

## FULLER SAVES STORE FROM FIRE DAMAGE



The Spring Valley Thriftway Market in Huntington was spared from extensive fire damage recently because of a chance late-night phone call to an Appalachian employee.

Dallas Fuller, Huntington line mechanic A, was awakened by a phone call from a friend. During the conversation, Dallas glanced out his kitchen window and noticed the service wire to the market arcing at the building's pipe mast's weather-head. The service wire dropped off the pipe mast and fell on the roof, where small fires erupted along the length of the fallen service cable.

Dallas fished the line off the roof with a dry stick, and shortly afterward the Fire Department arrived along with John Bartholomew, Huntington area service restorer. John and Dallas replaced the store's service wire that night.

## NEW BILL FORM EASIER TO READ, PROVIDES MORE INFORMATION

A newly designed bill form being introduced this month across the American Electric Power System will provide more information for customers and will be easier to read.

All residential customers, most commercial customers and some industrial customers began receiving the new-look bill on October 6. The two-part bill is double the size of the former bill and features an open, uncluttered appearance.

The new format represents the first major change in the appearance of the company's bill in many years. It was developed by a special AEP System customer accounting task force first headed by Ralph C. Young, Jr., assistant treasurer of the AEP Service Corporation and manager of internal auditing who retired earlier this year. John Bragg, supervisor of customer accounting auditing for the System, succeeded Young as chairman of the group, which included representatives from the operating companies.

"One of our chief objectives was to come up with something that would not only give the customer more detailed information about his account but would also be easier for him to understand," Bragg

said. "For example, the new bill itemizes such things as the customer's previous balance, payments, special charges, adjustments and taxes."

Another important feature of the new bill is space for special messages. This space will be used for information about the customer's bill and to report matters which may affect his service. The new bill also lists a company telephone number that customers can call if they have questions about their bill or service.

A folder explaining each item on the new form is being inserted with customers' bills. During the first week of October, each employee received a copy of the folder and was briefed on the new bill form by supervisory personnel.

## APCO TO EXPAND AMOS PLANT COAL HANDLING FACILITIES

Appalachian Power Company last month announced plans for additional coal handling facilities at its John E. Amos Plant located northwest of Charleston, West Virginia, at Morgan's Landing on the Kanawha River. The company is seeking a permit from the U. S. Corps of Engineers to extend its coal dock to accommodate a barge loading facility.

Announcement of the \$23-million project was made at a joint press conference by West Virginia Governor John D. Rockefeller, IV, and John W. Vaughan, executive vice president of Appalachian Power Company.

The extension to the Amos coal dock would allow Appalachian to economically transfer the coal needed for its new Mountaineer generating plant, now under construction near New Haven, and give the company added flexibility in moving coal to other Appalachian generating plants.

Vaughan pointed out that the company is in the process of securing low sulfur coal for the Mountaineer Plant. Mountaineer will burn approximately 3,500,000 tons of coal per year. "We are concentrating on finding that coal in southern West Virginia which would mean a combination rail and barge haul to Mountaineer," said Vaughan, "and the most logical place to transfer that coal to barges is where the various rail lines merge coming out of the coal fields. This occurs near our Amos Plant where we have sufficient property and an existing coal handling operation."

The loading facility at Amos will cost some \$23-million and create employment for 50 to 60 people, Vaughan said.

Vaughan added that the facility will be constructed with the most modern equipment available to meet all environmental regulations. It will have special watering devices and dust collectors, and all permanent conveyors will be enclosed.

The company would anticipate having the loading facility completed prior to the start-up of the Mountaineer Plant. Other barge loading facilities on the Kanawha River, which are capable of trans-loading a limited tonnage, will be used to build up a stockpile of coal prior to the start-up of the plant.

Appalachian Power is presently negotiating with various coal suppliers for the quantity of coal needed for Mountaineer. The availability of adequate, economical transportation plays an important part in determining where the Mountaineer Plant coal will come from and the addition of the coal loading facility at Amos Plant will make the southern West Virginia coal, particularly from the Coal River district, very attractive, according to Vaughan.

Vaughan said, "We are fortunate that southern West Virginia has coal reserves that can meet the sulfur dioxide emission standard of 1.2 pounds per million BTUs which is required by environmental regulations for Mountaineer. This conforming fuel will come in part from company-owned coal mining operations,

as well as non-affiliated coal operations.

"As important as this new facility is, it is only part of the total economic impact that Appalachian's Mountaineer Plant is having on West Virginia," Vaughan pointed out.

"The 3.5 million tons of coal needed for Mountaineer will provide an additional 2,000 mining jobs and an annual coal mining payroll of nearly \$30 million," he explained.

