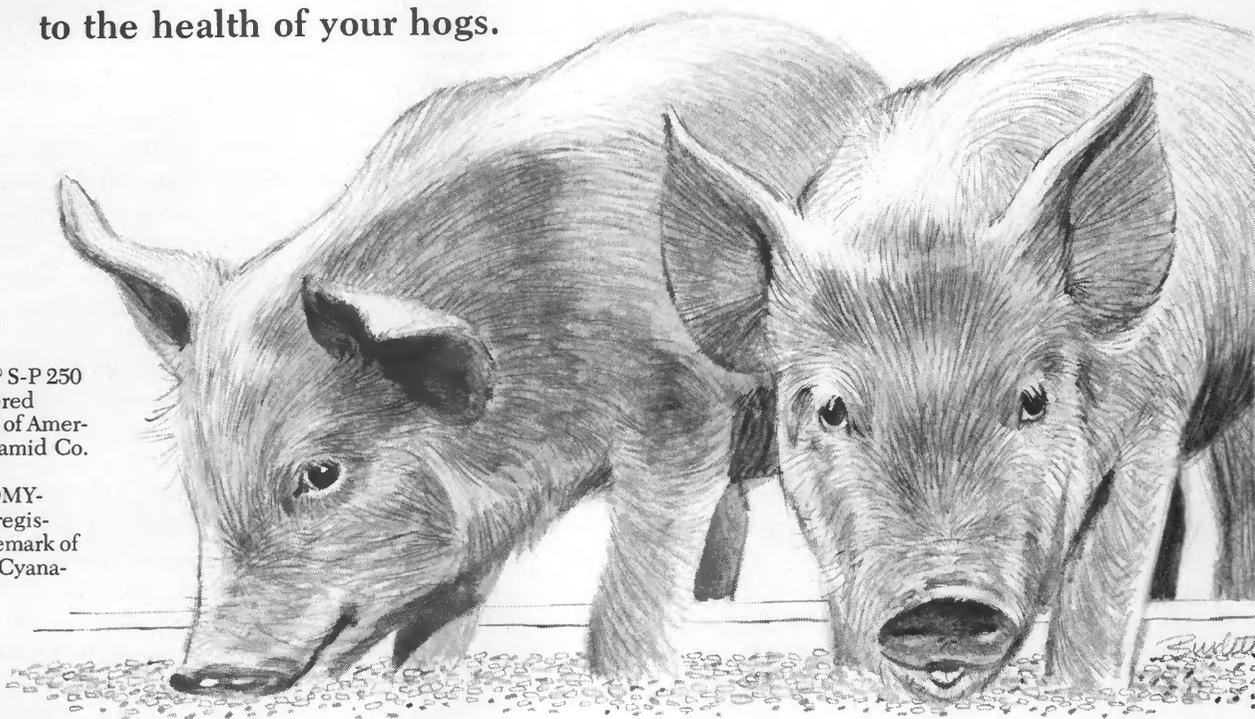


# From Start... To Finish

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

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



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is a registered  
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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 64118



# Monroe Electric News

MONROE COUNTY ELECTRIC CO-OPERATIVE, INC.

618-939-7171

WATERLOO, ILLINOIS

## Across the manager's desk



LeRoy V. Hard  
Manager

With the hustle and bustle of the holiday season over, and as the New Year begins, it is time to settle down to the job ahead. The complexities in the operation of an electric cooperative are many. Our nation's economic situation and the energy crisis are two that come to mind readily. The directors, management and employees of the cooperative must be fully aware of the prominence that these two factors play in their decision making roles. It is no easy task yet we accept the challenge forthrightly.

We want to reflect accomplishments and events of 1975 which enable the cooperative to continue to provide a dependable continuity of electric service.

Approximately 5.5 miles of three-phase line was built from the south edge of Waterloo east to the Goeddletown area. This new feeder line will relieve potential overload enhancing the reliability of service east of Waterloo.

In order to improve and expand the service offered to the membership the cooperative purchased a Davis trenching machine. The addition of this piece of equipment will enable us to perform all phases of underground installations in one trip to the member's premises.

In 1975, the cooperative again used Kearns Meter Testing Service to test approximately 1,000 meters.

The meters were checked and tested for accuracy on the member's premises. The service also includes cleaning and maintenance of the meters. This service is for the protection of the member as well as the cooperative. It is part of our continuous meter testing program.

To assist in right-of-way maintenance the cooperative utilized the services of Rowco, Inc., helicopter spraying service and N. G. Gilbert Corporation, Forestry Division. Rowco was used to spray right-of-way for the third consecutive year. This annual spraying program was initiated to maintain the necessary foliated right-of-way over a three-year period.

The N. G. Gilbert Corporation forestry crew was utilized to assist cooperative personnel in trimming trees and brush from under cooperative lines where it was not practical to use the helicopter spraying service.

Contracting these two services relieved the cooperative

line crews for necessary construction and maintenance on the cooperative system.

We at the cooperative were pleased to host four foreign trainees from India, the Philippines and Pakistan. The four were part of an international training program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Agency for International Development, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, universities, colleges and other organizations.

The group visited Monroe County Electric Co-Operative to study and examine the development and operations of a typical rural electric cooperative in the Midwest.

In June of 1975 an increase in membership assessments was implemented. The board of directors and management spent much time in planning and forecasting the financial needs of the cooperative. We assure you the decision was not an easy one or a pleasant task. The decision was a responsibility we could not shirk and one that was made with the best interest of the cooperative and its total membership in mind.

Looking ahead the management and staff have been busy preparing work plans and a budget for 1976. This will give the cooperative guidelines where and how to direct our efforts in meeting growing membership needs.

We again pledge our dedication to meet the changing and trying times facing the cooperative in 1976 and in the future. We ask your understanding and cooperation in our efforts to provide a reliable continuity of dependable service to the membership.

We wish you a happy and prosperous 1976!

## Little Things Can Be Dangerous

A little thing—tacking posters, ad cards, political signs and no hunting signs on power poles—can endanger our linemen's lives. Here is why:

A lineman uses sharp pointed, steel spurs to climb the poles. If a spur hits a metal object like the head of a tack used in posting signs, he may fall and be badly injured.

These same tacks may also tear the lineman's rubber gloves, and even a pinprick makes the gloves unsafe.

Our linemen work both day and night in all kinds of weather, to keep electricity on the lines to you. Their safety and welfare are priceless.

So, please, don't put signs on power poles. It's a little thing, but it can endanger men's lives.

## Notice

The following policy on Estimated Bills will be effective January 1976.

*"In the event the cooperative does not receive a remittance including meter readings from a member by the 26th day of each month, the consumption for the period will thereafter be estimated by cooperative office personnel.*

*Estimated bills shall be based on the average of the three previous months kwh usage. The member will be requested through notice to adjust his billing booklet to conform to the cooperative's calculated accounting records.*

*If after a period of three months, the cooperative has not received a correct reading from the individual member, the meter will be read by cooperative service personnel and an appropriate trip charge will be assessed for such service."*

In the event your meter reading along with payment is received after the estimated bill has been determined and recorded by the cooperative, it will be necessary for you to adjust your billing booklet to agree with the cooperative records.

Should the amount of remittance differ, a *correction card* will be mailed to you.

---

It's better to sit tight, than try to drive in that condition.

\*\*\*

Doctor: "Nurse, prepare the patient for surgery."

Nurse: "Sir, do you realize that this will cost you \$700?"

Patient: "Yes."

Nurse: "Doctor, he's prepared for surgery."

\*\*\*

John: "My wife had an argument with the electric company."

Jim: "Who won?"

John: "It was a tie. We don't get any electricity, and they don't get any money."

# Employee Training



*Two employees of Monroe County Electric Co-Operative, Waterloo, were among 40 electric cooperative personnel attending the Allis-Chalmers Regulator "College of Knowledge" in Springfield on November 6-7. Pictured from left are Wilbert W. Juelfs, journeyman-lineman; Ross R. Mueller, journeyman-lineman, and Kelly Shaw, instructor for the workshop. The workshop was sponsored by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives.*

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Two of the 40 employees from 17 Illinois electric cooperatives, taking part in the Allis-Chalmers Voltage Regulator "College of Knowledge" held in Springfield on November 3-7, were from Monroe County Electric Co-Operative.

The "College of Knowledge" in Illinois was a cooperative training venture sponsored by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, Springfield, and presented by Allis-Chalmers Corporation.

A technical program dealing with the operation and maintenance of electric voltage regulators, the two-day workshops were held November 3-4 and again November 6-7 at the facilities of City Water, Light and Power Co., Springfield.

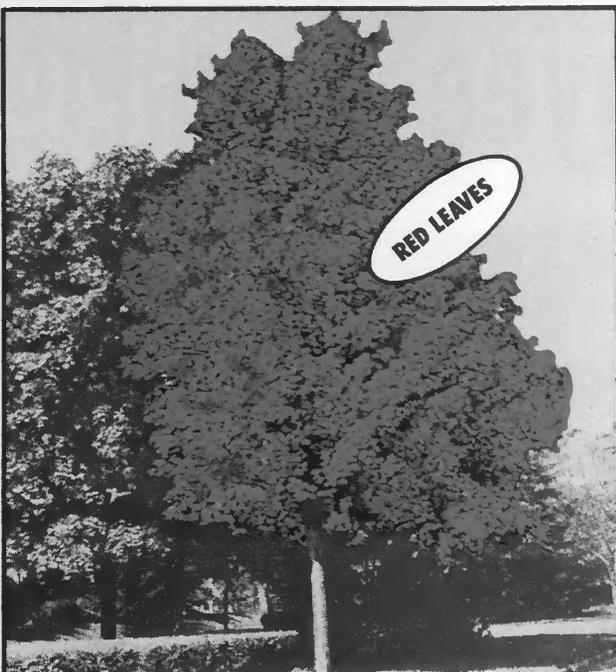
Both cooperative and municipal line personnel were given technical class-

room instruction followed by extensive "hands-on" regulator problem solving situations similar to those which linemen encounter in the field.

Programs such as the "College of Knowledge" help increase cooperative employee efficiency, help save lives and advance individual employee skills to enable the Illinois electric cooperatives to continue to meet the varied needs of the members they serve.

Initiated in Springfield in 1973, the program was an offspring of the Regulator "College of Knowledge" originated by Allis-Chalmers in Gadsden, Alabama, more than 10 years ago.

Instructors for the workshops were Jim Bryan and Kelly Shaw, application engineers in the Regulator Division of Allis-Chalmers, Gadsden, Alabama.



**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

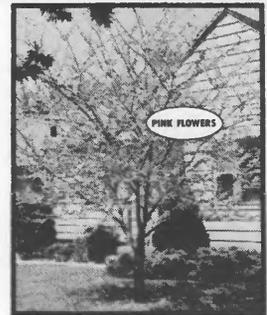
**LESS \$200 each**  
**THAN** IN LOTS OF 16

**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 therefore 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  
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**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.

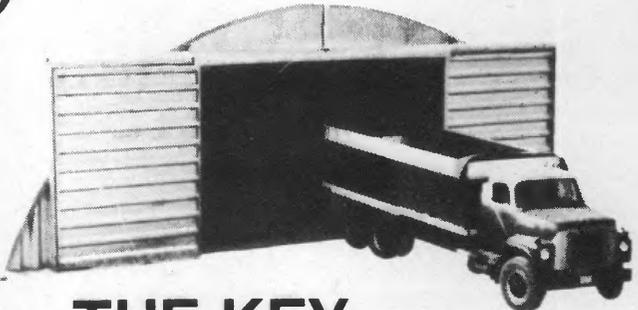
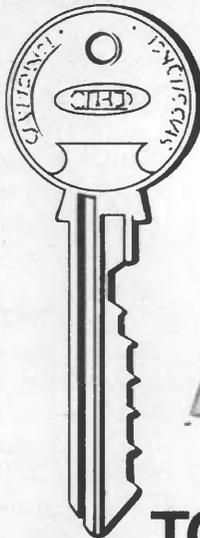
Cooperatives, as tax-paying businesses owned by the people they

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.

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SIZE OF BUILDING—WIDTH _____	X LENGTH _____	

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# Monroe Electric News

MONROE COUNTY ELECTRIC CO-OPERATIVE, INC.

618-939-7171

WATERLOO, ILLINOIS

## Across the manager's desk



LeRoy V. Hard  
Manager

Of the various types of electric heat available, the electric furnace is becoming more and more popular with today's homeowner.

In many cases homeowners are installing an electric furnace in their homes without consulting the member services department of the cooperative. It is not our intention to criticize anyone's electric furnace installation. However, to get the most in comfort and economy of operation, you should insist on these features when planning a central warm air heating system.

**CAPACITY OF ELECTRIC FURNACE:** The total heating capacity (BTU or kw) shall not exceed the heat loss for the dwelling by more than 20 percent, as calculated according to National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) or other approved method. If the installed capacity exceeds this 20 percent limitation, that capacity in excess of 10 percent over the heat loss shall be treated as emergency replacement equipment and left unconnected unless needed. This will preclude oversizing of service entrance and wiring.

**HEATING STAGES (ELEMENTS):** The resistance heater shall consist of stages of no more than 10 kw (34,000 BTU) per stage. We recommend brands having stages sized from 4.5 to six kw each.

**SEQUENCING:** Automatic sequencing of stages (elements) should be inherent in the relay-contractor design and should provide a minimum of 25 seconds between stages.

**CONTROLS:** 1. Indoor Thermostat: The thermostat should be of low voltage type with two heat stages and one cooling stage. Heat stages should be separated by no less than one-half degree and no more than one and one-half degree Fahrenheit. 2. Outdoor Thermostat: For operating economy on furnaces with more than two heating stages, one or more outdoor thermostats are recommended in addition to the indoor thermostat. Outdoor thermostats will vary the total capacity of the furnace to match outdoor conditions.

**FAN OPERATION:** The thermostat base and the control wiring should provide for optional continuous fan

operation. Since higher air flow rates are needed for air conditioning than for heating, provision should be made for changing fan speed either by means of a multi-speed motor (preferred) or by means of a variable speed pulley.

**CONDENSATE DRAIN:** Plan ahead for air conditioning by providing a condensate drain by basement or outside the house for the air conditioner chiller section. In attic or closet installations have installer provide a separate additional drain pan below unit.

**DUCT SYSTEM:** Good operation of any forced air system depends on proper duct design. The duct system should comply with the standards of the National Warm Air Heating Association.

**OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT:** 1. Humidifier: Humidification is rarely needed with electric heat, and therefore is not normally recommended with the initial installation. 2. Electronic Air Filter: These are recommended for maximum control of dust and pollen. They are easily installed in the return air section of the ductwork.

**INSULATION:** Because of the duct work being installed under the floor, different insulation standards must be met. If the duct is installed in a conditioned area, heat loss through the duct work is eliminated. This means that the basement or crawl space would be heated and must be insulated to eliminate heat loss. R-8 value insulation or greater (one-inch urethane, two-inch Styrofoam or three and one-half inch fiber glass) is required to keep operating cost at a minimum.

We recommend instead of insulating the floor between the basement and the first floor, these dollars should be applied to insulating the sidewalls and to seal the basement windows.

In general, the crawl space and basement are insulated in the same manner. Three and one-half inches of batt insulation or two inches of Styrofoam or one inch of urethane can be used to insulate the exterior walls. The Styrofoam and urethane can be applied directly to the walls by using an adhesive. In the case of the crawl space the Styrofoam or urethane should be extended below grade at least 18 inches or at least to the frost level. The Styrofoam or urethane board is normally white in color and can be used as the basement wall finish or you can apply paneling directly to it by the use of an adhesive.

The ground in the crawl space should be covered with polyethylene (Vis Queen) vapor barrier. It should be lapped approximately six inches at the joints and extended up the foundation wall six inches.

To use batt type insulation in your basement walls it would require that the walls be furred with 2 by 4's and then paneling or dry wall should be used for an attractive

# 15th Annual Farm Materials Handling Show

Washington County  
Fairgrounds

Nashville, Illinois  
March 2, 3 & 4,  
1976



*Manager's Column Continued from page 16*  
finish.

If the basement or crawl space is not insulated and is not part of the conditioned area, insulated duct work should be used. The duct system should be insulated with an R-factor equivalent to the living area. Insulated duct is normally one-inch thick and although it is of greater density than batt type insulation it will not reach the R-factor of three and one-half inches of batt insulation; therefore, more insulation is needed around the duct work.

The electric furnace must always be installed in the conditioned area, never in an unheated garage, crawl space or attic.

We recommend that you contact the cooperative or a qualified electrician who works with electric heat to determine the proper size of electric furnace for your home. Many installations have been less than satisfactory in operation and cost because of oversizing.

These recommendations are prepared for your guidance. By insisting that you get a well designed system you will be assured of the benefits that only electric heat can give.

# 1976 RURAL ELECTRIC YOUTH TOUR

**JUNE 11-19, 1976**  
**Washington, D.C.**

Two area students will be awarded an all-expense one week tour of Washington, D. C., June 11-19, by Monroe County Electric Co-Operative, Inc.

