

Robert Wagner, left, and Chris Bowron look over a map of New Zealand, to find Chris's home. Chris is the twelfth guest the Wagners have hosted from that country, and they have visited some of the others who enjoyed their hospitality. Wagner, a director of Western Illinois Electrical Coop., lives near Burnside.


Gasoline, which costs the equivalent of about \$2.20 a gallon in New Zealand, generally goes into smaller vehicles. Four-wheel-drive trucks are popular but about twice as expensive as they are here. Most are from Japan. Tractors and farm implements are smaller, too, mainly because of the limited tillable land. "Ford, Massey-Ferguson and International are all popular, but not the big ones. An 80-100 horsepower tractor is a big one," he says.

The educational system differs, too. Bowron spent his first eight years of school at home — studying by mail. "We only got mail twice a week, and I got two weeks' worth of work at a time. After I got my eight years of schooling in by mail, I went to a boarding school about 100 miles from home," he says.

While there are differences in the way things are done in the two countries, there are also similarities, and one is the growing role the New Zealand government. "The largest segment of the economy seems to be government employees," he says with a laugh, "but a lot of our other employment centers around agriculture and natural resources, such as pulp mills.

"Carpet mills, woolen mills, transport for livestock and fertilizer works all employ a lot of workers, too, and so do the government-owned railroads."

While Bowron notes that there are many differences in the way the countries operate, there are many similarities, and it is interesting to compare. Thanks to hosts like the Wagners, there are such opportunities for visitors to see America.



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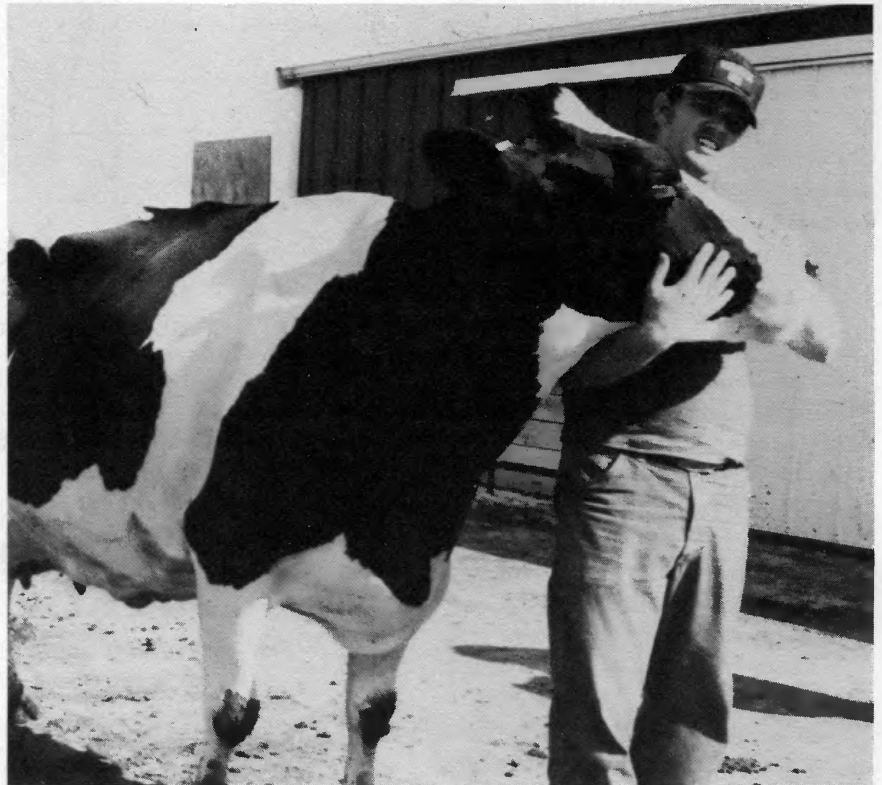


Shelby Electric News

SHELBY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

217-774-3986

SHELBYVILLE, ILLINOIS



Right: Mike Manhart shows off one of Manhart Dairy Farm's most productive cows, Martha. Below: Dick and Ruth Manhart with sons Noel, seated, and Mike. A third son, Paul, is also involved in the dairy operation, but was away from the farm when this photo was made.

Cooperative spirit helps make Manharts successful



Three brothers working together in the true spirit of cooperation is one of the factors contributing to the success of the Manhart Dairy Farm.

Paul, Mike, and Noel Manhart operate the dairy farm started by their father, Edwin "Dick," at a location between Stewardson and Strasburg, Illinois.

The senior Manharts, Dick and Ruth, moved to the present location in 1951, and at that time milked 13 cows. A new addition to the barn was added to accommodate 18 to 20 head.

Paul Manhart attended Sparks College in Shelbyville and was employed by the bank in Strasburg. In 1969, he quit the banking business and entered into partnership with his

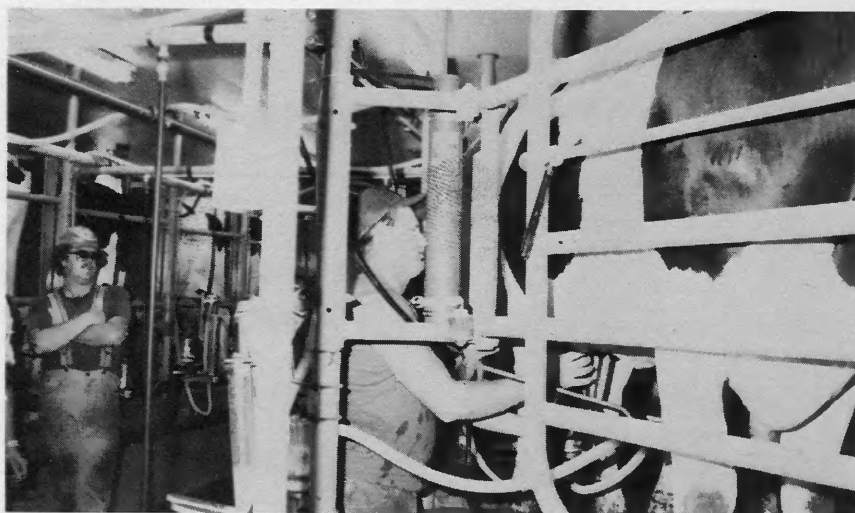


Left: Cows are trained by the Manharts to enter and leave the milking parlor without guidance. Below: Cows await feeding time in the feedlot.

father. Mike graduated from the University of Illinois, then served in the U. S. Army. When discharged in 1973, he returned home and purchased his father's interest in the dairy business. At that time, the two brothers milked 35 head of cows with three milking machines. Paul and Mike built the milking herd to 50. In 1978, Noel returned to the farm from Atlanta, Georgia. He worked with his brothers for six months. At that time, the three incorporated the dairy farm, and built the business up to its present size.

Presently, the dairy is operating with about 200 head of cattle, 100 cows and 100 young heifers. Among their various outbuildings is a free stall barn that houses 108 cows. They feed from three large silos by conveyor to the feed lot. The feed mixture is composed of high-moisture corn, chopped alfalfa, and additives of minerals and protein. Some of the feed used is produced on the 1,100 acres the Manharts farm.

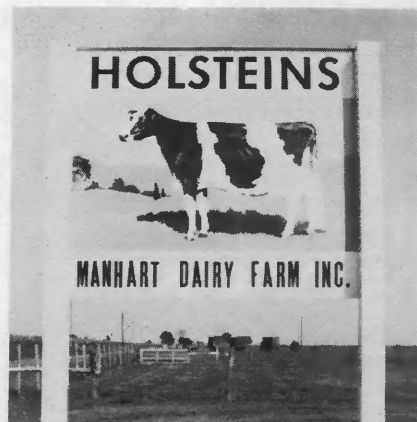
In 1979, a new parlor was added to the operation. A Surge Double Five Sawtooth model makes it possible to milk a total of ten cows in approximately 10 minutes, and all 85-95 cows in one and 3/4 hours. In the automated process the milk leaves the milking units (equipped with automatic takeoffs), and travels through low-line pipes to a refrigerated holding tank that holds 1,500 gallons. The dairy produces 8,500 pounds of milk in two days. It is picked up bi-daily and trucked to the Prairie Farms plant in Olney. Mike Manhart sits on the board of that company.



The Manhart Dairy is a member of the Dairy Herd Improvement Association of Effingham. From that association they obtain complete and accurate computer records on each and every cow. The printout lists the cow's name (each of the 200 are named), breeding date, calving date, amount of milk produced — and a great deal more.

Along with the automated equipment and computerized records, the Manhart brothers are constantly studying to make their Holstein farm and dairy operation as modern and up-dated as possible. The days of one cow, a stool, and pail seem like ancient history when compared to the 1980 dairy business run by Paul, Mike, and Noel Manhart!

Above: The Manhart parlor is a busy place during milking time. Below: A sign prominently noting the breed of cattle marks the entrance to the Manhart farm.



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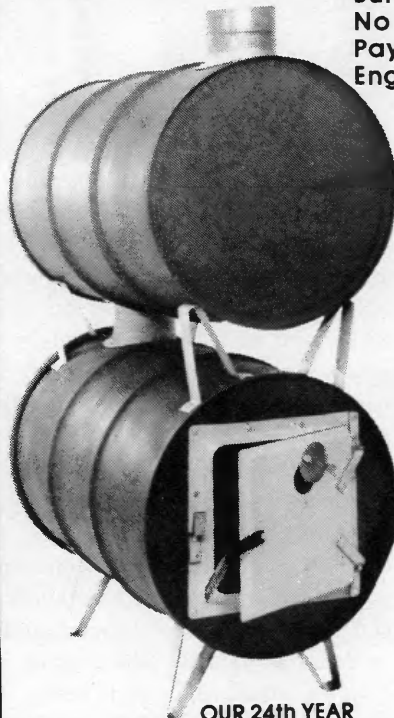
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Small wonder that leading experts hail it in the most glowing terms... recommended it again and again for homeowners who want a stunning display of beauty, both a wind and privacy screen, and deep, cool shade... and with practically no more work than a thorough watering each week!

VITAL STATISTICS FROM LEADING EXPERTS MATURE GROWTH SIZE:

as much as 50 to 70 feet.

