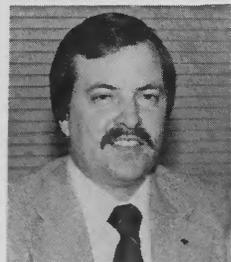




Illini Electric News

ILLINI ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE 217-352-5241 CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

MANAGER'S COMMENTS by Wm. David Champion, Jr.



Champion

Illini Electric Cooperative's average revenue per kilowatt-hour for 1985 was approximately 11.6 cents. Of that 11.6 cents revenue requirement, the wholesale cost of power was 6.5 cents, leaving a balance of 5.1 cents to cover the internal expenses and margins needed to keep the Cooperative operating.

We are continuing our efforts to keep the cost of wholesale power as low as possible by working through Soyland Power Cooperative.

But what about the 5.1 cents internal costs? We are operating a very lean organization, but there are certain basic costs involved in operating a cooperative, whether it has 4,000 members or 12,000 members. Your board of directors and I feel that, as part of our responsibility to you, we must investigate all avenues in which we can provide electric service to the members at the most reasonable cost.

Talks with Eastern

Consequently, the Illini Electric Cooperative board of directors has begun preliminary discussions with the board of directors of Eastern Illinois Power Cooperative, Paxton, to consider the feasibility of somehow combining the operations of both cooperatives into one. Of course, this is not something to be taken lightly because of the many successful years that both cooperatives have experienced. Furthermore, it is not a change which could happen overnight. The boards must consider quality of service, price and a "thousand and one" different questions which must be addressed.

We will be reviewing financial feasibility in January and the investigative process will proceed in stages and if the boards feel that combined operations are appropriate they will ask the members to make the final decision.

Vote required

The Illinois Not-for-Profit Act provides that, before any action can be taken on a change such as this, a vote must be taken at an annual meeting or a special meeting of the members and the result must be affirmative by at least two-thirds of the members present at such a meeting in person or by proxy. Of course, we will keep you informed as we go through the process of investigation and all members would be informed of any such special meeting if one ultimately occurs.

As always, we welcome your comments.



More about SEPCO water heater

During several recent phone conversations with Illini members about the possible purchase of our new SEPCO water heaters, the subject of odor from the hot water faucets of some homes has come up. I knew it was a condition that existed in some parts of the country, however, I didn't realize how prevalent it was in this area. My knowledge of the odor and what causes it is limited; however, let me discuss the few facts I am aware of.

To my knowledge, this condition is only noticed when water is drawn from hot water faucets. Keep in mind that not all home water systems are affected. Those of you who have this problem will certainly relate to the odor I am talking about. The source of the odor is most likely the water heater, or specifically the anode rod inside the water heater.

Almost all water heaters manufactured today (gas or electric) insert a sacrificial anode rod inside the water heater tank. The purpose of this rod is to encourage the metal-rusting properties within the water to attack or decay this rod rather than attack any other exposed metal inside the water heater.

Well water sometimes contains certain properties that react with the anode rod material, causing the odor. Remember that almost all water heaters have this rod. If you don't have the odor, most likely your water does not contain the necessary properties to react with the rod.

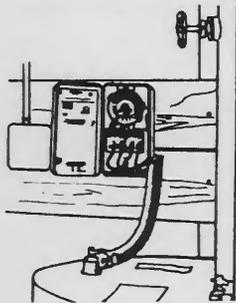
No anode rod

The SEPCO water heater being sold by Illini Electric does not have such an anode rod. There is no need for it since the stone lining on the inside of the tank is covering every square inch, giving the SEPCO water heater the best rust preventative coating possible, without the use of an anode rod.

It's easy for all of us to get caught up in sales pitches, however, the following sales pitch given to us by the manufacturer seems to make sense. If you are having an odor problem, you can remove the sacrificial anode from the existing tank, thus shortening the life of the tank. Or, you can purchase the stone-lined SEPCO water heater from Illini Electric.

This will not guarantee that all odors will be eliminated but, if the existing water heater is the cause of the odor, the SEPCO stone-lined tank will most likely eliminate it.

Time clocks



The sale of water heater time clocks has exceeded all expectations. Delivery of the time clocks has been slow from the manufacturer, plus the surge of requests to have the time clocks checked has caused a backlog of work.

If you experience a delay in getting your time clock or in having it checked after installation, be patient with us. Judging by your response, we must be doing something right.

Just a reminder: In order to begin receiving the \$8 per month credit on your bill each month, it is necessary for a cooperative representative to check the installation and the time setting. It's up to you to notify us when you want this inspection. Just give us a call, the inspection will follow as soon as possible.

Dual Heat

"Dual Heating" is still not a household word to everyone and will not be for some time to come. We are convinced that at some point each of you will become familiar enough with the term to recognize that it will save you money when heating your home.

"Dual Heat" is an Illini Electric Cooperative member service program that offers members the opportunity to combine two energy sources — electricity as the primary source and an alternative fuel, such as gas or oil, as

**Dual-energy
heating system
will help
you and your
neighbors**



the secondary source.

For example, if you presently have a propane-fired heating system and decide on Dual Heat, the house will be heated by electricity during most of the year. The propane system will only take over when the outdoor temperature falls below 15 degrees. The changeover temperature may be adjusted slightly in the future as conditions warrant however the change will be minimal. The switching from electric to gas heating and vice versa, is completely automatic.

Special rates

Using fossil fuel heat during the coldest part of the winter means the electricity used is off-peak, allowing the cooperative to establish the new off-peak, or dual heat rate. While the present rate is nearly nine cents at the lowest cost step, the new Dual Heat rate is only 3.2 cents.

As an added bonus, members with existing fossil-fuel heating systems converted to Dual Heat will get a special rate of 2.9 cents for the first three years plus receive a \$200 cash rebate to help offset the cost of installing the electric heating system.

Dual Heating is a combination of any type of electric heating system along with any type of gas or oil heating system. Dual Heating is simply combining two different heating systems and taking advantage of energy cost savings of each. Contact the Member Service Department for a "no obligation" survey of how much you can save by installing Dual Heat in your home.

**Clip
and
mail**

-
- I am interested in "Dual Heat," please send additional literature.
 - Please send information on the SEPCO water heater.
 - Please send information on the water heater timer program.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

.....

**Please plan to attend
your Annual Meeting**

Illini Electric Cooperative

**48th Annual Meeting
of Members
Tuesday, February 25, 1986**

*Registration 10:00 A.M. - Noon
Lunch & Meeting Noon*

**Chancellor Hotel
and Convention Center**

**1501 South Neil Street
Champaign, Illinois**



Illini Electric News

ILLINI ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE 217-352-5241 CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

MANAGER'S COMMENTS by Wm. David Champion, Jr.



Champion

1986 Youth Tour

Last year the Cooperative started a new program involving rural electric youth. The Cooperative offered to pay one half of the cost to sponsor as many as five high school students on the 1985 Youth to Washington Tour.

We are pleased to announce that this program will be offered again this year for the 1986 Tour scheduled June 13-20. The cost of the trip is \$475 per student. *Illini Electric Cooperative will pay one half of that cost for the first five high school sophomores or juniors who sign up to go on the trip — the only stipulation is that the student must reside on Illini Electric Cooperative lines.*

The Youth to Washington Tour is a nationwide tour sponsored by local cooperatives, the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. Our five students will be part of two bus loads of students from across Illinois. In Washington, they will join nearly 1,000 other students from rural electric cooperatives across the country.

The chaperoned trip June 13-20 consists of one solid week of touring most all of the monuments, major museums, and sights, including Capitol Hill and the White House. From morning till late at night, there are scheduled activities. We guarantee this will be one of the most memorable trips a student can take. The normal cost for the trip is \$475 for the entire trip. With the Cooperative picking up half of this cost, the trip is a bargain indeed.

The students are also invited to participate in the "Illinois Rural Electric Youth Day," scheduled for Wednesday, April 23. The students and adult leaders from across

(Continued on page 16d)



Last year's Youth Tour participants from Illini Electric Cooperative, from left: Christina Mohr of Homer, Rebecca Taylor of Indianola and Tami Taylor of Indianola.

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DUAL HEAT

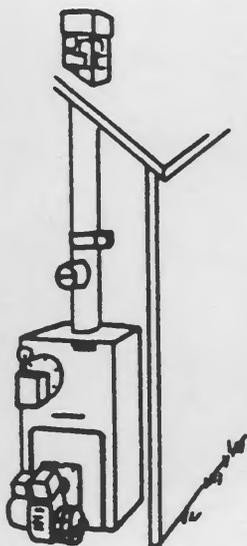
MEMBER SERVICES by Ray Weiss

There's a winning combination that promises more heat for homeowners at less cost this year and in the years to come.

This combination teams your existing gas or oil furnace with a heat pump. By using a heat pump to heat your home during the warmer weather, usually above 25 degrees or so, heating costs will be substantially reduced. Below this transfer point, your existing furnace would continue to provide the needed heat.

By utilizing a heat pump when the outdoor temperature is above 25 degrees, the heat pump efficiency will be dramatically higher than if it provided the heat on a seasonal basis. It normally operates at around 150 percent efficiency, however, limiting the operating time to temperatures above 25 degrees or so will increase the efficiency range to 200-250 percent. By lessening the number of furnace cool-downs during the warm weather, your existing furnace also becomes more efficient.

With such a combination, around two-thirds of the heat would be supplied by



**Total heating costs
with fuel oil furnace alone
\$800 per year**

the more efficient heat pump and one-third would continue to be provided by the existing furnace.

By providing the necessary special meter and control equipment to lockout the operation of the heat pump below 15 degrees, such a dual-fuel system would qualify for Illini Electric's new Dual Heat rate. So, added to the higher efficiency would be a lower rate per kilowatt-hour for the electric heating. From this combination, you can expect to see a dramatic reduction of your heating costs.

To demonstrate this, let's take an example of a home which currently consumes 800 gallon of heating oil with a 60 percent efficient furnace. At \$1 per gallon, the heating cost is \$800 per year.

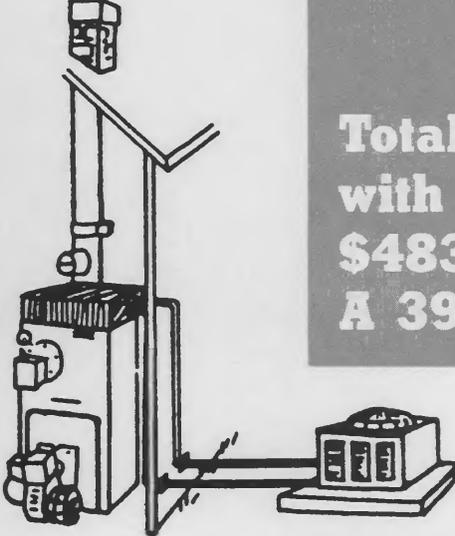
By installing an efficient add-on heat pump to the existing heating system, the combined heat pump/fuel oil system will use the following amounts of energy:

Electricity	\$2/month facilities charge	\$ 24
	6,451 kwh @ 2.9 cents	187
Oil	272 gallon fuel oil	<u>272</u>
		\$483

Total heating costs \$483. A 39 percent reduction.

There would be similar savings compared to propane. What may be surprising is the savings possible compared to using natural gas. Generally speaking, there would be a 25 percent reduction in heating costs using the add-on heat pump/natural gas Dual Heat combination. And don't forget, you've got an efficient air conditioner, too.

So, regardless of how you heat your house, teaming an add-on heat pump with



**Total heating costs
with oil furnace and heat pump
\$483 per year
A 39% savings per year**

your existing furnace will save you 25 to 45 percent of your heating costs.

And in the summer, the versatile heat pump reverses its cycle and cools your home like a central air conditioner. So, you actually have one unit doing the work of two systems — economically.

If your present air conditioner needs replacing or if you're thinking about air conditioning, the add-on heat pump would be the wise choice. For about \$400 more than the cost of an air conditioner, you can begin to see big saving in your heating costs. Call us. We'll be glad to talk about it.

(Continued from page 16a)

Illinois gather in Springfield to tour the capitol city and see their "state government in action."

Governor Thompson will be invited to proclaim April 23, 1986, as "Illinois Rural Electric Youth Day" throughout the state to honor the students and their achievements. Activities will include special tours of the State Capitol complex, Lincoln shrines and the Old State Capitol. Students will have an opportunity to visit with their legislators at the Capitol and during a luncheon program featuring a prominent state official as the speaker.

The deadline for reservations is April 11. If you are interested, call Wenona Gumbel, administrative assistant, at the Cooperative office.

You can save a service call

You may save the bother and cost of a service call by making a few simple checks. It has been estimated that as high as 25 percent of the appliance service calls result from causes other than faulty performance of the product.

So, before calling your appliance dealer for service, make the following checks:

Is the appliance connected? You'd be surprised how often a serviceman calls, only to find the plug is loose or has been pulled from the outlet.

Is the appliance getting power? If the appliance is plugged in but does not operate, the difficulty may be in the outlet receptacle, a blown fuse, or a tripped circuit breaker. Check this by connecting a lamp or some other appliance. If you get no response, check the fuse or circuit breaker. If appliance is plugged in, and there is electricity at the outlet make the following specific checks: For additional information check your care and use book.

Is food storage area too warm, or too cold? Check the control dial. It may have been moved by mistake.

Is too much frost forming (on models other than frost-free)? It may be caused by (a) higher-than-normal humidity; (b) uncovered dishes in the food storage area (put covers on dishes); (c) infrequent defrosting (defrost regularly).

Does food dry out? Frozen food dehydration is caused by improper packaging; Fresh food dehydration is caused by placing foods in the fresh food storage area without covers.

If water will not enter laundromat, the supply line water faucets may be closed. Check them.

If water and suds overflow, check to be sure right amount of low-sudsing detergent is being used.

If oven doesn't heat properly, make sure that both oven heaters are securely "plugged in." They are removable for easy cleaning and if they are not properly replaced, electrical contact may not be established.

If oven or appliance outlet doesn't heat at all, make sure that the stop control knob of automatic timer has been pressed in to restore oven to manual operation. Make sure fuse is in tight and that it is not burned out.

If rotisserie spit doesn't turn, make sure that it has been pressed firmly into the hole in the rear of the oven, as far as it will go. If this is not done, the spit will not be engaged by the rotisserie motor.

If rack doesn't go completely into oven, make sure the round bar (utensil stop) at rear is always "up" and the round bar at front is always "down."

