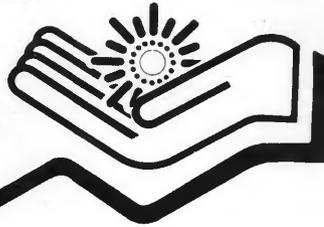


Edward Hake
Dan Hiestand
Wayne Estes



Illinois Energy
Conservation Program

Cooperative Extension
Services of
Jefferson, Marion &
Washington Counties

Look closely for your location number in this issue. If you find it, please notify Tri-County Electric Cooperative's office and we will gladly mail you a four-dollar coupon to apply on your next month's bill.

Typical R Values

Energy Facts from the Illinois Division of Energy

TYPICAL R VALUES OF DIFFERENT KINDS OF INSULATION SOLD IN ILLINOIS

An R-Factor is a number which represents the resistance to heat flow of any material, the higher the R-Factor, the greater the resistance to heat flow, therefore a material with a high R-Factor is a better insulation than a material with a low R-Factor.

For instance, 6 inches of fiberglass batts has an R-Factor of 19, while a single pane glass window or a 6 inch concrete block have an R-Factor of between 1 and 3, so, when purchasing insulation, make sure you get the R-Factor of the material not the inches.

	R/Inch	Inches Needed For					
		R11	R19	R22	R34	R38	R49
<u>Loose Fill</u> <u>Blown-Machine</u> Fiberglass	R2.25	5	8.5	10	15.5	17	22
Mineral Wool	R3.125	3.5	6	7	11	12.5	16
Cellulose	R3.7	3	5.5	6	9.5	10.5	13.5
<u>Loose Fill</u> <u>Poured-Hand</u> Cellulose	R3.7	3	5.5	6	9.5	10.5	13.5
Mineral Wool	R3.125	3.5	6	7	11	12.5	16
Fiberglass	R2.25	5	8.5	10	15.5	17	22
Vermiculite	R2.1	5.5	9	10.5	16.5	18	23.5
<u>Batts or Blankets</u> Fiberglass	R3.14	3.5	6	7	11	12.5	16
Mineral Wool	R3.14	3.5	6	7	11	12.5	16
<u>Rigid Board</u> Polystyrene beadboard	R3.6	3	5.5	6.5	9.5	10.5	14
(styrofoam) Extruded polystyrene	R4-5.41	3-2	5-3.5	5.5-4	8.5-6.5	9.5-7	12.5-9
Urethane	R6.2	2	3	3.5	5.5	6.5	8
Fiberglass	R4.0	3	5	5.5	8.5	9.5	12.5
<u>Foam</u> Ureaformaldehyde	R4.8 (35 degrees F)	2.5	4	4.5	7	8	10.5

Reprinted with permission by the Minnesota Energy Agency.

Dennis Keiser, AIEC Energy Utilization Specialist, works with electric cooperative personnel in matters relating to energy conservation, insulation and energy efficiency.



Energy conservation policy now an REA loan requirement

Changes in loan-making policies of the Rural Electrification Administration now call for each REA-financed electric cooperative to develop energy conservation policy and to implement it with adequate staff and funding.

"These policies suggest guidelines for rural electric systems to use in developing energy conservation programs," Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland said, "but the basic decisions on how to carry out the programs will be left to the individual cooperatives." REA Administrator Robert W. Feragen added, "Evidence of such activities will be included as part of REA's loan application procedures."

A related REA policy developed in conjunction with energy conservation is one that outlines guidelines for rural electric systems to use in obtaining information for system planning and for forecasting REA loan fund requirements.

"These new policies were developed after extensive review of the energy conservation programs of more than 250 electric utilities," Feragen said, "and incorporate many of the suggestions received by REA from its borrowers."

(REA makes loans to finance electric and telephone facilities in rural areas, enabling more than 1,000 REA-financed systems—including 30 in Illinois—to provide service to over

29 million people in 46 states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.)

Alex Mercure, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development, said the REA conservation efforts are extensions of those of the Carter Administration and are not aimed at bringing about immediate reductions in the amount of power being provided to electric cooperative members. Instead, he said, the efforts are thought to be means to forestall the construction of major new generating projects through elimination of energy waste.

Delaying through energy conservation the need to add

“. . . the basic decisions on how to carry out the programs will be left to the individual cooperatives.”

additional generating plant capacity can have an impact on slowing the rate of increase of consumer electric rates, since generating plant construction is one of the most significant factors affecting rates.

The heart of the REA policy on energy conservation is the guideline that a cooperative made up of 4,000 or more members should have one

person working full time (or the equivalent time of several persons) to assist members to conserve energy. "If a cooperative has more than 4,000 members, the man-hours devoted to energy conservation should be appropriate to its work plan and objectives and consistent with the greatest number of members. This guideline would not require a cooperative of 16,000 to have four people working full time. It would require, however, an allocation greater than the time of one person," Feragen outlined in a memo. For cooperatives with less than 4,000 members, REA will give consideration to the pooling of resources with other organizations.

Future loan applications must include the following.

- a copy of the board's energy conservation policy,
- a report of borrower's effort to conserve energy in the operation of its headquarters and facilities, and
- a report describing the efforts of the borrower to assist its consumers to use energy most efficiently.

While the REA energy conservation guidelines are new, the emphasis on member awareness of wise, efficient use of electric energy has long been a top priority for electric cooperative staffs. And for many cooperatives, conforming to the new policy may

(Continued on page 24)

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS



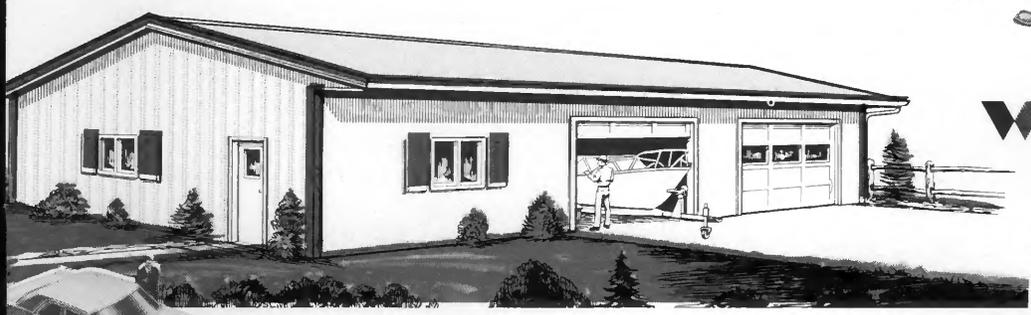
The low cost of Protecting it saves the high cost of Replacing it...

When you add up all the money you have invested in the things you own that make life easier and more enjoyable, you're talking about some sizeable assets. That's why it pays to protect them from the weather—and preserve their value—in a new Wickes utility building. These beautiful, maintenance-free structures give you all the room you need to safely store everything from cars and trucks to boats and motorhomes with plenty of space left over for the smaller stuff, plus a workshop or hobby area, too.

You can choose from many models and sizes, with color exteriors of steel or aluminum—equipped with sliding track doors, overhead doors, or both. Check out the low price of our new 'Sportsman' utility building, a garage or workshop today. It will pay for itself many times over.



Lease or Buy
Extended payment plans
available to
qualified buyers.



See the man in the Red Car

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

- | | | | |
|----------------------|----------------|------------------------|----------------|
| Illinois | | Indiana | |
| Galesburg, Box 548 | (309) 342-3416 | Crawfordsville, Box 41 | (317) 362-5720 |
| Gilman, Box 336 | (815) 265-7257 | Iowa | |
| Mendota, Box 9 | (815) 539-9325 | Dubuque, Box 1026 | (319) 556-1663 |
| Mt. Vernon, Box 1142 | (618) 756-2347 | Wisconsin | |
| Taylorville, Box 117 | (217) 824-9851 | Elkhorn, Box 127 | (414) 723-5261 |

Call collect or mail coupon today

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____ County _____

State _____ Phone _____

Current Comments

by Allen Sisk,
Manager

Energy, another way to look at it

My wife has a favorite expression to the effect that something is "not too spiffy." (Something she picked up running taxi service for the kids.) Most of us have some such favorite expressions which help to simplify complicated situations or soften harsh judgments while still getting our point across. What rural resident hasn't heard and probably used the common comparison about the uselessness of something? My old college roommate used to always be "between a rock and a hard place." My two girls haven't learned yet that they "can't have their cake and eat it too."

