIGHTER FUTURE!

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Protection that can help make up for lost income should a covered sickness or accident keep you from working.

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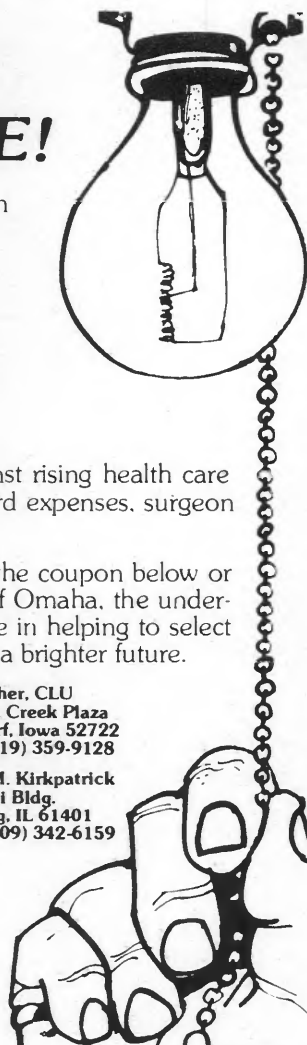
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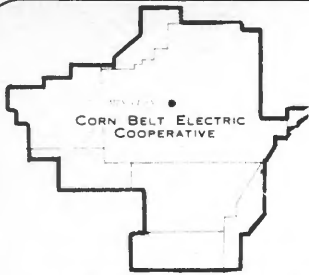
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Disability Income Protection       Hospital Coverage

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_



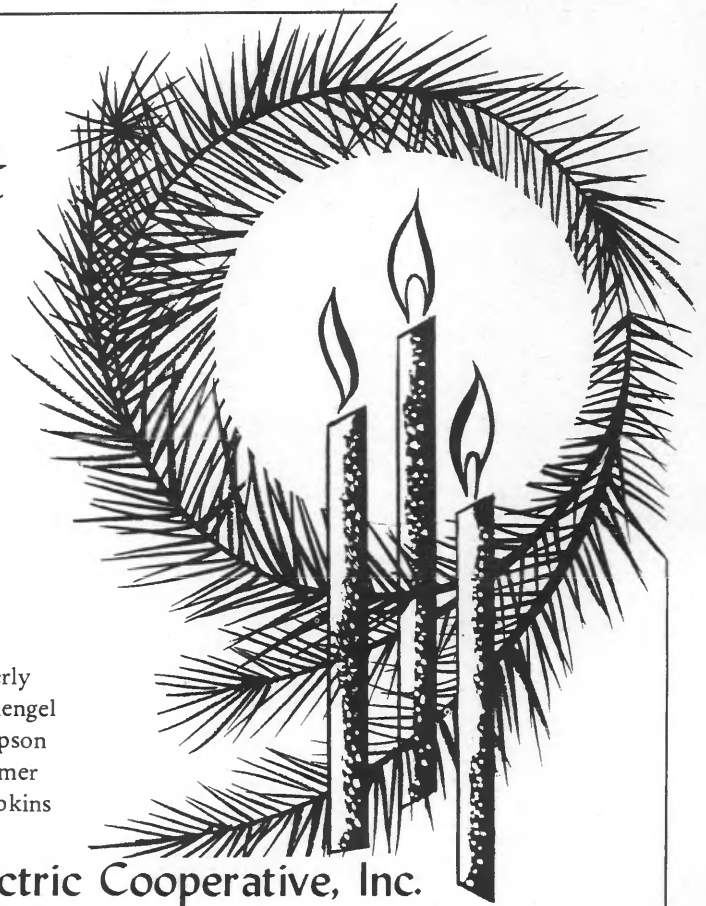
# Corn Belt Electric News

CORN BELT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

309-662-5330

BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

*Wishing You a Bright  
and Joyful  
Holiday Season...*



from Your Board of Directors

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# Heating Hints

Check your thermostat setting... regardless of the type of fuel you use to heat your home, be it gas or electricity, your thermostat can be the key to more economical operation. The lowest comfortable settings naturally mean the greatest in economy.