If the dishwasher floods, sometimes a sudsing-type detergent is the cause. Be sure to use a non-sudsing detergent. If the proper detergent does not correct a flooding condition, call your dealer.

If the machine won't start or stops in the cycle, check to see if silverware or some other object has fallen from the washing rack and has jammed the propeller. Then push to reset thermostat button.

If dryer doesn't start, check dial setting; it may have been set incorrectly. Check receptacle to be sure it is in tight. Check fuses or circuit breaker.



Illini Electric News

ILLINI ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE 217-352-5241 CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

MANAGER'S COMMENTS by Wm. David Champion, Jr.



Champion

**You're
responding
to Illini
programs**

When Illini Electric Cooperative's board authorized the staff and management of your cooperative to implement the various off-peak pricing programs now available to you, we were enthusiastic about how the membership would respond.

That enthusiasm hasn't been the least bit dampened, either, by your response.

The Dual Heat program, the sales and control timer programs for electric water heaters and the "Fall Energy Special" have, in the limited time they have been available, drawn considerable interest of members across the system.

Over the past several months, you have read in our edition of the Illinois Rural Electric News about why and how these programs have been developed.

Those of you who have followed the trends at your cooperative know that the high cost of electric power has had a negative impact on total system consumption. We know that some people have switched from electric space and water heating to LP gas and, considering the price differential that has developed over the years, we do not blame you.

In 1985, because of our new wholesale power contract with Soyland Power Cooperative, it became possible for Illini to have more control over its electric cost destiny. Basically, we have plenty of low-cost power to sell at the right time, the "right time" being the off-peak periods. What's more, those off-peak periods make up a much greater part of the typical Illini day than do the peak demand times. We just have to be very careful not to let our increased usage fall into these critical peak demand times.

Our Dual Heat program, although it is only a few months old, is off to a very good start, and we expect the trend to continue. As of January 20, we had 15 members who have gone onto this special rate program.

The water heater program, in which your cooperative has available super-insulated, high-efficiency water heaters for sale at special low prices and money-saving timer controls, is also a hit. As of January 20, Illini had sold and delivered 88 water heaters, 17 percent of which replaced gas models. We have other members awaiting delivery of their water heaters. In addition to the excellent sale price, Illini further offers members the chance to purchase and install the timer controls that assure the water heaters are not on during peak periods. We have sold more than 130 of these timers.

The "Fall Energy Special" did a good job, too. Aimed mainly at grain drying operations, the special allowed members to get a 3.5 cent credit for each kilowatt-hour used in the months of September, October and November 1985 over what they used in the same months of 1984. We will probably offer this "special" again this fall. Remember, too, that it isn't just for grain dryers; any member can take advantage.

We thank you for your responses to these programs.

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MEMBER SERVICES by Ray Weiss

If you have been reading our bill stuffers and this center section, you will notice that in the last six months we have changed our approach. Our all-conservation mode has been changed to selling more kilowatt-hours during selected times of the day and year.

Additional kilowatt-hours sales benefits all members of the Cooperative by spreading the cost of doing business over a larger base. While selling more kilowatt-hours is beneficial, selling those kilowatt-hours off-peak has the greatest impact. Ma Bell uses this principle by pricing service according to peak times.

One year ago we began purchasing energy from our own generation and transmission cooperative, Soyland Power Cooperative. For the first time, we now have the flexibility to develop programs designed to encourage the sale of off-peak electricity. Generally speaking, our peak is set and the wholesale demand cost is billed according to the peak established during July and August and December, January, and February, traditionally our hottest and coldest times.

Filling valleys Current average cost of a kilowatt-hour is 65 cents at the substation. However, adding sales that will never fall on our peak would cost only 1.8 cents. As you can see, there's enough difference to encourage us to develop programs aimed directly at the off-peak times. We call this "filling the valleys."

We started out promoting off-peak sales with the 35 cents fall energy credit during last September, October and November billing periods. Then, early in November, we announced the water heater timer program, offering an \$8 credit on your bill each month if you agree to turn the power off to your water heater during our 5-9 p.m. daily peak. And, finally, we announced our biggest program to date: our off-peak or 'Dual Heat' electric heat rate.

Off-peak or Dual Heat is an entirely new concept to central Illinois. It is a heating system which combines two energy sources — electricity as the primary source and an alternative fuel, such as gas or oil, as the secondary



source, hence the name Dual Heat.

If you presently have electric heating you can benefit by adding gas or oil as the secondary source of heat. And, conversely, if you have a gas or oil system now, you can lower your heating costs if you install electric heat as the primary source of heat.

Automatic control

For example, if you have a propane-fired furnace and decide to add electric heat, the air will be heated by electricity during most of the year. The propane system automatically takes over when the outdoor temperature drops below 15 degrees. This makes the electric heat system operate totally off-peak. Because it's off-peak, we can offer a 3.2 cent rate versus the current electric heat rate of around 9 cents (2.9 cents for the first three years when electric heat is installed to convert a home to Dual Heat).

Electricity is very versatile, thus the electric heat installed could be one of many different systems from electric baseboards, radiant ceiling cable, resistance heat such as a duct heater or an electric furnace, or it could be an air-source heat pump in place of the standard air conditioner. Most efficient is the water-source heat pump, which captures heat from well water or a system of buried pipe.

\$200 cash rebate

As a special incentive, a \$200 cash rebate will be made to any member adding new kilowatt-hours of off-peak energy sales. For example, homes that now heat with oil or gas will qualify as well as new construction.

By better insulating our homes, wise personal use of energy and through the Dual Heat and other cooperative programs, we can help control our energy costs. Participate in the Dual Heat program and encourage your neighbors and friends to join you. Together, we can control energy cost now and in the future.

Our water heaters are legal

The Illinois Department of Energy and Natural Resources has begun a campaign to notify all water heater manufacturers, retailers and installers of a new law (Public Act 84-276).

The law states that, as of January 1, 1986, no retailer or distributor will increase its inventory of water heaters that do not meet energy efficiency requirements of the current ASHRAE 90 Standard. Furthermore, only those water heaters certified by the manufacturer or retailer (or both) as meeting the ASHRAE 90 Standard can be sold or installed after June 1, 1986. In other words, it is now unlawful for any distributor or retailer to increase inventory of water heaters not meeting the standard, and, after June 1, it is unlawful to sell or install any such water heaters.

The effect of this law is to require water heaters (gas or electric) to be more energy efficient. Illini Electric wholeheartedly supports this law. You can be certain the SEPCO water heater for sale at the Cooperative exceeds the ASHAE 90 Standard. When searching for the brand of water heater to sell, energy efficiency and long life were the features most required.

Many water heaters exist at the wholesale and retail level that do not meet this standard. To move these out, you will likely see some low sale prices on selected models over the next few months. Don't be fooled into purchasing one of these. Such water heaters will ultimately cost more to operate, costs than could have been saved on the purchase price.

The law is intended to curb the sale of inefficient water heaters. Any heater meeting the ASHAE 90 Standard has been tested for high efficiency and low stand-by loss.

For the highest efficiency and the lowest cost (\$125 plus tax) we encourage you to look at the SEPCO water heater, a water heater that meets the letter of the law.

Lamp bulbs: things you should know

Without lamp bulbs our lives would be much different. Most of us actually know very little about them. Here is a brief description.

Every incandescent light bulb, properly called a lamp, consists of a tungsten filament enclosed in a glass bulb supported by a metal base that also furnishes an electrical connection. The differences between types of lamps are in the size, shape and arrangement of these parts.

The filament is the heart of the lamp. This tiny tungsten wire, often as small as .0012 of an inch, is heated white hot by electricity flowing through it. The hotter the filament, the more light it produces and the sooner it will burn out. Photoflood lamps, for instance, produce intense light, but burn only about six hours.

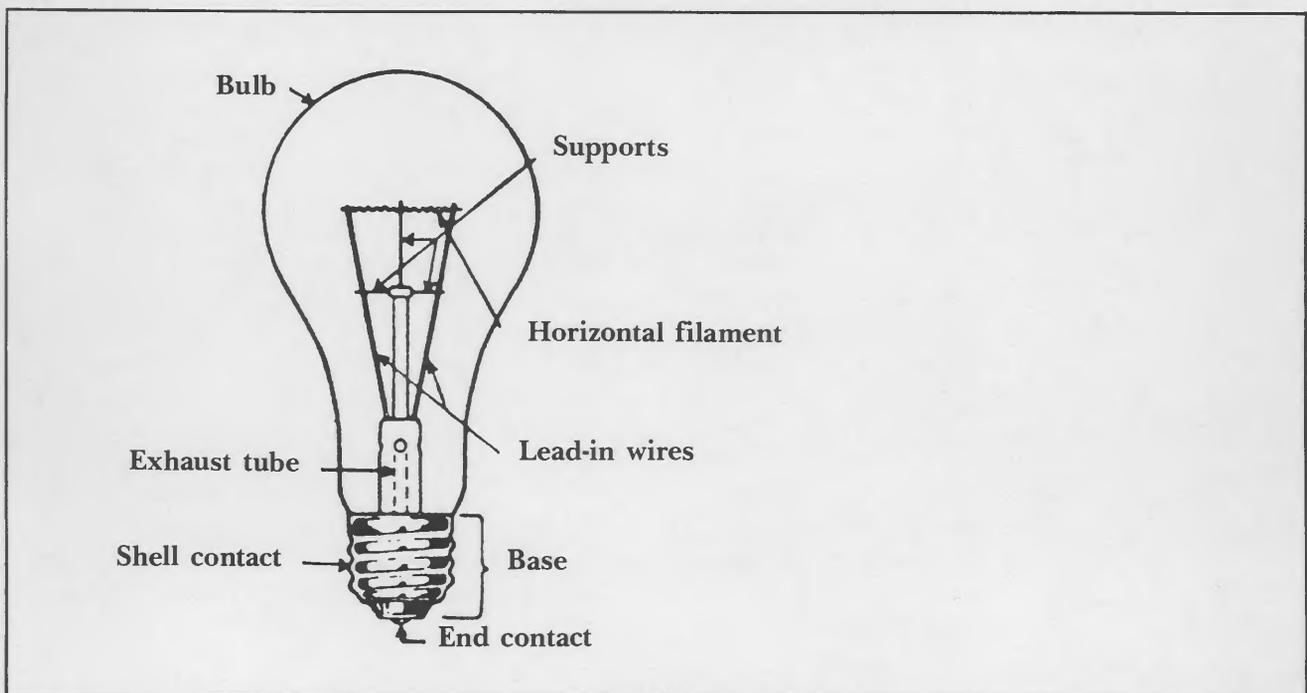
"Extended service" and the so-called "long-life" lamps have heavy filaments that produce less light, use more electricity and burn several times as long as ordinary bulbs. Ordinary bulbs are designed to produce an acceptable combination of efficiency and economy.

The bulb protects the filament from damage and keeps air from reaching it. The bulb is filled with an inert gas that slows the burning of the filament. Special coating may be sprayed on the inside or outside of the bulb to diffuse the light or give special color effects. The stem is a glass rod in the center of the bulb that holds the filament supports and the lead-in wires that carry electricity to the filament. The base is usually a metal cylinder with threads or prongs to fit a lamp holder that supports the lamp and brings electricity to it. The base is cemented or clamped to the bulb.

When buying lamp bulbs be sure to buy the ones rated at least 120 volt and preferably 130 volt. It's marked right on the bulb.

Shapes of bulbs are identified by letters followed by the maximum diameter in eighths of an inch. Thus a G-30 is a globe shaped lamp with a diameter of $30/8$ inches or three and three-quarter inches.

The most common household bulbs are the 'A' series made in 15-200 watt sizes. The familiar 25-100 watt sizes are designated A-19 because they are $19/8$ or two and three-eighths inches in diameter. Other abbreviations and their meanings are G (globe), T (tubular), PS (pear shaped), F (flame shaped), R (reflector) and PAR (parabolic aluminized reflector).





Illini Electric News

ILLINI ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE 217-352-5241 CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

MANAGER'S COMMENTS by Wm. David Champion, Jr.



Champion

More MAC members needed

The Member Advisory Committee held its reorganization meeting the evening of March 18 at the Cooperative office. Some new committee members were added, but more are needed.

As you know, the MAC was started in 1984 to provide a communications link between the board, management, staff and members. It was designed to be a voluntary committee rather than hand-picked because we feel that it is desirable to have committee representation from all segments of the membership. The approach has been successful in the first two years, but we need your help to keep the committee functioning at its complete potential.

One half of the committee is new each year so we have a need for eight new couples or individuals to volunteer to serve for two years. Next year the eight couples/individuals finishing their second year will be going off of the MAC and thus we will be looking for their replacements. This rotation should, over the years, provide all of us with vital information about the Cooperative which will help create better understanding of the many important issues that we all face in rural Illinois as well as the energy business.

The MAC has been meeting on either the third or fourth Tuesday of the months of January, March, June, August and November at the Cooperative office from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

The next meeting has been set for Tuesday, June 24 at 7 p.m. I hope that you will consider becoming a MAC member and I personally invite you to do so.

As always, if you have questions about MAC or your Cooperative, please contact me.



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Chris Schroeder (seated second from right) of Tolono and Charles D. Day, Jr., (seated right) of Bement are new directors of Illini. Two directors, G. Jay Stiehl (left) of Tuscola and Charles C. Cole (seated second from left) of Rantoul, were reelected to the board. Standing is manager Wm. David Champion, Jr.



Illini's 48th annual meeting

Some 350 members and guests turned out for your Cooperative's 48th annual meeting February 25 in Champaign. Wm. David Champion, manager, said programs on Dual Heat, water heater sales and water heater timer controls and a "Fall Energy Special" have met with enthusiastic member interest and participation. "These programs are designed to help members deal with the cost of electricity and to help the cooperative," Champion said.

Dual Heat and the two water heater programs are offered year-round. The fourth, the "Fall Energy Special," was a short-term program from September through November designed to help farmers with grain drying, and all other members who wished to take advantage. Champion indicated that it would again be offered in the fall.

Champion said the marketing programs grew out of a concern for the trend toward decreasing kilowatt-hour usage and the current and future pricing of electricity to members.

Board president G. Jay Stiehl of Tuscola echoed Champion's comments about the programs, "Employee productivity at Illini is at an all-time high as a result of the new programs. We are pleased with the great response we have received from these programs."