What brought all this to mind was the frustration of trying to understand and explain the world's energy problems and their effects on each of us—trying to discuss them in everyday terms that all of us can understand. It's frustrating because so many of the ideas, activities, and even words are completely foreign to the experiences and education we have had or the work that we do. And yet, we're being asked to make some basic and far-reaching energy decisions which will greatly affect the rest of our lives and probably those of our children and grandchildren. To complicate the problem, a lot of what is being said is heavy with emotion and pretty light on the facts. I'd prefer it the other way around. (46-24R)

Maybe a little updating of some old expressions would help. How about: "As useful as solar energy at midnight in January" or "between nuclear power and no TV" or "you can't have electricity and no mining too" or "as practical as homemade power." On second thought the original expressions probably carry the message just as well. We are between a rock and a hard place because we can't have our cake and eat it too when it

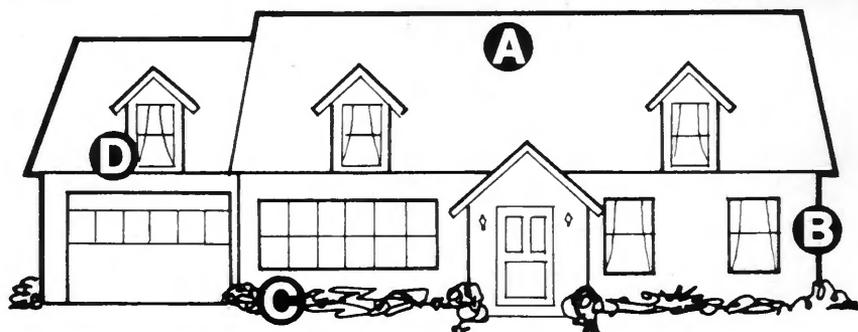


© NRECA

Tri-County

D. E. Hanes — President
Norman Karg — Vice President
Irvin Stanford — Sec.-Treas.

Louis P. Wi
Don Mitche
Preston Car



Know the right way to select insulation

Proper insulation is one of the most important home improvements you can make. Insulation conserves energy used for heating or cooling, and saves you enough to pay for its cost in a few years.

When selecting insulation, it pays to know what to look for. The thickness of insulating material doesn't tell the full story. Look for the "R" (resistance) value which is stated on the package or insulation itself. The higher the R-value number, the greater the ability of the insulation to risk heat loss. (12-19N)

When insulating your home:

- A. Use good insulation beneath the roof or attic floor. For best results, we recommend R-30 insulation at these locations.
- B. We recommend at least R-11 insulation for all exterior walls.

comes to decisions on electric power vs. environmental considerations or nuclear power plant location and construction. I have some reservations about the usefulness of some of the alternatives which have been proposed, too.

I can assure you of this: The electric industry is "as busy as a one-armed paper hanger" trying to make certain there will be enough electricity for all of us. We'll get the job done too, unless we're forced to "buy a pig in a poke." (14-IE)

C. Use good insulation over the basement or crawl space. Use R-19 insulation for best results.

D. Use insulation in floors over unheated rooms such as a garage. We recommend R-19 insulation for such locations.

A home insulated to these standards costs less to heat or cool and will be quieter and more comfortable year around.

Do we have your telephone number?

Articles have appeared in the past two issues of this magazine and the *Tri-County Hi-Lites* requesting your telephone number. We made the request so we could do a better job serving you. Many times a telephone call can solve a billing problem, help in reducing outage time, or aid in line construction.

IF YOU HAVE NOT GIVEN US YOUR TELEPHONE NUMBER, WON'T YOU PLEASE PUT IT ON THE BACK OF YOUR NEXT BILLING STUB SO WE WILL HAVE IT FOR OUR FILES.

IF YOU HAVE ALREADY GIVEN US YOUR TELEPHONE NUMBER—THANK YOU.

Easy access to your telephone number means we can do our work faster and more efficiently—meaning better service to you.

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS

Edward Hake
Dan Hiestand
Wayne Estes



Illinois Energy
Conservation Program

Cooperative Extension
Services of
Jefferson, Marion &
Washington Counties

Look closely for your location number in this issue. If you find it, please notify Tri-County Electric Cooperative's office and we will gladly mail you a four-dollar coupon to apply on your next month's bill.

Weatherstripping Doors

Energy Facts from the Illinois Division of Energy

WEATHERSTRIPPING DOORS

Type	Durability	Cost	Installation
Vinyl Tubing (with or without backing) and Tubular Gasket	Effective and durable	About \$5.50 per door	Tack or staple to the top and sides of the door stop. Vinyl should fit snugly.
V-Strip (thin metal)	Extremely durable and effective	\$5 - \$8 per door	Nail to sides and top of door jamb with nailing flange against the door stop and the point of the V facing the door. Cut away sections that would cover hinges or the lock.
Adhesive Backed Foam	Not very durable. May fall off after a year or two	\$1.50 - \$2 per door	Stick foam to inside face of door stop.
Foam Edged Wood	More durable than foam strip alone	About \$2.50 per door	Close door against stop. Press foam edge against door and nail wood to top and sides of door stop.
Felt	Fairly durable	49¢ per door	Tack to top and side of door stop as with foam rubber.

Reprinted with permission by the Minnesota Energy Agency.

He has worked with solar for 15 years

(Continued from page 9)

ice fall on it, just like it does on the glass ones. We're researching it out carefully, just like we do everything. You have to research carefully, because the manufacturers give you the top side. They don't lie to you, but they tend to give you facts based on optimum conditions.

"It's not good for the consumer if something goes wrong," he says, "and it wouldn't be good for us to have to go back and make the job good, which is exactly what we'd do. That's why we want to do it as well as possible. To protect us and the consumer."

The plastic is being used on one Solar 'Search product, though, he notes, and that is a portable, multi-use collector, which is to be mounted on a

"It's not good for the consumer if something goes wrong. That's why we want to do it as well as possible."

trailer, for farm applications. The idea is to use it for low-temperature grain drying in the fall, then possibly to heat a machine shed during the winter, and possibly for livestock buildings, too.

"It will be a simple, ready-to-use system," Warnock says, "just a big collector mounted on a trailer and with a flexible hose that will need to be plugged into whatever needs to be heated, and an electrical connection for the blower motor. We're all ready to go with the setup," he laughs, "but we don't have the trailer yet. Somewhere out there, there's a snowbound trailer that's going to hold our dryer. We'll get it out as soon as the weather permits."

In the meantime, work goes on, to build collectors and to research even better materials and methods, and to finally perfect the install-it-yourself system, including water heater, for under \$3,000.

5%

OPEN HOUSE DISCOUNT WHEN YOU BUILD NORDAAS AMERICAN!



We want other people to see the way we build our quality custom homes. That's why we offer our customers a 5% open house discount for a one-day showing when the home is completed. This can save you thousands of dollars. In addition, we provide free custom plan service, free delivery of materials within 1500 miles, and large discounts on furnishings and appliances. It pays to build a Nordaas American home. Send coupon or phone collect for color brochure and listing of quality standards.

NORDAAS AMERICAN HOMES

Minnesota Lake, MN 56068 • Phone (507) 462-3331 • Dept. 3002-JJ

Name _____ (Please Print)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____



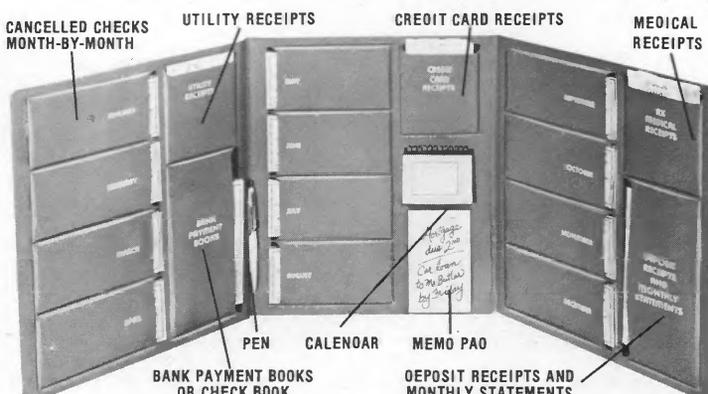
Built for a Lifetime of Living . . . Send Coupon Today

PRICE BREAK! WE'VE SOLD THOUSANDS OF THESE DELUXE ORGANIZERS AT \$5.95!

Keep an Entire Year's Records in a 12" by 14" Space!

SALE!

\$3.98



FOLDS AS THIN AS A MAGAZINE!

SAME HIGH QUALITY — sold in 1978 at \$5.95 — ONLY PRICE IS CHANGED! Does the work of a complete file box, in a fraction of the space. When tax time comes, have everything you need to claim your deductions.

Easiest, most convenient way you ever saw to organize all your records — cancelled checks, bank statements, payment slips, medical receipts. No time wasted . . . no hair pulled. Heavy-gauge brown and beige vinyl, handsome on any desk.

Order 2 and save! If not completely satisfied, return within 14 days for full refund, except postage and handling. Mail coupon today!

ACT NOW!
Get a **FREE MYSTERY GIFT** worth up to **\$500** with each order while supply lasts!
MAIL COUPON TODAY



© 1979 American Consumer, Inc., Caroline Rd., Phila., PA 19176
Canadian Customers please send orders to: Mail Store Ltd
Dept. MMGM, 170 Brockport Drive, Rexdale, Ontario M9W 5C8
(Ontario & Quebec residents add sales tax)

Why settle for a garage.

For little more than the cost of an ordinary garage, you can enjoy the organized, uncluttered life that goes right along with a Sportsman utility building. This beautiful, maintenance-free building is the practical answer to 'where am I going to put everything?'. There's plenty of room for all the things you want to protect—cars, trucks, trailers, motorhomes, boats, etc.—with lots of space left over for a workshop or hobby area, if you like.

It's a wonderful way of life.
Why settle for less?

when you can have a **Sportsman Utility Building**



High, wide sliding doors in both endwalls are 11'3" high x 15' wide. Plenty of clearance for motorhomes, travel trailers, etc.

It's more than a garage ... a lot more

Extended Payment Plans Available

Call collect or mail coupon to nearest office.