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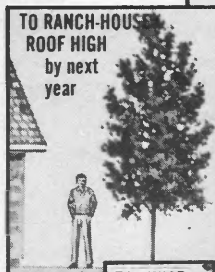
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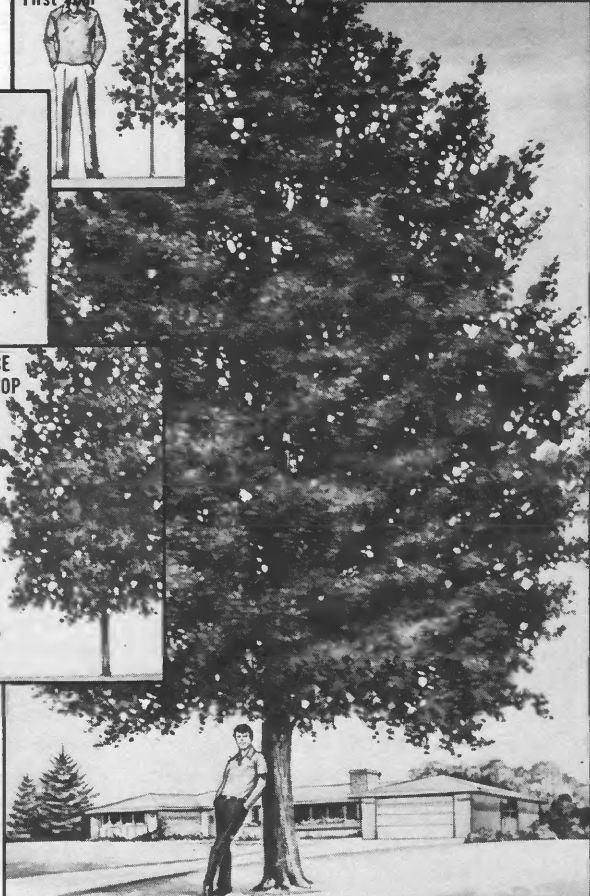
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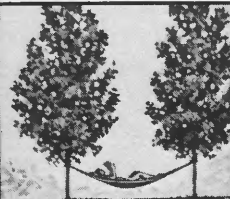


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Current lines from cooperative managers

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AUBURN, ILLINOIS

Your electric cooperative was organized by rural people (way back in 1936) to provide electric service to



Roy Goode
Manager

farms that did not have electricity. The first lines were energized in August 1937. Many or even most of the original members are no longer with us.

The heritage that has been handed down from that generation of pioneers is ours to enjoy. Think of the dozens of jobs that electricity now does for us in the homes and on the farms that would be much more expensive if not impossible to do without electricity. We don't even give it a thought from the time our electric alarm wakes us to the coffee that is brewed, the water that is pumped and heated, without us even being aware of the energy behind these phenomenal things.

All through the day we depend on this untiring servant, only being aware of it when it isn't there, or when we get our electric assessment for the month and a reminder to read the meter again.

We are all too aware of increases in costs of fuels, equipment, materials, and we all know that the consumer pays these costs, whether in the grocery cart, the automobile or in the electric costs.

We have been made very much aware of conservation of energy. Your cooperative has not changed in the philosophy of using energy wisely and efficiently, and the adage: Use What you Need, But Need What You Use.

One element about being a member-owner of an electric cooperative is the fact that any assessments over and above the actual cost of providing electric service is returned to you as capital credits. Your cooperatives does not operate as a profit oriented business, because any margins are returned to the members on a basis proportionate to the amount of business done.

Many of you have in fact received

checks from your cooperative over the last couple of years. This distribution of margins to the members is the proof that your board of directors are performing their responsibility in assuring you that the electric cooperative IS YOUR BUSINESS and you share with your fellow members the margins.

It is again the hope of your board that capital credit distributions will continue.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING On Small Power Production and Cogeneration

Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative, Inc. hereby gives public notice, pursuant to the provision of the federal Public Utilities Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 and rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto (18 CFR Part 292, Subpart D, Section 292.401) of a public hearing concerning small power production and cogeneration to be held at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 3, 1981, at the Blackhawk Restaurant, 1111 East Morton Road, City of Jacksonville, County of Morgan, State of Illinois.

The public hearing will be held to discuss the rights and duties of the electric cooperative and small power

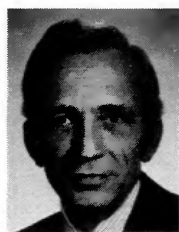
producers and cogenerators which have the status of qualifying facilities. Small power producers include solar, wind-turbine generators, waste, biomass, etc. and cogenerators include qualifying facilities which produce waste heat or steam and electric energy.

The hearing will discuss the circumstances under which the electric cooperative is obligated: to purchase electric energy from and sell electric energy to such qualifying facilities, provide avoided cost data, establish rates for purchases and sales which are just and reasonable, in the public interest and nondiscriminatory, provide back-up power and other services and establish standards for operating safety and reliability.

Shelby Electric

SHELBYVILLE, ILLINOIS

Entry forms, background material, and rules for the annual Shelby Electric Cooperative Essay Contest



Bill LeCrone
Manager

have been distributed to all high schools in the cooperative's service area. If you are a high school junior and you want to enter this year's contest, ask your principal or English teacher

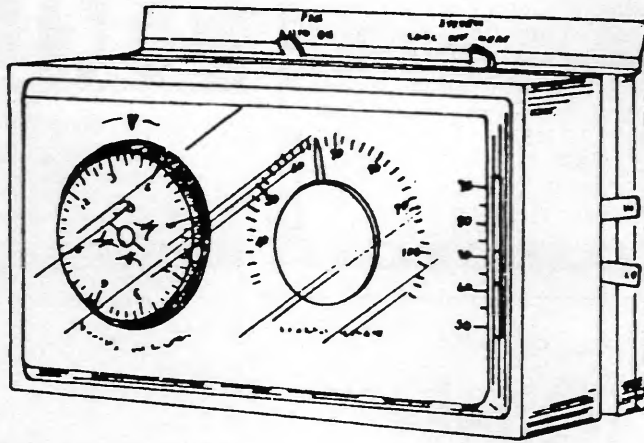
for an entry form. Remember — you do not have to live on our power lines to enter! If your teacher is not participating, or if he or she has run

out of forms, complete the entry blank below in order to declare your intentions to enter. We'll send you instructions and all the research and background material you'll need to write your essay.

Fewer than 100 eligible high school juniors enter the contest each year, so your chances of winning one of the six prizes are very good! The two top winners will be awarded an all-expense paid, fun-filled, one-week tour to Washington, D. C. with other contest winners from across Illinois. Departure date is June 12, with return on June 19. All six finalists will be awarded prizes and a very entertaining, all-day tour to "Illinois Rural Electric Youth Day" activities in Springfield on April 22, 1981.

Talk with one of the 1980 "Trip

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS



Clock setback thermostat can save heat \$

Many energy-saving devices are on the market, each with claims concerning the amount of energy and money they save. Most of the time the homeowner is confused as to which ones are true. Sometimes something seems too simple to be true and so we pass it by.

One device is the Clock Setback Thermostat. These thermostats work quite well on any furnace system, regardless of whether it's gas, electric or oil. These thermostats, which set the temperature of the home back 10 degrees at night, decrease the temperature difference between the home and outside therefore reducing the heat flow out. This thermostat automatically raises the temperature before the household wakes up in the

morning, reducing the discomfort of the family. Studies have shown that the saving in the area will be about 12 percent of the yearly bill per year. Therefore, if you spend \$500 on heating, a night set-back thermostat should save you \$60 a year. If you are going to be away from home very much during the day, a double set-back is well worth consideration. Some thermostats are made so that you can have either a single, double or triple set-back. A double set-back can save you double on your yearly bill.

Set-back thermostats will cost between \$60 to \$75. These will be good ones. These thermostats should be of the type that runs off of a rechargable battery that recharges itself from the furnace control system.

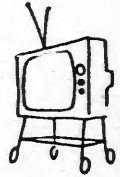
Most set-back thermostats are easy to install, but some knowledge of electricity and furnaces is helpful. Set-back thermostats are well worth considering and they make good sense to install.

Warning — set-back thermostats should not be used on heat pumps.

Some energy-saving tips

TV Sets

Don't play them to an empty room! Note: "instant-on" types are always using electricity.



Hot Water

Fix leaky faucets. Insulate heater, pipes. Set thermostat at 120° (140° if you have a dishwasher).



Range

Fit pot to burner. Cook several dishes at once in oven. Don't pre-heat. Turn off oven near end of cooking—stored heat will finish job.



Follow Instructions!

Use appliances the way they are meant to be used, and keep them in good condition with regular cleaning and maintenance.



to Washington" winners, and you will be sure to enter. Last year's winners were Barbara Sarsany of Witt High School, and Mark Wise of Pana High School.

The 1981 theme for the essay is "What the Shelby Electric Cooperative Means to my Community." Entry form deadline is February 27. Please mail your intentions to us soon as possible, so we can mail your information packet to you. If you have any questions about our contest or deadlines, feel free to contact the cooperative office. We'll be more than glad to help you in any way we can!

ENTRY BLANK — "TRIP TO WASHINGTON" ESSAY CONTEST

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Your new FREE Kelly Catalog has helpful gardening tips. Grow your own strawberries, raspberries, grapes, asparagus, dwarf fruit trees, roses, perennials, flowering shrubs, trees. Send for your Kelly Spring Garden Guide & Nursery Catalog today.

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Warm Home SAVE MONEY!

THE FREE HEAT MACHINE® can be used independent of, or in conjunction with, your existing heating system and can substantially reduce your heating bill.

For instance, if you build a typical fire with three logs, your FREE HEAT MACHINE® will produce 38,000 BTU's of usable heat. That's enough to heat 1,800 to 2,000 square feet of living area.

Any solid fuel (wood, coal, paper logs, etc.) can be used. Since the machine is so efficient, you will use less fuel than you use now.

The only other cost to operate the unit is for electrical power to run the two blowers. That's less than 150 watts, or the same as one light bulb!



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Size of Home _____ Sq. Ft. Central Duct-work _____ Yes _____ No
Clean Out Trap _____ Yes _____ No

Approximate winter utility bill:
Electric: \$ _____ per mo. LP Gas: \$ _____ per mo.
Fuel Oil: \$ _____ per mo. Natural Gas: \$ _____ per mo.
Wood Use Per Year _____ Cord _____ Rick

Fireplace:
Rock: _____ Brick: _____
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Fireplace Dimensions:
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*New Adams Manager
Roger Mohrman, left,
with Dean Searls*

Mohrman new Adams manager

Roger C. Mohrman, an employee of Adams Electrical Co-Operative for 27 years, is the new manager of the Camp Point-based electric cooperative, replacing Dean L. Searls, who retired March 1 after almost 40 years as manager.

Mohrman, an Adams County native who grew up on a farm near Quincy, is a graduate of Quincy High School and the University of Illinois (1951) with a bachelor of science degree in agriculture. Following service in the Air Force during the Korean War,

Mohrman returned to Adams County and began work for the cooperative as power use advisor. He was named member services manager in 1962.

Mohrman and wife Margie live near Camp Point, where he is active in a number of community, church and school activities. He served two terms as president of the Adams County Community School District 3, is a former president of the Camp Point Lions Club, is president and coordinator of the Adams-Brown-Schuyler Water Cooperative, has

served on the boards of the Adams County Heart Association, Cancer Society and United Fund, is active in the Camp Point United Methodist Church, the Illinois Farm Electrification Council and the Power Use-Member Service Section of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives. Margie is also busy in the electric cooperative program as a Regional Committeewoman for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

The Mohrmans have four children: Dennis Mohrman of Keokuk, Iowa, a YMCA director; Deborah Henry of Riverton, a first-grade teacher; DiAnn Hughes of Quincy, employed in the advertising department of Moorman Manufacturing Company, and Denise, a sixth grader at Camp Point Elementary School. They have two grandchildren.