The format of this year's competition will be similar to that of last year. We encourage participation from high school sophomores and juniors in the high schools within the cooperative's service area. Students from Columbia, Dupo, Freeburg, Gibault, New Athens, Red Bud, Waterloo and Valmeyer High Schools are eligible to enter into competition.

A questionnaire will be attached to the entry forms. It must be completed and returned to the cooperative office by March 17. The students with the five highest scores on the questionnaire will qualify as finalists. These five finalists upon notification, must submit a one page essay entitled, "Energy Conservation." The students who submit the most original and informative essays will be chosen as winners to participate in the Washington tour.

The five semifinalists will be invited to participate in the "Springfield Youth Tour" that will be held in early May.

Entry forms will be available at your high school or at the cooperative office in Waterloo.

Remember—all sophomore and junior students in area high schools are eligible.

## 38th Annual Meeting

The cooperative's 38th annual meeting will be held Monday, April 12, 1976, at 7:30 p.m. Registration will begin at 6:45 p.m. at the Waterloo Grade School gymnasium. This year the drawing for the early bird prize, a Leigh Electric Fireplace, will be promptly at 7:20 p.m. Attendance and door prizes will be awarded. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

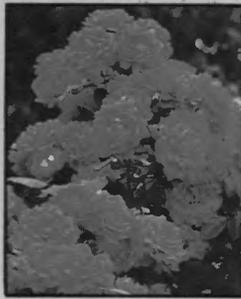
Mark your calendar—April 12, 1976—Monroe County Electric Co-Operative—Annual Meeting!!!

# 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)

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**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



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NO.	VARIETY	PLEASE SEND	MORRISON NURSERY CO.
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<input type="checkbox"/>	MIRANDY	ANY 18 FOR ONLY \$17 <sup>98</sup>	Please send us at the proper planting time the roses we have selected. You will acknowledge our order for shipping date.
<input type="checkbox"/>	CHRY. IMPERIAL	ANY 24 FOR ONLY \$22 <sup>98</sup>	NAME _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	HAPPINESS		ADDRESS _____
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<input type="checkbox"/>	TIFFANY		STATE _____ ZIP _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	PEACE		
<input type="checkbox"/>	LOWELL THOMAS		
<input type="checkbox"/>	WHITE KNIGHT		
<input type="checkbox"/>	MOJAVE		
<input type="checkbox"/>	STERLING SILVER		

## 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.

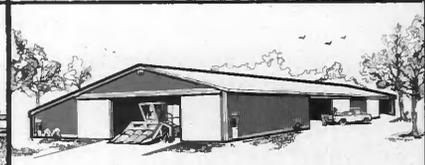
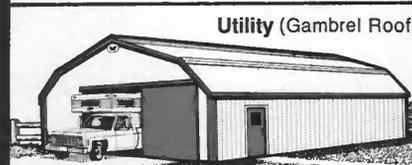
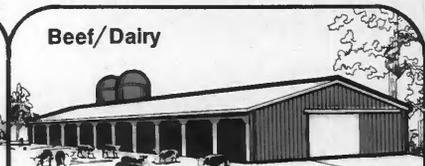
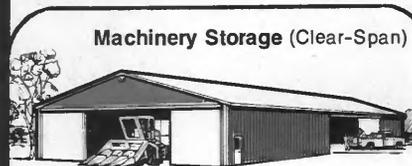
He has found time to involve himself in service on his county's agricultural extension council, extension agronomy committee and soil conservation district.

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.

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Our reputation for giving farmers more to choose from is one big reason Wickes sells so many buildings in this area. More models, plans and sizes than any other builder around. And we don't restrict you to a standard building plan like so many builders do. A standard plan may be great for the builder, but not necessarily for you. Wickes gives you exactly what you want—our free professional planning service assures it.

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PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ IR 325



# Monroe Electric News

MONROE COUNTY ELECTRIC CO-OPERATIVE, INC.

618-939-7171

WATERLOO, ILLINOIS

## Across the manager's desk



LeRoy V. Hard  
Manager

I'm convinced that America is not going to make significant moves toward solving our energy problems until the majority of the public believe we have a problem and see a need to act. The time clock is running. The question is—Will America awaken and act in time? At this moment, it would seem that the patient is gravely ill but isn't aware of it. The doctors know about it but either have no power to force the patient to take the medicine or can't agree on what kind of medicine to prescribe. Complicating our efforts to solve the problem are: 1. People do not know who or what to believe. The office of the Presidency, the Congressional leadership, the news media and energy officials all have lost much of their credibility. 2. The environmentalists have managed to achieve a Mexican standoff with energy suppliers that's paralyzing meaningful action in many areas. 3. Our economy is walking a tightrope between inflation and recession, so that any move we make to solve our energy problem threatens to topple our economy either towards deeper recession or towards a return to double digit inflation. 4. This year is a Presidential election year, and this has a paralyzing effect on bold moves by either political party to deal with politically sensitive problems or any issue that involves hardship or sacrifice on the part of the electorate.

Neither this country nor any other can expect to maintain an industrialized economic system without a comprehensive, cohesive, and challenging energy policy. Every industrialized society and economy needs energy—and lots of it—to keep the wheels of progress turning.

It's time to break the endless string of Congressional hearings, governmental studies and environmental suits relating to the energy question. Senseless, inflexible and often conflicting, regulations and unrealistic "ecological" demands have played havoc with the needs of this society. It's all well and good that a handful of zealots can pack up and "live off the land." But it is impractical and unrealistic to expect 200-million people to head for the hills and subsist solely on nuts and berries.

Although domestic oil reserves are dwindling and new discoveries of natural gas are falling drastically behind our

consumption rate, we are fortunately still endowed with vast resources of solid fuels. U.S. coal reserves total an estimated 250-billion tons and exceed the energy of the world's total oil reserves, and known uranium reserves equal the energy of 6,000-billion tons of coal.

It's time we muffle the debate on restrictive coal mining regulations and stop promoting the "scare" aspects of nuclear power generation. Decision makers in government, commerce and industry must be impressed with the importance of considering a comprehensive energy policy embracing coal, oil, gas and nuclear reserves—not an "either/or" strategy, but one that integrates the full range of component energy sources.

Obviously, voluntary or mandatory energy conservation programs lacking any simultaneous action to increase energy production are foolhardy. For the immediate future, we have no choice, we must conserve. But in the long run, we must expand. If we don't, our economic growth and industrial vitality will stagnate, then disintegrate.

As we enter the 200th year of this country's history, let's can the rhetoric and start positive programs that will lead to increased sources and supplies of the energy required to run our steel mills, factories and homes. It's nice to reflect on our heritage, but it's imperative we start moving to insure a heritage to look back on in 2076. Think energy!

## Go Fly a Kite - - - Safely

Keys to carefree kite flying:



- \* Fly kites in the open—Far away from electric wires.
- \* Use dry kite string with no metal in it.
- \* If a kite does become caught in electric wires, don't climb a tree or pole to try and free it; let it go.
- \* Look left and right before crossing streets when kite flying.

## News from Your Engineering Department

The board of directors, management and employees of Monroe County Electric Cooperative are concerned about the continuity and reliability of service the cooperative provides to the membership. We are constantly striving to reduce outages and outage time per individual member.

Outage time is the average number of hours electrical service is interrupted per member for one year. Outages are the result of power failure due to high winds and storms, lightning, accidents involving motor vehicles, birds, snakes and other animals shorting out equipment, etc. Sometimes outages are planned and scheduled to allow for maintenance on cooperative lines and equipment.

The average outage time per member of your cooperative has been improving and is considerably lower than the national average. For the year 1975 there were 250 outages totaling 4,134 hours. The average outage per member of Monroe County Electric Cooperative was 1.14 hours.

Realizing the ultimate is no outage time, we have to be realistic and understand that some outages are uncontrollable and will occur. We at the cooperative are proud of our outage record. It is indicative of the condition the lines and equipment are in. Management is responsible to have available the latest and most reliable supplies and materials for maintenance and new construction in order to maintain a reliable continuity of service at the lowest possible cost consistent with sound management practices.

The line-crew takes pride in their skills and workmanship to properly install and maintain the cooperative lines and equipment in a good working order to assure you will have electric service when you want and need it. Poor and sloppy workmanship would show up like a sore thumb. You would not have the low average outage time per member (1.14 hours) if management and the employees were not responsive to your needs and did not take pride in their work and responsibility to the membership.

## To Report an Outage

To aid in alleviating outage time and to increase our service to the membership, the Monroe County Answering Service has been in use almost three years. Sherry Norton, who operates the answering service, has gained valuable experience and knowledge of the cooperative system, and is doing an excellent job of handling outages during the off duty hours.

Proper reporting of an outage by the membership can result in more prompt action in dispatching cooperative personnel to the outage. I want to review with you the procedure to follow when reporting outages.

1. Call 939-7171—day or night.
2. Give correct name and address of member in which account is carried.
3. Give the account number of the outage you are reporting.
4. Determine if your neighbor's power is also off.
5. Advise if you have checked the fuses on your side of the meter.
6. Any other information which may be helpful to cooperative serviceman.

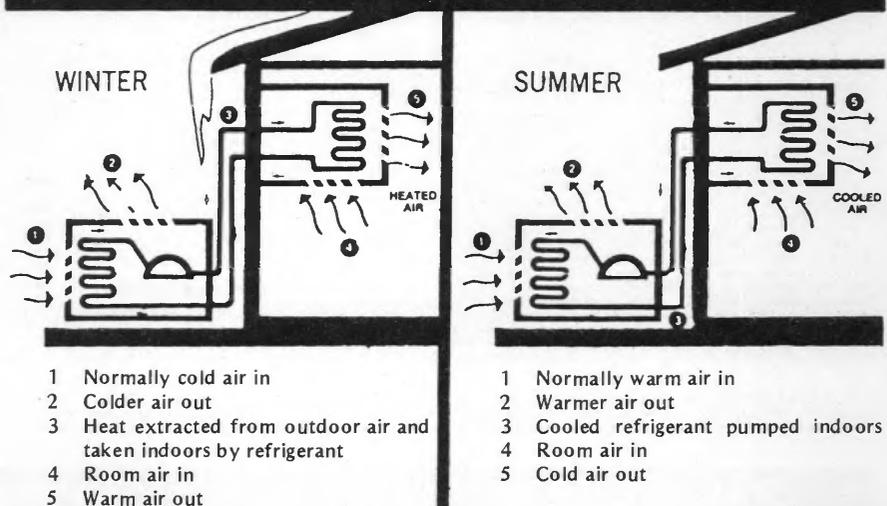
## 38th Annual Meeting

The cooperative's 38th annual meeting will be held Monday, April 12, 1976, at 7:30 p.m. Registration will begin at 6:45 p.m. at the Waterloo Grade School gymnasium. This year the drawing for the Early Bird Prize, a Leigh Electric Fireplace, will be promptly at 7:20 p.m. Attendance and door prizes will be awarded. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

Mark your calendar—April 12, 1976—Monroe County Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting!!!

## Heat Pump Could Help Relieve Energy Crunch

### Here's How It Works



# NURSERY STOCK SALE!

## OVER 350 VARIETIES TO CHOOSE FROM

Planting instructions included in each order. Every plant will be labeled.

**ORDER BY MAIL!**

**Rose Bushes: 2 yr. field grown blooming size bushes. All monthly bloomers in these varieties. \$1.49 each.**

### FLOWERING SHRUBS—1 or 2 Years Old

- Crepe Myrtle—Red, Purple, Pink, White, 1 to 2 ft. .79 ea.
- Spiraea Van Houttei—White, 1 1/2 ft. .59 ea.
- Spiraea Reinesiana, 1 to 2 ft. .49 ea.
- Weigela—Red or Yellow, 1 to 2 ft. .49 ea.
- Weigela—Var. or Pink, 1 1/2 ft. .49 ea.
- Althea—Red or Purple, 1 to 2 ft. .49 ea.
- Althea—Pink or White, 1 to 2 ft. .49 ea.
- Forsythia—Yellow, 1 to 2 ft. .39 ea.
- Spiraea, 1 to 2 ft. .49 ea.
- Pink Flowering Almond, 1 to 2 ft. .49 ea.
- Tamarix—Pink, 1 to 2 ft. .49 ea.
- Bush Honeysuckle—Red, Pink, White, 1 to 2 ft. .49 ea.
- Red Flowering Quince, 1 to 2 ft. .69 ea.
- White Flowering Quince, 1 to 2 ft. .29 ea.
- Persian Lilac—Purple, 1 to 2 ft. .69 ea.
- Old Fashioned Lilac—1 to 2 ft. .98 ea.
- Bridal Wreath Spiraea, 1 to 2 ft. .79 ea.
- Hydrangea P.G., 1 to 2 ft. .49 ea.
- Dak Leaf Hydrangea, 1/2 to 1 ft. .49 ea.
- Deutzia—White, 1 to 2 ft. .49 ea.
- Deutzia—Pink, 1 to 2 ft. .49 ea.
- Mockorange—White, 1 to 2 ft. .49 ea.
- Sweet Shrub, 1 to 2 ft. .49 ea.
- Rose of Sharon, 1 to 2 ft. .29 ea.
- Red Dzier Dogwood, 1 to 2 ft. .49 ea.
- Pussy Willow, 1 to 2 ft. .49 ea.
- Pussy Willow, 4 to 6 ft. .149 ea.
- Russian Olive, 1 to 2 ft. .69 ea.
- Russian Olive, 2 to 3 ft. .129 ea.
- Red Barberry, 1 to 2 ft. .79 ea.
- Jap Snowball, 1 to 2 ft. .79 ea.
- Red Snowberry, 1 to 2 ft. .49 ea.
- White Snowberry, 1 to 2 ft. .49 ea.
- Spiraea, Anthony Waterer—Red, 1 ft. .69 ea.
- French Lilac—Red, White, Purple, 1 to 2 ft. .129 ea.
- Scotch Broom, 1 to 2 ft. .49 ea.
- \*Hypericum, 1 to 2 ft. .39 ea.
- Spice Bush, 1 to 2 ft. .49 ea.
- Butterfly Bush—Purple, 1 to 2 ft. .99 ea.
- Butterfly Bush—Pink, 1 to 2 ft. .99 ea.
- Vitex—Purple, 1/2 to 1 ft. .49 ea.
- Green Barberry, 1 to 2 ft. .39 ea.
- Azalea—White, Purple, Red or Pink, 1/2 to 1 ft. .69 ea.
- \*Rose Acacia, 1 ft. .49 ea.
- \*Red Chokeberry, 1 to 2 ft. .29 ea.
- \*Black Chokeberry, 1 to 2 ft. .29 ea.
- \*Hydrangea Arborescens—1 to 2 ft. .29 ea.
- Spice Bush, 1 to 2 ft. .49 ea.
- Winter Honeysuckle, 1 to 2 ft. .49 ea.
- Arrowwood Viburnum, 1/2 to 1 ft. .59 ea.
- Witchhazel, 1 to 2 ft. .89 ea.
- \*American Elder, 1 to 2 ft. .49 ea.
- \*Dopson Haw, 1 to 2 ft. .49 ea.
- False Indigo—Purple, 1 to 2 ft. .49 ea.
- Burning Bush, 1 ft. .129 ea.
- Flowering Pomegranate, 1/2 to 1 ft. .79 ea.

### FLOWERING TREES—1 or 2 Years Old

- Magnolia Grandiflora, 1/2 to 1 ft. .89 ea.
- Magnolia Niagara, 1 to 2 ft. .149 ea.
- Magnolia Rustica Rubra, 1 to 2 ft. .149 ea.
- Mimosa—Pink, 2 ft. .29 ea.
- Mimosa—Pink, 3 to 4 ft. .79 ea.
- Mimosa—Pink, 4 to 6 ft. .149 ea.
- American Red Bud, 2 to 3 ft. .49 ea.
- American Red Bud, 4 to 6 ft. .149 ea.
- White Flowering Dogwood, 2 1/2 ft. .69 ea.
- White Flowering Dogwood, 4 to 6 ft. .199 ea.
- Pink Flowering Dogwood, 1 ft. .129 ea.
- Pink Flowering Dogwood, 2 ft. .249 ea.
- Pink Flowering Dogwood, 3 to 5 ft. .449 ea.
- Golden Raintree, 1 to 2 ft. .98 ea.
- Golden Raintree, 3 to 4 ft. .298 ea.
- Golden Chain Tree, 1 to 2 ft. .98 ea.
- Smoke Tree, 1 to 2 ft. .149 ea.
- Purple Leaf Plum, 1 to 2 ft. .89 ea.
- Purple Leaf Plum, 2 to 3 ft. .149 ea.
- Purple Leaf Plum, 4 to 6 ft. .298 ea.
- Flowering Peach—Red or Pink, 1 to 2 ft. .99 ea.
- 1 to 2 ft. .99 ea.—2 1/2 to 4 ft. .149 ea.
- Peppermint Flower, Peach, 2 1/2 to 4 ft. .169 ea.
- Dbf. Pink Flowering Cherry, 3 1/2 ft. .49 ea.
- Flowering Crab—Red or Pink, 2 to 3 ft. .149 ea.
- 4 to 6 ft. .269 ea.
- Chinese Red Bud, 1 to 2 ft. .99 ea.
- Tree of Heaven, 3 to 5 ft. .99 ea.
- Dwarf Red Buckeye, 1/2 to 1 ft. .79 ea.
- Magnolia Soulangiana, 1 to 2 ft. .139 ea.
- Weeping Peach—Red or Pink, 1 ft. .89 ea.
- Weeping Peach, Red or Pink, 2 1/2 to 4 ft. .198 ea.
- White Flowering Peach, 2 1/2 to 4 ft. .98 ea.

