

# the ILLUMINATOR

PUBLISHED FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY • KENTUCKY POWER COMPANY • KINGSPORT POWER COMPANY • OF THE AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER SYSTEM  
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## Frank Blevins rescues man from burning house



Blevins

A Roanoker's house was gutted by flames last month but the man was rescued from his smoke-filled bedroom by neighbors.

Frank Blevins, senior engineering technologist in General Office T&D Meter, Roanoke, recalls what happened: "I arrived from church around 8:30 PM and was on my way to supper when I saw what I thought was leaves burning in the back of the house. The reason I thought it was leaves was because I didn't see any smoke or any activity coming from the house. As I went past, I kept looking at the flame, and it occurred to me it was coming out of the window in the back of the house."

He continues, "I quickly backed the car to the house, jumped out and ran to the next house to sum-

mon the fire department. The occupant in the next house was watching television and didn't know the house was on fire."

After calling the fire department, the neighbor handed Frank a garden hose across the fence to use in putting out the fire. "The hose didn't have a nozzle on it, so I put my thumb half way over the opening to put pressure on the water." Deciding the hose wasn't doing any good, it occurred to Frank that someone may be in the house. He quickly went to the side away from the fire and saw the owner of the house, who had awakened, standing at the second floor window. Frank and the neighbor got a ladder and rescued the owner, who said he had taken sleeping pills and didn't realize the house was burning until he heard the noise outside.

Frank said, "The house had to be burning 10 to 15 minutes before I arrived. I'm just glad there weren't any children or disabled persons in the house, especially children, because they don't know what to do in a situation such as a fire unless a plan has been made."

Frank owns a bi-level home, and he has six heat sensors installed throughout. "I don't have a fire escape plan but, after this, I'm going to start one."



Reynolds

## Reynolds named Roanoke Division assistant manager

Glenn H. Reynolds, residential services director in General Office Customer Services, Roanoke, was promoted to assistant manager of the Roanoke Division on December 1. He succeeds Robert D. Webster, who earlier was named Roanoke Division manager.

Reynolds, a native of Marlinton, West Virginia, holds a BS degree in electrical engineering from West Virginia Institute of Technology. He has attended the American Electric Power System Management Training Program at the University of Michigan. Reynolds joined the company in 1958 as an electrical engineer at Bluefield and was commercial sales engineer there before going to Pulaski as area development consultant in 1969. He transferred to Roanoke in 1973 as area development director of Appalachian Power and became residential services director in 1975.

## FPC approves settlement agreement of APCo wholesale rate case

The Federal Power Commission issued an order November 2 approving a settlement of a long-standing rate case involving Appalachian Power's wholesale customers. The settlement was reached earlier this year by the parties.

Included in the agreement are four Virginia communities — Danville, Martinsville, Richlands, and Salem — as well as Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and several small electric utilities in West Virginia. Bedford and Radford were not involved in the agreement because their existing contracts have not expired.

"We are pleased with the way all of the parties in this case were able to sit down early this year and work out an agreement satisfactory to all, and that the FPC has accepted our settlement agreement," John W. Vaughan, APCo executive vice

## I&M to seek permits for 2.6 MW plant on Ohio River in Spencer Co., Indiana

Indiana & Michigan Electric Company last month announced plans to file a series of applications for permits and other approvals required for the construction of a major new power plant on the Ohio River in Spencer County, Indiana.

Jack F. Stark, I&M executive vice president, said that the new plant, if built as presently contemplated, would have a generating capacity of 2.6-million kilowatts and an estimated cost of over \$1.3 billion, not including an estimated \$200 million for associated transmission facilities. First of the plant's two 1.3-million-kw, coal-burning generating units would be scheduled for commercial operation by 1981; the second, by 1982.

The plant would be the largest in Indiana and, from the standpoints of both power generation and environmental acceptability, one of the most modern and efficient in the world. In full operation it would generate an estimated 18.2-billion kilowatt-hours a year.

The new facility would be built on a site of approximately 6,000 acres, which I&M has been acquiring since 1973, between Grandview and Rockport, about 12 miles northeast of Owensboro, Kentucky.

To build the plant, I&M must file a total of 52 applications with 17 federal, state, regional and county agencies.

Stark emphasized that the capacity of the new plant will be essential to meeting the power

requirements of I&M's customers by the early 1980's, pointing out that it would take approximately four years after groundbreaking to place the first generating unit in commercial operation.

"In 1975," Stark said, "I&M placed in service the first of two 1.1-million-kw generating units at the new Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant in Michigan. By early 1978 we expect to place our second nuclear unit in operation. But, by the winter of 1981-82, we are going to have to have additional generating capacity available — and that is the objective of our plans for the filing of applications."

At the same time Stark emphasized that I&M, at the moment, was in no position to undertake the construction of a new power plant. "At the present time we do not have the ability to finance such a project," he said. "However, we must proceed on the assumption that I&M's financial position will improve in the coming months. Thus, if the essential electric energy needs of the people we serve in Indiana and Michigan are to be met, we must begin now to obtain the many necessary permits and approvals so that we will be in position to start construction by some time next year."

Completion of construction of the total plant would require approximately five years. Construction employees would reach 3,500 at the peak of activity, and the construction payroll is expected to total \$470 million. Upon its completion, the plant would employ a permanent staff of 335, with an annual payroll of \$3.4 million (based on 1976 wage rates).

The plant would be the largest taxpayer in southern Indiana. "Real estate taxes alone are expected to reach the \$7.5 million level by 1983, the first full year of operation of the two-unit plant," Stark said.

The two-unit plant is expected to burn from 7- to 10-million tons of coal per year, depending on its heat (Btu) content. Most of it will be delivered by river barge.

Because of the need for low-sulfur coal, it is anticipated that I&M's underground mines at Helper, Utah, and Carter Coal Company's surface-mining operation near Gillette, Wyoming, will be the primary source of fuel for the new plant. This western low-sulfur coal (.5 per cent sulfur or less) would be delivered by AEP System 100-car unit trains to AEP's new Cook Coal Terminal at Metropolis, Illinois, where it would be transferred to AEP barges for the balance of the trip to the plant. To the extent that it (continued on page 2)

## ERDA plans to double capacity of uranium enrichment plant

The Energy Research & Development Administration last month announced that it was proceeding with plans to enlarge its gaseous-diffusion uranium-enrichment plant near Portsmouth, Ohio, to result in a doubling of its capacity to produce nuclear fuel.

The add-on is estimated to cost \$2.8 billion. However, ERDA estimated that escalation could raise the final cost to as much as \$4.4 billion.

Construction is expected to begin in early 1977 and to be completed in 1985. The construction force is expected to peak at about 6,000, and operation of the add-on to increase the plant's permanent staff by about 400.

ERDA announced also that, as a result of a solicitation of proposals from utilities interested in providing the added electric power required, "American Electric Power submitted the only proposals, and ERDA has held clarifying discussions with AEP concerning their proposals." ERDA pointed out that, while three AEP System operating companies are among the 15 electric utilities making up the

membership of the Ohio Valley Electric Corporation, OVEC had not submitted a proposal to supply electricity for the add-on. OVEC has been furnishing the Portsmouth complex its power since 1952.

Enriched uranium from gaseous-diffusion plants such as the Portsmouth complex is used as the fuel for nuclear power plants in the United States and abroad. Two other such facilities in operation by ERDA are at Paducah, Kentucky, and Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

R. J. Hart, manager of ERDA's Oak Ridge Operations, which is responsible for all of the agency's uranium-enrichment programs, said that Portsmouth had been chosen over the other two locations for a number of reasons, but first on its list was the fact that "power can reasonably be available for the scheduled plant start-up."

He said that the expansion was necessary "to sustain the nuclear energy option which ERDA considers essential in meeting the energy needs of this country and much of the free world today and tomorrow." He (continued on page 4)

## 20-inch turnips grow on Cedar Coal's reclaimed strip land

James Caldwell, general superintendent of Cedar Coal Company's strip mining operations, considers himself a farmer as well as a coal man.

The reason is that Cedar Coal has planted turnips, corn, sugar cane and kale on one of its reclaimed strip mines on Slaughters Creek in Kanawha County, West Virginia. Some of the plantings have done well and some haven't, but Jim is particularly proud of his turnips.

"We've got some of the biggest turnips I've ever seen," said Jim. "A corner of my office is piled full of turnips." Cedar employees have helped themselves to the turnips, some of which have measured more than 20 inches around.

The vegetable seed is mixed with grass seed and fertilizer and blown onto the regraded stripped land with a hydroseeder. Vegetable seed isn't mixed together, however, Jim pointed out. Some areas are planted with one kind of vegetable and other areas with

other kinds.

The vegetable planting started in earnest this past spring on a mountaintop removal job, some of which has been reclaimed. The turnips were grown over a valley fill, which is a deep hollow filled with overburden removed from the mountaintop.

"We're just experimenting to see what we can do in the future with reclaimed land," Jim explained. "It's not inconceivable that it could become productive farmland."

Turnips and kale have done the best of the vegetables, Jim said. He said corn and sugar cane have not thrived.

Jim said he plans to bring in 50 head of cattle next spring to graze on the reclaimed land.

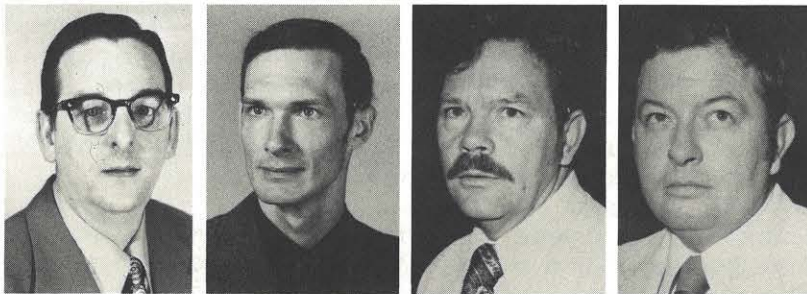
Cedar Coal has approximately 500 acres of reclaimed land in Kanawha and Boone counties.

Three sediment ponds on the property were stocked with 1500 largemouth bass this year.

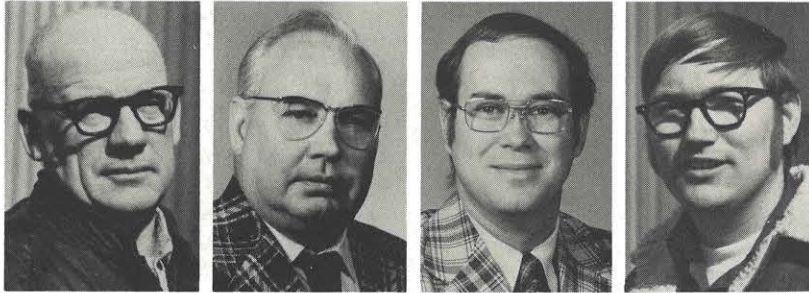


The 345 employees of Charleston Division completed 500,000 consecutive manhours without a disabling injury on October 8. In recognition of this achievement, pancake breakfasts were held for employees in the Charleston, St. Albans and Montgomery offices later that month. C. O. Carlini, Charleston division manager, said, "Safety is a very important part of our employees' work schedule, and this is a record that they can all be proud of. It took us nine months to reach this milestone, and we will do everything possible to reach our goal of 1,000,000 manhours safely worked without a disabling injury." Preparing pancakes in the Charleston office were (l. to r.) George Unangst, division superintendent; Lloyd Pomykata, customer services manager; John Frazier, personnel supervisor, and Carlini. Going through the line are Clayton Starcher, meterman A; Bo Waldon, lineman A; and Jadie Bostic, stationman A.

## Operations Improvement goal in sight at end of third quarter



Abshire French Blevins Brewer



Clay Dalton Draper Parsons

One-hundred twenty-five Operations Improvement proposals with an estimated savings of some \$698,000 have been processed during the first nine months of 1976, according to F. E. Hornbeck, methods engineer, who coordinates the program for Appalachian Power. He predicts the savings goal of \$750,000 will be reached by the end of the year.

During the third quarter, 42 proposals were processed. Eight employees received awards for submitting the five "better proposals" during this period.

Receiving \$25 U. S. Savings Bonds were: R. D. Blevins, Pulaski electrical engineer, for a documented plan of action for dealing with animal bites; K. E. French, Roanoke engineer B, for a recommendation that the Distribution Standards provide for a minimal clearance for dead end/hot line clamps installations; and W. P. Brewer, Jr., Pulaski area serviceman, for a proposal describing the modification of a 27 kv S&C cutout for use as a sectionalizing test fuse.

Cash in the amount of \$10 each

was awarded to G. W. Abshire, instrument maintenance foreman; W. L. Clay, engineer B; and S. Z. Parsons, performance engineer, all of John E. Amos Plant. Their proposal involved changes to the control circuitry on the Stock coal feeders so that operating personnel could initiate action to cope with coal feeder pluggage.

E. L. Dalton, hydro operations supervisor and D. C. Draper, engineer B, both of General Office Hydro, received similar awards for their proposal describing relaying changes made to the stator temperature controls on the five units at Reusens Hydro.

## Plant (cont. from pg. 1)

is available and reasonably priced, environmentally conforming eastern low-sulfur coal, particularly from Kentucky, also would be used, Stark added.

Capital cost of the plant's environmental control facilities will be in excess of \$100 million, or about 8 per cent of the entire cost, Stark said. Included in these facilities are a single concrete stack at least 1,000 feet high, two 500-foot-high natural-draft cooling towers, and the electrostatic precipitators.

Stark said that I&M had been operating an air-quality monitoring network in the vicinity of the site since August 1974 as a preliminary to planning, building and operating the plant. He stressed that the company will have invested over \$1 million in environmental studies of air, water and land quality prior to commercial operation of the plant.

In his announcement, Stark said that the Spencer County location had been chosen for I&M's next power plant because of its special suitability with respect to water supply, the receipt of coal via barge, and the comparative ease of integrating the plant into I&M's existing transmission network. For these reasons, he continued, this site was preferable at this time to other possible locations, including existing plant sites owned by the AEP System at Geneva, Kentucky, on the Ohio and in Sullivan County, Indiana, on the Wabash River.

## Lineman aids homeless man

Robert Watson, lineman at St. Albans in the Charleston Division, received the "Jaycee of the Month" award for his work in helping to build a house for an elderly man in the Amandaville section of St. Albans.

The man's rent was raised beyond his ability to pay, and he had to move out with no place to go. Bobby heard about the situation and, with the help of six other men, started building a house for him. Frank Scholl, St. Albans meter serviceman, assisted with the electrical system for the house.

At press time the house was almost completed and the elderly man had already moved in.

Bobby said, "Just the look on his face was enough thanks for me."



Bobby Watson, second from right, at work on construction of a house for an elderly, homeless man in St. Albans.

## Thanks To You

A community needs a spirit of people helping people. That tradition helps build a better community for us and our families. It helps people of all ages, in all neighborhoods, from all walks of life. Your United Way investment in people is paying off in help for handicapped children, older people, troubled families.

When **The Illuminator** went to press, United Way campaigns in most areas had been wrapped up. We send a hearty thank you to every employee who contributed. Without your help, thousands of families might be unable to receive needed assistance from one of the many United Way agencies. Everyone is touched at one time or another by a United Way agency — whether it's a son or daughter who belongs to Scouts or the Y, using blood collected by Red Cross workers or an older person who receives needed assistance.

