



# High Line News

217-742-3128

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC CO. WINCHESTER, ILLINOIS



## Across the Manager's Desk

by Robert E. Gant

The completion of the refinancing and restructuring of the Clinton debt for WIPCO (Western Illinois Power Cooperative) should be a very important item for the members of Illinois Rural Electric Co.

Even though it seems slow, progress is being made. Soyland and WIPCO have been operating their two systems as one for nearly two years. For the stabilization of rates, this power pooling arrangement is very important to the consumers of these 22 distribution cooperatives. Since their situations are different, it was necessary for the two G&T's, generation and transmission cooperatives, to submit separate requests for the refinancing of their Federal Financing Bank (FFB) notes. During the second week of October, Soyland was notified that their application was approved, thus, allowing them to restructure this debt. For Soyland and

WIPCO this was yet another step in the program of rate stabilization.

At a board meeting of the WIPCO board late in September, the board decided to pay only the part of the debt service payment that could be paid without the cooperative borrowing any money to pay the entire payment to the Rural Electrification Administration (REA).

During October more progress was made on the restructuring and refinancing of WIPCO's Clinton debt, through negotiations. However, more time will be needed to reach the full objective of these parties. At a special meeting on October 27, the WIPCO board decided to go ahead and borrow the funds necessary to complete the payment which had been delayed earlier.

Before the next quarterly payment, which was due at the end of December, a thorough study of the options was planned.

Since the Clinton plant has now loaded fuel, it should be producing some power under test conditions soon. Testing will proceed throughout the winter and spring at various power levels. It is expected to be producing full power by the end of the third quarter of 1987.

## Board meeting report

The board of directors held their regular meeting on December 1, 1986. All of the directors were present at the board meeting, along with manager Robert E. Gant, and represented by attorney Robert Bonjean. Also at our board meeting was member Nick Demerath of Golden Eagle.

The minutes of the regular board meeting of the November board meeting were considered and approved.

The financial report for the month of October was considered and there was a considerable amount of questions concerning the monthly income and expenses, as well as the year end figures. The cooperative had experienced an operating margin for the month of October, primarily because of not paying all of the equity funding that was due for the month of October to the power supplier. All of the expenses were close to the 1986 budget and the Member Services Department had sold 14 appliances and had shown a profit for the month.

The directors considered the accounts paid report,

and after some discussion concerning certain checks, the report was approved. The manager then presented his monthly construction and maintenance report, as well as the purchase and sales of electrical energy for the month of October. He concluded by saying that the sales of the cooperative for 1986 would be up about one million kilowatt-hours over 1985.

The chairman then asked the manager to discuss the cash flow study, relative to the paying of equity funding to the power supplier. The manager presented a cash flow study and explained to the directors the cash position of the cooperative in order to determine whether it would be feasible to pay additional equity funding to the power supplier. It was determined that the minimum amount of equity funding would be paid for the month of November.

The board of directors next considered its options on the repricing of two long-term loans with CFC and on both notes chose to take option 1 to set the fixed rate of interest for the next seven year period on this

*(Continued on page 12d)*



Old State Capitol, Springfield



U.S. Capitol, Washington

# Capital experiences

Twenty students in high schools in the Illinois Rural Electric Co. service area will have the opportunity to win one-day tours to Springfield, and two of the 20 will win week-long, all-expenses-paid tours to Washington, D.C., in the cooperative's essay contest. The day in Springfield will feature visits to historic and government sites, while the Washington tour will include travels to many of that city's attractions, as well as a side trip to Gettysburg National Battlefield.



State Senator Vince Demuzio greets semifinalists



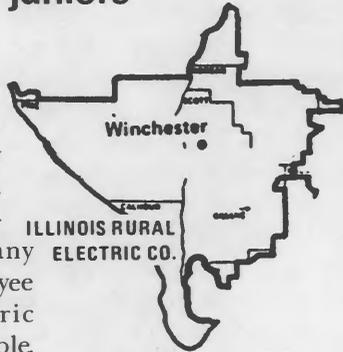
(Left) State Representatives Tom Ryder (standing) and Gary Hannig during dinner in Springfield. (Right) Students gather in Springfield for start of week-long tour to Washington.

# Win a free one-week trip to Washington

## Who may enter

High school sophomores and juniors

Any high school sophomore or junior living in a residence served by Illinois Rural Electric Co. Members of an immediate family of any board member or employee of a rural electric cooperative are not eligible.



Semifinalists during Springfield trip

## Rules of the contest

Each student will be required to write an essay (in their own words) on "Illinois Rural Electric Co.: a community asset" and submit it to Illinois Rural Electric Co., 2-12 South Main Street, Winchester, Illinois 62694, on or before March 13. Essays are to be typewritten on 8½ by 11 inch paper, one side only, double spaced and not exceed 1,000 words. Washington, D.C., trip winners will be required to attend Illinois Rural Electric Co.'s annual meeting and give a brief presentation about their Springfield and Washington trips. Resource material will be mailed to you upon receipt of entry coupon or may be picked up at Illinois Rural Electric Co.'s Member Service Department in Winchester.

One student from each side of the Illinois River will be awarded an all-expense-paid, seven-day trip to Washington, D.C., June 12-19, 1987.

## In addition

Ten semi-finalists from each side of the Illinois River will receive a free trip to their state capital in Springfield, which includes:

- Get-acquainted session at the Ramada Renaissance Hotel with other students from cooperatives throughout the state
- Tour of Springfield's historic sites including the Governor's Mansion, Lincoln's Home, State Capitol Building, Illinois State Museum and the Old State Capitol
- Enjoy a dinner night with Senators and Representatives and other elected officials on Wednesday, April 8.
- Chaperones and all arrangements of the day are to be taken care of by Illinois Rural Electric Co. Transportation will be provided from Illinois Rural Electric Co.'s office in Winchester.

Use the coupon below to enter.



Cindy Benz (left) of Kane and Tina Booth of Rockport won the 1986 IREC "Youth to Washington" essay contest.

## 1986 Washington tour winners

Clip and Mail to:

Illinois Rural Electric Co.

2-12 South Main

Winchester, Illinois 62694 Date \_\_\_\_\_

Attn: George R. Lindsey

I wish to enter the "Youth to Washington" essay contest.

(Name of Applicant) \_\_\_\_\_ (Age) \_\_\_\_\_

(Name of Parents) \_\_\_\_\_

(Mailing Address) \_\_\_\_\_

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

(High School) \_\_\_\_\_ (Class/Year) \_\_\_\_\_

(Continued from page 12a)

long-term debt.

Attorney Bob Bonjean next reported on the lawsuit pending in Sangamon County Court on the territorial dispute between Fuchs vs. Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative and CIPS Company. Bonjean reported on the hearing which was held and he stated that a summary judgement motion was presented and the judge had some questions that needed to be answered before he could make a final decision. Bonjean also reported on the status of the loss-of-load cases and the relation to the Fuchs vs. Rural Electric Convenience case.

The chairman next reported on the regular meeting of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, to which he is a delegate. He reported on the financial reports given at the board meeting relative to the association budget and reported on the proposed \$3 million coverage for directors and officers liability insurance. He reported to the board relative to a new advertising program for the REN magazine, in which they were able to give a cheaper price for certain membership advertising. He stated that the board had a report of the marketing activities of the Member Services Department through Task Force 3, concerning the various energy uses that were being promoted by the task force, those being water heater promotions, electric heat promotions and the work being done toward a ground water heat pump program. One of the panel members also reported on the industrial development profile that is being developed in each cooperative territory. The chairman reported that Carl Dufner of the Engineering Department reported that he had completed a power requirement study for WIPCO and the seven distribution cooperatives and was working on a rate study for Clinton County Electric.

The chairman next asked for a report from directors who had attended one of the continuing education

courses being given by the AIEC, concerning current issues of board concern. The manager also reported to the board of the upcoming course and urged directors to register for the course if they had not already taken the particular course.

The chairman then asked the manager to report on the regular meeting of WIPCO and the manager stated that all directors were at the meeting, except Rural Electric Convenience. The chairman gave a report to the board relative to the restructuring of the debt and refinancing of the WIPCO debt in a meeting they had with the Work Out Committee at REA in Washington. Reports were given to the board of directors concerning the operation of WIPCO by staff people of WIPCO, mainly the operation of the Pearl plant, the operation of the transmission substation system of WIPCO and Greenwood reported on the fuel loading at the Clinton nuclear plant and the various steps in getting that plant to the critical stage of generating electricity.

The manager reported to the board relative to the upcoming Western Illinois Power Cooperative annual meeting to be held on March 11 and certified the delegation from Illinois Rural to that meeting.

The chairman then asked the board to refund two membership fees for two members making requests for that fee.

The manager asked the board for permission to purchase some solid state regulator controls for six of our 32 step-line regulators to update those regulators to solid state electronic control for better operation of those regulators.

The chairman stated there had been two accidents reported during the month, but neither was a loss-of-time accident.

There were 45 memberships that were executed by the officers, all of which were qualified for membership in the cooperative in accordance with the bylaws.

## TO ALL MEMBERS WHO HAVE AN ELECTRIC WATER HEATER

If you have turned in the coupon below before, you are on the electric water heater rate and a credit is showing on your electric bill and you don't have to turn in this one.

But, if you have an electric water heater and

have not turned in a coupon, then you are paying more for your kilowatt-hours to heat water and we URGE you to turn in this coupon.

The all-electric homes and offices are on the rate.

### Clip and Mail:

To:

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC CO.  
2-12 South Main St.  
Winchester, Illinois 62694  
Attn: George R. Lindsey

### IMPORTANT

If you have an electric water heater you must send in the COUPON to Illinois Rural Electric Co. so one of our employees can check the heater and see that you get on the NEW HEATER RATE: This can save you up to \$20.00 each month.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TOWN \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

- Yes, I would like a new water heater, from IREC.
- I am the home owner.
- I would like for you to check my water heater and put me on the special rate.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_



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## Across the Manager's Desk

by Robert E. Gant

Quantities designated by familiar measures — such as the foot, pound or cup — are easily appreciated because they can be seen.

Not surprisingly, few people can appreciate the quantity described by the measure called a kilowatt-hour. The commodity is invisible.

In order to visualize a kilowatt-hour (kwh), let's relate it to the amount of work done by a person.

In the home, a person would have to beat a batter mixture at an incredible speed, steadily, for 10 hours, to generate energy equal to one kwh.

Using an old-fashioned treadle sewing machine, a

person would have to pedal at top speed for 13 hours to generate energy equal to one kwh.

A person working steadily with a hand pump for one hour can pump 4,000 gallons of water out of a 25-foot well. A one kwh motor running for one hour, pumping out of a 25-foot well, will pump 10,000 gallons.

A person shoveling a foot of snow off a driveway 10 feet wide does about 23 footpounds of work per shovelful (assuming one cubic foot of snow equals six pounds per shovelful). The person would have to clear a driveway two miles long to generate energy equal to one kwh.

Imagine a 150-pound person climbing a 1,000-foot flight of stairs. He would have to climb the stairs nearly 18 times to generate enough energy to equal one kwh.

Using these comparisons, it becomes obvious that paying approximately six and one-half cents for a kwh of electricity, is still far and away the biggest bargain in anybody's budget. In fact, a recent USA TODAY survey found that 34 percent of all Americans felt electricity was the greatest invention of all times; the next closest was the wheel at 11 percent.

## Board meeting report

The board of directors met at the office of the cooperative on January 5 at 1:30 p.m. All directors were present, along with the manager, office manager, member service director and the attorney for the Cooperative. The minutes were approved as mailed with the notice of the meeting. The financial report was then reviewed and the manager gave his report, in which he stated a small margin was achieved for November, basically, because we paid an additional \$120,000 in equity funding and when the condition of cash and cash flow study were reviewed, it was determined that the cooperative would try to make about a 1.5 TIER for 1986 and pay additional margins to the power supplier.

The directors then considered the accounts paid report and after some questions, approved the accounts paid report. In the construction and maintenance report, the manager stated that November loads were down over the year before, but the total kilowatt-hour purchases were up over last year and sales were up over 1985. The chairman noted in the load building report that the Member Service Department had sold nine appliances during the month and even though they had

lost money for the month of November, they were presently showing a margin for the year.

The chairman next stated that the operating budget for 1987 was the next item on the agenda and asked the manager to go through the report page by page, and after it was thoroughly explained, it was approved as mailed with the notice of the meeting.

The capital expenditures budget was then taken up with discussions concerning capital items that need to be budgeted and purchased in 1987; these primarily being transportation equipment, shop and garage equipment, radio equipment and computer equipment. In the area of improvements to the distribution system, the major items set forth in the annual work plan for 1987 were presented, along with a number of new services, the revamping of 260 existing services, with the installation of 110 security lights. Also, the replacement of 650 poles and the installation of an additional 50 oil circuit reclosers.

The chairman then took up the Member Service Department budget for the year 1987 and discussed the various activities of that department, which are included in the Member Service Department budget.

As a part of the Member Service Department budget, the load building budget was set out, describing those activities for the year 1987. Also as part of the Member Service Budget, the energy conservation budget was presented for 1987 and approved.

The chairman then stated that a meeting of Western Illinois Power Cooperative had been held on December 12, in which a new director from Spoon River was seated to replace retiring director Lee Duncan. The chairman stated that Jim Greenwood was at the meeting and reported on the status of the Clinton plant construction. He stated that the reactor vessel head had been put in place and that the fuel control rods had been tested, with all fuel being loaded. He stated that the first radioactive waste had been processed at Clinton. It was extremely low level, but it did give a chance to use their waste facilities. He stated the licensed operators are being re-licensed and all licensed personnel have been receiving simulator re-training for the plant. The directors at WIPCO heard a report from Galen Rothering, concerning the operation of the Pearl Plant, which has been operating at full capacity during October. A full annual budget was presented by Ed Williams at the meeting for the Soyland-WIPCO pool, of which the suppositions in the budget depend on WIPCO getting some restructuring for the Clinton debt. The restructuring of this debt is still being negotiated with the work-out committee in Washington, D.C.

The chairman next reported that selection of candidates to be elected as directors on the WIPCO board at their annual meeting on March 11 were then nominated by the board. They were chairman Harvey Vortman and manager Robert E. Gant.

The board of directors wrote off to the reserve, delinquent accounts for six months that had been accrued by the cooperative. These accounts were more than a year old and had been deemed uncollectible by our collecting agency.

The board of directors approved the cooperative's participation of employees in NRECA's Deferred Compensation Plan that is being offered by the national program.

The chairman reported on the meeting of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives held in Springfield on December 18, in which he stated they had approved the dates for the annual meeting of that

Association to be on August 4-6, 1987. The chairman reported they heard reports by the chairman of the Energy, Environmental and Engineering Committee, relative to the activities of that department. The director of Legal and Public Affairs Department wound up the report of the 84th General Assembly and discussed some of the possible bills for the next session of the General Assembly. He reported on the annual meeting of the Illinois Farm Bureau as it related to Illinois Rural Cooperatives and their recommendations on refinancing and restructuring of the debt of the Clinton plant. The chairman gave a short report on the consolidation of Eastern Illinois Power Cooperative and Illini Electric Cooperative, which may take place after approval by their members at annual meetings to be held in February.

The board heard reports by various directors relative to the Continuing Education Program, which some directors had attended at the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, as part of the Continuing Education Program. The presentation was called, "Planning and Control," which the course focused mainly on the board of directors role in planning and control of the cooperative.

The board of directors passed a resolution to borrow additional money from REA and CFC to cover the cost of a two year work plan, which had been prepared by the system's engineer to cover the year 1987 and 1988. Seventy percent of these loan funds may be borrowed from REA and the balance of 30% is borrowed from CFC.

The chairman stated because of the attendance by the board of directors at the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association annual meeting on the first of February, it would be necessary to change the regular February board meeting date. It was decided that the next regular board meeting would be held on January 29.

The chairman reported there were no loss of time accidents during the month and reminded the board of a district meeting to be held on January 8 at the Blackhawk in Jacksonville, in which the attorneys for the FRIER law suit would explain their law suit and positions they wished the cooperatives to take.

There were 41 memberships in the cooperative that were approved and executed by the officers.

The meeting was adjourned.

## **High school sophomores and juniors!**

There is still plenty of time left to enter the 1987 Illinois Rural Electric Co. "Youth to Washington" essay contest. Two students from the service area will win week-long tours to Washington, D.C., in June and 10 semi-finalists from each side of the Illinois River will win one-day tours to Springfield in April. See the January 1987 issue of the Illinois Rural Electric News or contact George Lindsey at IREC for entry information.

# Board considering TV package

Over the past several months, you may have read about a proposed program that would extend the benefits of telecommunications into rural areas not served by cable television. A new national cooperative organized by two Washington, D.C., rural electric groups, has been formed to ensure that high-quality and affordable telecommunications are made available to rural America.

Your electric cooperative board has taken an interest in the efforts of the National Rural Telecommunications Cooperative, formed by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association and the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation, to develop and deliver telecommunications services, including programming available by satellite, to rural people.

The board has authorized the staff to explore the possibilities of Illinois Rural Electric Co. becoming a member of the NRTC and offering to its members the services that would be available. We are printing a coupon below that we ask you to complete and return to the office. The responses we receive will be important input into the decision-making process necessary to determine whether IREC moves forward with the program and makes the services available.

The program is a satellite receiver (dish) concept that would include descrambling equipment and a relatively low monthly cost for participants.

We've emphasized the terms "high-quality" and "affordable" to convey what the board sees as important considerations in its decision and your possible decision. While the costs are not yet established, the cooperative will offer its members a high-quality, reliable hardware package, descrambling equipment at as low a cost as possible and a monthly fee for descrambled premium channels also as low as possible. The board believes the equipment (receiver,

descrambler, etc.) will be available from IREC at a cost lower than any other supplier, and that the monthly fee will be many times lower than others who may offer such service.

One firm offering similar services to satellite dish owners has monthly fees that range from \$40 per month up to more than \$70, on top equipment costs. Although definite arrangements have not been made with premium channel companies, the NRTC plans to offer an attractive variety of channels for a much lower, affordable price. This low monthly fee, coupled with the economically priced hardware, makes this a promising entertainment, news and information package for rural residents.