- \*White Fringe, 2 to 3 ft. .129 ea.
- Japanese Flow. Cherry, 3 to 5 ft. .449 ea.
- European Mountain Ash, 3 to 4 ft. .298 ea.
- Paul's Scarlet Hawthorn, Red Blooms, 3 to 5 ft. .498 ea.
- \*Big Leaf Cucumber, 3 to 4 ft. .198 ea.
- \*Paw Paw, 3 to 5 ft. .129 ea.
- \*Sourwood, 2 to 3 ft. .98 ea.
- Yellow Buckeye, 1 to 2 ft. .59 ea.
- Downy Hawthorn, 1/2 to 1 ft. .98 ea.
- Dwarf White Buckeye, 1/2 to 1 ft. .69 ea.
- Red Flowering Dogwood, 1 ft. .149 ea.
- Red Flowering Dogwood, 2 ft. .249 ea.
- Red Flowering Dogwood, 3 to 4 ft. .449 ea.
- 5-N-1 Flowering Crab, 3 ft. .498 ea.
- Red Leaf Peach, 2 to 3 ft. .149 ea.

### SHADE TREES—1 or 2 Years Old

- Silver Maple, 3 to 4 ft. .59 ea.
- Silver Maple, 4 to 6 ft. .149 ea.
- Chinese Elm, 2 ft. .19 ea.
- 3 to 4 ft. .69 ea.
- Chinese Elm, 4 to 6 ft. .149 ea.
- Green Weeping Willow, 2 to 3 ft. .49 ea.
- Green Weeping Willow, 4 to 6 ft. .149 ea.
- Catalpa Tree, 2 to 3 ft. .49 ea.
- Ginkgo Tree, 1 to 2 ft. .98 ea.
- Ginkgo Tree, 3 to 5 ft. .298 ea.
- Pin Oak or Red Oak, 2 to 3 ft. .129 ea.
- Pin Oak or Red Oak, 3 to 5 ft. .199 ea.
- Sycamore, 4 to 6 ft. .149 ea.
- \*Sugar Maple, 2 to 3 ft. .239 ea.
- \*Sugar Maple, 3 to 5 ft. .369 ea.
- Sweet Gum, 2 to 3 ft. .359 ea.
- Sweet Gum, 4 to 6 ft. .429 ea.
- White Birch, 2 to 3 ft. .98 ea.
- White Birch, 4 to 6 ft. .298 ea.
- Tulip Tree, 2 to 3 ft. .39 ea.
- \*Tulip Tree, 3 to 4 ft. .169 ea.
- Crimson King Maple (Pat. No. 735), 3 to 5 ft. .498 ea.
- Sunburst Locust (Pat. No. 1313), 4 to 6 ft. .599 ea.
- Cut Leaf Weeping Birch, 3 to 5 ft. .498 ea.
- Silver Variegated Maple, 3 to 5 ft. .499 ea.
- Schweider Maple, 3 to 5 ft. .498 ea.
- \*Yellow Wood, 2 to 3 ft. .98 ea.
- Canoe Birch, 3 to 4 ft. .449 ea.
- White Ash, 3 to 4 ft. .59 ea.
- Green Ash, 3 to 4 ft. .59 ea.
- Persimmon, 1 to 2 ft. .79 ea.
- Dawns Redwood, 1 to 2 ft. .249 ea.
- Honey Locust, 3 to 4 ft. .398 ea.
- Morom Locust, 4 to 5 ft. .498 ea.
- Kentucky Coffee Tree, 1/2 to 1 ft. .79 ea.
- \*American Linden Tree, 2 ft. .98 ea.
- \*American Linden Tree, 3 to 4 ft. .198 ea.
- Skyline Locust (Pat. No. 1619), 4 to 6 ft. .549 ea.
- Sassafras, 1 to 2 ft. .29 ea.
- \*Sassafras, 2 to 3 ft. .79 ea.
- \*Scarlet Maple, 4 to 5 ft. .498 ea.
- Russian Mulberry, 2 to 3 ft. .79 ea.
- Sycamore Maple, 1/2 to 1 ft. .69 ea.
- \*Black Gum, 2 to 3 ft. .79 ea.
- Japanese Red Leaf Maple, 1 ft. .249 ea.
- Norway Maple, 1 to 2 ft. .98 ea.
- Golden Weeping Willow, 2 to 3 ft. .39 ea.
- Golden Weeping Willow, 4 to 6 ft. .149 ea.
- Amur Corktree, 1 to 2 ft. .49 ea.
- Black Locust, 2 to 3 ft. .29 ea.
- Bald Cypress, 1 to 2 ft. .49 ea.
- \*Little Leaf Cucumber, 2 to 3 ft. .69 ea.

### FRUIT TREES—1 or 2 Years Old

- Belle of Georgia Peach, 1 to 2 ft. .79 ea.
- Belle of Georgia Peach, 2 to 3 ft. .129 ea.
- Belle of Georgia Peach, 3 to 5 ft. .198 ea.
- Ebertha Peach, 1 to 2 ft. .79 ea.
- Ebertha Peach, 2 to 3 ft. .129 ea.
- Ebertha Peach, 3 to 5 ft. .198 ea.
- J. H. Hale Peach, 1 to 2 ft. .79 ea.
- J. H. Hale Peach, 2 to 3 ft. .129 ea.
- J. H. Hale Peach, 3 to 5 ft. .198 ea.
- Hale Haven Peach, 1 to 2 ft. .79 ea.
- Hale Haven Peach, 2 to 3 ft. .129 ea.
- Hale Haven Peach, 3 to 5 ft. .198 ea.
- Dixie Red Peach, 1 to 2 ft. .79 ea.
- Dixie Red Peach, 2 to 3 ft. .129 ea.
- Dixie Red Peach, 3 to 5 ft. .198 ea.
- Golden Jubilee Peach, 1 to 2 ft. .79 ea.
- Golden Jubilee Peach, 2 to 3 ft. .129 ea.
- Golden Jubilee Peach, 3 to 5 ft. .198 ea.

- REDS**
- Red Radiance
- Better Times
- Crimson Glory
- Pointsettia
- Mirandy

- TWO TONES**
- President Hoover
- Betty Uphorchard
- Edith N. Perkins
- Contrast
- Candesa de Sotago

- CLIMBERS**
- Cl. Blaze Red
- Cl. Red Talisman
- Cl. Golden Charm
- Cl. Pink Radiance
- Cl. White Am. Beauty

- YELLOWS**
- Eclipse
- Golden Charm
- Peace
- Luxemburg
- Golden Dawn

- PINKS**
- Pink Radiance
- The Doctor
- Columbo
- Picture
- K. T. Marshall

- WHITES**
- K. A. Victoria
- Caledonia
- K. Louise
- Red Anderson
- White Am. Beauty

- Champion Peach, 1 to 2 ft. .79 ea.
- Champion Peach, 2 to 3 ft. .129 ea.
- Champion Peach, 3 to 5 ft. .198 ea.
- Maygold Peach, 1 to 2 ft. .79 ea.
- Maygold Peach, 2 to 3 ft. .129 ea.
- Maygold Peach, 3 to 5 ft. .198 ea.
- Blake Peach, 1 to 2 ft. .79 ea.
- Blake Peach, 2 to 3 ft. .129 ea.
- Blake Peach, 3 to 5 ft. .198 ea.
- Stayman Winesap Apple, 2 to 3 ft. .149 ea.
- Stayman Winesap Apple, 4 to 6 ft. .269 ea.
- Red Delicious Apple, 2 to 3 ft. .149 ea.
- Red Delicious Apple, 4 to 6 ft. .269 ea.
- Early Harvest Apple, 2 to 3 ft. .149 ea.
- Early Harvest Apple, 4 to 6 ft. .269 ea.
- Red Rome Beauty Apple, 2 to 3 ft. .149 ea.
- Red Rome Beauty Apple, 4 to 6 ft. .269 ea.
- Red Jonathan Apple, 2 to 3 ft. .149 ea.
- Red Jonathan Apple, 4 to 6 ft. .269 ea.
- Lodi Apple, 2 to 3 ft. .149 ea.
- Lodi Apple, 4 to 6 ft. .269 ea.
- Grimes Golden Apple, 2 to 3 ft. .149 ea.
- Grimes Golden Apple, 4 to 6 ft. .269 ea.
- Yellow Transparent Apple, 2 1/2 to 3 ft. .119 ea.
- Yellow Transparent Apple, 4 to 6 ft. .198 ea.
- Yellow Delicious Apple, 2 to 3 ft. .149 ea.
- Yellow Delicious Apple, 4 to 6 ft. .269 ea.
- Early McIntosh Apple, 2 to 3 ft. .119 ea.
- Early McIntosh Apple, 4 to 6 ft. .198 ea.
- S-N-1 Apple—5 Varieties on each tree, 3 ft. .498 ea.
- Montmorency Cherry, 2 to 3 ft. .198 ea.
- Montmorency Cherry, 4 to 5 ft. .398 ea.
- Black Tartarian Cherry, 2 to 3 ft. .198 ea.
- Black Tartarian Cherry, 4 to 5 ft. .398 ea.
- Early Richmond Cherry, 2 to 3 ft. .198 ea.
- Early Richmond Cherry, 4 to 5 ft. .398 ea.
- Krieffler Pear, 2 to 3 ft. .298 ea.
- Krieffler Pear, 3 to 5 ft. .498 ea.
- Drient Pear, 2 to 3 ft. .298 ea.
- Drient Pear, 3 to 5 ft. .498 ea.
- Bartlett Pear, 2 to 3 ft. .198 ea.
- Bartlett Pear, 3 to 5 ft. .298 ea.
- Moorpark Apricot, 1 to 2 ft. .98 ea.
- Moorpark Apricot, 2 to 3 ft. .149 ea.
- Early Golden Apricot, 1 to 2 ft. .98 ea.
- Early Golden Apricot, 2 to 3 ft. .149 ea.
- Nectarine, 2 1/2 to 4 ft. .198 ea.
- Damson Plum, 1 to 2 ft. .98 ea.
- Damson Plum, 2 1/2 to 4 ft. .198 ea.
- Red June Plum, 1 to 2 ft. .98 ea.
- Red June Plum, 2 1/2 to 4 ft. .198 ea.
- Bruce Plum, 1 to 2 ft. .98 ea.
- Bruce Plum, 2 1/2 to 4 ft. .198 ea.
- Methley Plum, 1 to 2 ft. .98 ea.
- Methley Plum, 2 1/2 to 4 ft. .198 ea.
- Burbank Plum, 1 to 2 ft. .98 ea.
- Burbank Plum, 2 1/2 to 4 ft. .198 ea.

### NUT TREES—1 or 2 Years Old

- Hazel Nut, 1 to 2 ft. .59 ea.
- Hazel Nut, 3 to 5 ft. .198 ea.
- Butternut, 1 to 2 ft. .98 ea.
- Butternut, 3 to 4 ft. .198 ea.
- Chinese Chestnut, 1 to 2 ft. .79 ea.
- Chinese Chestnut, 3 to 5 ft. .198 ea.
- Hardy Pecan Seedlings, 1 to 2 ft. .98 ea.
- Stuart Pecan—Papershell, 2 to 3 ft. .298 ea.
- Stuart Pecan—Papershell, 3 1/2 to 5 ft. .598 ea.
- Mahan Pecan—Papershell, 3-5 ft. .398 ea.
- Mahan Pecan—Papershell, 1 to 2 ft. .498 ea.
- Black Walnut, 3 to 5 ft. .149 ea.
- English Walnut, 2 to 3 ft. .498 ea.
- Shell Bark Hickory, 1 to 2 ft. .98 ea.
- American Beech—Collected, 3-4 ft. .98 ea.
- Lupines, Mixed Colors, 3 to 4 ft. .198 ea.

### EVERGREENS—1 or 2 Years Old

- Glossy Abelia, 1/2 to 1 ft. .39 ea.
- \*American Holly, 1/2 to 1 ft. .39 ea.
- \*Rhododendron, 1/2 to 1 ft. .49 ea.
- Pfitzer Juniper, 1/2 to 1 ft. .79 ea.
- Cherry Laurel, 1/2 to 1 ft. .298 ea.
- Nandina, 1/2 to 1 ft. .49 ea.
- Burwood, 1/2 to 1 ft. .49 ea.
- Trish Juniper, 1/2 to 1 ft. .99 ea.
- Savin Juniper, 1/2 to 1 ft. .99 ea.
- Red Berry Pyracantha, 1/2 to 1 ft. .69 ea.
- Yellow Berry Pyracantha, 1/2 to 1 ft. .69 ea.
- Burfordi Holly, 1/2 to 1 ft. .49 ea.
- Cedry Laurel, 1/2 to 1 ft. .69 ea.
- Wax Leaf Ligustrum, 1/2 to 1 ft. .39 ea.
- Colorado Blue Spruce, 1/2 to 1 ft. .49 ea.
- \*Mountain Laurel, 1/2 to 1 ft. .39 ea.
- \*Canadian Hemlock, 1/2 to 1 ft. .29 ea.
- \*Short Leaf Pine, 1 ft. .29 ea.
- Slash Pine, 1/2 to 1 ft. .29 ea.
- \*Red Cedar, 1/2 to 1 ft. .19 ea.
- Hetzi Holly, 1/2 to 1 ft. .49 ea.
- Japanese Holly, 1/2 to 1 ft. .49 ea.
- Foster Holly, 1/2 to 1 ft. .79 ea.
- Heilert Holly, 1/2 to 1 ft. .89 ea.
- East Palatka Holly, 1/2 to 1 ft. .59 ea.
- Chinese Holly, 1/2 to 1 ft. .69 ea.
- Andorra Juniper, 1/2 to 1 ft. .79 ea.
- Cherry Doorn, 1/2 to 1 ft. .69 ea.
- Jap Yew, 1/2 to 1 ft. .99 ea.
- Baker Arborvitae, 1/2 to 1 ft. .59 ea.
- Berker's Arborvitae, 1/2 to 1 ft. .59 ea.
- Globe Arborvitae, 1/2 to 1 ft. .59 ea.
- Globe Juniper, 1/2 to 1 ft. .59 ea.
- Gardena—White, 1/2 to 1 ft. .69 ea.
- Camellia—Red, 1/2 to 1 ft. .79 ea.
- Norway Spruce—1/2 to 1 ft. .49 ea.
- Eunymus Radican, 1/2 to 1 ft. .39 ea.
- Eunymus Manhattan, 1/2 to 1 ft. .49 ea.
- Eunymus Pulchella, 1/2 to 1 ft. .69 ea.
- Eunymus Dupont, 1/2 to 1 ft. .39 ea.
- \*White Pine, 1 ft. .39 ea.
- Austrian Pine, 1/2 to 1 ft. .49 ea.
- Mugh Pine, 3 to 5 inch .49 ea.
- Scotch Pine, 3 to 5 inch .49 ea.
- Western Yellow Pine, 3 to 5 inch .39 ea.
- White Spruce, 1/2 to 1 ft. .49 ea.
- Serbian Spruce, 1/2 to 1 ft. .49 ea.
- Douglas Fir, 1/2 to 1 ft. .49 ea.
- Cleyera Japonica, 1/2 to 1 ft. .49 ea.
- Elaeagnus Fruitlandi, 1/2 to 1 ft. .49 ea.
- Thorny Eleagnus, 1/2 to 1 ft. .49 ea.
- Hetzi Juniper, 1/2 to 1 ft. .59 ea.
- Sargent Juniper, 1/2 to 1 ft. .79 ea.
- Shore Juniper, 1/2 to 1 ft. .79 ea.
- Yupon Holly, 1/2 to 1 ft. .49 ea.
- Mahonia Bealei, 3 to 5 inch .49 ea.
- Gray Carpet Ground Cover, 3-5 inch .58 ea.
- Blue Rug Ground Cover, 3 to 5 inch .58 ea.