Appalachian Power employees responded by pledging \$61,052.53. Kingsport Power employees pledged \$3,290.90. And employees in Ashland Division of Kentucky Power Company, the only one with a United Way campaign, pledged \$1,483.

Thanks to you, it works for all of us.

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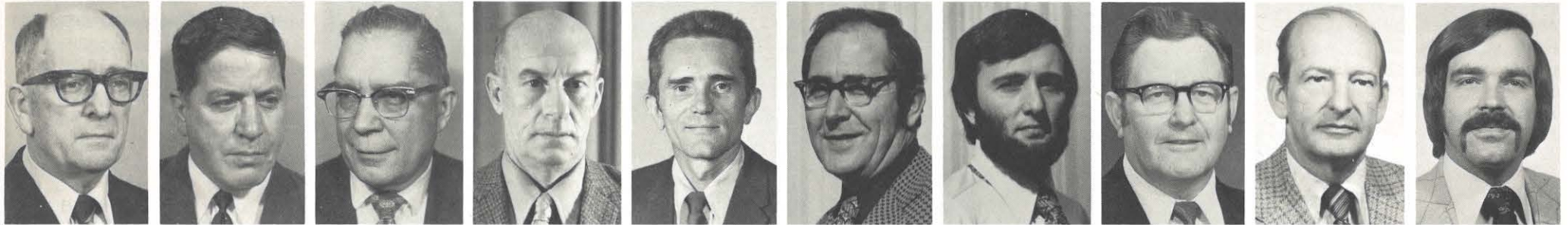
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MOVING UP



Bowman Patterson Orr, C. K. Neely Thompson Kinnett Kincaid Rhodes Russell Berginnis



Bryan Schweitzer Ackerman Shafer Coulter Johnson, J. C. Orr, J. S. Johnson, J. H. Fariss Lang

**Donald D. Bowman**, former chief plant dispatcher, was promoted to shift operating engineer at Cabin Creek Plant on November 1. He succeeds Virgil Burger, who retired.

**Curtis O. Patterson**, former assistant shift operating engineer, was promoted to shift operating engineer at Cabin Creek Plant on November 1. He succeeds Ralph H. Williams, who elected early retirement.

**Charles K. Orr**, former boiler operator A, was promoted to assistant shift operating engineer at Cabin Creek Plant on November 1, succeeding C. O. Patterson. Orr attended Marshall University.

**Paul Neely**, former unit foreman, was promoted to assistant shift operating engineer at Glen Lyn Plant on December 1. He succeeds C. B. Pattersen, who retired.

**Charles D. Thompson**, former equipment operator, was promoted to unit foreman at Glen Lyn Plant on December 1, succeeding Paul Neely.

**J. R. Kinnett**, former maintenance foreman at Indiana & Michigan Electric Company's Breed Plant, was promoted to production supervisor for Appalachian Power Company's Centralized Plant Maintenance Department, headquartered at Amos Plant, on November 1.

**R. L. Kincaid, II**, former maintenance foreman at Philip Sporn Plant, was promoted to production supervisor for Appalachian's Centralized Plant Maintenance Department on October 15.

**Robert G. Rhodes**, former master maintenance man, was promoted to maintenance foreman at Philip Sporn Plant on November 1, succeeding R. L. Kincaid.

**O. H. Russell**, former general records, tax and statistical supervisor, Kentucky Power General Office Accounting, Ashland, was

promoted to administrative assistant-accounting on October 1. He attended Ashland Junior College and Marshall University.

**Edward L. Berginnis**, former Ashland Division accounting supervisor, was promoted to general records, tax and statistical supervisor, General Office Accounting, Ashland, on November 1, succeeding O. H. Russell. He holds a BS degree in business administration from Concord College.

**L. D. Bryan**, former administrative assistant, was promoted to Ashland Division accounting supervisor on November 1, succeeding E. L. Berginnis.

**Robert W. Schweitzer**, former residential representative senior, was promoted to Ashland Division administrative assistant on November 1, succeeding L. D. Bryan.

**Melinda Ackerman**, former secretarial-stenographer, was promoted to residential advisor in Ashland Division on November 1, succeeding R. W. Schweitzer.

**Wayne Marshall Shafer**, former classification clerk, was promoted to statistical accountant in General Office Accounting, Roanoke, on November 1. He succeeds W. O. Vaughan, who was promoted earlier. Shafer holds an AA degree from National Business College and a BBA degree from Roanoke College.

**Frankie Ray Coulter**, former transitman trainee, was promoted to industrial engineer for Cedar Coal Company on September 20. He holds a degree in civil engineering from West Virginia Institute of Technology.

**John C. Johnson, Jr.**, former engineer B at Cabin Creek Plant, was promoted to purchasing assistant in General Office Purchasing, Roanoke, on November 16. He holds an AS degree in mechanical engineering technology from West Virginia In-



Taylor

stitute of Technology.

**J. S. Orr**, former lineman A, was promoted to line foreman non-exempt in Abingdon Division on October 30. He succeeds R. R. Gregory, who is on LTD leave.

**J. H. Johnson, III**, former senior engineering technologist, was promoted to engineering technologist supervisor in General Office T&D Station Section, Roanoke, on November 1. He holds an AAS degree from Roanoke Technical Institute.

**J. L. Fariss**, former electrical engineer-hydro, was promoted to engineering technologist supervisor-hydro, in General Office Hydro, Roanoke, on November 1. He holds an AAS degree in electrical engineering technology from Virginia Western Community College.

**David A. Lang**, former line and station supervisor, was promoted to Ashland division superintendent on October 1, succeeding Gene Moore who elected early retirement. Lang holds a BS degree in electrical engineering from West Virginia Institute of Technology.

**Gordon "Mike" Taylor**, former distribution engineer, was promoted to Ashland Division line and station supervisor on December 1, succeeding D. A. Lang. He holds a BS degree in electrical engineering from West Virginia Institute of Technology.

**Stephen D. Souder**, former distribution engineer in Ashland, was promoted to Hazard Division line and station supervisor on December 1. He holds a BS



Souder

degree in electrical engineering from the University of Kentucky.

**Robert S. Caldwell**, former senior engineering technologist, was promoted to engineering technologist supervisor in General Office T&D Station, Roanoke, on November 1. He holds an associate in electronics degree from Virginia Western Community College.

**James A. Martin**, former truck driver-groundman, was promoted to line inspector exempt, in Lynchburg on October 16.

**John M. Rottgen**, former master maintenance man, was promoted to maintenance foreman at Philip Sporn Plant on November 16.

**Paul R. Alexander**, former lineman A, was promoted to working line foreman in Hazard on October 4.

**Allen E. Tackett**, former trans-



Caldwell

portation foreman, was promoted to transportation superintendent for Cedar Coal Company on November 1. He attended West Virginia Institute of Technology.

**William C. Safford**, former assistant chief electrical construction, was promoted to chief electrical construction, Project 1301, on November 1.

**Carl E. Geimer**, former assistant chief mechanical construction, was promoted to chief mechanical construction, Project 1301, on July 1. He is presently on loan to Indiana & Michigan Cook Plant construction.

**D. D. Leffel**, former senior engineering technologist, was promoted to engineering technologist supervisor, GO T&D Transmission, Bluefield, on November 1. He holds an associate science degree from Bluefield State College.



Martin

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Leffel

SYSTEM BRIEFS

Marino heads AEP rates; Lindahl, Stuhlmann promoted

Louis H. Marino on December 1 became manager of the Rate Division in the AEP Service Corporation's Rate Department; A. W. Lindahl succeeded him as accounting manager and assistant secretary and assistant treasurer of Ohio Power Company, and A. H. Stuhlmann succeeded Lindahl in that office in Indiana & Michigan Electric Company.

The elections of Lindahl and Stuhlmann as officers of Ohio Power and I&M, respectively,

took place at the companies' board meetings on November 18.

The Rate Division is one of three divisions in the AEP Rate Department. Paul J. Zuercher, assistant vice president — rates, who had been head of the Rate Division, has assumed new responsibilities in the department. M. Brian McNulty and Peter Schulhof are continuing as heads of the Interconnection and Special Contract Divisions, respectively.

## AEP observes 70th anniversary in December

Let's have a tip of the hat to Harrison Williams and Anson Burchard and Bridgham Curtis, to Ross Mackey, and the magnificently named Wolcott H. Pitkin, Jr.; let's not forget R. E. Breed, Henry Doherty, and the inevitable Smith (A. E.).

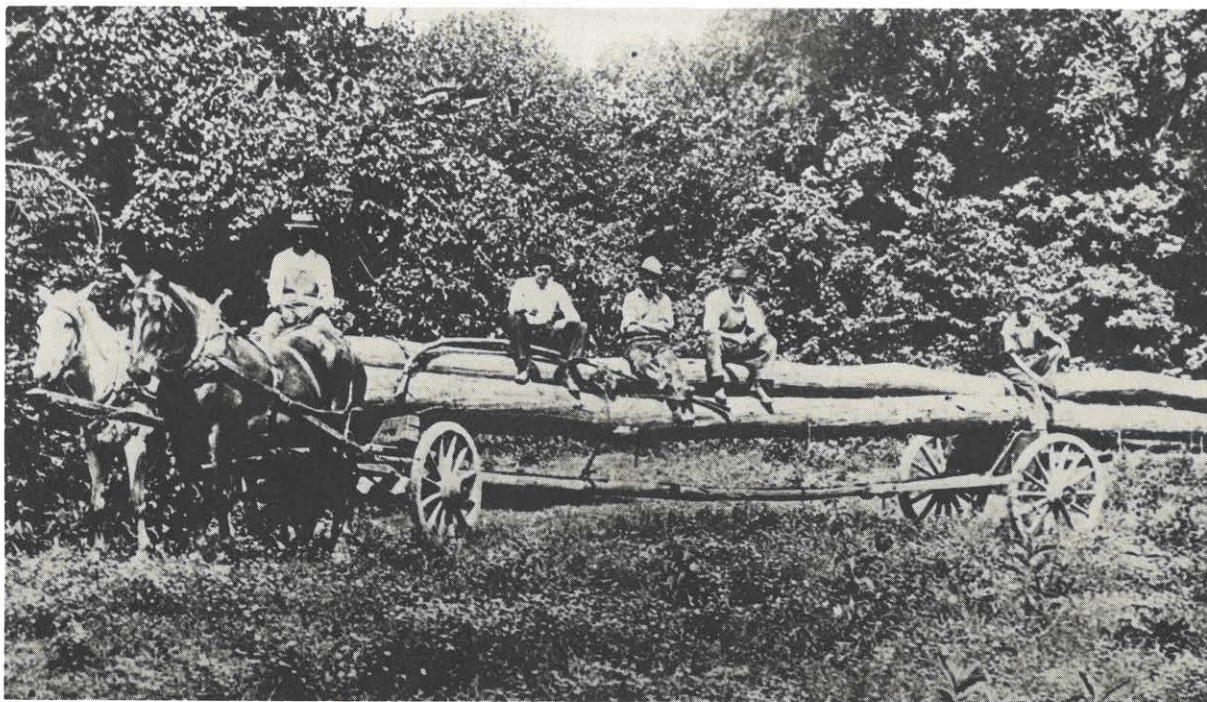
They were the men who, 70 years ago come December 21, gathered at 62 Cedar Street in downtown New York at 11 o'clock in the morning for the first meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Gas and Electric Company, Mr. Curtis presiding. The certificate of incorporation had been filed with the State of New York the day before setting out some far-reaching purposes: "to manufacture, purchase or otherwise acquire, to deal in, use, and repair, and to sell or otherwise dispose of, any machinery, apparatus or equipment useful in, or adapted to or convenient for the storage, utilization, supply or disposition of electricity, gas, water or steam or of power produced thereby."

The firm's capital stock consisted of 70,000 shares of preferred and 70,000 shares of common stock, each at a par value of \$50. It was also noted in the certificate that said corporation had \$1,000 in cash to begin the business. It was declared that its duration was perpetual, a comforting thought, then and now.

62 Cedar Street was the business address of several of those first 15 directors. It is gone now, and the site occupied by the side door of a bank. No one knows what the interior was like, but it's fun to think of it as dark-paneled and having heavy red curtains, very likely dusty. Potted rubber plants sit about the room, and it's virtually a sure bet that shiny brass cuspidors are convenient to each of the 15 places. Pots of ink and pens and squares of paper, and perhaps a cigar-cutter or two are arranged on the long oak table. It is, one feels, very Edwardian and very, very capitalistic.

Of the 15 sitting around that table, two subsequently became presidents of AGE: Doherty, elected to the post at the board's very next meeting in January, 1907, and Breed, who succeeded Doherty in July, 1910 and served until March, 1923. Harrison Williams (no connection with the present Senator of the same name from New Jersey) was also known as the husband of Mona, the woman who for many years was prominent in New York society and on the best-dressed lists. The remaining directors remain after these many years generally faceless.

Obscurity may be their lot now, but they possessed nerve and resolution and confidence — plus what must have been an almost evangelical faith in the future of the electric utility industry. In fact, "industry" was a somewhat grand label to apply to the scat-



Power had to be delivered in the early days just as today. This picture, made in 1908, shows pole handling methods of the old Kanawha Water and Light Company in Charleston. The poles are chestnut.

tered bits and pieces of operations trying to light a few bulbs and move a few trolley cars.

It was precisely to put an end to this condition, with its overlapping companies and inefficiency, that American Gas and Electric Company was organized. Financed in part by Electric Bond and Share Company (which for a time owned 18 per cent of the company's common stock), AGE set out as planned to acquire the 22 companies of the Electric Company of America, electric, transit companies (or "street railways," or "interurbans"), water companies, gas companies, and companies that supplied steam to heat downtown buildings, all spread from Illinois to New York. (Such a one was in South Bend, and operated as part of Indiana & Michigan Electric Company until the very recent past.)

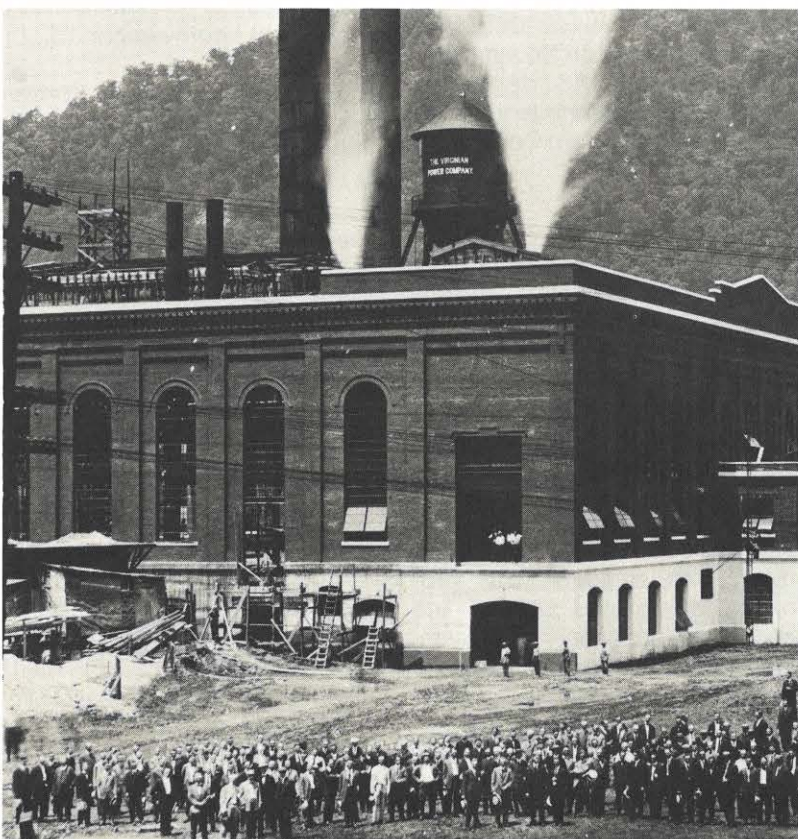
At any rate, AGE acquired the 22 and disposed of all except the electric companies in Marion and Muncie, Indiana; Canton and Bridgeport, Ohio; Wheeling,

West Virginia; Scranton, Pennsylvania, and Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Acquisition of other small companies followed in the years to come, all by the same technique: acquired small, isolated companies, then connect the "island" with transmission lines, all the while strengthening generating capability.