Searls' retirement marked the end of a distinguished career in rural electrification. In addition to his work in Illinois, Searls served on three different occasions in overseas assignments to assist other countries with rural electrification.

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Shelby Electric News

SHELBY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

217-774-3986

SHELBYVILLE, ILLINOIS



Lela and Lawrence Compton and the rope-making machine.

LAWRENCE COMPTON

A new twist in rope making

Mechanic, woodworker, and inventor are three of the many hats worn by Shelby Electric Cooperative member Lawrence Compton.

About a year ago, Compton perfected an invention for the manufacturer of rope. He had long been interested in finding a rope-making machine. A few do exist, but are

almost unobtainable. One machine was patented in 1901 and is gear driven. Compton, who has applied for a patent on his invention, perfected the lever-driven rope maker.

A two-person operation, the Compton machine uses either binder twine or nylon bale twine. The twine is threaded through the lever machine

and out the desired length to the second person who holds a wooden board separator. Any diameter of rope can be made by adjusting the number of line wraps. The operator then twists the twine lines by rotating the machine's lever. The final stage is the twisting of the tightened strands by the separator holder. The whole

procedure takes very little time, and almost no physical effort.

Compton said his interest in rope making began in 1944. He began working on automobiles in 1936. In 1944, he was laid off from that profession, and went to Peoria to seek employment. At that time, he was hired by a rope-making firm for a brief period of time. Since that time, he has returned to the automobile business. In 1960, Compton and his brother started a garage in Nokomis. In 1978, his son took over half interest with his father. At that garage, the Comptons use a tow rope made from the senior's invention. He says they have used it approximately three times per day for the past year with no wear showing. The tow ropes/snapp cables are available from the Comptons. The Compton rope-making machines are also for sale.

Compton explains his goals, "The men who used to make rope were from my great-grandfather's time. I made rope a couple of times as a boy, but for the most part, the men with the rope-making skill are gone."

The machine and rope are manufactured in a new building at the Compton residence west of Nokomis on the Raymond blacktop. Mrs. Compton, Lela, expressed a small amount of agitation in that one end of the new shop building was intended for her macrame work area. Mrs. Compton seems to mind that inconvenience little, indeed, as she is actively involved in the manufacture of both rope and the device that makes the rope.

This operation involves most of Lawrence and Lela Compton's time, (he says he will retire from the garage next year), but they have various other hobbies and interests. Compton's "tranquilizer" is a 1924 Ford Model T express wagon that he loves to drive around the country and to shows. He also has a collection of over 40 gasoline engines. His woodworking hobby has provided many beautiful walnut furniture pieces and shelves for his home and family members. The couple also raises and cans all their fruit and berries - a job made to sound like just another fun hobby for the two. Of his rope-making invention, Lawrence Compton says, "My main objective is to get



Top: The Comptons with finished products. Middle: Lawrence and his Model T express wagon. Right: Martha Washington table made by Compton.



the machine into as many hands as possible (not to make a fortune). The art of rope making is nearly lost, and I would like to see it continue." If you would meet the Comptons, chances are good you would become caught up in their enthusiasm. You might even become a rope maker, too!

Farmers Union members told

Thompson pledges working farmer as Ag head

The next Illinois Director of Agriculture will be a working farmer," Governor James Thompson told those attending the Illinois Farmers Union annual meeting during February in Springfield. "I'm going to find the best person I can in the state," Thompson added, "and I guarantee you he'll be a working

farmer."

The Governor added that the departure of John Block, former Director of Agriculture, has made the choice a difficult one, and that some of the staffers Block took with him to Washington might have merited consideration.

Block's quick selection to the

national post, heartily endorsed by the Farmers Union, boosted the state's prestige and given Illinois more influence, the Governor added.

"We've been leaders in the Illinois Agriculture Department — to the point where, in the decision of U. S. Agriculture Secretary, Block was by far the clear choice," he said.

While the governor's quest for a working farmer was good news for his audience, he also brought less happy tidings to the meeting.

"I'd like your support for increases in the gas, liquor and cigarette taxes and license plate fees," he told them. The gas tax hasn't been raised in ten years, and I don't know anything that hasn't gone up in ten years except the price of corn," he said.

"I've had calls for better roads and transportation in Illinois, and everybody knows they're going to have to be paid for, so I assume they're willing to go along with higher taxes. If you don't think we need a better system — or if you're not willing to pay for it — write me a letter. If you do, write your congressman."

Harold Dodd, a Loami farmer and president of the IFU, told his audience that the organization was proud of its successful efforts to have sales taxes removed from any farm equipment costing more than \$1,000. "This climaxes a four-year effort, he said, "and we were able to get an eight-percent upper limit freeze on farmland assessments.

"We are still very concerned with the exodus from the farm," he said, "and statistics show that nearly 2,200 farmers leave the land every week of the year."

Senator Alan Dixon addressed the meeting, congratulating the members on a legislative job well done. He warned of cuts in the federal budget, but added that they would be fair cuts, with every sector of the economy taking its share of the bitter medicine.

(Editor's note: Governor Thompson fulfilled the pledge made to Farmers Union, naming Morgan County farmer Larry Werries as Illinois Director of Agriculture on March 3.)

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS

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Any solid fuel (wood, coal, paper logs, etc.) can be used. Since the machine is so efficient, you will use less fuel than you use now.

The only other cost to operate the unit is for electrical power to run the two blowers. That's less than 150 watts, or the same as one light bulb!



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- Just six models fit 95% of all home fireplaces.

We know of no other unit that puts out as much heat as the FREE HEAT MACHINE®!

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Size of Home _____ Sq. Ft. Central Duct-work _____ Yes _____ No
 Clean Out Trap _____ Yes _____ No

Approximate winter utility bill:
 Electric: \$ _____ per mo. LP Gas: \$ _____ per mo.
 Fuel Oil: \$ _____ per mo. Natural Gas: \$ _____ per mo.
 Wood Use Per Year _____ Cord _____ Rick

Fireplace:
 Rock: _____ Brick: _____
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Fireplace Dimensions:
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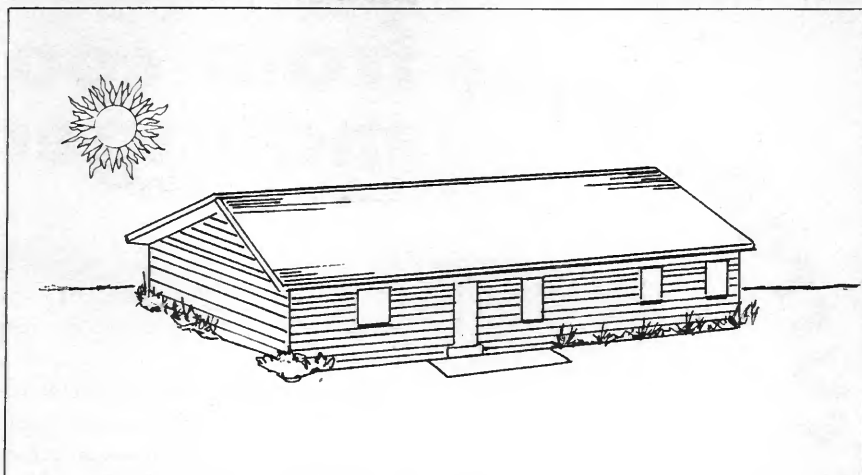
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**energy
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Building a new home? Take advantage of the sun and both winter and summer

Persons planning to build a new home can build in energy savings in a number of ways, including orientation of the structure in order to take advantage of the sun in both winter and summer.

Test and studies by builders, utilities, government agencies and colleges and universities have demonstrated that how you place your home will have a marked impact on the maximum heat gain from the sun in the winter and the minimum heat gain in the summer.

House orientation related to potential energy savings is primarily concerned with the mid-summer or mid-winter path of the sun across the house. It will also help you take advantage of or counter prevailing winds. Heat gain from solar radiation can enter the house by conduction through the walls and roof and/or by radiation through the windows. A high level of solar radiation can be converted into heat when it strikes absorbant material in the household through the windows. Therefore, in those areas where summer cooling is a problem the building should be oriented to keep the sun off the largest window area for the maximum of the summer season. For winter heating, certain areas of the house should be oriented to keep the sun on the largest window area for the maximum part of the winter season.

During the summer, the sun rises north of east and sets north of west

and at noon is at a high altitude. By contrast, in the winter the sun rises south of east and sets south of west and is at a relatively low altitude at noon. Therefore, a house oriented with its long axis running east and west will position the smallest wall area towards the rising and setting sun. In the winter, the sun altitude is much lower so the sun's rays pass under the roof overhang and through the windows to deliver radiant heat to the house. Ideal house orientation is where the long axis of the house runs due east and west and the wall having the maximum window area faces due south.

Building design factors which optimize energy efficiency are: (1) reduce summer wall exposure to the sun by minimizing the east or west wall area, (2) minimize the number of windows on the east and west walls and provide shading for the morning and/or afternoon summer sun, (3) roof overhand on the south wall should be

sufficient to shade the south-wall windows during the summer but not shade them to prevent winter-time radiation from entering, (4) windows should be eliminated from the north wall and only considered for light or cross ventilation for summer cooling, and (5) the roof should be slanted on the south side for proper placement of solar collecting equipment.

Of course, the location of a house cannot always be arranged to achieve optimum orientation as related to sun exposure and/or wind direction. Fortunately, existing homes that have a less than ideal house orientation can even achieve energy savings by carefully using landscaping methods or techniques. Maximum use of landscaping designs can produce energy saving on your heating and cooling load as much as 25 to 30 percent over an unshaded house. Next month we will discuss how landscaping your existing home may help you save energy.

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Current lines from cooperative managers

Rural Electric

We mentioned to you, the members, in the March issue of *Rural Highlights* that your cooperative was very concerned about what would happen to the REA program with President Reagan's proposal that will go before our Congressional committees. These proposals, if passed, would result in great cost to rural electric cooperative systems.

Many who pass judgement on your rural electric cooperatives fail to recognize that REA was established to provide the investment needed to extend electric service to rural America. Your electric cooperative has been the organization of members that developed and built a rural electric system to the unserved, and to provide reliable service to the farmers and rural establishments.

If the OMB proposals are passed by Congress, the effect will be even higher rates. The Federal Finance Bank would not be able to provide the guaranteed loans for generation and transmission. Insured loans for construction and improvement will not be adequately funded.

We remind you that neither of these programs have any effect on your Federal budget, nor contribute to the deficit balance.

Revolving insured loans and guaranteed loans are off budget items and are funded by the loan repayments and guaranteed loans. Actually 1/8 of

one percent is collected by the Treasury for the guaranteed loan funds.

Managers of the 1,000 cooperatives in our country have asked their members to inform their congressmen of the importance of the REA program. We have heard some good news regarding this as of April 1. Forty-one senators have signed a letter urging the President to rescind his proposal to discontinue funding of REA guaranteed loans through the Federal Financing Bank.

The environmentalists have succeeded in passing laws for the environment that are costing you, the member. This means that at least \$40 of every \$100 paid for electricity by you goes for the environment. This

means if you paid \$1,000 for electricity in 1980, the environmentalists spent \$400 of that amount for you. Is there any way we can stop them? If you feel this is important to you, please write your congressmen.