Stiehl also said the cooperative board continues to explore the possibility of consolidating its operations with neighboring Eastern Illinois Power Cooperative, based in Paxton. "We are looking at all ways to hold down the electric bills. One area that we have been looking at in great depth is that of combining operations with Eastern. Illini's board and Eastern's board have been meeting to look at the economics and practicability of such a move. If we ultimately decide that combining the two cooperatives is in the best interest of the members, then we would be required by Illinois law to ask for a vote of the members at a subsequent annual meeting or a special meeting of the members of each cooperative. A two-thirds vote of the members present in person or by proxy at that meeting would be required and the same would hold true for a meeting of Eastern's members," Stiehl said.

The meeting marked the close of director careers for two Illini members: Wilbur W. Gady of Sadorus and Robert D. Clark of Atwood.

Gady had served as director since 1971. He served two years as board president, two as vice president and three as treasurer. Clark had been on

the board since 1978 and has been board vice president since 1981.

Chris Schroeder of Tolono was elected during the meeting to replace Gady. In an election contest slated by the nominating committee, Schroeder defeated Gerald E. Henry of Sadorus. He will serve a three-year term.

Charles D. Day, Jr., of Bement was elected to fill the board position vacated by Clark. Day defeated Loren W. Schable of Atwood in an election contest also slated by the nominating committee. Day will serve a one-year term.

Two incumbent directors, Charles C. Cole of Rantoul and Stiehl, were reelected without opposition. Both were selected by the nominating committee. They will serve three-year terms.

Treasurer L. Dean Ward of Champaign reported that total operating revenue for 1985 was \$6,277,774, down slightly from total revenue in 1984. Power costs for the year were \$3,612,616, also down somewhat from 1984. Margins for the year were \$351,139.

Following the members' meeting, the board met in a reorganizational session and reelected Stiehl as president. Laverl Byers of Tuscola was elected vice president. Herbert L. Aden of Newman was reelected secretary and Ward was reelected treasurer.

In addition to the officers and elected and reelected directors, others who serve on the board include James F. Beatty of Philo and Clarence C. Maddox of Allerton.

Clockwise from far lower left: Members vote during board election. Gene Trimble's Clown Band entertained during the meeting. This display on Dual Heat attracted considerable attention. David Prah, chairman of the Member Advisory Committee, reports on the committee's activities. Manager Champion is at the right.



plus \$200 Bonus for installing off peak electric heat

Adding Electric Heating to your existing gas or oil heating system Saves You Money

Here's How:

When outdoor temperatures are above 15 degrees, Electric Heat is used to heat your home.

Below 15 degrees your existing gas or oil furnace continues to heat your home.

The combined electric and gas or oil costs save you 25-45% of your present heating cost.

When used as off peak heating, the electric heating rate is reduced to 3.2 cents per kilowatt hour for the first 3 years plus \$200 Bonus when electric heat is added to an existing fossil fuel system.

DUAL HEAT



MEMBER SERVICES by Ray Weiss

By now I would hope you have heard we have an extremely low off-peak electric heat rate we call our Dual Heat rate. The Dual Heat rate is 3.2 cents per kilowatt-hour. As an added incentive, for homes installing electric heating to take advantage of the Dual Heat rate, for the first three years the rate is reduced to 2.9 cents per kilowatt-hour plus a cash bonus of \$200 is paid.

Guaranteed rate When it was put in effect, the board of directors attempted to show the long-term nature of this rate by guaranteeing it until May 1, 1988. The important thing to remember is that the rate will not suddenly and dramatically change at that point. The board merely wanted to express the long-term nature of the rate. Those concerned with the effect of the Clinton plant can relax.

The Dual Heat rate is an off-peak rate tied to the actual cost of energy, not the fixed cost of doing business such as the plant cost. Projections call for the average energy cost to actually lower in 1987 then gradually rise until it reaches today's level around 1990. Keep in mind, the Dual Heat rate is tied to the energy cost only, not the total cost of electricity.

Low Dual Heat bills As of early March, seven Dual Heat accounts have been metered long enough to begin getting bills. The time period of the March 3 bill generally covers the Jan. 7-Feb. 7 period: truly wintertime, yet the bills are lower than I had even hoped for.

During that time period, I remember Super-Bowl Sunday and the following Monday, when the temperature dipped well below the 15 degree transfer point. In addition, there was a night or two when the system would have switched to the alternate fuel for a few hours. However for the most part, the electric heat bills sent to those seven accounts covered the lion's share of the heating cost. Those bills ranged from a low of \$20.24 to a high of \$78.08. Was your January heating bill that low?

Whether you heat with propane, oil or electric, the Dual Heat rate can lower your heating costs. Spring is a good time to think about heating, particularly if you are installing or replacing your central air conditioner. Rather than choosing an ordinary air conditioner, ask for an add-on heat pump. You can then have air conditioning plus you will be able to heat your house with the same high efficiency equipment. Three of the seven Dual Heat bills sent out in March using add-on heat pumps had electric heat bills ranging from \$20.24 to \$40.72.

If you want to learn how the add-on heat pump or any other type of electric heat can lower your heating bills, fill out and return the coupon below.

-
- I am interested in "Dual Heat," please send additional literature.
 - Please send information on the SEPCO water heater.
 - Please send information on the water heater timer program.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____



Illini Electric News

ILLINI ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE 217-352-5241 CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

MANAGER'S COMMENTS by Wm. David Champion, Jr.



Champion

'Time-of-day' rate

Recognizing that our rates are high and that we need to continue to do all we can to provide relief to our local rural economy, we have developed a new optional "time-of-day" rate. The new TOD rate is self-supporting in that no other member or class of members will be subsidizing those who choose to utilize the rate.

The TOD rate is in no way a conservation tool. We don't need to conserve, we need to sell more kilowatt-hours. This rate allows us to price off-peak kilowatt-hours so that you can afford to buy them. You can use twice as many kilowatt-hours for the same or in some cases less money than you have been spending for electric energy. We perceive that nearly every grain dryer will want to be on this rate because it is even a better deal than we offered as the "Fall Energy Special" last year. The advantage of this new rate is that it will be an ongoing program and not just a three-month special.

Anyone who is on the Farm and Home single phase rate has the option to choose the time-of-day rate.

The rate works like this:

There is a facility charge of \$30 per month. On-peak kilowatt-hours are at 25 cents each and off-peak kilowatt-hours are at 6 cents for the first 500 kilowatt-hours and 4.5 each for all kilowatt-hours over 500. We will require that each person who wants the rate will agree to stay on the rate for at least 18 months to allow enough time for proper evaluation and comparison of the rate to the standard Farm and Home rate.

The on-peak times are from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. during the months of December, January and February. During the months of July and August the on-peak times are from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m.

The off-peak hours during December, January, February, July and August are the 16 hours per day that are not mentioned above. All hours are off-peak during the seven months not mentioned above: March, April, May, June, September, October and November.

Don't let the on-peak price scare you because the rate is designed so that the average member can go to the TOD rate and not pay any more than on the Farm and Home rate. Ray Weiss has developed a computer program in which he can insert your usage patterns and determine your savings. I encourage you to call us with any questions you might have.

Due to our limited number of linemen available to install the TOD meter and the scheduling of deliveries from the meter manufacturer, we are working on a first-come, first-served basis. If you are interested, don't delay because we already have a waiting list from telephone inquiries.

Heads up!

Power lines may be overhead

Coming in contact with overhead power lines can be a deadly mistake. Make sure you know the location and clearance of all power lines on your farm. Electricity is a helpful friend, but it's also a powerful one — use it wisely.



MEMBER SERVICES by Ray Weiss

By now you have probably turned on the air conditioner for a day or two. If you have determined there is a need for a complete air conditioner replacement, or an entirely new installation, please consider installing an add-on heat pump. It's called an add-on heat pump because it is added to your existing gas or oil furnace.

On outward appearance it looks exactly like an air conditioner. During the summer, the heat pump operates just like any other air conditioner, cooling your home efficiently. The real benefit is in the winter. This same equipment reverses its operation when the house calls for heat. Then, instead of taking heat out of the house, it brings heat in. Enough heat is transferred that the heat pump alone should heat the house until the outdoor temperature gets down near 20 or 25 degrees. At that point, your existing

**Clip
and
mail**

-
- I am interested in "Dual Heat," please send additional literature.
 - Please send information on the SEPCO water heater.
 - Please send information on the water heater timer program.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

.....

gas or oil furnace automatically takes over and continues to heat the house.

There are two benefits to such a hybrid heating system.

First, such a Dual Heat heating system qualifies for our Dual Heat rate. When the heat pump is separately submetered and automatically shut off when the temperature falls below 15 degrees, a special Dual Heat rate of 2.9 cents per kilowatt-hour applies for the first three years, following which the rate is the normal Dual Heat rate of 3.2 cents.

Second is the high efficiency. With some higher efficiency heat pump models available, the efficiency of the heat pump will average above 220 percent when operated in the 25-65 degree range. The high efficiency combined with the low Dual Heat rate makes the add-on heat pump much less expensive to operate, even less than the 90+ percent furnaces.

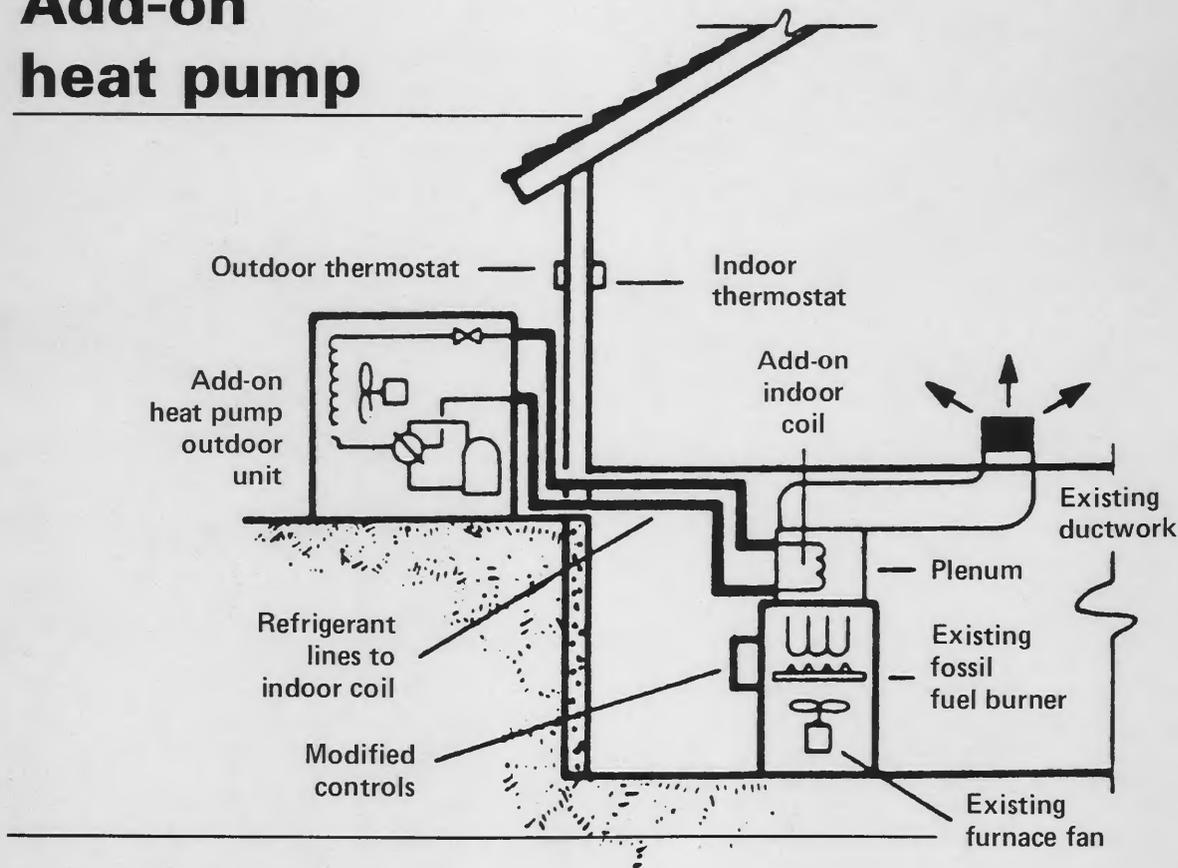
How much you can save depends on the house size. As an example: If you currently use 1,200 gallons of propane at 65 cents per gallon with a standard furnace, you can add a heat pump on the Dual Heat rate and cut your heating bill around \$300, or almost 40 percent, a sizeable savings indeed.

If you want to look at it from another perspective, the add-on heat pump on the Dual Heat rate is equal to heating with a standard propane furnace and 27-cent propane or a high efficiency furnace using 35-cent propane. With propane costing a lot more than this, the Dual Heat rate combined with a heat pump is a real money saver.

To help offset the installation cost of the special submeter and the heat pump itself, Illini electric offers a \$200 cash bonus to anyone installing electric heating who presently heats with a fossil fuel.

We invite and encourage you to call the Member Service Department at the cooperative for more information on the Dual Heat rate or any other marketing program.

Add-on heat pump



New cooktops appearing

Microwave ovens have been the "hot" kitchen topic in recent years, but advancements in surface cooking are sparking renewed interest in cooktops.

Induction cooktops, solid disks and glass ceramic surfaces are threatening to make the conventional electric coil range obsolete.

Induction units heat the cookware itself and the cookware heats the food. A high frequency induction circuit just below the cooktop surface will heat any pan with a magnetic bottom, "The pan itself get hots, not the cooktop," explains the Texas A&M University agricultural Extension service.

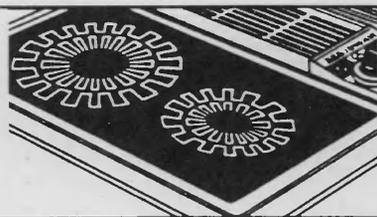
Because the unit creates heat in the pan, it uses energy more efficiently than conventional cooktops. Heat-up and cool-down times also are minimized since the induction coil responds immediately to heat settings, points out the Extension specialist.

"Induction cooktops are still relatively expensive," she said, "but experts expect the cost of electrical components to continue falling and allow induction cooktops to become more price-competitive."

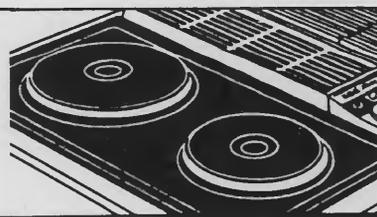
Glass ceramic cooktops have heating elements underneath which radiate heat to the cooktop. Heat travels from the glass surface to the cookware primarily by conduction.