One such island was the Indiana General Service Company; another was the former (as opposed to the present) Indiana & Michigan Electric Company; the two were connected in 1930, merged in 1945. By 1916, similar things were happening in Ohio with its five little islands — Tiffin, Mt. Vernon, Newark, Canton, East Liverpool, Wheeling — busy enclaves on their own. Ohio Power Company was formed in 1919 to consolidate the various properties, except for Wheeling, which continued as a separate company.

In 1922, AGE took on Kentucky



A C&O excursion, under the auspices of A. B. Leach and Company, brought potential stockholders from New York to Cabin Creek, West Virginia, to tour the Virginian Power Company's Cabin Creek Plant on June 6, 1914.

and West Virginia Power Company, now essentially Kentucky Power Company. This was the first of a series of acquisitions in Virginia and West Virginia of companies large and small, including American Electric Power (a small company in Virginia), and Appalachian Power Company, but not the same one as today's. In 1925, Kingsport Power Company, then Kingsport Utilities, Inc., became part of the System, and in 1926 a series of consolidations created what is now Appalachian Power Company, and sketched the outlines of the System that remained unchanged until the System acquired Michigan Power Company, then Michigan Gas and Electric Company, in 1967.

In spite of its name AGE was never big on gas, and early in its corporate life shed most of such properties. Oddly, the name remained until 1958, when the new name of American Electric Power Company reflected the all-electric nature of the business. Even if gas had been part of AGE, the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 would have changed it. That landmark legislation, with its permanent effects on the utility industry, decreed that holding companies — AGE, for example — had to be electric or gas, but not both. In addition, it declared that subsidiaries of a holding company had to be part of a physically interconnected, integrated system. Thus did Scranton and Atlantic City leave AGE.

The technical achievements of American Electric Power from the very beginning — interconnections, mine-mouth plants, higher voltages, and the whole catalog of highests, deepest, longest, lowest, mosts, and firsts — would fill a book. Taken together, they form not just a monument, but a dynamic extension of those hopes first expressed back in 1906; and those hopes are ever changing, ever realized.

So, hail again, Henry Doherty and friends: you have builded better than you knew.

## Rates (cont. from pg. 1)

the term of these contracts, and the result was litigation and a series of filings and hearings before the FPC.

In early 1976, the parties involved met and were able to reach agreement in principal on a settlement. This settlement agreement was filed with the FPC on May 21, 1976 and approved November 2.

Vaughan said that, among other things, the agreement specifies that those customers whose contracts had expired and were being served on a day-to-day basis would have their contracts extended until March 31, 1979.

The effective dates of the higher rates range from April 22, 1974 to October 20, 1975, depending on what dates contracts had expired.

All parties to the agreement also accepted a provision that in the event Appalachian is forced to curtail electric service to its retail customers that the municipals will curtail their customers in a like manner.

The rate increase Appalachian had applied for in 1972 went into effect under bond March 22, 1973. The agreement states that revenues collected between that date and April 30, 1974 which exceeded rate schedules applicable prior to that period would be refunded. This refund amounts to approximately \$500,000 and must be made within 30 days.

## Uranium (cont. from pg. 1)

explained, "While ERDA is charged with the responsibility of creating broad energy choices, or options, for the future — and we are doing that aggressively in the areas of solar energy, geothermal energy, fusion energy, etc. — it is clear that over the next few decades we must use our relatively abundant supplies of coal and uranium for production of as much energy as possible in the face of dwindling supplies of oil and gas."

Hart pointed out that 60 nuclear power plants in the U. S. were today generating about 9 per cent of its electric energy, but that another 157 reactors are planned or under construction, which will increase the nuclear role to 25 per cent. "Thus," he added, "the conventional light-water fission reactor is a key factor in ERDA planning to tide the U. S. over the energy-transition period between now and the year 2000. By then, hopefully, the breeder reactor, solar electric power and fusion technologies will be in hand."

He noted that the government's enrichment capacity is already fully committed under long-term contracts with domestic and foreign utilities.

## Former AEP President Sporn speaks out on energy matters

(EDITOR'S NOTE: When *The Illuminator* recently interviewed Philip Sporn on the occasion of his 80th birthday, these were some of his thoughts. Necessarily, they have been condensed to fit our format, but hopefully they remain in their full context.)

\* \* \*

**QUESTION: What is uppermost in your mind these days?**

SPORN: There is no more pressing question in the country today than energy. If we want to get unemployment down and if we want to stop inflation, we must solve the energy problem first, for energy affects both.

**QUESTION: When you woke up the morning after the election and found out that Carter had been elected, what were your first thoughts?**

SPORN: On the whole, a sigh of relief. I had felt that, President Ford having been the beneficiary of Richard Nixon — having been chosen by him for vice president and having succeeded him when he resigned, and Nixon having been the beneficiary of President Ford — having been granted a pardon by him and then having seen his old team essentially retained, we'd never be rid of Nixon except by having Ford's term of office come to an end next January 20. And I say this as an enrolled Republican for 58 years.

If you were to ask if my relief were unmitigated, I'd say "no." One area that is particularly disturbing is the deepening energy crisis. Nixon announced in 1974 that we were going to achieve energy independence by 1980, but under Ford we have gone further toward energy dependence. Carter's program for dealing with that dreadful problem, from what I have been able to learn so far, isn't calculated, I believe, to give us assurance that it will be solved properly so as to give the country its needed energy and, with it, energy's great contributions toward a solid and expanding economy, including a reduction in unemployment and inflation, and toward national security. But then Ford had two full years to make at least an effective start toward a solution and he accomplished nothing.

As a nation we have chosen to disregard the fact that we're in a crisis, but we're not acting on a basis of understanding that the crisis is getting deeper. We're trying to forget it. We're not thinking about it or we're thinking very badly. We just haven't reached the point where we've made up our minds we've got to begin — in fact, should have begun three years ago — taking some very difficult, long-term steps to make possible a continuation of our way of life, to continue being the kind of country we think we are and have been, and maintaining our position both domestically and in the world.



**QUESTION: What should we be doing that we are not doing?**

SPORN: The first thing: we must make up our minds we're in a crisis. It has come about because, with 5% of the world's population, for many decades we have been using 35% of its energy and producing 35% of its electric energy. At the same time we have been seeing signs that our two most important fossil fuels — oil and gas, which between them were accounting for 80% of our total energy — were definitely on the way out. When the OPEC crisis developed in 1973, we were importing 23% of our oil requirements. That figure in just three years has doubled. By the end of 1976 we will be importing 45% of our oil. This has led me to conclude that the goal of Project Independence, which I never believed could be met by 1980, cannot be attained before the year 2000.

The first step is to begin to conserve, to silently resolve: "I'm going to do it." Conservation must be made a solemn national responsibility. This does not mean that you can't sell more electric energy because, in many cases, we can replace oil with electric energy produced by coal or nuclear fuel, and we're talking not so much of conserving electricity but conserving energy that uses oil.

The other part of the answer is to recognize that we can't approach energy independence except on the basis of utilizing to a much greater extent the two indigenous fuels now abundantly available: atomic and coal.

**QUESTION: What is your feeling as to nuclear vis-a-vis coal?**

SPORN: We've run into a case of national schizophrenia here. Everybody admits that we can't do without nuclear energy and ought to be doing something about it. In seven state referen-

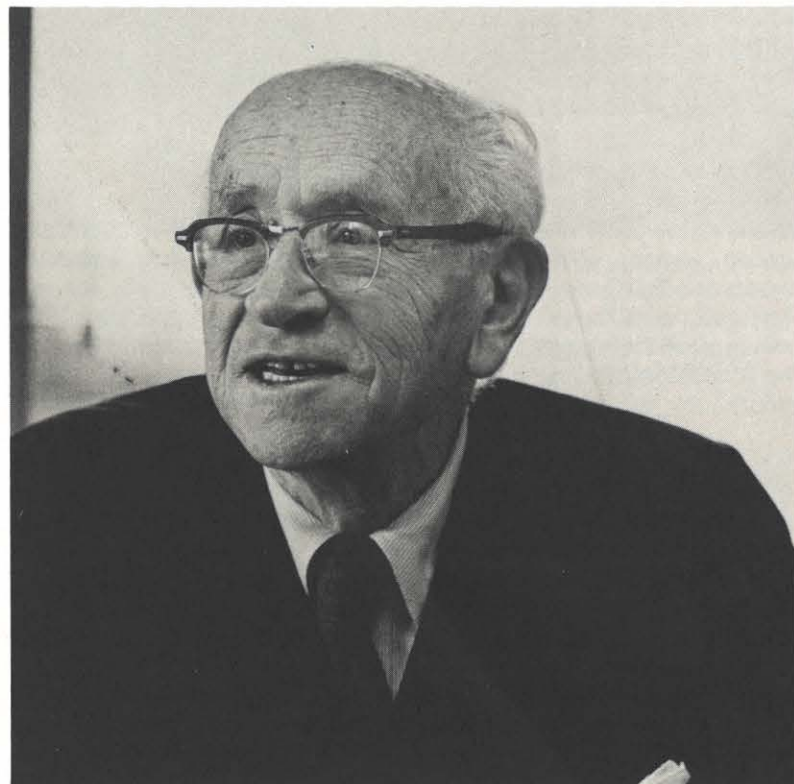
dums the people voted, up to 2 to 1, against blocking further development of nuclear power. But the utilities have really just barely begun. It is becoming more and more clear that, while atomic fission is one of the great boons of science — of the Lord Himself, and while the problem of nuclear safety has been solved, the problem of making it *completely safe* has not been solved, maybe never will be.

Meanwhile, the wholesale flight from coal (to nuclear) that began about 1964 has still not been arrested: we are still thinking that maybe, having just prevailed in the (nuclear issue) elections, the mistakes that were made in climbing too rapidly on the too-fast-moving nuclear bandwagon can be made good. And, while our average citizen is in favor of nuclear energy, that same American has never rid himself of the coupling of nuclear energy with the dreadful fear of a holocaust from a nuclear explosion, like Hiroshima and Nagasaki. This is not a cerebral reaction; it is completely emotional and gutsy. This is being overlooked by people in government and by the utility industry, too.

The answer to me does not lie in abandoning nuclear power; it lies in a proper, carefully thought-out mix of nuclear power and coal, moderating the rate of increase in the former and increasing our use of the latter. But this must be done only in such a way that we can take care of, without economic bankruptcy, the problem of safety, including the treatment of spent nuclear fuel, recycling and storage of high-level waste, and at the same time take care of the environmental problems, which are getting tougher all the time.

**QUESTION: Isn't that what American Electric Power is doing?**

SPORN: I believe that the company has gotten over its earlier conclusions as to having missed the boat (on nuclear power) and has been concentrating more on coal. And this is good. But even so, the company, perhaps, has not been true to itself, has not done enough for coal and to modify its undesirable characteristics, particularly with respect to its sulfur content. It has not done enough, it seems to me, to make possible the burn of the high-sulfur coals indigenous to its operating areas. At that, however, AEP has done more, on the whole, to make possible the solution to the energy crisis than most utilities, including those which climbed on the nuclear bandwagon. But more needs to be done to make coal and our large reserves of high-sulfur coal — and their mining and burning to produce electric energy — more acceptable. The AEP System cannot wait and let George do it; I would hope it will soon resume its role of George.



### Philip Sporn retired but hasn't stopped working

Philip Sporn was 80 years young on November 25, Thanksgiving Day. On December 1 he marked the 15th anniversary of his retirement as president of the companies of the American Electric Power System. All told, he spent 48 of those four-score years with AEP, 14 as its chief executive.

Believing that it was thus a most appropriate time to do so, particularly in view of the fact that the company itself will observe its own 70th anniversary later in December, *The Illuminator* recently had a conversation with this dynamic individual to report on what he's doing and what he's thinking, and to answer the question: is he still the same Philip Sporn that he was, say, in the 1950's, when he was leading his company to its position of eminence in our industry?

In a word, he hasn't changed a bit. Perhaps a mite mellower, but he still puts in a full day at the office, still in downtown Manhattan at 74 Trinity Place, serving as a consultant to a number of industry clients, and still contributing in teaching and/or advisory capacities at educational and research institutions like Columbia and Cornell Universities, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the National Academy of Sciences and, in Israel, the Weizmann Institute of Science, and in these capacities maintaining a travel schedule that one half his years might consider a bit heavy.

He still maintains a deep interest in and concern for the electric utility industry and the company which he once headed. "I can never change my involvement in American Electric Power," he says, "it's completely integrated in my life." And he still has a special place in his feelings for young people (including his six grandchildren, two each from his three children), as exemplified by

his continuing work with colleges and his interest in the Philip and Sadie Sporn Educational Loan Funds, helping young people at Columbia, Cornell, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and Rensselaer, Indiana and West Virginia Institutes of Technology.

About his work, he made the point that he felt he would be unable to serve his clients well, as a consultant, if he failed to keep up with the changing technology of the industry and the challenges that it faces. "I found that I could not do my job on the basis of accumulated knowledge, acting as a wet sponge to be squeezed out. I had the choice of continuing to follow technical matters or retiring completely," he explained. And the world knows the choice he made.

Has he slowed down? Not that one would notice. Ask him if he feels any different today, at 80, then he did, say, at 60, and he'll reply that the best way he can tell is to try to enter the crawl space under his house in Connecticut. "I find it much tougher than it was in 1956, or even 1971," he admits. "But," he hastens to postscript, lest his peers feel he might be getting soft, "I can still run to catch a train or a bus."

Does he plan finally to retire somehow in the foreseeable future, after a lifetime in the electric utility industry that began as a 14-year-old electric lamplighter on the streets of downtown New York? "I might slow down some beginning next year," he responds. "Ten or 12 years ago, my oldest grandchild (Michael) asked me to join his family on a trip, and I told him that I didn't have the time." When young Mike protested, "Grandpa, I thought you had retired," his grandfather responded, "I did retire, but I haven't stopped working."

And that hasn't changed.

# PEOPLE IN THE SPOTLIGHT

## GENERAL OFFICE

**William Edward Himes**, son of Lauren Himes, office services supervisor, GO General Services, Roanoke, was named assistant manager of the Leggett store in the Woodstock Shopping Center, Woodstock, Va.

**D. E. Jarvis**, communications engineer B, GO T&D Communications, Huntington, received a certificate from International Correspondence Schools for completing Divisions 1 and 2 in its electrical engineering course.

**Wayne Blount**, husband of Carole Blount, personnel clerk, GO Executive, bagged an 8-point buck in Highland County, Va.

**Thurman Ball**, fleet maintenance foreman, GO General Services Transportation Section, was elected chairman of the board of deacons at Mount Pleasant Baptist Church.