Since the "Energy Event" program was introduced to the members in February many of you have taken advantage of this computerized energy analysis of your homes.

We feel this "Energy Audit" has great value to you in providing the members with information for their energy needs in the future.

The average family spends between \$2,000 and \$4,000 directly on energy every year. If you feel this program can fill any of your needs, contact your cooperative.

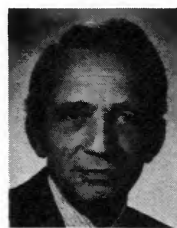


Roy Goode
Manager

Shelby Electric

SHELBYVILLE, ILLINOIS

We continue to share your concern over the fuel adjustment card mailed monthly to each member. It is a



Bill LeCrone
Manager

nuisance for you and a nuisance for your staff. The fuel adjustment cost is the actual amount billed to the cooperative by the wholesale power supplier, adjusted for line loss and public utility taxes. SHELBY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE RETAINS NONE OF THIS MONEY. If we had to devise a rate that included our best guess of future fuel cost increases, and thus eliminate the card, it would be necessary to estimate a large enough increase to cover the entire cost of the fuel adjustment increase. This might be as much as one cent more per kWh than you are now paying. The card system seems

to be the only fair way of ensuring that the cooperative takes in enough money to cover the fuel cost increases, but only enough to cover those costs.

With spring approaching, it may be a good time to remind you of the procedures of reporting outages. If you have a power failure, first check to see that your neighbors do — or do not — have service. Then phone the cooperative. Someone will be there to take your call 24 hours a day. You may call collect. If your collect call is refused, someone has already reported your particular outage. When your call is accepted by the office, have your account number ready to report to the operator. You will find it above your name on the billing booklet; and it will commence with an alphabetical letter. This greatly speeds up the processing of your report. As always, the cooperative personnel are there to serve you. Crews will be dispatched as soon as possible to deal with your problems. Your patience is always appreciated at these times. Be assured that your cooperative's staff will continue to give you the service you require and deserve.

Slashing the REA loan program
would not reduce the federal budget

It would spur inflation in rural America

White House economic planners are moving to cut a program that's vital to a strong rural economy and essential to meeting the nation's energy needs. The plan is being sold in the name of cutting the federal budget.

The truth is that the proposed changes in the Rural Electrification Administration loan program would not reduce the federal budget or curb inflation—the stated goals of the White House.

They would raise electric rates to millions of farmers and other rural residents.

The proposals for REA are inflationary and should be dropped.

Their Facts Are Wrong

In announcing the proposals on February 18, the White House said, "Customers of REA financed utilities receive power and telephone services at rates that average 8-12% below customers of non-REA financed utilities."

Exactly the opposite is true. Government reports as of January 1, 1980 show that electric co-op rates nationwide average 12% more than those of other electric utilities.

Serving rural America isn't easy or cheap. It never has been. Rural electric systems average only 4.6 consumers and \$2,887 in revenue per mile of line, compared with 35.8 consumers and \$36,652 per mile for electric companies.

The Purpose of REA

Consumers, rural or urban, want reliable electric service at reasonable costs. Rural people didn't have that years ago. It simply wasn't profitable for power companies to serve all of rural America. It isn't profitable today.

That's why REA was created. That's why REA is needed today.

With the help of REA loans, people in communities across the countryside formed non-profit, consumer-owned electric utilities—mostly cooperatives, which today are serving more than 25 million people in 46 states.

It Doesn't Make Sense

A change in the REA loan program in 1973 completely removed it as a budget item. Since then, all capital funds advanced by REA have consisted of insured or guaranteed loans from sources completely outside the federal budget. The loan repayment record is second to none.

The administration's economic package would eliminate or drastically revise this system. It would force rural electric cooperatives to pay higher interest rates and raise electric bills. It would spur inflation and it would not increase employment or productivity.



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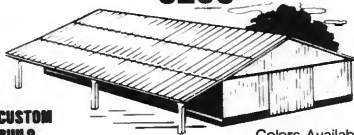
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convince, not argue. Avoid name calling. If you have met the official, draw attention to that fact. Ask

the official to state his or her position on the issue; as a constituent, you are entitled to know.

Addressing your letter to U.S. and Illinois officials

President of the United States

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
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Dear Congressman _____:

United States Senators

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Room 4321
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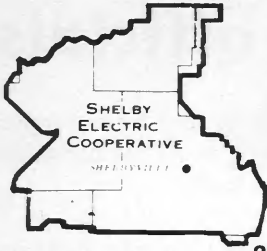
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Shelby Electric News

SHELBY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

217-774-3986

SHELBYVILLE, ILLINOIS

Chick-herding pup began long line of topnotch Border Collies

In 1942, Ralph Shew purchased his first sheep dog. He paid \$50 for the female Border Collie pup, and Mrs. Shew thought the price was outlandish. At that time, the Shews were living east and south of Shelbyville, and among other things, were raising a large number of chicks. When the new pup started to help Mrs. Shew keep the chicks herded, she decided the pup was well worth the price paid!

Since the first dog was purchased from Arthur Allen (who was with Roy Rogers' Rodeo for several years), Mr. Shew has raised and trained many Border Collies — as many as four or five at a time — and he has sold pups all over the United States, including some he had trained.

Presently, Mr. Shew has two dogs, Maid and Honey. Although retired and living in Shelbyville, he keeps his dogs, sheep, and cattle at the farm location. He goes daily to feed the livestock, and to work and exercise Maid and Honey. Shew says he never had time to show his dogs at trials, but demonstrates their skill with ease. The commands: "Come By" (dogs go to



Praise and affection are the dogs' reward after a hard workout.

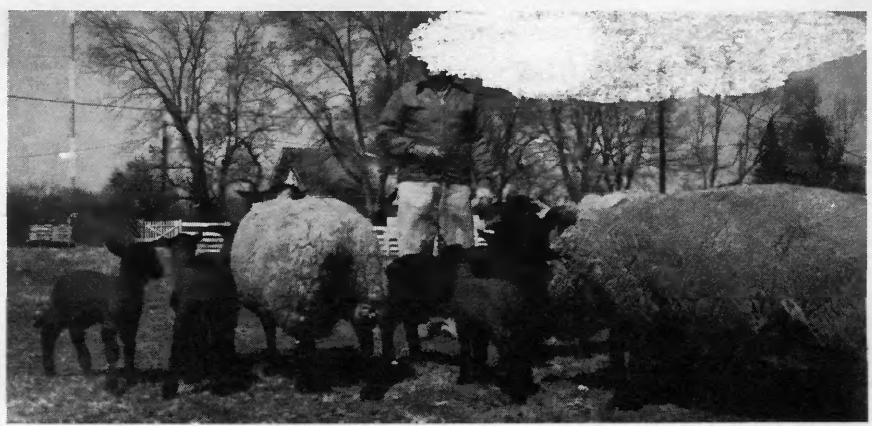


Both dogs enjoy riding on Shew's three-wheel cycle.

their right), "Way to Me" (dogs to go to their left), and "Down" set the two dogs into action that keeps the flock of sheep in the exact location their owner desires.

Border Collies were first bred on the moors along the border between Scotland and England, and are used today for the same job: herding sheep and cattle.

Maid and Honey, the two dogs owned and trained by Ralph Shew, are two fine examples of the Border Colle breed!



These spring lambs will keep Maid and Honey busy.

Avoid these pitfalls when insulating

A greater awareness of energy conservation and resulting increased use of insulating materials has introduced several new problems for the homeowner.

Recessed light fixtures, fans, bell transformers and other heat-producing devices develop extremely high temperatures during periods of frequent use. When insulation is blown above or placed in direct contact with these devices, it interferes with the proper ventilation and cooling of these objects and creates a potentially serious fire hazard.

Many insulation manufacturers caution, and the National Electric Code requires, that insulating material not be installed within 24 inches of the top, and three inches of the side,

of recessed light fixtures, ballasts or other heat-generating devices. Care must be taken to prevent insulation from being placed too near metal chimneys and fireplaces as well.

When installing insulation, take a little extra time and follow the procedures outlined below to ensure a safe job.

1. Before installing insulation, make a thorough inspection of the attic area for the location of recessed light fixtures, fans, etc. Also note the location of metal chimneys and fireplaces.
2. Using a baffle material, form a barrier allowing three inches of air space around each fixture. Make the barrier high enough so the top clears the insulation

- depth by at least six inches.
3. Be sure to clean the baffle area of old insulation and other debris.
4. Staple or tape the baffle in place so it will remain in position during insulation installation.

A related problem occurs when loose fill insulation is carelessly blown into the attic, covering soffit vents and obstructing air flow and ventilation which could result in moisture control problems and insulation damage.

With a few minutes of careful planning and the proper safeguards, you can have an effectively insulated home and avoid a potentially serious fire hazard.

Insulating ductwork is necessary

One of the first questions that should be asked of any member who has a ducted electric heating system and is inquiring about a higher than expected bill is: Are the hot and cold air ducts in your home insulated?

There now is wide acceptance of electric furnaces and heat pumps which utilize duct systems the same as oil, gas and coal furnaces. However, we have frequently found insufficient follow-through for proper insulation of the ducts. Over the years, masters of the old school of installing heating ducts had little concern for wrapping ducts with insulation. This idea has been carried over into many electric heat installations and we are sure it causes problems and higher bills.

We urge that installers insulate all ducts in crawl spaces, unheated basements and other exposed areas with at least four inches of insulating materials designed for such a purpose. When ducts are in the attic they should be insulated to at least the same depth as is installed over the entire attic. Also, it is important to protect the cold air return ducts as well as the hot air ducts.

When a basement is heated fulltime, there are some who believe insulation of the ducts is not important. This has merit if the exposed areas of the basement has insulation equal to that in the upper living areas. If this is the case, the planned cost of heating must be based on the total area of the

home rather than the upper living area only.

But, there are instances where insulating should be done even though the basement is heated. An electric furnace is designed with a lower bonnet temperature than other furnaces, so it is possible to experience enough heat loss in a long duct that a room at the far end will be uncomfortable. Adding duct insulation often solves this problem.

In this day of energy shortages and much higher fuel costs, insulation properly installed will save and save. This is true for other fuels as well as for electricity. If you have questions about duct insulation, give the member services department a call.

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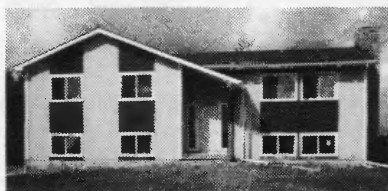
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Curtis, according to Ted Sterling, representative, has access to millions of dollars to finance its homes. The Curtis Homes Assistance Money Plan (CHAMP) was created to enable home buyers willing to contribute their own labor to obtain easy credit terms with below market interest rates, no big down payment and low monthly payments during the construction period. Since Curtis is not a bank, the company sets its own liberal credit standards.

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- Monthly installment payments are delayed six months after construction starts to help the owner avoid two shelter payments.

