



**Tennessee's
Rural Electric
Valentine**
(See Story, Page 16)

FEBRUARY, 1970
Tennessee

MAGAZINE

Dedicated to Better Living

Tennessee MAGAZINE

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CONTENTS

Volunteer Views	4
Sugar Mountain	6
Protect Your Valentine	8
New Directions	10
Your Co-op Section	12
Uncle John	14
Timely Topics	15
Miss TECA	16
Electric School	18
Puzzle Corner	21
Market Place	22

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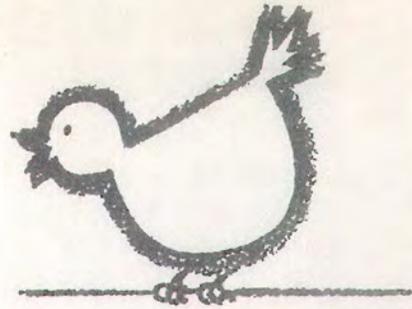
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ON THE COVER

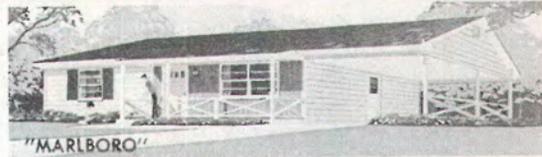
Our life-size Valentine is pretty Janet
Porter, the current Miss Tennessee
Rural Electric Co-ops, who soon will be
competing for National Rural Electric
beauty honors. Her story is on Page 16
of this issue.

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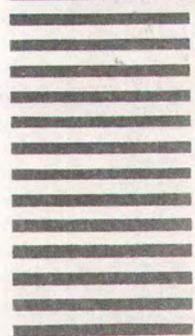
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Volunteer Views

by J. C. Hundley
Executive Manager, TECA

The original objective of rural electric cooperatives was that of bringing the blessing of electricity to all people in our nation's rural and small town areas who did not have it, and to bring this power on a dependable basis and at the lowest possible cost.

This was the basic, the original goal of rural electric co-ops — and it has been achieved to a remarkable extent — but it has never been the *only* objective, for the provision of electricity, while vitally important, is only a means to the end of making co-op service areas better places to live, to work, to worship, to be educated, to be well or sick and to remain during entire lifetimes. These are the additional, the many-pronged objectives of rural electric co-ops and they have been summed up in a more detailed manner in the following, which was formulated recently by the NRECA Long-Range Study Committee:

RURAL ELECTRIC OBJECTIVES

Electric Service — Rural electric cooperatives must provide area coverage electric service at the lowest possible cost consistent with sound business principles. Rural electric cooperatives must anticipate the expanding energy requirements of their member-consumers in every respect and should achieve the highest standards of quality and continuity employing modern technology.

Power Supply — Rural Electric cooperatives must achieve effective influence, control or ownership of an assured and adequate source of wholesale power in order to provide low-cost total utility service in their areas.

Capital — Rural electric cooperatives must develop and maintain effective influence, control or ownership of assured and adequate sources of low-cost capital — sufficient to enable them to assure full utility responsibility and to successfully fulfill their obligations as corporate citizens.

Territorial Protection — Rural electric cooperatives must achieve and maintain territorial protection to assure the continued development of economically sound systems able to adequately serve all present and future electric power requirements in their service territory.

Electric Power Marketing — Rural electric cooperatives must actively promote electric service as the most desirable, beneficial and

economical method of meeting the total energy requirements of their member-consumers.

Cooperative Ownership and Member Relations — Rural electric cooperatives must strive to achieve and maintain widespread understanding, participation and involvement of their member-owners in the affairs of their cooperatives and provide them a real sense of ownership through a true demonstration of cooperative principles and the democratic process.

Management and Leadership — Rural electric cooperatives must encourage and support their already capable and dedicated directors and employees to improve and develop their capabilities and performance and must create the opportunity for individuals who understand and accept cooperative philosophy to achieve satisfying careers in their application of the principles, tools, and techniques of modern management, while providing the leadership for a continually vigorous and dynamic rural electric program.

Organization — Rural electric cooperatives must attain maximum beneficial use of available manpower, physical and financial resources through sound organizational structure, coordination and integration of activities and a continuous program of self-evaluation and improvement.

Corporate Citizenship Responsibility — Rural electric cooperatives must secure favorable public support for their activities and assume a position of leadership in improving the social, cultural and economic status of those living in the rural community.

Community Development and Other Services — Rural electric cooperatives, as consumer-owned rural organizations, must identify and initiate or actively support programs which will contribute to the well-being of their member-owners and programs which will develop or improve community facilities and services.

Political Activity — Rural electric cooperative members and their leaders must maintain active interest and participation in appropriate legislative and governmental activities, including political action programs on a non-partisan basis.

National Resources — Rural electric cooperatives must promote development of the natural resources of the nation, including water, power and nuclear resources, for the benefit of all the people.

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SUGAR MOUNTAIN, ABOVE ALL

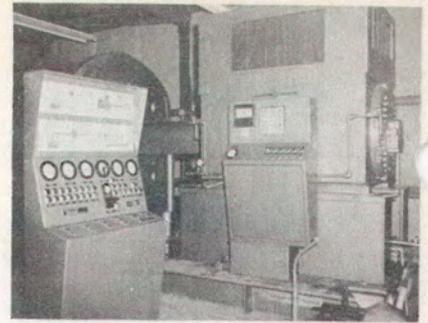
By C. H. WARD
Mountain Electric Co-op

Hidden away high in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina, cresting on the Eastern Continental Divide, one will find in the making what should be one of the south's finest all season resorts—Sugar Mountain.

Now open to skiing, Sugar Mountain is located midway between Linville, N.C., and Banner Elk, N.C., and is under the direction of Dr. Tom Brigham, one of the pioneers in the development of Beech Mountain resort. Working with Dr. Brigham are George and Chessie MacRae, also formerly associated with Beech Mountain.

A number of ski slopes are located in the bowl shape terrain protected by high ridges on three sides. The length of the slopes varies from 2,000 ft. to 8,000 ft. over a 1,200 foot vertical drop. There are slopes for the beginner as well as the Olympic contender and all are well named so the skier can find those suited to his skill. If you are an expert and want a long ski run, you would take "Tom Terrific" (flying mile). The advanced skier would try "Dead End." The intermediate has "Big Birch" or "Cake Walk" while the beginner and novice would stay on "Easy Street" until their ability and confidence improve.

Six chair lifts are planned over a period of several years. These will vary from 1,700 feet to a mile in length. There are now three lifts in operation, two double and one triple. The one mile double chairlift has midway loading and unloading points to enable skiers to use either the upper or lower half or the entire length of the ski slope.



The compressor house is the heart of the electronic control snow manufacturing equipment. The large compressor pulled by a 2,500 HP electric motor puts compressed air and water on the mountain for the snow cannons.



Sugar Mountain as seen from Highway 184 going into Banner Elk, N.C.



Dr. Tom Brigham, President of Sugar Mountain Co., looks over his mountain. Dr. Brigham, a dentist, is a native of Alabama but has made his home here for a number of years.