Solid elements have been the normal method of cooking in Europe over the years, while coil-type electric elements have been more popular for years in the U.S. Modern solid element cooktops are making inroads to this country now as interest in European kitchen design spreads. Solid disks of cast iron are sealed to a cooktop made of tempered glass or porcelain enamel-on-steel. The underside of the disk contains electric resistance wires embedded in ceramic insulation. The entire disk becomes hot and conducts heat to the cookware.

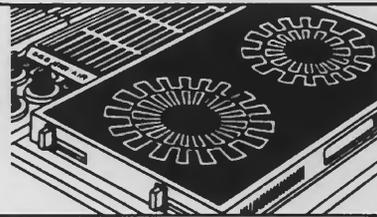
GLASS-CERAMIC — Heat is radiated to the glass-ceramic cooktop by heating elements underneath. Heat travels from the glass surface to the cookware primarily by conduction. Designs on cooktop indicate heating areas.



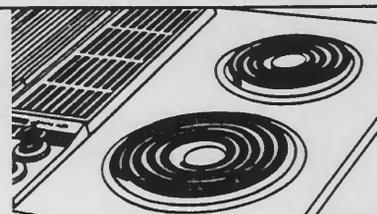
SOLID ELEMENT — Solid disks of cast iron are sealed to a cooktop made of tempered glass or porcelain enamel-on-steel. Under the disk, resistance wire in ceramic insulation heat the entire disk.



INDUCTION — Solid state power causes induction coils beneath a glass-ceramic surface to generate a magnetic field that induces current within ferromagnetic cookware. As a result, molecules in the cookware move back and forth rapidly, causing the utensil to heat.



CONVENTIONAL COIL — The most common electric cooking elements are conventional coils. Wire is encased in a metallic tube filled with an insulation material. The tube is shaped into a coil and flattened for maximum contact with cooking utensils. Resistance heat travels from the hot coil to the cookware both by conduction (where there is contact) and radiation.





Illini Electric News

ILLINI ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE 217-352-5241 CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

MANAGER'S COMMENTS by Wm. David Champion, Jr.



Champion

Threat to REA

The administrator of the Rural Electrification Administration has taken a proposal to the U.S. Congress which would phase out REA financing for the rural electric cooperatives by the year 1990.

Harold Hunter, the administrator, claims that REA has done its job and that the need for low-interest money in rural America no longer exists. Obviously, Mr. Hunter chooses not to recognize the electric rate disparity in Illinois.

If REA were phased out, even greater hardships would be placed on the cooperatives as they would be looking at prime rate financing instead of the current 5 percent interest rate on loans.

We are willing to accept our fair share of changes necessary to reduce the federal deficit, but we are not receptive to the notion of doing away with REA.

So, several cooperative leaders from Illinois including three Illini Electric directors, our attorney and I went to Washington the first week in May to discuss this and other problem areas with the Illinois Congressional delegation.

Those of us representing Illini Electric Cooperative met with Congressmen Ed Madigan, Terry Bruce and Harris Fawell and Senators Alan Dixon and Paul Simon.

There is no doubt that these gentlemen know and understand our problems in central Illinois and I am confident that they will resist the effort to phase out REA and will support the cooperatives in our efforts to make the electric rates more competitive in the future.

Meter seal charge

We have had to enforce the \$50 meter seal charge several times in recent months.

I want to remind our members that we do have a \$50 charge if we find a meter seal broken or missing from a meter.

This charge is not enforced to harass anyone, but it is in existence for two reasons. First and foremost is safety. If someone were to break the seal, pull a meter and then reinstall the meter improperly, they could be seriously injured. Second, the meter seal is the key to the Cooperative's cash register.

So if you need to remove a meter for any reason, please call the Co-op office before breaking the meter seal. There is a \$50 charge if you don't.

Each meter has a red sticker on the glass to further remind everyone of the potential hazard and the charge.

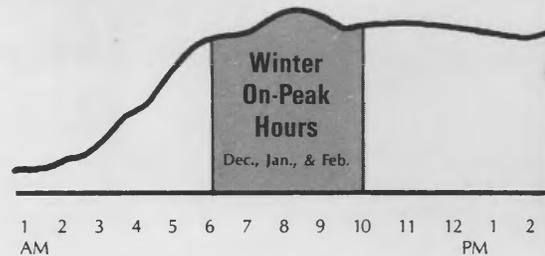
'TOD' rate

We are receiving many inquiries on the new optional TOD rate. If you are interested, don't delay because we will probably have a 12-week waiting list due to the availability of meters from the manufacturer.

TOD

Time-of-day

Winter



TOD rate may lower your bill

The directors, management and employees of your electric cooperative share your concern over the rising cost of electric energy. The water heater sales, water heater timer and Dual Heat programs are all aimed at lowering your cost of electricity. All of these programs are designed to encourage more kilowatt-hour sales during the Cooperative's off-peak hours.

The latest attempt to lower your cost and encourage more sales is the development of a "time-of-day" rate. Much like Ma Bell has done for many years, the time-of-day rate offers a substantially lower rate for kwh's used during the off-peak, while raising the rate for the relatively few peak demand hours.

This rate is designed to have a neutral effect on any member whose usage fits the "average" consumer of the cooperative. However, if you are able to shift kwh's normally used during the on-peak hours to the off-peak hours, or you have a usage pattern that naturally occurs during the off-peak hours, it is likely your total annual bill will be lowered. Limiting the use of major appliances, water heater, clothes dryer, dishwasher etc. to off-peak hours will generally be enough to see a savings.

Optional rate

The on-peak hours occur during just five months of the year. During July and August, the on-peak hours are 2-10 p.m. each day. During December, January and February, the on-peak hours are 6-10 a.m. and 5-9 p.m. each day. The on-peak hours occur eight hours per day during those five months.

The off-peak hours are the remaining 16 hours during those five months plus all of March, April, May, June, September, October and November.

On-peak hours

The rate begins with a monthly facility charge of \$30, plus 25.0 cents for all on-peak kwh's. The off-peak cost is 6.0 cents/kwh for the first 500 kwh's, then all over 500 at 4.5 cents/kwh.

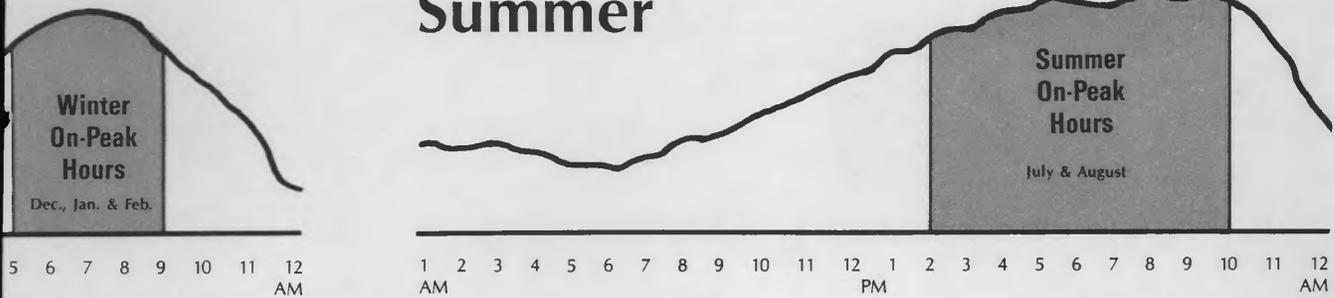
Save with grain drying

Because grain drying is a natural off-peak load when used during September, October or November, all grain drying will be at the low off-peak rate. For the most part the rate will mean that each additional kwh purchased will only cost 4.5 cents. At that rate, it's far cheaper to use less propane and more air to dry your grain. If you are purchasing a new grain bin this year, you should carefully consider purchasing a low-temp or natural-air drying system.

Replace gas with electric

For a family using the average of 400 kwh's for water heating, and timed to have the water heater operate during the off-peak hours at 4.5 cents/kwh, the total water heating cost is only \$18 per month. Anyone using the time-of-day rate with a propane or perhaps even a natural gas water heater would be wise to replace that gas water heater with our stone-lined 80 gallon electric water heater plus the time clock and be able to lower their water heating cost. With this program, any electric water heater or time clock is okay, however the Cooperative does offer a bargain price for both.

Summer



Typical Daily Demand Curves

Additional kwh's at just 4.5 cents

Although the on-peak cost is higher, the purpose of this rate is to lower the off-peak rate low enough to be more competitive with other fuels, thus encourage the purchase of more kilowatt-hours.

More kwh sales is essential for the cooperative to minimize future rate adjustments. Electricity used off-peak not only lowers your cost, it indirectly holds down future cost for you and your neighbors.

No cost for meter

There is no cost for the special meter needed to register the on-peak and off-peak usage. The only restriction is that an agreement must be signed, which guarantees you will stay on the rate for at least 18 months. While your bill could be slightly higher during the five peak months, the other seven months' bills will more than offset any increase. The 18 months will guarantee that you go through the four complete seasons.

Individual counselling needed

An appointment with the Member Service Department at the Cooperative office will be needed for an estimate of your savings. This computer-generated report reviews your individual kwh history, then estimates how much your savings could be if more kwh's are used off-peak. Individual counselling will be important to estimate your savings, learn how to read the special digital meter and how the use of time clocks and changing family habits are important to lower your annual electric bill.

A quantity of the special digital meters are due to arrive around July 15. Since the demand for the rate and these meters may outstrip their availability, we encourage you not to wait if you want the meter in place for grain drying or heating.

A special booklet has been prepared to explain how the TOD rate can be beneficial to you. Just fill out the coupon below to request this booklet or call 352-5241 for an appointment to discuss your individual situation.

YES, I am interested in the Time-Of-Day rate:

Please send additional literature explaining how I can benefit.

Name _____ Phone No. _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

For individual counseling, call 352-5241 to arrange an appointment with the Member Service Department at the Cooperative's office.

ILLINI ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

1605 S. Neil

P.O. Box 637

Champaign, IL 61820

Sales indicate water heater popularity

Seventeen percent of the water heaters Illini Electric Cooperative has sold in the last nine months have replaced propane heaters. We feel there are at least four reasons for the popularity of the Sepco water heater.

First, the water heater itself is the best engineered and highest quality water heater of any on the market. The outside cold water inlet, the built-in heat trap and the stone-lined tank are just a few of the outstanding features of the tank construction. The quality of construction and the materials used point to the expected long life.

Second, the heater is very efficient. The two-inch foam insulation makes this one of the best insulated tanks on the market. For that reason, the difference in heat loss of the 50 gallon versus the 80 gallon is negligible. Additional savings can be found when you notice less natural heat loss from the hot water outlet due to the built-in heat trap. The manufacturer installs a U-bend pipe in the tank insulation, making the hot water outlet several inches below the top of the tank. Since hot water normally rises, there is a slowdown of heat loss from the household pipes when they are connected at a point lower than the top of the tank.

Third, there is an \$8 credit allowed on the monthly bill when the \$49.29 timer is purchased and installed. The timer must be set to have the water heater off from 5-9 p.m.

Fourth is the price. At \$125 plus tax, delivered to your house, the 80-gallon Sepco water heater is indeed a good buy.



80 Gal.— Size 26" x 58"

SEPCO WATER HEATERS

"Rolls Royce" of the Industry

Hydrastone Lining for the most effective method of preventing tank failure due to corrosion.

Insulation 2" of high density insulation saves you \$\$!

Bronze fittings at all water openings make it a more durable heater.

Heat Trap Industry-unique hot water outlet pipe prevents heat from escaping.

10 Year Limited Warranty Plan

\$125 (delivery included)

'TOD' rate cuts costs of heating water

The new optional Time-Of-Day rate makes the cost of water heating even less. With this rate the \$8 credit no longer applies since the rate itself gives you the full benefit of operating the water heater off-peak.

The average family's water heater will use around 400 KWHs per month, costing approximately \$48 per month. When timed to operate off-peak, the cost would drop to \$18 a month, considerably less than propane-heated water.

Anyone on the Time-Of-Day rate would be wise to make sure their water heater and other major appliances are electric. The 4.5 cent off-peak rate is meant to encourage more use of electric appliances and electric heating.

For further information on the water heater, timer or how the Time-Of-Day rate can be beneficial to you, fill out and return the form on the previous page.



Illini Electric News

ILLINI ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE 217-352-5241 CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

MANAGER'S COMMENTS by Wm. David Champion, Jr.



Champion

Control over rates

Sales steady, peak demand down

What can you expect electric rates to be in the future? We have had many discussions on this subject during the past two years. At the 1985 annual meeting I reported that we were expecting rates to go up 10 percent a year for four years beginning in 1985. Then at the 1986 annual meeting I reported that rates would probably increase by 8½ percent in 1987 and 10 percent in 1988. We have been working on various ways to keep wholesale power costs down and minimize the impact of the fixed costs associated with the nuclear Clinton Power Station. If our goals are attained, future increases in power costs should be around the rate of inflation over the next 10 years.

I also informed the membership in this year's annual meeting notice that we would be rolling the wholesale power cost adjustment into our base rates in May of this year. We won't be rolling that in until the September 3 bills. So sometime in the next month you will receive a new rate sheet from the Cooperative which will show higher rates on it, but all we will be doing is shifting the amount that you have seen on one line of your monthly bill to another line.

Illini Electric has not increased rates for internal operations since 1983 and this change in rates does not represent an internal increase.

Your September 3 bill under the new rate will not be any higher than your August 3 bill for the same number of kilowatt-hours.

Our marketing programs appear to be working as we had hoped they would. The Cooperative's year-to-date kilowatt-hour sales through May are right on track with last year and our peak demand is less. I hope you will continue your efforts to use as much off-peak energy as you can efficiently use. Increases in efficient energy use will continue to drive the cost per kilowatt-hour down. If we all work together with these marketing programs, we will cause the Cooperative's pricing of electricity to you to be more and more reasonable. It won't happen overnight, but it will happen.

Don't forget about the new "time-of-day" rate for our single phase members. If you have a grain drying installation, you may be able to save substantially by choosing the TOD-1 rate. Call the Cooperative office and ask us to do a comparison for you.

Optional time-of-day rate

TOD

It is worth your time to investigate your Cooperative's time-of-day (TOD) rate. As I run comparisons between the new optional rate and the standard rate, I have found that well over half of the members can save money. The savings can range from just a few dollars to several hundred dollars per year.

Since each situation is different, we will not place anyone on this rate without projecting their savings. Most of the savings come from shifting the operation of the major appliances and it's important that everyone contemplating this rate understands exactly how it works.