“Our entire approach has been to help solve the high cost of housing problems for families with the energy and ambition to make a work investment. We have the financial resources to assist many more families to achieve their dream home now,” the representative added.

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The official outlined other features of the Curtis program for helping people low on cash and high in ambition to get a much-needed home:

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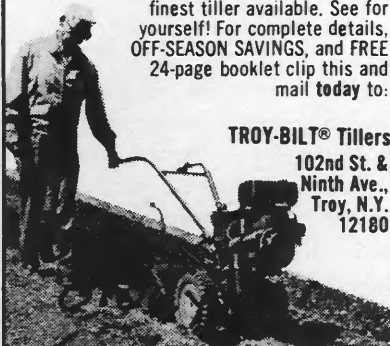
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for the project. "Louisian was very forceful and determined and we found out later that she put a lot of her own money into the show."

"Our approach was one of conservation," says Mamer. "it was no gingerbread, high-power promotion deal, because in the 30s nobody had any money and during the war there were no materials for appliances. We had to show people how to save energy, money and time."

So for a year-and-a-half, Mamer lived and worked out of the trailer.

Mamer and Teare would arrive in town a few days early to meet with the co-op board members and get them to support the show with money and labor. Ten to 12 hours would be spent setting up huge circus-style canvas tents, often in the middle of a farmer's pasture. In the evening, Mamer would demonstrate lighting equipment, telling her audience which

lamps were best for cooking or reading. She had written a brochure, "Good Lighting at Low Cost," to distribute among the co-op members and their neighbors. Similar demonstrations would be held the next day for laundry equipment, kitchen appliances and farm equipment. As many as 500 to 800 people came to these early shows, under tents, or in community halls in the winter, to see how these gadgets might "relieve them of the drudgery of farm work and lengthen their lives."

Always busy, Mamer during her working years thrived on only four or five hours sleep a day. Her interests range from rural sociology to electrical engineering to lapidary, the art of cutting gems which she shares with her husband, who is also retired. On the farm tour she lectured on electric conservation and she still practices it in her home, preferring small table top

appliances — a roaster, a toaster oven, well cookers and electric frying pans — to a full-size stove and oven.

Mamer's home is packed with other reminders of her REA days. Bookshelves are crowded with well-thumbed volumes and vases and tiny wooden boxes — gifts from foreign officials she visited, exchanging ideas about electricity in remote areas. The large, hand-cut gems recall her demonstrations of gem cutting as a way for farmers to earn additional income.

Mamer went back to her office after retiring to delegate handling of several history-packed file folders to member of the staff, files which she hadn't had the time to organize until now. "Twice my job was abolished by Republican administrations, in 1953 and '72. I didn't have time to clean out my desk before they moved us utilization people, so I just kept collecting," she said.

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Shelby Electric News

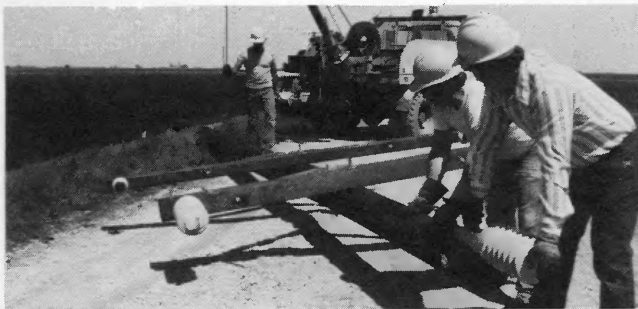
SHELBY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

217-774-3986

SHELBYVILLE, ILLINOIS

New substation to improve Stonington area service

To better serve the residents of Stonington, and the area around Stonington, your Cooperative is building a new 1500-KVA substation. Five miles of transmission and two miles of distribution poles and lines have been constructed. These photos show the progress to date.



Shelby crewmen are ready to set a pole after it is framed and hardware has been attached.



Muddy conditions caused considerable extra work for the construction crews.



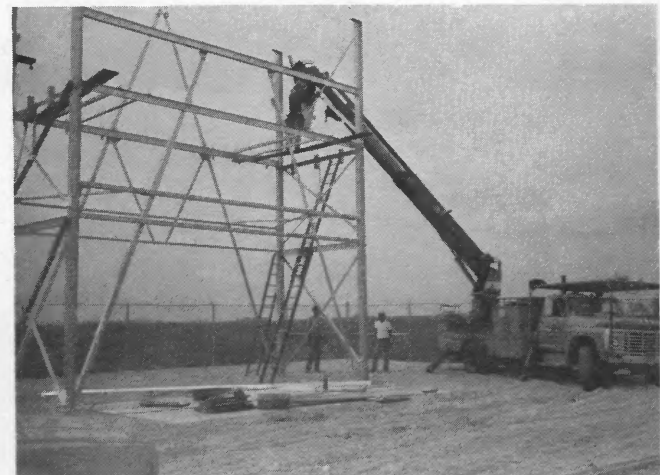
Transmission line pole is set into place.



Crewmen tamp the earth around the new pole to make sure it is set securely.



After the poles are securely in place, crews begin the task of stringing wire for transmission and distribution lines.



Work on the new substation is almost complete.

Air conditioning time is here

If you want satisfactory operation from your air conditioning unit, whether it is a window model or central system, it is necessary to do some preventive maintenance to the equipment to get the best and most efficient operation from it. First, be sure that the filter is clean and set up a monthly routine of cleaning or replacing this filter. This not only

gives you more cooling capacity, but will reduce the operating cost. Next check to see if the outside condenser coil is free from dirt or foreign particles such as grass or leaves. If this air flow is restricted, it is a sure way to destroy the compressor unit because this prevents the air from flowing through the outside condenser coil and removing the heat from the gases which is pumped through it. If the gas returning to the compressor is at a higher temperature than the compressor can operate, there is a good chance of destroying the windings within the compressor motor.

Be sure and check the inside coil which is the evaporator coil. This is the part of the system that condenses the moisture in the air and reduces the

humidity level within the home. Since this coil operates under a damp condition during operation, there is a good chance of dirt or lint sticking to the coil and blocking the air flow. This prevents the unit from circulating enough air through the coil which reduces the cooling capacity of the unit and also causes the unit to operate much longer to lower the temperature to the desired level within the home.

Some of this preventive maintenance can be done by the homeowner such as maintaining the filter within the air handling unit. However, some of the maintenance will require trained refrigeration or air conditioning personnel to clean the coils and be sure that the unit is operating properly.

Electrical safety tips

The basic precautions

You can avoid the pain, scarring and loss of life from electric shock by taking certain precautions.

Never touch any electrical item — washer, dryer, shaver, grinder, drill, whatever — while standing barefoot or in wet shoes or sandals on concrete, stone, terrazzo, tile, metal or dirt.

Remember that a turned-off device is connected to electricity until it is unplugged.

Don't be careless with any electrical device in the bathroom while you are wet, barefoot or touching any part of the plumbing.

Use extreme caution when operating such outside devices as drills or hedge trimmers. Read all safety instructions, and don't remove the third prong — the ground — of a three-prong plug.

Don't risk installing an antenna or mast if it could possibly fall within several feet of an electric service wire, if the day is windy or if you don't have enough help. Under any of those circumstances call in an experienced professional.

It's hard to imagine how our ancestors got along without electricity. Yet the more we use it, especially with light-duty, personal and household equipment, the more we risk exposure to its dangers — and the more

precautions we must take to avoid its inherent hazards.

First aid for electric shock

1. Control your emotions — don't touch the victim if he's still in contact with the electrical device or live wire.

2. Turn off the current at the switch, if possible. Otherwise, use a nonmetallic object, preferably a wooden pole or board, to remove the power source from the victim.

3. Try not to move the victim. He may have broken bones or interior burns that could kill him if he is moved incorrectly.

4. Have someone call an ambulance and specify the precise nature and location of the accident. The ambulance crew can bring special resuscitation equipment. But don't leave the victim if you are alone. The next two or three minutes are vital.

5. If the victim has a pulse or his heart is beating but he is not breathing, immediately begin mouth-to-mouth breath assistance. If there is no pulse, external cardiac massage must also be employed — the full cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), which medical authorities say should be done by qualified persons.

6. After heartbeat and breathing is restored, stay with the victim. Keep him quiet, warm and comfortable until medics arrive to take charge.

TV Sets

Don't play them to an empty room! Note: "instant-on" types are always using electricity.



Some energy-saving tips

Follow Instructions!

Use appliances the way they are meant to be used, and keep them in good condition with regular cleaning and maintenance.



Hot Water

Fix leaky faucets. Insulate heater, pipes. Set thermostat at 120° (140° if you have a dishwasher).





James Walsh, second from left, discusses his farm operation with the visitors.

Foreign visitors tour Wayne-White area

Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative was host during the last week of May to four officials representing rural electrification programs in Bangladesh and Egypt. During their visit in Illinois, they studied the organization and operation of the Fairfield-based electric cooperative, toured farming operations in the cooperative's service area, examined cooperative substation and transmission equipment and construction, visited the Mapco Coal Company construction site, toured the Dowzer Transformer plant in Mt. Vernon and spent a day in Springfield.

The visitors were Fanzi H. El Alfi and Mohamed Shams El Din Abo Shady of Egypt and Mohammad Abdul Wadud and A. S. F. R. Khan of

Bangladesh. A former employee of Wayne-White, Ivan Holler, is on overseas assignment assisting in Bangladesh with rural electrification.

Their visit to the United States was coordinated by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). Wayne-White Manager Bill Endicott was host for the foreign visitors during their five-day stay.

Included among their visits to area farms were trips to the grain and cattle operation of James T. Walsh

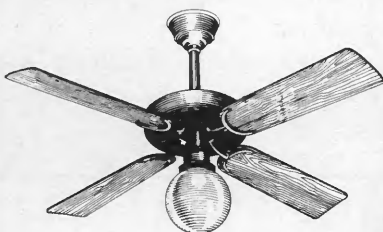
of Carmi, and to the fertilizer business and farm of Robert D. Glover of Mt. Erie. Walsh and Glover are directors of Wayne-White. Of extreme importance to the foreign visitors was the extent of farm electrification in this country. While at the Glover farm they saw a silo-to-feed-bunker cattle feeding operation which featured a fully mechanized mixing and feed distribution system.

One full day was spent with Bill Bennett, system engineer, examining



Manager Bill Endicott, left, helps demonstrate equipment.