Another feature of this resort is the ski school which is staffed with well-trained American and European instructors. Professional help is available to start the beginner, help the intermediate or to teach finesse to the expert by adding style to his motion.

A lot of natural snow falls on Sugar Mountain, but in order to keep skiing conditions at the very best, artificial snow is made. The most up-to-date snow manufacturing equipment using electronically controlled snow cannons is used to provide a maximum base of snow over the entire skiable area. Also snow vehicles are used for grooming and constant treatment to maintain this condition.

The Center, located in Sugar Hollow at the base of the ski slopes, is a 35,000 square foot

building to give skiers a one-stop center. In it you will find cafeteria facilities, rental equipment, store, services, nursery, and repair shops.

Although skiing is now the main attraction, plans call for other winter sports in the future such as tobogganing, skibobbing and ice skating.

It is estimated that future summer activities will draw as many visitors as does winter, with such facilities planned as two 18 hole golf courses, tennis, fishing, riding trails, plus vacation and retirement homes.

Of the two golf courses to be located on this 3,000 acre resort, one will be located in the Valley Meadows near the lodge. This course will be open to the public and will provide excellent golfing in a pleasant climate during the summer. The second course will

be an unusual 18 hole championship course located on a 4,800 foot high plateau surrounded by mile high peaks of the Blue Ridge.

For those wishing for a vacation or retirement home site, a wide variety will be available, some located near mountain streams which will provide sites for the development of a number of small lakes to be stocked for excellent trout fishing. These home sites will be closely controlled in land planning and architectural styling to preserve the natural beauty of the area.

Sugar Mountain is served electrically by Mountain Electric Cooperative with an installed capacity of approximately 5,000 kilowatts. It may not be the first ski resort in our area, but it's unlikely you will go anywhere else after you visit here.



The ski center building, located at the base of the ski slopes. When completed the cafeteria will seat 500.



Double chair lifts for the beginners. This 1,800 ft. lift includes safety bars and foot rests.



A young skier on Easy Street (beginner's slope).



The advanced and intermediate take the "Big Birch."

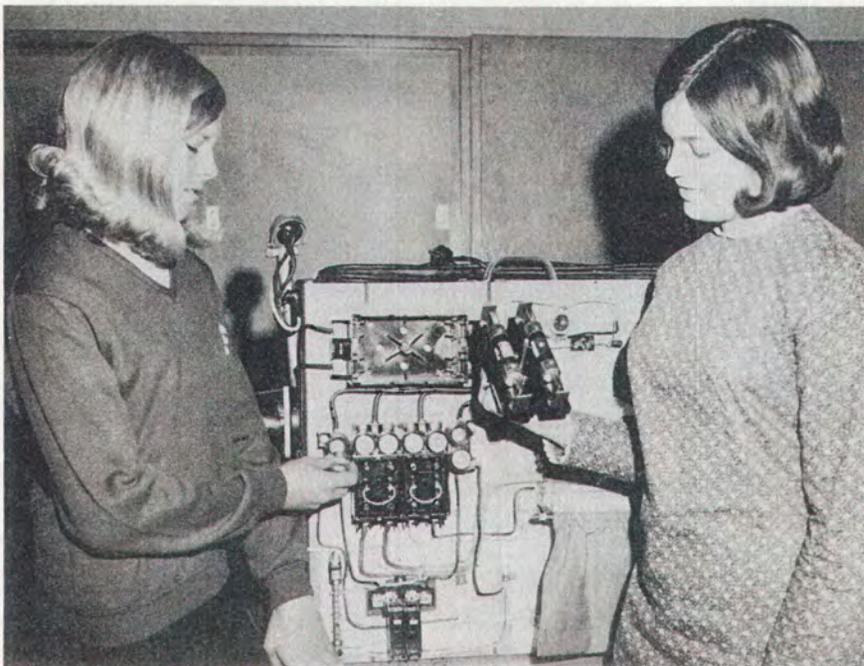


Donald McDonald, Middle Tennessee Electric's Electrification Adviser, is shown above presenting a demonstration for the junior home economics class at Bethesda High School, Williamson County. Mrs. Thelma Scales, teacher, is shown next to Mr. McDonald in the picture.

If You Love Your Valentine, Protect Her!



By Mrs. Patsy Myers, Home Economist
Middle Tennessee Electric Membership Corporation



Diane Bogle, Route 2, Coliege Grove, (right), removes the MAIN switchblock, so that Sheila Bennett, Route 2, Thompson Station, can replace the fuse.

Do you understand why the Electric Co-ops in Tennessee require an inspection of new electric wiring in your home before they will serve you with electricity? Very simply stated, it is for the protection of your Valentine and your family. This way, you are not likely to move into your home and find hazards to your safety.

At the electric transformer stations, or substations, through which the co-op serves you, you notice a high protective fence surrounding it with a sign marked "Danger — Keep Out." We hope it is not necessary for you to use this sign on your house to warn people that you have real electrical hazards in your home.

So, let's be able to live safely in this world of wonders where we make electricity our convenient servant. Even though this servant is many times more powerful than any fairy tale magician, it can be our friend because it can do wonderful things to help us every day in many ways, making life easier and more meaningful. However, we must know all we can about it and how to treat it properly.

We, at Middle Tennessee Electric, have felt it so important that our future homemakers have a greater knowledge of the safe use of electricity, that we have developed a demonstration to present to high school home economics classes. We call this demonstration "What a Bride Should Know About Wiring," with the idea of making it important to these young ladies to form the habit of practicing safety in their use of electric appliances.

In this demonstration, we discuss the importance of being acquainted with the switchbox or entrance panel in their own homes, so that in an emergency they could disconnect all the services coming into the house. Also, we acquaint them with safety practices in replacing fuses, making sure they have dry shoes and are standing on a dry floor while changing them. We discuss with them the importance of replacing a blown fuse with the proper size fuse, NEVER USING A PENNY or other temporary, dangerous device instead of the proper size fuse. Many homes are burned in our service area which are blamed on defective wiring which are actually caused by unsafe practices in the use of electricity.

Another unsafe practice that is emphasized is the use of frayed cords. We teach the students how to replace plugs, so as to encourage them to replace these frayed cords.

Other practices that are condemned are: overloading circuits with appliances; having switches and outlets installed too close to sinks and bathtubs; leaving an appliance, such as an iron, on when leaving the room for any length of time; replacing a fuse without removing the cause of the fuse blowing.

We also try to acquaint them with the special switchblocks such as the ones marked "Main" and "Range" and the size cartridge fuses needed for these.

Of course, the circuit breaker panels are also discussed and comparisons made with the fuse panels we show in the accompanying pictures.

For all of us, a good rule to follow in general use is, if we get an electrical shock, something is wrong which should be fixed. We should inspect cords and plugs regularly and replace worn ones without delay. Cords should not be run over registers or under rugs or through doorways, lest the insulation be worn off and these create a danger of electrical shock or even death.