## KANAWHA RIVER PLANT

**Jeanne Sheets**, administrative assistant, was appointed to the business education advisory committee for Kanawha County schools.



Women's liberation is evident among the younger set these days, too. Shirley Peal, daughter of Kanawha River Plant Unit Foreman Leon Peal, and a classmate, are the first to be "water girls" for the Marmet Junior High School football team. The ninth grader wears jersey no. 22 and travels with the team.

## BLUEFIELD

**John Wayne Morgan**, son of Retired Welch Lineman John K. Morgan, was named a semifinalist in the National Merit Scholarship competition. A senior at Welch High School, John Wayne is a member of the Honor Society, Quill and Scroll, and co-editor of the annual staff. He attended Boys' State and is president of the Hemphill United Methodist Youth Fellowship and the Welch Parish of the UMYF.

**Sheila Castle**, Welch PBX operator, was appointed Gary District chairperson for this year's McDowell County United

Way campaign.

**Ben Donevant**, Welch customer accounting supervisor, served on the float committee for the Kiwanis entry in the Welch annual Veterans Day parade.

**Rhonda Stover**, daughter of Dean Stover, line inspector, was installed as Nature at the 84th installation of officers of the Welch Assembly No. 18 Order of Rainbow for Girls.

**Dottie Lawless**, secretarial stenographer, was presented an ID card, patch and pin for her volunteer service with the Red Cross during Red Cross Volunteer Recognition Night activities. The event was co-sponsored by the Keystone-Northfork Woman's Club.

**Denise McKinney**, daughter of W. P. McKinney, Jr., general serviceman, was named a cheerleader for the Welch Elementary School basketball team.

**Ann Jackson**, daughter of K. A. Jackson, division office supervisor, was elected senior class attendant to the homecoming queen at Bluefield State College.

**Tony Rasi**, T&D clerk senior, received a diploma in accounting from West Virginia Career College. He maintained an "A" average in all subjects except for a "B" in economics.

## ROANOKE

**K. E. French**, engineer B, and his partner Dickie Byrd took first prize of \$400 and a wall plaque in the Winter Team Classic (bass fishing) tournament at Smith Mountain Lake. Their total catch of 16 bass weighed 27 pounds.

**R. D. Webster**, division manager, was selected to serve on the business advisory board of the National Alliance of Businessmen for 1976-77.

**L. R. Hawks**, Stuart truck driver-groundman, and **D. W. Cooper**, Stuart line foreman, bagged a 160-lb., 5-point buck and a 140-lb. doe, respectively, with bows and arrows.

**Sharon S. Brehm**, daughter of John Stephens, retired electrical engineer senior, has written a book, "The Application of Social Psychology of Clinical Practice," which has been published by the Halsted Press. She is a professor at the University of Kansas.

## PULASKI

**Mrs. H. L. Honeycutt**, wife of the Claytor master maintenance man, was named president-elect of the Radford Business and Professional Women's Club.

Named to new offices in the

Asbury United Methodist Church of Christiansburg are **E. A. Bishop, Jr.**, lineman C, chairman, administrative board; his wife **Carmelita Bishop**, church school superintendent; **J. S. Nowlin**, lineman C, member, board of trustees; and his wife **Nancy Nowlin**, vice chairman, administrative board.

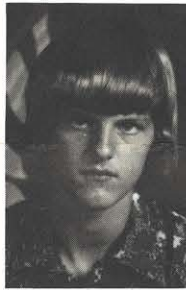
**F. M. Bennington**, Galax residential representative, was honored as director of the year for 1976 by the Galax-Carroll-Grayson Chamber of Commerce.

**Linda Anderson**, daughter of F. H. Anderson, lineman A, was elected vice president of the Thespian Society at Galax High School.

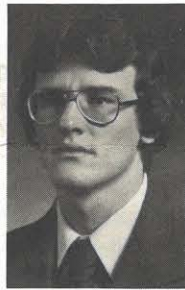
**Shari Lynn Dunn**, daughter of J. Larry Dunn, Pearisburg area T&D clerk, was inducted into Kappa Omicron Phi, home economics honor society at Concord College.

**Everette Crawford**, general foreman, was a member of the team which placed third in the annual Turkey Golf Tournament at Gay Hills Country Club. He received a turkey for his efforts.

## CHARLESTON



Lawrence



Jones

**Mike Jones**, son of W. H. Jones, St. Albans area superintendent, was elected president of the freshman class at Alderson-Broadus College.

**Lyle Lawrence, Jr.**, son of Lyle Lawrence, lineman A, was named "student of the month" at Sissonville High School recently.

**Hubert Shabdue**, area development consultant, was elected treasurer of the West Virginia Industrial Development Association.

**Donald Griffith**, son of R. R. Griffith, line supervisor, had a score of 4-1 to tie for first place in the West Virginia University Open Chess Match.

**Nancy Jarrett**, daughter of Jack Jarrett, hydro plant foreman for Kanawha Valley Power Company, was elected president of her seventh grade homeroom at Roosevelt Junior High School.

**Stephanie Lea Blake**, daughter of Collector Bill Blake, is a member of the Berea College first women's tennis team.

**Bobby Joe Sullivan**, lineman B, had nine boys from his Little League football team to make the All-Star team.

**Linda S. Holmes**, daughter of Ralph Holmes, St. Albans lineman

A, was appointed administrative assistant to the director of athletics at Marshall University. She will also coach the women's volleyball and swimming teams. Linda holds a BA degree in health and physical education and an MS degree in physical education from Marshall. While a graduate assistant, she coached the women's tennis team which took third place in the state collegiate tournament.

## GLEN LYN



Beasley

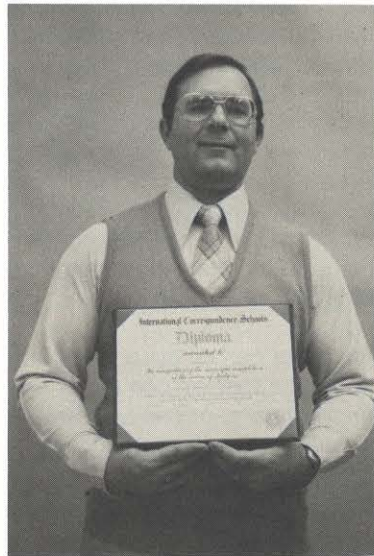
**Theresa Beasley**, daughter of Kenneth E. Beasley, yard foreman, was crowned the 1976-77 homecoming queen at Peterstown High School, Peterstown, W. Va. She is president of FHA and Interact, captain of the varsity cheerleading squad and a member of the French Club, Glee Club, Pep Club and Honor Society.

## ASHLAND

**Jetta Wright**, wife of R. S. Wright, wage and salary supervisor, was named chairman of judges for the second annual "Ms. Ashland Beta Sigma Phi" contest.

## HUNTINGTON

**Albert Lewis, Jr.**, meter clerk senior, was appointed secretary of the Z. Warner United Methodist Church, Lesage, W. Va., for the fourth consecutive year. His wife, **Janet**, was elected Sunday School superintendent, the first time a woman has held this position in the church's 97-year history.



James M. See, Big Sandy Plant performance technician senior, was awarded this diploma upon completing an International Correspondence Schools course in chemical engineering. Jim, who spent over 1800 hours on the course, says now he is going to enjoy himself and spend more time with his family. He earlier completed an ICS course in general chemistry.

## BIG SANDY



McComas

**Rhonda Lea McComas**, daughter of Office Supervisor R. L. McComas, was selected for the tenth annual edition of "Who's Who Among American High School Students" for 1976-77. At Ceredo-Kenova High School she is a member of the Future Business Leaders of America and the band, a major-ette and participates in the diversified cooperative training program.

**Sylvia Bellamy**, wife of Robert V. Bellamy, stores attendant, was elected to a four-year term on the Lawrence County Board of Education. A former teacher in the Lawrence School System, she holds BA and MA degrees in education from Morehead State University and has done additional post graduate work beyond the master's level at Marshall and Central Michigan Universities.

**Judy Childers**, daughter of Edgar A. Childers, instrument maintenance foreman, was chosen a student representative to the West Virginia Association of Classroom Teachers (WVACT) Leadership Conference. She was chosen on the basis of exhibiting leadership qualities, relating well with peers and adults, and exhibiting a solid value system.



Bellamy



Childers

**Joan England**, wife of W. D. England, performance supervising engineer, is a coordinator for the Candy Strippers at Louisa Community Hospital.

**Betty Woods**, time clerk, is a member of the Louisa Community Choir which will perform during the Christmas season.

**Robert T. Garner**, coal equipment operator, was elected to his second term as secretary of the 1300-member Northeastern Kentucky Fish and Game Association.

**B. J. Jobe**, control technician, was appointed to the Kentucky Advisory Committee Evaluation System which was developed for the Kentucky State Advisory Council for Vocational Education. The primary purpose of the committee is to help improve Kentucky's vocational education programs.

**LYNCHBURG**

admitting university women for the first time this year. Joyce is a junior at Marshall University, majoring in accounting.

**Fred Layne**, husband of Geri Layne, Williamson Customer Services, was selected as the top service manager in his division of the Charleston Zone of Chevrolet. He and Geri received an expense-paid trip to San Francisco. Fred is employed by Price Motors in Williamson.



Pearson Thomas

**William E. Pearson**, son of Betty M. Pearson, residential advisor, was named national president of Sigma Mu Sigma Fraternity in Salem, W. Va.

**Leonard Thomas**, son of Raymond E. Thomas, lead draftsman, was elected president of the Heritage High School choir.

**James B. White**, division manager, was named chairman of a steering committee to determine the future goals of The James River Basin Association.

**John E. Hamler, IV**, son of John E. Hamler, auto repairman helper, was elected to membership of the Prometheus Chapter of the National Honor Society at Rustburg High School.

**Michael G. Parker**, son of Grady L. Parker, line and station supervisor, was elected to membership in the Brookville Chapter of the National Honor Society at Brookville High School.

**Kelly Watson**, daughter of Ami Watson, customer accounts representative B, was awarded the Girl Scout Plaque of the Year from Lynchburg Troop # 811.

**David N. Harker**, son of Jack D. Harker, electrical engineer, was appointed probation officer for the 13th District of the Virginia Parole and Probation System.

**LOGAN-WILLIAMSON**

**Joyce Taylor**, daughter of Floyd H. Taylor, Jr., division manager, is treasurer of the first co-ed pledge class to the Zeta Rho Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Psi fraternity. The national professional business fraternity is



Gordon Chain, retired Huntington chief draftsman, is proud of his latest accomplishment, designing the new, official Huntington city flag. He helped when the banner and new flagpoles were dedicated at the 3rd Avenue end of the New Huntington Center Plaza last month. L. to r., Chain; Larry Rogers, assistant civic center manager; and Bill Evans, mayor of Huntington. Several years ago, Gordon designed the city's centennial seal.

**ABINGDON**



Hibbitts

**Pamela Hibbitts**, daughter of Ernestine Hibbitts, Clintwood Accounting, was selected Halloween princess of her first grade class at Long Fork Elementary School.

**Jeff Hawley**, son of Dorothy and O. C. Hawley, and **Mary Ruth Hughes**, daughter of J. C. Hughes, were selected to serve on the Abingdon High School Advisory Committee.

**J. E. Hill** and **J. C. Morefield**, Abingdon Drafting, participated in a volunteer patrol for the sheriff's department during Halloween weekend as members of the Washington County, Virginia, REACT Club. They logged over 400 miles in their personal cars and paid their own expenses while performing this service for the county.

**Sandra Johnson**, daughter of Peggy Johnson, Personnel, and **David Blankenship**, son of John Blankenship, Station, are members of the Abingdon High School stage band.



Mullins Fields

**Anita Carol Mullins**, daughter of Garnet Mullins, Clintwood Accounting, was selected "eighth grade band member of the month". A four-year band student, she was selected a member of the Clintwood High School marching band at the beginning of the school year.

**Alc George D. Fields**, son of C. E. Fields, line foreman NE at Gate City, graduated with honors at Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi. George was enrolled in the U. S. Air Force electronic division of electronic warfare system and was trained to install and repair special airborne and ground electronic equipment. Completion of the course enables him to receive academic credits through the Air Force Community College. He is now stationed at Homestead AFB, Florida.

**BLOOD DONOR HONOR ROLL**

**Roanoke**

**Cecil Hill**, planner senior, four gallons.



The Hillsville office in Pulaski Division was moved from its location on Main Street to new headquarters in the Hickory Hills Shopping Center on October 1. The building, formerly occupied by Home Builder's Supply, offers better facilities for employees and has ample parking for customers. Pictured above is A. S. Jackson, customer representative B, serving two of Hillsville's approximately 9,000 customers.



New officers of the Appalachian Chorus are (l. to r.) Stanley Hill, GO Accounting, business manager; Helen Honaker, GO T&D Administrative, director; Norwood Turner, GO Accounting, president; Faye DeLong, Roanoke Accounting, historian; Norma Lou Davis, GO Accounting, vice president; Ron Hogan, GO Accounting, treasurer; and Mary Agnes Sublett, GO Accounting, secretary. Not pictured are Sandra Bower, GO Accounting, librarian, and Fred Hornbeck, GO Executive, pianist. The 38-member chorus, composed of Division and General Office employees in Roanoke, will present several concerts of Christmas music in December, including performances for active and retired employees, civic groups and appearances at Roanoke's Crossroads Mall.



Officers of the Abingdon Employees Benevolent Association are (l. to r.) C. R. Hefner; D. E. Linkous, treasurer; M. L. Croft, chairman; J. B. Frier; John Kahle; R. A. Sheffey, Jr., secretary; R. O. McGlocklin; and C. W. Bacchus. Absent when picture was made were R. D. Gill and S. W. Jackson. Employees pledged \$4,499.20 to the Washington County United Way for 1976-77, an increase of 39.8 per cent over last year. Campaign Director G. C. Culberson wrote a letter of commendation to the group, which read in part: "One of the most encouraging reports we have received to date. This expression of employees' concern for the service agencies of the county is but another indication of the fine spirit your people have for the betterment of our community. We are grateful to them and to your company for the many services you render to those of us who reside in this area."



John E. Faust, executive vice president of Kingsport Power Company (seated), buys a share of stock in KPT Enterprises, the Junior Achievement company sponsored by the utility. KPT Enterprises, operated by 30 Achievers from six area high schools, manufactures personalized matches and engraved plastic nameplates. Pictured, l. to r., Achiever Kathy Lytz, KPT president; JA Advisors Wilbur C. Hendricks, senior draftsman; Stephen G. Harnsberger, commercial representative; J. B. Quillin, customer accounts representative C; and Achiever Vanessa Lollar, KPT corporate secretary.

# Fourteen couples across system exchange marriage vows



Mrs. C. E. Carroll  
(Mary Kaye Miller)



Mrs. M. A. Williams  
(Cynthia J. Bohon)



Mrs. G. D. Bayes  
(Kim Pauley)



Mrs. Gregory Gaskin  
(Beverly Norene Rowe)



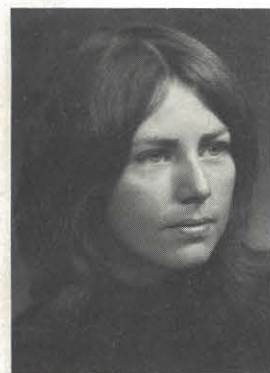
Mrs. E. S. Clements  
(Betty J. Baker)



Mrs. G. M. Hill  
(Nancy Jane Baldwin)



Mrs. R. O. Cash, Jr.  
(Sharon Lynn Garrett)



Mrs. D. A. Henderson  
(Rita Diana Hughes)



Mr. and Mrs. R. K. Bishop  
(Serena M. Adkins)



Mrs. Ralph Janey, Jr.  
(Constance E. Caldwell)



Mrs. Tad Durham  
(Gail Walker)

## WEDDINGS

**Mary Kaye Miller** daughter of Lawrence E. Miller, Jr., Kingsport equipment service representative senior, to Charles Edward Carroll, October 2.