### OWARF FRUIT TREES—2 or 3 Years Old

- Dwarf Ebertha Peach, 2 to 3 ft. .298 ea.
- Dwarf Ebertha Peach, 4 to 5 ft. .498 ea.
- Dwarf Red Haven Peach, 2 to 3 ft. .298 ea.
- Dwarf Red Haven Peach, 4 to 5 ft. .498 ea.
- Dwarf Belle of Georgia Peach, 2 1/2 to 3 ft. .298 ea.
- Dwarf Belle of Georgia Peach, 4 1/2 to 5 ft. .498 ea.
- Dwarf Golden Jubilee Peach, 2 1/2 to 3 ft. .298 ea.
- Dwarf Golden Jubilee Peach, 4 1/2 to 5 ft. .498 ea.
- Dwarf Red Delicious Apple, 2-3 ft. .298 ea.
- Dwarf Red Delicious Apple, 4-5 ft. .498 ea.
- Dwarf Yellow Delicious Apple, 2-3 ft. .298 ea.
- Dwarf Yellow Delicious Apple, 4-5 ft. .498 ea.
- Dwarf Winesap Apple, 2 to 3 ft. .298 ea.
- Dwarf Winesap Apple, 4 to 5 ft. .498 ea.
- Dwarf Early McIntosh Apple, 2 1/2 to 3 ft. .249 ea.
- Dwarf Early McIntosh Apple, 4 1/2 to 5 ft. .398 ea.
- Dwarf Jonathan Apple, 2 to 3 ft. .249 ea.
- Dwarf Jonathan Apple, 4 to 5 ft. .398 ea.
- Dwarf Lodi Apple, 2 to 3 ft. .249 ea.
- Dwarf Lodi Apple, 4 to 5 ft. .398 ea.
- Dwarf Cortland Apple, 2 to 3 ft. .249 ea.
- Dwarf Cortland Apple, 4 to 5 ft. .398 ea.
- Dwarf Northern Spy Apple, 2 1/2 to 3 ft. .249 ea.
- Dwarf Northern Spy Apple, 4 1/2 to 5 ft. .398 ea.
- Dwarf Yellow Transparent Apple, 2 1/2 to 3 ft. .249 ea.
- Dwarf Yellow Transparent Apple, 4 1/2 to 5 ft. .398 ea.
- Dwarf Montmorency Cherry, 2 1/2 to 3 ft. .349 ea.
- Dwarf North Star Cherry, 2 1/2 to 3 ft. .349 ea.
- Dwarf Bartlett Pear, 2 to 3 ft. .298 ea.
- Dwarf Krieffler Pear, 2 to 3 ft. .298 ea.
- Dwarf Burbank Plum, 2 to 3 ft. .298 ea.

### VINES—1 or 2 Years Old

- Red Scarlet Honeysuckle, 1 ft. .59 ea.
- Bittersweet—Purple, 1/2 to 1 ft. .69 ea.
- Bittersweet, 1 ft. .39 ea.
- \*Clematis Vine—White, 1/2 to 1 ft. .39 ea.

### BERRY PLANTS, ETC.—1 or 2 Years Old

- Black Raspberry, 1/2 to 1 ft. .49 ea.

### BULBS AND PERENNIALS—1 or 2 Years Old

- 3 Pampas Grass—White Plumes . \$1.39
- 12 Hibiscus, Mallow Marvel in Mixed Colors . 1.39
- 8 Hollyhocks, Mixed Colors, Roots . 1.49
- 10 Cannas, Red, Pink, Yellow . 1.80
- 20 Iris—Blue or Purple . 1.98
- 20 Day Lilies, Roots, Orange Flowers . 1.39
- \*Creeeping Phlox, Pink, Blue, White and Red . 1.49
- 6 Fancy Leaf Caidium, Red, White . 1.98
- 50 Gladiolus, Mixed Colors . 2.98
- 8 Alyssum, Gold Dust . 1.39
- 8 Anthemis, Yellow . 1.39
- 8 Carnation, Red, Pink, or White . 1.39
- 6 Coreopsis, Sunburst Double . 1.39
- 6 Candytuft (Iberis), Semp. White . 1.39
- 6 Bandybreath, White . 1.39
- 6 Gaillardia, Red . 1.39
- 6 Blue Flax (Linum) . 1.39
- 6 Shasta Daisy, Alaska . 1.39
- 4 Delphinium, Dark Blue . 1.39
- 6 Tritoma, Mixed . 1.39
- 6 Dianthus, Pinks . 1.39
- 6 Lupines, Mixed Colors . 1.39
- 5 Sedum, Dragon Blood . 1.39
- 4 Clematis, Yellow . 1.39
- 8 Fall Asters, Red or White . 1.39
- 8 Fall Asters, Pink or Lavender . 1.39
- \*6 Yucca, Candle of Heaven . 1.39
- 5 Oriental Poppy, Scarlet . 1.39
- 2 Peonies, Red, Pink, or White . 1.39
- 5 Mums, Red or Yellow . 1.39
- 3 Dahlias, Red or Pink . 1.39
- 3 Dahlias, Purple or Yellow . 1.39
- 3 Liriope, Big Blue . 1.39
- 3 Liriope, Variegated . 1.39

### BERRIES, FRUITS AND HEDGE—1 or 2 Years Old

- 10 Rhubarb, 1 year Roots . \$1.99
- 10 Asparagus, 1 year Roots . 1.00
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- 25 Gem Everbearing Strawberry . 2.00
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- 20 North Privet, 1 to 2 ft. .38
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- 25 Multiflora Rose, 1 to 2 ft. .499

### NATIVE WILD FLOWERS—1 or 2 Years Old Collected from the Mountains

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- 20 Hardy Garden Violet, Blue . 1.39
- 3 Partridge Berry . 1.39
- 3 Passionflower . 1.39
- 6 Bird Foot Violet, Blue . 1.39
- 6 Trilliums, Mixed Colors . 1.39
- 6 Blue Bells . 1.39
- 6 Maiden Hair Fern . 1.39
- 8 Hayscented Fern . 1.39
- 10 Christmas Fern . 1.39
- 4 Cinnamon Fern . 1.39
- 3 Royal Fern . 1.39
- 6 White Violets . 1.39
- 6 Hepatico, Mixed Colors . 1.39
- 4 Solomon Seal, White . 1.39
- 3 Trailing Arbutus, Pink . 1.39
- 4 Star Sweet Williams, Pink . 1.39
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### FLORINDA ROSES—2 Year Field Grown

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# 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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MONROE  
COUNTY  
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

# Monroe Electric News

MONROE COUNTY ELECTRIC CO-OPERATIVE, INC.

618-939-7171

WATERLOO, ILLINOIS

## Across the manager's desk



LeRoy V. Hard  
Manager

America has come to the end of the low-cost, abundant energy era that we have enjoyed in the past. We can expect that in the months and years ahead electric energy will generally cost more and be less readily available. Over the past seventy-five years, we, along with the rest of the Western world, have built a great industrialized society, a way of life, and a transportation system dependent largely upon low-cost petroleum energy.

Our national economy and our entire way of life have been closely tied to low cost petroleum. America and the rest of the free world is running out of petroleum—we have our date with destiny—we still have time, but we must use all of our skills and ingenuity to make the difficult transition of our vast energy base away from oil and gas to other energy sources in the next twenty-five years. All reliable studies indicate that we will have to depend on coal and nuclear energy to span the gap.

By the next century we expect to have synthetic oil and gas from coal. Illinois coalfields can and will play an important role in the coal gasification process. A demonstration plant, a joint effort of the Federal government, State of Illinois, U. S. Energy Research and Development Administration and Coalcon, Inc., is in the planning stages of development and is to be located near New Athens, Illinois. Solar and nuclear energy must be developed to alleviate the growing demand for fossil fuels.

Meanwhile there would seem to be no miracle on the horizon that will prevent energy costs from climbing higher because of inflation, increased money costs, the high cost of imported oil and the high cost to recover the remaining domestic oil and gas deposits. Costs for environmental provisions and new technologies are adding to the escalated costs of new generation facilities, which in turn add to energy costs. There isn't much rural electric cooperative leaders can do to change these trends.

What can we do? By acting together through our state and national associations, in the right way and at the right time, we can reduce the price electric rates might otherwise reach. We have the possibility of saving our members millions of dollars on a national basis by:

1. Shortening the time it takes to bring nuclear and fossil fuel generating plants into production. (This can be done simply by removing some of the red tape, the endless rounds of hearings and impact statements, etc., that are now required.)

2. Adopting more realistic environmental rules and regulations. (Every new environmental rule ought to be accompanied by an economic statement that evaluates what we get for what we pay.)

3. Developing a coordinated long-range national energy policy and plan that sets energy use and production priorities and goals.

Surely by working together, we in the rural electrification program can help keep electric power costs at levels below what they may otherwise reach in the future. By working together we should be able to keep our interest costs at a lower level than may be forced on us. By cooperating and uniting our efforts in the above areas, we, as rural electrification leaders, can save millions of dollars for the approximately 25 million rural electric cooperative members in our nation.

In light of what we have said here, we would like to be able to estimate what our wholesale power cost adder will be to the membership in 1976; however, at this writing it would be difficult to determine what this cost is going to be.

In accordance with REA recommendations, cooperative policy states that we shall use the two months previous to preparation to our self-billing material, as our guideline toward establishing our wholesale power cost adder. Experience to date indicates this figure will be increased effective June 15, 1976.

As always, we thank you for your consideration and cooperation in this matter!

## Savings Suggestions



Think before you strike! Know what you want before you open the refrigerator — and plan to remove several items at once. Defrost the freezer every other week and vacuum the coils every six weeks. It helps to locate your refrigerator away from heat-producing appliances.



## Responsible Electric Accident Control Today... Respect Power Line Danger

### Look Up And Live Power Lines Are Not Insulated

Electrocution, as well as injuries and fires caused by misuse or carelessness with high voltage, ranks high in farm accidents. In too many cases unsuspecting children are the victims.

Those of you who have been involved in the rural electrification program for a number of years can certainly bear witness that electrical hazards on the farm are on the increase. Large grain bins, steel buildings and feed mixers connected by augers are commonplace on most farms. In many cases these structures are under or very close to high voltage power lines. This situation combined with the taller grain augers, larger machinery and implements, deteriorating wiring, improper and poorly maintained outlets, use of frayed extension cords, improperly grounded machinery and equipment and other safety infractions common on modern farmsteads should make us stop and wonder who will be the next victim.

Poor farm prices and the necessity of farmers doing much of their own work as an economy measure does nothing to improve this situation. It's

appalling to note the number of injuries, deaths and fires which result from amateur wiring and disrespect for high voltage around the farm.

For example, this typical situation resulted in the deaths of four people: A farmer and three youths were working on a mobile grain auger when it contacted a 7,000-volt transmission line above the work area. The four were killed instantly. Another youth escaped with severe burns. The bodies were on fire when the ambulance arrived. The tires on the auger were burned completely off.

In Indiana, a 17-year-old boy was electrocuted by touching a grain bin. An auger being used to fill the bin had developed a 220-volt fault which electrified the metal bin.

Power tools also take their toll of lives. In Iowa, a farmer was electrocuted while working in his grain bin. His death was caused by a frayed cord on the electric drill he was using. In New York, a farmer standing in a rain-soaked area died when he used his defective drill to repair a grain wagon.

In another auger accident, an eight-

year-old boy had to be restrained to prevent him from running to his father's aid as he watched his father being electrocuted. The boy and his father were delivering grain to a farm and while maneuvering the auger into position it touched an overhead high voltage line. The farmer was killed instantly.

The list of farm accidents resulting from careless contact with overhead power lines is endless. How long can people depend on luck for being alive when such accidents become more commonplace every harvest season?

As modern farm equipment becomes larger, the danger of equipment touching overhead power lines increases. Overhead power lines are NOT insulated.

Extra precautions must be taken when using augers and moving tall farm machinery under or near high voltage lines. Grain bins certainly don't belong under power lines. Neither do combines or corn pickers. Check your own property for these hazardous conditions.

# 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."

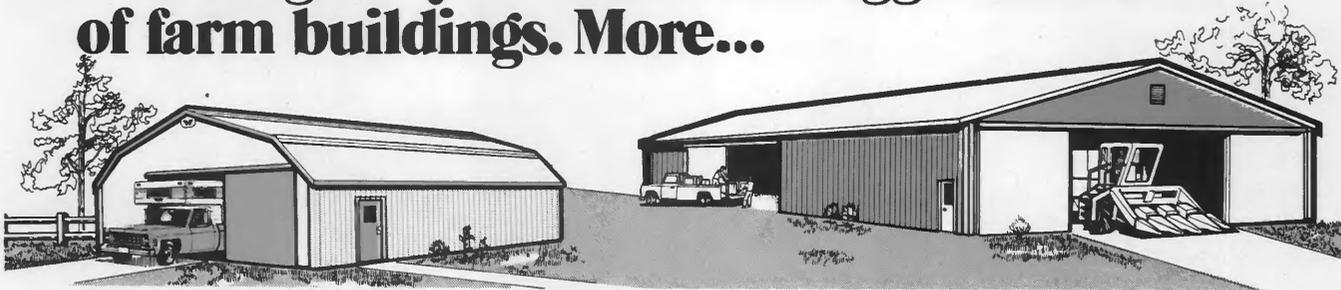
"Today the total quantity of habitat is limited by economic considerations and an increasing need for food production," Kirkham points out. "Wildlife must now utilize what habitat remains and Illinois Department of Conservation biologists must work to improve the quality of and preserve existing habitat,"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

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

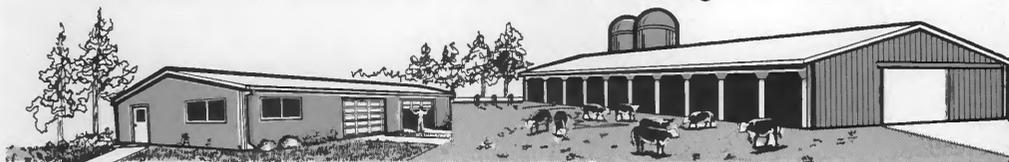
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# Monroe Electric News

MONROE COUNTY ELECTRIC CO-OPERATIVE, INC.

618-939-7171

WATERLOO, ILLINOIS

## Members' Needs Stressed

Power supply in the 1980's is a major area of concern for Monroe County Electric Co-Operative officials, the president and manager told those attending the distribution cooperative's 38th annual meeting April 12 in Waterloo.

Robert W. Rippelmeyer of Valmeyer, president, and LeRoy V. Hard, manager, outlined a number of projects of the past year and stressed the cooperative's goal of meeting the electric needs of its members in the 1980's.

Over 500 persons attended the meeting, held at the Waterloo Grade School auditorium.

Rippelmeyer told of cooperative activities of 1975, including:

Joined Soyland Power Cooperative for the purposes of improving power supply;

Set about obtaining franchises from various municipalities in cooperative service areas where lines are being taken in by incorporation;

Worked to obtain a service area agreement with Illinois Power Company delineating service areas to be served by either party;

Adopted a policy manual for safety practices and procedures as a guide for all safety activities;

Received official notice from Illinois Power Company of their desire to renegotiate Monroe's wholesale power supply contract, suggesting a possible increase of 50 percent plus in the cost of power;

Adopted a policy governing estimated power bills when remittance is not received by the 26th of each



ABOVE: Reelected directors are, from left, Clarence W. Metter of Columbia, Thomas Rosenberg of Red Bud and Larry A. Haas of Belleville. BELOW: Over 500 persons attended the meeting.



month, effective January 1, 1976; and

Passed a resolution supporting REACT (Responsible Electric Accident Control Today), a program concerned with accident prevention within the cooperative service area.

Hard told the audience the cooperative was "exploring every avenue to determine who will supply

us with power in the future. Every area of concern will be reviewed."

He listed five of those areas of concern: reliability of service, availability of power, long-range supply, interconnections and methods of generation and transmission.

During the business session, three directors were reelected to three-year

terms. They are: Larry A. Haas of Belleville, Clarence W. Metter of Columbia and Thomas Rosenberg of Red Bud.

Gilbert Fischer of Freeburg, secretary-treasurer, reported that operating expenses for 1975 totaled \$1,227,479, including purchase power costs of \$586,011.

Fischer's report indicated total kilowatt-hours purchased in 1975 reached 43,704,000, up from 1974 figure by more than 4 million.

Donald L. Schmitt, president of the Waterloo Chamber of Commerce, paid tribute to electric cooperatives, commenting that we, as Americans, should look for all the good things in this country and that the abundant and low cost electric energy provided by cooperatives was one of those good things. He added that even with increases in cost during the past several years, Americans are being supplied with electric power at a cost lower than in other countries.

Monroe County Electric Co-Operative serves over 3,500 member-owners in Monroe, St. Clair and Randolph counties over 860 miles of energized lines.



*ABOVE: The Kaskaskia Trail Chorus of Waterloo, a barbershop style singing group of 44 area residents, provided entertainment for the meeting. BELOW LEFT: Mrs. Elmer Hofstetter of Route 1, Dupu, and Mrs. Katie Kettler of Valmeyer were winners of the two major prizes. Willard Wiggers, director of Member Services, shows one of the prizes, an electric grill. BELOW RIGHT: Mrs. Willism Osick of Route 2, Millstadt, who has attended each of the cooperative's 38 annual meetings, spoke briefly to the crowd.*



# 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.

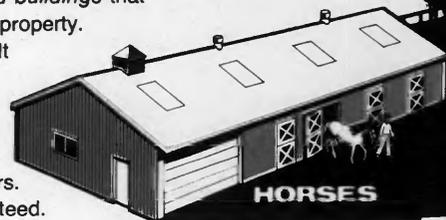


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# Monroe Electric News

MONROE COUNTY ELECTRIC CO-OPERATIVE, INC.