Home, Sweet Home may be a nostalgic phrase, but Home, Safe Home is certainly a practical one. The safest home is usually the sweetest, yet the neglect and



Diane Grigsby Hartley, Route 2, College Grove, is shown loosening screws in the new plug she plans to put on the cord. She will cut off the frayed end of the cord before she replaces the plug.

carelessness that destroy it are unnecessary. Perhaps one important way to assure greater care in safety practices is by providing adequate lighting throughout the home from attic to basement, as well as on the outside. Sure, quick seeing is essential in avoiding accidents.

All of these safety practices we have discussed are important to prevent accidents in our homes and promote more "Home, Safe Homes."

THE ART OF LOVE

Love is the "affirmative of affirmatives"; it enlarges the vision, expands the heart. Love is the dove of peace, the spirit of brotherhood; it is tenderness and compassion, forgiveness and tolerance. Love is the dynamic motivation behind every worthy purpose; it is the upward thrust that lifts men to the heights. The art of love is God at work through you.

"The Art of Living"
by Wilfred A. Peterson

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Valentine Punch

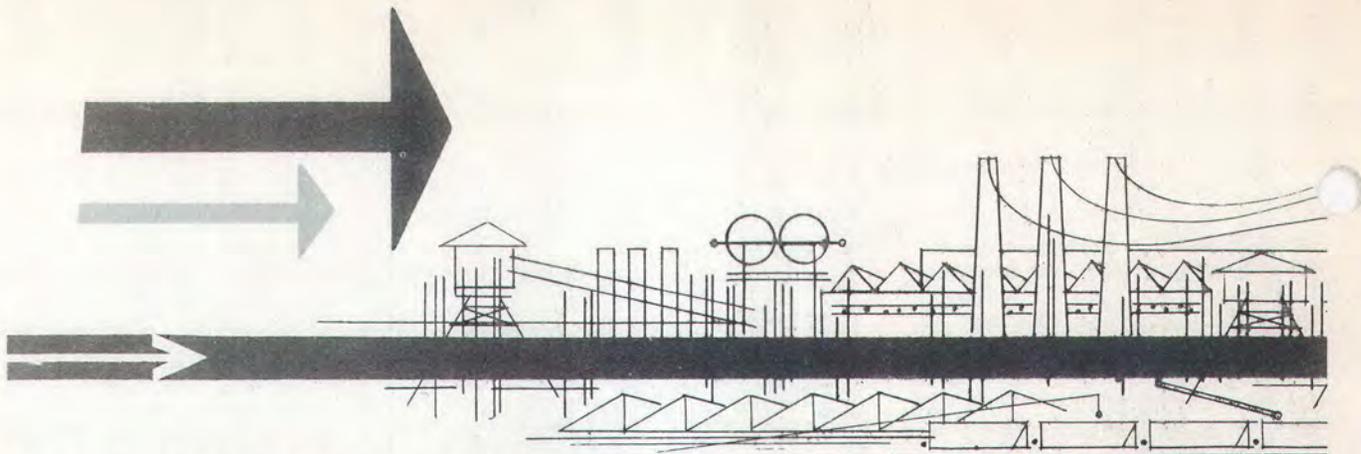
- 18 maraschino cherries
- 1 6-oz. can frozen pink lemonade concentrate
- 1/2 cup maraschino cherry juice
- 1 6-oz. can frozen pineapple-orange juice concentrate
- 4 cups water

The morning of the party (or the day before) fill ice-cube tray with water and put a maraschino cherry in each ice-cube compartment. Freeze.

At party time, mix frozen juice concentrate with 4 cups water and maraschino cherry juice in glass pitcher. Add maraschino ice cubes. Makes 10-12 servings.



Jane Bond, Route 2, Thompson Station, unplugs the electric frypan before she turns on the toaster which is connected to the same circuit. Both of these heating appliances, used on the same circuit, would create an overload and blow a fuse.



1969: NEW DIRECTIONS IN RURAL ELECTRIFICATION

By Phil Sawicki
NRECA Statewide Correspondent

For the nation's consumer-owned rural electric systems, 1969 was a year of new directions.

A new administration took office in Washington, a new financing institution was created to meet the growing need for investment capital, a new effort was begun to meet the enormous need for decent rural housing and the members of rural electric systems took a new look at their national organization, NRECA.

As one decade ended (a decade in which it seemed every American institution was undergoing critical scrutiny), and another decade began, rural electric systems prepared to tackle new problems with new solutions.

This is what happened in rural electrification in 1969.

A New REA Administrator

The new president, Richard M. Nixon, made many new appointments to high-ranking posts in the Federal Government. None was welcomed more enthusiastically than the naming of David A. Hamil as REA Administrator.

Genial and dynamic, Hamil was familiar to many in rural electrification since he had also served as chief of REA for five years, from 1956 to 1961, under the late Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Even then, Hamil was urging that rural electric systems establish a new method to finance at least some of the distribution lines, power stations and other equipment that would be needed to meet the demand for central-station electricity in rural America.

So it came as no surprise that within a few months after taking office he had given his blessing to the creation, at the NRECA Annual Meeting in Atlantic City, N.J., of the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation (CFC), a private institution established by the rural electric themselves to fill the gap between the amount loaned by REA and the actual—and higher—need for capital loans.

Hamil also made it clear, in many speeches, that REA under his direction would have two chief policy guidelines:

First, that rural electric distribution cooperatives would get priority in the allocation of REA loan funds;

Second, that rural electricians would be encouraged to cooperate as fully as possible with all other segments of the electric power industry to meet power demands.

In regard to REA loans to power supply cooperatives, Hamil reminded his listeners that during his previous term of office he had approved many power supply loans and that he was ready to do so again.

But, he said, "I will insist that the benefits be very substantial and the proposed facilities planned and constructed in such a manner as to fit into the mainstream of the industry."

A New "Bank"

For several years, beginning in 1965, rural electric systems had attempted, without success, to persuade Congress to create and to assist with Federal funds a Rural Electric Bank that would supplement the loan funds available from REA.

In 1969 the systems found a new approach to financing problems, and their delegates to the national convention voted by a landslide majority to bring into being a private, self-help financing institution now familiarly known as CFC.

By the year's end over 750 of the country's almost-1,000 rural electric systems — individual distribution cooperatives, power supply associations, statewide organizations, and NRECA — had applied for membership in CFC, the new organization had gotten a certificate of tax exemption from the Internal Revenue Service and the search was on for a qualified person to serve as the governor, or chief executive, of the unprecedented new organization.

With funds to be raised from rural electric systems themselves and through the sale of debentures to the public through the nation's large money markets, the guiding minds of CFC led by President J. K. Smith of Kentucky foresee obtaining the millions necessary to permit rural electricians to keep pace with their rising responsibilities.

Another Fighting Year

Meanwhile, the "old-line" organization of the rural electricians, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, was finding plenty to do

in the nation's capital. Old problems and new, ranging from REA appropriations and taxes to rural housing and environmental reform, kept popping up.

One of the big questions in Washington in 1969 was what Congress should do to revise the nation's tax laws, and there were certain members of Congress who were unhappy about those laws as they applied to cooperatives, electric and otherwise.