HUNTER OLDE TYME FAN



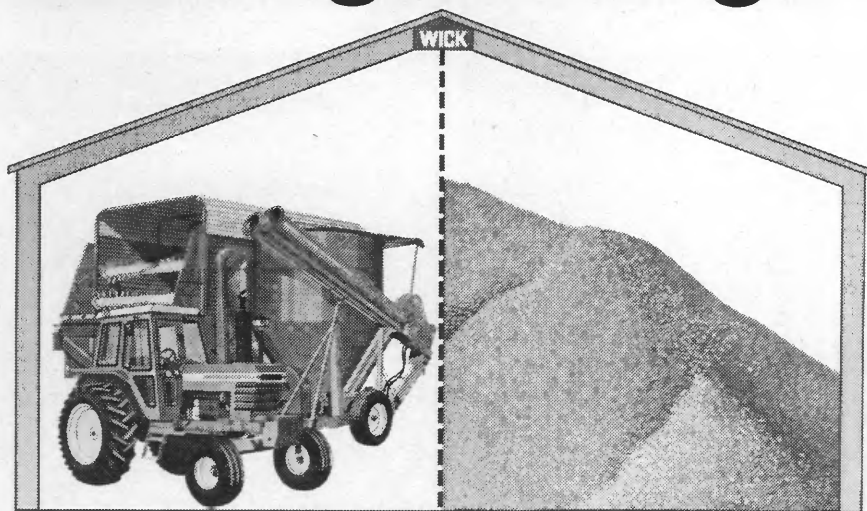
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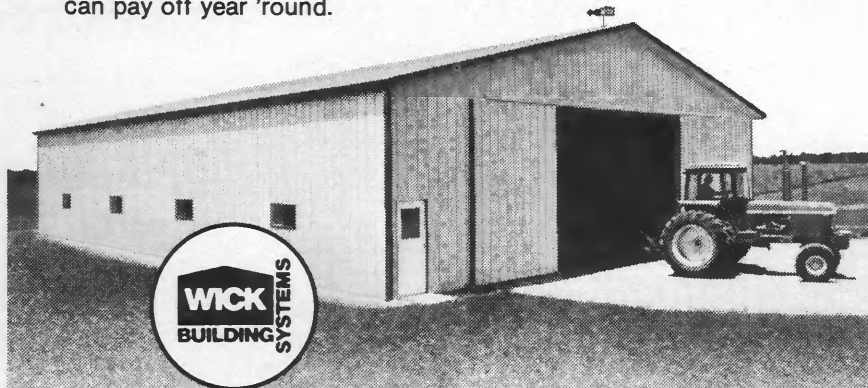
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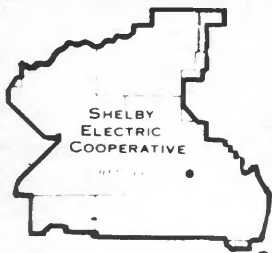
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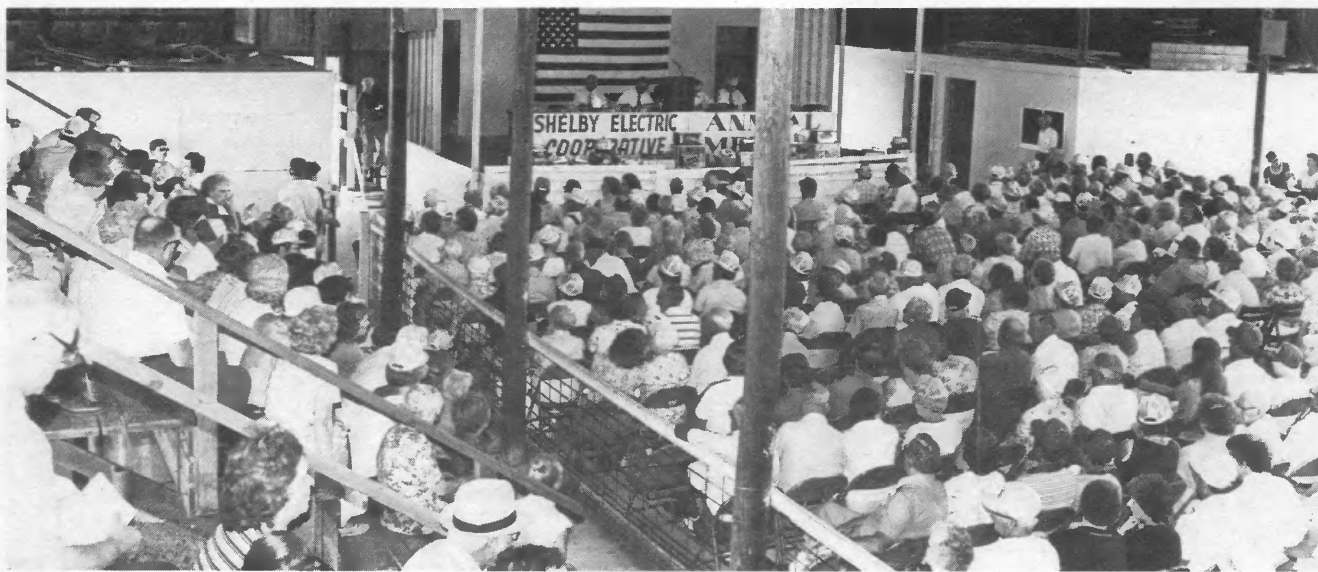


Shelby Electric News

SHELBY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

217-774-3986

SHELBYVILLE, ILLINOIS



Kensil, Boldt reelected to board; LeCrone

Barring a major storm or other unforeseen event, Shelby Electric Cooperative should be debt free within the next 10 years. That was the projection offered by Manager William E. LeCrone at the cooperative's 43rd Annual Meeting of Members held July 16 at the 4-H Club Fairgrounds in Shelbyville.

LeCrone reported to the approximately 1,200 members and guests attending the meeting that over the past eight years debt has been reduced by more than \$1 million to a total of \$661,654 at the end of 1980. "This means that you members own approximately 80 percent of the total

plant," LeCrone said, "an increase of 11 percent in eight years in what is known as member equity." Average member equity among each of the 1,000 electric cooperatives in the United States stands at about 33 percent today compared to 44 percent in 1972. "In other words, as the average of other cooperatives was decreasing by about 11 percent yours was increasing by a similar amount," LeCrone said.

Shelby Electric Cooperative has not had to borrow money for capital improvements since 1957, the year the headquarters building was financed. LeCrone pointed out that

if the cooperative had borrowed money for capital investment recently it would have been at an interest cost of at least 13 percent, compared to the two percent rate on the outstanding \$661,000 debt to the Rural Electrification Administration.

Victor Jostes of Nokomis, president of the Shelby Board of Directors, said that high member equity was one of the reasons the cooperative's members enjoy below average electric rates. He said Shelby rates ranked 10th out of 27 Illinois Electric Cooperatives at the 1,500 kWh level. "The reason for this is good management, good employees and a high member equity." He said

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS



Clockwise from below: Victor Jostes, president of the cooperative, speaks. The Paublo Agricultural Museum had a display at the meeting. An impressive lineup of trucks were exhibited. Some of the more than 1,200 persons attending. Manager LeCrone congratulates reelected members of the board of directors: from left are; LeCrone, L. Eugene Boldt of Stewardson, and Kenneth Kensil of Tower Hill. Center this page, Equipment costs were compared; the truck on the right, bought in 1972, cost \$29,114.80. The one on the left, bought this year, cost \$82,780.21.



ports welcome increase in member equity

that even though wholesale power costs have increased 483 percent over the past eight years, the cost of electricity to the member has increased by only 169 percent.

Kenneth Kensil of Tower Hill, treasurer, reported to the cooperative member-owners that wholesale power costs increased by more than \$42,000 during 1980 even though kilowatt hour sales fell by more than eight million. During 1980, Kensil said, the cooperative spent 71 cents out of each dollar received on wholesale power costs. LeCrone said that because of rising wholesale power costs he expects electric rates to

continue to increase with no sign of leveling off.

Guest speaker for the annual meeting was Leland Glazebrook, farm director of WZQZ Radio, Decatur. Before the official business meeting got under way members enjoyed a display of antique farm machinery assembled by Wayne Rice and Clayton Allgood of Blue Mound, and listened to a concert by the Shelbyville High School Band.

During the annual business meeting, Shelby members reelected two directors to the cooperative's governing board. They are Kensil and L. Eugene Boldt of Stewardson.

During the board's reorganizational meeting following the member's meeting, Jostes was reelected president. Other officers reelected were Robert Primmer of Findley as vice president, Neil Pistorius of Blue Mound, secretary and Kensil as treasurer. Other Shelby directors are Lawrence D. Oller of Taylorville and Gerald White of Macon.

Shelby Electric Cooperative serves more than 8,200 members over 2,030 miles of energized line in parts of Shelby, Christian, Cumberland, Moultrie, Montgomery, Macon, Effingham, Fayette and Sangamon Counties.

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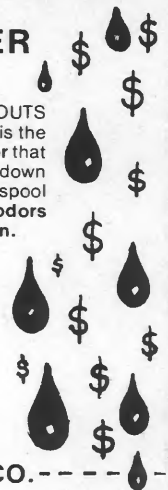
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A few miles away, a farmer is engaged in less frivolous activity, but with a similar plane. Flying out of a large lawn behind his house, he makes a low-level check of his fields to look over his crops.

A few years ago, such scenes would have been unbelievable. Now, they are regular occurrences. They are made possible by a new kind of aircraft called ultralights. Powered ultralights are a natural spinoff from hang gliders, which have been around for years, but which, for the most part, only descend after being launched.

The Federal Aviation Administration has, so far, kept out of the regulation business as far as ultralights are concerned, only stipulating that such craft must be capable of being foot-launched — a nice way of saying that somebody, somewhere, sometime, must have been able to take off in one by running with it. Such freedom from regulation is one of the reasons ultralights are so popular. No expensive pilot's license is required to fly them.

Jim Woods of Edwardsville, a member of Southwestern Electric Cooperative, hopes to make ultralights fairly commonplace in Illinois. He flies and sells Quicksilvers, manufactured by Eipper Formance, Inc., a California firm.

"I got into the Eipper Formance line by accident," he says, "because I'd gone to a seminar in California to look at another brand, and to get a dealership. I stayed six months and looked the field over pretty carefully. I came back with the Quicksilver dealership because I think they're the best you can buy."

Like their unpowered hang-glider brethren, Quicksilvers make use of brightly hued materials to lend color to the new kind of sport flying.

Woods notes that the Quicksilver M comes with a 15-hp two-cycle Yamaha engine as standard equipment. It takes off in about 60 feet or less into the wind, and cruises at 24-30 mph, with a top speed of 42 mph. It lands at about 20 mph.

"I like this model because of the simple controls," Woods notes, adding, "the pilot turns by shifting his weight — and it's a very natural thing, and easy to learn. They're about the

easiest to learn, but very light pilots tend to have a little difficulty because banking the craft depends on weight shifting. A petite young woman who flies a Quicksilver has overcome that problem by wearing a scuba diver's weight belt when she flies."

The company also offers a float conversion.

"We have another exciting model out now, too," Woods says. "The Double Quick is a larger-engined version of the Quicksilver, with a 30-hp Cuyuna engine. It offers better

takeoff and climb performance." All the craft fold into fairly handy trailerable-sized packages, and can be set up to fly in about half an hour, once the basic skills are mastered.

"We've sold about 100 planes since starting a couple of years ago," Woods says, "and we train each buyer before we turn them loose with a plane. Not all companies do that, but ours requires it, and we believe it's the best way. The training is built into the price of the plane, and we want the sport to grow, safely, and sensibly."

Protecting a valuable asset

You've insured your house, your car . . . probably even your stereo and television set. But, did you ever stop to think about your most valuable asset? You depend on good health in order to work and bring home your family's income. Isn't that an asset also worth protecting?