Name _____
 Address _____
 Town _____ County _____
 State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

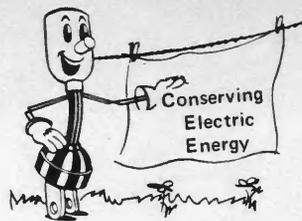
IR3

Wickes Buildings
 A Division of The Wickes Corporation

- | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Illinois | Galesburg, Box 548 | (309) 342-3416 | Indiana | Crawfordsville, Box 41 | (317) 362-5720 |
| | Gilman, Box 336 | (815) 265-7257 | Iowa | Dubuque, Box 1026 | (319) 556-1663 |
| | Mendota, Box 9 | (815) 539-9325 | Wisconsin | Elkhorn, Box 127 | (414) 723-5261 |
| | Mt. Vernon, Box 1142 | (618) 756-2347 | | | |
| | Taylorville, Box 117 | (217) 824-9851 | | | |

Current Comments

by
Allen Sisk,
Manager



© NRECA

Tri-County

D. E. Hanes — President
Norman Karg — Vice President
Irvin Stanford — Sec.-Treas.

Louis P.
Don M.
Preston

Stay alert for 'peak alert'

Winter is barely over and summer may seem far away but it's time for all of us to start talking about "PEAK ALERT." If we talk enough, make proper plans and develop some habits we can reduce your cooperative's wholesale power costs and help hold the line on your power costs.

To better understand the importance of "PEAK ALERT," consider the accompanying pictures. One picture shows the area on U.S. 15, just west of I-57 (west edge of Mt. Vernon) at 11 a.m. on January 25, 1979. Notice the "full" parking lots at the truck stop and gas station. The second picture was taken at 11 a.m. on January 26, 1979 (24 hours later). Notice the normal conditions. True, the peak situation on the 25th was caused by a severe sleet and snow storm. But think of all that would have been involved if the truck stop had had to provide space and equipment to take care of this peak load, on a moment's notice. (29-35A)

The same principles apply to generating plants and all the other equipment needed to provide us with electricity. Unlike the truck stop, we electric customers are not yet accustomed to being lined up to wait

our turn. When we flip a switch we expect things to happen. If too many flip their switches at the same time, we experience peaks that are expensive to handle. Just a few years ago this was a welcome problem. Fuel and equipment was relatively cheap and we just set about the task of "beefing things up." Today, we can no longer afford that luxury and must "mend our ways."

Most electrical peaks occur for only a few hours a day and only a few days a year. These days are almost certainly to be the hottest and coldest days of the year. The ones we must be concerned about are the peaks that occur during the summer months (June, July August and September).

According to our wholesale power contract with Illinois Power Company, the "highest peak" we set during these months affects the demand charges we must pay during the winter months. The full explanation of demand charges is too long for this column but let me point out that the "high demand" set last August cost your cooperative an additional \$22,159.19 in October and \$10,841.16 in November.

We are well aware that we'll never "level out" the monthly demands on a year-around basis, but we can cut the troublesome summer high.

Most of you view St. Louis

television. When Union Electric and the Missouri Cooperatives appeal to their customers to reduce loads, our members should key in on their advice and react accordingly. Our situation is identical to that of the Missouri Cooperatives. They call their program "Peak Alert." (31-10A)

Tri-County has over 10,000 residential members. To accomplish a noticeable savings, no one member would need to react drastically. To give you a couple of examples, we should refrain from washing clothes or dishes during the late afternoon or early evening hours. (Anything you could do to curtail the use of hot water during peak hours would have a big impact.) Meals could be planned to reduce the use of the range. If the oven is used, plan to prepare the entire meal in the oven.

Keep in mind we are talking about those extreme temperature days.

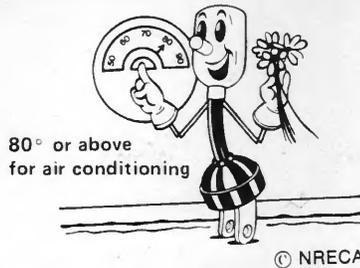
If you'll keep up the good work that you've already started and add the extra thoughts mentioned above, you'll help your organization to save on wholesale power costs. We cannot promise you that your individual power costs will go down, but you can rest assured that your efforts in holding down your cooperative's costs will delay the time when the next raise will be needed.

More next month. (4-4A)



Hi-Lites

Edward Hake
Dan Hiestand
Wayne Estes



Look closely at your location number in this issue. If you find it, please notify Tri-County Electric Cooperative's office and we will gladly mail you a four-dollar coupon to apply on your next month's bill.

r owners make

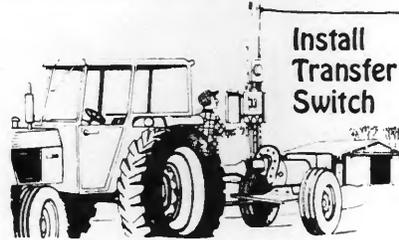
good place for rodents to nest. Place galvanized wire mesh in the unit's small openings to prevent damage from rodents and birds. Operate the unit at least once every three months to be sure it functions properly.

Mislaying the PTO shaft has been a common cause of standby generator failure. Allowing snow to plug the air filter of the tractor that powers the generator can cause serious engine damage. During an electrical outage, a tractor with no fuel in it cannot run the generator. Rodents can build nests in the generator and eat the insulation off of the wiring, or a generator too small for the load hooked up to it can cause generator failure. (37-8D)

Standby generators may be engine- or PTO-driven. Either unit may be portable or stationary. PTO-driven units are most commonly used on the farm, as tractors are available to operate them. These units may be bolted to a stationary base or mounted on a two-wheel trailer. Units mounted on a trailer are most versatile and can be used for field repairs, to run grain augers, power conveying equipment, electric branding irons and electric post hole diggers, as well as provide emergency power in case of an electrical outage. (31-12A)

Urban dwellers can install portable engine-driven units to supply the small amounts of electricity they need during power outages.

The size of a standby unit will depend upon whether the unit will operate part or all of the electrical equipment on your farm. Make a list of all necessary equipment to be used, such as water pumps, heaters, refrigerators and ventilation fans. The use of heavy load equipment such as electric ranges, water heaters and milk coolers can be staggered or rationed during a power outage. Consider motor starting requirements as electric motors require more power to start than to run and consider future additions of electrical equipment.



Ice storms create emergencies on many farms. Operators of standby generators can help during emergencies by connecting only to lines equipped with a transfer switch. A transfer switch prevents the generator from feeding electricity back on the power line or power line voltage being fed to the generator. In the first case the lives of linemen and neighbors are endangered and the latter could cause the generator to be damaged.

*Tri-County annual
membership meeting
Friday, Sept. 14, 1979*

Nellie Poole retires

Nellie Poole, Cashier at the Mt. Vernon office of your cooperative, has recently been on extended sick leave and upon the advice of her doctor has decided that she should not return to work.

Mrs. Poole started work with Tri-County on February 15, 1950 at the old office on Main Street near downtown Mt. Vernon. She has been a faithful employee for the past 29 years.

Nellie wishes to thank everyone for all the wonderful cards and thoughtful calls she has received from many of you during the past few months.

Nellie and her husband, Robert, reside at 1102 Douglas in Mt. Vernon. We wish for Nellie the best of everything during the retirement years.

Memoriam:

Homer Piercy, early director

Homer Piercy, Route 2, Mt. Vernon, died April 3, 1979. Mr. Piercy served on your Cooperative's Board of Directors from December, 1938 to February, 1942. This was during the original building program of Tri-County. (The first substation and lines were not energized until July, 1939.) Mr. Piercy was named to his first Board to fill the vacancy created when Incorporator B. F. Tuttle resigned his position on the Board to become your cooperative's first manager.

Mr. Piercy was a retired farmer and former Supervisor of Shiloh Township. He is survived by his wife (Anna), one son, two daughters, nine grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

We extend our sympathy to the family.



Nellie Poole

\$25.00 "BONANZA" of Name Brand Cosmetics ONLY \$2.50



This magnificent cosmetic collection is comparable and representative of the quality of products from which your Cosmetic Bonanza will be selected.

COSMETIC "BONANZA" WORTH OVER \$25.00

We'll send you a COSMETIC "BONANZA" assortment of at least six NAME BRAND perfumes, moisturizers, polishes, shadows, creams and lotions like those gift or full size products shown above. No strings attached—no clubs to join. Order your COSMETIC "BONANZA" worth more than \$25.00 for only \$2.50.

© 1978, Famous Cosmetics, Inc. 641 Lexington Avenue, New York 10022

NO RISK MONEY BACK GUARANTEE COUPON

COSMETIC BONANZA Dept. CB-80 For a Friend
641 Lexington Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022

RUSH me my COSMETIC "BONANZA" of NAME BRAND cosmetics.

- \$25.00 COSMETIC "BONANZA" for only \$2.50 plus 50¢ postage and handling.
- \$50.00 COSMETIC "BONANZA" for only \$5.00 (we pay all postage and handling charges).

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Canadian orders please add \$2.00 extra. All orders must be accompanied by payment. \$25.00 value based on comparability, or past or present retail prices.

NO RISK MONEY BACK GUARANTEE COUPON

COSMETIC BONANZA Dept. CB-80 For You
641 Lexington Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022

RUSH me my COSMETIC "BONANZA" of NAME BRAND cosmetics.