Cynthia J. Bohon to **Mark A. Williams**, son of W. M. Williams, Jr., Roanoke T&D clerk senior, November 5.

Kim Pauley to **Glenn Dwane Bayes**, son of Richard D. Bayes, John E. Amos utility foreman, October 23.

**Beverly Norene Rowe**, daughter of Keith W. Rowe, Huntington line inspector, to Gregory Gaskin, September 25.

**Betty J. Baker**, Roanoke secretarial-stenographer, to E. Staley Clements, November 6.

Nancy Jane Baldwin to **Gary Michael Hill**, John E. Amos control technician, October 22.

Sharon Lynn Garrett to **Richard Owen Cash, Jr.**, son of Richard O. Cash, Lynchburg meter serviceman A, October 16.

Rita Diana Hughes to **David A. Henderson**, Big Sandy utility man B, October 30.

**Serena M. Adkins**, Beckley clerk-stenographer, to Ronnie K. Bishop, October 22.

**Constance Elizabeth Caldwell**, daughter of Donald G. Caldwell, Big Sandy unit operator assistant, to Ralph Janey, Jr., October 1.

**Gail Walker**, secretarial-stenographer, GO General Services, Roanoke, to Tad Durham, November 6.

Linda Sue Rulen to **Stephen C. Turley**, Central Machine Shop NDE inspector 3d class, October 22.

Glenda Walters to **Ralph E. Barnett**, Pikeville customer accounting supervisor, October 23.

Pattie McDonald to **Rex Dale Williams**, son of B. D. Williams, Big Sandy maintenance foreman, October 1.

## BABY PARADE

### John E. Amos

Lisa Ann, daughter of **Clifford R. Messer**, maintenance man A, November 3.

Transmission, Bluefield, October 20.

### Ashland

Lindsey Leah, daughter of **William Terry Staley**, engineering record clerk senior, October 30.

### Kanawha River

Bradley Austin, son of **T. F. White**, stores attendant, November 3.

### Big Sandy

Merman Wade, son of **Merman Ray McKenzie**, maintenance helper, October 26.

### Kingsport

Jaffe' Tennile, daughter of **Wilbur C. Hendricks, Jr.**, senior draftsman, October 13.

### Cedar Coal

Kimberly Dawn, daughter of **Bruce G. Wood**, rodman, October 1.

### Southern Appalachian Coal

Bradford Shawn, son of **Thomas A. Harlan**, staff engineer, Marmet, September 7.

### Central Machine

Heath David, son of **David L. Graber**, office and stores supervisor, October 15.

Stephen Patrick, son of **Tommy R. Harris**, mine superintendent, Bull Creek Complex, October 6.

### Charleston

Christopher David, son of **Clifford N. Wolfe**, draftsman, October 16.

Nathan Allen, son of **Dennis Allen Carper**, mine office administrator, Bull Creek Complex, October 15.

### General Office

Eric Clayton, son of **Karen T. McMillan**, clerk junior, GO Accounting, Roanoke, October 29.

### Project 1301

Andrea Dawn, daughter of **A. Elwood Lewis, Jr.**, mechanical construction assistant I, Amos FAP Project, November 8.

Marc Sidney, son of **Susie S. Adkins**, personnel clerk, GO Personnel, Roanoke, October 23.

### Philip Sporn

Aaron Lee, son of **David L. Eades**, helper, October 7.

Shane Edward, son of **Gene T. Taylor**, T&D clerk junior, GO T&D

Aaron James, son of **James D. Wilson**, maintenance man, October 25.



Ellett and Madie Wirt, who were wed 50 years on November 6, were honored with a party given by relatives and friends. Ellett, who retired January 1, 1967, as a material clerk in Roanoke, recalls, "We were married on a Saturday night, rode the street car into Roanoke to take in a show at the old Roanoke Theatre and, following that, walked to Guy's Restaurant for a banana split." The Wirts spent the weekend with relatives. "When Monday morning rolled around, I had \$3 in my pocket and no job. Odd jobs kept us tided over until my employment with the old Roanoke Railway and Electric Company on December 27, 1926." The Wirts have three sons, one daughter and 11 grandchildren.

## Bluefield Girls' Service Club observes 48th anniversary

The Appalachian Power Company Girls' Service Club in Bluefield observed its 48th anniversary at its October meeting. Members dressed in period dresses or costumes to carry out the Bicentennial theme. The program, featuring a Bicentennial cover, was used as place cards. Tables were decorated with oil lamps and souvenirs of relics of the early days.

A country luncheon of fried chicken, baked ham, potato salad, brown beans, cornbread

and apple cobbler was catered. Elinor McQuail, guest speaker, read selections from the booklet, "American Essays," written by Dan Valetine. She also gave excerpts from a West Virginia cookbook entitled "Mountain Measures", which has been compiled from pioneer family recipes. The preface described the large sturdy log houses, big fireplaces, storage barns and cellars used by our forefathers to preserve food during the long, hard winters.

Program Chairman Lois Rounion commented on the history of the Girls' Service Club and expressed appreciation to management for making the organization possible. W. B. Belchee, Bluefield division manager, presented a pictorial plaque of the officers and committees serving in 1976 to the current president, Sue Hankins.

During a business meeting, members voted to make a monetary donation to both the Bluefield, Virginia and West Virginia rescue squads and to prepare Thanksgiving baskets for two needy families.



Some of the members attending the 48th anniversary observance of the Bluefield Girls' Service Club were (l. to r.) Lois Rounion, secretarial stenographer; Frances Keller, personnel assistant; Helen Sue Tyree, retired personnel clerk; Gail Shaffer, customer accounts representative A; Mary Kirby, residential representative; and Millie G. Bishop, secretarial stenographer.



## Paxton hired at 25 cents an hour, got nickel raise the next day

"My starting salary was 25 cents an hour. The following day I received a nickel on the hour raise. When I hired on, it was the last day of November, 1936 and there was a general wage increase on December 1. I remember it all very well," says C. R. "Curly" Paxton, who retired December 1 as electrical engineer in Roanoke.

He attended Roanoke College and studied electrical engineering through ICS. Prior to hiring on with Appalachian, Curly was employed with the N&W Railway and the Roanoke Scrap Iron and Metal Company. He says, "The job with N&W kept me away from home too much so I quit there and went to work for the scrap iron company. What made me consider Appalachian as a place to work was all the friends I had already working there. Then, too, a line crew happened to be working nearby, stringing conductors in front of the scrap iron yard. Someone in the crew said, 'You should try to get on with us. It's a good place to work and the company is looking for hired help.' So I did just that," Curly says.

"The late E. J. Sanderson, Roanoke District general line foreman at the time, employed me as a groundman. The first day on the job he sent me with J. D. Carper, line foreman, and we spent all day unloading poles at the old Salem Avenue pole yard. It was much different in those days, too. We had to set up the A-frame rig and take it one pole at a time."

Curly says that while he enjoyed his work in the line crew in those days, he recalled certain things being unpleasant like "riding in open-bed trucks in the dead of winter to get to the job".

He recalls having to go up the pole and finish a job for a fellow lineman, Bill Chapman. "Bill leaned over to do something and when he did, one of his wrenches got into the secondaries, causing all of them to burn down. The foreman didn't say much, but you knew what he was thinking. He told Chapman to come on down and take his tools off and told me to get up the pole and get those secondaries back in service."

Curly was a first class electrician's mate with the 45th Seabees unit for some 33 months during World War II. Following the war he returned to work as a lineman A and a year later was promoted to engineer junior.

"I almost lost out on that promotion," he recalls. "Paul Bailey, presently Lynchburg T&D superintendent who was then general foreman in Roanoke, got me the promotion. Just prior to making the move, I broke my leg while unloading poles. A crooked pole caused another one to slide and when it did, it caught my leg, broke it, and knocked me out of work for six weeks. That was the

bad news. The good news was that the company held my new job for me."

Curly adds, "In all due respect, Appalachian was good to me, and the fine cooperation I received from the employees meant a great deal to me."

"I can say that I looked forward to retiring. Even though my wife Ila and I just plan to take it easy, it's still going to be nice not having a regular schedule. We do have one trip in mind — to take a vacation and go back to Parker Air Force Base in California where I was stationed for a while in service."

A member of the First Presbyterian Church, he enjoys bowling and spectator sports of all kinds. The Paxtons have two children and three grandchildren.



Patteson

## Retiree Virginia Gillenwater recalls firing potbellied stoves

Virginia Lee Gillenwater, customer accounts representative B in the Marion office, Abingdon Division, retired December 1 after 30 years' service.

Virginia was hired by Jim Brown, Pulaski accounting supervisor, in 1946 as a cashier/clerk in the Saltville, Va., office, which was located in one of the two N&W Railway buildings in the town. "The building containing the office was destroyed by fire, and a new power company office was opened in the other N&W building. Fortunately the safe with all of its contents was recovered from the ruins," she recalls.

Virginia notes that part of her responsibility in the early days was to fire the potbellied stoves located in the office. "The line crews would often sit around the stoves during lunch and exchange humorous stories. Everyone would have a big laugh when Wes Frye would peel an onion and eat it like an apple." Other members in the line and meter crews were Jimmy Butts, Ed Callahan, Russell Chapman, Ray DeBord, Jess Overbay, Bill Coe and Sanders Bryant.



Mitchell

## Patteson plans to hunt and fish

Carl Baker Patteson, assistant shift operating engineer at Glen Lyn Plant, retired December 1 after more than 39 years' service.

A native of Roanoke, Virginia, he holds a BS degree in chemistry from Roanoke College. Carl began his career at the plant in 1937 as a clerk and advanced through the positions of auxiliary equipment operator, turbine operator A, switchboard operator and unit foreman before moving in 1968 to the position he held at retirement.

Carl's retirement plans include travel in Canada and Mexico and hunting and fishing for a couple of years. Later he wants to do some gardening and grow flowers. He is a member and deacon of the Glen Lyn Christian Church, Glen Lyn, Va.; past master, Interment Masonic Lodge, Narrows, Va.; and a member of the board of trustees, Giles Memorial Hospital, Pearisburg, Va.

A widower, Carl has four children and five grandchildren.



Gillenwater

Virginia worked in the Saltville office from 1946 to 1974, when the office was closed and the accounts moved to the Marion office. She particularly liked the years spent in the Saltville office because of the personal contact with the customers. "Quite often customers would bring flowers, tomato plants, a piece of cake or country ham when paying their electric bills."

Virginia is looking forward to being able to relax and mingle with her many friends in the Saltville area. She attends the Madam Russell United Methodist Church.

## Guineline Mitchell enters retirement after 40 years' service

Marguerite Guineline Mitchell, Bluefield customer accounts representative B, elected early retirement December 1 after 40 years' service.

A native of Keystone, W. Va., she attended West Virginia Business College. Guin started working in the Grundy office in 1936 as a cashier five hours a day and also worked for the trial justice. She recalls, "Back in those days the streams were clear, good for fishing or swimming. Buchanan County for years was occupied only by the early settlers, except for lawyers and the one doctor. With the coming of good roads and railroads and the opening of mines in the area, the picture changed to a busy town." Upon being transferred to Welch, Guin noted another interesting change — the many new faces and nationalities. During her career she worked as a clerk, clerk intermediate, clerk senior, utility clerk, senior petty cash clerk, senior general clerk and customer accounts representative B.

Guin will stay in Bluefield for several months and has plans to



Mitchell

entertain relatives and friends in her home as well as taking some short trips. Later she wants to move to a retirement community.

Her hobbies include reading, writing letters, collecting and working on antiques, craftwork and flowers. Guin taught Sunday School for a number of years and is currently a member of Westminster Presbyterian Church. While in Welch she was a circle chairman, Bible teacher, treasurer of the women of the church and Zenith Club.

## Retiree Jiggs McManaway plans "to take it easy"

"Someone told me a story about an old man who retired. A friend asked of him, 'Old man, what are you going to do now that you've retired?' The man said, 'I have a rocking chair, and I plan to sit in it for the first year.' His friend said, 'What will you do following that?' 'After that I'll start rocking,' replied the old man. That's the way I'll probably be because I plan to take it easy," says J. L. "Jiggs" McManaway, who was a Roanoke lineman B before electing early retirement December 1.



McManaway

A native of Bedford County, Virginia, Jiggs began his career in 1945 as a groundman B and held successive positions as groundman A, truck driver and lineman C and B before being promoted to lineman A in 1955. He elected to move to lineman B status in 1973 to work as a member of the street light crew. "It was the best job I ever had. The only bad thing was having to contend with driving through all of the daily traffic," he says.

He recalls, "Buck Stiff, a former lineman, helped me get on with the company. Buck knew Randy Lewis (GO station engineer senior), who was general foreman then, well enough to recommend me. As a result, Randy hired me as a groundman."

Jiggs worked for many foremen over the years and recalls a story about one of the more colorful ones, Bruce "Cathead" Burnett, now retired. "Bruce and his crew had been called out late one night to replace a broken pole, and both the rain and mud were pretty heavy. It had gotten all up his

legs, and his shoes and socks were full. Bruce just sat down and pulled his shoes and socks off and washed them out in a water hole that had pooled from the rain. Everybody always says the old foremen like Bruce were hard to work for, but really their bark was worse than their bite."

Jiggs, who is known by his fellow workers as easy going and helpful, says, "I always tried to treat everyone like I wanted to be treated — especially the new men on the job. I know how I felt when I started to work, not knowing exactly what to do or exactly how it should be done, so I tried to help the new employees get started on the right foot."

He concludes, "Everything has been fine and dandy working for Appalachian. That isn't to say it all went to suit me but, all in all, the company was good to me.

Jiggs and his wife Dorothy plan a trip to Daytona Beach, Florida, in the near future. They have three daughters and six grandchildren.