He said that construction and operation of Mountaineer will also have a significant impact. Construction on the plant, originally started in early 1974, was curtailed late that year due to Appalachian's financial condition. A full construction program was resumed in the summer of 1977. According to Vaughan, more than 2,200 construction workers are on the job at Mountaineer and the expected total construction payroll for the plant will amount to nearly \$220 million.

"Upon completion, there will be 200 permanent employees operating the plant with an annual payroll in excess of \$3 million.

"The plant, originally estimated to cost \$420 million, has now escalated to \$625 million. This investment, aside from providing an addition to the tax base, will have other significant beneficial economic impacts on the state," Vaughan concluded.

## EMPLOYEES SAVE CHOKING VICTIM



Gus Croft, left, and Ron Harrison demonstrate the Heimlich Maneuver they used to save a choking victim recently.

An Abingdon woman is alive today because of the quick response of two Appalachian employees.

Gus Croft, Abingdon division office supervisor, and Ronald Harrison, then Abingdon customer accounting supervisor, were talking with the owner of a local restaurant when they noticed another patron having difficulty. When they realized the woman was in danger, they both went to her aid.

At first the pair tried to dislodge the obstruction in her throat by bending the woman over and slapping her on the back. Then Ron remembered the Heimlich maneuver taught in the company's first aid classes and used it "because of the frailty of the woman involved". Gus recalls, "The woman couldn't have weighed more than a hundred pounds at most." The obstruction was cleared and the woman resumed breathing. She sat down to regain her composure, thanked them, and the APCo employees returned to the office after seeing she was all right.

When asked the woman's name, both responded, "Gee, I don't know." They stated, "It happened so fast, we didn't really think but just reacted."

Ron has since transferred to Kingsport Power.

## THE ILLUMINATOR

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## APCO BRIDGE MAY BE ONLY ONE OF ITS KIND



Huge crane prepares to set girder on new type of abutments.

When it is opened for use within the next several weeks, the bridge serving the Grundy Substation in Bluefield Division will possibly be the only one of its kind in the world.

According to Bob Hansen, Wytheville branch manager of the Williams Crane and Rigging Company which is doing the actual construction, several of the methods and materials being used are unique.

The new span will replace a structure washed away in the flood of April 1977. It will provide a means of crossing the river for employees as well as carry large vehicles which move the giant transformers and other equipment used by Appalachian. It will have a capacity of 75 tons and will have a wider cross section and rise higher than the previous bridge.

Hansen explains that the new span will not use piers. It will be supported entirely at its ends. He adds that by not using supporting structures anchored in the stream, there would be more space for the river to flow. This would be especially true and important during a flood when piers often tend to collect debris and hold back the waters.

Appalachian started making plans for the replacement of the bridge soon after last year's flood. Permits were obtained from the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers for the project. However, various delays occurred and the major part of the work wasn't started until this past June. High waters have hampered the work on at least four occasions.

Appalachian chose the Reinforced Earth Company of Washington, D. C., to provide the design and materials for the bridge. Williams Crane and Rigging Company was selected to do the actual building.

Hansen describes the construction method for the reinforced earth structures this way: First, plans were made of the intended structure, then vertical concrete panels were brought in from a North Carolina plant, where they were pre-cast and numbered. Once on the job site, these panels, weighing from 1,000 pounds to over one ton each, were placed according to their numbers into rows, called lifts. The bottom lift rests on footers.

The key to the reinforced earth technique involves 30-foot long metal strips, some six of which connect to the back side of each full-sized concrete panel and run back into the fill material placed behind the wall. The weight and friction of the fill material against the metal strips provides support for the entire system.

Cranes and dozers are the key equipment in work of this kind. The cranes lift the heavy panels and eventually the steel supporting beams for the bridge. Dozers are being used at the substation construction site to move in the fill material and handle routine earth-moving work. Eventually, a small island which has been used as the primary construction site will be dozed away as well. By doing a large amount of work on the little projection into the river, Williams Company workers were able to do their jobs without slowing traffic along nearby Route 460.

After the reinforced earth part of the job was finished, and anchors for each end of the bridge installed, Hansen's crews went to work on the steel structure which will span the river. The assembly, which weighs about 44 tons and is about 126 feet long, was brought to the construction site in two sections and connected by workers. Then the Williams crews lifted the huge steel girder from the staging area beside the river to the top of the towering concrete walls and set it into place.

After the steel base is anchored — it will rest on four Teflon-type pads — crews will set to work with the next major step in the project. Concrete slabs, which will form the actual driving surface for the bridge, will be installed atop the steel superstructure. Then relatively minor work, compared to the reinforced earth installations and placing of the steel beam and concrete slabs, will complete the job.