- \$25.00 COSMETIC "BONANZA" for only \$2.50 plus 50¢ postage and handling.
- \$50.00 COSMETIC "BONANZA" for only \$5.00 (we pay all postage and handling charges).

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Canadian orders please add \$2.00 extra. All orders must be accompanied by payment. \$25.00 value based on comparability, or past or present retail prices.

WE BUILD 'EM THE WAY YOU WANT 'EM.



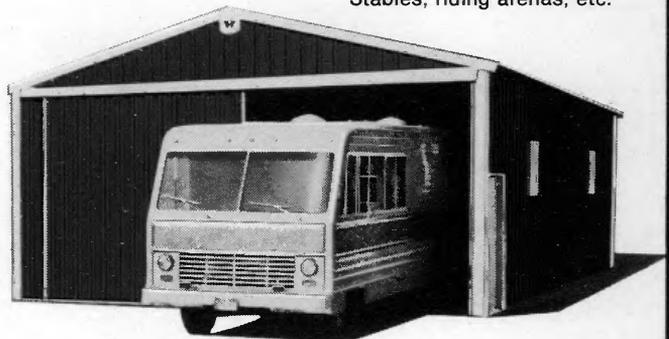
FARM BUILDINGS

Machinery storage, beef, dairy, hog, etc.



HORSE BUILDINGS

Stables, riding arenas, etc.



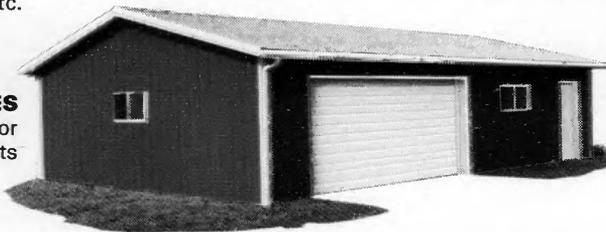
UTILITY BUILDINGS

Storage, workshops, hobby centers, etc.



COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS

Shops, warehouses, stores, etc.



GARAGES

Many sizes and door arrangements

LEASE OR BUY

Extended payment plans available to qualified buyers

They may look different, but these buildings have a lot in common—including the great value they give you for the money. They're all professionally engineered, durable post-frame construction. They're all built and backed by Wickes, America's oldest and largest company in post-frame buildings for home, farm and industry. We offer every kind of building, and the special planning it takes to make sure yours will be exactly right for your special needs. Many custom options too, that add to both convenience and appearance. Call today and tell us what you want. You'll get a good building—you'll get a good deal.

AND PRICE 'EM SO YOU CAN AFFORD THEM.

Illinois
 Galesburg, Box 548 (309) 342-3416
 Mendota, Box 9 (815) 539-9325
 Mt. Vernon, Box 1142 (618) 756-2347
 Taylorville, Box 117 (217) 824-9851
Indiana
 Crawfordsville, Box 41 (317) 362-5720

Iowa
 Dubuque, Box 1026 (319) 556-1663

Wisconsin
 Elkhorn, Box 127 (414) 723-5261

Wickes Buildings
 A Division of The Wickes Corporation



Name _____

Address _____

Town _____ County _____

State _____ Phone _____ IR5

Call Collect or mail coupon today

Current Comments

by Allen Sisk,
Manager

The past few weeks, your staff and I have been tabulating and analyzing the financial outlook of your cooperative. We're working to determine the amount of the rate increase that will be needed (starting next month), to bring in enough revenue to pay for the increased expenses and yet stay within federal inflation guidelines.

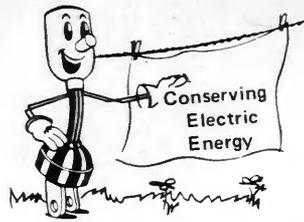


Allen Sisk

The money to repair the damage caused by the recent ice storm will come from borrowed funds and thereby will be spread over the next 30-35 years. It would be next to impossible to raise rates enough to recover that amount of damage in just a year or two. It's become very apparent that inflation is still with us and it's costing more and more each day just to do our normal work. The board and your employees are very concerned with the effect all of this has on your electric power bill. All of your directors and a majority of your employees live along Tri-County lines and pay the same rates as you.

As the cost of a unit of fuel goes up, it will behoove all of us to look for ways to reduce our consumption. Some of us may have to make some changes in our living habits. (11-1Y)

There is one other area that we all need to work on and that is the cost of governmental regulation (over-regulation). It seems to be a provable fact that about 30 percent of the cost of your electricity is due to legislation. The Clear Air Act and the Clean Water Act are the primary laws that cause it. The original legislation was needed and possibly would not have had a large impact on rates. But once passed, each "bureau" and "special interest group" became vocal and the legislators hurriedly passed



© NRECA

more laws to try and satisfy (quiet) each group. Then the "bureaucrats" took over and each has interpreted the laws and issued directives of their own and asked for more and more reports and permits. The result is that we've become bogged down in paper work and resulting delays. All of this adds up to about 30 percent of your last month's electric bill. It's time all of us took a little time and let our legislators know that the majority can no longer afford all of this over-regulation. Let them also know how you feel about burning Illinois coal, about protecting the endangered species and other issues. It'll help you to just get the frustration "off your chest." We also believe that the voice of the people is still heard in legislative halls. Legislation gave us costly over-regulation and new legislation can take it away.

The following addresses will do for a start—if you need addresses of other elected officials, drop us a card and we'll get them for you.

96th U.S. Congress
Paul Simon (D) Rm. 227
Cannon House Office Bldg.
Washington, D. C. 20515
Ph. 202/225-5201

Chas. H. Percy (R) Rm. 4321
Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D. C. 20510
Ph. 202/224-2152

Adlai E. Stevenson (D) Rm. 456
Russell Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D. C. 20510
Ph. 202/224-2854



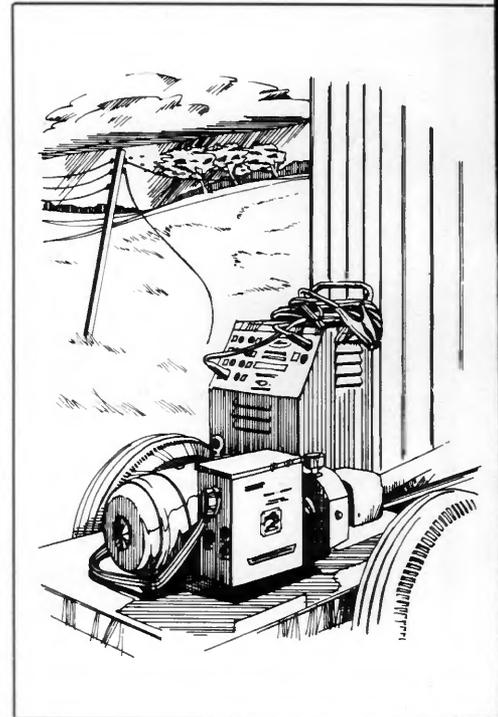
© NRECA

Tri-Coun

D. E. Hanes — President
Norman Karg — Vice President
Irvin Stanford — Sec.-Treas.

Louis P. W
Don Mitch
Preston Ca

Mistakes gene



An investment in standby power equipment is wasted if you don't wire the generator to your electric service facilities correctly and practice using it so you can effectively switch it on without fumbling when the power goes off and your lights go out.

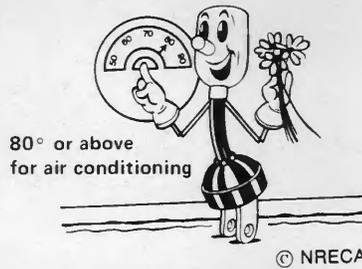
It's just a plain fact that some standby generator owners aren't getting the protection they paid for. In recent winter storm conditions several farmers and residential homeowners were unable to use their standby facilities simply because they were not prepared.

A standby generator is only as good as the care and maintenance given it. Keep the unit clean and in good running order at all times. Dust and dirt accumulations will cause the unit to overheat when operating. Locate unit in a well ventilated area if stored indoors. Don't cover with a plastic tarp as this allows condensation to form inside the unit and cause rust. Tarps also provide a

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS

li-Lites

Edward Hake
Dan Hiestand
Wayne Estes



Look closely for your location number in this issue. Mr. Verlin Seering was our lucky winner last issue. If you find your location number please notify Tri-County Electric's office and we will gladly mail to you a four-dollar coupon to apply on next month's bill.

periods----

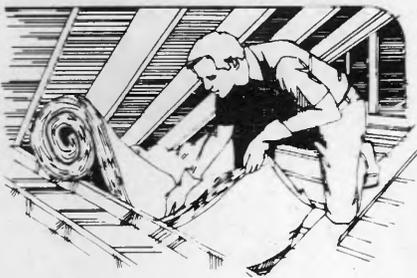
There are so many uses for electricity (such as the evening meal to prepare, clothes to wash and dry, hot water used for showers and baths, dishwasher loads, television viewing and lights glowing all over the place).

From 6 to 10 a.m. in the morning is another critical peak period for most areas when the whole family is awake and beginning a new day.

You can help avoid blackouts by spacing the use of your major appliances and avoid overloading during these peak periods.