While a number of IREC members already have satellite receiver systems installed, they face the potential that scrambling of certain signals will reduce their viewing selection. Some of the stations or television services that are now scrambled or will be scrambled soon have suggested some high monthly costs for use of the signal. What the NRTC proposal calls for is a comprehensive programming package of news, entertainment and information available to rural consumers at a low monthly cost.

Just as rural electric cooperatives took the lead back in the 1930s to take electricity to the countryside, this new plan embodies some of the same pioneering spirit and in many ways is reminiscent of the early days of rural electrification.

Your cooperative board is very interested in this proposal. However, the directors want to make sure enough of the members see this as something they want before launching such a program.

Please take time to complete the coupon below and return to the office in Winchester.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

I'm interested in a complete satellite system (receiver dish, descrambler and premium channels at a low monthly cost).

I am interested in the descrambler and premium channels at a low monthly cost. I have a satellite receiver now.

I am interested in a satellite receiver system only. I do not want a descrambler or the premium channels.

Complete and return to Member Services Department, Attention Steve Wisdom, Illinois Rural Electric Co., 2-12 S. Main, Winchester, IL 62694 or telephone (217)742-3128.



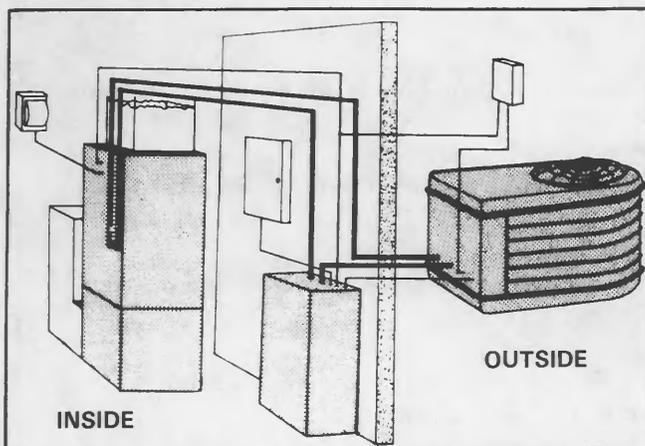
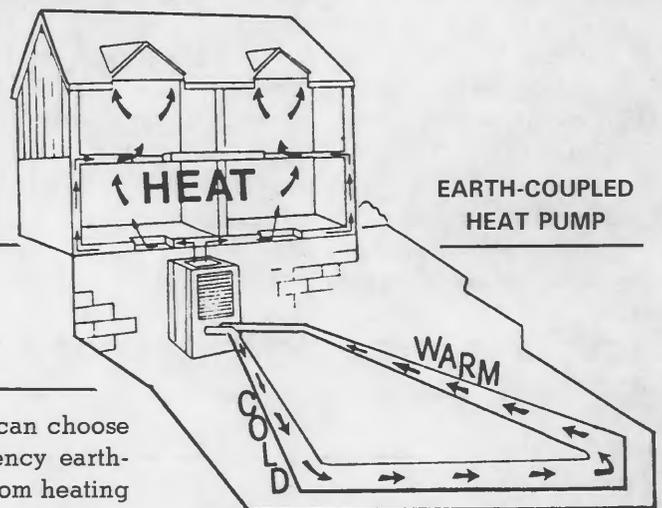
Bryan Bower, son of Robert F. and Colette Bower of rural Barry, is the winner of the 1986 national FFA Agricultural Electrification Proficiency Award. From left are Richard Hiatt, associate manager of the National Food and Energy Council; Douglas Howison, national sales manager of Klein Tools, Inc., and Bryan. The National Food and Energy Council and Klein Tools are co-sponsors of the program. Bryan was the Illinois winner in the category and won regional competition to advance to the national contest. He won a plaque, \$250 and a month-long tour of Europe for winning the national award.

## There's an electric heating system just right for your home!

Whatever your needs, electric heat is just right.

Save money. Don't heat space you don't need.

Electric heating provides a variety of possibilities. You can choose a whole-house heating system such as the high-efficiency earth-coupled heat pump, or the convenience of individual room heating such as baseboard heating units.





# High Line News

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ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC CO. WINCHESTER, ILLINOIS



## Across the Manager's Desk

by Robert E. Gant

### Be careful around lines

Power lines are present in our lives today. They are everywhere because they carry the electricity which is such an indispensable feature of modern life.

Because electricity is so commonplace, we sometimes fail to respect this awesome power that flows along power lines.

Electricity, for all practical purposes, is no different from lightning. Its flow is ordinarily controlled, of course, and is entirely safe when used with proper precautions.

But, just like lightning, electricity constantly seeks a path to the ground. That is why wiring has insulation — to prevent the current from taking a direct path to the ground rather than through our electrically powered machinery and appliances.

When a human body becomes a direct link between a power line and the earth, the result can be disastrous. Note the following warnings:

**Flying kites or model airplanes** — When kite strings or metal guy wires touch live power lines, they can provide a path to the ground electricity seeks, making the final part of the journey through the body of the person holding the string or wire.

### Board meeting report

The board of directors held its regular meeting on January 29. All of the directors were present, along with manager Robert E. Gant and attorney Robert Bonjean. Also present was the new member and public relations director, Mark Martin.

The minutes of the regular board meeting of January 5 were considered and approved. The financial report for the month of December was considered and since this report represented the end of the year, there was a considerable amount of discussion concerning the year-end figures and the cooperative's financial position for 1986. As part of the operating report, the

**Tree climbing** — Youngsters are always climbing trees. But where power lines run between limbs or touch parts of the tree, innocent fun could turn to tragedy.

**Farm equipment** — When using farm equipment, be especially careful not to let it come in contact with overhead wiring. Should this happen while you or someone else is touching the equipment, you could again provide that lethal link to the ground for electricity.

**Ladders** — Be particularly careful when moving a ladder near a power line. It can easily tilt into a live wire and electrocute its holder.

**Antennas** — Being cumbersome and hard to control, antennas are especially dangerous to move about near an electric line. Use caution when installing or replacing an antenna.

To be safe, keep all objects at least 10 feet away from power lines and **never** attempt to raise or move an electric line. Call your Cooperative for assistance in dealing with live electric lines.

#### Mark your calendar!

July							1987	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
			1	2	3	4		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
26	27	28	29	30	31			

**Illinois Rural Electric Co. Annual Meeting**

**Wednesday, July 15  
Scott County 4-H Fairgrounds  
Winchester**

flow study was explained by the manager, and the directors decided to pay the minimum amount of equity funding to the power supplier for the next two months.

An agreement was entered into with Western Illinois Power Cooperative for Illinois Rural Electric Co. to pay the balance of the equity funding plan over the next 10 years with a minimum amount being \$10,000 a month until the equity funding balance was complete. This will fulfill the equity funding obligation without an impact on the retail rate to members.

The chairman asked the attorney to discuss with the board the latest developments on the FRIER law suit in which attorney Bonjean discussed the hearing on motions on January 14 in Sangamon County court and the impact of those rulings upon Illinois Rural Electric Co. After fully discussing the FRIER suit, the board drafted a resolution to recommend to Western Illinois Power Cooperative that it institute legal proceedings against Illinois Power because of the cost over-runs at the Clinton nuclear plant.

The chairman then asked the manager to report on the regular WIPCO board meeting held on January 9, in which the manager stated that the Pearl steam plant was running very well, and it is being dispatched by Illinois Power Company in the pool. He stated that Jim Greenwood attended our meeting to report on the status of the Clinton plant, in which testing is continuing after the loading of fuel and the plant is due to begin generating at any time. Jim also reported that Illinois Power is continuing to relicense its operators. The manager also stated the Doug Dougherty, economic development specialist for Soyland Power Cooperative, reported to our WIPCO board meeting on the latest economic developments in the Soyland-WIPCO service area.

The board of directors approved the manager's certification to CFC for the year 1986.

The board of directors selected an annual meeting date for 1987. Their consideration of this date was to work around the various county fair dates throughout our territory, and it was selected to be July 15.

The chairman reported on the regular board

meeting of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives and one of the activities was a report by attorney James Craven, who addressed the state association board relative to the FRIER suit and his recommendation for the cooperatives to file as a nominal defendant. The chairman reported that plans for the Youth-to-Washington activities were progressing and reminded all sophomores and juniors to enter the Essay Contest to win a free trip to Washington D.C., on June 12-19.

The chairman then reported on the latest continuing education courses for directors, which a number of Illinois Rural's directors had attended. The manager then reminded the directors of the next upcoming course of March 3 and 4.

The chairman then introduced the subject of a 10-year financial forecast, in which the manager then thoroughly discussed the financial forecast which is a financial tool and is needed as one of the elements in applying for a construction loan from REA. After thorough discussion, the board approved the 10-year financial forecast.

The board of directors approved a lease agreement with the City of Winchester to allow the cooperative to run a cable across South Hill Street to our Member Service Department to allow that department to be tied into our main frame computer in the main office.

The chairman then asked the manager to report on the telecommunications services that are being offered by NRECA. The manager stated that Illinois Rural was sending out a questionnaire to its members to see if the membership is interested in Illinois Rural providing some telecommunications services, such as monthly programming to members who have a telecommunications dish, or would be interested in purchasing a dish or renting a dish to have telecommunication service in their home.

There were 20 memberships that were approved at the board meeting.

This board meeting was then adjourned until February 16, 1987.

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## Take advantage of electric heat rates

Illinois Rural Electric Co. continues its rate reduction offer for cooperative members who heat their homes electrically. Your cooperative is trimming electric heat rates from 5½ cents/kilowatt-hour to 4 cents/kwh. This rate applies only to all electric homes.

In addition, IREC is offering an incentive rebate program for cooperative members. If your home is 1,500 square feet or larger (excluding the basement) you qualify for a \$1,500 rebate by installing an electric heating system. Homes that are 800 to 1,500 square feet in size qualify for a \$1,000 rebate for a new electric heat installation.

These rebates are available to help cover the cost of installing a complete home heating system in a new home or converting the system in an existing home. A representative of the cooperative's member service department will inspect each home qualifying for this program.

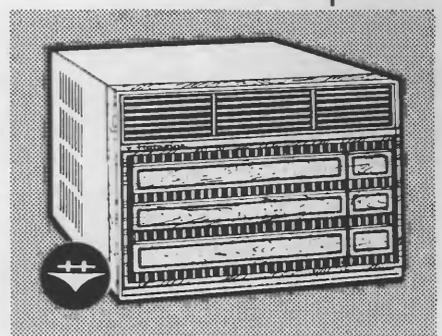
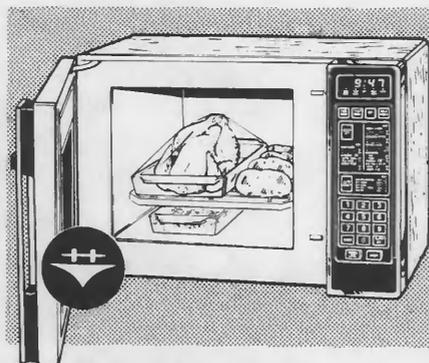
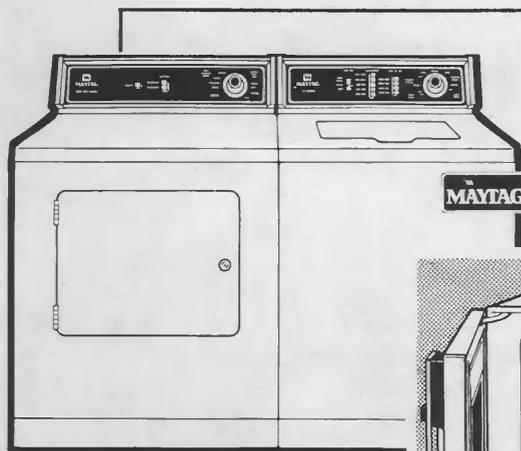
Your cooperative has received special funding from WIPCO to implement this program which began last fall. This limited funding is available on a first-come, first-served basis and several members have already taken advantage of the program. To find out more about how you can heat your home the clean, safe, electric way, and receive a rebate of up to \$1,500, contact your Illinois Rural Electric Co. member service department.

# Services offered by Illinois Rural Electric Co.'s Member Service Department

1. Various types of electric heat installations.
2. Complete home and farmstead wiring.
3. Home insulation, if member wants to do his own work he can pick up the insulation at a good price and rent the machine for \$5 per day to do the job.
4. Complete line of Hotpoint and Maytag appliances.
5. Energy Saver Plus electric water heaters.
6. Portable electric space heaters.
7. Complete electric installations for grain drying and grain and feed handling equipment.
8. Repairs on all major appliances.
9. Sale of West Bend small appliances.
10. Install underground services.
11. Repair inoperative equipment and wiring.
12. Over-the-counter sales of wiring equipment to Illinois Rural Electric Co. members only.
13. Work with member or contractor on sizing electric heating and central air conditioning equipment.
14. Recommend proper insulation and ventilation.
15. Special sale on all major appliances at our Annual Meeting on July 15, 1987.
16. All (1) one or (2) man service calls in our service area include 30 minutes of work, "no mileage charge."



17. Our headquarters is in Winchester but our service charges are the same for all of our members regardless of where they live in our service area.
18. A policy adopted by the board of directors and manager of IREC allows for the extension of credit to co-op members who live on IREC's lines and who meet IREC's credit standards. The merchandise purchased on credit must go on the co-op lines and a schedule of payments arranged with the Member Service Department.



**Hotpoint**

- Hi-efficiency Custom Classic - 7.9 EER
- 18,500 BTU
- 230/208 Volts
- 3 Speeds
- Energy-Saver
- Save Energy Range
- Vent control
- Wood grain look.

**Hotpoint**

**Ask about our credit plan**

**Visit our appliance store at 15 South Walnut, Winchester, Illinois**



With the Amazing  
**Lime Eliminator™**

Self-Cleaning  
Reduces Lime Build-up  
Automatically

CLIP AND MAIL:

To:  
ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC CO.  
2-12 South Main St.,  
Winchester, Illinois 62694  
Attn: Steve Wisdom

IMPORTANT

If you have an electric water heater you must send in the COUPON to Illinois Rural Electric Co. so one of our employees can check the heater and see that you get on the NEW HEATER RATE: This can save you up to \$20.00 each month.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TOWN \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

- Yes, I would like a new water heater, from IREC.  
 I am the home owner.  
 I would like for you to check my water heater and put me on the special rate.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Your electric Service Saver can pay for itself with Energy Savings. See how much you can save.

\*Note below for details.

82 Gallon	Operating Cost/Savings		
	1 Year	7½ Years	10 Years
Standard Model	\$557	\$5,361	\$11,297
Service Saver	\$438	\$4,216	\$ 8,901
Savings	\$119	\$1,145	\$ 2,396

\*These charts compare our "Standard" model and our new "Service Saver™" model, supplying 64.3 gallons of hot water per day, heated thru a 90° temperature rise. These figures are based on results of tests prescribed by the Department of Energy, as published in the October 4, 1977 Federal Register, under "Test Procedures for Water Heaters." Energy costs used in charts were published in the Federal Register on Sept. 12, 1983.

Your cost will vary depending on your local energy rate and how you use the product.

These estimates are based on a national average electric rate of 7.63¢ per kilowatt hour

Save up to \$20  
a month on your  
electric bill from  
Illinois Rural  
Electric Co.

It isn't often you get the opportunity to save \$20 a month. That's \$240 per year. No gimmicks, either.

Just sign up for the new Illinois Rural Electric Co. electric water heater rate. It's simple! If you are a member of the electric cooperative and you operate an electric water heater, you're eligible for the new rate. It's a five cent per kilowatt-hour reduction for 400 kilowatt-hours per month. If you use the maximum, you'll save \$20 a month. No timers or other restrictions, either.

Here's another deal! Illinois Rural Electric Co. will sell its member-owners an "Energy Saver Plus" high-technology electric water heater for the unheard-of price of \$125. Cooperative personnel will deliver the water heater unit and place it as close to the installation area as possible. Installation and removal of the old unit are the responsibility of the member.

The cooperative's new electric water heater rate went into effect January 1, 1986. Get signed up now. Better yet, get signed up and order your new money-saving, energy-efficient electric water heater from Illinois Rural Electric Co. For more information, call Steve Wisdom at 742-3128.

If you prefer, clip the coupon in this ad and return it to the cooperative. Then sit back and wait. Your cooperative personnel will call on you soon!



217-742-3128

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC CO. WINCHESTER, ILLINOIS

# High Line News



## Across the Manager's Desk

by Robert E. Gant

Tornadoes strike Illinois during all months. In an average year, nine tornadoes will strike Illinois. Statistics from previous years indicate most of these will hit between March and June.

Illinois is eighth among states in number of tornadoes per year. Due to our population concentration, we rank first in the number of deaths and second in total damages.

Twisters may hit any part of the state, but an area of tornado high occurrence, described by some as a "tornado alley," exits from Missouri and sweeps northeast through the state.

Tornadoes occur in many shapes, from the funnel-shaped tornado of Wizard of Oz fame to some that resemble ropes that dance and flutter. Others are seen moving in the clouds, and not at ground level. These may be creating havoc on the ground, but simply not picking up visible debris. The Great Tri-State Tornado of 1925 looked like a dark, menacing thunderstorm until it hit; the first and only warning being a loud "whoosh."

There are three types of tornadoes, according to the Atmospheric Sciences Section of the Illinois Water Survey. Small tornadoes with diameters of tens of yards and ground paths of one to two miles appear as "dancing ropes." Medium-sized tornadoes with diameters of 100 to 300 yards and a path of five to 15 miles will often appear as the traditional funnel and are potentially quite destructive. Large tornadoes with diameters of one-half to one and one-half miles and a path of up to 150 miles have funnels so large that they are seldom identifiable as a funnel. They account for only 1 percent of all tornadoes, but cause 20 per-

cent of all damage in the U.S. Most tornadoes are connected to the southwest corner of a thunderstorm cloud which is usually moving from southwest to northeast and, because of this, a thunderstorm may have moved to the north of a site before its twister strikes.