618-939-7171

WATERLOO, ILLINOIS

## *Across the manager's desk*



LeRoy V. Hard  
Manager

We all know that inflation has been taking a heavy toll on our pocketbooks the past few years. What we perhaps fail to realize is that the cost of providing your homes and farms with electricity has risen at even a faster rate than the cost of living in general.

One of the primary reasons is the skyrocketing prices for fuels most often used in the generation of electricity—oil, coal and natural gas.

The charts on these pages deal with the prices electric utilities must pay for fuel burned in their generating plants. All generating utilities are affected equally. Monroe County Electric Co-Operative purchases wholesale power under contract from Illinois Power Company. The cost of fuels they use in generation is a significant factor in the price we pay for our wholesale power.

Chart 1 compares the price of residual fuel oil burned in steam plants over a four year period 1972-1975. In that time the cost per barrel rose from \$2.40 to over \$13.00 a barrel. That's an increase of more than 440 percent.

Coal, the most commonly used fuel for power generation (53 percent) has also risen sharply in price during recent years. Nationally, utilities that were paying an average of \$7.80 a ton for coal in 1970 now must pay an estimated \$28.00 a ton (see Chart 2), with some spot purchases—those not supplied under previous contracts—being made at up to \$40.00 a ton or more.

The price of natural gas, a prime fuel for electric generation plants, is also skyrocketing. Gas sold in interstate commerce is regulated by the Federal Power Commission, while gas which is produced and sold in the same state is usually not regulated. Thus, as Chart 3 shows, the sharpest price increases have come in unregulated intrastate sales. An equally difficult problem with natural gas is its scarcity. Gas used in power plant production has been sharply curtailed. Unfortunately conversion of gas-fired boilers to coal is frequently impractical. For units that are converted the cost can exceed that of a new one.

Late last fall the major oil producing nations raised the

price of oil by 10 percent with another 10 percent increase expected by July 1, 1976.

Shortages, trade restrictions or increased costs of energy in one field affect prices of all other forms of energy. We cannot understand why the cost of coal must increase when the OPEC nations raise the price of oil.

Likewise increases in the cost of material, machinery, equipment and supplies used in the distribution of electricity by the cooperative has risen sharply. For example, one of the most commonly used utility poles that cost about \$16.00 in 1970 now costs \$46.00. The price of guy wire that was about \$25.00 per 1,000 feet in 1970 today costs the cooperative approximately \$153.00 per 1,000 feet.

A 10 KVA transformer used in many residences and farms cost \$125.00 in 1972. The cost today is \$241.00.

The suppliers of nearly all other material used in providing electric service have also raised prices. Prices of equipment have raised comparable to the above examples.

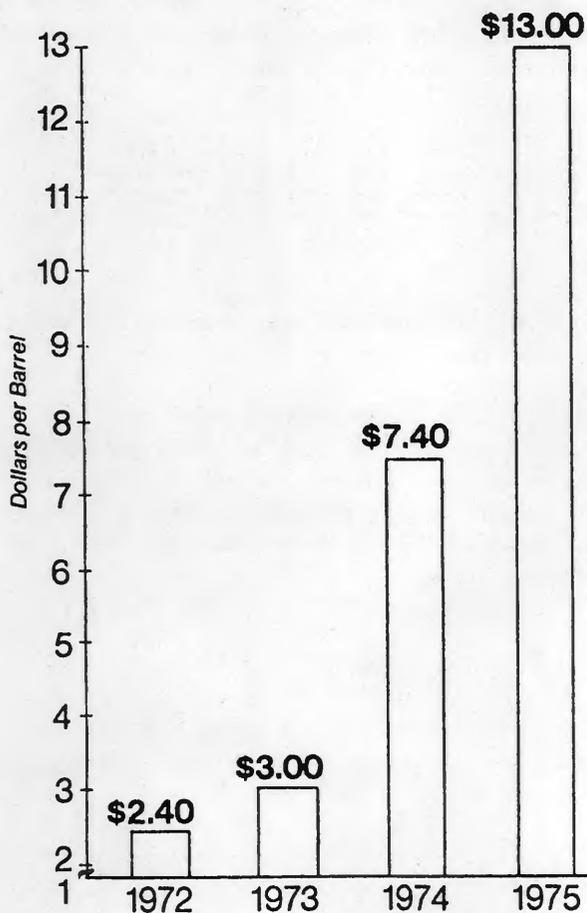
The board of directors and management of Monroe County Electric Co-Operative are sparing no effort to cut expenses whenever and wherever reasonably possible. Operating costs and other controllable costs have been pared to minimum safe levels. We recognize the vital nature of the service we supply and our responsibility to provide that service at a cost consistent with safety and reliability.

The cost of providing electric service increases proportionately as the cost of labor, equipment, materials for operation and maintenance along with wholesale power costs increase. Much time has been spent by the directors and management of the cooperative planning and forecasting the financial needs of the cooperative. With these forecasts in mind it was concluded not to increase the basic membership assessment at that time. However, it will be necessary to increase the wholesale power adjustment to approximately 7 mills, effective June 15, 1976.

For the past 39 years your cooperative has been dedicated to providing its members with a dependable supply of electric power at a cost consistent with sound business practices. We have not changed our objectives, philosophies or goals. We pledge and dedicate our efforts to providing dependable service to our membership on a competitive basis. As always we thank you for your consideration and understanding in this matter.

**Please report any unsafe power line condition immediately to your electric cooperative**

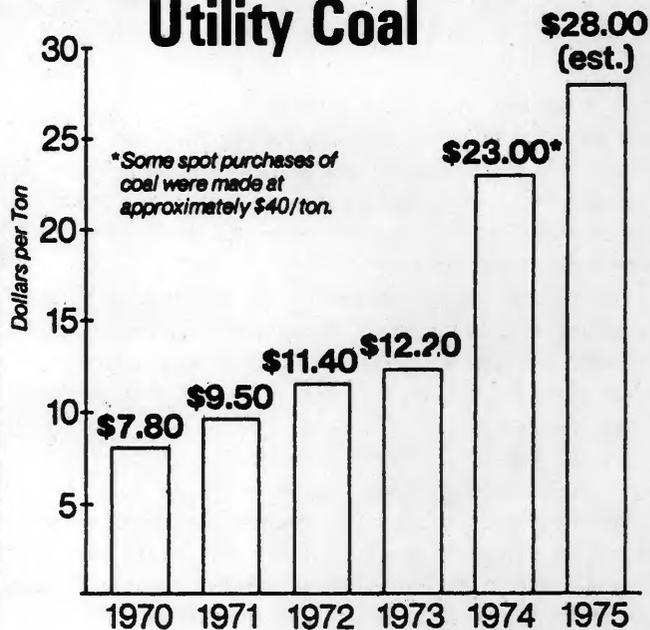
## Price of Residual Fuel Oil Burned In Steam Plants



Source: FPC Fuel Reports And U.S. Department of Commerce

### Chart 1

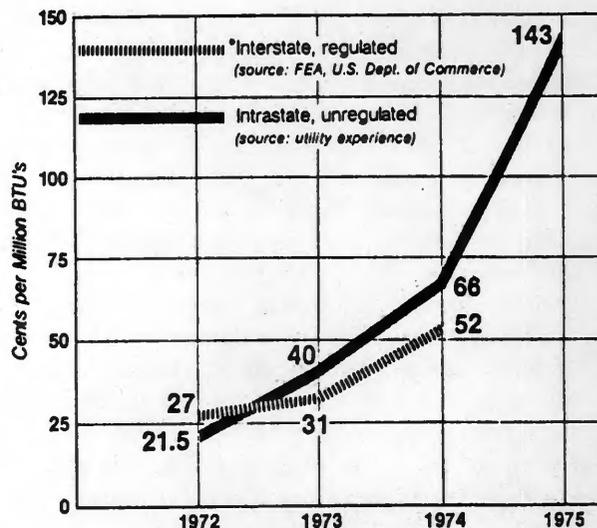
## Price of Electric Utility Coal



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, FPC Fuel Reports, And Utility Experience

### Chart 2

## Natural Gas Prices



\*1974 figures are for first eight months, no 1975 figures available

### Chart 3

# 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.

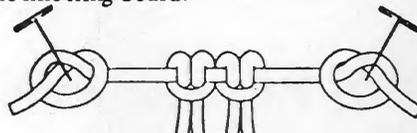
Example: Finished belt length equals 36 inches, 36 multiplied by eight equals 288 inches for each end. Measure each end generously and then add an extra amount of yarn to it. It is better to have extra yarn left over than to have too little for the completed article. The amount of yarn needed for each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

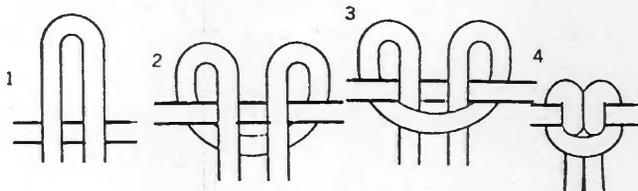
The ends are wound into hand bobbins whenever the length of each end is too long to be easily handled. Wind the ends in figure eights, going around the thumb and then

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.



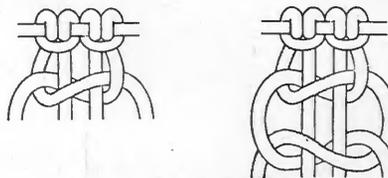
As each end is knotted onto the holding cord, pin the knot to the board. Move each pin down as the knots are tied. The pins should NEVER be more than one-inch away from the knots being tied. Slant the pins away from you and fasten them FIRMLY to the board. If the knotted design looks uneven, either the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



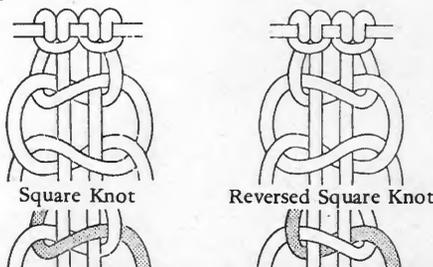
A reversed double half-hitch knot is used to tie the ends of the holding cord.

## 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).



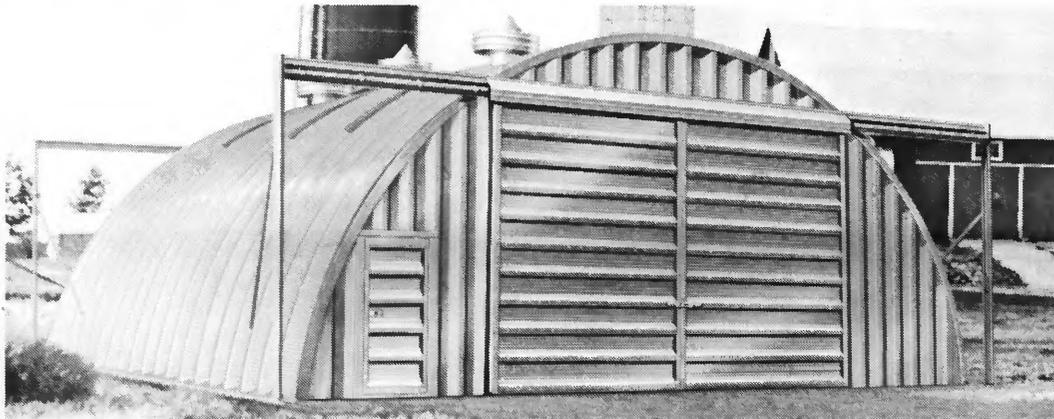
Continue Half Knot, left-right, to make twist.

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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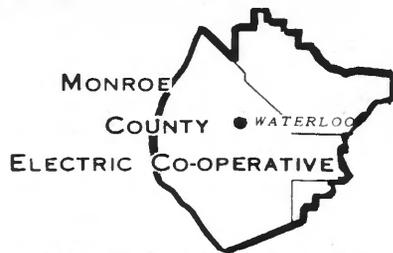
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# Monroe Electric News

MONROE COUNTY ELECTRIC CO-OPERATIVE, INC.

618-939-7171

WATERLOO, ILLINOIS

## Across the manager's desk



LeRoy V. Hard  
Manager

We read and hear how the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has been setting regulations affecting industry and business. What we sometimes don't realize is that OSHA has safety rules and regulations relating to the farmers and farm labor. Following is an article by Don Kendall, farm writer for the Associated Press, concerning OSHA and how it relates to the farmers. We feel that all farmers who hire help full or part-time should be aware of these regulations.

### New Safety Regulations

The government soon will put into effect new safety regulations to protect hired farm workers.

The rules will cover spinning power shafts, gears, belts and pulleys that over the years have taken a substantial toll of life and limb among people who work around agricultural machinery.

For several years, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) of the Labor Department has been phasing in new regulations relating to farm work. Initially, new standards were set for sanitation in migrant labor camps, the handling of anhydrous ammonia, pulpwood logging and slow-moving vehicles.

The most publicly visible effects, for example, have been the bright red reflector emblems required on the rear of slow-moving vehicles that use public thoroughfares, whether they are tractors or horsedrawn buggies.

The regulations, however, do not stop there.

OSHA over the next few months will begin implementing new rules covering tractors, combines, cotton gins and other machines that commonly used to turn out the nation's food and fiber. Safety rules also have been drafted for handling livestock.

The federal rules generally apply to employers of farm labor, and not to a farmer and his family who operate machines entirely themselves. But even these "family farmers" occasionally hire outside help during a peak season, and for those the government regulations apply.

Effective June 7, the federal regulations will require tractors and farmstead power sources to be effectively

shielded along their "power take-off" parts so that chances of a worker becoming injured are reduced.

Other gears, pulleys, belts, chains and sprockets will be required to have guards at their "nip points" of contact on machines manufactured after June 7. There will be no requirement for a farm employer to install those protective devices on machines he already owns.

"While it is true that unguarded nip-points do present a hazard to employees, it is clear that the hazard is not as severe as that present by other farm machinery parts, such as power take-off shafts," OSHA said in publishing its final regulation.

Another requirement will be that an employer must provide a worker with "safety training and education on equipment" no later than June 7, and each year thereafter.

Other regulations affecting agricultural workers and their employers will go into effect later. They include requirements beginning September 7 for electric motors, resets and switches.

One feature will require that "all electrically powered equipment shall have a positive means of disconnecting power under the exclusive control of the operator performing maintenance" on it.

Strict safety rules for cotton gins, including shields, guards and warning devices, will become effective June 30, 1977.

One of the most controversial OSHA proposals has been one for requiring "roll-over protection structures" on farm tractors—rollbars attached so that if the tractor overturns it would help protect the operator from being crushed.

With certain exceptions, a farmer buying a new tractor of more than 20 horsepower after October 25, 1976 will have to include a roll-bar if he intends to let a hired worker operate it.

The regulation will not apply to tractors already owned by farmers, an OSHA spokesman said, "But eventually, they'll have to buy new tractors and that's when they'll have to include this safety device."

During the development of the roll-bar regulation, it became apparent that some kinds of tractors, such as those used around orchards or in cattle sheds or greenhouses, would be impaired by the rule. So it was decided to exclude those types of machines if they were operated within appropriate safety bounds.

The Agriculture Department, through its extension service, is trying to get information about the new OSHA rules out to county agents and others so that farmers can be advised what they will have to do. A number of pamphlets

(continued on page 13)

(continued from page 12)

about various rules are being prepared and are intended for general distribution later this year.

Some pamphlets already have been prepared by OSHA. They include "Safety with Beef Cattle," which advises that federal child labor law prohibits anyone under 16—unless the individual is a member of the family—from working around dangerous animals.

"This means a yard, pen or stall that has in it a bull, boar or stallion," OSHA says. "You also cannot work around a sow with baby pigs or a cow with a young calf."

The pamphlet also includes tips for all those who work

around livestock:

—"Wear the right clothes. Bare feet or sneakers aren't safe around cattle. Wear heavy shoes. Loose clothing can get caught on machines or fences, or frighten cattle. Wear clothes that fit tight."

—"Don't get too tired. You can get too tired when working with cattle. Tired people make mistakes and can get hurt."

—"Never go into a close-in manure storage space unless you have someone outside to help you. Tie rope around you. Then, if you need help, someone can pull you to a safe place."



*LINEMEN CITED—Three linemen for Monroe County Electric Co-Operative, Waterloo, were presented hot line certificates for their completion of safety training in electric utility line work while attending the annual Hot Line School held at SIU/VTI in Carbondale. The presentations were made by James W. Smith, Director, Special Programs Unit, Department of Adult, Vocational and Technical Education, Illinois Office of Education, during the 1976 Job Training and Safety Conference held on March 31 and April 1 at the Holiday Inn East in Springfield. Pictured from left are Wayne Laning, Chairman, Illinois Job Training and Safety Committee; Smith; Maurice Kleyer, lineman apprentice, and Wilbert W. Juelfs, journeyman-lineman. Also recognized but not shown was Ronald Schultheis, lineman-apprentice.*

## Meter Testing to Begin

Starting sometime after July 4 the cooperative will be using Kearns Meter Testing Service of Wayne City, Illinois. This summer approximately 1,000 meters will be checked and tested for accuracy. This service also includes cleaning and maintenance of the meters. This is a continuous program whereby all meters on the cooperative system will be checked over a five-year period. When all the meters are tested the process will be repeated. Most meters are found to be slow. However, this program is for your protection, as well as the cooperative's. Defective meters will be repaired and adjusted in the field if possible. If not, they will be replaced with a new meter.