Wise electric usage contributes to the efficiency of your cooperative's entire electrical system by helping maintain normal voltage. We believe that when our consumers understand, they will want to participate in a load management program by using their appliances during off peak periods.

isely for avings



side of the house exposed to the sun.

The cooling system should not be undersized or oversized to be efficient. A fan for attic ventilation can assist greatly in reducing the cooling load on your air conditioning unit.

Your cooperation in using electricity wisely, in the amounts which you need, will help to hold operating costs down at no sacrifice to your individual comfort.

JULY 1979

How to cook with less energy

Americans use more energy to prepare their food than farmers use to produce it. That is a surprising fact, but a look at how you cook helps explain why.

If you are in the habit of leaving the lid off pots and pans while cooking, you are losing a lot of heat and speed in cooking. If you have not tried a pressure cooker, you have missed out on a way to cut cooking by two-thirds.

When possible use a portable fry pan, grill or toaster/broiler instead of the oven for small meals. You will use about half as much energy for that meal. (14-34G)

If you move food directly from the freezer to the oven, especially roasts, you waste one-third of the cooking energy. Let the food thaw before placing it in the oven.

Match the size of the pots and pans with the size of the stove burner to get maximum and even heating and make sure the bottoms of the pots and pans are flat. A pan that is not flat on the bottom not only wastes energy, it also jiggles and makes annoying

sounds.

Every time you open the oven door to sneak a peek when you are baking something, you lose up to 20 percent of the heat. Besides, who wants that blast of hot air in the face?



If you have a microwave oven, you are on the right track to saving energy. They draw only half the power of an ordinary electric range, and for a much shorter time.

But cooking is just part of the energy waste story. Think of all the other ways you can save electricity around the house, just by taking a little time to think about it.

Tri-County Annual
Membership
Meeting

Friday,
Sept. 14, 1979

STOP



Is it peak time!

At right, the focus is on the best in Illinois agriculture as several breeds of cattle are judged at the fair. Other animals, such as poultry, swine, mules and sheep, are judged as well during the largest agricultural exposition of its kind in the U.S. At lower left is the arch to the popular midway, near the main gate. At lower right, while most of the fairgoers walk, others take to the air to get across the fairgrounds and see the sights. The area is filled with entertainment, exhibitions, special tents and contests that all Illinoisans can enjoy.



State Fair offers something for all Il

The Illinois State Fair is set for August 9-19, and all the old standby features are still planned; some new attractions are in the works, too.

Illinois Talent on Parade, a daily variety show, will present the best talent from throughout the state. It will feature Illinoisans of all ages in every kind of act, and will be held

in the Illinois Building Theater.

Racing buffs will be able to "Get the Feel of the Wheel," as cars of every description, displays and well-known drivers fill this huge exhibition. Fans will be able to talk to drivers and crew members, and climb into a car to catch the flavor of the track.

A Water Follies show is new this year, too, and the world's largest

pools and stage are used to present the show. Champion stunt divers, water ballet scenes and lavish stage production numbers will make this two-hour show an attraction for many.

For alternative energy enthusiasts, there will be a Solar Hot Water Design Competition. The Institute of Natural Resources and the Illinois Office of Education have joined forces to





the right, Len Koch of Illinois Power Company was one of the speakers during the two-day session. Below, power user and member services representatives gather pamphlets and brochures on energy conservation and efficiency available during the meeting.

Member Services Director of Jackson Purchase Electric Cooperative, Paducah, and Krista Kennedy of Western Kentucky Rural Electric Cooperative and a Residential Energy Advisor for the Tennessee Valley Authority. Norris focused on his cooperative's energy conservation and management plan and the various forms and worksheets used to complete home energy audits. Kennedy outlined how TVA personnel work with consumers for on-site inspections and audits.

Bill Simpson of Country Mutual Insurance Company, Bloomington, used a slide presentation to illustrate wiring problems facing both farmers and insurers. He showed several instances of inadequately wired hog confinement buildings, many of which had a high potential for fire loss unless changes were made.



HERE'S THE SIMPLE ANSWER TO YOUR BEST STORAGE BUILDING BUY!

Yes No

Are your purchase decisions often based on strength of products guarantee?

Would you prefer a building designed by licensed professional engineers?

Do you own machinery and other capital investment equipment that should be sheltered from the elements?

Does your operation require flexibility in building design?

If you answered "yes" on any of these questions, please get in touch with America's leading farm builder, Wickes Buildings. Just mail the coupon. Or save time! Call the building leader toll free . . . day or night:
1-800-325-6400 (Missouri residents call 1-800-342-6600)

W Wickes Buildings

A division of the Wickes Corporation
 General Offices: P.O. Box 41070
 2410 Executive Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46241

For complete information on any one of hundreds of Wickes Buildings designs send this today!

**100
&
25**
1854-1979
W Wickes

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Current Comments

by Allen Sisk,
Manager

We have taken a lot of time, ink and paper in recent months to keep you informed of major effects on your electric bills of such things as generating plant construction, coal mine strikes, governmental regulations and the like. There's another side to our business, that isn't nearly as big or as dramatic but which has something to do with what you pay for electricity. It includes several hidden costs which aren't really necessary at all, except that they can't be avoided without the fullest cooperation of all of our members. No doubt about it, though, the only way these costs can be paid is by the people who do pay their bills, you:



Allen Sisk

— **Thefts of service** — generally unmeasurable, sometimes undetected, often hard to identify the culprit, difficult to prosecute without witnesses. Best control — careful observation and prompt reporting by employees and members. (11-1E4)

— **Bad debts** — many possible controls sharply limited or prohibited by law and Commerce Commission rules.

— **Collection of past due accounts** — mailing of notices and service crew collection trips each month, many employee hours for administrative review and verification. Again, procedures are severely limited by Commission. Meter tests requested by members — cost considerably more than the fee charged, "fast" meters found? — almost none.

— **Vandalism** — mostly gunshot damage to insulators and security lights, cost — thousands of dollars in materials and overtime labor; one of the most common causes of service outages (often occurring hours or days

after the act took place).

— **Untrimmed trees** — A very large number of service outages would never occur if trees were not permitted to grow in the right of way or if permission could be readily obtained to trim or cut such trees. Cost — many thousands of dollars in materials and overtime labor.

— **Government paperwork** — The preparation, review and filing of various local, state and federal reports require the equivalent of one full time employee.

— **Carelessness** — Trees cut into the lines, vehicle collisions with poles, dig-ins on underground wires. Again, — materials and overtime labor.

It's not much fun paying for someone else's foolishness, carelessness or inconsiderate behavior, is it? More next month.

16



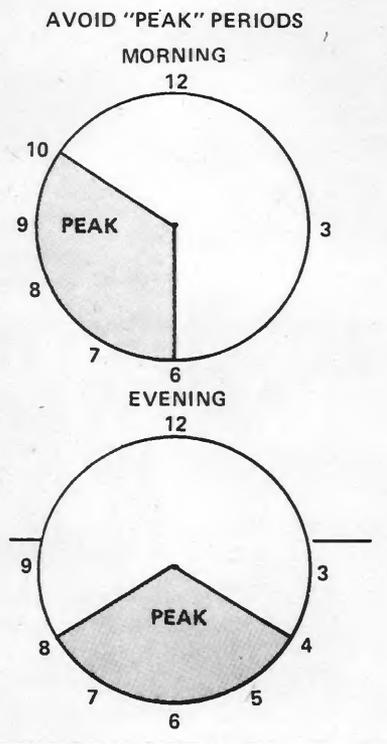
© NRECA

Tri-County

D. E. Hanes — President
Norman Karg — Vice President
Irvin Stanford — Sec.-Treas.

Louis P. W...
Don Mitch...
Preston Car...

Save energy during "pe



One of the major expenses for electric suppliers, and ultimately for the consumers, are the "peaks" and "valleys" in demand for electricity.

Electric utilities are sponsoring vast research projects now to determine whether solar energy and storage systems can help stabilize utility costs. So far, electricity has not been stored in any great quantity and at an economical cost. This is why electric generating equipment must be built and maintained to meet the "Peak Periods" which are so costly.

Consumers can do much to control the peaks by staggering the use of major appliances and changing the family's schedule for using other electric conveniences. (24-17B)

The early evening hours, from 4 to 8 p.m., is a critical time when the family is all at home from work and school and

Use cooling greater

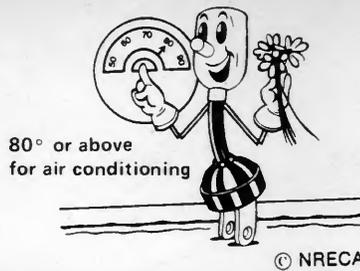
Air conditioning costs can be reduced if you operate your air conditioning unit as efficiently as you can. In addition, we would suggest that you set the thermostat on your air conditioning not lower than 80 degrees.

If you are in the market for a new air conditioning unit, we would suggest that you pay particular attention to the seasonal energy efficiency ratio (SEER). The SEER rating should be 7.5 or higher.