Predicting the time of occurrence by past performance, it seems that 40 percent of all tornadoes in Illinois occur from 3-6 p.m. and 70 percent occur from 2-8 p.m. According to these facts, 15-20 percent of tornadoes will strike during the dark of night.

**Tornado watch:** Informs public that conditions are favorable and probabilities highest for this type of storm.

**Tornado warning:** Tells us a tornado has been sighted and we should seek shelter.

Where you are when a tornado warning is sounded determines what safety measures you may initiate. Some general guidelines provided by the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the National Weather Service include:

**In homes:** The basement offers the greatest safety. Seek shelter under sturdy furniture if possible. In homes without basements, take cover in the center part of the house on the lowest floor and in a small room or closet. Keep some windows open, but stay away from them.

**In mobile homes:** Mobile homes are particularly vulnerable to destructive winds. Proper tie-downs to prevent overturning will minimize damage. There should be a designated community shelter where mobile home residents can assemble during a warning. If there is no such shelter, do not stay in a mobile home during a tornado warning.

**In open country:** If there is no time to find suitable shelter, lie flat in the nearest depression such as a ditch or ravine.

**In office building:** Go to an interior hallway on the lowest floor, or to the designated shelter area.

If a warning occurs while you are shopping, seek shelter inside a solidly built building. Avoid buildings with a wide free-span roof. Do not attempt a mad dash to your parked car.

During unsettled weather, do not call your weather bureau except to report a tornado sighting. Following a storm, beware of structural damage in buildings, electrical hazards and fire hazards such as gas or oil leaks and broken electrical wires.

**NOTICE**  
**Illinois Rural Electric Co.**  
**Annual Meeting**  
**Wednesday, July 15**



# Crime Watch

A unique statewide rural "Crime Watch" program is under way in the Illinois Rural Electric Co. service area, taking advantage of assistance and cooperation between local law enforcement agencies and IREC.

Illinois Rural Electric personnel using cooperative radio-equipped vehicles will attempt to help reduce crime by notifying local and state law authorities of suspicious persons, crimes in progress, threatening weather conditions, accidents, fires and other emergencies. All radio-equipped cooperative vehicles are clearly marked with specially designed "Crime Watch" decals easily seen by cooperative members and the public.

The Illinois Electric Cooperative Crime Watch program has been endorsed by the Illinois Sheriff's Association, which helped to develop it with the Illinois

electric cooperative representatives.

Rural crime has been on a steady, if not spectacular increase across the country in recent years. An FBI report cites a 600 percent increase in rural crime in the last 15 years and serious crimes are increasing in rural areas 43 percent faster than in urban areas.

In the eight years from 1972 to 1980, the number of motor vehicle thefts in rural Illinois rose 139 percent, according to state crime statistics. The number of rural robberies during that period rose 84 percent, the number of rural murders increased by 40 percent and forcible rapes increased by 156 percent.

The most effective method to combat this crime wave is through citizen involvement, according to many studies. A report by the Illinois State University depart-



Left: Manager Gant shows where the Crime Watch sticker will be placed on the cooperative's trucks. At the left is Larry Snyder, Pittsfield Chief of Police, while IREC employee Dwight Ala is in the cab. Right: From left, Trooper Roger Fox, Capt. Jim Aggert, Scott Sheriff Ken Lawson, South Jacksonville Chief of Police Richard Evans and Winchester Chief of Police George Lindsey, Jr., pose in front of one of the cooperative's large trucks. The driver is Ed Dolen.

ment of criminal justice sciences notes that "a crime prevention program that does not require citizen involvement and participation will probably fail."

Illinois Rural Electric Co. manager Robert E. Gant has high hopes for the IEC Crime Watch program. He said the cooperative board of directors and employees are pleased that IREC is able to help the rural community do something about rural crime.

"Cooperative employees routinely travel across the remote areas of the cooperative's service area doing their jobs. We care about our neighbors and our communities, and as cooperative employees we can help solve this increasing crime problem by working as the 'eyes and ears' for our local authorities," Gant said.

Illinois Rural Electric personnel met in March with the following law enforcement officers: county sheriff departments from Scott, Pike, Greene, Morgan and Calhoun counties; State Police from Districts 9, 18 and 20, and city police departments from Winchester, Jacksonville, South Jacksonville, Carrollton, Pittsfield, Hardin and other city law enforcement officers in the

service area. The officers answered questions and offered their suggestions about the program. The Crime Watch program has been endorsed by the above law enforcement officers and other law enforcement personnel in the area. Cooperative employees have received IEC Crime Watch kits with decals for vehicles, explanations of their role in the program, and sheets for noting descriptions of vehicles and people involved in suspicious acts. A Crime Watch workshop with Illinois Rural Electric employees was held prior to the start of the program.

To make reports, cooperative employees will use their two-way radios to inform the Illinois Rural Electric dispatcher of a rural emergency, then give the details of the situation. The dispatcher will then contact the proper authorities.

While the program won't eliminate rural crime from the area, IREC members can be assured that their cooperative personnel are on the watch for criminal activity, accidents and dangerous situations across the cooperative's service area.



Law enforcement officials from several area counties attended a meeting in March with personnel of Illinois Rural Electric Co., Winchester to help launch the cooperative's "Crime Watch" program. Front row, from left, are: Richard Evans, South Jacksonville Chief of Police; Trooper Roger Fox, State Police District 20; Larry Snyder, Pittsfield Chief of Police; Lt. Don Cook, Jacksonville Police Department; Mayor Godfrey of South Jacksonville; George Lindsey, Jr., Winchester Chief of Police; Charles Downs, Greene County Deputy; Ken Lawson, Scott County Sheriff, and George Lindsey, Sr., of Illinois Rural Electric Co. Back row, from left, are: Bob Patton, Crime Watch coordinator for the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, Springfield; Capt. Leland Storm, State Police District 18; Capt. W. J. Ryan, State Police District 9; Capt. Jim Aggertt, State Police District 20; Mike Lord, Pike County Sheriff; Jerry Lieb, Morgan County Detective Sergeant; Francis Neubauer, Greene County Sheriff; Ralph Baird of Illinois Rural Electric Co., and Robert E. Gant, also of Illinois Rural Electric Co. Unavailable for the photo were Stacey L. Ferguson, Calhoun County Sheriff, and Mike Margherio, Hardin Chief of Police.

## Television programming study still in progress

We would like to extend a big thank you to the members who responded to our requests for information concerning the television programming package the IREC board is considering. Many of you responded by returning the coupon we had in the February center section. In addition, a random phone survey was done from the office to obtain additional opinions. Thanks to all of you who responded.

The board of directors will evaluate the results from these surveys to determine what the interest is within the membership. In the meantime, we are still looking at different systems to ensure that both "quality" and "affordability" are part of the system IREC might have available. If the possibility of watching satellite-reflected TV programs in your home interests you, contact Steve Wisdom at 742-3128.

## Use the earth to heat and cool your home

You might think that the only way to take advantage of the earth's natural heating and cooling abilities is to build your house underground. Well, that's not true anymore.

Now, by installing an energy-efficient ground-source heat pump system, you can use the earth's heat to warm your home in the winter. In the summer, the system reverses itself and takes the heat from your home and transfers it to the earth.

Just how efficient is this type of system? A ground-source heat pump is more than three times as efficient as the most efficient fossil fuel furnace. In other words,

a heat pump can provide three units of energy for every one unit used to power the system.

This type of system can be installed in either a new or existing home, and will soon be available through one of your local plumbing and heating dealers. The WaterFurnace System is being made available to local dealers, and the price will be very competitive with a high-efficiency fossil fuel furnace.

For more information on the benefits of a ground-source heat pump system, contact Steve Wisdom at the Member Service Department of IREC in Winchester.

## Board meeting report

### MEETING OF MARCH 2, 1987

All of the directors were present, along with the manager and legal counsel.

The minutes of the January 29 board meeting were considered and approved.

The financial report was next considered, with the manager giving additional data concerning the balance sheet of the report and indicating that sales of electric energy were below budget and the cost of power was considerably higher because of the cooperative continuing to pay equity funding to the power supplier. The operation and maintenance of the cooperative was up over budget, because of service and line crew personnel doing a considerable amount of clearing of right of ways in the past month.

The manager was then asked to give the condition of cash and also presented also a cash flow study to the directors for future months.

The board was then presented a program on telecommunications by Dave Diederich of the state association and looked at some investigative propositions on presenting a telecommunications program to the membership. The board also considered a survey of the membership concerning telecommunications.

The board approved a new line of credit with CFC for one year.

The board considered the purchase of transportation equipment and truck bodies that were presented as bids from dealerships as had been presented earlier in the capital expenditures budget.

There were reports given concerning the board of directors meeting of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, as well as a report from the national

meeting recently held in Dallas. The manager also gave a report on the recent WIPCO regular board of directors meeting and reminded the board of the annual meeting of Western Illinois Power Cooperative, which would be coming up March 11.

The board of directors appointed the nominating committee for 1987 as per the current bylaws. Those members appointed to the nominating committee are: Eric Lakin of Murrayville; Robert Pembroke of Greenfield; Silas Lemons of Milton; Norman Vortman of Bluffs and August Nolte of Golden Eagle. Since the annual meeting date has been set for July 15, the directors also considered other annual meeting plans for that day.

The attorney then gave the latest developments on the FRIER law suit, in stating that he had filed a motion for Illinois Rural to ask for more time to plead in the particular case and then stated that as a result of Illinois Rural Electric Co. making demands upon Western Illinois Power Cooperative to sue Illinois Power in its own right, the WIPCO board did pass a resolution to jointly (with Soyland Power Cooperative) sue Illinois Power.

The board approved the return of membership for Charles and Eleanor Ross of Greenfield.

It was reported that the cooperative would be kicking off its Crime Watch program the following morning on March 3, and would have a meeting of state and local law enforcement officers at the cooperative office and there would be further information coming out to the local area.

The meeting was adjourned.



217-742-3128

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC CO. WINCHESTER, ILLINOIS

# High Line News



## Across the Manager's Desk

by Robert E. Gant

As I sit down to write this month's column, it is the second week in April, at which time there are two significant events that have taken place in relation to the Clinton Power Station.

First of all, we have word from the Rural Electrification Administration that a financial plan to restructure the Clinton debt of WIPCO has been approved and that we are assured of the stabilized rates that we have been experiencing in the last year. The other event is that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has approved an operating license for the Clinton Power Station so that the station can be operated at full power for testing and generating electricity into the Illinois Power system.

As I announced at last year's annual meeting, the REA had pledged to work with Western Illinois Power Cooperative in an effort to restructure its more than \$421,000,000 debt in connection with the construction of the Clinton Power Station. We have continued to work very closely with a work-out committee, headed by Tom Heath of REA, to propose and negotiate various financial plans that would meet certain target rates that we had set up as a goal. We found that this problem was not just with REA, but also was a paramount problem with the Department of Justice, as well as the Office of Management and Budget.

While working with these three agencies for a solution, it became very apparent that the government did not want to lose any principle on this loan, but was willing to give and take on the interest and the length of time that the loan would be paid. Trying to meet the criteria of REA and still meet the target rates was a real problem. It was not until recently, after working with Congressmen Michel and Durbin along with the U.S. under secretary of agriculture, did we get serious negotiations started again after the first of the year. We have now settled upon a plan that would break the \$421,000,000 debt into an "A" note and a "B" note, in which the "A" note would amount to \$297,962,545 at

a 5 percent interest rate and would be stretched out to 35 years. The "B" note would be in the amount of \$123,816,455 and would be extended to 40 years. This debt would remain in the Federal Financing Bank and would not be refinanced in the public market as was the case with the refinancing of the Soyland Power Cooperative debt. The important thing about the restructuring of the Clinton debt is that the debt service payment that would be due REA in four quarterly payments would amount to 21½ million dollars annually as compared to the amount of 44½ million dollars annually before the restructuring was accomplished.

Why is this restructuring so important to the customers of Illinois Rural Electric Co.? It means not only that we will be able to stabilize wholesale power at around our current rates, but also that Western Illinois Power Cooperative will continue to exist and will continue to be the power supplier of seven distribution cooperatives in west central Illinois. Without restructuring, the wholesale power costs would be in the 15-18 cents area and Western Illinois Power Cooperative would have no choice other than to take bankruptcy. Without Western Illinois Power Cooperative, Illinois Rural Electric Co. has no power supplier other than going back to Central Illinois Public Service Company on bended knee to negotiate for power supply as we did in the late 1930s. Not only was the cost high but there was no assurance that we would have power supply.

Yes, Clinton will be coming on line early this summer. Now that they have their operating license, it will allow Illinois Power to continue testing of the Clinton nuclear plant and will allow them to bring the boiler up to 55 percent of capacity which will allow them to generate enough steam pressure to turn the electric turbine and synchronize the generator on line for full-load testing of that unit. This is very significant in that we have an investment in that unit and we believe the sooner we begin to operate it the sooner we begin to get our money back from that investment. The Clinton Power Station is operating and will continue to make strides toward a 100 percent operation and will become the primary generating unit in the Illinois Power, Soyland and WIPCO pool from which we purchase power. WIPCO will continue to purchase power from that pool as a viable supplier of electric power at a cost that you, the members, can afford.

# Good crowd at heat pump seminar

Representatives from several electric cooperatives throughout the state met recently along with heating and air conditioning contractors in their areas, to discuss the applications of heat pump systems. This group met on April 14 and 15 at the Carlinville Holiday Inn for a meeting which was sponsored by Soyland Power Cooperative and its newly formed subsidiary, WaterFurnace of Illinois (WFI). Your cooperative was represented by two employees. In addition, there were seven heating and air conditioning contractors from our service area in attendance.

WFI has become the sole distributor in Illinois For WaterFurnace® liquid source heat pumps. They will be making these systems available to HVAC contractors who are interested in becoming dealers.

Those who attended the meeting received some background on WaterFurnace International, and learned about open- and closed-loop technology, design and marketing, duct design, installation and start-up,

polybutylene pipe fusion techniques, and computer load calculations. Should any contractor decide to become a dealer, there will be additional certification training needed to insure proper installation of these systems.

It is becoming apparent that a ground-source heat pump system is a highly efficient way to heat and cool your home. Technology has improved the performance of these systems. At the same time the cost of installing one has gone down. This combination of factors has made ground-source heat pump systems more and more attractive to new home builders, to those needing to replace a furnace, and to those who are considering installing a central air conditioning system.

Talk with your local heating and air conditioning contractor about the WaterFurnace® system. If he has not become a dealer yet, contact Steve Wisdom at IREC to find out the advantages of using the earth to heat and cool your home.



At the meeting, from left, were: Steve Wisdom, special services manager, IREC, Hal Johnson, Dan Kaiser, Mark Dunn, Steve Little, Marty Peters, Randy Myers and George Lorton. Also attending the meeting but unavailable for the picture was Larry Speakman. Also interested in becoming dealers but unable to attend the meeting were Stephen Hass, Richard Newton and Larry Vortman.

## TV package nearly complete

During its April meeting, the board of directors approved the sale of satellite TV equipment to co-op members. The board agreed there was sufficient interest among the membership to warrant making this service available. Programming will also be available as soon as settlements are made with some of the premium entertainment companies.

At the time this article was written, final arrangements were still being made with the wholesalers concerning what types of equipment would be available to the members. "Quality" and "affordability" are still the key words in these negotiations. We do know that the equipment that will be made available will include motorized antennas, receivers, and

decoders that will allow you to watch scrambled stations. You, as a member, will be able to build your own system from the ground up or upgrade your present system if you desire.

By the time you read this, the exact types of equipment available should be known. You are encouraged to contact Steve Wisdom at IREC to receive more information about the brands available, the cost of the equipment, how you can get it installed, programming, or any other questions you may have about satellite TV. Steve has worked hard to become knowledgeable on this subject and can answer most of your questions. Call Steve at 742-3128 to find out more about this popular form of home entertainment.



Eleven outstanding area students took part in the "Illinois Rural Electric Youth Day" activities April 8 in Springfield, where they toured the State Capitol, Lincoln sites and other points of interest. The 11 students, sponsored by Illinois Rural Electric Co., met for the tour with some 90 other students from across the state. After the day-long event, the students and their chaperones met with area legislators for dinner. From left are Mark Martin, IREC member relations director; Lori Ruble, Pittsfield; Susan Bangert, Bluffs; April Hurst, Chapin; Carmel Rawe, legislative aide to Sen. Vince Demuzio, D-Carlinville; Mary Green, Pleasant Hill; Sandra Bangert, Bluffs; George Lindsey, Illinois Rural member service director; Anne Kamp, Batchtown; Julie Custer, Carrollton; Mike Gregory, Roodhouse; Michell Stephenson, Arenzville; Rashell Booth, Rockport; Paula Heightman, Griggsville; and Steve Wisdom, IREC special services manager. Demuzio attended the meeting and met with the students, but was unavailable when the photo was taken. During the evening meeting, the cooperative announced that Sandra Bangert and Anne Kamp were selected as finalists in Illinois Rural Electric's essay contest and will represent the cooperative on the "Youth to Washington, D.C." tour in early June.

## Board meeting report

The regular board meeting of Illinois Rural Electric Co. was held at the office of the cooperative on Monday, April 6, 1987, at 1:30 p.m. All of the directors were present, along with Robert E. Gant, manager; Lucien Nash, office manager; and Mark Martin, public and member relations director.

The financial report was reviewed, and the manager reported that loads were down for January, February and March compared to the same months of 1986 and that with the higher cost of power, it has thrown the cooperative into a deficit position for the year thus far. The manager then presented computerized scenarios for the balance of the year that indicated a deficit position for the year 1987. The manager stated that the restructuring of the WIPCO debt, which is still pending at REA, could mean a lower cost of power than projected in his study and that with the restructuring of the WIPCO debt it would mean, also, a revision of the WIPCO budget, which could lower power costs for the remainder of the year and could help IREC meet its financial obligations. The manager also presented

an alternative to the restructuring in that it may be necessary to pass on to the members a wholesale power cost adjustment in the area of 1/2 cent per kilowatt-hour.

