

450 Ways To Use Electricity

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There are games, organs, pants and necktie presses, pianos, shoe polishers, sirens, scissors, tooth brushes, weiner roasters, door openers, and even window openers, all operated with electricity.

Power Used In Homes

As you might suspect, electrical appliances and equipment used in the home outnumber those used in farming operations. This partly explains why three-fourths of all electricity consumed on the farm today is used in the home.

However, technological developments of electrical equipment and the ever-increasing new uses now promise to boost the use of electricity to undreamed-of levels around the farm. New ways of handling grain, feed, hay, and even milk are fast antiquating the fork, shovel,

milk can, and bucket.

Feed carriers, barn cleaners, silo unloaders, hay and grain dryers, mulls, grinders, elevators, graders, dusters, sprayers, fences, traps, milkers, emery wheels, pumps, and fans, are only a few of the many ways electricity has replaced the hired man on the farm.

From molasses heaters to peach defuzzers, farmers are making new and varied uses of this unique and wonderful power that turns on and off automatically or at the flip of a switch.

Electro-magnets for catching pieces of metal, walnut drivers, bull exercisers, manure pumps, ox-grub removers, cattle trainers, orchard fans, sweet potato curers, beehive heaters, hog callers, fish barriers, earthworm catchers, humane electrocution of farm animals and poultry, and tank farming without soil all

are some of the more unique uses for electricity on the farm. Farmers faced with the problem of getting accurate news on the farm, are finding new "electrical hands" a far substitution for the hired man. In fact the symbol of rural electrification is a loveable little character called Willie Wirehead, plenty of ever-ready electrical power, ready at the flip of a switch to be converted into light, heat, or power is a must for the widespread automation of work around the farmstead.

For instance, a single worker today in Georgia handles 30,000 broilers with ease. Another man in Florida cares for 10,000 laying hens and the 7,500 eggs they shell out a day.

Soilless Farming With Electricity

A hothouse method of soilless farming in Illinois produces a ton of succulent green forage annually in a space only 2½ feet square.

A dairyman in California, using a double herringbone milk-

ing parlor and pipeline milker, can milk as 60 cows an hour, nearly 10 times the number that could be milked by hand.

A livestock farmer in Indiana pushes buttons and pulls switches and reeds 400 steers and 500 hogs in 10 minutes. This is a job that would keep five men with baskets and forks busy for a half day.

Benefits City Consumers

These efficiencies in farming have been made possible through the magic of rural electrification. Benefits pass on to urban consumers in terms of a bountiful supply of sanitary, high quality food products that literally jam the grocery shelves.

Annual average power consumption by farm consumers on rural electric lines, as recent as 1958, stood at 3,316 kilowatts. On the basis of a system-day increases, average farm consumption is expected to reach 5,600 kilowatts by 1963, and 10,800 kilowatts by 1975.

One thing sure, as more and more farmers turn to push-button operation of their farmsteads new uses and wider uses of electricity about the farm and rural home lie ahead.

Let's Face It. "It Just Ain't REA"

Continued from Page One systems have been organized to bring electric light and power to people who had to do without electricity up to 1935. These systems have crisscrossed the rural areas of the Nation with nearly 1.5 million miles of electric lines which serve approximately 16 million people. While by far, most of the rural systems are cooperatives, in some states they are called public power districts or public utility districts.

Rural Electric Statewide Associations have been organized in many states to provide services for the individual systems—services that can be done more efficiently or economically, or both through group action. Membership is voluntary, but almost all Rural Electric Systems belong to a state association.

The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association is the national service organization of all rural electric systems. With headquarters in its own modern office building in Washington, NRECA functions on the national level much as the state-wides do on the state level. Important services NRECA provides for its members include insurance, coverage, management institutes, consulting service, group purchasing, and public relations assistance to state and system publications. NRECA also has regular contact with Congress and many Federal administrative agencies, and presents to them the views of the rural electric systems of America.

As with statewide associations, membership in NRECA is voluntary, and more than 90 per cent of all Rural Electric Systems belong to the National Association. Member systems, by vote at annual meeting or through their elected state directors, control policies, services, and actions of NRECA.