Lowell Kearns, owner of the meter testing service, will be performing the service on your premises. His truck will have the name Kearns Meter Testing on the door and Mr. Kearns

will have proper identification. If you are in doubt of any person or persons stating they are representatives of the

cooperative, ask them for identification. If they refuse, call the cooperative or the police.



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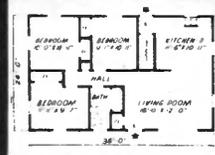
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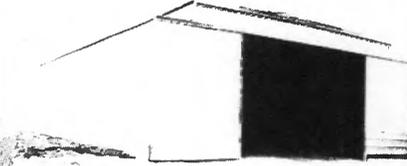
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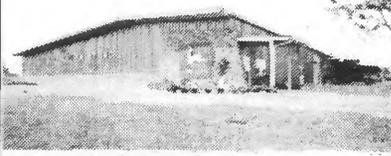
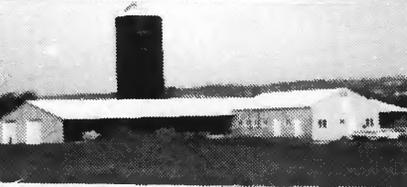
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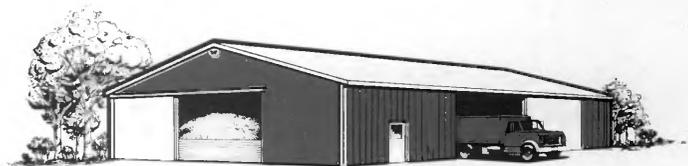
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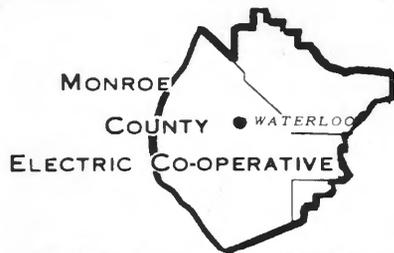
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IR853

# 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.



# Monroe Electric News

MONROE COUNTY ELECTRIC CO-OPERATIVE, INC.

618-939-7171

WATERLOO, ILLINOIS

## Across the manager's desk



LeRoy V. Hard  
Manager

Promotion of a super-efficient energy saving "house of the future—today" is finding strong interest and support by home builders and utilities across the country.

With the competitive desire and need to keep the cost of new homes as low as possible the home building industry has, until recently, had little incentive to inform prospective customers of the fact that heating and cooling costs for the life of the mortgage exceed the cost of preventing much of these energy losses. While low construction cost is still important, reduced energy consumption and costs have become essential to the nation and homeowner.

With the cost of energy for home heating and cooling increasing at a rate greater than we have experienced to date, it is important that cost saving alternatives be developed. One that holds promise came out of a program jointly conducted by an Arkansas utility company and the Little Rock area office of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

In the Arkansas experiment energy conserving homes were designed to have a total heat loss which would be 68 percent less than homes built according to FHA minimum property standards. These homes are now averaging 37 percent less on their electric bills than other housing in the area. These percentages differ because heating is only one of the uses of electricity in the home.

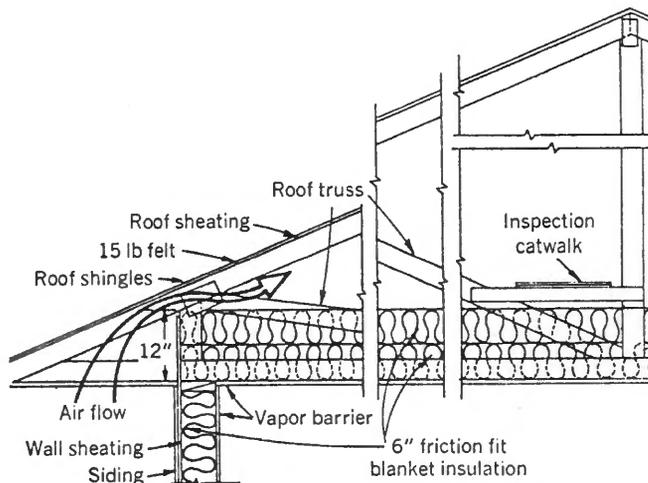
The energy conserving homes were built with six-inch stud walls, 24 inches on center. This allows for compression of six inches of fiber glass insulation (R-19) in the 5½-inch walls. The ceiling has 12 inches (R-38) of friction batt type insulation complete with a vapor barrier, as does the floor and walls. Crawl space floor is insulated with six inches of R-19 friction batt insulation. If a concrete slab floor is used, 1½-inch rigid Urethane foam perimeter insulation is specified.

Window area is designed not to exceed eight percent of the footage of the wall area. Storm windows are recommended, although vinyl coated wood frame insulated windows are permissible.

It is claimed that homes built to these specifications

will use about half of the heating and cooling energy required for a conventional home. The homeowner will benefit from a home which, at little or no additional cost, will provide superior sound insulation, greater comfort and considerably lower heating and cooling costs. The only compromises necessary are the acceptance of less window area and a slight loss of living space within the same outside dimensions.

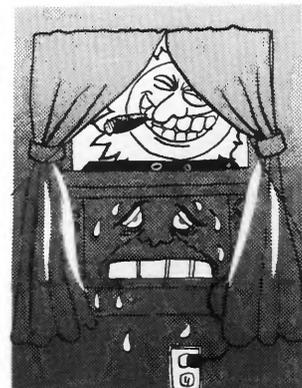
The cooperative concurs with the specifications of the Arkansas experiment. There is presently one home on the cooperative system being constructed using these specifications. If you are planning on building a new home we recommend that you consider building to the Arkansas specifications. For details contact your Member Services Department here at the cooperative.



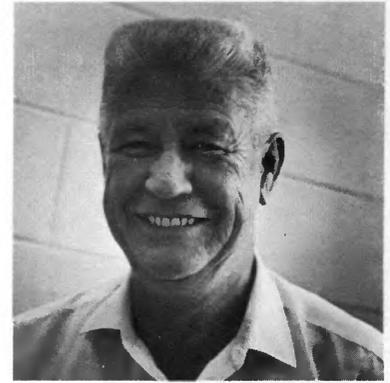
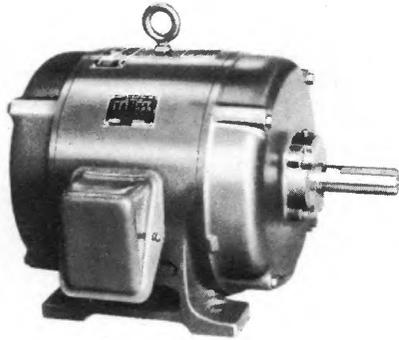
Lower heat loss and gain is possible with 6-in. batts (R-18) in the walls, and by 'doubling up' in the ceiling with 12-in. (R-38)

## Savings Suggestions

Keep your cool! Place your air-conditioning unit out of direct sunlight and keep drapes closed to prevent the sun's heat from entering. Choose the correct size conditioner for the area to be cooled, don't overcool and close off unused rooms.



## From Your Engineering Department:



**Wiley Jones**  
Superintendent  
of Operations

# Prevent Motor Burnouts

Have you ever had to rewind a large electric motor? Do you have a large motor that you would hate to replace? These are expensive attention getting questions that should make you want to read on.

Before getting into the prevention of motor burnouts, let's take a look at some causes that could lead to burn-out. Trying to start a motor under excessive load, such as a clogged auger or a frozen drive, will cause the motor to pull higher than normal running current, which will develop heat. If this starting period is maintained too long, this heat build-up will damage the motor winding insulation. **This Can Be Prevented With Proper Fusing.**

Low voltage at the motor terminals due to poor wiring, bad or deteriorated connections or power supplier problems will force both the running motor and the motor being started to draw extra normal current which can cause heat build-up and burnout as previously described. **This Too Can Be Prevented With Proper Fusing.**

If you have a three-phase power system and one phase is lost for some reason, above normal currents in the remaining energized phases will again cause heat build-up, which, if maintained for a sufficient period, will damage the motor winding insulation.

### Here Again This Can Be Prevented With Proper Fusing!

If all of these causes for motor burnout can be fused against, then why do motors burn up? The answer is, of course, they are not properly fused. The worst result that could develop with any of the above described conditions is a few blown fuses. It is a lot cheaper to replace fuses than to rewind motors. Did you know that there are fuses available that will protect motors from several hundred horsepower down to 1/6 hp? Don't assume that your motors are properly protected against burnout. Make this check. Read the full-load current given in amperes on the motor nameplate. Read the service factor (S.F.) and the temperature rise in degrees centigrade. If the motor has a marked S.F. of not less than 1.15 or if the marked temperature used is not over 40 degrees centigrade, multiply the full load amperes by 125 percent.

For proper protection this value **cannot** be exceeded. If it is exceeded, costly motor burnout can happen.

If the S.F. is less than 1.15 or the temperature rise is more than 40 degrees, the motor will require even closer protection. Multiply the full-load current by 115 percent and you have the maximum value of amperes to carry for proper overload protection.

Because motors require high current when starting, a common time lag fuse must be used so that fuses don't blow needlessly during the starting period. One common time lag fuse readily available is made by the Bussmann Company and is referred to by the trade name Fusetron.

Many times those installing motors will initially install either common standard fuses or simply rely on a circuit breaker of the electrical panel to protect the motor.

Unfortunately the amperage rating of these circuit elements must be kept so high for starting that they will only protect motors against burnout from short circuits and will not protect for loss of phase or low grade faults.

Check each motor installation now to see that each motor is properly fused. If you have two or more motors on one set of fuses or one motor controller, you are in trouble for there is no way you can keep your motors from burning out if trouble occurs.

Proper fusible links with a time delay feature are also available for motor starting controls. Don't assume that what you have installed now is right. Check with your electrician or contact this cooperative for assistance in proper selection of motor protection elements.

**Remember, Motor Burn-Out Can Be Prevented!**



**'Youth to Washington' Tour:**

# Nothing like it before

*(continued from page 9)*

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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.

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 Carbonale and Tim Hall of Dwight. Repre-

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I plan to do  all  part of the work

# 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.

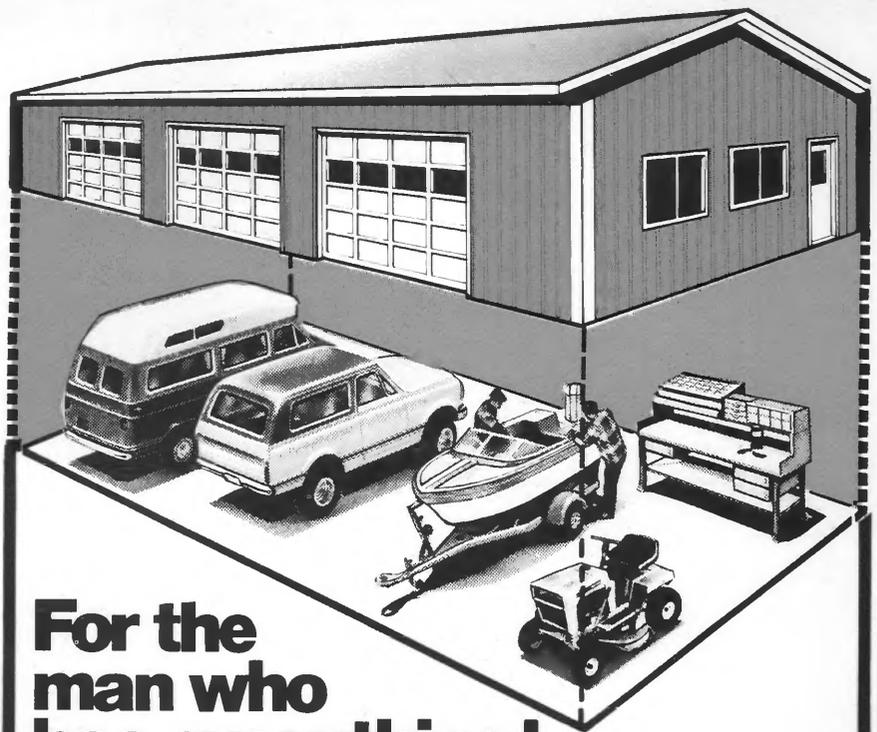
Cindy Morton, 19, of Paloma, was crowned "Miss Illinois Electric Cooperative." Miss Morton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn B. Morton of Paloma, succeeded Anita Carlson of Milford. She is a graduate of Camp Point's Central High School and will be a sophomore at Quincy College this fall. She represented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



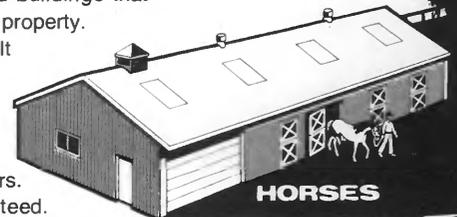
**For the man who has everything!**  
(except a place to put it)



**UTILITY**

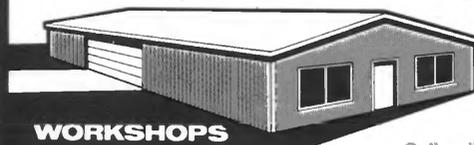
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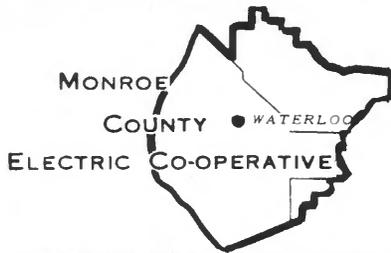
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# Monroe Electric News

MONROE COUNTY ELECTRIC CO-OPERATIVE, INC.

618-939-7171

WATERLOO, ILLINOIS

## Across the manager's desk



LeRoy V. Hard  
Manager

The flood of rhetoric and debate on the energy crisis is still filled with many widely different perceptions as to what the problem is, let alone what the solution should be. The environmentalist sees the situation in terms of excessive use and waste of energy resources; the gas industry sees it in terms of well-head prices, the auto manufacturers in terms of exhaust emission standards; the oil industry in terms of refining capacity and import restraints; the electric utility in terms of fuel costs and environmental restraints and restrictions in generation plant construction.

This diversity in perceptions is actually less remarkable than the fact that almost everything you read and hear is focused on the fuel supply/demand imbalance. As a result most solutions are directed toward cutting back on consumption and increasing our production of energy resources. That is we must simply ration gasoline, lower the thermostat, build smaller cars, undertake more exploration, drill more oil wells, build more refineries and mine more coal.

The fact that these so called solutions seem to overlook is that exhaustion of U. S. and world oil and gas resources is within sight.

At current growth rates, we are simply running out of oil and gas reserves. Since these are the fuels on which we depend 80 percent of our energy needs their potential depletion defines the true nature of the energy crisis.

If we are to deal effectively and realistically with the energy crisis we must reduce our dependence on oil and gas by shifting to energy sources that are more plentiful—coal and uranium. For most purposes these two forms of energy have to be converted to electricity.

Creating the electric economy, as many propose, means that we should begin now to substitute electricity for the direct combustion of oil and gas where it is technically and economically feasible. The consumers of energy will need to be informed of and taught the feasibility and advantages of switching to electric energy. Our electric system capacity must grow to meet these new demands.

What then does this mean? It means we as a nation must take a long searching look at our energy goals and priorities. Emphasis should be placed: on mass transit in our cities, on coal gasification and liquefaction, on uranium enrichment, on fast breeder reactors and fusion, on heat pumps and more uses of electricity.

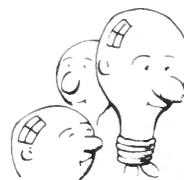
If our nation is not to settle for cutting back on consumption or for a low energy, low vitality world, then our economy must be built on energy sources other than gas and oil. There is literally no alternative to an electric economy except a declining economy.

## Notice

### Please Discontinue Use of Postage Free Envelopes

The United States Postal Service has made significant changes in Postal regulations which govern the use of business reply mail. These changes make it impractical for the cooperative to continue use of the business reply permit.

Some cooperative members are still using the postage free yellow envelopes to mail in their monthly remittance. This practice was discontinued in July of 1975. PLEASE DISCONTINUE USING THE YELLOW ENVELOPES. THE POST OFFICE WILL NO LONGER HONOR THIS MAIL. YOUR PAYMENT MAY BECOME DELAYED OR LOST IF USE IS CONTINUED.



## 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!

# Wind and Electrical Storms Hit Area

Area farmers welcomed the rains that recently hit the cooperative service area ending the several weeks of drought. Lawn and garden buffs were also happy to see the rains come. The rain was a salvation to many of the corn and bean crops in the area.

High winds and lightning accompanied the rains on two different occasions and caused considerable damage to cooperative lines and members' electric service. The 40-to 50-mile-per-hour winds uprooted trees and tore off limbs that fell on electric lines and disrupted electric service. The lightning struck transformer regulators, meters and insulators causing further damage.