The 1986 audit report was presented by representatives from Clifton, Gunderson & Co. and was thoroughly discussed by board members with all questions concerning the 1986 audit, whereby it was approved by the board of directors and ordered filed with the books and records of the cooperative.

The chairman asked for the Member Service Department report, in which it was reported there were seven water heaters and one refrigerator added in the month of March.

The member relations director then gave a presentation on the telecommunications program, along with a result of the member survey and presented to the board costs of hardware and installation of the dish antenna with receiver and video cipher II. It was decided that the cooperative would sell such hardware to members and would offer an entertainment program, if and when NRTC came out with the

program that they are currently negotiating with HBO, Cinemax and the Disney Channel.

The board of directors approved the purchase of a new telephone system for the office to replace the rental equipment installed in 1964.

The chairman next gave a report on the 1986 annual meeting of Western Illinois Power Cooperative, along with the organizational meeting and regular meeting of WIPCO held on March 12, 1987. The chairman reported, and as a result of the WIPCO annual meeting in which the bylaws were changed to allow for an alternate director on the WIPCO board, and Illinois Rural Electric Co.'s board of directors elected William Griswold to be the alternate director on the Western Illinois Power Cooperative board.

The chairman then asked the manager to review plans for the Legislative Planning Conference to be held in Washington, D.C. on April 26, 27, 28 and 29 and made formal arrangements for directors to attend that important Legislative Conference. The manager also handed out a schedule of appointments with various legislative representatives from Illinois.

The chairman next reported on the regular meeting of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives which was held on March 18, 1987.

The board of directors then evaluated the general manager in closed session and following the evaluation, a new one-year contract was executed with the manager.

A report was given concerning the Illinois Rural Electric Youth Day coming up on April 8, and an update on the essay contest in stating that 11 youths were participating in this year's contest, of which one from either side of the Illinois River will be chosen to attend a Youth To Washington tour.

The chairman then called upon Mark Martin, member and public relations director, to report upon the progress of the WaterFurnace Company, in promoting the ground water heat pump for members of Illinois Rural Electric Co. Martin stated that the Applied Energy Systems of Illinois was incorporated on March 9, and hired a manager for WaterFurnace of Illinois and they have a special "800" number in their office for any members who wish to install or inquire about a ground water source heat pump. He said that these heat pumps, which are the highly efficient ground water earth source heat pumps, are available to IREC members through authorized area dealers participating with WaterFurnace of Illinois to provide equipment and installation. Martin also said that Illinois Rural was working up a water source heat pump promotion program and would soon be coming out with such a promotion.

The board of directors approved 48 new memberships in the cooperative.

There being no further business to come before this meeting, it was adjourned.

## A rebuild for Pittsfield sub

Some of the work has been completed that will upgrade the electric service provided by the Pittsfield substation. Improvements to the substation and the installation of new distribution line will not only help to maintain the services now being provided to members in that area, but also allows for the expansion of existing services and the addition of new ones.

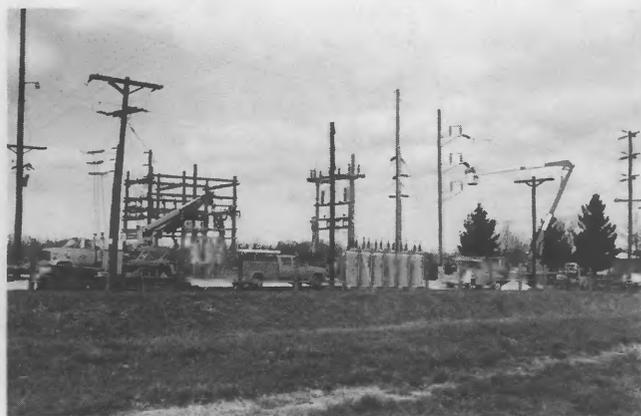
Part of the reason this work was done was because planned construction of the Central Illinois Expressway

necessitated the rerouting of certain power lines. The result of this is that some members that were being served from the Griggsville substation will now be receiving service from the Pittsfield sub.

Another reason for doing this work is that Central Stone, a rock quarry near Florence, will be increasing their demand for electricity. This helps to build our electric load which, in turn, benefits all of our members because it allows us to spread our fixed costs over a larger base.

While Illinois Rural Electric Co. employees were stringing new distribution lines, WIPCO employees were busy upgrading the Pittsfield substation to handle the increase in load. Some of the improvements include the replacement of six 250 KVA transformers with six 333 KVA transformers. This puts the substation at a 2000 KVA capacity now where it was a 1500 KVA sub. In other words, the capacity has been increased by 33 percent. New timbers were installed, as well, to replace some of the older ones that were getting weather-worn.

Upgrading this substation and stringing new distribution line will help to maintain the reliable electric service our members have come to expect. Work of this type is being done at all times and in all parts of our service area in an effort to provide you with the best possible electric service.



Above, workers upgrade the Pittsfield substation, replacing the six old 250 KVA transformers with half a dozen 333 KVA units.



217-742-3128

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC CO. WINCHESTER, ILLINOIS

# High Line News

## Michael Twitty is meeting entertainment

Michael Twitty will provide the entertainment at this year's annual meeting of the Illinois Rural Electric Co. on July 15 at the Scott County 4-H Fairgrounds in Winchester. Michael is the son of Conway Twitty and resides in Twitty City in Hendersonville, Tennessee with his father and the rest of the family. He will be performing two shows packed with songs you want to hear.

Entertainer is the word Mike unhesitatingly chooses when asked to describe himself and what he does. He considers himself more than just a singer — a performer. He says he gives every audience he plays for the very best he has to give. He moves confidently across a broad musical range that includes pulsing 50s rock, traditional and contemporary country, gospel, tender ballads, whatever his listeners want to hear. By listening to his audience, he knows just where they want to go next, he adds.

It's that kind of focused attention, and desire to please, that makes a Mike Twitty performance so compelling. There's an intensity in his interpretation of each song that strikes a deeply responsive chord in his listeners. He takes them with him inside the music and generates a contagious excitement with up-tempo material. He gives every word of a ballad new and tender meaning. And if his listeners want to hear a Conway Twitty song, that's just what he gives them. The sense of involvement is irresistible, as is the flashing wit that surfaces when his unerring gift of timing calls for a change of pace from music to laughter. He does whatever it takes to give each audience the kind of show

he feels they want.

Michael made his professional debut in Nashville in October 1972 and quickly established himself as an up-and-coming new artist. He was signed to a recording contract by Capitol Records, for whom he recorded several hits, including "That's All She Wrote," "The Closest Thing To You I Can Find," and "Mississippi Rolling Stone." He later recorded for MCA and Gusto-Starday, and is especially proud of the fact that it was his recording of "The Gambler" that was later covered by Kenny Rogers.

His love of entertaining gradually lured him away from the Nashville studio scene until he was playing more than 250 road dates a year. Mike is a single performer with the musical flexibility that makes it possible for him to establish quick, effective working relationships with a variety of house bands. He will have a good band behind him at the annual meeting because backing Michael Twitty will be Steve Lake's Swingmasters. This six-piece country music band has backed up such stars as Crystal Gayle, the Statler Brothers, Sylvia, Earl Thomas Conley and Loretta Lynn. They have appeared at the Grand Ole Opry with Connie Smith and on the Phil Donahue Show with Johnny Russell. In addition, they have played at fairs, concerts, clubs and festivals throughout the U.S. and Canada.

As usual, the entertainment at the Illinois Rural Electric Co. annual meeting will be top-notch. Mark your calendars and plan to attend this meeting on July 15 in Winchester.



Michael Twitty



Steve Lake's Swingmasters



This picture of heating and air conditioning contractors who attended the WaterFurnace meeting in Carlinville in April was run in last month's center section. We wanted to run it again because we previously omitted the name of the business with which each person in the picture is associated. Those who attended the meeting are, left to right: Steve Wisdom, special services manager, IREC; Hal Johnson of Johnson Heating and Air Conditioning in Jacksonville; Dan Kaiser of Kaiser Heating and Air Conditioning in Carrollton; Mark Dunn of Dunn's Plumbing and Heating in Winchester; Steve Little of Little's Heating and Air Conditioning in Winchester; Marty Peters of Peters Heating and Air Conditioning in Quincy; Randy Myers of Hurt's Plumbing and Heating in Manchester, and George Lorton of Lorton Electric in Hardin. Also attending the meeting, but unavailable for the picture was Larry Speakman of Henson-Robinson, Inc. in Jacksonville. Also interested in becoming dealers but unable to attend the meeting were Stephen Hass of Ideal Hardware in Pittsfield; Richard Newton of Newton's Heating and Air Conditioning in Greenfield, and Larry Vortman of Vortman's Plumbing and Heating in Winchester.

# WaterFurnace system

## How it works

Selecting a heating and cooling system for a home or business is an important investment decision for any consumer. Since energy costs are an important factor in this decision, many people are taking a closer look at the variety of high-efficiency systems that are now on the market.

Keep in mind that energy costs are not the only consideration when deciding on a system. Research has shown that today's consumer also wants a safe heating and cooling system that offers comfort, convenience and control. The WaterFurnace ground-source heat pump is proving that it can meet these criteria in homes and businesses throughout the Midwest. In fact, with recent advances in heat pump design and pipe materials, the WaterFurnace systems are the most reliable and efficient heating and cooling systems available.

To understand how the WaterFurnace system works, think of the earth as a huge solar collector. In Illinois, the temperature at a depth of six feet will remain relatively constant, usually between 45-55 degrees Fahrenheit. The WaterFurnace system makes efficient use of this natural heat storage capability to heat and cool your home or business. Using the principles of refrigeration, heat is drawn from the ground in the winter, intensified, and pumped into your home. In the summer, a reversing valve turns the process around, allowing you to cool your house and transfer heat to the cooler ground outside. The only energy used is elec-

tricity to run the compressor and fans.

By taking advantage of the more constant temperature of the earth rather than relying on the outside air, the WaterFurnace system is more efficient and more economical than conventional air-to-air heat pumps. For each unit of electricity going into the WaterFurnace system, as much as 3½ units of heat will be delivered. And, as a bonus, the WaterFurnace system uses what is called a desuperheater to provide year-round hot water with no sacrifice of comfort. The desuperheater drastically reduces water heating costs, and during summer months, may provide hot water virtually free by diverting heat to the water storage tank before transporting it to the ground outside.

The WaterFurnace system uses polybutylene pipe to circulate a water and antifreeze mixture through the ground. The pipe can be buried horizontally or vertically within the earth with the length of pipe in the loop carefully sized to each consumer's application so that enough heat is absorbed for winter heating and released for summer cooling. The polybutylene material provides a combination of good heat transferring capabilities with strength and should last 50 years.

Because of its unique efficiencies, a WaterFurnace system can lower your heating costs by 50 to 70 percent and reduce your cooling costs by 30 to 40 percent over a conventional heating and cooling system. Exact savings will depend upon the building's construction and the consumer's usage patterns. However, in most

cases, the payback on a WaterFurnace system may be realized in three to five years. Also keep in mind that maintenance costs will be reduced. Because the compressor is located indoors, it should have a useful lifespan of 20 years or more. In addition, there is no need for a defrost cycle normally required in air-to-air units.

## *Board meeting report*

The regular meeting of the Illinois Rural Electric Co. board was held on May 4, 1987, at the cooperative office in Winchester.

All directors were present, along with the manager, office manager, member and public relations director, and the attorney for the Cooperative.

The minutes of the April 6, 1987, meeting were approved after a small correction.

The financial report for the month ending March 31 was then discussed thoroughly and was approved as mailed with the notice of the meeting.

The manager then gave his monthly construction and maintenance report for the month of April, in which the cooperative has purchased 7,839,000 kilowatt-hours for distribution to the members. The manager also reviewed the work orders which had been completed by the line crews, as well as the relocation of facilities for the State of Illinois, relative to the building of the Central Illinois Expressway.

The manager then gave the condition of cash report and concluded with the total balance of cash on hand. It was noted from the load building report that eight appliances had been purchased and installed on our lines during the month of March.

The manager then reported to the board relative to new developments in the restructuring of the Western Illinois Power Cooperative (WIPCO) debt, in which he stated that REA had made a proposal to WIPCO which would meet the wholesale target rates and the WIPCO debt would be restructured to meet these target rates. As a result, the retail rate of Illinois Rural Electric Co. is expected to stabilize around the 70 mill base cost for wholesale power, and the Cooperative would be able to meet the TIER requirements for the year 1987. The manager stated that the new budget for WIPCO-Soyland pool would probably be approved at the WIPCO board meeting, along with the acceptance of the restructuring plan as proposed by REA.

The chairman next asked attorney Robert Bonjean to report on the latest developments of the FRIER suit, which was heard in Sangamon County Court on April 23, 1987. The attorney stated that a decision was handed down that WIPCO and Soyland could be realigned as plaintiff's in this lawsuit and was granted 14 days to file their complaint against Illinois Power. He further stated that the judge then vacated that decision and stated he would make a final decision under advisement and would set a new hearing for the 29th of May. It was speculated by the board and attorney about the reverse of the realignment decision, but they

If you are interested in the WaterFurnace system, you should contact Steve Wisdom at 742-3128. He would be glad to talk with you in further detail about the advantages of heating and cooling your home or business with this type of system.

came to no real conclusion on the matter.

The chairman then asked the manager to report on the regular meeting of WIPCO, which had been held on April 9, 1987.

The chairman then asked the delegates who had attended the Legislative Planning Conference in Washington, D.C., to give a report on that important legislative meeting. It was stated that the delegation did meet with legislators to talk about the financing of the rural electric cooperative program and to support House Bill 2046 for continuing financing of rural electrification. The additional matters were preference power on federal power marketing administrations, along with a lobbying effort for reasonable rail rates, particularly in hauling coal for power plants and to haul rural produce to market. Acid rain was again a topic of interest at the Legislative Planning Conference, along with the important issues concerning scrambled satellite TV programs for rural people. This legislative planning conference was also an opportunity to talk further with REA concerning the restructuring of the WIPCO debt and its effect on Illinois Rural's cost of power.

A report was given on the Youth to Washington tour and Youth Day at Springfield for 11 essay contestants for Illinois Rural. The winners of our essay contest were Sandra Bangert of RR 1, Bluffs for the east side of the river and Anne Kamp of Batchtown, the winner for the west side of the Illinois River.

The chairman next reported on the board of directors meeting of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC) held on April 16.

The board of directors approved a new large power contract with Illinois Valley Paving Co. for their heating and cooling of their office building.

Mark Martin reported to the board relative to progress made on the telecommunications issues and talked about the new program being negotiated by NRECA to be offered to members of Illinois Rural, if and when it is approved. Mark then discussed the equipment that would be offered to members to receive this special programming.

The board of directors then considered possible bylaw change amendments that would be offered at the annual meeting of members, relative to the nominations of candidates for the board.

There were 32 memberships in the cooperative which were approved and executed by the officers.

There being no further business to come before this meeting, it was adjourned.

# Your invitation to the 49th annual meeting

Dear Member:

Your Board of Directors joins me in extending to you an invitation to attend our big 49th Annual Meeting and Electrical Fair to be held at the Scott County 4-H Fair Association Building, Winchester, starting at 9:30 a.m., D.S.T., July 15, 1987.

Registration will start at 8 a.m.

There will be country and western entertainment on stage throughout the day, in which our members have always displayed much interest.

We hope that each of you will find time to come to our Annual Meeting this year, so that by your interest and cooperation we directors, who have tried in the past year to guide your cooperative, will find that you are backing us up. It will be a chance to meet old friends and acquaintances and, in general, have a good time.

Around July 2, you will receive the program of the meeting. On the back cover, you'll find a registration card which will save you time and possibly eliminate standing in line to register Annual Meeting Day.

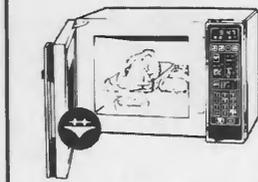
We're hoping to see you!

*Harvey Vortman*

Harvey Vortman, President

## DRAWINGS FOR PRIZES from Exhibitors & IREC All Day Long!

— For Co-op Members Only —



Early  
Bird Award  
Hotpoint  
MICROWAVE  
FREE

© NRECA



## Business Meeting:

(In the Morning)  
Elections of Directors  
Progress Reports

**TWELVE (12) MEMBERS WILL BE AWARDED \$25 CREDIT ON THEIR ELECTRIC BILLS.**

Names will be drawn from those members registered at the Annual Meeting.

Six (6) drawings will be made at 9:30 a.m. just ahead of the entertainment by Michael Twitty.

Six (6) drawings will be made throughout the morning program.

## Fairgrounds Exhibits

Farm Automation Equip-  
ment Material Handling  
Equipment Heating —  
Cooling Systems Home  
Appliance & Entertainment  
Equipment

**LUNCH**  
*available on the grounds*



217-742-3128

# High Line News

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC CO. WINCHESTER, ILLINOIS



## Across the Manager's Desk

by Robert E. Gant

### LONG-TIME DIRECTOR NOT A CANDIDATE FOR REELECTION TO THE BOARD

Harvey Vortman, long-time member of the board of directors of Illinois Rural Electric Co., has chosen not to run for re-election to the board of directors. Vortman became a member of that board on July 31, 1953, and has served continuously for the last 34 years. During that time, Vortman served as secretary from July 1963 until July 1982. He then served as president of the board from July 1982 until his retirement this year. Vortman also served on the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives board since July 1982 to the present time. He also has served on the board of directors of Western Illinois Power Cooperative since July 1982 to the present time.

As you can see, Vortman has always given most generously of his time and energy in the interest of rural electrification in his efforts to provide quality and continuity of electric service to the members of Illinois Rural Electric Co. Because of his dedicated service to rural electrification and his pioneering efforts in this endeavor, he was recognized in 1985 when he received the Pioneer Award of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. Vortman has also served his Scott County Community as a member of the School Board, as well as serving on the Farm Bureau board.

A native of the Bluffs area, Vortman taught school for many years in the Berwyn School District, along with his wife, the former Mabel Rockwood. The Vortmans have one daughter, Janice Smith, of Holmen, Wisconsin, and also have two grandchildren. In addition to his teaching career, Vortman has been a farmer east of Bluffs for the last 30 years.