The financial security and all the things you've worked so hard for can be lost when an unexpected sickness or injury strikes. Think about it. If you were struck by a heart attack (or some other serious illness or accident), could you pay your medical bills and still manage to make ends meet without your income?

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Current lines from cooperative managers

Rural Electric

AUBURN, ILLINOIS

Thank you to all of you from all of us for making your 44th Annual Meeting one of the best annual meetings of your Cooperative. The members in attendance were interested and concerned. Other items concerning your annual meeting will be published later.

Energy costs are still mounting. We thought a few years ago when energy costs were going up and up that a plateau would be reached. We still believe that is true, but it seems like the old saw: about the time we make ends meet someone moves the ends. So the leveling-off period is still in the offing.

One thing that we can still say: the cost of your electric energy has not gone up quite as much as the elusive consumer price index for the past 10 years. What we estimate now is a continuing increase over the next few years rather than a leveling off.

As many of you are aware, your Cooperative through Western Illinois Power Cooperative, Inc. has purchased a percentage of the nuclear Clinton Power Station. As this project nears completion interest costs continue to mount. Now when the plant is operational the cost of generating will be less, but thanks to controls, regulations and environmentalists, the plant has been delayed again and again. Naturally the cost climbs due to new regulations and designs, delays

and changes. Who pays for these unnecessary delays and rules? The consumer and the member pay.

Many times some of you may be critical of the cost of electric power. A big share of the cause of this lies in the fact that delays, interest hikes, unnecessary costs due to inflation all add to the already high costs of construction.

So we are seeing increased costs for a relatively short time, then a leveling-off trend.

This is not to discourage the use of

energy. I am of the opinion that coal- and nuclear-fired electric generating plants are the way to go for energy requirements.

Oil and oil products must still be used for mobile requirements, for producing food and fiber and for transportation. As new developments come on the scene, perhaps electric energy will meet more of your transportation requirements.

Electric energy is still economical — use what you need — need what you use.

Shelby Electric

SHELBYVILLE, ILLINOIS

On Tuesday, August 11, service was interrupted to all Shelby Electric Cooperative members served off our Neoga Substation. I am sure those customers would be interested in knowing the events that took place on that afternoon.

A contractor was making repairs to a bridge five miles west of Neoga. The crew was driving piling for that bridge with a crane when the pile-driving boom fell over backwards.

While falling, the crane tore down the cooperative's 69-KV transmission line and three-phase underbuild coming from the Neoga Substation. When this accident happened, service to that substation was disrupted. Approximately 1,300 members were without power from 4 p.m. to 8:07 p.m. while construction and maintenance crews rushed to repair the damage.

During the time of this outage, the Cooperative personnel manned the phones to answer questions and give what information they could to members calling to report they were without power. One of the many questions asked was, "Will the food

in my freezer remain safe for four hours?"

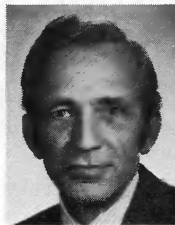
We answered that their frozen food supply would be perfectly safe for that length of time. As a matter of fact, according to "Frozen Food Facts," a freezer that is fully stocked, with food that is completely frozen, will keep temperatures at a satisfactory level for two days providing that is not opened.

We advised our members: "Resist the temptation to peek!" Keep that coldness inside, and do not let it out. If you anticipate being out of service for a great length of time (your Cooperative will do everything possible to prevent a lengthy outage, of course) there are a few things you might do to help preserve your valuable frozen food stores: cover the freezer with a blanket or newspapers for added insulation — the fuller the freezer the longer the contents will stay frozen — and if the outage is to be an extended one, add dry ice to keep the temperature below freezing.

As we have mentioned before, we always appreciate your calls to report an outage. To speed the processing of your call, we request that you give the person answering your call the following information: The name the service is listed under, the account number of that location (it is listed above your name on the meter book), what time your service went off, and if any of your neighbors are without

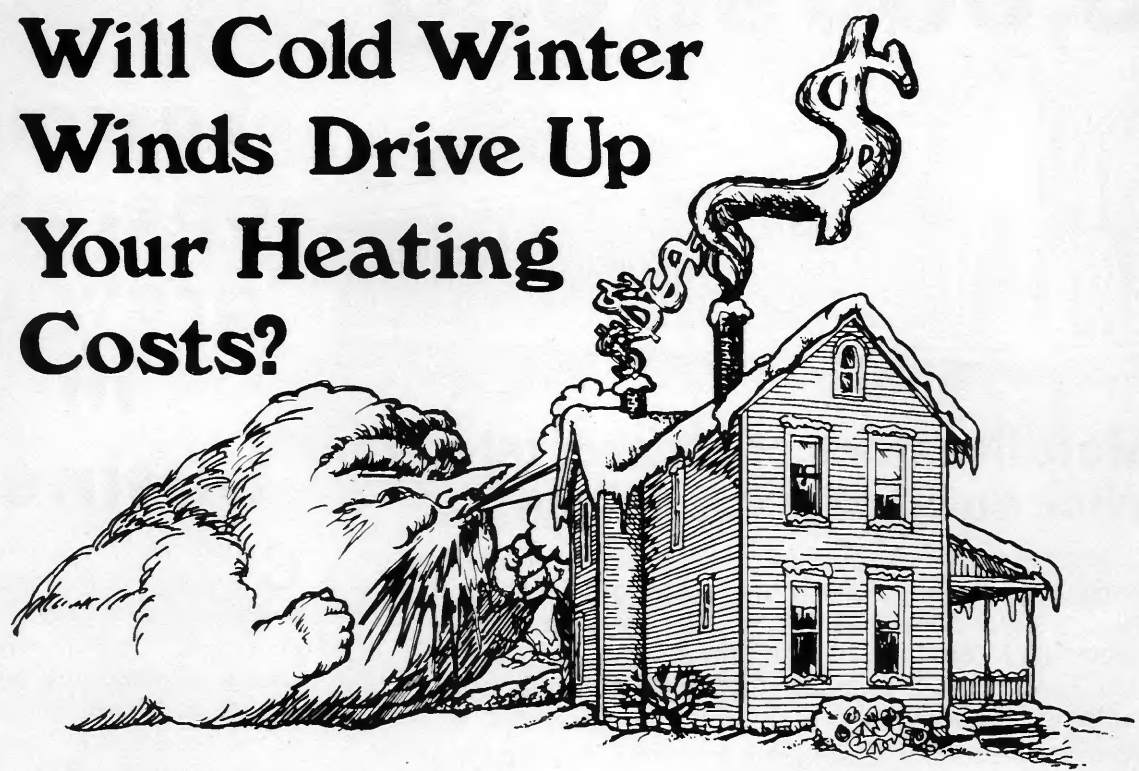


Roy D. Goode
Manager



Bill LeCrone
Manager

Will Cold Winter Winds Drive Up Your Heating Costs?



When winter's icy winds return soon, will energy leaks in your home cost you hard earned money? Think back to last winter . . . Did you feel a draft around your windows? Did you get a blast of cold air whenever a door opened? Did your thermostat switch on and off frequently on windy days?

Caulking around doors and windows, new storm doors and windows and extra attic insulation could increase your comfort through the coming winter cold and pay for themselves through lower energy bills.

Don't get caught in the cold one more winter. Your consumer-owned electric cooperative will help you plan how to plug those costly energy leaks. Why not give us a call, now.

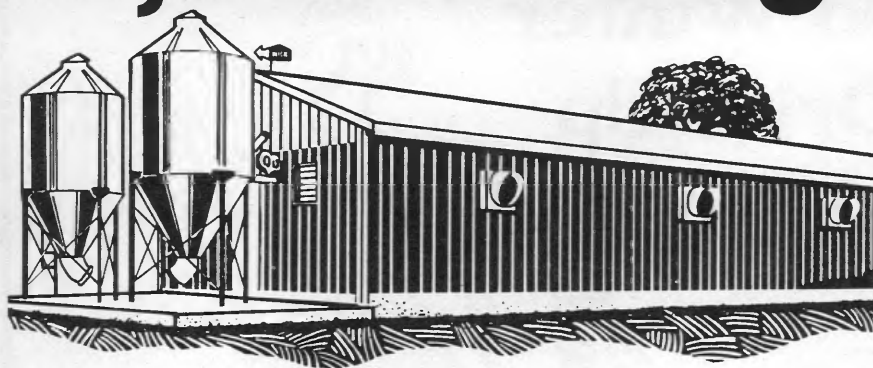
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power. It is possible that the outage has already been reported. If that is the case, we may refuse your collect call. If your service does not come on when the neighbors' does, replace the

call and report that you have an individual outage. To all those people involved in the August 11 Neoga substation outage and to all our members' we thank you

for your understanding, patience, and courtesy. You can be assured that all of the Cooperative's staff is doing their very best to see that your service is restored as swiftly as possible.

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Sawmill operator 'grew up' in business

Cutting up is a way of life for Wayne Hendrix of Marshall. Hendrix, an Edgar Electric Cooperative member, runs a small sawmill. With help from two part-time employees, Wayne can saw about 10,000 board feet of lumber a week, or about half a million feet a year when business is good.

"I really enjoy the lumber business," Wayne says, "and I kind of came by it naturally. My father had a sawmill and I just kind of grew up in the business."

"We usually run the mill about two days a week — maybe three. With the size of the operation being what it is, that's about all we need. We run year 'round most of the time, though, except a couple of those really severe winters when we couldn't," he notes.

Wayne also serves as road commissioner for Marshall Township and runs a small farming operation.

Hendrix buys some of the timber for the operation, and saws some himself. Sycamore and cottonwood are probably the most common timber processed at the mill. The bulk of the lumber is rough cut for use in building pallets and crates. Wayne also does some milling for furniture manufacturers. "We cut hardwood sometimes for what they call grade lumber," he says, "mostly oak or walnut, and we air-dry it and save it until we have a semi-trailer load. We sell some poplar to them, too."

The sawmill generates a lot of material that once went to waste, but Wayne tries to minimize that.

owned, for-profit utilities were receiving good treatment from the administration. "There's a new bill to wipe out some of their debts, and to allow them to retain \$1-billion a year they were paying, in addition to \$3-billion they were already retaining. In contrast, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is asking you to take a whopping cut. We recognize that the investor-owned utilities need and deserve some consideration, and we're glad to see them get it, but where's the balance and fairness? For some reason, OMB says the rural electrics are destroying the economy, while the IOU's are part of the economic recovery."

Harold V. Hunter, an Oklahoma rancher recently appointed by President Reagan to head the Rural Electrification Administration (REA), told the delegates that the cooperatives should get used to the idea that federal money and loan guarantees will be drying up, and seek new sources of loans for needed capital. "There has been a gradual

trend in this direction," he said, "and it will have to be accelerated."

Hunter urged his listeners to communicate with their members, especially in regard to rates, which he expects to continue to escalate virtually indefinitely.