We have a booklet available which describes the general TOD program. You can get this booklet and a comparison based on your particular account by calling our office.

There are only five months out of the year when you must be concerned about the on-peak charges.

During July and August, the on-peak hours are 2-10 p.m., then during December, January and February the on-peak hours are 6-10 a.m. and 5-9 p.m. During those eight hours of those five months, the kilowatt-hours are priced at 25 cents each.

The other 16 hours plus all of March, April, May, June, September, October and November are at the off-peak rate. This off-peak is six cents per kilowatt-hour for the first 500 kilowatt-hours, then 4.5 cents per kilowatt-hour for all over 500 each month. Added to the above is a \$30 monthly facilities charge.

This rate is designed to encourage you to use more kilowatt-hours during the off-peak times. By pricing the off-peak kilowatt-hours at a low 4.5 cents, electricity is now cheaper than propane or oil for all major household uses. Electric water heaters, clothes dryers, ranges, etc. are cheaper to operate than propane, when properly timed to take advantage of this rate.

TOD cuts grain drying expense

Grain can be dried cheaper now since it naturally occurs during the September, October and November off-peak time period. At 4.5 cents, you should turn down the gas heat and run the fans longer. With this rate, more air and less gas is the cheapest way to dry grain.

We would also encourage you to consider adding another fan to that bin or increasing the size of the present fan. In either case, little or no heat would be needed. However, if some is required, a small electric heater or a low-temperature gas burner would supply the required supplemental heat.

New rate lowers water heating costs

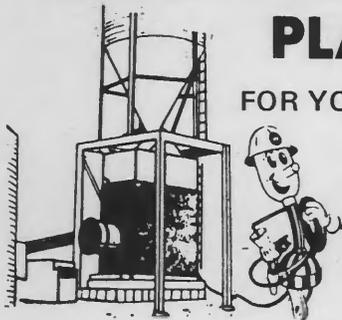
Anyone who switches to the TOD rate should make sure that their water heater is electric. On this rate, the water heating cost would be just \$18 per month for a family who uses the normally 400 kilowatt-hours. This is far cheaper than any propane or oil water heater.

For anyone who wishes to replace their gas water heater or too-small electric water heater, the Cooperative is selling an 80-gallon, stone-lined water heater for just \$125. This tank is insulated with two inches of foam, making it one of most efficient water heaters available. It is certainly the best buy in town.

Water heater timer

The Cooperative is also selling a battery-operated time clock for \$46.50 plus tax. This time clock can be used to control water heaters and other major appliances for those of you taking advantage of the time-of-day rate.

For those of you who do not choose the TOD rate, the timer can be purchased to control the operation of just your electric water heater. The Cooperative then offers an \$8 per month "water heater timer" credit for anyone who is willing to shut off their water heater each day between 5-9 p.m. If you are concerned about running out of hot water, you needn't be. We have never had anyone indicate that the four hours off-time caused a shortage of hot water. We have in fact found that most people will choose to leave the water heater off the rest of the night. If you do that, we encourage you to turn it back on around 4 a.m. This will give the heater plenty of time to recover. Drastically restricting the hours of operation could save you as much as 50 kilowatt-hours each month in addition to the monthly \$8 credit. Again we ask you to contact us for more information.



PLAN POWER NEEDS NOW

FOR YOUR GRAIN DRYING EQUIPMENT

The Cooperative must be notified any time a grain drying motor is added. Our engineering department will check the capacity of your transformer and existing service wires. Serious voltage problems can occur if either one becomes overloaded.

Even though construction has not been started, the Cooperative should be notified just as soon as your plans are firmed up.

DON'T WAIT TILL OCTOBER

Energy use during vacations

This is the time of year when many people are returning from summer vacations. If you've been gone from your home for a week or two, you may be surprised to find that your electric bill is not as low as you had expected. Here are some reasons why:

BILLING PERIOD — You may have been gone at the time you normally would read the meter, causing a few days, a week or more to be included on this bill.

WEATHER — You may have used your air conditioner both before and after returning from vacation to stay comfortable in our hot, muggy weather.

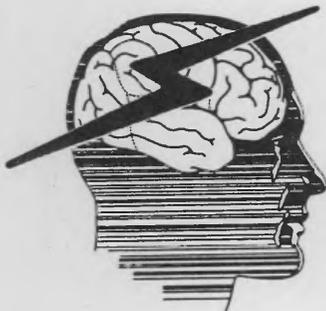
REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER — You probably left your refrigerator and freezer operating while you were gone. It was hot outdoors, the temperature inside your home was hotter, causing these appliances to work harder to keep food cold or frozen.

WATER HEATER — Did you turn your water heater off? Even if you did, you most likely washed as many clothes immediately after returning as if you were at home.

For the most part, you will find your bills will not change that much, whether you have been on vacation or not. To determine how many kilowatt-hours an empty house can use, read your meter before leaving and immediately after returning.

Remember, your home doesn't take a vacation.

Test your energy I.Q.



1. How much energy in the U.S. is used as electricity?
 - a. 30 percent
 - b. 50 percent
 - c. 75 percent
2. Fluorescent lamps give the same amount of light as incandescent lamps, but use less electricity. For the same amount of electricity, how much more light do fluorescent lamps emit?
 - a. twice as much
 - b. five times as much
 - c. ten times as much
3. To save energy and stay comfortable, what is the best indoor temperature during winter days?
 - a. 60 degrees Fahrenheit
 - b. 68 degrees Fahrenheit
 - c. 75 degrees Fahrenheit
4. Which uses more hot water?
 - a. showers
 - b. baths
5. What uses more hot water?
 - a. washing dishes by hand
 - b. a dishwasher
6. What uses more energy?
 - a. electric shaver
 - b. shaving with razor and hot water
7. How much energy will most homes save by using a fireplace along with a heating system?
 - a. none
 - b. 10 percent of heating bill
 - c. 30 percent of heating bill
8. More electricity is used to repeatedly turn lights on and off than by leaving them on, even if not in use.
 - a. true
 - b. false
9. For maximum insulation effectiveness, you should buy the thickest insulation material available.
 - a. true
 - b. false
10. Rate the following from one to three according to the amount of energy they consume in the average home. One represents the most energy consumed.
 - a. lighting and cooking
 - b. hot water
 - c. heating and cooling

ANSWERS

1.a., 2.a., 3.b., 4.b., 5.a., 6.b., 7.a., 8.b., 9.b., instead of thickness, look for the "R" (resistance) value. The higher the "R" value, the better insulation prevents heat transfer, 10.a. (3) lighting and cooking; b. (2) hot water; (1) heating and cooling.

SCORING GUIDE 9 or 10: Einstein, look out! 7 or 8: You have a lot of common sense and are probably very energy efficient. 4-6: Your Energy I.Q. is average, and a little additional knowledge could probably produce greater efficiency in your energy use. 1-3: You can definitely increase the efficiency and reduce the cost of your energy use by boning up on facts about energy consumption. 0: You must be having one of those days!



Illini Electric News

ILLINI ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE 217-352-5241 CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

MANAGER'S COMMENTS by Wm. David Champion, Jr.



Champion

MAC activities

The Member Advisory Committee held its reorganization meeting on June 24. At that meeting the MAC elected Jon Haak as its chairman, and the new secretary is Rod Millsap. Congratulations to both Jon and Rod on their election.

I would like to thank Dave Prah, last year's chairman, and Alice Hieser, last year's secretary, for a job well done. I also wish to thank the other outgoing members of last year's MAC for their dedication in attending and participating in the meetings and helping us shape the future for the members of Illini Electric Cooperative.

Further activities at the June meeting included a review of financial graphs which pictorially platted the year-to-date progress and financial condition of the Cooperative. We reviewed and discussed a slide set on time-of-day rates. Progress at the Clinton Plant was discussed. The committee further reviewed the rate outlook for the next 10 years and discussed the progress that is forthcoming from the consolidation discussions between Eastern Illinois Power Cooperative's board and Illini's board of directors.

At the next meeting, which will be held on August 12, the MAC will be discussing the state and national legislative scene. Earl Struck, director of the Legal and Public Affairs Department of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, will be on hand at the meeting.

Member meetings

The MAC suggested that we set up some area meetings throughout the Cooperative's service territory to discuss our marketing programs, particularly the new time-of-day rate. As of this writing we have held two of the seven scheduled meetings and attendance has been very good.

We are here to serve you

We also had a booth at the Fisher Community Fair and the Champaign County Fair. Many of you stopped by and visited with us. Again, if you have any questions about the Cooperative, the marketing programs or the time-of-day rate, don't hesitate to call or write, because we are here to serve you.

Grain drying

Grain drying time is fast approaching. I hope everyone has notified our engineering department of any intentions to add grain drying equipment. The expected bumper crop and the shortage of elevator storage space has caused a flood of grain bin sales.

The crunch for the Cooperative will come as the last minute sales need last minute changes to their farmstead electrical services. It's rare when even a 10-h.p. fan can be added without some change in either the Cooperative's or the member's electrical equipment.

It's possible for our crews to have as much as six weeks of work backlogged during the busy seasons. It's important that you call us just as soon as your plans are firmed up. Don't wait until the bin is erected.

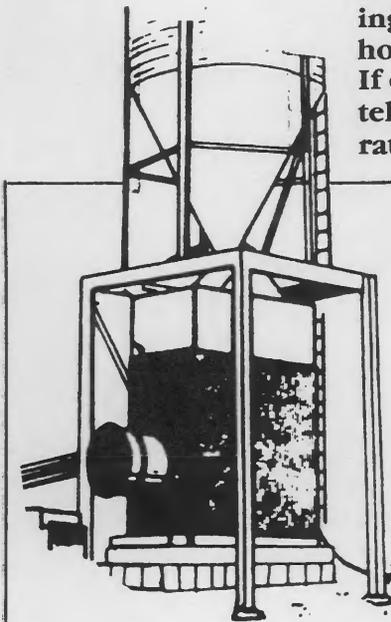
The time-Of-day rate continues to occupy the lion's share of our time.

Fair booth and TOD

For the first time in perhaps 25 years, the cooperative operated a booth at the Fisher Community Fair and the Champaign County Fair. The booth contained information on all of our marketing programs with special emphasis on our new time-of-day rate. We appreciated talking with all those who stopped by.

At each of the fair booths, the Cooperative offered a free drawing prize. At the Fisher Fair, the grand prize 80-gallon SEPCO water heater was won by Ronald Kuhns, R.R., Dewey. The ice cream maker was won by Roger Greear, R.R., St. Joseph. At the Champaign County Fair, the ice cream maker was won by Henry Perry, R.R., Allerton.

Despite the fact that we have had informational meetings, center section stories and bill stuffers to announce this new optional rate, several people I talked with were not aware of it or did not feel it would benefit them. Although your individual situation may be different, better than 80 percent of the rate comparisons we have done show a savings with the optional rate. Before simply disregarding this new rate, we encourage you to talk with us. Let us explain how it's possible to benefit. Let us calculate your projected savings. If our projections show there would be little or no savings, we will tell you so. You can be assured that no one will be allowed on this rate if we project there is no savings.



PLAN POWER NEEDS NOW

FOR YOUR GRAIN DRYING EQUIPMENT

DON'T WAIT
TILL
OCTOBER

PLAN NOW

Optional TOD rate can reduce heating costs

The time-of-day rate includes eight on-peak (higher cost) hours and 16 off-peak (lower cost) hours during the months of December, January, February, July and August. All hours of the other seven months are at the off-peak (lower cost) rate.

By taking advantage of the lower cost hours of the TOD rate, it's possible to lower the cost of heating your home. This can be done by automatically controlling the electric heating system so it is turned down or off during the 6-10 a.m. and 5-9 p.m. on-peak time period during December, January and February. During all of the other winter months, the entire time period is at the low rate, thus there is no need to alter the heating operation. This assures you that most or all of the electric heating falls under the 4.5 cent step of the rate. A very attractive rate indeed.

If the electric heating system is a central system such as an electric furnace or heat pump, an electronic thermostat could be used to lower the thermostat setting a few degrees. During each of the four-hour time periods, the house temperature would most likely not fall more than two or three degrees. However, if the temperature dropped to the lowered setting, the thermostat would again allow the electric heating to operate, but at the lower set point. Most likely, the heating system would not be needed at all during the four hours.

Disconnect device

For homes heated with individual room thermostats such as with baseboard or ceiling cable, a large disconnect device would need to be installed near the main panel. This switch would shut off all power to the electric heat during the on-peak hours by using a time clock switch. During the very coldest weather, you may find it is necessary to override the time clock control or set the time switch to disconnect the electric heat for less than the entire four hours.

Those of you with or about to buy an add-on air-source heat pump can either use the electronic thermostat to lower the thermostat set point or a time switch to switch to the propane furnace during the on-peak periods.

Heating costs

All these possibilities will lower your total heating cost. For instance, the add-on heat pump and propane furnace combination should lower your heating cost more than 30 percent.

Check home for safety

Of the nearly 620,000 home fires reported each year, one out of eight is the result of inadequate or improper wiring. Electric current kills approximately 1,100 people in the United States each year, with one-third of these fatalities occurring at home. Use these questions to measure your home's electrical safety. If your answer to a question is NO, check the box next to that item. Then take immediate steps to correct these dangerous situations.

Outside electric supply lines

- Are lines taut and securely connected to the building?
- Is insulation in good condition, not worn or frayed?
- Are wires clear of trees or other objects?

Electric supply panel

- Is there adequate space in front of and around the panel?
- Is the floor in front of the supply panel dry?
- Is there a rubber mat, wooden box or board in front of the

- panel to stand on?
- Is the floor free of newspapers, rags, solvents and other stored items?
- Is the panel area well lit?
- Is a working flashlight readily available?
- If the fuse panel has a cover or door, does it fit? Open and close properly?
- Is the panel dry and not discolored or corroded?
- Are all fuses tight?
- Does the capacity of each fuse or circuit breaker match that shown for it on the circuit diagram or list?
- Are replacement fuses available for all fuses?

Electrical outlets Be sure to check all of the outlets in each room. Make a list of any outlets which have missing, bent, cracked or loose faceplates.