His leadership, integrity, industry, sincerity and fairness were of invaluable benefit to the entire rural electrification program. His many friends and associates statewide will miss Harvey in the years to come. The board of directors, employees, and the members of Illinois Rural Electric Co. join together to wish Harvey the happiest of times in his retirement.



Sandra Bangert (left) of Bluffs and Anne M. Kamp of Batchtown were among 40 outstanding high school students from Illinois touring Washington, D.C., June 12-19 as a part of the annual "Youth to Washington" tour sponsored by the Electric Cooperatives of Illinois. Sandra and Anne represented Illinois Rural Electric Co., Winchester, as winners of the essay contest sponsored annually by the cooperative. The students are shown with W. Michael Sager, tour director for the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, with the Jefferson Memorial in the background. In the other photo, Mark Martin, director of member and public relations, helps the students unload in preparation for this trip.

# Satellite TV systems and programming now available from IREC

As another service for you, the member, IREC now has satellite antennas, receivers, and decoders available through the Member Service Department. We will not have a large inventory on hand at any given time, but we will have demonstration systems and information about the various types of equipment that our members may order. Examples of the brands of equipment we will be selling include Laux, Winegard, Houston Tracker, Chapparral, Channel Master, STS, General Instrument, and Tee Com. This equipment is available on a cash-and-carry basis, and we will be able to recommend a person to install it, if you don't already have someone in mind.

We are also able to offer a programming package through the National Rural Telecommunications Cooperative (NRTC). This package, called Rural TV, includes a basic selection of programs plus optional programming priced above the basic.

The following channels, which are now scrambled, are included in the basic package: Superstations WPIX

(New York), WGN (Chicago), KTVT (Dallas), and WOR (New Jersey), and Cable News Network and Headline News. In addition, agreements have been made with other programmers which have not yet scrambled their signals. Those channels, which will be included in the basic package, are as follows: The Nostalgia Channel, Country Music Television, The Learning Channel, Hit Video USA, The Nashville Network, and Home Sports Entertainment.

The following optional programming will also be offered: Prime Time 24, with three network affiliate channels — WABC-TV (New York), ABC; WBBM-TV (Chicago), CBS; WXIA-TV (Atlanta), NBC; and SelecTV, a premium movie channel. The benefits of the Travel Channel will also be offered through the NRTC package.

For more information about the satellite TV equipment available or to get signed up for the programming package, stop by the Member Service Department or contact Steve Wisdom at 742-3128.

## MS Department offers many services



You have probably seen this picture before and know that it shows the front of Illinois Rural Electric Co.'s Member Service Department building. We could just as easily say this picture shows the front of **your** service department building. As an IREC member, you are part owner of the cooperative and are entitled to receive all of the services that we have available.

The Member Service Department is the place to go for your complete home and farmstead wiring needs. Among these services would be various types of elec-

tric heat installations, complete electric installations for grain drying and grain and feed handling equipment, installation of underground services, and repair of inoperative equipment and wiring.

As you probably know, we offer a complete line of Maytag and Hotpoint appliances, and we also offer repair service on all major appliances.

If you are a do-it-yourselfer, we sell wiring equipment over the counter to IREC members. We also sell insulation and have a rental machine to blow it in. In addition, we will work with you to size electric heating and air conditioning equipment and recommend proper insulation and ventilation.

The member service building is located in Winchester, but the service charges are the same for all members, regardless of where they live within the service area. All one- or two-man service calls include 30 minutes of work with no mileage charge.

Finally, keep in mind that IREC policy allows for the extension of credit to co-op members who live on IREC lines and meet IREC credit standards. The merchandise purchased on credit must go on co-op lines and a schedule of payments will be arranged with the Member Service Department.

Stop by the Member Service Department at 15 South Walnut in Winchester to find out more about how we can be of assistance to you. We're here to serve you because it's your service department.

# There are many reasons for variations in electric bills

When electricity was used primarily for lighting, electric bills were low in the sunny months of summer and higher in the darker months of winter. Today, in addition to the lighting, every household has many year-round uses for electricity that add to the comfort, convenience and pleasure of the family. Residential electric bills follow surprisingly uniform patterns from year to year. The fact that a bill is higher than usual naturally arouses curiosity — there must be a reason. Our members have found there are many reasons for variations in use and cost of electric service.

Hot weather brings air conditioning and greater use of fans, refrigerators, freezers, dehumidifiers, and laundry facilities. Warm weather also makes appliances such as refrigerators and freezers work harder. Cold weather affects heating requirements, use of furnace fans, humidifiers, supplementary heaters and auto engine heaters. Holidays mean extra cooking, lighting and Christmas decorations in your home.

Many changes in family life affect your electric bill: moving into a new home, alterations to the old home, more time spent at home, a new baby, relatives

coming to stay, more laundry, more hobbies, more homework and teenage entertaining.

This is a common cause of increased usage because everyone adds new appliances from time to time. Have you recently added a dryer, an air conditioner, a supplementary heater, a freezer? Or was it a color television or a frost-free refrigerator? Have you gradually improved your lighting, either indoors or outdoors?

\* The age and condition of appliances affect their cost of operation.

\* Even relatively new appliances may need adjustments.

\* Leaving lights or appliances on unnecessarily raises the bill.

If you still have a question about the amount of electricity you are using, stop by the Member Service Department to find out some average residential consumption figures for the various types of appliances you may have in your home. These figures will give you some idea about how many kilowatt-hours per month different appliances use. We want to help you use energy efficiently.

## Tips on keeping electricity costs down

1. Set the thermostat at 78 degrees or higher.
2. Use low-wattage fans to help circulate air indoors.
3. Have the air conditioner serviced yearly.
4. Keep the air conditioner filter clean.
5. Shade the condenser unit when possible, but keep it free of leaves, grass clippings and other obstructions.
6. Keep indoor registers free of dust, furniture and other obstructions.
7. With central air conditioners keep all registers open for greatest efficiency.
8. Control added humidity and intrinsic heat by using kitchen and bath vent fans and avoiding use of heat and moisture producing appliances during the hottest part of the day.
9. Close doors and windows while air conditioning is on.
10. Keep heat-producing appliances and direct sun away from the thermostat.
11. Insulate and seal all leaks in ductwork in unconditioned areas.
12. When replacing or adding an air conditioner, choose a seasonal energy efficiency ratio of 8.0 or higher and be sure the unit is sized properly.
13. Use window treatments such as light-reflecting blinds, shades, draperies or awnings to prevent added solar heat.
14. Use landscaping to shade your house from summer sun.

mer sun.

15. Practice voluntary load management when outdoor temperature is 88 degrees or higher by setting the thermostat at 78 degrees or higher and shifting laundering, dishwashing, cooking and other hot water use to times other than 4:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.



16. Do not lower your thermostat to try cooling your house quickly.

17. Do raise your thermostat by about five degrees if everyone is away from home during the day. Consider a clock thermostat to change the setting automatically. Turn the air conditioner off when you are away for several days or longer.

18. Use an attic fan (whole-house fan) on cooler, less humid days instead of air conditioning.

## Board meeting report

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The regular meeting of Illinois Rural Electric Co. board was held on June 1, at the cooperative office in Winchester.

All directors were present along with manager Robert E. Gant; Lucien Nash, office manager; Mark Martin, public and member relations director, and Robert Bonjean, attorney for the Cooperative.

The minutes of the regular board meeting held on May 4, 1987, were approved.

The financial report for the month of April was then considered, in which the manager stated that revenues for the month were above budget and because of the restructuring and acceptance of the new 1987 pool budget, the cost of power was down over the expected budget. All other operating expenses were on or below budget. The cooperative made a margin of \$115,000. After all questions were answered, the directors report was approved as mailed with the notice of the meeting.

In the manager's construction and maintenance report, he noted that the cooperative had purchased 8,876,551 kilowatt-hours, which was 218,000 more than had been purchased the month before. The manager also gave the construction and maintenance report, indicating the work that had been performed on the system during the month. The manager also presented a new cash flow and budget report for the year, which indicated that with the new restructuring of the cost of power, the cooperative would be able to meet its financial obligations and financial requirements of REA for 1987.

The chairman then asked the manager to report on the newest developments in the restructuring of the WIPCO debt, in which the manager stated they had met again with the work-out committee in Washington, D.C. and had worked on a term sheet, giving the various criteria that would become a part of the final agreement between WIPCO and REA. The manager stated that with the restructuring of the debt, that WIPCO would be able to meet its target rates and would have a debt service payment of about one-half of what was originally projected. The manager also reported on the possibility of the cooperative being able to borrow money from REA to meet its Equity Funding obligation to WIPCO and he discussed the terms of such a loan.

In the report of the regular WIPCO board meeting held on May 14, it was noted that Doug Dougherty and Steve Smith from the WaterFurnace Company explained to the board the operation of the WaterFurnace franchise that has been opened at the WIPCO office and warehouse. It was noted that Jim Greenwood gave a full and complete report of the Clinton nuclear plant

becoming operative and beginning to generate kilowatt-hours into the Illinois Power/Soyland-WIPCO pool. It was noted that the meeting was held at the Pearl Generating Plant and the board was conducted on a tour of the Pearl plant, which has been operating through April at a full capacity of 21.8 megawatts. It was also noted that maintenance and painting of the Pearl plant, including the coal conveyor, water tower and substation is being performed. The manager then reported on the possibility of WIPCO-Soyland co-generating and utilizing some local gas fields in Pike County as a source of fuel to generate electricity. He discussed thoroughly two companies which were interested in providing gas for generating electricity under the Public Utility Regulatory Act of 1978.

The manager then reported on the meeting of the 1987 nominating committee, which met at the office of the cooperative on May 18. The committee consisted of Eric Lakin, Robert Pembroke, Silas Lemons, Norman Vortman and August Nolte. The committee appointed Eric Lakin as the chairman and August Nolte as the secretary. The committee then placed into nominations for director terms which would be expiring this year from District 1 — was Glen Pulliam; District 3 — was Merton L. Pond; and from District 7 — Alan Heaton.

The board of directors then reviewed annual meeting plans for 1987 and discussed the registration, the annual meeting booklet, and reports to be given by the officers of the cooperative, along with the various exhibits that will be at our annual meeting this year. The chairman, Harvey Vortman, reported on the activities of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives. Attorney Bonjean then reported to the board concerning the latest developments in the FRIER suit, in which he stated that on April 24, that Judge Friedman made a decision to allow Soyland-WIPCO to sue Illinois Power and a day later reversed that decision to take it under advisement and continued until June 10.

The manager gave the accident report, in which he reported on a non-loss of time accident which had occurred during the month.

The board voted to return two membership fees from two long-time members of the cooperative.

The board of directors also approved 37 memberships in the cooperative that had been received in the previous month and executed by the officers of the cooperative.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



# High Line News

217-742-3128

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC CO. WINCHESTER, ILLINOIS



## Across the Manager's Desk

by Robert E. Gant

### Check into low heat rate

August may not seem like the time of year to be thinking about heating bills, but your board of directors certainly has been planning for the upcoming

heating season.

If you read the board report in this issue, you will notice that a motion was passed to maintain the one and one-half cent per kilowatt-hour rate reduction for those members who heat with electricity. In other words, if your home is all-electric, you can heat it for just four cents per kilowatt-hour. In addition, the first 10 members to make new electric heat installations will receive a \$300 cash rebate to help offset the cost of the new equipment.

If you would like to find out more about how you can qualify for the electric heat rate this winter, you should contact Steve Wisdom at 742-3128.

## It's Finally Here!

### Programming Entertainment For The Satellite Dish Owner

After months of work and negotiations, a satellite TV programming package may now be purchased through Illinois Rural Electric Co. Member Service Department.

The package consists of:

#### BASIC PACKAGE

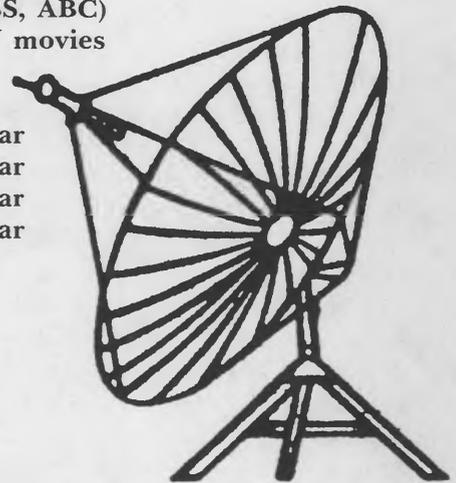
- 1. Cable News Network
- 2. CNN Headline News
- 3. WGN
- 4. WOR
- 5. WPIX
- 6. KTVT

#### OPTIONS

- A. Prime Time 24 (NBC, CBS, ABC)
- B. Select TV movies

#### PRICE

Basic .....	\$5.95/month or \$59.95/year
Basic + Option A .....	\$9.50/month or \$99.95/year
Basic + Option B .....	\$13.90/month or \$149.90/year
Basic + Option A&B .....	\$17.45/month or \$189.90/year



If you don't have a satellite system or descrambler, let IREC provide you with a high-quality satellite receiving system at a competitive price. IREC has available for purchase IRD units, receivers, and antennas.

Call Steve Wisdom at (217) 742-3128 to subscribe.  
Visit our showroom at the IREC Member Service Dept. in Winchester.

# Your annual meeting report

Illinois Rural Electric Co. officials foresee stable electric rates for consumer-members ahead. During the cooperative's 49th annual meeting July 15 at the Scott County Fairgrounds, Winchester, manager Robert E. Gant said IREC will maintain its present rate structure through 1987 and that the cooperative will not see rate shock as the Clinton Power Station comes on line this summer.

IREC's power supplier, Western Illinois Power Cooperative, has made progress in recent months on a restructuring of its debt on the Clinton plant, Gant added, and the result is that wholesale power rates are expected to stabilize. "What this means is that when the Clinton Power Station comes on line this summer, cooperative members will not see a large increase in wholesale power costs and we would avoid any rate shock normally associated with a new power plant coming on line," he said. IREC purchases wholesale power from WIPCO through the power pool established by WIPCO and another of the state's power supply cooperatives, Soyland Power Cooperative.

Gant said the Clinton plant was operating at a load of more than 55 percent of capacity and that the WIPCO-Soyland pool is receiving power from the plant. He stressed that, while Illinois Power Company customers are seeing increases in their electric rates because of the plant coming on line, Illinois Rural members have seen rate increases over the past three years and will not see the drastic rate increases.

Board president Harvey Vortman of Bluffs emphasized that, as the cooperative nears its 50th birthday, the goals of the organization have not changed. "The cooperative strives to provide a dependable supply of electric energy and quality service to meet the needs of consumer-members at the lowest cost, consistent with sound business practices," he said. Noting the cost increases for electricity and a variety of other consumer items, Vortman added, "Electricity costs more than it used to, but then you all realize that. I won't tell you that your energy costs are going to decrease, but I can tell you that your cooperative directors and I are confident that wholesale power costs have stabilized and should remain relatively constant through the rest of the century."

The meeting marked the end of a 34-year career on the board for Vortman. President of the board for the last five years and secretary of the board 19 years, Vort-



Illinois Rural Electric Co. manager Robert E. Gant, election to the board of directors of the cooperative long-time director Harvey Vortman, also of Bluffs, who was reelected to a three-year term, and F. A. three-year term after having been appointed last year during the cooperative's 49th annual members meeting at the Scott County Fairgrounds.



Twelve employees and one director of Illinois Rural Electric Co. were honored during the cooperative's annual meeting July 15 at Winchester for length of service and safety records. Front row from left are: Jeral A. Miller of Pittsfield, director, five years; Edward L. Dolen, line foreman, 15 years and third safety award; Albert W. Kirchner, journeyman lineman, 15 years; Louis D. Kemper, journeyman lineman, 25 years; Terry S. Barnard, field engineer, 20 years, and Harvey L. Vortman of Bluffs, board president. Back row from left: Gary L. Harbison, journeyman lineman, second safety award; Louis R. Shive, storekeeper, 20 years and third safety award; Craig S. Long, serviceman lineman, first safety award; Charles L. Settles, clearing foreman, 20 years and fourth safety award; Donald L. Long, assistant line superintendent, 20 years, and manager Robert E. Gant. Not present for the photograph were Lynn E. Rimbey, serviceman lineman, second safety award; Wayne King, line foreman, third safety award, and Herbert L. Long, serviceman lineman, third safety award. Vortman was honored for his 34 years of service as an IREC director. He retired from the board after completing his most recent three-year term July 15.



Gant congratulates Merton L. Pond, Bluffs, following his election and was elected to a three-year term and succeeds Vortman who retired. From left are Glen R. Pulliam, New Canton, and Alan Heaton, Murrayville, who was elected to his first full term to complete an unexpired term. The election took place on Wednesday, July 15, at the Scott County 4-H

man chose not to seek reelection from District 3, in northern Scott County.

Merton L. Pond of Bluffs succeeded Vortman as the director representing District 3. Pond and two incumbent directors, Glen R. Pulliam of New Canton and F. Alan Heaton of Murrayville, were elected during the business session to three-year terms on the board. Pulliam represents District 1 and Heaton, District 7.

Members also approved a change in the cooperative's bylaws that provides for improved member notification of candidates for the board of directors. It eliminates nominations from the floor of the annual meeting or other member meetings and requires that nominations, either by nominating committee or petition, be made no less than 45 days prior to a scheduled director election. The change will allow all nominees to be listed in the annual meeting notice to better inform all members of candidates for the board.

Treasurer J. M. Sapp of Pleasant Hill reported that operating revenue for 1986 totaled \$11,562,170, with operating expenses of \$10,843,435. IREC paid \$605,237 on long-term debt, he added, and net margins were \$214,285. Sapp said wholesale power costs accounted for more than 72 percent of cooperative revenue. IREC paid \$524,701 in taxes during the year, he said.

Following the annual members' meeting, the board met in reorganizational session and elected officers: William Griswold of Rockbridge, president; James T. Brannan of Eldred, vice president; Pulliam, secretary, and Sapp, treasurer.