Hansen explains that while the reinforced earth construction methods were developed in France, they were not used for bridge work. Instead, engineers in that country used the technique for building dams. Others have used the patented Reinforced Earth approach in Alaska and the western states. It was used at the huge petroleum terminal complex at Valdez, Alaska, where it provides the retaining walls around the oil storage tanks receiving oil from the Alaska pipeline. The process has been used in Nevada for highway overpasses. However, Hansen says that as far as could be determined, the Grundy bridge will be the first use of the reinforced earth technique for construction of a bridge across a river or other body of water.

The Reinforced Earth Company says that their technique provides a faster and simpler method of construction at a savings of 30 to 50 percent over conventional steel and concrete methods.

## AEP EMPLOYEE SAVINGS PLAN

Date	Value Per Unit AEP Stock Fund	Units Credited Per Dollar
5/31/1978	0.9572	1.0447
6/30/1978	0.9898	1.0103
7/31/1978	1.0537	0.9490
8/31/1978	1.0385	0.9629
<b>Fixed Income Fund</b>		
5/31/1978	1.0284	0.9724
6/30/1978	1.0351	0.9661
7/31/1978	1.0424	0.9593
8/31/1978	1.0491	0.9532
<b>Equity Fund</b>		
5/31/1978	1.1206	0.8924
6/30/1978	1.1072	0.9032
7/31/1978	1.1683	0.8559
8/31/1978	1.2067	0.8287

## AEP INTRODUCES SAVE ENERGY PROGRAM

American Electric Power System's new "Save America's Valuable Energy" (SAVE) program has been introduced throughout the System with distribution of the first of a series of booklets encouraging customers to conserve energy.

The SAVE program is intended to show customers specific ways to conserve energy — thus helping to reduce its cost.

Titled "SAVE . . . home survey," the first booklet was delivered to the seven AEP operating companies late last month. It contains a scorecard enabling individual owners to survey their homes to determine if they contain sufficient energy-saving features to meet minimum program award requirements. To be judged by the individual owners, the homes will be rated on the basis of how many and what types of energy systems and thermal materials each contains.

If the totals reach 220 points for newly constructed houses or 180 points for older homes, the operating companies will issue Awards of Excellence to homeowners who qualify.

As customers, AEP System employees are eligible to participate.

The home survey will be followed by distribution in succeeding months of four more booklets, covering such subjects as home management, home and water heater insulation, heat pumps, and a customer's introduction to the electric company.

SAVE is being conducted in conjunction with the Edison Electric Institute's National Energy Watch (NEW) program. The objective of NEW is to encourage Americans to conserve energy.

To obtain copies of the booklets or additional program information, contact your Customer Services Department.

## PFBC RESEARCH WILL FOCUS ON COMBUSTION TEST

The American Electric Power System and STAL-Laval Turbin AB of Sweden last month began a second phase in their joint research into an efficient method of burning high-sulfur coal to produce electricity while safeguarding the environment.

AEP and the Swedish gas-turbine manufacturer, a subsidiary of ASEA, signed an agreement covering the new phase of their development of the pressurized fluidized-bed combustion process (PFBC). Its objective is the operation of a 170,000-kilowatt PFBC combined-cycle generating unit to be installed in Ohio Power Company's Tidd Plant.

The new work will take about a year and will cost the two partners, together, in excess of \$2 million to complete.

The new phase will concentrate on various design aspects of the PFBC "combustor" and gas turbine through the conduct of cold and hot test work. This work will involve combustion tests at a PFBC pilot plant owned by the British National Case Board in Leatherhead, England, including participation in a 1,000-hour combustion test to study possible erosion and corrosion of turbine blades. This test will be funded by the U. S. Department of Energy and the Electric Power Research Institute, for which AEP will provide the test coal.

AEP chairman W. S. White, Jr. said that the aim of the second phase is to demonstrate, "as we believe that it will," that PFBC can work on an efficient and economical basis and that its projected capital and operating costs will be attractive. "When that determination is made," he added, "we will be in a position to design and build an engineering system development plant."

Successful test operation of PFBC at the Tidd Plant would then open the door for the design and construction of a commercial PFBC plant of 500,000 kilowatts.

First phase of the program, recently completed, took 15 months. It involved feasibility studies and combustion tests of high-sulfur Ohio coal and Ohio dolomite at the Leatherhead facility.

The purpose behind PFBC development, White explained, is to have "a sound alternative to costly and inefficient flue-gas scrubber systems on generating units, to add to the efficiency of the generating cycle and to provide an enlarged market for high-sulfur coal, notably from Ohio."