- Are there no more than two plugs connected to any one outlet?
- Are cords on lamps, TVs, radios and other devices safely routed out of traffic patterns?
- Do the plug prongs on the device's cord or extension cord match the outlet's openings?
- Do all heavy-duty appliances such as window air conditioners, washers, dryers and sunlamps operate on their own circuits?
- Are all outside electrical outlets grounded, three-pronged types or equipped with ground fault circuit interrupters?
- Are all outside outlets covered with watertight lids when not in use?
- Are electrical outlets that smoke, spark, make unusual intermittent noises, or have warm or hot spots in and around them, disconnected and checked immediately?
- Are all unused electrical outlets covered or plugged?

Extension cords

- Are fewer than three extension cords used in any room?
- Are extension cords laid on uncovered floors or over rugs unless listed by Underwriters Laboratories (UL) or another recognized testing organization for use under rugs or other floor coverings?
- Are extension cords laid on floors, not tacked, taped or in some way strung or hung above the floor?
- Are extension cords in good condition, not taped, frayed, chewed, brittle or knotted?
- If you have a portable trouble light, does it have an insulated handle and a bulb guard?
- Are only three-pronged, grounded, heavy-duty extension cords used outdoors?
- If overhead or wall lamps have metal pull chains, are there fiber or hard rubber insulating links at the socket end of the chains?

Appliances and utensils

- Are all small kitchen appliances listed by UL or another recognized testing organization?
- Do all large appliances such as dishwashers, washers, dryers and TVs have UL or another appropriate organization's safety label?
- Are all appliances that cause a shock or tingling sensation disconnected and checked immediately?
- Are all electrical appliances unplugged when not in use?



Illini Electric News

ILLINI ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE 217-352-5241 CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

MANAGER'S COMMENTS by Wm. David Champion, Jr.



Champion

Update on Illini, Eastern talks

Earlier this year I wrote about the ongoing discussions between Illini Electric Cooperative's board of directors and Eastern Illinois Power Cooperative's board on the subject of consolidating the two cooperatives into one.

I thought it appropriate to bring you up to date with the information that is available at this time.

The boards have continued to meet jointly and have reviewed many aspects of consolidated operation. The two key criteria are, of course, "quality of service" and "economic savings." After studying both, the two boards are satisfied that the operation of a consolidated cooperative will provide efficiencies that neither cooperative could attain alone.

Quality of service will certainly be just as good, if not better. Our personnel will become more specialized and thus more knowledgeable in their area of performance, which will ultimately allow the new cooperative to expand its services to its members. When we speak of expanded services we begin to utilize the full service cooperative concept. We will be better able to evaluate the needs of our members in the rural area that we cover, then respond to those needs that are not now being fulfilled. This is merely a continuation of the dream that our incorporators had nearly 50 years ago: rural people should have equivalent life styles to their city cousins. Quality of service shall be improved in many ways.

Economic savings is in everyone's mind these days and the boards have come to an agreement which will allow all members of both cooperatives to share equally in the savings of the consolidated cooperative. Of course, it took many economic studies and several forecasts before everyone was satisfied that the savings are truly distributed among the members equitably.

Since these two key areas have been agreed upon, the boards feel comfortable with the work that is at hand, the preparation of the "plan of consolidation." The plan will be prepared and ready for review at the November board meetings. If approval is forthcoming, then soon after December 1 detailed information will be assembled for mailing to you.

Of course, you will make the decision. If a consolidation is recommended by the boards of directors of both cooperatives, then you will be voting on the question at the 1987 annual meeting. For the consolidation to take place an affirmative vote is required from at least two-thirds of the members present in person or by proxy at the annual meeting of each cooperative.

We encourage you to read and digest the information that we will be sending you. Every effort will be made to get the facts to you in a timely manner. In the meantime if you have questions or concerns about this or any other subject, don't hesitate to contact your director or the office. After all, we are here to serve you!

MEMBER SERVICES by Ray Weiss

TOD rate and water heater time clock

One of the most misunderstood features of the new Time-Of-Day rate concerns the grain dryer operation during the September, October and November.

While there are five months during the year when eight hours of high cost on-peak hours occur, the September-November months are all at the lower cost off-peak part of the rate. During these three months plus four months in the spring, there is no need to be concerned about adjusting your operation in order to maximize your savings.

Grain drying is the one major electrical use that naturally gets the advantage of this optional rate. I encourage you to investigate whether this optional rate would save you money.

I only have one caution. Delivery of the special meters required to record the usage has been running slower than expected. It's possible that at this late date we could be temporarily out of meters. However, don't let that stop you from inquiring.

Even if you don't have grain drying, the Time-Of-Day rate may be able to save you some money. Please call or write for more information.

For those not familiar with the time clock program, you can purchase a White Rogers time clock from the Cooperative for \$46.50. Install it on your water heater and set it to turn the electricity off to the water heater between 5-9 p.m. each evening. This reduces the Cooperative's electrical peak, and in return you will receive an \$8 credit on your bill each month.

Around 200 time clocks have now been installed and are currently receiving the \$8 per month reduction of their bill.

We estimate that number is perhaps only 10 percent of the total number of water heaters that could take advantage of the credit. Why have the other 90 percent not taken advantage of the \$8 credit?

If you are concerned about running out of hot water, don't be. Don't forget, the tank is full of hot water even though the time clock has the power shut off. Very, very few families would run out of hot water during the four-hour time period.

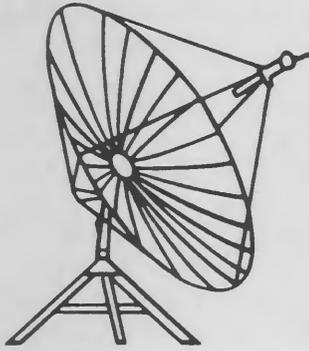
Try it. If you do run out, the Cooperative sells a super-insulated, 80-gallon water heater for just \$125 plus tax, delivered. In this case, the \$8 credit on your bill will return all of your money in less than two years. That's better than a 50 percent return on your money. Where else can you earn that much? Please call or write for more information.

Co-ops have plan for satellite television

Two Washington-based rural electric cooperative organizations have agreed to form the National Rural Telecommunications Cooperative to ensure that high-quality and affordable telecommunications services do not bypass rural America.

The new cooperative will develop and deliver telecommunications services, including programming available by satellite, to rural people. Its formation was approved this summer by the national boards of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) and the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Cooperative (CFC).

Testifying before the House Subcommittee on Telecommunications, Consumer Protection and Finance in June, Bob Bergland, executive vice president of NRECA, stated that one of the rural electric goals is to develop a satellite programming package for rural



dish owners. "There is a great concern in America's rural areas," he said, "that scrambling may darken the skies."

He explained that the programming package, which would include news, information and entertainment channels currently scrambled or scheduled for scrambling, is part of a comprehensive plan to ensure the availability of an array of telecommunications service in the nation's countryside.

The new cooperative is charged with carrying out the plan. It is estimated that 75 percent of rural electric consumers do not now have cable and never will.

Bergland said that this situation could be easily compared to the absence of reliable electric service in 90 percent of the nation's rural areas in the 1930s. It is a natural step, he said, for rural electric cooperatives, which serve 2,600 of the nation's 3,141 counties or county-type areas, to develop telecommunications services.

"As locally controlled, service-oriented organizations, rural electrics have become involved in a wide variety of projects, programs and services designed to help improve the overall quality of life of the people they serve," he stated.

Rural electric studies pinpoint a number of applications of telecommunications technology by rural electric systems, including electric load management, data collection, electronic funds transfer, and, in addition to access to information and entertainment television channels, the ability of consumers to shop, bank and pay bills from home.

Bergland cautioned that the formation of the national telecommunication cooperative was just a first step in ensuring telecommunications services for rural Americans, and that the challenge is a large one.

Rural electrics, he pointed out, are well-established, vital community institutions, ideally suited to develop subsidiary telecommunications co-ops. The subsidiaries, Bergland stressed, would operate as separate entities, yet could share billing and other administrative functions, with each entity carrying its full share of the cost of operation.

The rural electric systems, according to the telecommunications plan, hope to negotiate agreements with various program providers and begin marketing a program package to rural electric consumers in the early part of 1987. The potential market is estimated at about 1.2 million. The co-ops have a goal of offering a programming package at a low monthly cost, considering that consumers would also have to finance their own receiving and decoding equipment.

NRECA is the Washington, D.C.-based national service organization of the nation's 1,000 rural electric systems, which provide electric service to more than 25 million people in 46 states. CFC provides supplemental financing for rural electric systems from private, non-government sources.

Check electric livestock waterers now

Some farmers still remember the days when they chopped a hole in their ice-covered stock tank so cattle could drink, or found smaller waterers frozen because wind blew the flame out overnight. To avoid such frequent problems, many switched to long-life electric units — for convenience, labor saving, precise control and for an assured supply of fresh drinking water to improve productivity.

University research has shown that a continuous supply of warm water for dairy cattle, beef cattle, hogs, sheep and poultry is needed to achieve maximum efficiency in production. The water doesn't need to be hot — merely ice free.

To get the most from each energy dollar, the right type and size

of waterer must be selected and properly installed. In northern climates, it's best to locate them in an area protected from cold winds: on the south side of a building or good windbreak.

For our purpose here, we'll assume the right size and type of unit has been properly matched to the number and size of livestock or poultry units served. But farmers must not stop there if concerned about energy use and efficiency.

With winter nearly upon us, every farmer with an electric livestock or poultry waterer should consider several timely maintenance practices. A few of the following can help assure wise and efficient energy use.

•Check all electrical wiring components at the beginning of each heating season. But first, switch OFF the power to the waterer. Then:

•repair or replace electrical connections, conductors or conductor insulation that's deteriorated due to excessive moisture within the unit;

•check to be sure unit is well grounded with individual ground rod;

•check fuse size. Be sure it is sized according to heater load. Don't overfuse;

•check heater elements. If conductive type, be sure they fit snugly against water bowl(s).

•Check insulated components of waterer:

•if insulation is wet, dry it if possible;

•if loose from panels, replace with a good mastic. Be sure all metal, including doors, is insulated;

•replace with thicker insulation if practical, given space limitations (two-inch styrofoam);

•if equipped with lids or doors, be sure they are free swinging and closed when not in use, and as designed. (Close lid on one side of two bowl unit if number of animals allow).

Consider climate-oriented factors:

•check water base and doors; eliminate or minimize air leakage. Caulk base as often as needed;

•if presently exposed to wind, build a wooden windbreak;

•when installing new unit consider locating in open shed, especially if animal units are limited;

•if unit needs paint, use a dark color to absorb solar energy;

•in summer, ventilate interior to reduce inside moisture build-up.

•Maintain water control devices:

•check all valves to assure they function properly. Water overflow and leakage generate both water and energy waste;

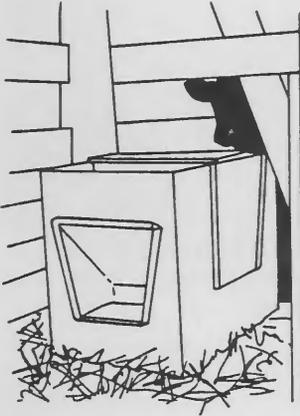
•after regular bowl clean out, be sure drain is closed tightly, each time.

•Adjust water temperature, as often as needed:

•most waterer thermostats are adjustable. Once properly set, they need little adjustment;

•during first freezing weather period, check temperature of water in drinking bowl. If above 40 degrees F, adjust thermostat to maintain a lower water temperature. Check again the following day; adjust thermostat again. Reduce temperature gradually to avoid any freezing of water. Remember, the goal is to maintain ice-free drinking water — not to heat it excessively.

When the above principles and practices are evaluated and acted upon, the energy use of electric livestock and poultry waterers will be as efficient as it can be. In most cases, it will require only pennies per year to assure clean fresh water for each mature cow or steer.





Illini Electric News

ILLINI ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE 217-352-5241 CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

MANAGER'S COMMENTS by Wm. David Champion, Jr.



Champion

Members have final say

Between towns, electric lines travel down quiet country roads, across plains, deserts and mountains, through the bayous — reaching far and wide to light up the homes, businesses, farms schools and churches in rural America — connecting communities, one with another.

America's 1,000 consumer-owned rural electric systems make this network of reliable electric power possible.

Rural electric systems form another kind of network, just as vital. We connect the people of rural America in cooperation. Our consumers are our owners, and in good times — and times like these — we work hard to anticipate and meet their needs.

Because of the cooperatives' help in their service areas, there are schools, churches, elevators, feed mills, implement dealers, seed corn companies, rock quarries, irrigation systems, fertilizer plants, community colleges, radio stations, nurseries, motels, restaurants, pumping stations, nursing homes, auto parts and used cars, apple and peach packing sheds, county water districts, and small towns, etc.

It's like this all across the land. It happens because we're there, working together with our neighbors to meet local needs.

October is Cooperative Month, a time for member-owned and member-serving organizations such Illini Electric Cooperative to underline their unique nature. One of four Americans, about 60 million, belongs to at least one of the 40,000 cooperatives in the country.

It's basic democracy in action; the cooperative is owned and controlled by its members, on the basis of one-person, one-vote.

Your electric cooperative is involved in a process that typifies the strength of the cooperative idea. We've talked in recent months about discussions between Illini and Eastern Illinois Power Cooperative concerning consolidation of the two cooperatives. In November, both boards will consider a "plan of consolidation." If they approve this plan, the decision on consolidation will be made by the memberships of each cooperative. You will decide the matter.

If the members want consolidation, the two cooperatives will combine operations. If members do not want consolidation, the two cooperatives will continue as they are. The decision is not up to the management or the boards. It's up to the members, as it should be in a cooperative. We can't think of a better way to do business.

Illini Electric News Illini Electric News Illini Electric News Illini Electric News

MEMBER SERVICES by Ray Weiss

Check the SEPCO water heater

Your cooperative is selling water heaters that are considered to be the best manufactured today. The SEPCO water heater has features that set it apart from others. For instance, the inside lining of the tank is made of a cement-like material that covers every metal area with one half-inch of a stone-like substance. Other water heaters have a thin coat of fiberglass sprayed on to prevent rusting. During this spraying process there are occasional air bubbles forming in the fiberglass. These air bubbles are potential spots for the tank to rust through. SEPCO is so sure of its product that the company includes a 10-year warranty on the tank. That alone would be reason for purchasing the SEPCO; however, there are even more reasons this tank is superior to all other brands.

Another feature is the two-inch thick layer of urethane foam insulation around the tank. Most tanks have fiberglass insulation. To give you an idea of the superiority of the foam, it would take five inches of fiberglass to equal the two-inch layer of foam. The heat saved will lower your electric bill. Some members are reporting a savings of \$5 or more a month just from installing the new tank. It's no wonder, since the R-16 insulation is so good there is no need for an extra blanket of insulation to be added to the tank.