But when the chips were down, the congressional friends of cooperatives, electric and otherwise, used their weight to squash all of the following proposals:

- That rural electric cooperatives pay federal income tax on the interest income they receive through investments in Federal Government obligations.

- That cooperatives pay income taxes on income derived from so-called "unrelated" business.

- That cooperatives—excluding rural electric and rural telephone—make a larger amount of their patronage refunds in cash.

- That the Federal Land Banks be deprived of the income tax exemption they received in 1916.

Another matter of importance, as it is every year, was how much Congress would appropriate for 2% REA electric loans during the bookkeeping year that began July 1.

The new Administration had accepted without change the recommendation of former President Johnson that a \$345-million loan program be authorized for such purposes. But a group of exceptional senators with greater concern for rural electrification succeeded in having that figure raised to \$365-million before the agricultural appropriations bill was sent to the president for his signature.

Rural housing was another matter of pressing importance to the national organization, following the direction of the membership as expressed in a resolution passed at the annual meeting.

By the best estimates anywhere from 60 to 70% of the nation's worst housing is found in rural areas far from the city slums that have been pictured on front pages for years.

Near the end of December, and due to the initiative of NRECA, Congress adopted changes in the housing laws that will enable the Farmers Home Administration to finance the construction and rehabilitation of 300,000 to 400,000 rural homes each year and permit local non-profit associations to use their initiative to help meet the rural housing shortage.

Some Good, Some Not So Good

From the White House to Capitol Hill, and in the agencies in-between, 1969 saw many other actions taken in regard to rural electrification and rural America. Among the good ones were these:

- President Nixon's establishment of a cabinet-level Rural Affairs Council.

- Senate passage of legislation assuring preference customers, including cooperatives, a share of the power to be generated at the private power company project at Tocks Island in the Delaware River.

- Introduction of legislation by a large group of senators from both parties to establish a Rural Telephone Bank. (Similar legislation has been

passed by the House Agriculture Committee but has languished in the Rules Committee for months.)

- Refusal of a Senate subcommittee to accept an administration proposal to change the interest rate on REA telephone loans from 2% to "flexible."

- REA withdrawal of bulletin 110-3 on political activities.

Among the not so good:

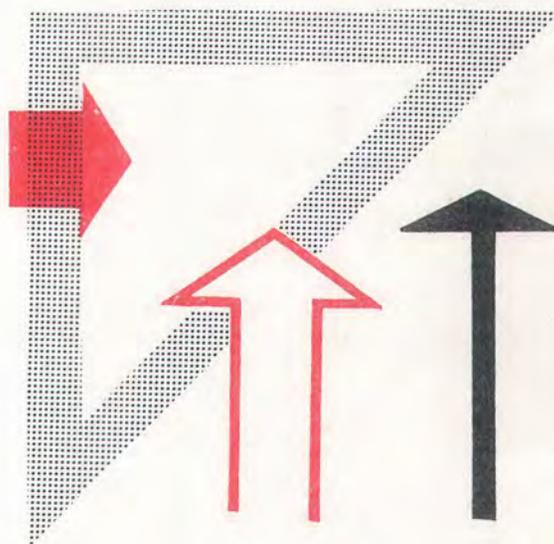
- Elimination of the so-called "third criterion" for power supply loans by REA.

- Elimination of USDA's Rural Community Development Service.

- Weakening of HUD's Office of Small Town Services.

- The omission of important rural groups, including NRECA, from the President's Task Force on Rural Development.

- Raising the interest rates for new power plants at Federal multiple-use projects.



At the National

The 1969 regional meetings were devoted in considerable part to open-forum discussion of the activities and structure of NRECA.

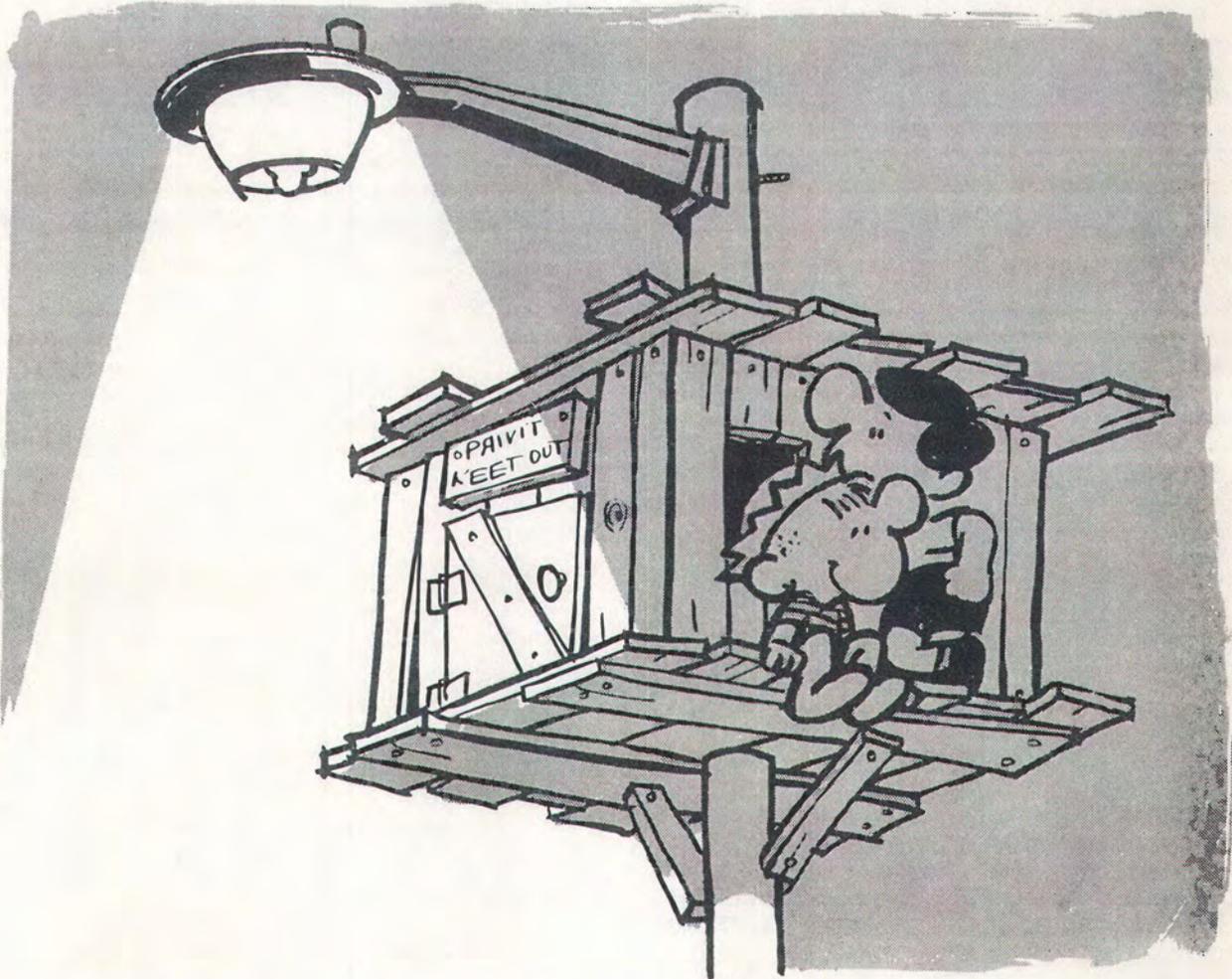
Emphasized in those discussions were the need to strengthen the legislative activities of the association and to better coordinate the various informational activities.

