

Along The Way



By Emily Killeff

May marks the 50th anniversary of the Rural Electrification Administration. Rural America was the last to receive electrical service to homes. Today, it is hard to imagine our country and life without electricity at home and at work. In fact, the largest percentage of the American population has no memory of a time without electrical service to our rural homes and the local cities.

The Rural Electrification Administration was established as a federal agency through an executive order of President Franklin D. Roosevelt on May 11, 1935.

Fewer than 11 percent of American farms had electrical service in 1935. In southeastern North Carolina one of the few privately-owned utilities to take advantage of the REA loans was the now defunct Tidewater Power Company headquartered in Wilmington. A branch office of the Tidewater Company was located in Warsaw and the utility provided electrical service areas of Duplin.

The May 30, 1935 issue of the DUPLIN HERALD published an article about the rural electrification movement. The article was based on a report presented to the North Carolina Governor about the rural electrification movement.

Rural Electrification Just Ahead
That rural electrification promises to be "one of the greatest forward movements in all the history of rural North Carolina" is the confident prediction of Dr. Clarence Poe, chairman of the North Carolina Rural Electrification Committee, in presenting his formal report to Governor Ehringhaus Wednesday, May 29.

For Duplin County, Dr. Poe's report summarizes the results of surveys so far made as follows, together with state averages of totals, also.

Number of lines surveyed, county 9; state 677.

Length of all surveyed lines in miles, county 69.77; state 4,486.57.

Total number of interested prospects; county 353; state 23,779.

Interested prospects per mile, county 5.06; state 5.08.

Estimated connected load in KW, county 1101.4; state 70,374.

Estimated cost of all lines surveyed, county \$117,946; state \$7,477,273.

Estimated connection load in KW per mile, county 17.20; state 17.70.

Estimated line cost in dollars per

Homemaker Health Aide Graduation

Rose Hill Restaurant was the setting for the Homemaker Health Aide class graduation. The commencement took place May 2. The class was co-sponsored by Du-Penza and James Sprunt Technical College and was a training program designed for older workers.

The guest speaker was Ms. Margie Parker, field representative for Rural/Private Industry Council, Division of Employment and Training, Natural Resources Community Development. Ms. Parker, a graduate of Bennett College and UNC-CH, spoke on the pride her division took in seeing people meet goals that they thought were impossible. She offered each graduate a challenge, "Don't put your certificate in a frame or hang it on a wall, put your training to use."

Members of the graduating class are: Elouise Blocker, Louise Bronson, Mary Dixon, Lular Duckett, Lottie Farris, Dennis Graham, Elmo Hayes, Inez Haley, Lois Lamb, Dorothy Lamb, Thelma Miller, Eleanor Moore, Elizabeth Smith, Kate Shaw, Eula Wallace, Mrs. Clarence Williams, Ernestine Williams, Eleanor Williams and Gladys Williams.

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mile, county \$1,678; state \$1,666.
Estimated line cost in dollars per prospect, county, \$332; state \$328.
Estimated annual revenue, county \$11,835; state \$742,454.
Estimated annual revenue per

mile, county \$170; state \$165.
Estimated annual revenue per prospect, county \$34; state \$32.
Estimated annual consumption in KWH, county \$150,660; state \$10,648,534.
Estimated annual consumption, KWH per mile, county 2,159; state 2,373.
Estimated annual consumption, KWH per prospect, county 427; state 467.

Last week the DUPLIN TIMES received a press release from Four County Electric Membership

Corporation about its history. The electric company services part of Duplin and is headquartered in our county in Rose Hill. The main office of the company is located in Burgaw.
Four County EMC
Locally, Four County EMC was chartered in 1937 to distribute electricity to the rural areas of Bladen, Duplin, Pender and Sampson counties.
By 1938 an initial loan of \$145,000 had been obtained from REA, and in 1939, the first 175 miles of line serving 432 member-consumers was

energized.
In the early days the Cooperative was headquartered in Kerr Station. Today, Four County has its main office in Burgaw, and district offices in Elizabethtown, Rose Hill and Burgaw, and it serves over 19,000 consumers.
From its initial loan of \$145,000, the Cooperative has increased its plant value to more than \$31.5 million.
It is governed by a consumer-elected board of directors, whose president is R.W. Blanchard Jr. of Turkey. Vice-president is W.A.

Settlemyer of Riegelwood, and treasurer is R.E. Pendergrass of Tomahawk.
Other directors include J.J. Malpass of Burgaw; O.Homer James, Wallace; Garland P. King, Teachey; Lucille Eakins, Watha; Iva W. Brinson, Magnolia; James Hollingsworth, Willard, and Linwood Royal, White Oak.
General manager of Four County EMC is L.P. (Bill) Beverage of Burgaw. District managers are T.R. Vick, Burgaw; Bryant Herring, Elizabethtown, and Glenn Bradshaw, Rose Hill.

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<p>FRESH LUNDY NECKBONE</p>  <p>39¢ LB.</p>	<p>BONELESS STEW BEEF</p>  <p>\$1.89 LB.</p>	<p>HUNT'S CATSUP</p>  <p>32 OZ. 89¢</p>	<p>SMITHFIELD HOT DOGS</p>  <p>89¢ PAK</p>
<p>DUNCAN HINES GOLDEN & YELLOW CAKE MIX</p>  <p>79¢</p>	<p>DOWNY-FLAKE WAFFLES</p> <p>13 OZ. 79¢</p>	<p>PALMOLIVE DISH DETERGENT</p> <p>22 OZ. 89¢</p>	<p>LUNDY CHITTERLINGS</p> <p>10 LB. BUCKET \$4.59</p>
<p>SUPER SUDS DETERGENT</p> <p>GT SIZE 89¢</p>	<p>MAOLA ICE CREAM</p> <p>5 QUART \$3.59</p>	<p>WESSON OIL</p> <p>48 OZ. \$2.59</p> 	<p>SWIFT PREMIUM BUTTER</p> <p>LB. \$1.99</p>
<p>PETER PAN PEANUT BUTTER</p> <p>18 OZ. \$1.39</p>	<p>GRADE A MEDIUM EGGS</p> <p>DOZ. 49¢</p>	<p>PEPSI, DIET PEPSI, DIET SLICE</p> <p>2 LITER 89¢</p>	<p>BUTTER ME NOT BISCUITS</p> <p>9.5 OZ. 3/\$1.00</p>
<p>PRIDE OF THE FARM WHOLE KERNEL & CREAM STYLE CORN</p>  <p>3/\$1.00</p>	<p>CHATHAM CHUNX DOG FOOD</p>  <p>50 LB. \$6.59</p>	<p>PEPSI, DIET PEPSI & PEPSI FREE (16 OZ. 8 PACK)</p>  <p>\$2.09</p>	<p>BROCCOLI BUNCH</p>  <p>79¢</p>
<p>PERFECTION RICE</p> <p>3 LB. 69¢</p>	<p>CAULIFLOWER HEAD</p>  <p>99¢</p>	<p>WHITE POTATOES</p> <p>10 LB. \$1.19</p>	