## TEMPERATURE— COST RELATIONSHIP

### Room Temperature Based on 70 Degrees

68	.....	Costs 6.2% Less
69	.....	Costs 3.1% less
70	.....	Costs 0
71	.....	Costs 3.1% more
72	.....	Costs 6.2% more
73	.....	Costs 9.4% more
74	.....	Costs 12.5% more
75	.....	Costs 15.6% more
76	.....	Costs 18.7% more
77	.....	Costs 21.9% more
78	.....	Costs 25.0% more
79	.....	Costs 28.0% more
80	.....	Costs 31.0% more

IT'S WORTH WATCHING!!!

## WARNING— Notice to All Buyers of Grain Dryers in 1977

If you are planning to purchase a grain dryer for installation during 1977 you must have your plans approved by Corn Belt's Engineering Department prior to June 1, 1977, or we may not be able to energize your dryer in time for fall drying season.

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

Help us to help you. Come in early and discuss your plans with us. Thank you.

# Humidity Guide

Proper humidity levels in the home are equally important with respect to comfort and health. This chart shows proper inside/outside temperature ratios for safe relative humidity control. Use these percentage figures for setting humidistat dial.

### If outside

air temperature is: -15° -10° -5° 0° +5° +10° +15° +20°

### And inside

air temperature is

70 degrees set

humidistat dial at: 18% 20% 24% 30% 35% 40% 45% 50%

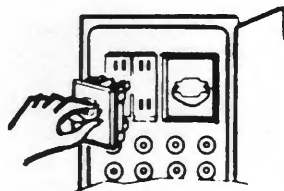
### Or if inside

air temperature is

75 degrees set

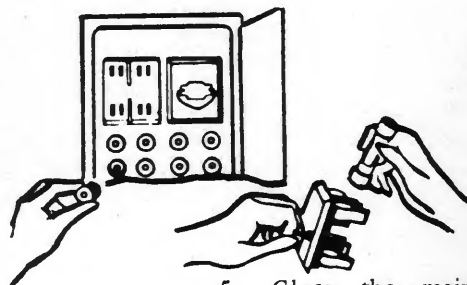
humidistat dial at: 15% 17% 20% 25% 30% 35% 40% 45%

## How to Change a Fuse or Reset a Breaker



3. Identify the blown fuse. When a fuse blows, the transparent section becomes cloudy, or blackened.

4. Replace the blown fuse with a new one of proper size. The smaller sizes screw in and out just like light bulbs. If the blown fuse is a cartridge type, located in the pullout section, it can be removed by hand pressure.



1. First, disconnect lamps and appliances in use when circuit went out.

2. Make sure your hands are dry; stand on a dry board or rubber pad, if possible. Open main switch, or pull-out section of panel labeled "main" in the service entrance, to cut off current while working at the branch circuit box.