In response to those comments NRECA General Manager Robert D. Partridge announced in December a reorganization, merging the legislative, publications and public relations functions into one department to be known as Legislation and Communications.

This new realignment is expected to give new strength to the achievement of legislative objectives and to enable NRECA to do a better job of communicating with its members and with the general public.

The problems of rural America loom large. But they should be kept in perspective. They are problems that can be solved, and NRECA and the nation's rural electric systems will be in the forefront helping to solve them.

Every Home Deserves a Security Light

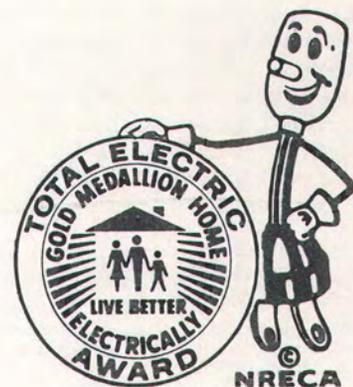


There are many good reasons why so many homes benefit from outdoor electric lights.

A Security Light automatically turns itself on at dusk; off at dawn. Your yard, barn and outbuildings are well lighted so you have hours added to your day. No more stumbling around in the dark; fewer dangerous slips and falls.

Well lighted areas discourage unwanted prowlers. Animals, birds and equipment are protected . . . automatically . . . from dusk to dawn.

Costs only pennies a day. Ask your rural electric system for complete information.



TENNESSEE'S RURAL ELECTRIC CO-OPS

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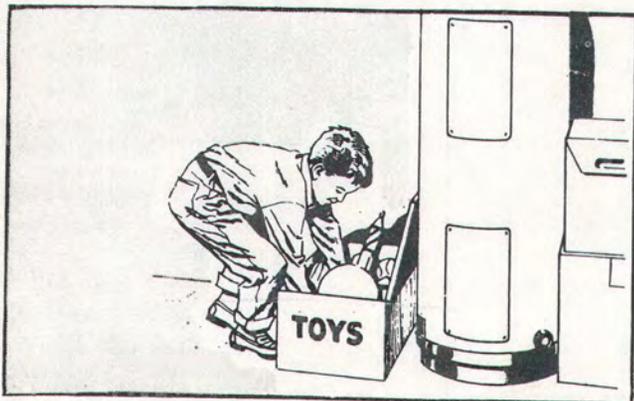
You save three times by installing an electric hot water heater. Initial costs are less because an electric heater doesn't require venting since it's flameless. Thus, the heater can be installed nearer faucets, cutting material and labor costs. ■ You save again after installation because water stays hot instead of being lost in long runs of unnecessary pipes. This means you waste less water waiting for hot water . . . an important consideration for systems with limited water supplies. ■ You save a third time because it costs less to heat with low-cost rural electric power. An electric heater is more efficient than those old-fashion systems. Add these advantages to other features of electric hot water heaters—safe, clean, dependable. Small wonder electric hot water heaters are so popular with modern families!



Efficient



Dependable



Flameless



Compact

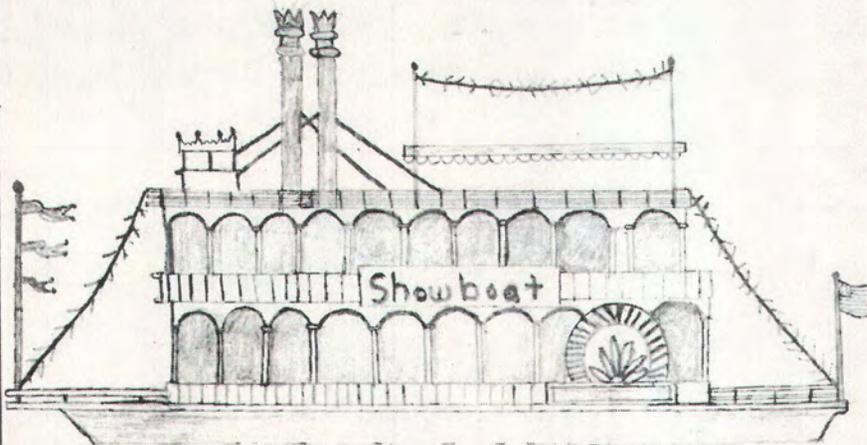

waterup
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Uncle John's Page

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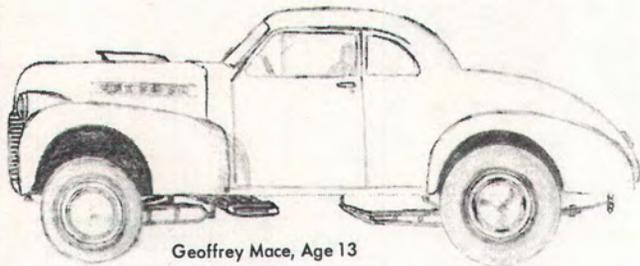
UNCLE JOHN, The Tennessee Magazine
710 Spence Lane, Nashville 10, Tenn.



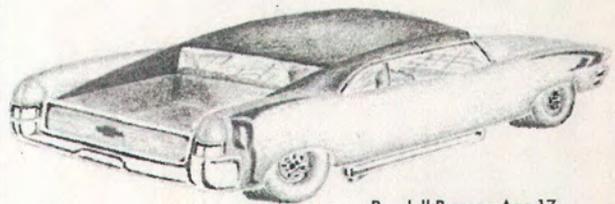
Howell Prater, Age 14
Route 7, McMinnville, Tenn.
Caney Fork Electric Co-op



Susan McKenzie, Age 16
Route 1, Box 32
Tellico Plains, Tenn. 37385
Fort Loudoun Electric Co-op



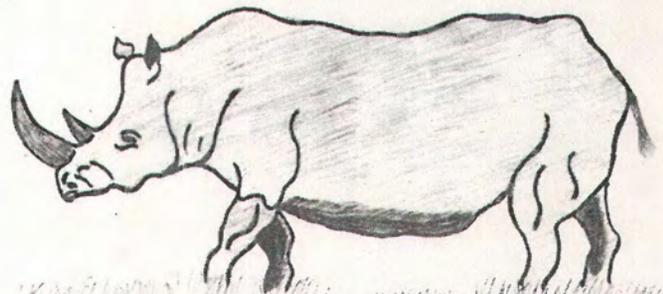
Geoffrey Mace, Age 13
P.O. Box 102
Jamestown, Tenn. 38556
Volunteer Electric Co-op



Randell Bracey, Age 17
Route 2
Joelton, Tenn.
Cumberland EMC



Sylvia Dickerson
Route 1
Oakland, Tenn.
Chickasaw Electric Co-op



David Smith, Age 14
Route 2, Box 132
Brighton, Tenn. 38011
Southwest Tennessee EMC

Timely Topics

TENNESSEE CERTIFIES 29,000 ACRES OF SEED

A total of 29,107 acres of Tennessee field crops passed inspection in 1969 for the production of certified seed, reports Raymond E. Cobble, University of Tennessee Extension assistant agronomist. This is the largest annual acreage approved for certification by Tennessee Crop Improvement Association, the state certifying agency, since it was organized in 1922.