# Service emblems awarded to veterans of our companies



C. O. Patterson  
Shift Op. Engr.  
Cabin Creek  
40 Years



C. G. Price, Jr.  
Acctg. Staff Asst.  
GO-Roanoke  
40 Years



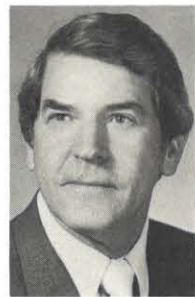
C. R. Paxton  
Electrical Eng. Sr.  
Roanoke  
40 Years



R. J. Siner  
Line Inspector  
Roanoke  
40 Years



W. C. Kerley  
Meter Supervisor  
Kingsport  
35 Years



L. R. Buchanan  
Building Supervisor  
GO-Roanoke  
35 Years



R. R. Jones  
Construction Fmn.  
Bluefield  
30 Years



W. L. Smythers  
Line & Sta. Supv.  
Abingdon  
30 Years



A. B. Pairgin  
R/w Agent  
Kingsport  
30 Years



R. C. Simmons  
Groundman (LTD)  
Roanoke  
30 Years



O. W. Adams  
Cust. Serv. Mgr.  
Bluefield  
30 Years



J. L. Combs  
Trans. Man B  
GO-Bluefield  
30 Years



L. G. DeFelice  
Auto Repairman A  
Bluefield  
30 Years



H. S. Kiser  
Head T&D Clerk  
Logan-Williamson  
30 Years



H. D. Smith  
Meter Reader  
Bluefield  
30 Years



H. H. Farley  
Engineer B  
Beckley  
30 Years



B. C. Wallace  
Regional Chief Op.  
GO-Kingsport  
30 Years



Mary Lee Farrier  
Secretarial-Steno.  
GO-Roanoke  
30 Years



C. I. Walker  
Residential Rep.  
Charleston  
25 Years



W. G. Matthews, Jr.  
Plant Manager  
Big Sandy  
25 Years



W. R. Doolittle  
Unit Foreman  
Phillip Sporn  
25 Years



J. E. Moore  
Sta. Maint. Man A  
GO-Charleston  
25 Years



J. T. Reitmire  
Maintenance Foreman  
John E. Amos  
25 Years



J. V. Bowman  
Appliance Serv. A  
Kingsport  
25 Years



Don Lasley  
Master Maint. Man  
Clinch River  
20 Years



Barbara Marshall  
T&D Clerk Senior  
Pulaski  
20 Years



## Appalachian Power

### Abingdon

10 Years: **W. M. Clapp**, meter reader.

### John E. Amos.

5 Years: **T. E. Toliver**, maintenance man **A. W. R. Frazier**, maintenance man **A. R. E. Thomas**, maintenance man **A. R. P. Cook**, maintenance man A.

### Cabin Creek

10 Years: **J. W. Martin**, yard foreman. **J. A. Warden**, maintenance foreman.

### Charleston

5 Years: **R. S. Trigg**, senior engineering technologist.

### General Office

15 Years: **W. F. Moore**, operations information supervisor, GO Operations, Roanoke. 10 Years: **B. R. Ball**, senior engineering technologist, GO T&D Communications, Bluefield. **Helen K. Terry**, chief PBX operator, GO General Services, Roanoke.

### Glen Lyn

10 Years: **R. L. Gray**, maintenance man.

### Huntington

25 Years: **K. G. Roush**, line foreman, Point Pleasant.

### Kanawha River

10 Years: **Audra E. Pauley**, stenographer.

### Lynchburg

5 Years: **W. Wendell Bogle**, meter reader.

### Project 1301

10 Years: **L. C. Matthews**, mechanical construction assistant.

### Pulaski

5 Years: **C. D. Via**, customer representative A.

### Roanoke

10 Years: **L. M. Conner**, lineman **A. A. Jacobs**, meter serviceman **B. T. R. Kennedy**, lineman **A. R. G. Turman**, lineman A.

### Phillip Sporn

5 Years: **M. H. Plymale**, junior maintenance man.

### Kingsport Power

5 Years: **C. H. Klepper**, meter clerk.

## Masons honor E. J. Stalker



Stalker

Edward J. Stalker, retired stores supervisor at Glen Lyn Plant, has been designated a Knight of the York Cross of Honor.

This honorary degree, highest of the York Rite of Free Masonry, is conferred only on those who have held the highest office in the various bodies of the rite.

Stalker has been Master of Inter-mont Lodge #269, AF&AM; High Priest of Pearisburg Royal Arch Chapter #29; and Commander of Blacksburg Commandery #32. He has served as District Deputy Grand Master and District Deputy Grand High Priest.

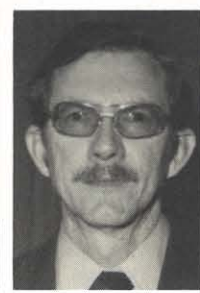
He was knighted in Rose of Sharon Prioty, Knights York Cross of Honor at the 154th annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Virginia in May, 1976 and received his certificates of membership from the Convent General of the Order in June.



G. C. Hicks  
Area Serviceman  
Huntington  
20 Years



W. L. Walker  
Planner Senior  
Beckley  
20 Years



B. R. White  
Cust. Rep. A  
Pulaski  
20 Years



R. L. Parks  
Master Maint. Man  
Clinch River  
20 Years



"I can still see," says Richard D. Thompson, master maintenance man at Big Sandy Plant, in summing up the advantage of wearing eye protection. While attempting to remove a lodged part of a valve from its casing, Richard was struck by a CO<sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher discharge hose as it separated accidentally from its discharge funnel with a whip-like action. The metal fitting at the end of the hose struck his safety glasses with such an impact that the left lens popped out of its frame. Richard, who suffered a badly bruised nose and a minor laceration of the forehead, says, "I feel certain that wearing my safety glasses saved my eye." W. G. Matthews, Jr., Big Sandy plant manager (left), presents Richard with his membership in the Wise Owl Club of America, sponsored by the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness, Inc.

## PBX Operator Russell Scaggs "hangs it up" for Kentucky Power



Scaggs

Russell Scaggs has been "hanging it up" as night PBX operator in Ashland since 1963, but on November 30 he "hung it up" for good. Russ elected early retirement because "I'm in shape financially and otherwise to retire. I want to go a lot of places and do a lot of things I haven't before. I'm going south for the winter and intend to do a lot of fishing."

A native of Boyd County, Kentucky, Russ was employed in 1946 as a meter reader and held successive positions as collector

## Margie Cahill loaned to NAB



Cahill

Margie Cahill, Roanoke residential advisor, has been selected to serve as a loaned executive to the Roanoke office of the National Alliance of Businessmen for 1976-77. Loaned executives are considered the backbone of the NAB partnership.

The Alliance is a unique partnership of business, labor, education and government working to secure jobs and training for disadvantaged people, Vietnam veterans, needy youngsters and ex-offenders. It was established in 1968 at the request of President Johnson, and its mandate has been renewed and expanded by subsequent administrations.

"We add it up this way," Cahill says. "Bringing the disadvantaged into the mainstream of our economy is not just humanitarianism. It pays off in dollars and cents — for the company, which gains a worker; for the community, which gains a productive citizen; for business, which gains a paying customer; and for government, which saves on welfare and gains a taxpayer."

junior, groundman A and truck driver-groundman. A back injury caused him to take the position of PBX operator.

At 5 p. m., when most employees are headed home, Russ' day was just beginning. He became Kentucky Power Company, and receiving unusual calls was common.

One lady thanked Russ for being so nice to her and told him he was the first young person she had talked to in a long time who showed respect for his elders. (Russ is 62 years old.) Another lady told Russ she would give him all he could drink if he would come out and check her lights — they just didn't look right to her. (He doesn't drink.)

Another of Russ' favorite stories happened during the time he worked as a collector. He stopped at a customer's house to collect a delinquent bill and found the lady of the house was unable to pay. She accepted the fact that Russ had to disconnect her service but requested enough time to finish baking the cake she had in the oven. Russ obliged by working some other accounts in the area and returned a short time later. The customer offered Russ a piece of the cake and a cup of coffee. After finishing them, Russ thanked her and then disconnected her service.

Russ says he will miss his work and has enjoyed his more than 30 years with the company. "I couldn't have worked for a better company," he declares.

Throughout his career, Russ was very dedicated to his job and did many things beyond his normal or assigned duties. He treated customers he dealt with firmly, but fairly. In the words of his supervisor, "I could go home at five and not worry about Russ doing his job. I could count on him. We're going to miss him."

Russ and his wife Cora Marie have been married for 42 years and have two children, seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild. They will maintain their home in Ashland.

# WELCOME NEW EMPLOYEES

## Appalachian Power

### Abingdon

Kathy B. McClure, clerk-trainee, Marion.

### John E. Amos

Robert W. Osborne, performance engineer. William R. Simmons, control technician junior. Charles R. Browning and Ronald B. Cobb, utility men B.

### Beckley

James W. Mann, meter reader. Vickie L. Stover, clerk junior.

### Bluefield

Roland Anderson, rodman. James D. Archer, planner. Frederick Tounds, Jr., and Ronald C. Laneave, lineman helpers, Welch.

### Centralized Plant Maintenance

Joanne Kay Garrett, clerk-stenographer.

### Charleston

Gary L. Bledsoe, meter reader. Troy Page, auto repairman helper.

### General Office

Marion Latimer, Jr., transmission man helper, GO T&D Transmission, Bluefield. W. E. Miller, utility man B, GO Hydro, Roanoke. Patricia N. Reavis, key punch operator C, GO Accounting, Roanoke. G. E. Laurey, accounting staff assistant senior, GO Accounting, Roanoke.

### Glen Lyn

Steven W. Carroll, utility man B.

### Huntington

Maxie Ruth Finnegan and David P. Kerns, meter readers. Constance Bird, clerk-trainee, Point Pleasant. Sharon S. Burton, lineman helper.

### Project 1301

Brian E. Johnson, receiving/shipping inspector. R. Cameron Farley, construction timekeeper.

### Pulaski

Beverly S. Reynolds, office messenger. Jerry W. Houseman, meter reader, Wytheville.

### Philip Sporn

Charles A. Varian and Ricky L. Siders, utility men B.

### Cedar Coal

Omer E. Walker, safety inspector. Danny E. Hudnall, section foreman, Coal Fork I — deep mine. Edward L. Raines, stores clerk. Edward E. Brown, surface foreman, Denny Division — surface mine. Patti S. Bowen, receptionist. Kenneth Morris and Gary R. Kessler, section foremen, Grace II — deep mine.

### Kentucky Power

#### Ashland

Jean Lynd, clerk-stenographer. Randy L. Scaggs, lineman D.

#### Big Sandy

Paul B. Maynard, Gregory A. Crawford, Edsel Bryant Fitzpatrick, Jr., and Jeffery D. West, utility men B.

#### Pikeville

Margaret Wells, cashier. John R. Coyer and Lanny R. Damron, assistant technicians. Gregory Ratliff and Gregory Justice, linemen D. Mark Cornette, stores attendant.

## Three contribute operating ideas

Suggestions from Kentucky and Appalachian Power employees for improving procedures and cutting costs were published in the November/December issue of **AEP Operating Ideas**.

B. D. Williams, maintenance foreman at Big Sandy Plant, wrote

"Spliced Coal-Feeder Belts Offer Savings". L. J. Karschnik, assistant shift operating engineer at John E. Amos Plant, was the author of "Unplugging Raw Coal Feeder Pipes". And D. T. Robinson, line foreman NE in Abingdon Division, penned "Aligns Switch Sticks".

## Laura Clair begins retirement



Clair

Laura Clair, maid in the General Office General Services Department, Roanoke, retired November 1.

She began her career in 1951 as an elevator operator and went on LTD leave in 1971. Laura will continue to reside in Roanoke.

## Bowen elects early retirement



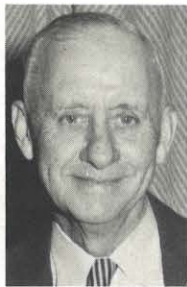
Bowen

Charles Naaman Bowen, assistant stores supervisor at Cabin Creek Plant, retired December 1 after more than 33 years' service. He has been on LTD leave since July 1973.

A native of Kinchelo, West Virginia, Naaman began his career in 1943 as a clerk in the storeroom. He worked 18 to 20 hours a day, seven days a week, for the first 18 months. During that time he did not have a day off except for a week's vacation. Naaman recalls, "This was during World War II and the storeroom was a very busy place. We had 14 people working in the storeroom at that time, as compared to four people." He worked for 79½ cents an hour, plus overtime.

Naaman plans to travel as his health permits. He wants to fly to the Pacific Northwest and just might be persuaded to settle in the state of Washington, where his wife's brother lives. Naaman also plans to renew his hobby of fishing and wants to become more active in church work. A member of the Methodist Church in Chelyan, W. Va., he is a lay leader, assistant Sunday School superintendent, chairman of education commission and choir director.

WE REMEMBER



Lunsford

Medley

Jopp

Jeffreys

**Ernest Eugene Medley, 51**, maintenance mechanic A at Glen Lyn Plant, died October 31 of an apparent heart attack. A native of Giles County, Virginia, he began his career in 1951 as a laborer at the plant. Medley is survived by his widow Loretta, 802 Glade Road, Blacksburg, Va.; one son, two daughters; his parents; one brother; four sisters and one grandchild.

**Thomas S. Lunsford, 84**, retired working foreman in General Office T&D Station, Roanoke, died November 8. A native of Rockbridge County, Virginia, he began his career in 1943 as an electrician helper in Charleston and retired May 1, 1957. Lunsford is survived by his widow Lula, 535 Mountain Avenue, Roanoke, Va.; one daughter and two sons. One son, Thomas S. Lunsford, Jr., is purchasing supervisor in General Office Purchasing, Roanoke.

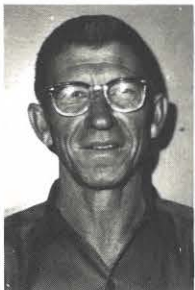
**August H. Jopp, 68**, retired power sales engineer in Pikeville, died October 25. A native of New York City, he was employed in 1937 as a distribution engineer in Ashland and retired March 1, 1973. Jopp is survived by his widow Elizabeth, 109 Cherry Lane, Pikeville, Ky.

**Emery Milton Jeffreys, Jr., 67**, retired Logan-Williamson stationman A, died November 15. A native of Red Jacket, West Virginia, he began his career in 1940 as an electrician at Logan Plant and retired February 1, 1974. Jeffreys is survived by his widow Mary Lillian, 306 First Avenue, West Logan, W. Va.; one son and one daughter.

**David O. Frango, Jr., 52**, station maintenance foreman NE, General Office T&D Station, Roanoke, died November 20. A native of Craig County, Virginia, he began his career in 1951 as a system substation man helper in Roanoke and had been on LTD leave since November 1, 1975. Frango is survived by his widow Carol, Box 82, Iron Gate, Va., and four children.

**Price Alpheus Grisso, 65**, retired Roanoke meter serviceman A, died November 17. A native of Roanoke, Virginia, he had broken service before becoming permanently employed in 1946 as a serviceman C. Grisso elected early retirement September 1, 1972. He is survived by his widow Harriet, Route 7, Box 94, Roanoke, Va.; two daughters; one son; one grandson; one sister and one brother.

**Henry William Walk, 91**, retired



Frango

Grisso

**Bluefield meter reader, died November 19.** He began his career in 1918 at Bluefield and retired December 1, 1949. Walk is survived by two sons and two daughters.

**William Franklin Lawson, 51**, outside foreman at Southern Appalachian Coal's Bull Creek Complex, died October 24. A native of Kingston, West Virginia, he was employed by the company in 1971. Lawson is survived by his widow Mary, P. O. Box 67, Kimberly, W. Va.; one daughter; two sons; two sisters and five grandchildren.

**Orville Roy Taylor, 56**, retired Pulaski meter serviceman, died November 9. A native of Bristol, Virginia, he began his career in 1945 as a groundman in the old Clinch Valley District and took early disability retirement October 1, 1961. Taylor is survived by one daughter and two sons.

**Kermit H. Ford, 67**, retired assistant regional chief dispatcher, GO Operations, Sporn Station, died November 20. A native of Martel, Tennessee, he began his career in 1937 as a lineman at Kingsport and elected early retirement January 1, 1972. Ford is survived by his widow Ruth, Box 39, New Haven, West Virginia, and three children.



Ed Sheets displays some of the more than 300 knives he has in his collection. The knives in the center display case are worth about \$1,000.