If your residence is not properly insulated, we would certainly suggest that adequate insulation be installed. In addition, shade trees on the sunny side of the house are an ideal way to cut your air conditioning load. If trees are not available, awnings should be placed over windows which receive a great amount of sunshine, in addition to having the drapes closed on the

li-Lites

Edward Hake
Dan Hiestand
Wayne Estes



Look closely for your location number in this issue. If you find it please notify Tri-County Electric Cooperative's office and we will gladly mail you a four-dollar coupon to apply on your next month's bill.

ave energy

- Don't try low temperature drying on damaged corn because damage accelerates spoilage and retards air-flow.
- Screening out trash and using a distributor helps in getting air through the corn. Level as you fill.
- Operate the fan continuously except during prolonged below freezing temperature. Keep the corn cool and move the drying front through the corn as quickly as possible.
- When outside temperature is 50 degrees fahrenheit or higher, don't use a heater.
- Use the heater during damp weather and at night.
- Temperature rise of five to 10 degrees is sufficient. Extra heat will accelerate spoilage faster than the increase in drying rate.
- Use controls that prevent heater operation unless the fan is running. (8-20G)
- Check moisture content of a sample from the bottom of the bin periodically. Too much heat has been used if corn is drier than desired. Many operators have been successful in some seasons using no heat at all.

Relatively simple low-cost solar collectors can be built which will provide the five to 10 degrees temperature rise needed for low temperature drying.

Since the drying period will be extended over several weeks, this allows time for substantial amounts of solar energy to be collected. A "back-up" heater is suggested for extended



How to save money with a wood-burning stove

With the rush this past winter to wood-burning units for home heating, this list takes a look at some of the "realistic" costs of these alternative energy systems. We're not sure who to credit for this one, but it's worth noting if you've been down this road before.

Stove, pipe, installation, etc.	\$458.00
Chain saw	149.95
Gas and maintenance for chain saw	44.60
4-Wheel drive pickup, stripped	8,379.04
4-Wheel drive pickup, maintenance	438.00
Replace rear window of pickup (twice)	310.00
Fine for cutting unmarked tree in state forest	500.00
Fourteen cases beer	126.00
Littering fine	50.00
Tow charge from creek	50.00
Doctor's fee for removing splinter from eye	45.00
Safety glasses	49.50
Emergency room treatment (broken toes—dropped log)	125.00
Safety shoes	49.50
New living room carpet	800.00
Paint walls and ceiling	110.00
Worcester chimney brush and rods	45.00
Log splitter	150.00
Fifteen acre woodlot	9,000.00
Replace coffee table (chopped up and burned when wood supply ran out)	75.00
Divorce Settlement	<u>33,678.22</u>
Total first year's costs	\$54,632.81
Less savings in utility costs first year	<u>62.37</u>
Net cost of first year's woodburning	\$54,570.44

cold and rainy periods.

Gene Shove, Professor of Agriculture Engineering, University of Illinois, who experimented with no heat drying emphasizes the need for sufficient air, and suggests filling

the bins slower so that each new layer of corn has ample drying time before the next layer is added. Fans alone often raise the temperature two to five degrees. The higher the air flow the shorter the drying time.



How you gonna keep 'em down on the farm?

Simple. Get the facts from America's leading farm builder . . . Wickes Buildings (and keep the dime).

We've made it easy. One toll-free call will get you money-saving information on America's largest selection of top-flight agricultural buildings. Pick and choose from hundreds of different floor-plans and option packages for livestock, utility and machinery storage. All designed by licensed professional engineers. All backed by our 5 year warranty.

Superior workmanship. Superior construction materials. Superior selection, for the exact custom-tailored building you need. That's the easy way to keep 'em *all* down on the farm!

Start your savings today. For more money-saving information just pick up your phone and call the Leader . . . Wickes Buildings. Dial toll-free 1-800-241-8444 (Georgia residents call 1-800-241-1333) or write:

**Wickes
Buildings**

**100
&
25**
1854-1979
Wickes

A division of the Wickes Corporation
General Offices: P.O. Box 41070
2410 Executive Drive • Indianapolis, IN 46241

FREE 100 Surprise Gifts from Name Brand Companies

Postage and handling ranges from ABSOLUTELY FREE to an average of only 17c per gift if you choose ALL 100 GIFTS



Leading U.S. companies believe that once you try their products you may continue to use them. Thanks to special arrangements with national distributors you can choose all 100 GIFTS FREE for just postage and handling. Imagine GIFTS manufactured by companies like —

Revlon	Johnson & Johnson
Colgate Palmolive	Max Factor
Hallmark	Warner Lambert
Dupont	Clairol
Hosiery Corp. of America	Gillette

Now these incredible "free to you" gift offers have been assembled in the remarkable "Inflation-fighters Kit". Through its overflowing "Free Gift Pages" you can choose FABULOUS FREE GIFTS for the entire family! Here are just a few of the surprise gifts we've arranged for you to receive:

HEALTH & BEAUTY—Deodorants; Shampoos; Moisturizers; Sun Tan Lotions; Acne Aids; Pantyhose; Eye Shadows;

Lipsticks; Nail Polish; Perfumes; Lip Gloss

GROCERY PRODUCTS—Salad Dressing Mix; Cocktail Mixes; Kitchen Cloths; Soaps and Cleansers; Candy

DRUG STORE PRODUCTS—Feminine Hygiene Products; Vitamins; Eye Makeup; Skin Cleansers; Lozenges; Combs; Toothbrushes; Nail Hardener.

JEWELRY—Stickpins; Pendants on 14k Gold Electroplated Chains; Fashion Combs; Barrettes; Bracelets; Adjustable Rings; Earrings.

GIFT & HOUSEHOLD—Thread; Buttons; Cleansers; Plants; Seeds; Bulbs; Shoe Laces; Pens

FUN PRODUCTS—Iron On Transfers; Patches; Miniature Posters; Greeting Cards

In addition, your inflation fighting kit is crammed full of valuable money-saving tips, discount offers, and all the gift offers and information you need to be an Inflation Fighting Consumer.

RUSH— RUSH— send today for your inflation fighting kit. We can only promise you the availability of ALL 100 GIFTS offered if you act quickly since many of our participating distributors make these fabulous offers for a limited quantity and period of time. So mail your coupon today.

© 1978 Inflation-Fighters Kit, Inc. 310 Madison Ave. N.Y. NY 10017

INFLATION FIGHTERS COUPON	
FREE-GIFTS, Dept. FGF-107	
310 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10017	
Enclosed is:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$1.50 plus 50c postage and handling for One Inflation Fighters Kit
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$3 for Two Kits - ALL DIFFERENT PRODUCTS - (We pay all postage and handling) (Limit 2 kits per family)
Name _____	Age _____
Address _____	
City _____	
State _____	Zip _____
Canadian Orders add \$1.00 extra Div. of Inflation-Fighters Kit, Inc.	

Current Comments

by Allen Sisk,
Manager

I've read that the American myth of the "Free Lunch" started back before the turn of the century when the saloon keepers would lay out quite a spread of sausages, cheese, breads and other snacks to entice businessmen and others into their particular establishment during the lunch hours. Of course, the price of drinks in those places was a bit higher than elsewhere, just enough higher, it turned out, to at least cover the cost of the "Free Lunch."



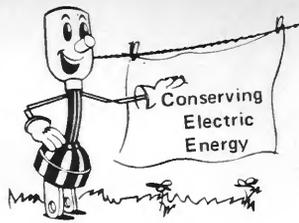
Allen Sisk

Some spoilsport (probably a competitor) pointed out this discrepancy and coined that good old American expression, "There ain't no such thing as a free lunch." Nevertheless, human nature leads us all (at least occasionally) into becoming suckers for the offer of something for nothing. (32-25B)

Some of our self-styled "leaders" and "consumer advocates" would have us believe that we should be able to use all the "free" solar, wind, geothermal, biomass and tidal power we want, that our air and water can be crystal clear and that there should be zero risk in all this for everyone—all at little or no cost to the consumer. They compare the "free" elements with the "outrageous" costs of coal- or nuclear-produced electricity. Of course, coal and uranium are pretty cheap too, if you're willing to take them "as is" and where they are found, hundreds of feet inside the earth! (ask anyone who has sold his coal and mineral rights.)

The cost of electricity isn't in the raw fuel itself, it is in getting it converted to a *useful form*, delivered to you *where* and *when* you want it. Ditto for solar and all other fuels.

Least I sound too sour—I'd best



© NRECA

Tri-Coun

D. E. Hanes — President
Norman Karg — Vice President
Irvin Stanford — Sec.-Treas.

Louis P. W
Don Mitch
Preston Ca

Grain drying

Efficient methods add profits

"Drying a corn crop can require as much fuel per acre as was used to grow and harvest it," says William Peterson of the University of Illinois.

Energy costs are climbing and farmers must utilize efficient and careful drying methods to save fuels, money and produce even better products. (51-22B)

It was the consensus of the grain drying experts to use low temperature drying, no heat drying or solar drying as methods to decrease energy utilization and cost costs. Any of these methods also aid in producing a better

point out that I'm all in favor of reasonable approaches to using the sun and wind—to using waste materials to produce methanol or gasohol—to exploring all of the alternative sources of energy and in conserving what we have.

What I object to is the theories proposed by some that think utilities should provide all sorts of special services, without, of course, charging for them. Others propose that utilities provide special rate breaks for some and not charge the "free stuff" to the other users.

All of the above reminds me that one most common item in the 1890 "Free Lunch" was baloney. As with everything else, when it comes to energy, of every type, "There ain't no free lunch." Whenever you start to think there might be, take a closer look at what you're being fed and what price you're paying for your drinks.

product for marketing.