Of course, the greatest benefit is the extra low price. The 80-gallon SEPCO water heater cost just \$125 plus tax. That price includes delivery. However, installation is up to the individual member.

Timer credit program

The timer credit program is designed to lower the Cooperative's wholesale power cost. By reducing our peak demand cost, the savings is passed along as an \$8 credit on your bill each month.

To qualify for the credit, it is necessary to purchase a time clock from the Cooperative for \$46.50. Then set the time clock to have the water heater off between 5-9 p.m. each day. The timer credit is available to anyone with a 40-gallon or larger tank regardless of the age or brand of your water heater.

If you fear your water heater is too small for the four-hour interruption, keep in mind that the tank your Cooperative sells is an extra large, 80-gallon tank, just to make sure you have enough hot water available at all times. If you wish to have additional information, fill out the form below.

-
- Please send more information on the SEPCO water heater and the timer credit programs.
- Please send more information on Dual Heat.

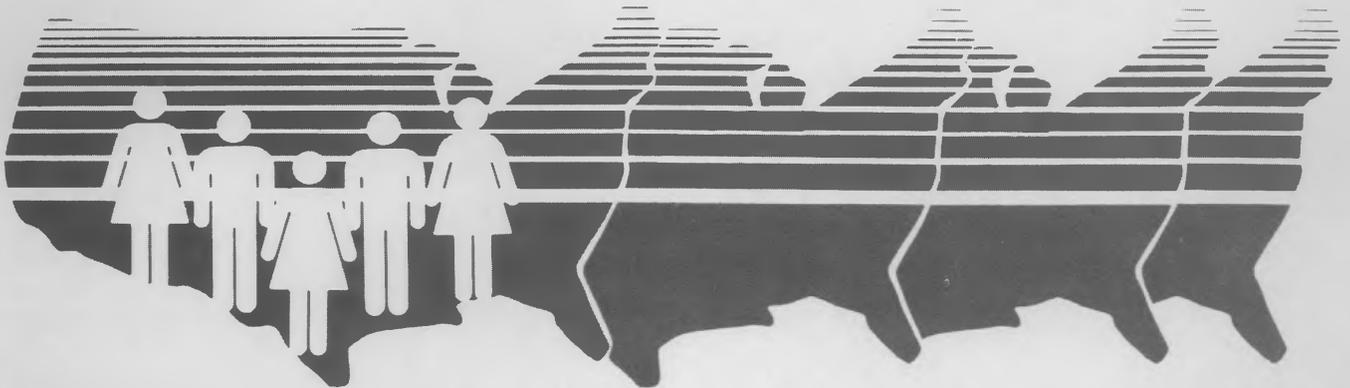
Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

ILLINI ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
P.O. Box 637
Champaign, IL 61820
352-5241

COOPERATIVES



WORK!

Co-ops unique

America's 1,000 rural electric systems join thousands of other cooperatives throughout the country to observe Cooperative Month in October, a month set aside to celebrate the accomplishments of 40,000 cooperatives providing goods and services to more than 60 million people.

Rural electric systems in the United States provide electric service to more than 25 million people in 46 states, using half the nation's power poles and distribution lines stretched over 75 percent of the nation's land mass.

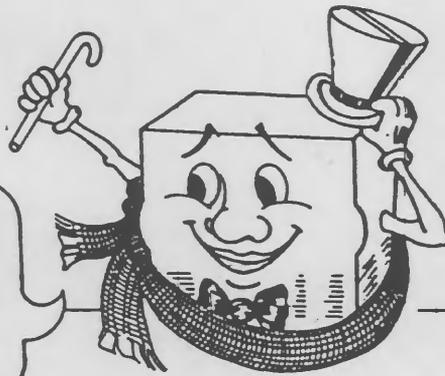
Cooperatives are unique organizations in the American business world, as they are owned by the members to whom they provide service, with each member having one vote in conducting the affairs of the cooperative. Cooperatives are nonprofit, and any "profits," usually referred to as "capital credits," are returned to member-owners.

Cooperatives provide a wide range of consumer services, including electricity, telephone and day care. Farmer cooperatives help American farmers market, process and distribute food and fiber products. Credit unions and insurance plans are other types of cooperatives.

Bob Bergland, executive vice president of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), the Washington-based national service organization of the rural electric cooperatives and last year's chairman of Co-op Month activities, says that cooperatives "have always been in the forefront in bringing together the best of public law and private enterprise."

"Co-ops do not deal with luxury and indulgence, but with those things which are basic to human health and security and happiness and freedom. It is cooperative associations which do, indeed, on an organized basis, deal with basic questions of people and their requirements — not their wants, but their needs, the necessities of life."

Bergland was last year's chairman of Cooperative Month activities. This year's chairman is Thomas Condit, president of the National Cooperative Bank, Washington, D.C.



Hey . . . let's get together and save our owners a bundle!



Dual Heat: money- saving combo

Are you still waiting to keep the promise you made during this past summer's scorching weather to add or replace a central air conditioner? Or are you promising yourself to make your home's forced-air heating system more efficient before winter?

With the high-efficiency electric add-on heat pump you can fulfill both of those promises and more, because the add-on heat pump provides year-round living comfort, supplying most of your home heating needs and all of your cooling requirements. It's called an add-on because it simply is added to your existing forced-air furnace.

Outside, the heat pump looks like an air conditioner. During the summer the heat pump operates much like any other air conditioner, except it cools your home much more efficiently. The real benefit comes in the winter when the heat pump reverses its operation. Instead of taking heat out of the home, it brings heat in.

It takes less energy to move an equivalent amount of heat than it does to produce that heat, thus the efficiency is higher with a heat pump. When a heat pump is added to a gas or oil furnace, the heat pump generally operates in the 20-65 degree range. When operated this way, the efficiency of the heat pump will average over 220 percent. This efficiency, combined with the low Dual Heat rate, makes the add-on heat pump much less expensive to operate.

The low Dual Heat rate applies to any electric heating system which is automatically set to shut off when the outdoor temperature drops below 15 degrees. Below that point, your existing gas or oil furnace continues to heat your home. Thus it's called a Dual Heating system. Since the heat pump's greatest efficiency is when the temperature is above 15 degrees, it's particularly well suited for this rate.

The special Dual Heat rate is 3.2 cents per kilowatt-hour with an added incentive rate of 2.9 cents per kilowatt-hour for the first three years to any Dual Heat system added to an existing gas or oil furnace. As an additional incentive, the Cooperative will give you a cash bonus of \$200 if a Dual Heat system is added to an existing gas or oil furnace. Would you like to add or replace your air conditioner next summer? Why not purchase an add-on heat pump this fall, take advantage of the lower heating cost this winter, then be ready for the hot weather next summer.

You can be assured that the low Dual Heat rate combined with the high efficiency of the heat pump will lower your heating cost regardless of what fuel you are presently using. It even beats natural gas. To find out how much you can save, call the Member Service department at your Cooperative or complete the coupon on page 14b and return to Illini. We would be glad to calculate your savings.



Illini Electric News

ILLINI ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE 217-352-5241 CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

MANAGER'S COMMENTS by Wm. David Champion, Jr.



Champion

Prepayment effort succeeds

IP rate hike does not affect Illini

Over the last several months your cooperative's board and staff have been part of a concerted effort by rural electric leaders from across the nation to allow electric cooperatives to take advantage of today's low interest rates. You may have read about legislation proposed by electric cooperatives that Congress passed and President Reagan signed, giving power supply cooperatives the opportunity to refinance high-interest government loans with lower-interest money from private money sources.

Illini Electric Cooperative's power supplier, Soyland Power Cooperative, was one of the leaders in this effort to give rural electric ratepayers the cost break that would come with reduced interest costs for power supply debt, in our case the Clinton Power Station. What started as an idea months ago produced, on October 9, the approval by the U.S. Treasury Department for Soyland to pay off \$310 million in loans to the Treasury's Federal Financing Bank (FFB) with money borrowed at today's interest rates. Private utilities have been cutting down their interest expenses over the last several months by paying off old loans with lower-cost money, but cooperatives were prohibited from doing this by very strict regulations of the FFB.

The refinancing will drop Soyland's interest rates from about 10.6 percent to about 7 percent. Members of Soyland's 15 member-systems will see the result of this refinancing when the Clinton Power Station comes on line in 1987.

Most of you are aware that the Illinois Commerce Commission has given Illinois Power Company authority to increase its electric rates in two steps over the next several months. There will be no rate increase for Illini Electric Cooperative members when the plant comes on line, however. Your cooperative's board, along with those of other cooperatives in the Soyland group, has made some tough decisions over the last few years to smooth the impact of Clinton on local cooperative rates. We think these decisions, along with the various cost-saving rate programs your board has implemented, have helped considerably to keep rural electric rates much lower than they would have been without such progressive action.

While your board and boards of other Soyland cooperatives were instrumental in bringing about the legislation to allow the refinancing and the multi-million dollar per year savings that will come about, we all should be aware of the work of the elected officials who helped pass the legislation. Congressmen and Senators from across the nation supported and worked hard for the passage, but we would like to thank those close to home who helped so much: Senators Alan Dixon and Paul Simon and Representatives Ed Madigan, Terry Bruce and Dick Durbin, all of whom represent areas served by Illini.

Go for 200 percent efficiency!

Those of you in the market for a new furnace or who just want to reduce your heating cost should become familiar with another option outside of just replacing the furnace with a higher-efficiency model. According to Department of Energy figures, the average oil furnace in use is about 65 percent efficient, with gas 61 percent. Part of the reason is that furnaces are less efficient when it's not really cold outside. Running nearly full time, furnaces develop greater efficiency.

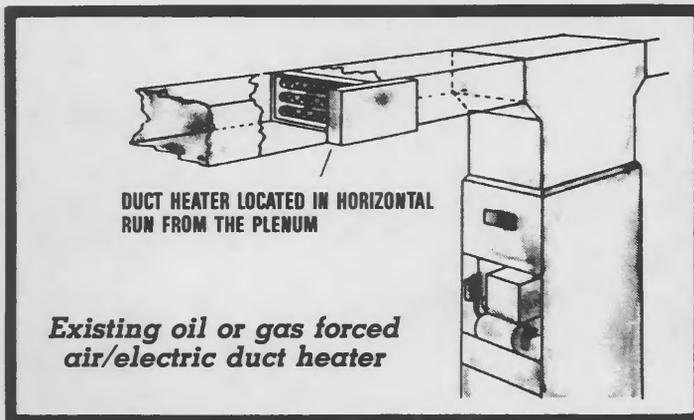
On the other hand, air-source heat pumps have a seasonal efficiency above 200 percent when operated in the 20-65 degree range of the winter. That is: for each kilowatt-hour used, over two units of equivalent heat are developed.

Combine systems

Why not then combine the systems to achieve the maximum efficiency of both. Uniting these two systems, a furnace and heat pump (a dual-fuel system), is a realistic approach to improved efficiency. Using each system at times when it's most effective offers definite savings. Run the heat pump when it's 20 degrees or warmer outside and the furnace when it's below 20.

Dual Heat

In addition to the improved efficiency, the Cooperative offers an off-peak, or Dual Heat, electric heat rate that can substantially lower you heating cost. For instance, the lowest rate block with

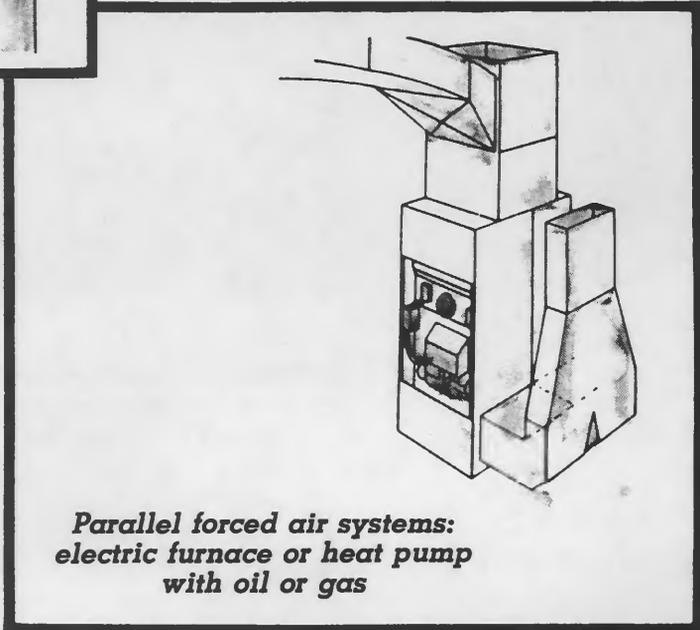


Plenum Or Duct Heater

These are heaters containing electric coils sized to fit inside the ductwork just above the furnace or within the ducts of your existing system. This method is one of the most commonly used when converting to Dual Heat. It's relatively cheap and easy to install.

Electric Furnace

An electric furnace can be installed in parallel with the existing gas or oil furnace. For one reason or another such side-by-side furnaces may be necessary or cheaper to install.



the regular rate is 8.79 cents/kilowatt-hour, while the Dual Heat rate is 3.2 cents. Combining the higher efficient heat pump with the low Dual Heat rate will substantially lower your heating cost.

For example if your present furnace is operating at 61 percent efficiency with propane at 60 cents/gallon, adding a heat pump at 200 percent efficiency at 3.2 cents/kilowatt-hour will lower your heating cost just over 34 percent. Just in case one of your other options is a 90 percent efficient furnace, the add-on heat pump beats it's operating cost by 20 percent.

**Special rate,
\$200 bonus**

As an added incentive, any member with a fossil fuel heating system who adds any type of electric heating system to take advantage of our Dual Heat rate is eligible for a special lower rate of 2.9 cents/kilowatt-hour for the first three years plus a cash bonus of \$200 to help offset the cost of installing the Dual Heating system.

It's not our intention to bore you with numbers. We will let the bottom line speak for itself if you will just give us a chance to talk with you. We have a computer program which can calculate the savings based on any efficiency and fuel price you select. To compare your house, we only need the past winter's total gallons of fuel used and the average cost per gallon.