5. Close the main switch, or replace pull-out section, to restore service.

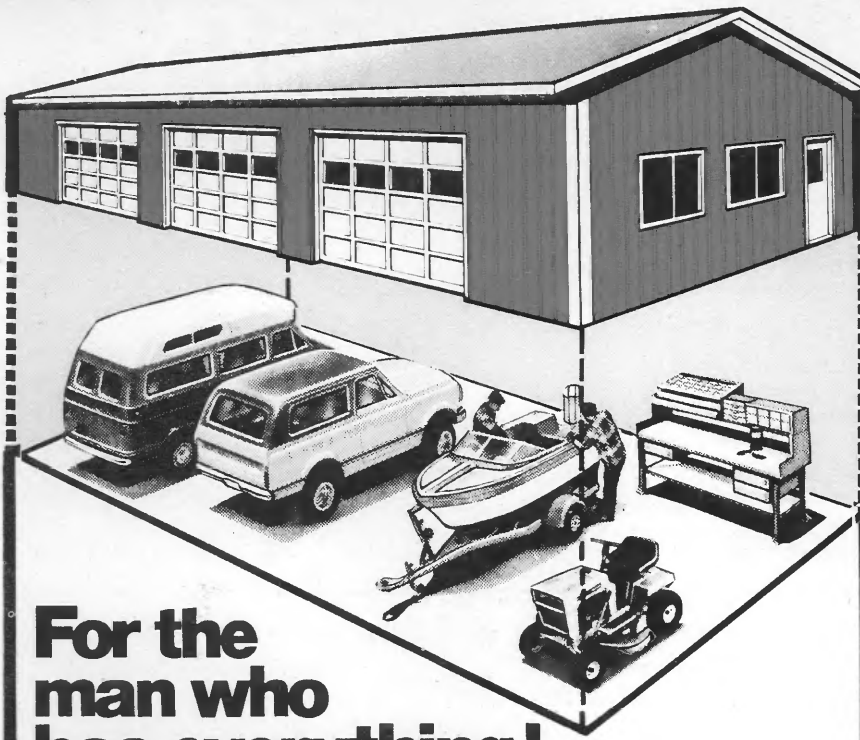
6. Throw away the blown fuse.

NEVER, NEVER, NEVER put a penny behind a fuse. There is extreme danger that your house or building will burn down.



### HOW TO RESET A CIRCUIT BREAKER

1. Move handle to OFF position
2. Push handle past OFF position
3. Return handle to ON position

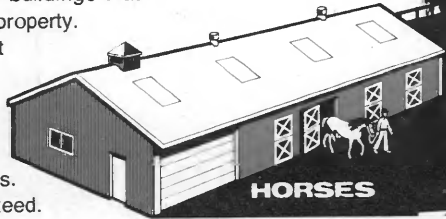


**For the man who has everything!**  
(except a place to put it)

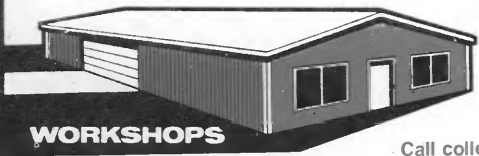


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IR-1253

**Wickes Buildings**  
 A Division of The Wickes Corporation

**The Christmas flower-**

Mason County family produces thousands

(continued from page 11)

Back in 1957, when Anna Mae Knoles decided she wanted to grow more petunias, the Knoleses put up a greenhouse measuring 336 square feet. "We outgrew that first greenhouse in a year," Kenneth Knoles said. The elder Knoles said the first flower shop also was opened in 1957. Now, in addition to the facility near Mason City, the Knoles Gardens operation includes shops in Pekin and Havana and an artificial flower shop in Mason City.

The greenhouse operation is designed for year-around production. In the spring, the Knoleses produce bedding vegetable plants by the thousands, maybe even by the millions, as Ken put it. Seventeen people work full-time, with seasonal help hired in the spring, Kenneth Knoles said.

The winter mums bloom by the first of March, usually. The bedding plants follow the winter mums. Summer mums go in about the first of June and are ready about the end of August or the first of September. Throw in the poinsettias and the year is full.

The Knoles greenhouse features an evaporative cooling system for summer. Water, pumped by an electric motor, flows over excelsior pads that cover one wall. At the opposite side of the greenhouse, three exhaust fans are placed to pull outside air in through the watered pads. Knoles said it results in reducing the temperature of outside air by about 15 degrees and provides humidity for the plants, too. In winter, heat is by propane furnaces with electric blower fans pushing the heat through long plastic tubes with holes along the length to even the heat flow.

There are five greenhouse units now, providing approximately 8,300 square feet.

During the spring, the Knoles place is the subject of tours by school children, 4-H groups and garden clubs.

Then, it is the spread of bedding plants and the last of the winter mums that provide the attraction.

In December, it's the sea of bright red—just as long as it's all gone by Christmas.