

Hoke Group Asks Lumbee REA To Lower Its Rates

Mr. C. L. Ballance, President Lumbee River Electric Membership Corp. St. Pauls, N. C.

Dear Mr. Ballance: At a meeting of the Hoke County Mobilization Committee last week, we heard reports on the summary of the results of the 1951 Farm Family Policy Review. There was a very heavy support of the Rural Electrification Administration and we are sure this is true in our county and in the other counties in our REA project. However, a number of counties made suggestions for changes in rates and improvement of service. We, as a group, voted to ask the Lumbee Electric board members to reduce the rate schedule for farm and home service. We know this has been done in several projects and we feel that a project that has been going successfully for twelve years and has over seven thousand members could readily reduce rates without hindering its success.

Following is an article taken from the News and Observer: **REDUCTION IN RATES ANNOUNCED BY CO-OP**—Williamston, May 24—Members of the Edgecombe-Martin County Electric Membership Corporation, and REA-financed rural electric distribution cooperative with headquarters in Tarboro, will receive a reduction in the rates they are presently paying for their electric service according to President J. W. Eubanks of Haswell.

The new rate schedule, which becomes effective July 1, represents a reduction of approximately 13 per cent of the annual gross revenue from the sale of electricity under the previous rates.

One of the oldest REA cooperatives in the nation, the Edgecombe-Martin County Electric Membership Corporation's first loan was allocated on May 29th, 1936, and energized its first 32 miles of lines on April 17, 1937, to bring the first REA cooperative service in the state to 66 members. Today the cooperative is providing nearly 4,000 consumers connected to its 935 miles of lines in Edgecombe, Martin, Nash, Pitt, Halifax, Beaumont, Bertie, and Wilson Counties with an adequate and dependable supply of central station electricity.

Statistics from Mr. Gwyn Price's office in Raleigh show the following N. C. REA projects with lower rates than the Lumbee Project:

1. Pitt and Greene Electric Membership Corp. has a minimum charge of \$1.75 per month, with the scale: First 30 kwh per month @ 7c per kwh. Next 50 kwh per month @ 3.5c per kwh. Next 170 kwh per month @ 2.5c per kwh. Over 250 kwh per month @ 1.5c per kwh.

2. Randolph Electric Membership Corp. with around 550 consumers and covering nearly 1500

miles - an average of 3.6 per mile: First 25 kwh @ 7½c per kwh. Next 25 kwh @ 4½c per kwh. Next 50 kwh @ 3c per kwh. Next 100 kwh @ 2c per kwh. Over 200 kwh @ 1¼c per kwh. Hot water heater rates are: All over 200 kwh @ 1.2c up to 500.

All over 500 kwh @ 1¼c per kwh 3. Mr. R. R. Edwards, Manager of the South River Project says "We are pleased to say that our rates have been reduced twice and can be reduced again when our economy is more stable. This project has around 6650 consumers and covers around 1650 miles which is an average of four members to the mile."

Several other projects show lower rates or less consumers to the mile.

In traveling over Hoke County, we frequently hear comments regarding the high cost of electricity which is distributed through REA. This has been a very bad year for farmers in our section. Many of the REA customers have suffered losses in both tobacco and cotton crops. At your next board meeting, we should like very much for you to give this request careful consideration. It has been suggested that rates be reduced to at least equal Carolina Power and Light Company rates. At the beginning of the project, twelve years ago, it was stated that the Rural Electrification Act's function was to make self liquidation loans. We are sure that in most cases the project has had a steady increase of revenue per patron as he converted his farm and home operations to electric power. Why not charge enough to gradually liquidate the loan, take care of operating expenses, and give the co-op members a break?

We would appreciate a report on the action taken in regard to this suggestion.

Yours sincerely, R. J. Hasty, Chairman Hoke County Mobilization Committee.

STATE COLLEGE HINTS TO FARM HOMEMAKERS

Homemakers—Planning meals that are balanced in nutrients is not enough for you to do. We must plan food combinations that are not only good to eat, nutritionally right, but our food must look appetizing as well. Food must have not only taste appeal but eye appeal.

All this goes towards making meal planning, preparation, and serving an interesting part of homemaking rather than a laborious chore.

People have established certain principles through practicing customs which we consider to be essential for correct table service and good table manners. It's important nowadays for every one to know what customs say we must do in the way of meal time etiquette.

Take advantage of all the different ways to cook vegetables to add texture and flavor to your menus. Why cook in the same way, day in and day out, vegetables, meats, salads, desserts?

Fingernail polish on shoe strings—sometimes metal tips come off of shoe strings. Try dipping the end of shoe string in clear fingernail polish. Two heavy dips would last a good long time. Of course, the polish must dry thoroughly between each dip.

Use kerosene to remove lettering on feed bags. It doesn't always work—most times it does. Lettering on flour or feed bags will come right out when kerosene has been poured on the letters and then rolled up for a day or two, or less time.

Purposes Of The National Meetings To Be Held In Raleigh

The Country Women's Council of the United States will convene in Raleigh at the adjournment of the National Demonstration Council meeting on Wednesday, October 29.

The purpose of the Country Women's Council (which is the United States Branch of the Associated Country Women of the World) is to bring the United States member societies, including the National Home Demonstration Council into closer relationship and to further work of the international organization. Chairman of the Country Women's Council is Mrs. George Apperson of Mocksville, N. C.

The purpose of the Associated Country Women of the World is to join together women from different countries who speak different languages but who have the same interests, hopes and problems. Its program is designed to further friendship and mutual understanding among country women of all lands. There are 6 million members in 103 organizations from 23 countries and five continents.

Objects of the National Home Demonstration Council which is also an affiliate of the Associated Country Women of the World are three-fold:

First—to strengthen, develop, coordinate, and extend adult education in home economics through the home demonstration program.

Second—to provide opportunity for homemakers in home demonstration groups to pool their judgment and experience for progressive improvement of home and community life.

Third—to offer a means by

which homemakers may initiate, interpret, and promote extension projects of national and international importance in the protection and development of the American home.

Atlas wheat, introduced in 1948, has averaged seven bushels per acre more than the two most widely-grown older varieties.

A dairy cow uses half of her normal ration in repairing body

tissue and maintaining body heat and energy.

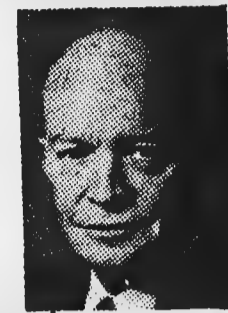
The 1952 price support for oats is 80 cents per bushel for Grade 3 or better. This is 85 per cent of the latest parity price.

In 1930, the average North Carolina dairy cow produced 3,770 pounds of milk. In 1950 the average was 4,460.

Land prices have climbed more rapidly in North Carolina since 1940 than in any other state.



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