## Board meeting report

The regular meeting of Illinois Rural Electric Co. was held on July 6, 1987, at the cooperative office in Winchester. All of the directors were present at the meeting, along with manager Robert Gant, Lucien Nash, Mark Martin and attorney Robert Bonjean.

The minutes of the June 1 meeting were approved.

The financial report was discussed, in which the manager stated that revenues were below budget, as well as the cost of power. All other expenses were close to budget and the cooperative had a margin for the month of May. The manager reported that the cooperative had purchased 7,119,504 kilowatt-hours in May and sales were up for June due to the hot weather that was experienced in June. The manager considered the condition of cash in reviewing bank balances for the month ending June 30.

In the load building report, it was noted that the member services department had sold 11 major appliances during the month of June.

The board of directors took action to write off to the reserve for delinquent accounts a six-month period of January 1986 to July 1986, those uncollectible accounts.

The directors next approved the 1987-1988 Electric Heat Promotion Program in which it was determined that the cooperative would again reduce the electric heat rate by one and one-half cents and would make a cash award to members installing new electric heat installations. The manager explained that this is a promotion program that is being sponsored by the Soyland-WIPCO pool.

The annual meeting planning committee then went over the plans with the board for the 49th annual meeting of Illinois Rural Electric Co. to be held on July

15, 1987. The manager then reported on the regular meeting of Western Illinois Power Cooperative held on June 11, 1987, in which he reported on the operation of Western Illinois Power Cooperative with respect to the generation of kilowatt-hours at the Pearl Generating Station, and special guest Jim Greenwood gave a report on the Clinton plant of which during May, the nuclear unit ran up to 22 percent of its generating capacity and generated 4,675 megawatt hours into the Soyland-WIPCO pool. The testing of the Clinton plant continues and will increase in capacity as the tests are completed for the balance of this year. The Executive Committee reported on the restructuring and refinancing of the WIPCO debt and the progress being made in that financial area.

Chairman Vortman reported on the regular meeting of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives and reported on the special guest, Joe Binder of the Northeast office of the Rural Electrification Administration, who addressed the board of directors. Vortman also reported on the various departments and their operation during the month and received a very extensive report on legislative matters that are pending before the Illinois General Assembly.

Attorney Bonjean gave an update on the FRIER lawsuit. He reported that the plaintiff's filed an amended complaint, naming the cooperatives as nominal defendants.

The board of directors approved 66 memberships that were received during the month and were executed by the secretary and president.

There being no further business to come before this meeting, it was adjourned.

## Blinking lights and oil circuit reclosers

We are often asked, "Why was the electricity off? Now I have to reset all my digital clocks." Sometimes the power is only off for a split second, and many people would not even be aware of it except that their digital clock starts flashing and must be reset. If you don't fully understand what can make the electricity "blink" we will try to explain.

First, it helps to know what causes some of the problems with the electric lines. A national survey of electric utilities shows that 45 percent of the outages were caused by wind and trees, 20 percent by lightning, 10 percent by equipment and wiring and 25 percent by miscellaneous reasons.

Because the majority of problems are temporary, electric utilities over

the nation use oil circuit reclosers (OCR's) that momentarily disconnect the lines — and then reconnect them. (OCR's are set to operate four times when there is trouble on the line. If the trouble is still there after the fourth operation the OCR will lock open and remain that way until it is reset manually.) When the OCR "operates" it causes a momentary disconnect which causes your lights to "blink."

When the line is temporarily disconnected the gases in an arc have time to dissipate. Then the line can be safely re-energized. In the past, these momentary "blinks" did not cause much of a problem — in fact many people were not even aware of an OCR operating. Today, with the additional use of computer

equipment and digital clocks it is more noticeable. About 60 percent of all problems on IREC lines are temporary in nature. Without the use of OCR's a service call would be necessary — and you be without power for a much longer time.

If you have computer equipment it is important to "save" the data as often as possible. This will prevent the loss of data in the event the power goes off. Many digital clocks are now manufactured with battery back-up so that they will not have to be reset.

Although an OCR operating during a temporary problem can be annoying, it is the best solution available to prevent the lines from being off for a long period.



217-742-3128

# High Line News

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC CO. WINCHESTER, ILLINOIS



## Across the Manager's Desk

by Robert E. Gant

### Channels added to satellite TV package

About three days after you received last month's IREN magazine, we received word that ESPN and CBN would be added to the basic program package we are offering for our satellite TV viewers. We are hopeful that these stations will be part of the package by the time you read this article.

We were also informed that along with the added channels comes an increase in the cost of the program package. The cost will now be \$9.95 per month. Consequently, the cost of the basic package plus any options will also be higher than those given in last month's REN magazine. Those prices will now be as follows:

Basic + Option A (Prime Time 24)—\$13.50/mo., Basic + Option B (Select TV)—\$17.90/mo., Basic + Option A&B—\$21.45/mo. Also, due to the confusion that could be created by any further price changes, we will no longer be offering the option of paying by the year. All billing will be done on a one-month-in-advance basis.

We think you should know that there are several stations that are not yet scrambled but are committed to the basic package when they do scramble. These channels are Hit Video USA, Nostalgia Channel, Country Music Channel, Learning Channel, The Nashville Network, Home Sports Entertainment, and the Travel Channel. We understand that the Travel Channel probably won't scramble, but the others listed will. When they do, they will remain in our basic package, and we are very hopeful that we will not have to increase the cost to subscribers.

For further information on how you can start receiving this programming, contact Steve Wisdom at 742-3128.

## Board meeting report

The regular meeting of the board of directors held on August 3, 1987, was held at the IREC office in Winchester.

All directors were present at the meeting, along with manager Robert E. Gant, office manager Lucien Nash, and Robert Bonjean, attorney for the Cooperative.

Minutes of the July 7, 1987, regular board meeting were approved as mailed with the notice of the meeting.

The minutes of the reorganizational meeting held on July 15, following the 49th annual meeting of the Cooperative were also approved as mailed with the notice of the meeting. It was noted at that reorganizational meeting that William Griswold of Rockbridge was elected president with James Brannan of Eldred, vice president; Glen Pulliam of New Canton as the secretary; and J.M. Sapp of Summer Hill elected as the treasurer. John Early of White Hall was elected as the assistant secretary and Ronald Myers of Griggsville was elected as the assistant treasurer. Manager Gant was elected as the Cooperative manager.

The chairman next stated that the financial report, which had been sent out with the notice of the meeting

should be reviewed by the board members and asked the manager to review the financial report. The manager then went over the financial report, in stating that revenues for the month were below budget and reminded the board that these revenues were generated from April sales and that loads have tended to build since that time with increasing hot weather and as we bill those increased sales that revenues will increase as we move on into the summer and fall season. All expenses were below budget, including the cost of power but the overall cost of power is averaging, for the first six months, above the average because of paying large amounts of equity funding in the first several months of the year. There followed a good deal of discussion relative to the financial report, after which it was approved as mailed. The accounts paid report was then taken up and after all questions were asked, it was approved as mailed. The manager next gave his construction and maintenance report, in which he stated that in June the cooperative had purchased 8,323,000 kilowatt-hours, which was 1,376,000 more than the previous month. The manager also reported on the construction and maintenance performed on the

distribution system for the month.

In the condition of cash report, the manager also discussed with the board his cash flow study, as well as projections on sales for the remainder of the year, which will have a good deal to do with meeting the financial ratios dictated by REA. The chairman then asked for the load building report, in which the Member Service Department had sold 10 appliances for the month of June and had also sold one telecommunication system to a member in July.

The chairman next asked the various board members to give their impressions and comments about the 1987 annual meeting of members which had been held on July 15. The manager reported there were 315 people in person and 174 by proxy, for a total of 489 registered members. Most commented about the music being too loud and, even though they were asked to lower the volume, the musical group did not lower the volume per se.

The chairman reported that the next agenda item was the consideration of REA loan documents and also CFC loan documents, in which the manager explained that he did have the CFC loan documents, but had not received the REA documents for our new construction loan application. The attorney then stated that without the REA documents, he felt that the signing of those papers should be handled at the next regular or special meeting.

The chairman then stated that the next item of business was the report of the regular meeting of Western Illinois Power Cooperative held on July 9, the manager reported that Bob Zook had retired from the WIPCO board and a new representative, Dale Lepper, was seated at the board meeting. The manager reported that the Clinton nuclear plant continues to go through

its tests and it had run, in June, up to 54 percent of its generating capacity, or 464 megawatts, as its peak. It was reported that the plant had experienced the earthquake on June 10, but continued to operate on through that particular incident. The plant continues to go through testing stage number 2 and will continue to run tests until it is fully commercial. There was a report given at the meeting concerning the refinancing and the restructuring of the Clinton debt in which progress is being made on both of these endeavors.

The directors then approved a line of credit with the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation in the amount of \$500,000 which will run for one year, beginning July 21, 1987. The chairman next reported on the AIEC board meeting and reminded the directors of the upcoming annual meeting of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives.

The board of directors approved 65 memberships in the cooperative for the month and signed membership certificates for those 65 members. The board also acted upon two membership which requested that their membership fees be refunded.

Three of the directors reported on a recent course which they had attended called "A Board Member Looks At The Financial and Statistical Report," which is taught by NRECA and is a course that is needed by directors for NRECA certification. Each of the directors gave their impressions and concerns about the attendance of this course.

Attorney Bonjean gave a brief update on the FRIER law suit. He stated that the next hearing would be on the 25th and 26th of August to determine whether the FRIER group or whether Soyland-WIPCO would be allowed to sue Illinois Power.

The meeting was adjourned.

## Updated wiring spec book now available

Several revisions were made when the Wiring Specifications and Recommendations books for Illinois electric cooperatives were updated this year. The book is prepared to establish a standard set of wiring specifications for all members of the rural electric cooperatives. It is periodically updated (the previous revision was in 1984) in an effort to keep current with all minimum specifications required to insure safe electrical installations.

Copies of this book are being distributed to the high school agriculture instructors in Illinois Rural Electric Co.'s service area to provide a reference for the students as they learn about using electricity on the farm. Your co-op's employees often consult this book as they plan various farm and home wiring jobs. They are available for you or your electrician should you have any questions concerning recommended wiring practices.

IREC wants you to use electricity, but use it wisely. You are encouraged to refer to this wiring specifications and recommendations handbook when you, or

your electrician, have questions or need advice about wiring jobs in your home and around your farm.



# Second Pike County Industrial Show planned September 26-27

The second annual Pike County Industrial Show will be held September 26-27 on the grounds of the Pike County Farm Bureau on US 36-54 east of Pittsfield.

More than 40 Pike County businesses that produce or process items for sale primarily to "larger than Pike County" markets are expected to exhibit. This show, thought to be the first of its kind in Illinois, was started last year by the Pike County Foundation, a county-wide group of volunteers who work with John Wood Community College to promote economic development.

Exhibits last year included a range of processed meats, cheeses, spices, fruit, livestock feeds, clothing, cabinetry, furniture, explosives, concrete products, graphic arts materials, newspapers, remotely controlled mirrors, awnings and farm buildings.

Some of the more unusual items included a half-scale semi-truck, a reconditioned bus, clothing for handicapped people, lamb meat products, hydroponically grown tomatoes and numerous craft items.

Free samples are a feature of this show. Last year visitors enjoyed a variety of meats, cheese, apples and cider.

Special displays will present development-related subjects. Among such displays already definite, the University of Illinois will present development plans for its Orr Ag Center near Perry.

The Illinois Department of Transportation will display for the first time in western Illinois a bubble-enclosed scale model of the Valley City Central Illinois Expressway bridges, and a wall map showing in detail the route of the CIE through Pike County.

The Land of Lincoln Soybean Association and ADM

Corporation will present a new soybean-based meat additive developed by ADM and offer free samples of beef, pork and lamb products using the component. A Pike County firm will be the first to use it in a lamb product.

A Sunday brunch on the show grounds will be held for state and federal officials who will attend a special CIE dedication that Sunday afternoon at the Valley City bridge site. This brunch will be for exhibitors and visiting dignitaries and will include a brief tour of the industrial exhibits following the brunch. The brunch will start at 11:30 a.m. The Valley City bridge event will be 2-4 p.m. on the Scott County side of the Illinois river south of Naples.

The CIE bridge event will be sponsored by AMPS, Inc., a four-county citizens group that has worked to promote the CIE.

The first Pike County Industrial Show was very well accepted, but its continuation this year was threatened by difficulty finding a suitable facility for it. The Pike County Farm Bureau offered its building and grounds, and subsequently was invited to co-sponsor the show.

Displays will be mainly in the Farm Bureau auditorium and a 130-foot exhibition tent to be erected beside it. Smaller tents and mobile display units will also be used. The Farm Bureau grounds offer a modern and very beautiful setting for the show.

Show hours will be 9-7 Saturday and 10-5 Sunday.

For more information, contact Tom Coulson, 217-833-2679; Bob Waters, 217-285-2457, or John Pennock, 217-285-2347.

## Electrical safety rules

1. Know where the main switch box is at home and keep space clear for an emergency.
2. Don't over size the fuses.
3. Don't touch bare wires.
4. Stay away from lines that have fallen from a power pole.
5. Never climb electric poles.
6. Fly kites or model airplanes in open areas.
7. Don't disconnect an electric cord by pulling on the wire.
8. Don't hang extension cords over nails, hooks or under rugs.
9. Don't use extension cords unless you have to, then use a proper size one.
10. Never leave an iron or other heating appliance turned on when not in use.
11. Never place light bulbs, heat lamps or portable heaters near material that will burn.
12. Don't touch electric fixtures or equipment when you are wet or standing in water.

13. Don't use electric devices in bathrooms or around metal pipes.
14. Don't touch electric equipment when in bath tub.

## Counting kilowatt-hours

\*Average residential consumption (for family of four) (per month)

Range . . . . .	120 kwh/mo.
Refrigerator (frost free) . . . . .	150 kwh/mo.
Freezer . . . . .	120 kwh/mo.
Water heater with automatic washer . . . . .	500 kwh/mo.
Clothes dryer . . . . .	50 kwh/mo.
Dishwasher . . . . .	30 kwh/mo.
Dehumidifier (continuous run) . . . . .	240 kwh/mo.
Furnace blower . . . . .	120 kwh/mo.
Lighting & small appliances . . . . .	100 kwh/mo.
Air conditioning (2 to 3 ton) . . . . .	3-4000 kwh/yr.

\*Estimates based on meter checks by meter department personnel and Member Service Department personnel.

# The great cooperoperator

by Gene Clifford

The stocky young man was 16 years old, poorly dressed and an unemployed printer's apprentice as he ambled down a Philadelphia street munching a baker's roll. But he was something else, too — he was Benjamin Franklin.

And that was the very special man whose formal education had stopped in the second grade, but whose insistence on self-improvement pushed him to expand the horizons of his mind without letup throughout 84 years of industrious living.

Along the way, he published one of the leading newspapers of its time, and the witty "Poor Richard's Almanack," a compendium of homely common sense that has been widely quoted ever since. He did these so well that he was able to retire at 42 to devote his time to science and much-admired statesmanship.

He insisted always on testing his innovative ideas against the values they might produce for people. Many of his most useful inventions — the lightning rod, Franklin stove, improved design for street lights and lamps, rubber catheter, bifocal glasses, and more — were held free from patent protection and given freely to the people. "As we enjoy great advantages from the inventions of others," he explained, "we should be glad of an opportunity to serve others by our own."

One biographer observes that throughout Franklin's life, "one theme is dominant: his devotion to America — a devotion that transcended every other emotional and intellectual commitment in his life."

Clearly, this devotion was not to America's acres, but to its people. He emphasized this in his gifts for public use, and in his dogged efforts to help win self-determination for the people of this young land.

The nation is reminded of Franklin's lifetime of public service as we celebrate the bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution this summer. Franklin, whose signature appears on that celebrated document, is credited by one biographer with having the "humor and spirit of compromise (that) reduced tensions and brought agreement" at the constitutional Convention in 1787.

One of Franklin's most productive years was in 1752. He was elected to the Pennsylvania Assembly; he conducted his successful kite-and-key demonstration of the nature of lightning, and he helped his neighbors to establish the first cooperative on American soil. They organized a prototype mutual insurance company, the Philadelphia Contributorship for Protection Against Loss from Fire, a people-serving instrument that continues today.

There were no cooperatives at that time, of course, but Franklin's fertile imagination led to other mutual endeavors that gave people ownership and control of important parts of their lives. He encouraged the establishment of a volunteer fire company, a library, an academy and a hospital — all owned and controlled by the users in the best cooperative pattern.

These and much more are the very solid reasons why Benjamin Franklin, the "Poor Richard" of two centuries ago, this year was memorialized by membership in this country's national Cooperative Hall of Fame.

When the best known advocate of prudent common sense endorses the Cooperative Idea it is impressive testimony, indeed.

(Gene Clifford recently retired as NRECA's manager of cooperative education. This is from his "Cooperative Idea" series of columns.)

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## Illinois Rural Electric Co.

WINCHESTER, ILLINOIS 62694 — PHONE 217 742-3128

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HOME AND BUSINESS**



**OWNED,  
OPERATED &  
MANAGED**

**by Illinois Citizens  
FOR  
Illinois Citizens**





# High Line News

217-742-3128

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC CO. WINCHESTER, ILLINOIS



## Across the Manager's Desk

by Robert E. Gant

### October is Co-op Month

Illinois Rural Electric Co., one of America's 1,000 consumer-owned rural electric systems, is proud to be among the large family of cooperative organizations across the country. Some 40,000 cooperatives, providing goods and services to more than 60,000,000 Americans, join together to recognize Co-op Month every October.

This year's theme: "Cooperatives — People in Partnership" has a special significance because it truly reflects the meaning of cooperation. It's people working together to achieve a common goal.

The work of America's rural electric systems serves as an example of what can be done under seemingly impossible conditions.

### *Board meeting report*

The board of directors of Illinois Rural Electric Co. met at the office of the cooperative on Tuesday, September 8, 1987,

All directors were present, along with manager Robert E. Gant, office manager Lucien Nash, member and public relations director Mark Martin, and attorney Robert Bonjean.

The minutes of the regular board meeting held on August 3, 1987, were considered and were approved as mailed with the meeting notice.