Monday evening, July 26, at approximately 8:30 p. m. the storm struck. Cooperative servicemen were dispatched to take care of individual outages called in by members at 9 p. m. The servicemen worked throughout the night and the next day until 5 p. m. restoring electric service to all members.

There was a total of 42 individual and line outages affecting 294 members. In addition, the Fults, Poe and Waterloo substations were out during the night, affecting 2,797 members.

Early Saturday morning, July 31, another rain, wind and lightning storm hit the area. The damage and outages were not as severe as the previous storm. There were 12 individual and line outages affecting 80 members during this storm.

The cooperative board of directors and management extend our appreciation to the cooperative linecrew and other personnel for the yeoman service they gave during these two outages, as well as their dedication to provide dependable, reliable electric service to the membership at all times.

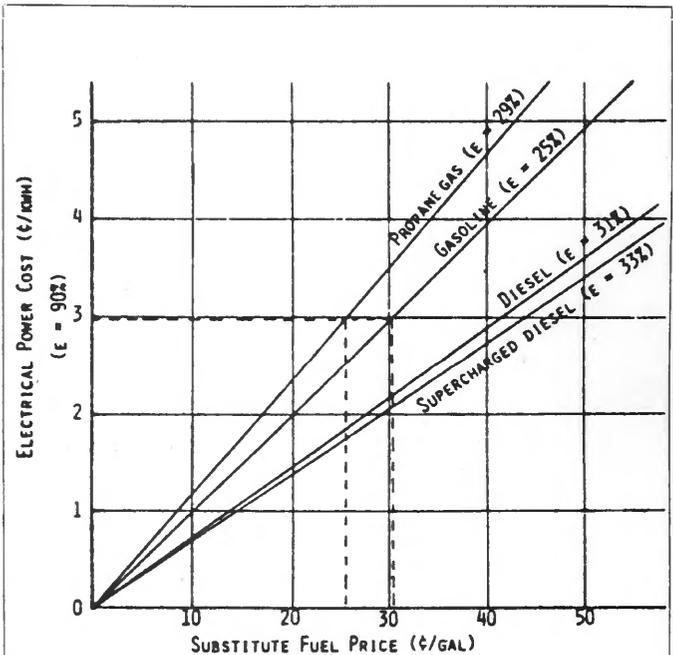
We also want to extend our appreciation to the membership for their patience and understanding during these times of duress. We assure you that the cooperative is dedicated to providing a continuity of reliable service keeping outage time to a minimum.



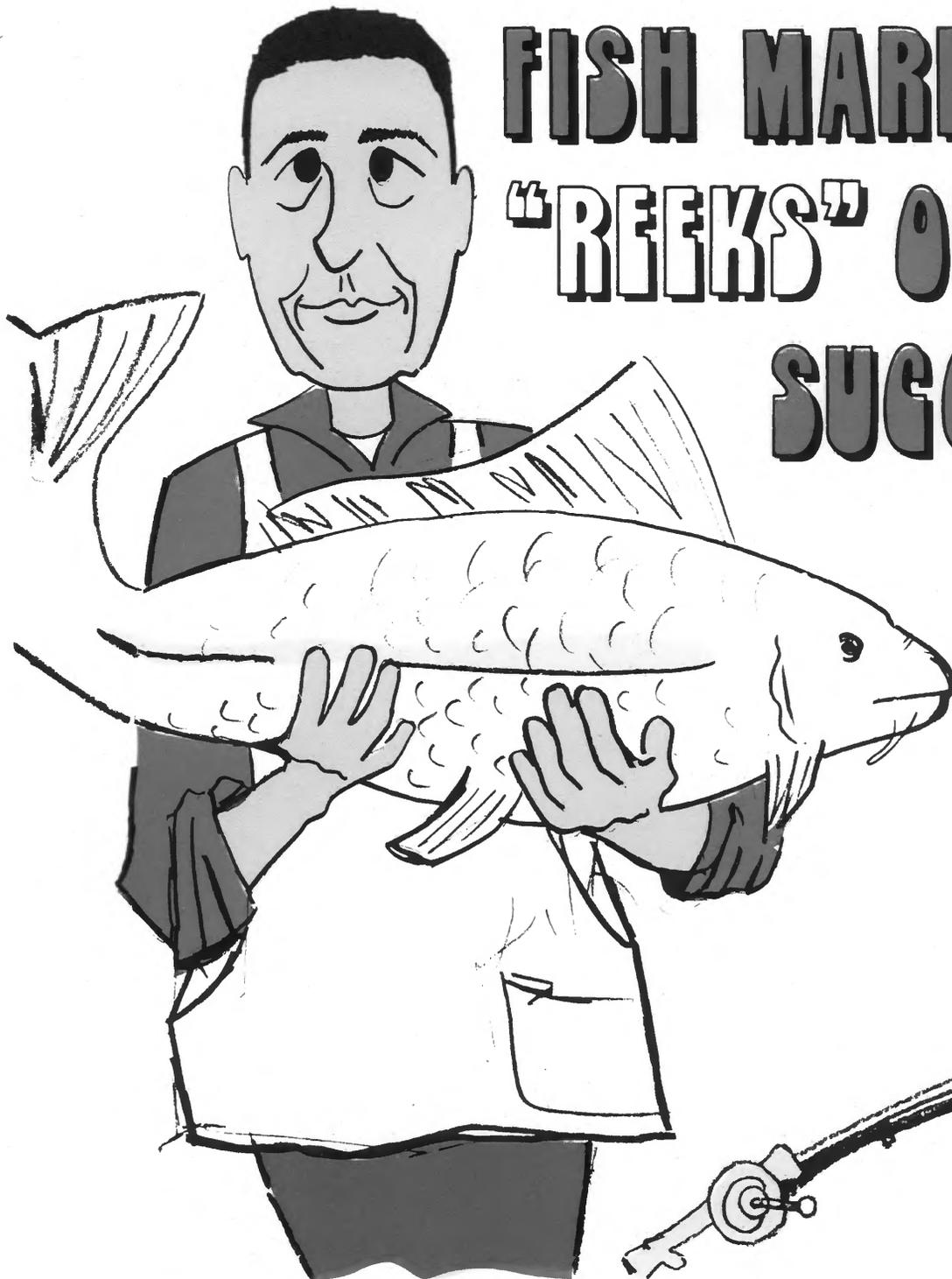
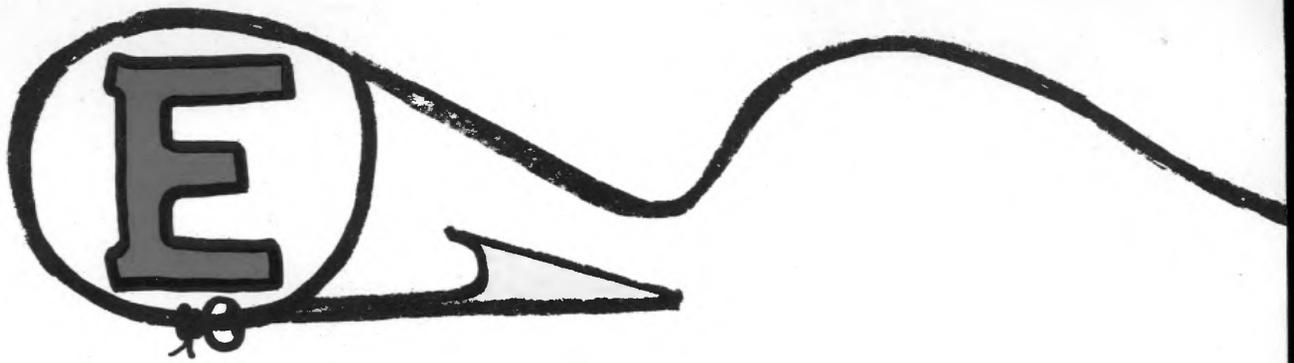
Aftermath of a flash flood on the farm of cooperative member Wayne Seibert south of Waterloo. Several pigs were drowned as a result of the rains that accompanied the storm on July 27.



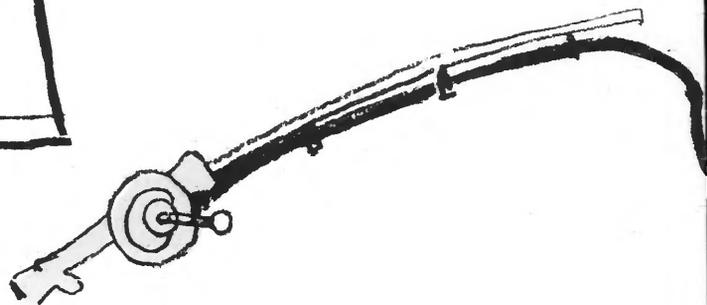
This is typical of damage to personal property and to cooperative and members' electric lines in our service area.



Relative value of substitute fuels compared to electricity on heat content and conversion efficiency basis. In example, propane at 26 cents or regular gasoline at 30 cents would give equal total energy per dollar invested to electric energy at 3 cents/kwh.



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# Monroe Electric News

MONROE COUNTY ELECTRIC CO-OPERATIVE, INC.

618-939-7171

WATERLOO, ILLINOIS

## *Across the manager's desk*



LeRoy V. Hard  
Manager

The Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC) is a service organization of and for 30 rural electric cooperatives including generation, transmission and distribution cooperatives in the state of Illinois. Monroe County Electric Co-Operative is a sustaining member of AIEC and subscribes to many of the services it offers. One of the more important functions of the AIEC is the monitoring of legislation on both the state and federal level, which affects the rural electrification program and the electric utility industry. We as a local cooperative could not keep abreast of the many bills proposed in our state and federal legislative bodies. The AIEC staff reviews and keeps the cooperatives advised on proposed legislation and their interpretation of how the proposed legislation will affect the electric cooperatives of Illinois. AIEC at its annual meeting in August of this year adopted several resolutions which we would like to share with you. They are indicative of and reflect the "energy crisis" our nation is facing. Below are excerpts from two of the resolutions adopted:

### **National and State Energy Policy**

A national and state energy policy which considers economic reasonableness and technological feasibility with respect to the generation, transmission and distribution of electricity in relation to the environment and less time consuming and less costly permit system for generating facility siting will create additional employment for American workers, and is essential to an orderly industrial and commercial recovery of the economy.

The Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives respectfully urges and requests that a coordinated effort to ensure an adequate, reliable supply of electricity and fuel to generate such electricity at the lowest possible cost, while respecting the integrity of the public health and welfare and environment be undertaken by the executive and legislative branches of the federal and state governments and related agencies and commissions.

### **Need for Nuclear and Coal Energy Base**

The "energy crisis" illustrated the need for a shift in

reliance on the use of energy sources from oil and gas to coal and uranium. Nuclear fuel and coal offer the only reliable means to meet domestic energy needs, while at the same time lessen our dependence on foreign oil imports.

The necessity for future reliance on coal and nuclear energy is evident. Oil and gas resources are being depleted rapidly and their use should be reserved for those economic areas which contribute to the greatest national good. United States coal resources are far greater than our petroleum and natural gas resources. Uranium is used in present day reactors, can produce approximately 48 percent of the energy represented by coal and oil resources. The development of fast breeder reactors will result in a seventy fold increase in nuclear energy reserves. The fast breeder reactor creates more nuclear fuel than it consumes while producing electric power.

In addition nuclear plants are safe. No one has ever been killed or injured by a nuclear accident at a nuclear power plant. The nuclear material in the care of a nuclear power reactor is physically incapable of exploding.

Only coal and nuclear energy can provide sufficient or reasonably priced energy in quantities needed through the end of this century. The nation must proceed now to develop nuclear electric power and the fast breeder reactor technology to ensure that energy to be derived from it will be available when needed.

As previously stated, the above are excerpts from two of the resolutions adopted by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives. Monroe County Electric Co-Operative has representation on the AIEC board of directors and has a voice in its activities and policies. The directors and management of Monroe County Electric Co-Operative endorses the actions and the above resolutions adopted by AIEC.

## **Conserve-A-Tip**

Over half the heat that escapes from a house in the winter is lost through windows, cracks and open doors. Take a tip . . . use weatherstripping and caulk those cracks—and keep doors closed.

**It pays to conserve energy**

# COOPERATIVE MONTH: OCTOBER 1976



## COOPERATIVES, PEOPLE WORKING TOGETHER

*Statement by Robert D. Partridge,  
Executive Vice President and General  
Manager, National Rural Electric  
Cooperative Association.*

"People Working Together"—the national theme for the Bicentennial year's Cooperative Month observance during October—exemplifies the basic ingredient of the cooperative philosophy. People work together when they want to accomplish a job they cannot do alone and when they have common needs, goals and ideals. During the Bicentennial year, this theme seems particularly meaningful because, surely, the founding fathers of our great nation had to indeed work together to attain an independent country.

Today, because of the cooperative philosophy—because people worked together—some 50 million Americans are member-owners of 40,000 cooperatives which fill a multitude of needs

throughout the nation.

In 1976 in a world where American technology far surpasses that of other countries, we tend to forget the "people-part" of our nation's successes. But when we reflect about it, we can easily see that our successes are based on human skill and ingenuity...human awareness of needs...and compassion for others.

We, the people directly involved in the rural electrification program, do not have to look back far at all—just 40 years—to examine our beginnings. Our rural electric "founding fathers" were determined to bring electricity to their homes and farms to improve their standard of living and raise their level of work efficiency. They were determined to fight for what they wanted; and even though they were ridiculed and told they wouldn't succeed, they did not become discouraged and give up.

Our story is truly one of success. The cooperative way of setting up consumer-owned electric systems caught on...and electricity did, indeed, come to rural America. No longer were farm and household chores back-breaking and time-consuming. Rural America began to produce food and fiber in a way which never before seemed possible.

There is no "happy ending" to our story...because it's far from ended. Although nearly 100 percent of America's countryside is electrified, rural electric cooperatives and their leaders face new challenges. Heading the list is the energy crisis and all its

implications, which include rising costs, fuel supplies, lagging research and development and how to protect the environment while producing adequate power. Rural America is rapidly changing as people come from—in many cases, return from...congested cities to make their homes, work, and raise their families in a quieter, calmer environment.

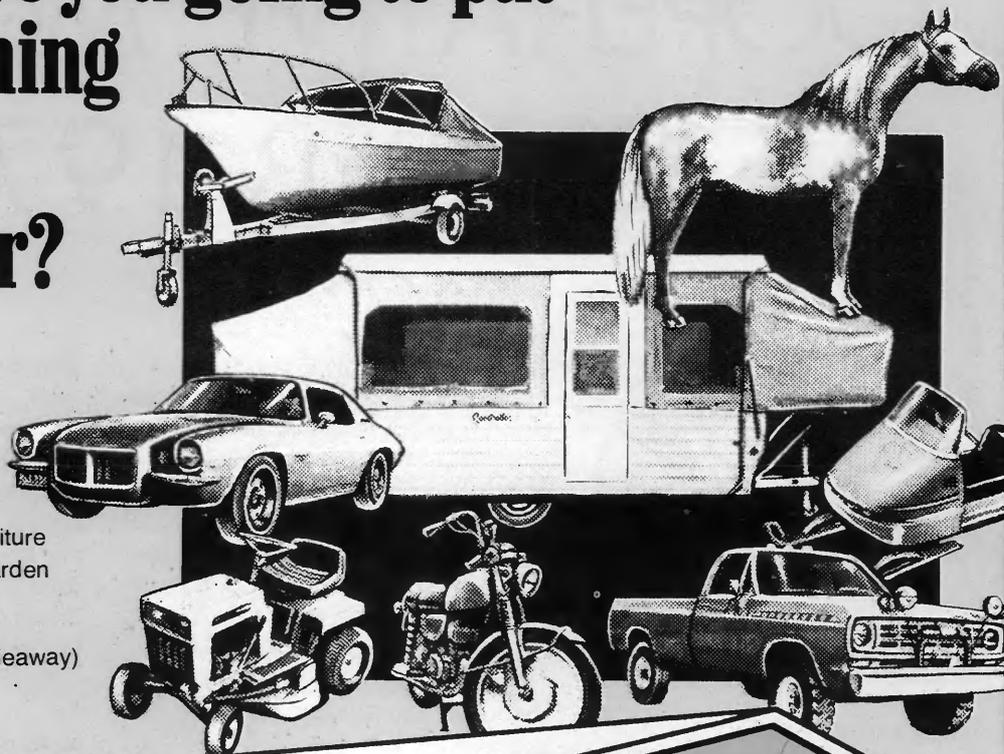
Rural electric leaders are looked to for their expertise in getting the job done of improving their communities, helping create new jobs, working for adequate housing and health care facilities. Through their local, state and annual meetings, the consumer-members and leaders of America's nearly 1,000 rural electric cooperatives come together to discuss these new challenges and to seek solutions to their problems. Each consumer-member has a voice—that, too, is part of cooperative philosophy—and through the exchange of ideas and information, decisions are reached, goals and objectives are set forth, and policies established.

The procedures are not much different than they were 40 years ago. But the numbers have changed for a very small group of people working together to nearly 25-million consumers in 46 states.

The people of the rural electrification program are a prime example of "people working together"—they've accomplished quite a lot in just 40 short years; and they will continue work for the good of rural America and for the good of the nation.