Soybeans continue to be the largest seed crop grown for certification with a total of 23,543 acres — up 4,318 acres from 1968. Certified soybean acreages by variety are Bragg, 231; Clark 63, 17; Custer, 259; Dare, 2,200; Davis, 498; Dyer, 719; Hill, 1,923; Hood, 9,040; Lee, 4,340; Lee 68, 154; Ogden, 176; Pickett, 3,467; and York, 519.

Other crops and their respective acreages certified in 1969 include small grains, 3,386; cotton, 1,874; grasses, 106; clover, 14; lespedeza, 4; corn hybrids, 170 and tobacco, 10.

Tennessee certified seed for 1970 planting is available through local farm supply stores, Cobble reports.

CAN YOU AFFORD TO FEED RATS?

The rats you are feeding cost you \$10 or more per head, states Harry E. Williams, University of Tennessee Extension assistant entomologist. The food they consume is only a part of the waste caused by these pests. Rat hairs, feces, and urine contaminate much more food than is eaten.

"More than 100 rats can live on a farm and never be seen," Williams says. "When rats are seen occasionally at night, 500 or more may be boarding with you. If you are seeing rats every night and occasionally during the day, 1,000 or more may be living on your farm!"

The rats reproduce rapidly in the spring, the specialist explains. The rate drops in late summer, but rises again in the fall. During the winter the natural factors of cold weather, short food supply, disease, and predators favor economical rat control. Control pressure applied during the winter has longer-lasting results than at any other season.

"Build rat bait boxes now," he says. "Keep them supplied all winter with a good supply of fresh, clean bait. Warfarin, Pival, Fumarin, and Phalen are anticoagulant poisons that give good control without causing bait shyness."

Place the bait boxes along walls in areas frequently traveled by the rats. Observe fecal pellets, burrows, gnawing marks, rub marks along the wall, and tracks to determine the best site for bait stations.

FERTILIZING SMALL AREAS

Frequently homeowners want to fertilize or lime a small area for flowers or a garden, but the rates recommended for the fertilizer are given in pounds per acre.

Joseph N. Matthews, University of Tennessee Extension assistant agronomist, says that many homeowners raise the question about how much lime and fertilizer to use on a small area and how to measure the plant nutrients.

"For each 100 pounds of fertilizer or lime recommended per acre, two and three-tenths pounds should be used for 1,000 square feet," the agronomist recommends. "This would equal three and seven-tenths ounces per 100 square feet, or approximately one-half cup. In rows spaced three feet apart, this would be two and one-half tablespoons for each ten feet of row."

If the desired rate of application is 500 pounds of fertilizer per acre, multiply the above by five to get the amount to use.

Matthews cautions that it is very easy to use too much fertilizer on small plots, causing problems in plant production — so measure carefully.

FARM BRIEFS

Livestock and dairy farmers are urged to keep an eye on livestock water tanks, troughs and ponds during winter weather and break up ice as soon as it forms. Livestock specialists with the University of Tennessee Agricultural Extension Service recommend that water be available to livestock at all times.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Forage samples analyzed by the University of Tennessee Forage Testing Laboratory reveal that there is a tremendous variation in the quality of forage being fed on dairy farms in Tennessee.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Disease problems in vegetable and flower gardens can be reduced by burning fallen leaves and branches and destroying the stubble and roots of plants that remain on the garden this winter, reminds a University of Tennessee Extension plant pathologist.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Do not replace a blown fuse with one of a larger size, cautions a University of Tennessee Extension agricultural engineer. This will allow a conductor to carry an overload which may create a fire because the wire becomes too hot.

Tennessee's Prettiest Dirt Farmer

By John Stanford

Janet Porter is a "dirt farmer" by her own description, and proud of it. Not only does she drive a tractor during the planting and cultivating seasons, but she maintains it as well.



Just a short while after this issue of The Tennessee Magazine is mailed, two of the most important days in the life of one of the Volunteer State's prettiest and most charming young ladies will take place in rapid succession:

1. On February 10th, she will observe her 19th birthday in one of America's most fascinating cities and
2. On February 11th, she will represent Tennessee in the "Miss America Rural Electrification" beauty contest.

The young lady in question is pretty, bright-eyed, gracious Janet Marie Porter, a delightful combination of beauty and brains whose list of accomplishments and honors to date would stretch from her native West Tennessee all the way across the state which she will represent in national competition as "Miss Tennessee Electric Co-ops."

Janet, as she is known to countless friends, is the youngest of three children and the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne H. Porter of Route 2, Humboldt, Tennessee.

Among Janet's many fine qualities, determination ranks highly, as evidenced by the fact that she is competing as Tennessee's representative in a national contest. To reach this coveted spot, Janet competed three times in the local Gibson County Electric beauty contest before winning it and the right to compete in and win the state contest last October.

But determination—not to be confused with hard-headedness—has always been part and parcel of this refreshing young lady. As a young child, for

example, she was determined to be a good horseback rider. But she had a problem here — there were no horses on the Porters' otherwise well-stocked farm. But this didn't stop Janet for long. She and her two brothers strung an ear of corn to a stick and found a goat large enough to serve as a "horse" — until the goat discovered that the ear of corn being held in front of his head wasn't getting any closer, no matter how fast he ran. It was then that the goat decided to unload his rider — namely, Janet — at the earliest possible moment.

The year 1969 was an exceptionally good one for Janet who, along with both brothers, is a student at the Martin Branch of the University of Tennessee. It started with her selection as "Miss Alamo" and was followed by her selection in May as "Queen of the West Tennessee Strawberry Festival" (this in competition with some 60 other girls from a wide area of Tennessee and several adjoining states), "Miss Gibson County Electric" in August and "Miss Tennessee Electric" in October. Also during the year she was named 1st runner-up to the International Banana Princess at the Banana Festival in Fulton, Kentucky and was chosen as 2nd runner-up to Miss Mid-South at the Mid-South Fair in Memphis.

Should anyone get the mistaken idea that Janet spends most of her time on a beauty contest stage or in front of a mirror, a visit to the Porters' working farm will dispel any such ideas. Janet considers herself a "dirt farmer" and is very adept with a tractor, from lubrication to actual operation, which she does for full working days on end during the planting and cultivating seasons. A wall full of ribbons earned in Field Crops at County, District and Mid-South 4-H Club competitions over a period of five years attest to her familiarity with the soil.