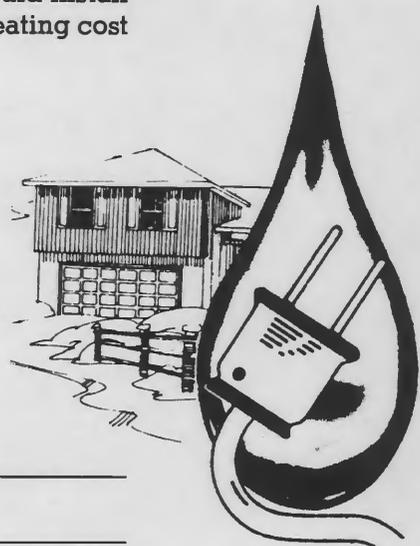
Free calculation

If you prefer, just fill out the form below and we will mail a comparison. If all the blanks are filled in, there will be enough information to calculate the savings for your house. When filling in the form, accuracy is important.

YES, I'm interested in seeing how much I could save if I would install a Dual Heat system. The following numbers represent my heating cost for last winter:

Check present type of heating system:

- Propane furnace
- Oil furnace
- Natural Gas furnace
- Electric Baseboard or Ceiling Cable
- Electric Furnace
- Air-Source Heat Pump
- Water-Source Heat Pump
- Other



Heating cost:

KWH/Gal./Therm Purchased _____ Cost/Unit _____

Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

ILLINI ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
P.O. BOX 637
CHAMPAIGN, IL 61820
352-5241

Keep meat and poultry safe in foul weather

Severe weather conditions such as tornadoes, ice and snow storms can result in power failures. The safety of your perishable foods may be at risk. However, you can take steps to help prevent or minimize the loss of meat and poultry during bad weather. The following questions and answers will guide you in protecting an important investment — your food supply.

Q. What can I do to keep my freezer as cold as possible while the power is out?

A. You should know that food in a full freezer will stay frozen about two days, and food in a half-full freezer about one day. If your freezer is not full, group the packages together so each frozen package acts as a "block of ice" to protect the foods around it. For refrigerators with freezer units, you can put block ice in the freezer section and transfer all perishable foods from the refrigerator into the freezer section. You may want to place meat and poultry items in a pan to catch juices that drip as the food begins to thaw. Avoid the temptation to open the refrigerator and freezer doors to "see how things are doing." This unnecessarily lets cold air escape. If you think the power is going to be off for several days, you can put dry ice in your freezer. Remember, don't touch the dry ice with your hands because it is extremely cold and freezes everything it touches. Do not inhale the fumes.

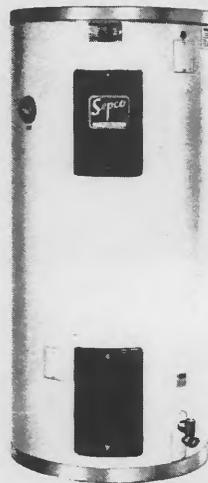
Q. Once my power returns, can I refreeze my meat and poultry?

A. Raw meat and poultry that still has ice crystals may safely be refrozen. Cooked meat and poultry dishes that have remained at 40 degrees or below should be used as quickly as possible, but may be refrozen. Remember, raw or cooked meat and poultry products that remained above 40 degrees for more than two hours should be discarded to avoid food poisoning.

Q. Are there other tips on what I can do to prepare for future power outages so I won't have food safety problems?

A. Yes, here are a few tips to help:

- Keep several blue-ice freezable paks (available in larger supermarkets) in your freezer;
- Keep an ice-cooler on hand for storing foods on ice;
- Develop an emergency plan to store your food with a friend whose power source may not be interrupted;
- Freeze containers of water in your freezer; and
- Know in advance where you can buy dry and block ice.



80 Gal.— Size 26" x 58"

SEPCO WATER HEATERS

"Rolls Royce" of the Industry

Hydrastone Lining for the most effective method of preventing tank failure due to corrosion.

Insulation 2" of high density insulation saves you \$\$\$!

Bronze fittings at all water openings make it a more durable heater.

Heat Trap Industry-unique hot water outlet pipe prevents heat from escaping.

10 Year Limited Warranty Plan

\$125 (delivery included)



Illini Electric News

ILLINI ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE 217-352-5241 CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

MANAGER'S COMMENTS by Wm. David Champion, Jr.



Champion

It seems that by the very nature of this article I am continually discussing subjects of a technical nature. Occasionally we all need to step back one giant step and reflect upon the things around us. We get wound up in one project after another and we begin to take ourselves too seriously.

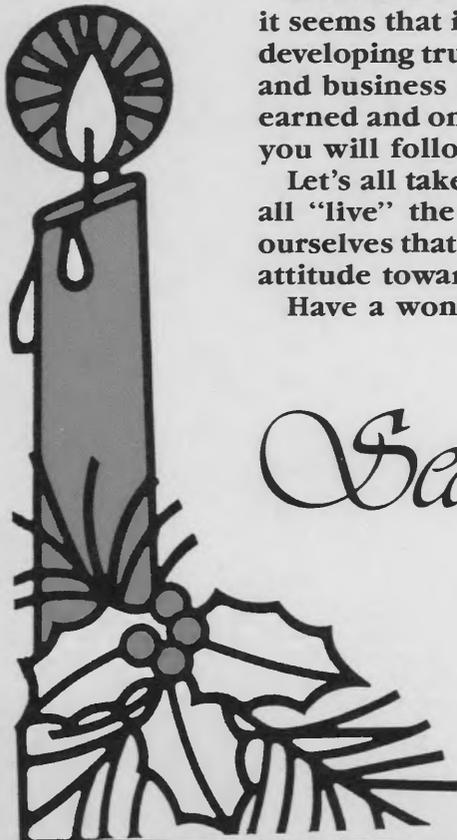
The holiday season presents the opportunity for us to be young again, whatever our age. It allows us time to rekindle our long lasting relationships with family and friends.

The two key words are "opportunity" and "allows." These words are important because if we aren't careful, we will buzz right through the mechanics of the holiday season without really being cognizant of the folks around us. Sure we will be there cooking, cleaning, shopping, giving, receiving, etc. But will we be so busy with the formalities that we miss the greatest joy of sharing trust, faith and enthusiasm for life itself with our loved ones and with those who have no one to share this with?

Trust and faith were a standard years ago. But as time goes on it seems that it's more popular to distrust. We all need to work at developing trust-filled lasting relationships with our family, friends and business associates. This doesn't just happen, trust must be earned and once it is established then the faith that others have in you will follow.

Let's all take time to reflect, appreciate, love, share and most of all "live" the experience of the holiday season then pledge to ourselves that we will follow through the next year with a renewed attitude toward mankind and watch, it will snowball.

Have a wonderful and safe holiday season!!



Season's Greetings

Prepare for winter outages

We try very hard to provide continuous, uninterrupted service 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. However, sometimes things happen beyond our control that will cause you to be without electric service — such things as a car hitting a pole, high winds blowing lines together or causing limbs to fall through lines, a careless wood-cutter sawing a tree that tears a line down or lightning striking a transformer.

Most outages can be taken care of within a short time, a few hours at the most. Widespread storm damage, especially ice and snow, may cause outages that will take several days to repair. In the meantime, your home and family need to be protected. Just as you have an escape plan in case of fire, you should have a plan for power outages.

Advance planning can help you make the best of the situation. The first thing you should do is check with your neighbors to see if they have power. If the power is on in your neighborhood, then check the fuses or breakers in your switchbox. Look outside to see if there is anything abnormal with your line or transformer.

Call 352-5241 to report your outage. Don't wait for someone else to call unless you've agreed in your neighborhood who will call.

Don't get discouraged if you get a busy signal. Please keep trying. It's important for us to know about your outage and any conditions that you can report. Both will help us solve your problem in the shortest possible time.

You should have an emergency kit prepared and placed where you can find it easily in the dark. You'll want a flashlight with fresh batteries, matches and candles, a portable radio with fresh batteries and emergency phone numbers for your locality.

If your outage is the result of a storm that has caused widespread damage and you are going to be without power for an extended period of time here are some things to do:

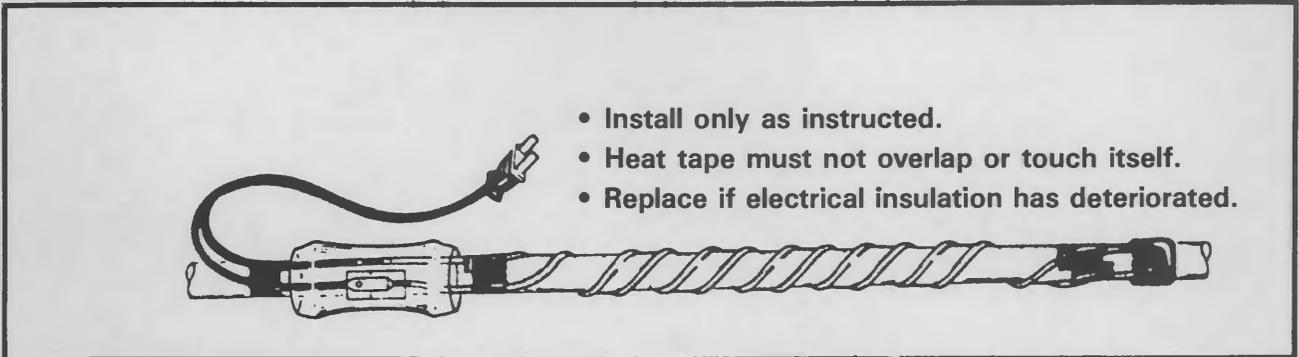
1. Don't panic. Calmness will allow you to assess the situation more accurately and will result in better decisions.
2. Don't open the refrigerator or freezer.
3. If it's wintertime, gather the family in one room. Put on warm clothes — several layers are better than one heavy garment.
4. Drain all pipes if the outage is going to be of sufficient length to cause them to freeze.
5. Have on hand some canned foods such as soup, stew, or spaghetti that can be warmed in your fireplace or with a camp stove. Don't use the camp stove inside. The fumes are very dangerous.
6. Make arrangements to care for your animals. If you have a farm operation, you should invest in a standby generator.
7. Weigh carefully the advisability of leaving your home and going to neighbors or relatives. Every situation is different and the opinions of more than one person should be considered before making this decision.

Once the power is back on, check your appliances and motors to see that everything is all right. Caution: If you have a heat pump, don't turn it on until the crankcase heater has had time to warm



the liquid refrigerant or you will damage the unit. Read the instructions for your model.

Remember, emergencies can be made less severe, less uncomfortable if you plan ahead. Now is the time to plan for a power outage. We'll do everything in our power to keep your electricity on, and if it should go off, you can be assured that we'll get it back on as soon as humanly possible.



Check heat tapes for hazards

Homeowners and mobile home residents who use electric heat tapes to prevent exposed water pipes from freezing are being cautioned by government safety experts to inspect these tapes for possible fire hazards.

According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, over 500 house fires in the last seven years are believed to have been caused by electric heat tapes. Also known as pipe heating cables, heat tapes consist of two wires enclosed in molded plastic insulation which emit heat due to electrical current passing through the wires when the cable is plugged into an outlet. The tapes are commonly used in crawl spaces and in the substructure of homes and mobile homes, and are usually energized after the first freezing temperatures.

Some heat tapes are plugged in year-round, and a thermostat located in the power supply cord of the heat tape turns on the tape whenever the outdoor temperature approaches freezing.

CPSC reports that improper installation by consumers is a frequent cause of home fires. In one study of 35 fires, agency investigators learned that 40 percent of the heat tapes were "over-wrapped," that is, the tape was lapped over itself when the consumer installed the tape around the pipe.

The safety agency offered the following suggestions for consumers:

- Inspect all heat tapes now or have a licensed electrician check for proper installation or deteriorated electrical insulation. Refer to any installation instruction that accompanied the heat tape when you bought it.
- If you are purchasing new heat tapes or cables, know the diameter of the pipe you are protecting as well as the total length of pipe to be protected. Manufacturers normally suggest specific lengths of tape for certain pipe lengths and the diameter of pipe. Match your specific needs to the heat tape you are buying.
- Older heat tapes should be checked for cracks in the plastic

insulation or bare wires; in such cases, replace the heat tape immediately.

- Not all heat tapes may be used on plastic pipes; check to make certain the heat tape you are using is recommended specifically for the plastic pipe in question.
- Finally, manufacturers emphasize that heat tapes should never be used over the thermal insulation on a pipe or near flammable objects. Inspect previously installed tapes to make certain these fire hazards do not exist in your home.

	Species	Easy to Split	Ease of Starting	Heavy Smoke	Sparks	Coaling Qualities
Quality characteristics of commonly burned woods	Apple	medium	poor	no	few	excellent
	Ash	yes	fair	no	few	good
	Beech	no	poor	no	few	good
	Birch (white)	yes	good	no	moderate	good
	Cherry	yes	poor	no	few	excellent
	Cedar	yes	excellent	yes	many	poor
	Elm	no	fair	medium	very few	good
	Hemlock	yes	good	medium	many	poor
	Hickory	yes	fair	no	moderate	excellent
	Locusts (black)	no	poor	no	very few	excellent
	Maple (sugar)	yes	poor	no	few	excellent
	Oak (red)	yes	poor	no	few	excellent
	Pine (white)	yes	excellent	medium	moderate	poor
	Spruce (Norway)	no	good	yes	moderate	poor
Willow	yes	fair	no	few	poor	

Fireplace can cost you money

The warm, cheery glow from your fireplace on a chilly night this winter might be costing you more than you think.

A fireplace is a potential energy waster because as much as 30 percent of the conditioned air within the home may be lost up the chimney. When the fire is burning, not only the greater part of the heat generated by the fire itself is lost, but a lot of expensive heated air in your home is also being sucked up the chimney.

If you install or have a fireplace, it can become much more efficient if it is fitted with a tight fitting damper and a glass front. To further increase efficiency, an outside air duct system could be installed to serve the fire, preventing any conditioned air inside the home from being used to keep the fire burning.

Here are a few tips concerning fireplace use:

- Don't use your fireplace for supplemental heating when your usual heat is on unless you take one of the measures listed below to prevent or lessen heat loss.
- Be sure your fireplace duct is closed whenever the fire is not burning.
- When buying or installing a fireplace, make sure the fire is fed by an outside air inlet.
- All joints must be thoroughly caulked at intersections of walls with fireplace masonry, and wall insulation must be extended to ceiling height around the fireplace (use caution to avoid fire hazard).
- Different woods have different heating values, as well as different starting, smoke and spark characteristics. Select wood which offers the best value for the price.
- Inspect and maintain your fireplace. Too much ash and soot reduce efficiency and may cause hazards.