The Rural Electrification Administration is the real "REA" so often referred to in matters of rural electrification. It is actually a banking institution. A government agency, REA makes loans to local organizations for the construction of electric lines in rural areas. Loans are secured by a mortgage and repaid with interest over a period of 35 years. While REA loans are available to "persons" corporations, states, cities, and districts, most of the borrowers have been rural electric cooperatives.

Contrary to the general opinion, REA does not own or control the systems that borrow money. Nor does it hire the manager, set the rates, or dictate policy of the local systems. REA's and the Government's interest in the operation of rural electric lines is much the same as that of any prudent banker. That is, to make loans and take the necessary action to collect them.

And the credit record of REA borrowers has astonished many private bankers. Over \$1 billion in principal and interest has been paid to REA, on \$3½ billion in loans. Best of all much of this has been paid prior to due date!

HOW ELECTRIC POWER CHANGED THE FACE OF RURAL AMERICA

Continued from Page One you just can't afford to do it by hand.

A silo unloader, at the flip of a switch, tirelessly and effortlessly unloads silage at five cents a ton. Rather than being paid five cents a ton for digging and throwing down silage, today a farmer loses dollars for every hour he uses a silage fork or manure scoop. In that hour, he could be handling another 10 cows or 50 hogs.

Electrically operated bulk coolers have increased the sale price of milk as much as 35 cents per hundred. One Vermont farmer found he could add 20 cows to his herd when he installed a pipeline milker. By pushing buttons and pulling switches, a midwest farmer feeds 400 cattle and 500 hogs in only a few minutes, a job that would require a half dozen men a half day to do by hand.

Future's Bright There's no doubt but that Rural Electrification has played a big part in our changes in farming.

But we haven't seen anything yet if there's anything to the prediction of the future—that farm scientific and technological developments of the next 10 years will be equivalent to the progress of a whole generation in the past.

Co-ops Lead From Start Of Rural Electrification

Back in 1935, REA officials first tried to interest existing electric companies in building and extending electric facilities to rural areas. They weren't interested by and large, and little was done to provide electricity to people living beyond the city limits. So—farmer-organized cooperatives have taken the ball and run with it, to spread the benefits of electric light and power to people living and working in the country. In 1935, less than 11 per cent of the Nation's farms had electricity; today, 96 per cent now have a dependable source of low cost electric light and power.

Of the first 10 loans made by REA by November, 1935, seven were made to cooperatives, one to a private power company, and the others to state and city borrowers. By the end of 1936, nearly 100 cooperatives in 26 states had signed loan contracts with the government.

984 Borrowers Are Co-ops According to official records, of the total 1,085 borrowers who have obtained funds from REA, 984 have been cooperatives. Fifty have been Public Power Districts, 27 are listed as "Other Public Bodies," and 24 have been independent power companies.

The fact that cooperatives have taken the lead in rural electrification is understandable when you consider the factors involved. At best, providing scattered farmers and open rural areas with electrical service always has been viewed by established power companies as a relatively high-cost, low-profit business. Also, from the start of REA, low-cost electrical service to everyone on an area basis has been one of the requirements for obtaining a gov-

burden of rural electrification. They have organized into non-profit cooperatives, and have entered a covenant with the government to provide electrical service to all who want it, regardless of size of the consumer or where he is located. As a result, REA-financed electric systems average only three consumers per mile, and some systems in thinly settled areas average less than one.

Spokesmen for the rural electric systems point out, "This makes things much tougher for the rural electric than the city systems. But they've learned to live with their problems. They are managing to make ends meet, paying their REA loans with interest, and often in advance. They'll do even better in the future."

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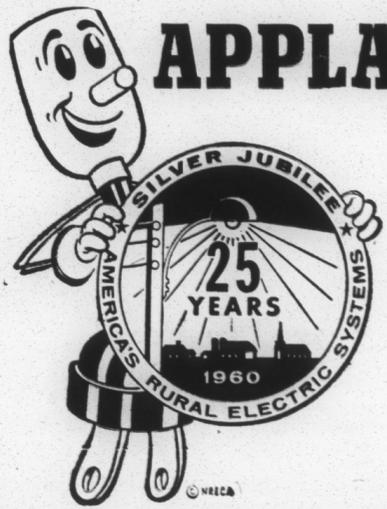
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