Janet, while no "book-worm," is a serious student, as evidenced by an average grade of 97.6, the highest in her graduating class at Alamo High School last June. She has received recognition as an "Outstanding Student in American High Schools," won the Business and Professional Women's Award in Math, and was elected to membership in the Beta Club, an honorary scholastic organization. She was a 4-year member of the Future Homemakers of America, a class officer in her sophomore and senior years and the business manager of her yearbook staff. Janet was a member of the Alamo High School Chorus, was a cheer leader for three years except during the girls' basketball season, at which time she was a star guard — the "best defensive" player in school, according to official recognition. Other sports interests include horseback riding, volley ball, badminton, bowling and water skiing.



Getting packed and ready to go to Las Vegas, Nevada, to compete in the "Miss America Rural Electrification" beauty contest, Janet carries the best wishes of Tennesseans throughout the Volunteer State.



No stranger to the Porter family kitchen is Janet, who likes to "try out" new recipes—especially on her two older brothers. The Porters maintain this well-stocked electric food freezer. They are long time members of Gibson County Electric Membership Corp.

In addition to the foregoing, some of which might be called hobbies, Janet, along with other members of her family, is an avid collector of Indian artifacts. Some 2,000 such items, including arrow heads, axes, hoes and grinding bowls may be found in the Porter household, many of the smaller ones in frames.

On the quieter, but no less dedicated side, Janet is very active in both the Sunday School and church activities of the Cox's Chapel Church of Christ.

Back to the national beauty contest, Janet assures Tennessee of an outstanding, contest-experienced representative. She stands 5-feet, 5-inches in height, weighs 115 pounds, and her classic facial features are accented by brown hair and green eyes. Her vital measurements are 35-23-35.

The fascinating city where Janet will be competing for the "Miss America Rural Electrification" crown is Las Vegas, Nevada, the site of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Annual Meeting and one of our country's most accommodating convention centers.

If you like to play with numbers, consider these facts: Janet will be the 11th contestant to represent Tennessee in the "Miss America Rural Electrification" beauty contest, which this year is being held on February 11th. The sum of those two numbers, 1 and 1, is 2, and if she wins she will be the 2nd Tennessee girl to bring this national title back to the Volunteer State.

Not being a wagering man, we won't be betting on the contest, but like all Tennesseans whom she will be representing, we'll be pulling like mad for this pretty, charming, fine young lady to win this national title, along with the \$2,500 scholarship and much deserved publicity that goes with it.

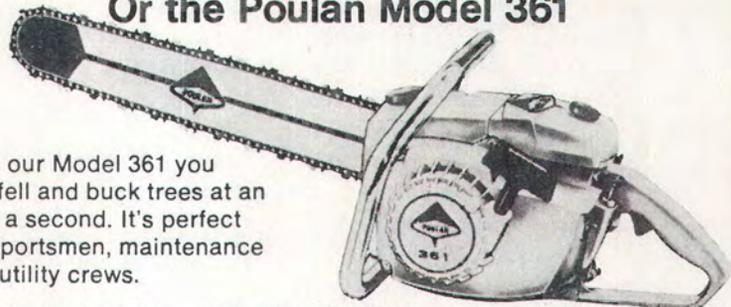
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'ELECTRICITY'... GOES TO SCHOOL

By DAVID DUDNEY, Electrification Advisor—UCEMC

Pictured are some of the hot water heaters that are found in the school. They are about 90-gallon capacity and are of the quick recovery style.



Located in the foothills of the Upper Cumberland area of Middle Tennessee is a little town known as Baxter. Don't really know how Baxter got its name, but it is a town with a big heart. So, big as it is, just about everyone knows one another by their first names. These people, like several other sound-minded people, had a bright idea for their little town. So, that is the question at hand. Got you wondering what it might be? Well, let us go back to a few days ago.

The editor of the Tennessee Magazine, who by name is Mr. John Stanford, and I toured the "all electric school" at Baxter, Tennessee. We were met by Mr. Ben H. Crawford, Principal of the Baxter Elementary School. Mr. Crawford was to be our guide on a tour that was soon to prove to be amazing. It didn't take long to see that Mr. Crawford was proud of the school, as were the students. Even the faculty seemed to be extremely happy to be a part of the school. Truly the school is something of a fascination to behold to see the development of a small rural town doing something that would stand out in the eye of the people, to see people desiring something a little better for the school children to enjoy.

The question has not yet been completely answered. Yet, the simple solution to the answer is as easy as $2+2=4$. The true answer lies in the people of this little town. The residents of Baxter both urban and rural sought the same answer. The idea was for something to stand out and catch the public eye within and around this little town. The all electric school theme has been catching on

This shows the service panels of all electric service.



This photo shows the Baxter Elementary School.



This shows the library. Notice the excellent lighting to enable better studying for students.

fast in the area of the Tennessee Valley Authority. So, it was with this theme that the school was to be built.

When the quarterly court met and appropriated funds totaling \$1,217,000, work was begun. One truly must visit the school to appreciate the true value of what schools are doing to promote the education of the young.

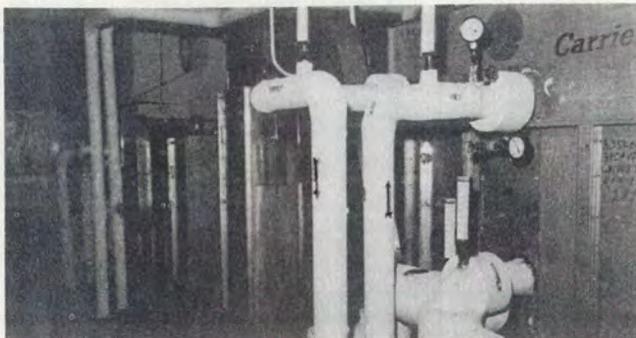
But wait! An unexpected visitor just came out of a classroom. Who? None other than Mr. Willie Wirehand himself. He was smiling from ear to ear as he greeted us in the library. Willie said, "I've just completed my tour of the school, and I have found everything to be in A-1 condition." After talking to Willie for a while, we shook hands and bid him a pleasant good-by.

We continued our trip through the school to our amazement. With Mr. Crawford as our guide, we stopped to look at one of the classrooms. It would truly be wonderful if all the schools in the area were like this one. But since they aren't, let me tell you a little about the classroom set-up at Baxter. The set-up is really something to behold. The school is composed of 24 classrooms, and each has an outside entrance. Within the classrooms there are 850 students and 30 teachers all striving for one goal. That goal is a place in the American life. Each classroom is equipped with closed circuit television. The purpose of this is so that the individual child might become better educated through specific interest. Usually channel 2 carries these programs. At present time the school has on order projectors, cameras, and other equipment for the purpose of teaching and educating the young. One prime factor of interest was that the classrooms are virtually sound proof and fire proof. About all the wood you see are doors, bookcases, and the tops of desks. As we came out of the classrooms, it was to our amazement to find that each room was traditional in shape. This, too, has been a great change from the old standard of building.

As we came out of the classrooms to continue our tour, Mr. Crawford said, "Let me show you our heating and cooling system." This was one of the



This shows the ovens in the kitchen. These are for breads, etc.



Shown here is a portion of the heating and cooling systems.

things that I wanted to see most. It is a system composed of electric boilers. The school is kept at an even temperature, and each room is thermostatically controlled to the desired degree. Cooling also is done electrically and seems to be doing a good job with the desires of the school.