The financial report for the month of July was given by the manager, who compared the revenues and expenses with the 1987 budget, in which it was noted that revenues were down because of loads being down, and all expenses were under budget, including the power bill. When all questions were answered, the report was approved as mailed with the notice of the meeting.

The board then considered the approval of the accounts paid report and, after some discussion, the report was approved as mailed with the meeting notice.

Fifty years ago fewer than 10 percent of America's rural families had electricity. Today, it's hard to find a place where electric power is not available. In the early days, providing electric power was more a matter of how dense an area was populated than how much the people needed the service. The conditions of the early thirties would have lasted forever if neighbor hadn't joined with neighbor to organize and implement the rural electrification program.

Most cooperatives got their start in much the same way — Identifying a need for people, not for profit. Today, they meet any number of needs including telephone service, housing, credit unions, furniture, food, health and day care, and farm supplies. Like rural electric cooperatives, many have grown and changed over the years to meet new needs of their membership. For example, since the early 1960s, rural electric systems nationwide have helped start and expand tens of thousands of new commercial and community facility projects resulting in more than a million jobs.

Rural electric cooperatives are one of America's greatest success stories. The rural electric program not only benefits more than 25,000,000 people in the nation's countryside, it's an accomplishment that in some way touches all United States citizens.

The construction and maintenance report was then given by the manager in which he reviewed the kilowatt-hour purchases for August, in which he stated there were 9,965,781 kilowatt-hours purchased which is 253,681 kilowatt-hours more than our largest month to date. The manager also reviewed the work that had been performed on the distribution system during the month of July.

The manager then gave his condition of cash report where he reviewed all of the balances in the local Winchester banks, as well as banks throughout our service area. In the load building report, it was reported that the Member Service Department had sold 19 appliances during the month of July and had shown a profit for the month.

The chairman next asked the manager and attorney to review with the board of directors the REA loan documents and the CFC loan documents that were sent to the cooperative from the application that had been made for a new construction loan. The manager ex-

plained the basis of the loan application and the attorney presented the actual loan documents for the board to consider. After a considerable amount of discussion, there was a motion duly made and seconded to approve the construction loan application.

The board next considered and reviewed Policy 310, relative to the extension of credit for the sale of electrical merchandise, electrical home heating equipment and insulation materials. The manager discussed the possible extension of this policy relative to increasing the amount and length of time to allow members to borrow money from the cooperative to install the new WaterFurnace ground water heat pump. He explained that this type of heating system would cost between \$8,000 and \$10,000, and as a promotion of the sale of the ground water heat pump, an extension of this policy would help members to make installations. The board asked the manager to re-write the policy along the guidelines of extending the amounts of money and the length of time to five years with a finance charge of six percent add-on monthly interest.

The chairman then called upon the attorney to discuss the latest developments in the FRIER lawsuit, of which the attorney identified one suit as FRIER I, in which he stated that manager Gant and Ed Williams had their depositions taken and had testified for more than a day on the stand at Sangamon County Court, relative to the events that had taken place from 1980 to the present time, relative to the cost overruns at the Clinton nuclear plant. The attorney also discussed what he called FRIER II, in which Lewis Powell, et al is suing 10 of the directors of the WIPCO board for their responsibility of the cost overruns from the Clinton plant. Part of this suit is a derivative class action claim against individual defendants being named as well as making all of the WIPCO cooperative nominal defendants in this action. The board of directors directed the attorney to respond to the FRIER II law suit by filing a motion for extension of time to plead in this case.

The chairman then asked the manager to report on the regular WIPCO board meeting held on August 14, in which director Harvey Vortman was retiring from the WIPCO board, and a resolution from Illinois Rural Electric Co. to seat William Griswold to the Western Illinois Power board was approved. The resolution also named James Brannan as the alternate director to the WIPCO board. Jim Greenwood from Soyland Power

Cooperative gave a report on the Clinton plant, in which he stated that the plant is now running at 50 percent power and on up to 75 percent power and said he felt that during September it would probably run at 100 percent power and would begin a warranty run sometime during the latter part of September or the first of October. It was reported that Pearl plant continued to run at about 2 megawatt hours, and the painting contract was complete on the stack, the coal conveyor and the water tower. During a recent outage in the first part of August, the Pearl and Pittsfield plants were also asked to run to meet the peak on the pool system. The line crews of WIPCO continue to relocate lines because of the Central Illinois Expressway and other road moves in Adams County.

The board approved the Continuing Education program for directors and employees for the 1987-88 period of time, in which NRECA and AIEC personnel teach courses on rural electrification at the state level.

The board of directors considered a renewal of the director officers liability insurance policy which will expire on November 25, 1987. The manager was directed to make application for additional directors officers liability insurance from the National Union Fire Insurance Company of Pittsburgh.

The chairman then asked the manager to review the CFC report on the key ratio trend analysis for the cooperative which he had enclosed in the report to the directors. The manager reviewed some 40 odd comparisons of Illinois Rural Electric Co. to other cooperatives of like size in the United States, as well as the seven distribution cooperatives served by WIPCO. The manager was asked to have CFC representative Mark Harper at a future board meeting to further discuss the key ratio trend analysis.

Director Jeral Miller reported to the board on some activity of the drilling of gas wells in the Milton-Time area in Pike County. The manager and attorney discussed the further negotiations with other energy companies relative to co-generation with those local gas companies and stated there were future meetings set up with these energy companies.

The board of directors approved and executed 48 memberships in the cooperative which had been received in the previous month.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

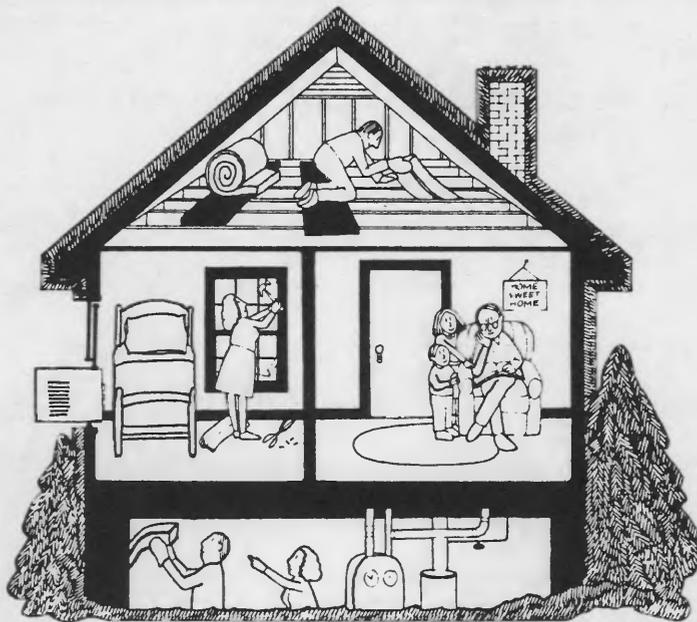
## Security lights available for rent

Have you ever stepped out the door at night and tripped over a bicycle you couldn't see? Or maybe you have thought it would be a good idea to be able to keep an eye on your machine shed at night. If you are inconvenienced by darkness around your home, then perhaps you should consider renting a security light from Illinois Rural Electric Co.

These rental lights not only provide visibility around the farmstead, they also provide security for a family member who may be home alone at night. For just \$7.50 a month, IREC will provide a 175-watt mercury

vapor light that will come on automatically at dusk and go off at dawn. In addition, IREC will perform any necessary routine maintenance at no extra charge. Also keep in mind that the electricity supplied to these rental lights does not go through your meter. The monthly rental fee covers the electricity usage of the light, the light itself, and the maintenance costs.

Call the IREC office at 742-3128 to see about getting a rental light installed at your home. It will provide your family with years of convenience and security.



## Energy grant program available soon

Plans are being made for the implementation of a Rural Home Energy Program, according to Henry C. Kurth, energy resources manager for the Illinois Department of Energy and Natural Resources. Kurth will be responsible for developing plans to make \$1.5 million available for "purposes of weatherization or other energy-related improvement grants to residents of low and moderate income consumers served by electric cooperatives." He hopes that funds will be available for use by electric cooperative members in early November.

Although the plans are not finalized, some tentative program guidelines are as follows:

1. Any IREC member (as defined by Section 3.4 of the Electric Supplier Act) is eligible provided their household income is less than 120% of the area median income.

2. Applicants must receive an energy audit from IREC, the Illinois Residential Conservation Service, or

an acceptable private entity.

3. Consumers with less than 80 percent of the median income for residents in the IREC service area are eligible for a grant of up to \$1,500 without any matching funds required by the applicant. Those families or individuals with income levels between 80 and 120 percent of the area median income will be eligible for a grant of up to \$1,000 provided they contribute 50 percent of the improvement costs.

4. All installations will be certified.

This means that you, as a member, could receive up to \$1,500 for installing energy conservation practices such as a replacement central air conditioner with an SEER greater than 8.6, an energy-efficient water heater, a heat pump with a COP greater than 2.5, various types of insulation, and storm or thermal doors and windows. Contact Illinois Rural Electric Co. for more information about this program.

## Meter tampering costs everyone

The amount of electricity that you use in your home and around the farm is measured by the meter on your house or meter pole. These meters are highly accurate devices that record consumption in terms of kilowatt-hours. If left unbothered, they should provide many years of useful service.

Illinois Rural Electric Co. has, however, noticed isolated problems with meter tampering in the past. While the majority of IREC members are honest and do not attempt to divert power or otherwise avoid paying for the power they use, these problems were occurring often enough to prompt some type of protective action. For this reason, IREC crews began installing new meter seals on meters in the service area. These seals have serial numbers which are recorded at our office. When these seals are found missing or broken,

the member will see a \$50 fee on his/her next month's electric bill. This policy seems to have reduced the occurrences of meter tampering since it was initiated in 1985.

Remember, if one member steals electricity from the cooperative, all members wind up paying for that electricity. Also keep in mind that no one is authorized to remove a meter seal except IREC employees. If you need to make changes in your service, call your serviceman or call Illinois Rural Electric Co. in Winchester at (217) 742-3128. We will dispatch someone to remove the meter and replace and reseal it after the work has been completed. This is done at no cost to IREC members. We appreciate your cooperation with this policy.

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC CO. ELECTRIC HEAT REBATE PROGRAM FORM

**PURCHASER**

Member Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Line No. \_\_\_\_\_ Serv. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Map No. \_\_\_\_\_

Home Owner Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**DEALER OR CONTRACTOR:**

Dealer Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Installation \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**ELECTRIC HEAT INFORMATION — WHOLE HOUSE:**

\$300 Rebate — All homes over 800 Sq. Ft.

Ground Water Heat Pump \_\_\_\_\_ Electric Furnace \_\_\_\_\_

Heat Pump \_\_\_\_\_ Baseboard \_\_\_\_\_ Ceiling Cable \_\_\_\_\_

Electric Boiler \_\_\_\_\_ Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Brand of Equipment \_\_\_\_\_

Heat in KW \_\_\_\_\_ Size of Service (Amps) \_\_\_\_\_

**ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Be a homeowner-member of Illinois Rural Electric Co.
2. Have an electric heating system permanently installed in a new or existing home, and occupy this home.
3. Attach a copy of the sales receipt to the rebate form.
4. Sale of electric heating must be after July 8, 1987.
5. This offer is limited to the first 10 home owners, by June 15, 1988.
6. Rebate will be paid to homeowner/member.
7. Agree to have the qualifying system inspected by Illinois Rural Electric Co.'s Member Service Department personnel.

Mail to: ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC CO.  
2-12 South Main  
Winchester, Illinois 62694  
Attn: Steve Wisdom

**INSPECTION (Cooperative Use Only)**

Verified and Inspected New Electric System Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Inspection Date \_\_\_\_\_ Rebate Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Inspector Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



217-742-3128

# High Line News

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC CO. WINCHESTER, ILLINOIS



## Across the Manager's Desk

by Robert E. Gant

### Board retains reduced rate for electric heating

The Illinois Rural Electric Co. board of directors recently voted to keep the reduced heat rate that was approved last year. This means that for those members who qualify under the single-phase or three-phase all electric rate, there will again be a 1.5 cent credit for each kilowatt-hour used in the third rate block. In other words, all kilowatt-hours used between 900 and 6,900 will cost just 4.0 cents each.

While this rate applies only to those members who qualify under either Schedule A-EH (single-phase all electric) or Schedule B-EH (three-phase all electric), its

### Weatherization grant applications being taken

Illinois Rural Electric Co. has application forms available for members who are interested in trying to take advantage of the Rural Home Energy Grant Program. This program is to assist low- to medium-income members of electric cooperatives in installing weatherization or other energy-related improvements in their homes. A partial list of qualifying measures would include: caulking and weatherstripping, replacement furnaces, air conditioners, and water heaters that

### Board meeting report

The board of directors of Illinois Rural Electric Co. met at the cooperative office on October 5, 1987. All directors were present at the meeting, along with manager Robert E. Gant, office manager Lucien Nash, director of public and member relations Mark Martin and Robert Bonjean, the attorney for the Cooperative.

The minutes of the September 7 board meeting were

benefits will continue to be spread over the entire membership. By adding new kilowatt-hour sales, the cooperative's fixed costs can be spread over a broader base, which should provide for rate stability for all members. The credit will be in effect for the months of November, December, January, February, March and April.

In addition to retaining the electric heat rate, the board also moved to offer a \$300 rebate on certain electric heat installations. The rebate applies to ground water heat pumps, air-to-air heat pumps, electric furnaces, baseboard heat, ceiling cables, electric boilers, or similar electric heating devices. The rebate, as well as the all-electric rate credit are part of a program implemented in response to an electric heat program of Western Illinois Power Cooperative. WIPCO is Illinois Rural Electric Co.'s power supplier and has provided special funding to IREC to maintain and develop electric heat load.

If you are a member and considering a new heating system, you should contact IREC first to see if you qualify for the rebate. We will also be glad to help you size your new electric heating system. Call Steve Wisdom at 742-3128 for more information.

meet certain efficiency standards, ground source heat pumps, insulation, and storm or thermal doors and windows.

The amount of the grant for which a member would be eligible will vary according to the member's income and family size.

The maximum grant for a qualifying members will be \$1,500. This amount of money could help do quite a bit of weatherization, especially if the member does his/her own installation work.

For more information about the guidelines for this Home Energy Program, stop by the IREC office or call 742-3128.

considered and after some technical corrections, they were approved as mailed with the meeting notice.

The board then considered the financial report, in which the manager commented and explained the financial report on a line-by-line basis. The cooperative had made a margin for the month, based upon the sales of the July peak load for the cooperative, in that it had

purchased 9,965,000 kilowatt-hours which had exceeded the January peak of this year.

The board then considered a proposition concerning the Section 12 Resource Conservation Loans in which the cooperative may defer part of its principle payment on the long term debt and allow members to borrow that money for the purchase of energy efficient appliances, including ground water heat pumps and more efficient water heaters, as well as insulation, storm windows, weather stripping and other weatherization means on existing structures. It was felt that this program offered by REA might be an opportunity for members to be able to install these energy conservation measures with the cooperative helping to finance these projects. The board approved the manager to make application to REA to make these loans available. Along with this federal program, the board of directors also looked at a weatherization program that will be offered by the Department of Energy and Natural Resources of the State of Illinois, which will offer a grant to members of rural electric cooperatives to insulate their home and install storm and thermal windows, as well as replacing water heaters, air conditioners and furnaces that are more efficient, including the ground water heat pump. The manager stated that for our area there are certain income guidelines based upon a family size in which, if the family became eligible, the state would have a grant up to \$1,500 for certain energy conservation measures. There is also a second program that would grant up to \$1,000 or 50 percent of the eligible conservation measure if the particular income guidelines can be met. The board authorized participation in the Department of Energy Natural Resources Program, about which there will be future information out to members.

The manager then discussed the latest developments in the co-generation from gas fields in the area and discussed the results of a meeting with these gas suppliers to produce electricity to be utilized by the Soyland/WIPCO pool. The discussion ended with a resolution asking WIPCO to petition the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to waive certain conditions of the Public Utility Regulatory Policy Act that would allow the energy to flow into the WIPCO/Soyland pool and would allow Illinois Rural Electric Co. to serve the load on a retail basis.

The attorney for the cooperative next reported on the newest developments in the FRIER I lawsuit and also the FRIER II case. He stated that, on September 17, the attorneys in the FRIER I case met with the judge to determine what other motions were going to be accepted in the case and there were hearings on some discovery questions which needed to be addressed. The attorney then stated that the FRIER II case in which the defendants in the case have met and hired a law firm from Peoria to represent these defendants, in which Illinois Rural Electric Co. is being named as a nominal defendant. The attorney asked the board of directors, in discussing with them, how the board wished to plead in this case.

The chairman next asked the manager to report on the regular meeting of Western Illinois Power Cooperative and a special member meeting of that organization, which was held on September 11. The manager stated that at the regular WIPCO board meeting, they had heard reports concerning the Clinton nuclear plant operation, in that the plant had run about 75 percent of capacity during August and would continue testing until the October warranty run. It was noted that there was a bomb threat at the plant, but there were no bombs to be found. The Pearl plant continues to run at about a 20-megawatt level and has been shut down twice during the month because of economic dispatch of this plant. The Labor Committee reported and recommended changes in wage-and-salary benefits for the employees of WIPCO. It was reported that the committee continues to work with REA and CFC on the restructuring of the WIPCO debt. The regular meeting of WIPCO broke up at noon, and there was a special meeting of members held at 1 p.m. to consider a resolution for indemnification of directors in the FRIER I lawsuit. Also considered was a resolution to restate the mortgage and security agreement with REA and increase the debt limit so that agreements with REA could be reached on the restructuring and refinancing of the WIPCO debt.

The chairman next reported on the Region V meeting held on September 15, 16 and 17. Griswold reported to the board that administrator Hunter has given his report concerning the refinancing of cooperatives under the current regulations and had reported that Soyland Power Cooperative and an Arizona cooperative were the only two refinanced under the current regulations. Reports were given concerning the recommendations of the recent study committee from NRECA on the cooperative program. The CFC Region V meeting was held in which it was reported that this organization had had a good year and they looked forward to helping the financing of the rural electric program in the future.