# 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)

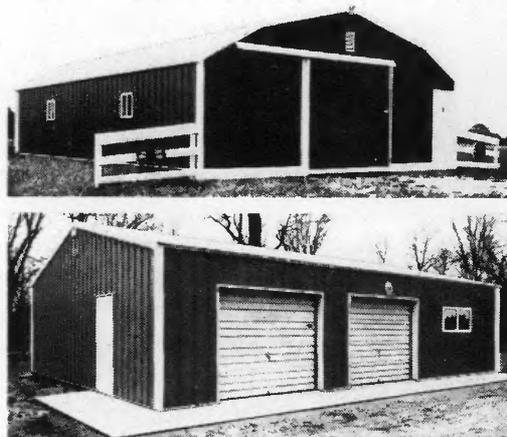


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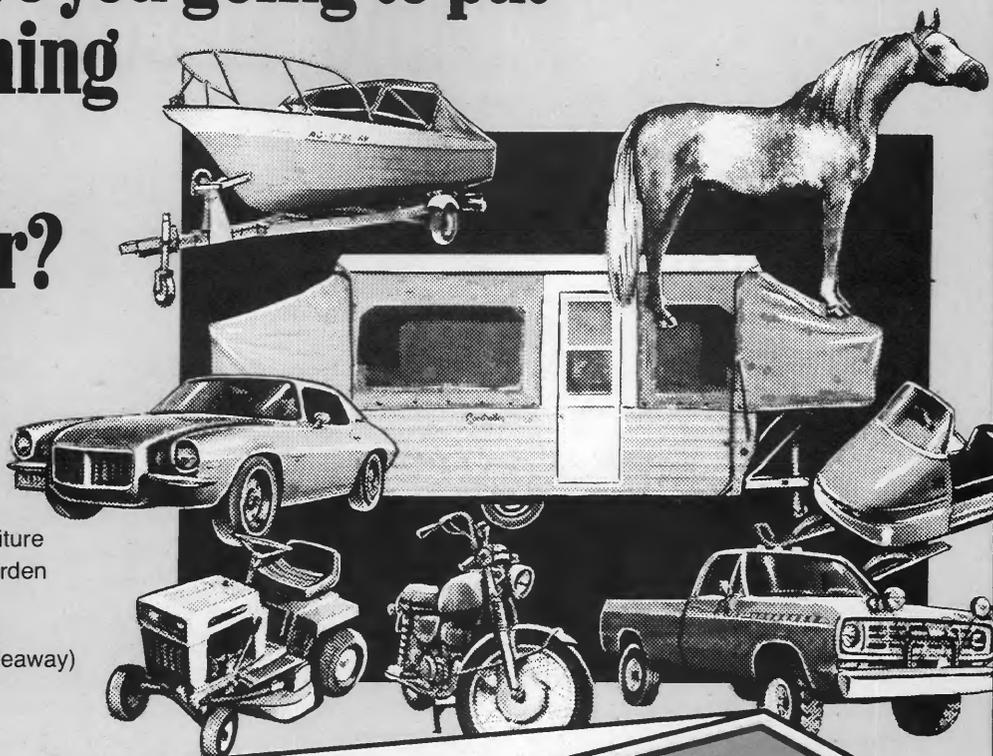
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# Where are you going to put everything this Winter?

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- Snowmobiles
- (A Handy Hideaway)

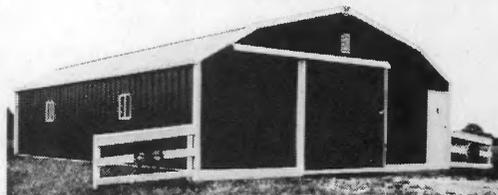


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# Monroe Electric News

MONROE COUNTY ELECTRIC CO-OPERATIVE, INC.

618-939-7171

WATERLOO, ILLINOIS

## Across the manager's desk



LeRoy V. Hard  
Manager

A little more than 100 years ago the prime fuel in this county was wood and the nation's heat and energy came largely from the toil of woodcutters. Whale oil sold for \$3 a gallon and was much prized for use in fancy lamps.

By 1900 there were 76 million Americans living in this country. Each citizen consumed the equivalent of almost five tons of coal. Farm animals powered our agriculture and wind powered our sailing vessels. There were no horseless carriages to consume energy.

In 1975, our energy use had increased eight-fold, the per capita consumption had tripled. Much of this increase can be attributed to the automobile; however, other forms of energy use including electricity are also responsible. A quick glance at one comfortable home revealed 124 electrical appliances, 44 of them plugged in ready for use. There were 95 electric light bulbs in lamps and ceiling fixtures ready to turn on.

Recent surveys show that 80 percent of urban women and 52 percent farm women think there is an energy shortage. Many think that the talk of a shortage of energy is contrived to justify price increases. Many of these same women felt that the American public could not face up to an energy shortage, but expressed confidence in our American "public spirit."

Everyone is naturally in favor of conserving energy and everyone is against waste. Having discovered that conservation of energy is neither simple or quickly achieved, the country seems to have abandoned interest in energy conservation.

This brings up the question, are we ready for energy conservation? Are we as consumers as concerned about our lifestyle as with demands on our pocketbook? I have yet to visit with a homemaker with a frost-free refrigerator who, after having been explained the difference in operating cost, would agree to give up her frost-free unit for one she had to defrost herself. No way was she interested in adding this task to her homemaking chores regardless of the additional consumption.

Are we as consumers ready to give up conveniences because they cost more today than yesterday? All surveys

show that while the consumer is concerned about energy conservation, he is still increasing his demand for power. Nearly all respondents are using more energy now than ever and plan to continue to rely more heavily on electric energy, and that two-thirds could not or would not shed electric load.

Energy conservation is not the only answer to the energy crisis. The productivity of our nation depends on our energy supply. We must explore all sources of future supply and must proceed in development and construction. However, until steps are taken to improve the energy situation by new technologies, we can eliminate waste and strive for the most efficient utilization of energy.

The effectiveness of energy conservation depends on the commitment by consumer-members, the electric industry and national leaders to the wise use of all resources: human, mechanical and natural.

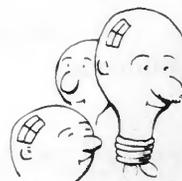
## Interesting Facts

About 1.8 percent of the average family's disposable income is spent on residential electric bills. Approximately the same amount they spend for alcohol.

The average family spends twice as much on gasoline for their automobile as they do for electric power.

In industry, less than one percent of the cost of producing the average product is for electricity.

The above leads to the conclusion that electricity is still the lowest price product in the market today. Its price is high only when compared to what it used to cost, not when compared to the price of other necessary and luxury products and services.



## 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!

# Cost of Operation Chart

Note: These are *average kwhs* for a family of four.  
And no family uses electricity like any other family.

Appliance	Average Wattage	Average kwh Monthly Use	Hint	Estimated kwh Per Month
<b>Refrigerator</b>				
12'-16' standard	265	100-120	Do you have more than one refrigerator?	_____
16' frostless	475	150-230		_____
20' frostless	540	225-275	Add or subtract 20 kwh per cu. ft.	_____
<b>Freezer</b>				
12'-15' standard	350	100-190		_____
12'-15' frostless	440	150-240		_____
<b>Television</b>				
Color	332	100-110	How many TV's ?	_____
Black & White	237	50-65	Is TV viewed more than 4 hours daily? Add 25 kwh for each additional hour	_____
<b>Range</b>	12,000	100-150	Add 25 kwh for each additional family member	_____
<b>Water Heater</b> (quick recovery)	4,500	160 per person	x _____ Baby counts 2. Are you a generous user? How many baths per day? Showers?	_____
<b>Clothes Washer</b>	600	.5 per load	x _____ No. loads per month	_____
<b>Clothes Dryer</b>	4,350	5 per load	x _____ No. loads per month	_____
<b>Dishwasher</b>	1,190	30-48	x _____ No. loads per month	_____
<b>Miscellaneous</b> (Small Appliances)		25	Any gourmet cooks in family? Teenagers?	_____
<b>Water Pump</b>	460	120		_____
<b>Lighting</b>		75-150		_____
Estimated Base Load KWH Per Month (Does Not Include Heating Or Cooling)			<b>Total</b>	_____

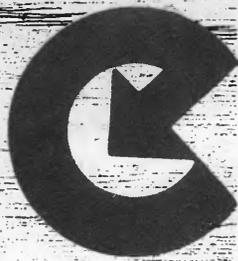
In the manager's column on the preceding page, we discussed energy consumption and the public's attitude toward conservation.

The above chart reflects recent research of current consumption patterns of consumers in satisfying their basic electric needs. It is based on average usage of a family of four.

We ask that you use the chart to determine your basic

electric load per month. It will give you an idea of the approximate amount of electricity you should use in normal or average conditions. You must take into consideration the size of your family, abnormal uses and your living habits.

One thing the chart will show you is what appliances are costing you the most to operate. These may be the ones you want to conserve on.



# 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 tem-  
perature of 60 is best to hold the  
coloring. During the daytime, tem-  
perature was 72 in the greenhouse.

(continued on page 14)

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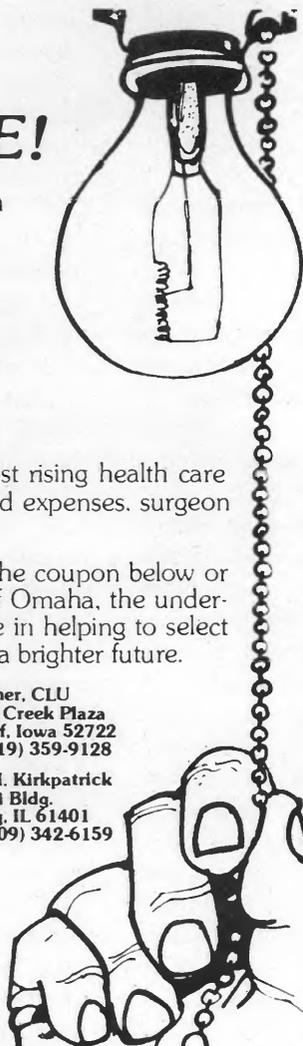
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# Monroe Electric News

MONROE COUNTY ELECTRIC CO-OPERATIVE, INC.

618-939-7171

WATERLOO, ILLINOIS

## Across the manager's desk



LeRoy V. Hard  
Manager

We have recently completed a series of area meetings. These meetings were held at Fults, Hecker, Columbia and Waterloo.

Realizing there is limited time at our annual meeting to answer your questions, we scheduled the area meetings to enable us to get out in the area to renew acquaintances and answer questions you may have concerning the cooperative. Since the attendance at the area meetings was somewhat less than anticipated we will use the month's manager's column to summarize the material covered.

The cooperative has recently inaugurated an electric safety program entitled REACT, Responsible Electric Accident Control Today. The purpose of the program is to create a total awareness among the membership, general public, youth and other organizations of the need for total involvement in accident prevention activities.

The REACT program creates and maintains a high degree of awareness and interest through its activities, such as stimulating safety activities of the membership and the public in cooperation with appropriate official agencies and other safety organizations and assisting in their development of practical, effective safety projects and activities. As an electric cooperative we are acutely aware as undoubtedly you are of the potentially serious accidents that can occur when antennas come in contact with overhead power lines. This has been a problem for years especially with the do-it-yourself installers who are not always aware of the hazards. The rapid growth of citizens band radio popularity is increasing the problem.

The cooperative's insurance carrier reports that 26 accidents involving antennas coming into contact with power lines were reported from April, 1975, through August, 1976. They studied 19 of the most serious of these accidents. The results of their study showed the frequency of these accidents increased significantly since January, 1976, and the majority of the accidents since then (11 of 13) involved CB antennas.

Their study also revealed that the antennas involved in all 19 cases were mounted on top of a metal mast and rested on the ground at their base and were supported by

guy wires or the eaves of the house. Since most base station CB antennas are lightweight and 30-40 feet tall they are usually assembled on the ground and walked into position. The majority of victims were simply walking the antenna into place when the contact with power lines was made. Almost one-half of the victims died of electrocution. All but one were standing on the ground holding the mast.

We encourage you to discuss this with your family and friends. You can be most helpful in spotting existing antenna installations that are potentially hazardous.

The cooperative has an interesting program on REACT, available for showing to any interested group. Contact the cooperative office for additional information.

The energy situation was also discussed. We all recall reading the story of Gulliver, who was tied down by the little people with thousands of small strings. It seems the electric utilities and energy companies are in the same shape. We have seen a gradual accumulation of restrictions, environmental regulatory rules and regulations, impact statements, public and regulatory hearings, court action, etc., until at a most critical time in our history of this country, at a time when our economy and way of life are based on an abundant energy supply, we find the giant energy industries of the country so enmeshed in the string of restraint, we are finding it impossible to move toward meeting the challenge of shifting our energy base away from the declining supplies of petroleum to the more abundant supplies of coal or nuclear fuel.

In addition, we have a credibility problem. Energy companies are not believed by the public or on Capitol Hill. To the majority we are looked up on as villains in the energy crisis and in rising costs. We need to somehow gain public understanding and confidence. Even if there was perfect agreement, cooperation and understanding in shifting our energy base away from petroleum that currently supplies almost 75 percent of our energy, and do it in time, would present tremendous challenge. To do it under circumstances that now prevail will require a miracle. But we know of no other answer than for those of us who understand and are aware of the energy situation, to use every opportunity and all our resources in constructive, educational efforts, among our employees and in our social, business and professional relationship to try to get public understanding of the seriousness of the present energy situation and available options.

We enjoyed visiting with those of you who attended the area meetings and invite the rest to attend these meetings when held in your area next year. In the meantime, if you have questions concerning the cooperative, come in and discuss them with us.

# Story of Christmas in Bicentennial America

**THE BEGINNING**—On December 25, 1492, the history of Christmas started in the New World, when Columbus' ship the Santa Maria, was abandoned off the coast of Haiti.

In Virginia in the year 1613 a record by an expedition of Captain John Smith read:

*"The extream wind, rayne, frost and snow caused us to keepe Christmas among the Salvages where we were never more merry, nor fed on more plenty of good Oysters, Fish, Flesh, Wilde fowel and good bread, nor never had better fires in England."*

Settlers in Virginia brought many customs from England, the burning of the Yule log, ringing bells, lavish dining, dancing, games and Christmas carols. Churches and homes were decorated colorfully, and parties and balls were memorable.

The Pilgrim Fathers arrived in Plymouth some seven years later, bringing with them their strong distaste for Christmas. Thanksgiving Day, with its feasting and neighborly celebrations with friendly Indians, was more like Christmas.

In 1659, the General Court of Massachusetts enacted the law by which "anyone who is found observing, by abstinence from labor, feasting, or any other way, any such days as Christmas day, shall pay for every such offense five shillings." However, the Puritans did not have their way for long and the anti-Christmas law was repealed in 1681.

**HAPPIER CHRISTMASSES**—The chief winter celebration of the jolly Dutch in New Amsterdam was on December 6, St. Nicholas' Day. Significantly enough, it was a figurehead of this very saint that graced their ship, the Goede Vrouw, that brought them to America in 1630.

On St. Nicholas feast day the Dutch carried his statue down the street, with children joining in. . . the promise of presents bright in their eyes.

Gradually, however, the increasing number of English in this area brought about the adaption of many of the old customs; with the arrival of the first German dissenters in 1700, we find a tremendous increase in the observance of Christmas. It is with the Germans that the universal customs of Kris Kringle or Santa Claus, and the Christmas tree originate.

The rapid growth of our country brought about less religious antagonism. The intermingling of people of different religious and national backgrounds also helped.

One of the more important historical events that took place on Christmas was the crossing of the Delaware by George Washington and his troops, in 1776, when they defeated the Hessians at Trenton, New Jersey. The Americans routed the redcoats, who were sleeping off the effects of the holiday!

Sunday Schools, which had their beginning in the first half of the nineteenth century, helped to promote the acceptance of many folk customs, most importantly Santa



## Country Christmas

Gathering with families and friends . . . sharing memories, hopes, goodwill, holiday feasts . . . that's part of Christmas for millions across America's countryside.

We'll be sharing all these with you . . . lighting and powering the way for a warm, cheerful season.

And we'll stay on the job, alert to your needs . . . all the year around.

We wish you a Merry Christmas!

Claus and the use of the Christmas tree. Charles Dickens, in his beautiful classics, did much to popularize this colorful holiday, but it was some time before Christmas came to be celebrated as we know it now.

**AMERICA TODAY**—Americans today celebrate the Christmas holiday in many colorful ways. The tradition of this beautiful season is strong in America. . . north, south, east, west. Its warmth, which unites one and all in peace and brotherhood has been and will be a unifying force for all time.

**LET US ALL CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS IN AMERICA!**

## 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.

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS



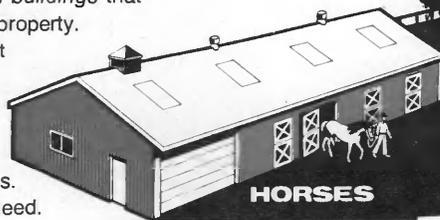
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(except a place to put it)



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