Retiree Arch Stockton granted patent for cooking utensil

U. S. Patent No. 3937359 covering a variable vent spatter control pan cover cooking utensil has been granted to Arch Stockton, who retired in 1971 as station design supervisor in General Office T&D, Roanoke.

Arch says, "I have always been an early riser in order to do routine calisthenics and then cook breakfast." One of his favorite breakfast dishes is country sausage. "Frying sausage created a lot of grease popping and spatter. Grease spatter seemed to decorate the stove top and nearby burners, the counter, backboard, kitchen floor and sometimes the cook's clothing," reveals Arch.

"Those early morning quiet hours allowed time for meditation and creative thinking," he says, and gave him the idea that there was a vital need for a kitchen utensil that could control various kinds of cooking that created spatter.

Arch realized there already existed a screen disc that could be placed over a cooking vessel and it prevented most of the spatter, "but it had no variable ventilation adjustment feature and it was extremely difficult to clean. Therefore, the need seemed to be for a cover with some kind of adjustable baffles or ports that would control spatter, allow the necessary air to reach food being cooked, allow undesirable vapors to escape, allow food to brown well, retain natural juices, be easy to assemble and disassemble, easy to clean and keep clean, and at the same time be so simple to design that it could be machine manufactured by a stamping machine at a minimum cost and, therefore, sell at a



Stockton

reasonable price."

Making sure that no other cover had been patented, Arch did more research. The first trial models he designed and made by hand did the job but each succeeding model seemed to lack something. "All the models consisted of two plates to make a unit. The unit worked fine, but the plates didn't lock together and the unit needed a handle of some kind. Finally, optimum simplicity in design was accomplished."

In the meantime, patent disclosure documents had been filed with the patent office. This was done when the original idea was conceived. Then Arch prepared and filed a formal patent application. Arch made several trips to the patent office for suggestions in pursuing his efforts and finally employed a registered patent attorney to push the project over the last hump.

Along with design and patent application, metal manufacturers and metal stamping companies (continued on page 16)

"Kentucky Power has been my life"



Moore

"Kentucky Power Company has been my life and my hobby for more than 40 years, but now I plan to get out the old rusty golf clubs and start playing golf again. I think I will be able to find some time for fishing, too," says Gene Moore, who was Ashland division superintendent before electing early retirement December 1.

A native of Myro, Kentucky, he attended Pikeville College and began his career in the Pikeville Division in 1936. He transferred to Ashland Division as line foreman in 1945 and, after several advancements, was promoted in 1964 to division superintendent.

Gene and his wife Freddie will maintain their home in Ashland. "We have four children and seven grandchildren, all within five to seven hours driving distance of Ashland. Our home here is centrally located, and we do like to see the grandchildren as often as possible," he declares. "Next winter and future winters, after the Christmas holidays, we plan to spend in Florida and will probably return to Ashland around April, just in time to start mowing the grass. We plan a trip to the west coast the first of August next year and will spend some time in California visiting my brother and on to Mexico and other points of interest.

Kanawha River's Ed Sheets

looking for knives to buy or swap

E. L. Sheets, chief chemist at Kanawha River Plant, started collecting knives as a hobby about eight years ago and now has more than 300. Most in his collection are case brand pocket knives, but he has a few others made by such manufacturers as

Shapleigh Hardware and Schrade Cutlery Company.

Ed joined the National Knife Collectors and Dealers Association in 1975 and receives a monthly newsletter stating where all knife shows are being held. Some of his knives were obtained from dealers and collectors at various shows. Ed has several books from which he obtains the history and information on knives.

Recently several of the current knife manufacturers produced various limited edition Bicentennial and commemorative knives. Ed is in the process of collecting a few of these, such as the American Eagle Commemorative Series (five knives) made by Schrader Walden Company. Ed keeps his most valuable knives in a security box at the bank.

He often buys, sells and trades knives with Kanawha employees. If any of you *ILLUMINATOR* readers have a famous or old knife, let Ed know and he'll buy or swap you for it.



Taking part in the sorghum stir-off are (l. to r.) David Cornett on horse, Wendell Pridemore, Lorraine Brashear, Mrs. K. C. Brashear, Sr., and Kenny Brashear, Jr.

## Hazard employees hold old-fashioned sorghum stir-off

Four Hazard employees decided a little over a year ago that they would like to have an old-fashioned sorghum stir-off this fall.

Wendell Pridemore, superintendent; E. S. Slone, customer services manager; Kenny Brashear, Jr., commercial and power representative senior; and S. J. Cornett, residential representative, pooled their talents to plant the cane in May. Then they started gathering materials to build a furnace, and found a large pan to cook the molasses in, and a horse to pull the sweep pole on the grinding mill. All materials they needed were bartered with molasses.

When the cane was matured, it

was cut, stripped and brought to the mill to start grinding. The cane grinding started about 5 AM, the cane juice started to boil on the fire about 10 AM, and the sorghum was finished about 7:30 PM. Mother Nature helped by providing a beautiful, sunny day.

Approximately 30 people attended the stir-off. Dinner and supper, cooked on the outdoor furnace, were served by the wives. The children rode the horse that was hitched to the grinding mill, and, all in all, it was an enjoyable day for everyone.

Plans are already under way for a bigger and better stir-off next year.

## Young designer given red carpet treatment at Amos

Literally thousands of school children have toured the John E. Amos Plant since it went into commercial operation. The public affairs coordinator there, who handles the tours, has always been impressed with the curiosity and interest that even some of the youngest have shown in plant facilities.

Recently Leroy Balding received a letter which read, "Do you remember last year when the Cross Lanes Elementary School came to the John E. Amos Plant? In the fifth grade section, do you remember a person telling you about a plan of a new power plant? You wanted me to send it to you, so I am. The plan is enclosed. If not needed, please send it back. Thank you." James Holley.

Plant Manager J. A. Moore invited James back for a special tour, which he conducted himself, taking James around and explaining how the equipment works. After sitting in the manager's chair for ten minutes and having pictures made to prove he did, James and his mother returned home to tell his dad about "a very exciting thing that happened" to him.



James Holley was personally conducted on a tour of Amos by Plant Manager J. A. Moore, who believes a young lad with interest and imagination should be encouraged.

## Reid builds replica of 1832 Torres classical guitar

After eight months of work, James K. Reid, Lynchburg electrical engineer, takes pride in displaying the fruits of his labor — a replica of an 1832 Torres classical guitar. Jim has been interested in woodworking and furniture making for several years, but they did not offer the challenges he found in making the guitar.

Jim says, "My interest started while on a trip to Williamsburg, Virginia, and a visit to the restored music shop in Colonial Williamsburg. College students in the shop were making all types of musical instruments. After a long discussion with them, I ordered the book, **Classic Guitar Construction**, and settled on the plans shown for the 1832 Torres guitar."

He continues, "The guitar is all handmade. The first three months of construction were involved with making the necessary shaping and hand tools. All of the tools were made from scrap materials. The only mechanical devices I used were an electric drill and saber saw. The guitar is mahogany with a spruce top. The sides and back had to be scraped to a uniform thickness of 3/32 of an inch, and the top finished to 5/64 of an inch. I used a wire gauge to determine the thickness.

"Everything on the guitar has to be exact for perfect sound quality," he adds. "Here is where



It took James Reid about eight months to build this replica of an 1832 Torres classical guitar.

this type of woodworking differs from furniture construction. It doesn't make much difference how the drawers of a desk sound as long as they open and close smoothly, but sound is the end

result of a musical instrument. You don't have to listen to the drawers.

"One guitar maker in Washington charges \$2500 and up for a handmade guitar. I have approximately \$130 in this instrument.

"For the purest tones in a guitar, the wood must be relaxed and without stress. In order to achieve this, which was a real challenge, I had to equalize the stress from all angles. Working the wood to get the guitar shape on the sides builds in stresses, but these must be equalized. Humidity plays an important role in this process because the instrument must be built at humidity ranging from 30 to 60 per cent. This is so that the thin wood will not expand and contract. I could only work on the guitar during the heating seasons of the year so that I could accurately control the humidity in the house. On some occasions, in the bedroom where I was drying the guitar, I even brought in pans of water and let the sun come through the window and vaporize the water to increase the humidity to the proper level.

"Really, I have no interest in playing the guitar, only making it. My father was a musician and played the mandolin, violin and banjo, so I have been interested in string instruments throughout my life, but have never been talented in playing an instrument. Other members of the family may some day be interested in playing it.

"Presently I am working on two more guitars. When they are completed, I will move on to my ultimate goal and build an Elizabethan lute, but that requires remaking many of my tools."

## Huntington men become Honorary Thirty-third Degree Masons



T. W. Kincaid, left, and Donald Simms were made 33rd degree Masons.

Donald G. Simms, Sr., Huntington meter serviceman B, and Thomas W. Kincaid, Jr., Huntington stationman B, received the Honorary Thirty-Third Degree at the 90th annual session (30th triennium) of the United Supreme Council, Thirty-Third Degree, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Free Masonry, Southern Jurisdiction, Prince Hall Affiliation, held in Washington, D. C., last month.

Simms and Kincaid, attending from Tri-State Consistory #168, Huntington, were two out of a class of 249 to be elevated to the Honorary Third-Third Degree (Grand Inspector General).

Simms is a past Master of Alexander Freeman Lodge #2, F.&A.M., and currently serves as treasurer. A past Potentate of Abdul Temple #133, he now

serves as treasurer and is also treasurer of Tri-State Consistory #168. He is past president of the Fifth District Past Masters Council and is the Fifth District Deputy of the Grand Lodge of West Virginia, a member of Royal Arch and Knight Templar, a trustee of Calvary Baptist Church and vice president of the board of directors of Appalachian Power Employees Federal Credit Union, Huntington.

Kincaid is a past master of Alexander Freeman Lodge #2, F.&A.M., First Lieutenant of Tri-State Consistory #168, Assistant Rabban of Abdul Temple #133, Junior Warden of the Fifth District Grand Lodge, a trustee of Calvary Baptist Church and past vice president of Appalachian Power Employees Federal Credit Union, Huntington.



Gene Sowards shows Carrolene Rollins his autographed souvenir program of the second game of the World Series.

## Gene Sowards spends storybook weekend at World Series

Try to imagine how you'd feel if a fairy godmother appeared and waved a magic wand, making it possible for you to meet any person in the world whom you admired. Then you'd have some idea how Norman "Gene" Sowards, coal equipment operator at Amos Plant, felt on a recent weekend in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Gene, an avid "Reds" fan for as long as he can remember, has been in the habit of going 15 or 20 times a year to see the team play. So the weekend of October 15 he headed for Cincinnati to see the second game of the World Series.

On Saturday evening he was standing at the 580 Gift and News Shop, looking at a record album of the Reds' 1975 performance, when a stranger remarked to him that his son's first home run was on the album. After some more conversation, Gene discovered he was talking to Bobby Flynn, father of Doug Flynn, infielder for the Reds' team.

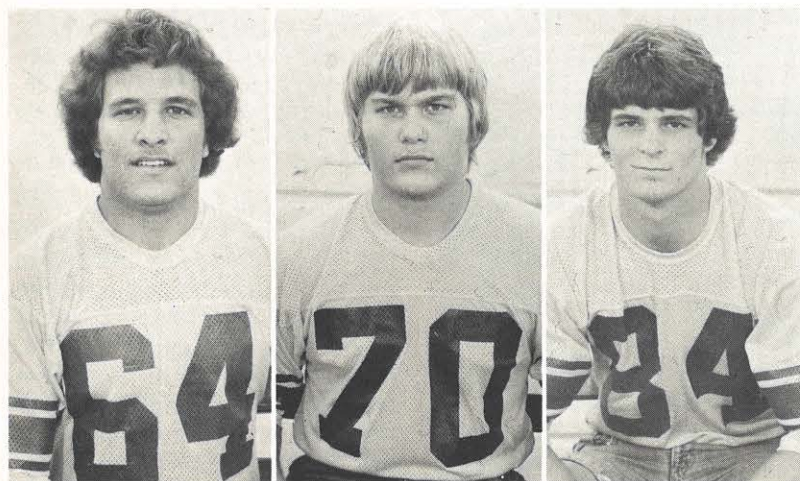
Flynn invited Gene to join him and his family on Sunday morning at the Holiday Inn, where a lot of the ball players would be having breakfast. After meeting a few players there, Flynn told Gene that after that night's game he could come to the Reds' locker room and he would leave word to the doorman to admit him.

That night, after the game, Gene had no trouble in being admitted and was told Flynn was expecting him. After a warm greeting, Gene was introduced to player after player as Flynn's "old friend from West Virginia".

Gene's eyes light up as he recalls, "Talking about celebrities — the room was jammed with ball players, TV commentators and people like you wouldn't believe. Maury Wills was there — he's the one who holds a lifetime record for stolen bases in one season. He used to play for LA Dodgers. Then there was Harry the hat-walker, former player and former manager of the Houston Astros; Bill Brown, TV announcer for the Reds. I have never seen any bigger fellow or any man more friendly than Ted Kluszewski. In rapid succession, I was talking with players and getting autographs of people like Sparky Anderson, Larry Shepherd, Cesar Geronimo and, well, you name 'em. The only trouble, I couldn't get around to all of them."

Gene took pictures of the team members in the locker rooms. "And it's a good thing I did, too," he says, "or else the guys over in the coal handling yard crew wouldn't believe what had happened."

Flynn invited him back and Gene is certain it is an invitation he will accept at some later date.



Sons of three Appalachian employees are members of the Northside High School football team, which is the 1976 Roanoke Valley district champion with a record of 9 wins and 2 losses. Northside lost to Garfield High School while vying for the Northwest regional championship. L. to r., Mike Price, son of Dean Price, right of way agent, GO R/e & R/w, Roanoke; Ron Payne, son of E. M. Payne, stores supervisor, GO T&D Administrative, Roanoke; and Rod Hamblin, son of Robert Hamblin, Roanoke meter serviceman C.

## Kanawha families involved in Little League football

Three Kanawha River Plant employees are very much involved in Little League football. Each has sons playing on different teams in the same league.

Jim Hall, equipment operator, has been head coach for the Marmet Mustangs for two years. He served as assistant coach for two years prior. Jim's son Jeff is an outstanding quarterback for the Mustangs on offense and plays safety on defense. In four years of football, Jeff has scored 80 points. He tackles hard and has intercepted several passes. Jim's daughter Tammy is manager of the Mustangs.

Thirteen-year-old Jeff Slack has played five years of Little League football. This year he was a star halfback for the Chesapeake Vikings, scoring 70 points. He plays safety on defense. The Vikings won eight games with no losses in regular play. Jeff is the son of Charles Slack, unit foreman, who was assistant coach for the Cabin Creek team for one year when Jeff was playing there.

Charles and Todd Johnson, sons of Lewis Johnson, engineer B, play ends on offense for the



L. to r., Tammy, Jim and Jeff Hall

Cabin Creek midget team. The moms are also involved — yelling and cheering for their sons' teams and washing and ironing those uniforms.



Jeff Slack



Charles, left, and Todd Johnson

## Hunting is serious business for Gate City line foreman

Hunting is a sport that a lot of people enjoy. But to C. E. "Bo" Fields, line foreman non-exempt in the Gate City area of Abingdon Division, hunting is serious business. "When I go deer hunting, I intend to bring back a deer," he says emphatically.