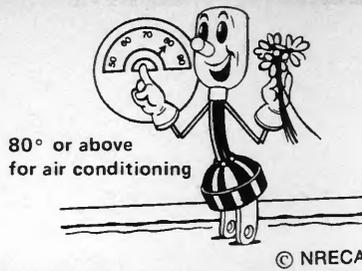
Peterson has these suggestions for efficient crop drying:

- Don't dry it if it will be fed to livestock. Late harvested corn can be stored, with aeration to keep it cool, at 18 to 20 percent moisture if it will be fed to livestock during the winter. Ventilation with low pressure fan.
- Harvest at a low moisture. Provided there is not increased field loss, save energy by harvesting at lower moisture content. Twice as much moisture must be removed from 27 percent moisture corn as corn containing 22 percent to reduce content to the desired 15½ percent.
- Don't overdry. Corn that will not be kept over the following summer need not be dried below 15½ percent. Corn with 24 percent moisture dried to 15 percent instead of 13 percent will save 25 percent on fuel costs where high-speed drying is used. Excess weight "shrinkage" caused by overdrying is the owner's loss at the market.
- Use a more energy-efficient drying method. Use the natural drying ability of the air. High speed drying methods use 2,000 to 3,000 BTUs per pound of water removed, whereas low temperature drying in the bin will use only 1,000 to 1,500 BTUs/lb. of water removed.

Peterson stresses utilizing a sufficient amount of air and keeping the system simple. Low temperature in storage drying is a relatively new practice.

Hi-Lites

Edward Hake
Dan Hiestand
Wayne Estes



Some say 'm a crook...

used THAT much electricity" is a charge I hear quite often. The person making the charge never stops to think of all those electric appliances which make life easier and so much more enjoyable, of the television and radio which provide entertainment, or of the heating and cooling systems which make disagreeable days bearable.

"That blankety-blank meter has GOT to be wrong" is another accusation I frequently hear, and this really hurts. Actually, I'm one of the most accurate measuring devices in use today. The government sees to it that your power distributor keeps me in perfect working order.

I guess one of the things I really don't understand is why I get the blame when the electric bill is too high and my cousin, the gasoline meter, never gets blamed for poor gasoline mileage in the family car. I guess it is because you can't see

electricity and you can see gasoline, or may it because you pay for gasoline BEFORE you use it instead of afterward, as with electricity.

No one ever complains when the electric meter runs slow, which I do much more frequently than running fast.

There's one thing for sure, though. The work I do, gets a lot of attention. Shortly after I am read each month and the electric bills start coming out, neighbors get together and start comparing the amount of electricity I have recorded. This is when I really get cussed and discussed.

The thing that most people don't (or won't) realize is that no two families have the same living habits. Some folks use more hot water, entertain more, cook more, watch more television, and use more lights.

Some take showers while others prefer the bath, and some families run their washing machine and dryer every night or two instead of just once or twice a week.

And I don't want to overlook that family which refuses to use electric energy wisely by maintaining reasonable indoor temperatures in winter and summer.

So, you see, there is just no way that I, your electric meter, can record the same amount of electricity for two homes even though they may be the same size and sit side by side.

Maybe I can take the verbal abuse. I should be getting used to it. But the one thing which IS hard to take is when someone gets so mad that they try to knock me off the wall, or pry into my inner workings in an effort to keep me from doing my job.

Oh, I've had my glasses (cover) broken so many times that I can't count, and this just means that I will be replaced by my twin brother and that I will be taken to the meter laboratory for first aid (repairs.)

It's like I've said—you can call me

Look closely for your location number in this issue. If you find it, please notify Tri-County Electric Cooperative's office and we will gladly mail you a four-dollar coupon to apply on your next month's bill.

names if you want to, but NEVER pry into my inner parts and try to keep me from doing the job I was designed to do. This is a criminal offense, and stealing electricity is no different from stealing groceries from the neighborhood store or stealing a tire from a neighbor's car.

Your electric meter carries a LOT of electricity, and it is very possible that someone attempting to by-pass this flow of current or make my recording device run slower than it should could be seriously burned or killed. No one would want to see this happen.

Trust me. I will do the very best job I can, and will record only that electricity which you use. But I have to be honest, too, with utility I work for. Without them, what would your life be like?

A Willie 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. 2-32D

Conservenergy



McDonald

Former REA official

McDonald selected new IVEC manager

Thomas R. McDonald, interim general manager of Illinois Valley Electric Cooperative since August 6, has been named general manager of the Princeton-based electric distribution cooperative.

McDonald replaces M. M. Jontz of Princeton, who retired effective August 10, after 21 years service as manager of Illinois Valley. Prior to his appointment in 1958, the Princeton native was general foreman for the cooperative.

McDonald retired on October 6, 1978, after a 28-year career with the Rural Electrification Administration. At the time of his retirement, he was the assistant administrator for the electric program, assisting the REA administrator in conducting the rural electric loan program on a national basis.

A native of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, McDonald graduated from Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 1949 with a degree in electrical engineering. In 1955 he received a law degree from Blackstone College of Law in Chicago. He is a registered professional engineer. He joined the REA staff as an engineering trainee in January 1950, and served in various capacities throughout the nation, including 10 years in field positions. He was an assistant power supply officer for six years and in 1970 was appointed chief of the Engineering Branch, North Central Area—Electric. The North Central Area includes Illinois, Wisconsin, Ohio and Iowa.

Illinois Valley Electric Cooperative provides electric service to more than 5,500 member-owners residing in Knox, Bureau, Putnam, Stark, LaSalle, Marshall and Kendall counties.

FABULOUS LOW PRICE!

NON-ELECTRIC MYLUMINUM™ HEAT SHEET

RADIATES BODY HEAT TO KEEP YOU WARM!

ONLY \$4.95

ROOM TEMP. 50°

BED TEMP. 70°

NO EXPENSIVE ELECTRICITY

NO COSTLY FUEL

NO BATTERIES

NO WIRES

NO POWER COSTS

HEAT SHEET
BOTTOM SHEET
MATTRESS

© 1979, Encore House, Inc. Roberts Lane, Glen Head, NY 11545

MAIL THIS NO-RISK COUPON TODAY

ENCORE HOUSE, Dept. DNT-7
Roberts Lane, Glen Head, N.Y. 11545

YES! I want to take advantage of your fabulous LOW PRICE. Please RUSH me the incredible space-age MYLUMINUM HEAT SHEET(s) ordered below.

Fill in quantity desired.

(#110) Twin-Size only \$4.95; 2 for \$8.95

(#120) Queen-Size only \$6.95; 2 for \$11.95

(#130) King-Size only \$7.95; 2 for \$12.95

Total number sheets ordered _____

Please add \$1 postage & handling for one sheet \$1.50 for two \$3 for four

I understand that if I'm not fully satisfied with my order, I may return it within 14 days for a complete refund of my purchase price (less postage & handling of course)

Amount enclosed \$ _____ (NY residents please add sales tax) No C.O.D.'s please

CHARGE IT! VISA Exp _____
 Master Charge Date _____

Credit Card # _____

Name _____

Address _____

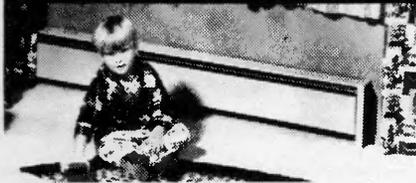
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

NOW — a miracle of technological development in AEROSPACE INSULATION to protect astronauts from the incredible cold of outer space — MYLUMINUM HEAT SHEETS — defy bitter, all-winter, nighttime cold ... let you sleep luxuriously in a cozy toasty-warm bed as if you had used an electric blanket!

Practically weightless — actually lighter than your regular bed linens which fit over it — the MYLUMINUM HEAT SHEET is made from a New Miracle Mylar — a soft, thermal/aluminum-like fabric that blocks out the cold. YET INSTANTLY ALLOWS THE NORMAL 98.6° BODY TEMPERATURE TO REFLECT AND RADIATE ITS OWN WARMTH RIGHT BACK TO YOU! No need for heavy blankets or comforters — a lightweight cover will do.

MYLUMINUM HEAT SHEETS are stain resistant. Make sure every size bed in your house has one. Try the MYLUMINUM SHEET and stay warm every night while your thermostat is turned down. Prove it without risk. If you're not warmly pleased, return it within 14 days for your purchase price refund (less postage & handling, of course). MYLUMINUM HEAT SHEETS make wonderful house-warming gifts, too. Special savings on extras. Order today and take advantage of our FABULOUS LOW PRICE!

**EVERY HOME CAN NOW HAVE HOT WATER HEAT
WITHOUT PLUMBING AT LOW COST AND
DO AWAY FOREVER WITH GAS AND OIL PROBLEMS**



Here's luxurious, soft, gentle, floor-to-ceiling warmth — in coldest weather — that only hot water can produce. By electricity. Economically. Without cold floors, drafts or too-hot, too-cold periods. It's safe, clean, quiet, no polluting fumes or ashes.

The **INTERTHERM Hot Water Electric Baseboard Heating System** Costs Less to Install than **Central Heating — No Maintenance.** Because there's no boiler, burner, furnace, pipes, ducts, flues, chimney, blower or fuel tank. Let us give you facts.