It would be to my opinion, and I'm sure Mr. Stanford would agree, that the kitchen was the most exciting part of the trip through the all electric school. It truly was amazing. Almost unbelievable is to see the facilities of this school. The kitchen is entirely stainless steel and is as spotless as spotless can be. Yes, the school carries a Grade-A rating, and many schools seek to attain this rating, but often fail in their goals. With the hot lunch program in good working condition, the students can expect something different each day. There are approximately 775 students on the lunch program, which is a splendid percentage. During one month, 13,000 meals were prepared of which about 3,000 were the free lunch idea. Total cost of the kitchen was approximately \$33,000. Mr. Crawford said as we left the kitchen that meals are planned about one month in advance.

Oh! by the way, all you preacher readers, they were having fried chicken the next day for lunch.

In connection with the kitchen facilities, the pumping station is a prime factor. They are the pumps that supply a continuous amount of hot water at all times. Also, the pumps play a vital role in filtering the air for the school. Filtered air is available at all times. Also located within this station are 7 hot water heaters to assure an adequate supply for the school's needs.

Another prime interest within the school is the excellent lighting system. The better light-better sight program has grown by leaps and bounds. Since the program was put to work by T. V. A., many schools and homes have accepted it as a good theme. Such is true at the Baxter school. Its primary function is eye protection, and many schools today have neglected the students of their school in this field.

Much more could be said about this splendid

school, but it would take more space than has been allotted. We might sum up our story and tour by the following:

People of the Upper Cumberland can be proud of the accomplishments of this little town. The quality of the life we lead is getting a lot of attention these days. And there are a number of hopeful signs. It is true that electricity is tackling some of our toughest problems with encouraging results. Ideas are born to be thought in the minds of men. Like the building of the Tower of Babel in Gen. 11:1-9, men sought to build a tower to Heaven. But, the final result was failure. Why? The people had forgotten to put God into their plans.

The love of God must dwell in the hearts of the people of Baxter, Tennessee. These people have accomplished something that so many fail to do. Yes, they do have an all electric school and some industry. But, they seek more, and you can be sure that these people will work together, and the final results will be similar to that . . . that of "electricity goes to school."

Oh! As we were leaving and school was letting out, a little boy came by and said, "Hi, Mr. Crawford." To be sure he heard him, he again said, "Hello, Mr. Crawford." Even the small ones are proud of their school and of the people who have made it possible and are keeping it great.

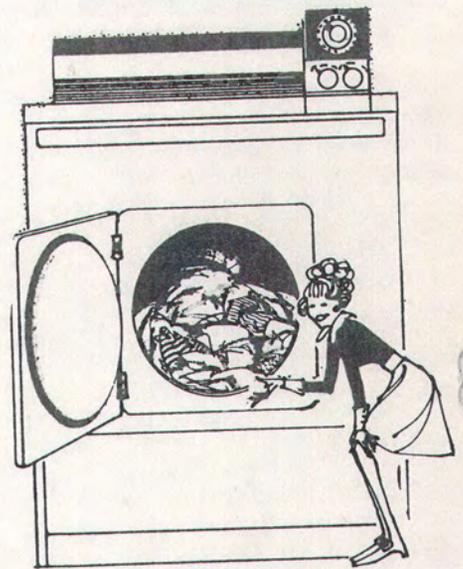


Shown are Principal Ben H. Crawford as he explains the steam cooker to David Dudney, UCEMC Electrification Advisor. Mr. Crawford says about 400 pounds of beans can be cooked at one time.



Shown is one of the classrooms. Notice the taste that is shown. Each has an indoor and outdoor entrance.

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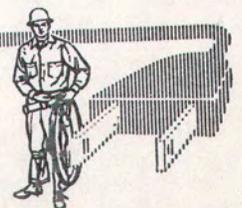
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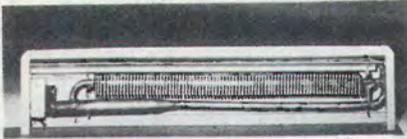
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PUZZLE

CORNER

The January Puzzle Corner drew almost 2,000 entries, most of them giving the correct answer which was: Jones walked 9 miles the first day and then walked an additional mile each day for a total of 117 miles.

This month's winner, selected by lot, was:

First Prize and \$10 cash — Mrs. Elizabeth Brown of Ducktown, Tenn. (P.O. Box 62), a member of Tri-State Electric Co-op.

Second and Third Prizes of \$5 each go to Eddie Ray Bell of RFD 2, Kenton, Tennessee, a member of Gibson County Electric and to Mrs.

Jimmy Hollingsworth of Rt. 1, Cedar Hill, Tennessee, a member of Cumberland Electric Membership Corp.

Here is the March Puzzle Corner, and don't forget to include the name of your co-op with your answer:

Mr. Johnson went to a store to buy 12 presents at a total cost of exactly \$500. All merchandise in this store was divided into only four price groups. One group was priced at \$24.50, the second group at \$48.50, the third group at \$78.50 and the fourth group at \$98.50. Among his 12 presents, Mr. Johnson purchased at least one present from each of the four price groups. How many presents did he purchase from each group in order for his bill to total exactly \$500?

Send answers to:

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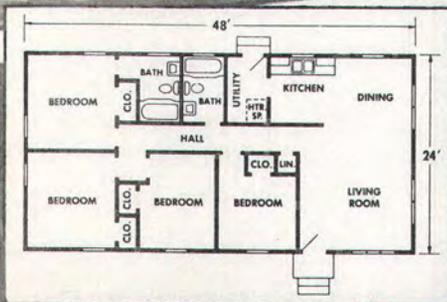
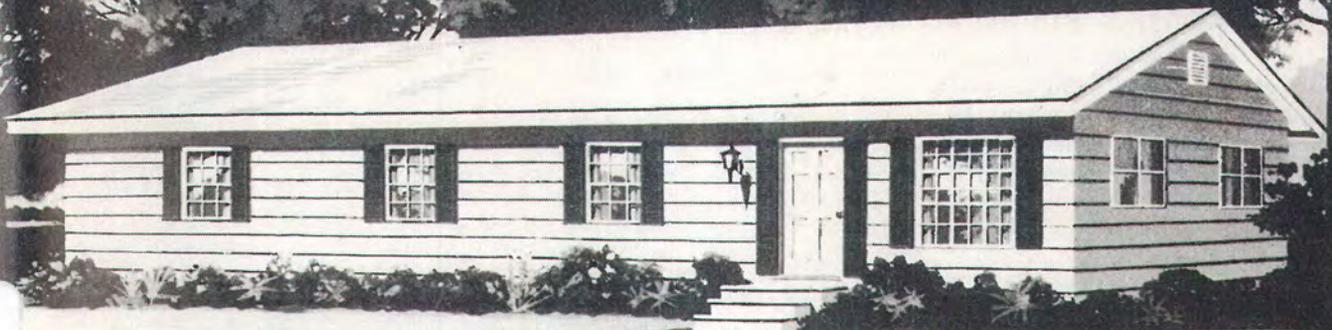
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