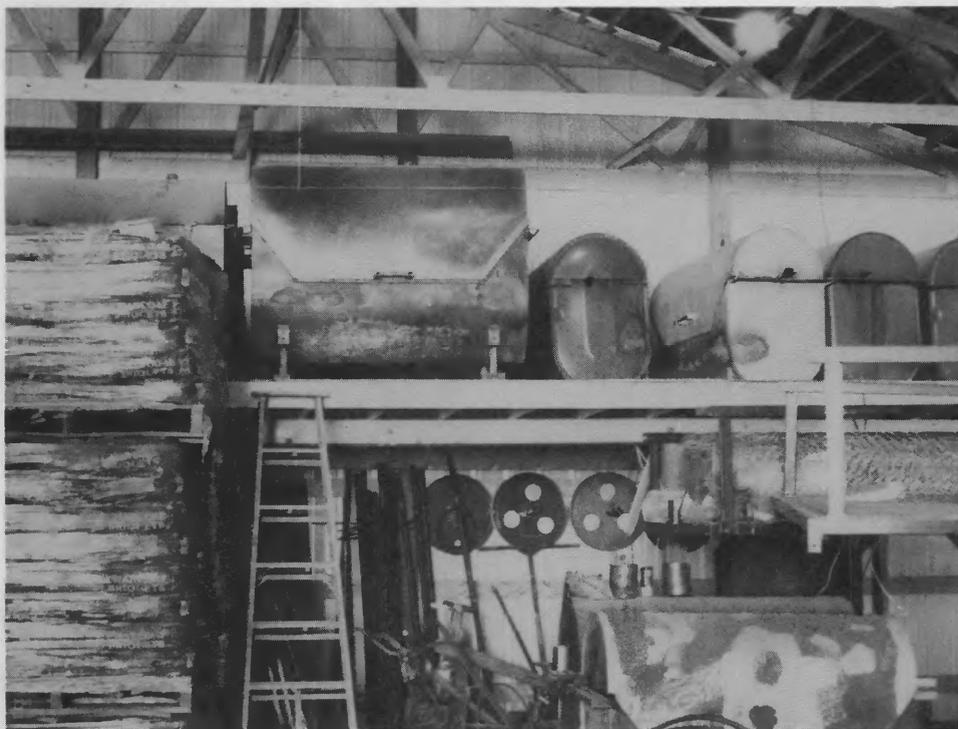
The chairman reported on the telecommunications panel and the offering of the ESPN program within the NRTC package that will be offered to members through Illinois Rural Electric Co.

The board of directors authorized the refund of membership fee per the cooperative's policy.

The manager then discussed the interruptible load accounting policy of WIPCO and the participation of Illinois Rural within that interruptible load policy for large power loads. He also discussed other rate changes for small commercial loads that has been studied by our engineering department.

The chairman then discussed the appointment of committees of the board to consider certain distinct areas of operation of the cooperative and appointed those committees of the board at this meeting.

There were 44 new membership in the cooperative which were received during the month that were then executed by the officers. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Left: Stored cookers await the next job. Right: Labels and the finished seasoning product.



Wayne Riley with his special seasoning

## Member adds spice to his life

When Wayne Riley started roasting hogs upon request for some local gatherings, he probably never dreamed where it would lead. Wayne, an Illinois Rural Electric Co. member, is a farmer near Griggsville in Pike County. He began roasting hogs for some of his friends and acquaintances in 1973. He started with four cookers and a standard seasoning mixture for the pork. His hobby has developed to the point where he now has 43 cookers and his own seasoning business.

Wayne said his wife, Dorothy, was skeptical at first. She thought hog roasts might be just a fad and perhaps Wayne should sell his cookers. Fourteen years later, she spends hours a month on the phone helping to arrange and schedule various roasts and taking orders for the seasoning business.

The Rileys also farm 565 acres of grain crops. Wayne sold all of his livestock several years ago and has no plans to get back into that end of farming. Besides, the hog roastings and the seasoning business consume much of his "free" time now. One roast can take several days of planning and other preparations, in addition to actual cooking time. There are assistant cooks to line up, meat to buy, cookers to load and haul, and, of course, seasoning to prepare. Wayne and his crew need to be at the cook site at least 24 hours ahead of serving time. About six hours of this time is spent setting up the cookers and about 12 hours are allowed for cooking time, and another six hours are allowed for the cutting and reheating the meat for the larger cooks. After

all the meat is cut up, one hog should feed around 100 people, give or take, according to size. Wayne also adds that he has a special spit that can handle eight-to-ten 20-25 pound beef rounds, and he has designed a system of motors to turn the spits on all of his cookers. He has cooked about 100 beef rounds this year, and he estimates he has cooked close to 1,400 whole hogs since 1973.

Soon after Wayne started roasting hogs, he began to dabble with the seasoning recipe that he first used in an effort to improve the flavor of the meat he was cooking. Four years later, he had improved the seasoning so much people started asking him where they could buy the seasoning he used. He then decided that perhaps he should bottle and sell his recipe from the back of his truck as he cooked and served the meat he was roasting. Wayne said his son sold over \$1,000 worth of seasoning in one day during a cookout along the Illinois River. Now his distribution range is from California to New York and almost every state in between, with orders being shipped via UPS.

Riley's Seasonings are still mixed, bottled, and labeled by Wayne with very little automation. He

started out in a corner of one of his pole buildings that he originally intended to be a workshop area. He has since added a lean-to to the building to store ingredients and packaging materials. This addition is insulated and air conditioned to preserve the freshness of the ingredients and to comply with all health standards. He also attends several shows during the year where he has a chance to display his wares. One of those shows was the Pike County Industrial Show in Pittsfield this year.

So, what are Wayne's plans for the future? He would like to build 20 more cookers and bring his total number to 63. He likes to roast hogs, and the gatherings give him a chance to meet people from all over the world. He would also like an opportunity to try to keep up with the demand for seasonings from a major grocery store chain. Finally, Wayne says he and Dorothy hope to continue to be able to visit their son, Korbin, and his family, who live in Cleveland, Ohio, and their daughter, Kimberly, and her family, who live in Muncie, Indiana. They enjoy the time they can spend with their grandchildren. It sounds like the Rileys have planned a variety of things to spice their lives.

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## Select best caulk for job

Caulking compound comes in a variety of types, each with its pros and cons. When selecting caulk for use in a specific place in your home, be sure to read package labels for details on what surfaces it does and does not stick to, its ability to remain the same through all types of conditions, and how long it remains effective.

Oil or resin base caulk: Low in cost, but has a short life span. Will adhere to wood, masonry and metal but dries hard and is not recommended for cracks that expand and contract.

Latex-base caulk: Easy to use, paintable, good seal and adherence. Vinyl latex suggested only for interior use, and acrylic latex (slightly more expensive) may deteriorate if used in permanently wet spots.

Butyl rubber caulk: Excellent adherence to all surfaces, good water resistance. Some rubber caulks must "cure" for a week, and you can expect considerable shrinkage.

Elastomeric caulk: These include silicone, polysulfide, and polyurethane caulks — most expensive varieties, excellent seal, very elastic in freezing weather. Somewhat harder to use and may require primer. Be sure to provide good ventilation during application.

Urethane foam: This spray foam is good for filling large cracks and provides a good insulating seal.

Fillers: To fill extra wide cracks before caulking. You can use a ropelike material called oakum, or caulking cotton, sponge rubber, or fiberglass filler.

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## Smoke detector law passed

Governor Thompson recently signed into law House Bill 3, which became Public Act 85-0143, the "Smoke Detector Act." Under the act, which is effective immediately, all existing homes and apartment buildings will have smoke detectors installed by July 1, 1988. New or substantially remodeled homes are required to have detectors in place on the first day they are occupied after December 31, 1987.

Either battery-operated or AC-powered smoke detectors may be installed in existing structures. Only AC-powered units will be acceptable in new or substantially remodeled dwellings.

Many homes already have smoke detectors installed. Not only can they save money on homeowner's in-

surance costs, but, more importantly, they can save lives.

If you don't already have smoke detectors installed in your home, you should start thinking about where the best locations would be to put them. Near bedrooms, in the hallway at the top of a stairway, and in or near the kitchen would be areas to consider placing detectors.

What has always been a good idea is now the law. If you want to purchase good smoke detectors at a good price, you can get them at the IREC Member Service Department. We will have Jameson "CODE ONE" (Model CD-H1) detectors available for \$6.60. This price includes a battery and a three-year limited warranty. These detectors would also make nice Christmas gifts. Remember, the sooner you install smoke detectors, the sooner they can start to work. You should have one before you need it.



217-742-3128

ILLINOIS RURAL ELECTRIC CO. WINCHESTER, ILLINOIS

# High Line News



Directors made the ORR Agricultural Center and the Pearl generating station two of their stops during the tour. They also had a chance to see much of the new residential construction on the system.

## Directors view service area

Your board of directors of Illinois Rural Electric Co. recently toured a portion of the western half of the service area in order to become more familiar with the electric distribution system.

On Friday, November 6, directors, the general manager and staff personnel toured parts of the service area from northern Pike County to southern Calhoun County. The last stop on the trip was a tour through the Western Illinois Power Co. plant at Pearl. Along the way, various single-phase and three-phase services were visited, as well as substations, underground services, and some territory before unseen by some of the directors.

There are currently more than 2,800 miles of line energized and almost 9,500 meters recording electricity usage in your cooperative's service area. The board of directors has a responsibility to be informed about the technology being used to meet the changing demands of the cooperative's varied member-consumers. This tour was designed to keep the board abreast of some of these technologies, and the consensus was that this goal was accomplished.



## *Board meeting report*

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The board of directors met at the office of the cooperative in Winchester, on Monday, November 2, 1987. All of the directors were present, along with the manager, the office manager and the member and public relations director.

The board approved the minutes of the October 5 meeting as mailed with the notice of the meeting.

The Wage, Salary and Budget Committee reported to the board on recommendations concerning salary changes that would begin January 1, 1988.

The chairman next introduced Mark Harper, area representative for the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation (CFC), who attended the board meeting to discuss with the board the CFC key ratio trend analysis report on the finances of Illinois Rural Electric Co. and how they compared with other cooperatives throughout the country.

The financial report was then reviewed by the manager for the board, and when all questions had been answered, the report was approved as mailed with the notice of the meeting. As part of this report, the accounts paid report was also reviewed and was approved as mailed with the notice of the meeting. The manager, in addition, reviewed with the board the 1987 budget comparisons along with estimates that he had made on the 1988 budget with the proposed cost of power that had been forecast. The manager then was asked to give his construction and maintenance report for September, in which he stated the cooperative had purchased 9,022,955 kilowatt-hours, with a demand of 20,020 kilowatts. He reported that sales were 8,159,403 kilowatt-hours, with a line loss of around 9 percent. He also stated that the cooperative had built 15 new services for the month.

The chairman next asked the manager to review the condition of cash report and to report on CFC and its interest rates on line of credit loans and long- and intermediate-term loans. The manager also reported on the load building activities of the Member Service Department, in which he stated they had sold 10 appliances for the month.

The chairman, who serves as a delegate on the board of directors of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, next gave a short report on the Association board meeting held on October 15. As part of this report, the chairman reported on the Gatekeeper Program from the Illinois Department on Aging and stated

that employees of Illinois Rural Electric Co. could serve also as gatekeepers in our service area as an additional service to our members.

The manager reminded the board of seminars that would be coming up during the month of November as part of the Continuing Education Program with the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives and reminded them of three individual courses that would be coming up in November and the near future.

The chairman asked for a report on the Illinois Department of Energy and Natural Resource's grant program discussed the previous month. The manager stated that a contract had been executed with ENR and to date they had had 24 applications for energy-saving activities by members of Illinois Rural Electric Co. The grant program is being offered by the State of Illinois through rural cooperatives to weatherize individual rural homes up to \$1,500 if an individual can meet the income guidelines.

The manager and chairman then gave the highlights of the regular WIPCO board meeting, which was held on October 9.

The chairman then asked the manager to report on the FRIER suit, both FRIER I and FRIER II, in the absence of the attorney. The manager stated that the hearing that was scheduled for October 22 and 23 was not held, and it had been rescheduled for December 16, 17 and 18. He also stated that, in the FRIER II suit, the defendants had met with the attorney on October 21 and prepared a motion to file in court to dismiss the suit.

The manager then gave the accident report for October, in which there were three minor accidents, but none of them were loss of time.

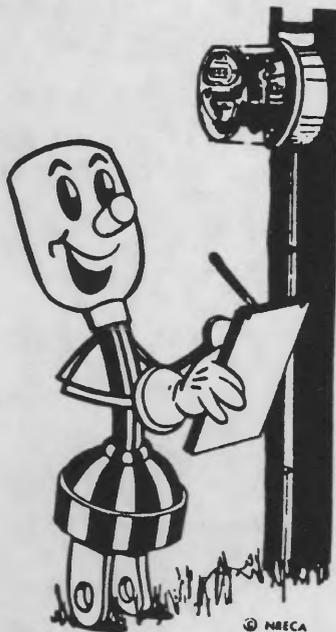
The chairman asked for other business, and the manager stated that he wished to have a bid approved for the painting and maintenance of our two radio towers, at Hamburg and Winchester. The manager explained in detail and the contractual arrangement was approved.

The board of directors then approved 65 memberships in the cooperative for the month and director Jeral Miller stated the committee on load building and sales promotion would meet on November 17 at the office of the cooperative.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned.

**Merry Christmas**  
**from the directors and employees of**  
**Illinois Rural Electric, Co.**

# It's important to read your meter



As a condition of receiving electric service from Illinois Rural Electric Co., it is your responsibility as a member to read your meter at regular intervals and submit accurate readings to the Cooperative's office.

If, for some reason, you fail to submit a reading for one month, an estimated bill will be prepared and sent. If a member fails to submit an accurate reading of his/her meter for two consecutive billing periods, the general manager is authorized and directed to have the meter read by a cooperative employee. The member will be charged \$10 plus tax to help defray the expense of having the meter read. If the same member still fails to submit accurate readings, a second visit will be made and the member will be charged another \$10 plus tax.

After a second visit by a Cooperative employee to read a meter, a security deposit may be required, which will be applied to the costs of having an employee read the meter. In some cases, the service may be disconnected as provided in the Cooperative's Right to Discontinue Service policy. If the service is disconnected, the member will be charged a \$10 plus tax disconnection fee and will also be charged a \$10 plus tax reconnection fee before the service will be reconnected.

As you can see, it is important that you, as a member, submit regular and accurate meter readings to the Cooperative's office. It is also important to the Cooperative as a whole because it helps keep the charges made to members in line with the power costs incurred by IREC. In other words, it helps keep your rates down. Now you know a few reasons why it is important to keep sending in your meter readings on a timely basis.

**JAMESON**  
HOME PRODUCTS

**CODE ONE**  
**SMOKE ALARM**



**3 year limited warranty**  
**Battery included**  
**\$6.60 plus tax**

*Available at Member Service Dept.*

# Rural Home Energy Program grants available through Illinois Rural

## What is the Rural Home Energy Program?

The Rural Home Energy Program was authorized by the Illinois Legislature in 1986 to provide financial assistance to low- and moderate-income members of rural electric cooperatives for weatherization and conservation measures.

### Who is eligible?

Any member of a rural electric cooperative whose income is within specific guidelines. (See Chart)

### How much financial assistance is available?

There are two categories of assistance:

1. For those members whose income is 80 percent or less of the area median income, a grant of up to \$1,500 is available.
2. For those members whose income is 80 to 120 percent of the area median income, a matching grant of up to \$1,000 is available. This means members in this category must fund one-half of the cost themselves.

### What are eligible practices?

- \* Caulking and weatherstripping
- \* Wall, ceiling, floor, pipe, duct or water heater insulation
- \* Storm doors, storm windows, thermal windows or thermal doors
- \* Replacement water heater which meets or exceeds current American Society of Heating Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) 90 efficiency standards
- \* Replacement air conditioner with a seasonal energy efficiency ratio (SEER) greater than 8.6
- \* Solar domestic water heaters
- \* Furnace efficiency modifications
- \* Electric load management systems
- \* Replacement furnaces or boilers with annual fuel utilization efficiency (AFUE) greater than 90 percent

\* Furnace replacement burner (Oil)

If your idea for energy conservation is not on this list, it must be approved by the Illinois Department of Energy and Natural Resources (ENR).

### How do you apply?

1. Contact IREC for information.
2. You must have an energy audit on your home. (Available from IREC.)
3. You must get a written bid from a contractor for the proposed work. The bid should include a description of the work (include model numbers and efficiency ratings for furnaces and air conditioners) and a cost estimate for the work. All contractors will be required to provide a one-year warranty on all material installed.
4. You must submit the completed application and attachments to IREC for review.

### Then what?

1. IREC will review your application, certify that you are a member and forward the application to ENR for final review and approval.
2. ENR reviews the application and approves or rejects your application.
3. If rejected, your application will be returned to IREC, who will contact you to either correct or withdraw the application.
4. If the application is approved by ENR, a letter is sent to you and IREC.
5. IREC will endorse the check to you.
6. IREC will conduct an inspection and you certify the installation.

If you are interested in learning more about this grant program, please contact the IREC office at 217/742-3128 or stop by the office in Winchester.

## Income guidelines for Illinois Rural Electric

Family Size:	1	2	3	4	5	6
Total Family Income:	\$13,110	\$14,990	\$16,850	\$18,730	\$19,900	\$21,070

100% Subsidy up to \$1,500

If the applicant's family income is less than the figure listed above he/she is less than 80% of the median income for this service area. Therefore, the family is eligible for a grant up to \$1,500 for energy conservation measures in their home. The applicant will not be required to provide any matching funds.

Family Size:	1	2	3	4	5	6
Total Family Income:	\$13,110- 19,665	\$14,990- 22,485	\$16,850- 25,275	\$18,730- 28,095	\$19,900- 29,850	\$21,070- 31,605

50% Subsidy up to \$1,000

If the applicant's family income is between the two figures listed above he/she is eligible for a grant of 50% of the cost of eligible conservation measures up to a total of \$1,000.