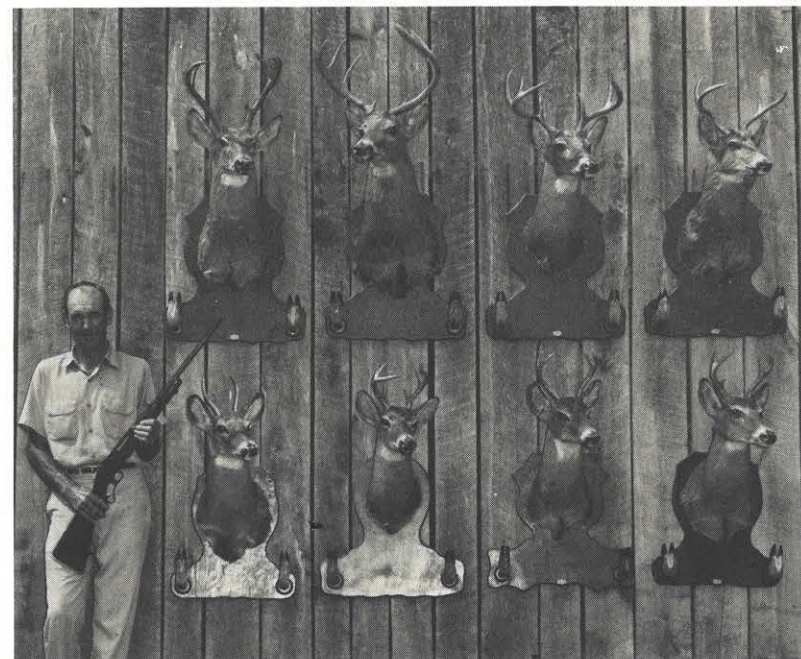
Bo's ability to make good his word has won him quite a reputation among family and friends. In the 22 years he has been hunting, Bo has bagged 21 deer. One was killed in Russell County, Virginia, and 20 in the same area of Bath County, Va.

Bo began hunting in earnest after he and four others purchased an old school bus for \$100. They added four bunk beds, a small cook stove, lights, outlets, deep fryer, electric heat and carpet. Bo pulls his bus in at the same location he has been going for 20 years, plugs in the extension cord at an outlet provided by the landowner, and he's in business.

The largest deer Bo has killed weighed over 300 pounds, and it took three companions 6½ hours

to help carry the carcass out of the mountains. He had this deer as well as several others mounted. The cost for mounting has increased from \$18 to \$75. "This is the main reason I don't have 21 mounts," says Bo.

Bo has also killed a number of rabbits and wild turkeys and is known by local gardeners as a groundhog exterminator. He has killed as many as 100 groundhogs in a single year but figures his average is 54 per year.



C. E. "Bo" Fields seems to have found the secret for successful hunting. He has bagged 21 deer, some of which he had mounted.

### Training of horses guaranteed at Isaacs' new Terrapin Ranch

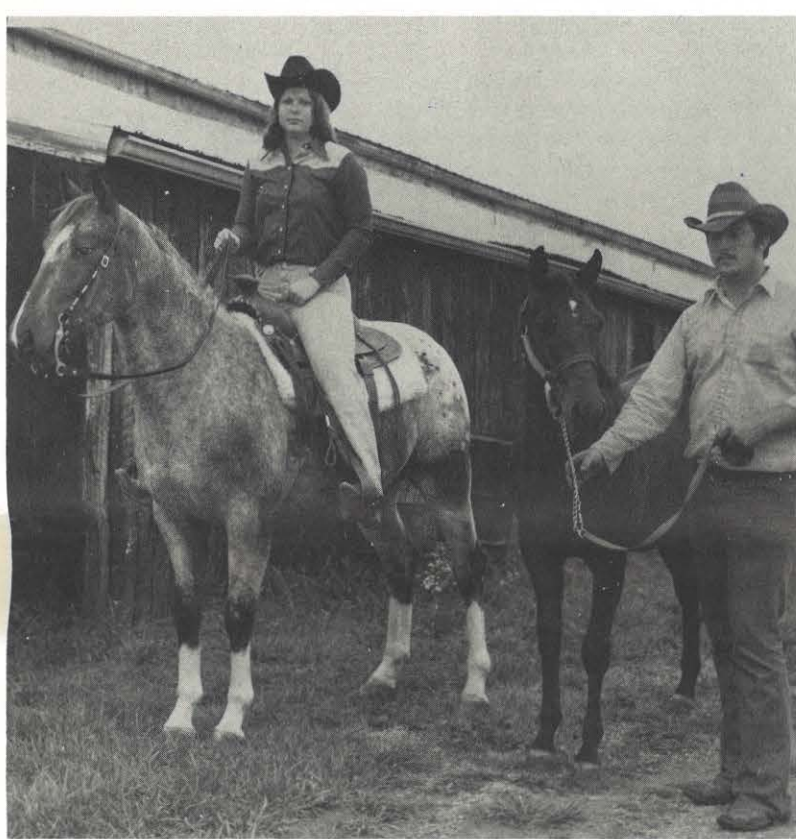
Bill Lee and Jetta Isaacs' love for horses has resulted in their opening a business. The Isaacs, along with another couple, have taken over the Terrapin Ranch at Canonsburg, Kentucky, and opened the doors for boarding and training.

old Appaloosa gelding. "Bill is looking for a horse right now," Jetta says. "I think he wants another Appaloosa. Right now we're kind of sharing the three-year-old." Jetta, however, plans to break the yearling in mid-winter and she'll have something to ride all her own then.

Jetta has ridden since she was small and was the one who got Bill interested in horses. Bill, utility coal handler at Big Sandy Plant, says, "When we were dating, I decided to buy her a horse as a gift, and I was going to get myself a motorcycle. You know, I never did get that motorcycle!"

Their ranch, which has a 15-stall indoor riding facility, is a perfect place to train young horses and give riding lessons in pleasure and reining. The Isaacs not only teach the horse, but the owner is shown how to ride. Their work is also guaranteed. If you can't see a big difference in your horse after training, then there is no charge.

The Isaacs own a yearling filly (quarter horse) and a three-year-



Jetta Isaacs, left, on her Appaloosa gelding and Bill Isaacs with their yearling filly.

### Northups take swimming honors as members of Roanoke's Sugar Loaf team

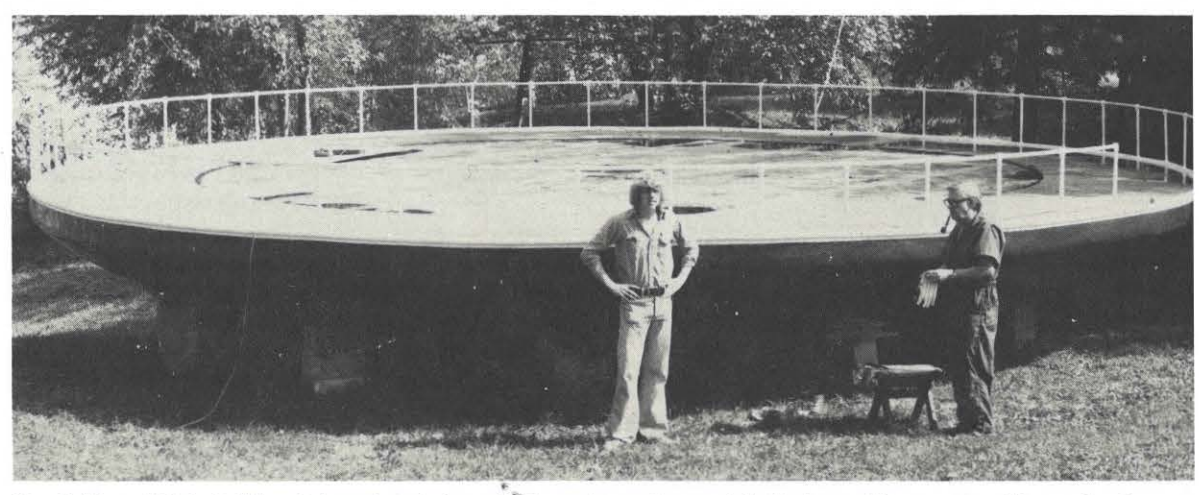
Zachary and Patrick Northup, sons of R. E. Northup, environmental affairs director for Appalachian, swam their way to honors this past summer. Both members of the Sugar Loaf swim team, Patrick swam in the 7-8-year-old class and Zachary in the 6-year-old-and-under class.



Zachary (left) and Patrick Northup

They participated in the Roanoke Valley Aquatic Association meets throughout the summer and in the city-county championship meet in August. Patrick won a first place, second place and two sixth place ribbons in the city-county meet. Both swimmers won numerous ribbons throughout the 1976 season, and Zachary set a Sugar Loaf record for 50-meter breast stroke for the 6-year-old-and-under class.

Both boys are swimming two times a week all winter in a program to develop strokes and speed. They are looking forward to a successful 1977 swimming season.



Tim (left) and Bob Callihan take a break from their work on the world's first round ferro cement houseboat.

### Callihan builds round cement houseboat

Come spring, people cruising the Ohio River in the vicinity of Ashland may be in for a surprise. For that's when Electronics Engineer Bob Callihan plans to launch his round ferro cement houseboat, which looks like a flying saucer. Bob's son, Tim Callihan, is a junior clerk in Ashland Division Accounting.

The total-electric boat will have its own power plant and its own facilities for purification of raw sewage. "Ecologically, it's a great thing," Bob says.

tinguishing system just in case. Also, the gas and water tanks will be built in at the bottom of the boat, eliminating fumes and providing cool drinking water because the fuel will maintain the same temperature as the river.

Bob says that ferro cement boats are becoming popular around the globe but, "to the best of my knowledge, this will be the first round ferro cement houseboat. If you could buy this kind of boat, it would take between \$50- to \$60,000." The boat is 34 feet in diameter, weighs 17,000 pounds and can accommodate up to 100 people in the more than 900 square feet.

When completed, the boat will be only 10 feet high, allowing it to operate effectively in high winds with little resistance. Already planned for the inside area is 4 sofa beds capable of sleeping 8 people. In addition, it will have one full sliding door at the front of the boat with 13 two-foot sealed portholes all around the boat to increase visibility. The interior will be lined fully with half-inch cork insulation bonded to the cement dome. The boat will have stainless steel rails and built-in bumpers on the side. "Even though the boat will be fireproof," Bob explains, "we will have a fire ex-

A telephone communication system will enable Bob to keep touch with people on shore, and a logic controlled warning system will warn him and slow down the boat should something go wrong.

Because of the boat's size, they had to construct railroad tracks down to the Ohio River, the way they can get it in the water. The boat is now on the railroad tracks and Bob's goal is nearly its end after two years. According to Tim, the launching is scheduled for spring of 1977.

Tim says the massive undertaking started after months of planning and designing. "Dad did not even tell the family what he was planning to build. He has made six or seven other boats, and one has to believe he knows what he is doing and will accomplish his goal." Tim adds that a look at the plans is impossible because "they're locked inside dad's engineering mind."

### Beckley lineman coaches team to Midget League championship



The East Beckley Wildcats, coached by Lineman Walter Leach and his assistant, Area Serviceman A. O. Yost, captured the 1976 Beckley Midget League football championship. Leach is on the extreme right, second row. Yost is standing in rear.

The boat is ferro cement reinforced by steel, which is covered with eight layers of chicken wire laced together with stainless steel wire. Cement boats have the strength of steel with no rust problems and the beauty of fiberglass," says Bob, adding the boat will never have to be taken out of the water. "As a matter of fact," he notes, "the longer it stays in the water the better it gets."

Led by the coaching of Walter Leach, Beckley lineman B, the East Beckley Wildcats captured the 1976 Beckley Midget League football championship by defeating Sophia in the championship game 26-0.

game. The perfect season was one which made Walter really proud. He became head coach in 1974, taking over a team which he finished the previous season with a 4-3 record. In 1974 and 1975 the team finished with identical wins and 2 loss records, good enough for a third place finish both years.

The boat will be totally air-conditioned, have all electronic gears and an automatic pilot. It will have an American Challenger aluminum V-6 engine which will power Hardin-Jacuzzi jet pack. Thus the boat will not have a prop or anything else under water. In fact, the boat will only have a draft of about 8 1/2 inches and will operate in as little as 6 inches of water. It will have a 6-foot walkway surrounding a large dome which will cover the living quarters, capable of handling 100 people comfortably. In addition, it will be operated with four jets that allow it to move in forward, reverse or both lateral directions at the push of a button. Because it does not have a propeller, the boat can be backed into the bank with little trouble.

The League, sponsored by the Beckley Civitan Club, is made up of boys from 10 to 12 years of age and consists of two divisions of four teams each. East Beckley earned the right to play in the championship by winning its division and finishing the regular season with a perfect 7 wins and 0 loss record. They not only had an undefeated season but they also did not have a point scored against them during the regular season or in the championship

Walter says, "I enjoy working with kids and seeing their progress, but the real thrill is to see one continue in football at the play on the junior high and high school level." During the 1976 season, Walter was assisted by A. O. Yost, Beckley area serviceman.



## Four Roanoke employees are adept at needlework

Need any advice or help on knitting, embroidery, sewing, crocheting, crewel or needlepoint? If so, Rhonda Carter, GO personnel clerk; Sharon Higgins, GO Personnel stenographer; Karen Burtis, GO Executive stenographer; and Sandra Collier, GO Customer Services stenographer, are the persons to see.

The four Roanoke employees recently completed a four-week class in needlepoint. Rhonda explains, "Approximately 20 stitches, including several varia-

tions of the triangle stitch, were taught in the class." Each participant stitched her own design on an 11" x 14" canvas that averaged 50 hours of handwork before completion. These hours included blocking, backing and applying cording and/or tassels. The monetary investment in each pillow, including the cost of the class, is about \$25.

After completing their needlepoint class, the girls began Christmas crafts, cross stitching various seasonal patterns on hand-danger cloth and framing them in

miniature frames for Christmas tree decorations. Sharon plans to stitch 25 of these ornaments and has already completed 15. She states, "When you have a two-year-old, you try to decorate the tree in unbreakables."

Each girl is an accomplished seamstress and all four sew from 50 to 75 per cent of their personal wardrobes.

Karen is currently sewing quilted handbags for Christmas gifts. "I've sewn since I was a little child," she says. Her next project is two pillows in needlepoint.

Sandra is presently knitting a sweater. She explains, "I'm selfishly doing it for myself this time. So many others have been given as gifts."

Rhonda, who is doing a needlepoint belt for a gift, adds, "I'm very proud to use and give things I have made."

## Stockton

(cont. from pg. 12)

were contacted for workable metal specifications and manufacturing capabilities and quotations. The handmade test model is being tested at one of the large universities and test marketing is in process. Arch is hopeful that customer demand will create a market with financial rewards.



Proudly displaying some of the handicrafts they have made are (l. to r.) Sandra Collier, Rhonda Carter, Karen Burtis and Sharon Higgins.

## Cover

Hunter H. Thayer, Abingdon engineer B, is said to be the most enthusiastic Santa ever to serve the Town of Abingdon.

He was first selected for the role of Santa in 1960, while employed by Virginia Electric Co-op in Bowling Green, Virginia. Hunter laughs, "They asked me to play Santa mainly because my body fit the Santa suit."

Not long after Hunter moved to Abingdon, the town merchants recognized

that his jovial nature and his build made him an excellent candidate for the top spot in the annual Christmas parade. Since then church and civic groups throughout the area have benefited from Hunter's good nature.

So this year when you hear shouts from the sky and bells jingling in the breeze, don't be surprised if you see Hunter Claus in his familiar garb, hurrying on his way to make some child happy.

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