FREE! So Easy To Have in Your Home. For a single hard-to-heat room to an entire home, apartment, condominium or commercial building send today for free brochure with full details, prices and nearest wholesale distributor from whom these heaters are available at a cost so low you will be amazed.

**INTERTHERM INC.; Dept. LL-119
3800 Park Ave. St. Louis, Mo. 63110**

Manufactured by INTERTHERM INC., 3800 Park Ave., St. Louis, Mo. 63110

For new as well as existing home, apartments, condominiums, offices, other buildings and single, hard-to-heat rooms.



**Permanent Systems for Entire Homes
— Portable Models for Single Rooms**

Almost 2,000,000 Sold Already.

How It Operates Economically. Each INTERTHERM Heater contains a permanently-sealed-in electric heating element and a water-antifreeze solution. Electricity heats the water-antifreeze — which, in turn, heats the room. Then shuts off by a pre-set thermostat. The water-antifreeze continues heating the room with the electricity off — saving electricity.

MAIL COUPON FOR FULL INFORMATION!

INTERTHERM INC.; Dept. LL-99 (314) 771-2416
3800 Park Ave., St. Louis, Mo. 63110

Please send me **FREE** Brochure with full details, prices and nearest wholesale distributor from whom these heaters are available at low cost.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Zip _____

City _____ State _____

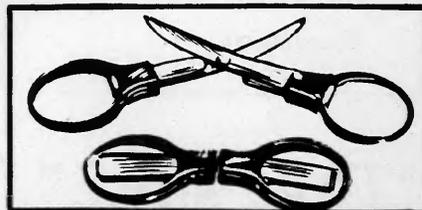


HEARING AIDS

SAVE \$200

All-in-the-Ear Aid will help you hear and understand! Try 30 days before you buy! No salesman. Free catalog!

RHODES, Dept. 109-V Brookport, ILL 62910



DELUXE FOLDING SCISSORS 79¢

An open & shut case of convenience. Quality steel blades, cushioned plastic handles, ingeniously engineered to fold to absolutely safe 3" size to slip easily into pocket, purse, sewing kit, first aid kit, glove compartment, tackle box, etc. Great for in-store coupon clipping. Vinyl case included. A great value at only 79¢ Pr., 2 Pr. \$1.50, 6 Pr. \$4.25, 1 Dz. \$7.95 ppd. Fund Raisers write for quantity prices. Money-back guarantee. Pls. allow up to 6 wks. for delivery.

TWO BROTHERS, INC. Dept. FS-516
808 Washington St. Louis, Mo. 63101

UPPER & LOWER DENTURES

\$195

TOTAL COST FOR BOTH

- HIGH QUALITY AT BUDGET PRICES
- SAME DAY SERVICE
- FITTED BY LICENSED DENTIST
- WILL ACCEPT INSURANCE AND MEDICARE PAYMENTS
- COMPLETE DENTAL SERVICES OFFERED

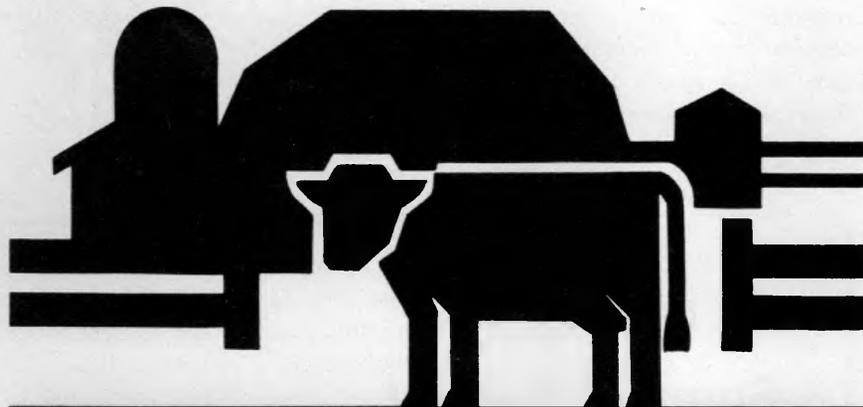
IF YOU ARE TRAVELING THROUGH MISSOURI STOP AND VISIT ON YOUR WAY. FREE RV HOOKUPS. CALL OR WRITE TODAY FOR FREE DETAILS.

**MID-AMERICA
Denture
Clinic**

Frederick C. Lauer, D.D.S.

Bus. Loop I-44 West, Rt. 3, Box 19-C
Mt. Vernon, MO 65712 (417) 466-7196

HUNDREDS OF SATISFIED PATIENTS FROM CALIFORNIA TO NEW YORK FROM WISCONSIN TO TEXAS.



**farm & ranch
INSURANCE**

Our insurance can help prevent financial disaster or crippling losses.

Cover your home and personal property, farm buildings, farm and personal legal liability, plus many other special coverages and options available.

**fu National
Farmers Union
Property and Casualty Company**

SEE YOUR LOCAL FARMERS UNION AGENT OR CONTACT ONE OF OUR DISTRICT OFFICES: SPRINGFIELD (217)528-8418, MT. VERNON (618)242-6498.

Current Comments

by Allen Sisk,
Manager

“They say...”

Recently, while visiting with individuals at the Annual Meeting we heard the expression “They Say”



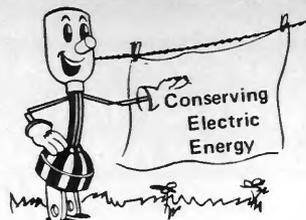
Allen Sisk

repeated many times. We hope that you, the members of Tri-County Electric Cooperative, are not relying on “they say” information about your organization. Even if you were unable, unwilling or uninterested in attending your annual meeting, the information about the financial condition and policies of the cooperative are available at the Mt. Vernon office. There is no need to use information “off the streets.”

The history of rural electric cooperatives has been that most members pay little or no attention to financial reports given at annual meetings, even though we try to present them in detail and with clarity. Generally speaking, when electricity was selling for two cents or less per kilowatt-hour, people were not that concerned about the cost related to it. However, now that the price has doubled, members have an increasing interest—as they should—in what makes up their power bill. 36-32N

We would, therefore, urge you to carefully read the financial statements in the annual report and from time to time in the “Tri-County Hi-Lites.” If you have questions, drop us a line or come by and we’ll gladly explain them to you.

The financial statements must be accurately kept. The accounting system for the reports is established by the REA, using a standard report for every cooperative. The identification



© NRECA

Tri-County

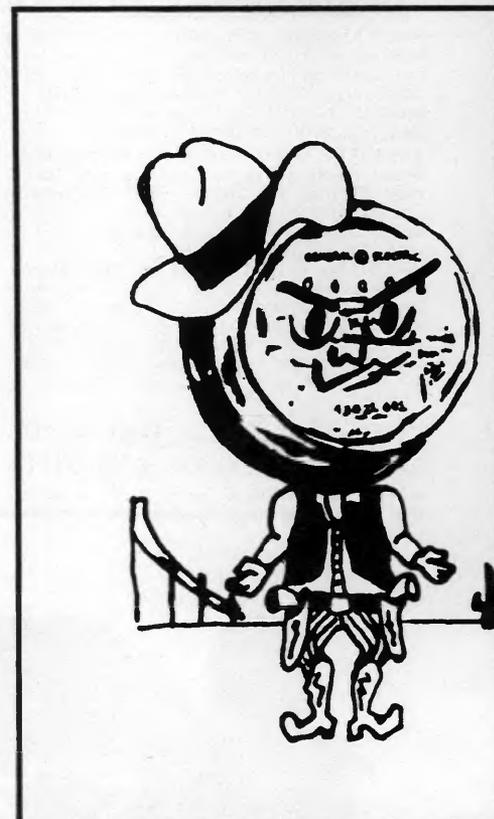
D. E. Hanes — President
Norman Karg — Vice President
Irvin Stanford — Sec.-Treas.

Louis P. V.
Don Mitc
Preston C

of accounts and what must be charged to each account is well outlined in the REA system of accounts. REA employs a field accountant who periodically checks the individual cooperative to assure the agency that the books are being properly kept. In addition to that, the cooperative board of trustees is required by REA to employ an independent certified public accountant to make a report, along with any comments on any accounting adjustments, to that board of trustees. If there are any discrepancies, he must report them to the trustees and to REA.

So, as you see, you, the member, elect board members and they, in turn, have assumed a great responsibility for the financial record keeping of your cooperative. So, feel free to ask questions regarding the financial statements of your cooperative, do not rely on the “they say” sources.

**In case of
Emergency,
call
244-5151
Day
or
Night**



I really don't know why they do it, but they do. And if you've ever tried to do a good job and then get nothing but criticism, you know how I feel.

I'm your electric meter, and I've been called a crook so many times (plus a lot of other unmentionable names) that you think I'd get used to it. But I don't.

If there was anything else around that would take over my job, I'd quit. . . retire. There isn't though, so I'll go on doing the work I was designed to do—measuring the electricity which you use in your home or place of business every minute of every day.

I'm accused quite often of “creeping” when everything in the house is off. But is there really ever any time that EVERYTHING is off? What about that electric clock, the refrigerator or freezer, the light you forgot to turn off. 11-16A

“There's no way we could have