"Regardless of what happens, as we see the disappearance of some of

the cheaper imbedded interest rates and cheaper investments of yesterday, and when we see some of the newer higher costs being welded in, we know that rates are going to be raised in order to meet the costs of doing business, and the sooner you can warn your members, the better off you'll be," Hunter concluded.

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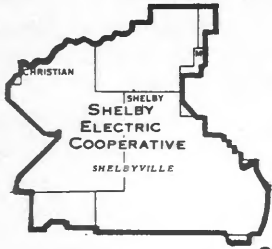
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Shelby Electric News

SHELBY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

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SHELBYVILLE, ILLINOIS

Variety marks grain storage and drying techniques

With the 1981 harvest season almost behind us, your Cooperative has compiled information regarding three different types of crop storage and drying done in the service area. All three farmers interviewed are from rural Taylorville addresses. The cooperative wishes to thank the following three families for their help and hospitality.

For several years, Philip Weiser has been interested in solar energy. He presently uses solar energy to heat a new addition to his home, and to dry crops. Weiser built a machine shed with solar collector in the roof. The building is a dark green color because dark colors absorb heat better. The three bins are located next to the machine building. From the roof, the warm air goes to the collector, then through a plenum to the nearby bins. Weiser uses air but no additional heat, and has no stirrators. Mr. Weiser says he is learning more every year about solar drying. "The corn coming out is beautiful. I couldn't ask for better looking grain. Unfortunately, looks don't do much to help the market price!"

Robert L. Lynch was one of Shelby



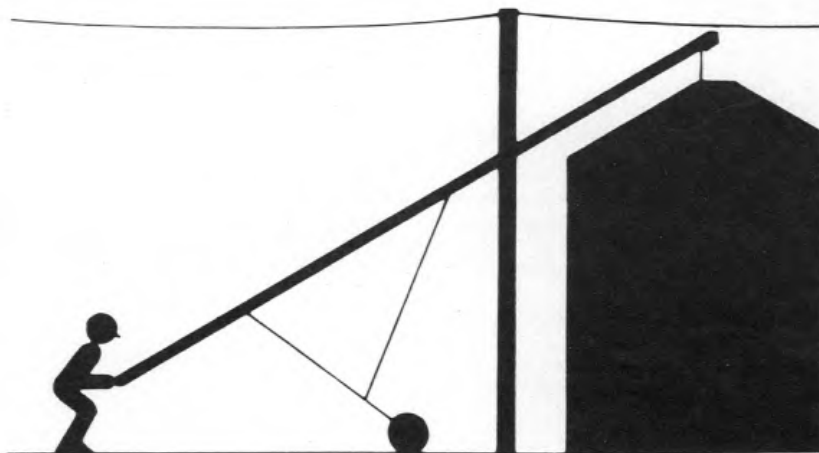
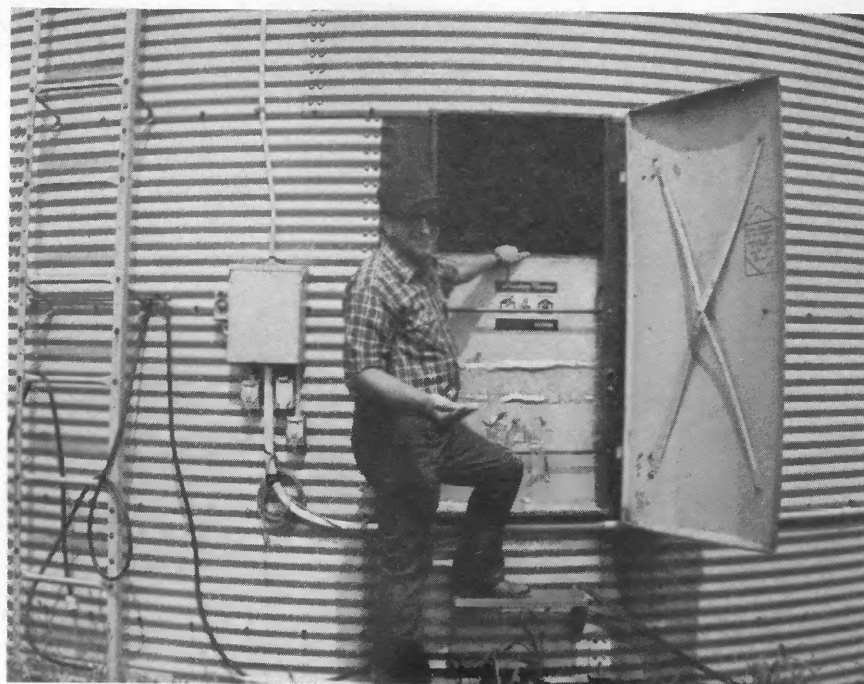
Above: Bruce Robinson's grain operation, one of the largest on Shelby Electric's system. Below: The addition to Philip Weiser's home uses solar heating. Opposite page: Robert Lynch was among the first Shelby Electric members to use electricity to dry grain.



Electric's first members to install a bin using electricity to dry his grain. In 1973, he installed his large bin (11,000 bushels), and in 1974 added a smaller bin to the system. Mr. Lynch explained that he starts with 22 percent moisture corn, and in 30 days, it is down to 15.5 percent. The Lynches have kept accurate records over the years, and find the cost per bushel to dry is not excessive. The bins have two heating units — each 10 KW. He has had the second stage on only one time. There are no stirrators, the bins work on the drying front principle. Mr. Lynch has had no spoilage, although some corn put in the bins had as high as 24 percent moisture. The grain is beautiful, reports Mr. Lynch, as low-temperature drying does not discolor or crack it. Lynch also mentioned that he uses a grain cleaner to separate unwanted seeds before he fills his bins. "I wouldn't say it's the only way to go. Everybody had different needs, but this system has done everything I wanted."

One of the largest grain operations on the Cooperative's system is owned and operated by Bruce Robinson, of near Stonington. Robinson uses a batch drying system with 100,000 bushels of storage capacity. The grain from the fields goes into one drying unit, and is dried to the desired temperature (the dryer is operated by gas). From the dryer, the grain is dispatched to other bins for cooling and aeration. Robinson runs about 4,000 to 6,000 bushels per hour. Running 24 hours a day, he can dry 30,000 in that period of time. Accurate records and weights are kept on all crops in and out. Robinson says in one harvest season, his operation will process 130,000 to 140,000 bushels of corn, and 40,000 to 45,000 bushels of soybeans.

Of the three operations mentioned, each farmer describes the factors they like best. As mentioned by Robert Lynch, each type of operation requires a system tailored to the farm's specific needs. If you are interested in a grain drying system, we recommend you study the requirements of your operation. Then thoroughly investigate the systems and options available. If we at Shelby Electric can be of help to you, do not hesitate to contact us.



The energized vehicle

If a tractor or piece of equipment hitched to the tractor should contact an overhead line, the tractor and the equipment become energized. However, the driver of the tractor and any riders are usually safe from electrocution as long as they remain on the unit. Rubber tires may partially insulate the ground, possibly preventing completion of a good electric circuit.

Should you find yourself in this situation, or witness someone else in a similar circumstance, be sure that no attempt is made to leave the tractor until help arrives from your cooperative or a qualified rescue squad.

Be sure to keep other persons from contacting any part of an energized tractor or equipment. Avoid touching the tractor with any metal or other conductive object.

If unusual circumstances demand immediate evacuation from the tractor, the individual must jump clear of the energized unit, making sure no part of the body contacts the ground and the unit at the same time. Be especially aware of parts of the equipment extending away from the main unit. Even a momentary contact, making a circuit to ground, can mean a fatal injury. These same precautions apply to an energized automobile.

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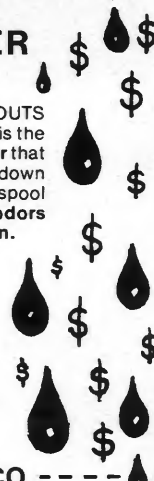
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factory
pick-up

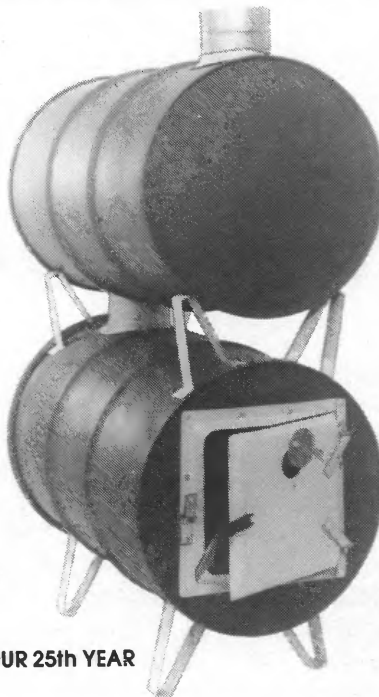
- PRODUCES MORE HEAT THAN 2 OR 3 HIGH PRICED STOVES
- TREMENDOUS RADIATING SURFACE AREA GIVES YOU MORE HEAT WITH LESS WOOD
- BURNS VERY LONG WITHOUT ADDING WOOD
- ENGINEERED TO PREVENT DRUM BURN OUT
- TESTED TO U.L. STANDARDS
- EASILY HEAT YOUR BIG FARM BUILDING

SPECIFICATIONS

- **Heating Capacity:** 152,000 BTU/hr. bottom drum 243,000 BTU/hr. double drum.
- **Construction:** Door, door frame, flue collar, draft control, internal draft channel of 13 ga. steel; legs, 1/8 in. steel; hinges, latch, catch of 3/16 in. steel; nuts and bolts. Top Drum: Connector flanges, pipe assembly, 4 nesting brackets, nuts and bolts.
- **Guarantee:** 1-year trial offer. 10 years against failure.
- **UL testing** conducted by R.F. Geisser, Engineers.

PRICE:

	DELIVERED TO YOUR DOOR	FACTORY PICK-UP
Bottom	\$38.98	\$34.95
Top	\$20.98	\$17.95



OUR 25th YEAR

Before you spend \$500 to \$600 on a wood heater, try the Sotz Heater Kit for under \$60...**at our risk.** If (within one year) you don't agree it outperforms any wood heater money can buy, or (within 10 years) if the kit cracks, warps, or burns up, your money will be refunded, including shipping charges.

Kit converts a 55 gallon drum (not supplied) into a high capacity wood burner. Features large 11 3/4" square door opening, cam-lock door catch, and spark-proof design. Patented internal draft channel, draft control, and airtight design allow controlled, efficient heat, while limiting metal temperatures of barrel, to prevent burnup.

Use of draft control allows you to heat large or small areas. Basement installation heats your entire home. Great for your garage, workshop, or cabin. Top drum squeezes 60% more BTU's from heat normally lost up the chimney. Heavy steel kit bolts together quick and easy.

Thousands in use by U.S. Army, Navy, Depts. of Nat. Resources, Agriculture, Federal, state and local government agencies.

FREE info. about **55-GAL HEATER (SHOWN)**, heating water, drying wood, fireplace-to woodstove. 15-30 gal. kits also available.

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or SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER...
Sorry, no C.O.D.'s.

Sotz Corporation, 13668 Station Rd., Columbia Station, OH 44028