The PFBC unit envisioned for Tidd Plant would operate on a combined cycle, using both hot gases and steam to generate electric energy. High-sulfur coal would be burned at high pressure in a bed of inert material — dolomite in this case, limestone in others — which behaves, under such conditions, as a fluid. The dolomite captures the sulfur given off in combustion, while the hot gases expand through a gas turbine, which produces electricity. At the same time, steam, produced from water in tubing submerged in the bed, would be fed to Tidd's conventional turbine-generator to generate more electricity.

## OPCO HALTS WORK ON RACINE UNITS

Ohio Power Company notified the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) last month that it was temporarily halting work on the installation of generating units in the Racine Dam near Racine, Ohio.

Charles A. Heller, Jr., Ohio Power's executive vice president, said that the company was deferring the concrete phase of construction until next spring in order to prepare some design changes aimed at reducing the over-all project cost. At the present time, the entire cofferdam structure is complete. He said the company notified FERC that the proposed changes would establish a greater degree of

simplification in the layout and arrangement of the project, and result in savings in material and construction costs.

Work began in November 1977 on the installation of two generating units of an advanced European design, each with a capacity of 24,000 kilowatts. In announcing the Racine project last year, Heller had pointed out that the installation of generating facilities in a government-owned flood control dam was compatible with President Carter's energy program.

At the peak of activity at the project last spring, over 70 persons were employed. This number began to decline as the possibility of construction deferral came under active consideration, Heller said.

## AEP ANSWERS FERC CRITICISM OF FUEL BUYING

American Electric Power has responded to a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission criticism of the System's fuel supply practices by terming the report "a classic example of shortsighted second guessing."

The Commission's preliminary report had found fault with AEP's policy of acquiring its own source of fuel, especially criticizing AEP's acquisition of low-sulfur coal supplies in the West, saying that AEP's fuel supply policy had resulted in overcharges to customers of at least \$10 million.

AEP responded that it was concern over meeting environmental quality standards that had led it to acquire a source of low-sulfur coal.

With respect to the cost of fuel, the company said that, "while there have been periods when captive coal costs have in fact been higher than costs controlled by the market, this situation is rapidly changing." Further, the company said, it was this self-sufficiency that enabled the AEP System to continue to deliver electric service to its customers during last winter's coal strike, and that the company believes "its fuel decisions will be found to be highly beneficial to its customers when all of the facts are sifted and objectively weighed."

The Commission preliminary report was begun in response to a complaint filed three years ago against AEP by the McDowell County (West Virginia) Consumers Council.

## ROANOKE WILL HOST MANAGERS

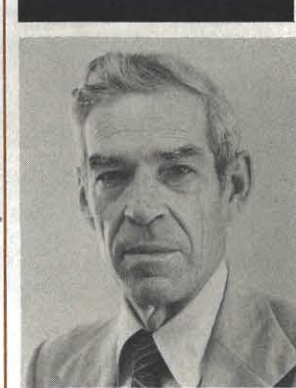
The practice of holding an annual AEP System Management Meeting will be resumed in November after a five-year suspension for economic reasons.

The 1978 meeting will be held November 15-17 in Roanoke, Virginia. Projected attendance from the various AEP System operating and mining companies and the Service Corporation is approximately 165, about half that of most prior years.

Theme of the meeting will be "Planning the Future." Subjects to be covered will include: planning, financing, rates, generation, transmission, construction, fuel supply, communications, and managerial and personnel requirements.

Guest speakers scheduled to appear are: Joseph Swidler, a Washington attorney and former chairman of the former Federal Power Commission, who will discuss future governmental relations; Dr. W. F. Pounds, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who will speak on future management requirements; Paul B. Finney, executive editor of *Fortune* magazine, who will focus on future communications with the media, and Frank Siedel, Ohio writer for television, radio and films, who will outline coming communications techniques.

## BELL ELECTED AEP SC VP



William G. Bell, Jr., has been elected vice president — fuel procurement and transportation of the American Electric Power Service Corporation.

A member of the Fuel Supply Department in Lancaster, Ohio, Bell had been general manager — transportation prior to the election and taking on the additional responsibilities of procuring coal for the System's power plants.

## AEP SYSTEM NEWS BRIEFS

### SYSTEM LOAD INCREASES

The AEP System's total load for a seven-day period was at its 1978 high — in fact, at its highest since January 1976 — during the week ended September 13.

In that span the System was called upon to supply 2.09-billion kilowatt-hours, an increase of 23.6 per cent over the same period in 1977. It was the second highest such figure in AEP history, exceeded only by the 2.15-billion kwh recorded during the week ended January 21, 1976.

Through mid-September the System's cumulative total load for the year was 63.6-billion kwh, 2 per cent better than the same stretch last year.

Appalachian customers came close to setting an all-time summer peak demand September 19 and would have exceeded the record summer peak set July 20, 1977, if coal mines, shut down because of the N&W strike, had been operating.

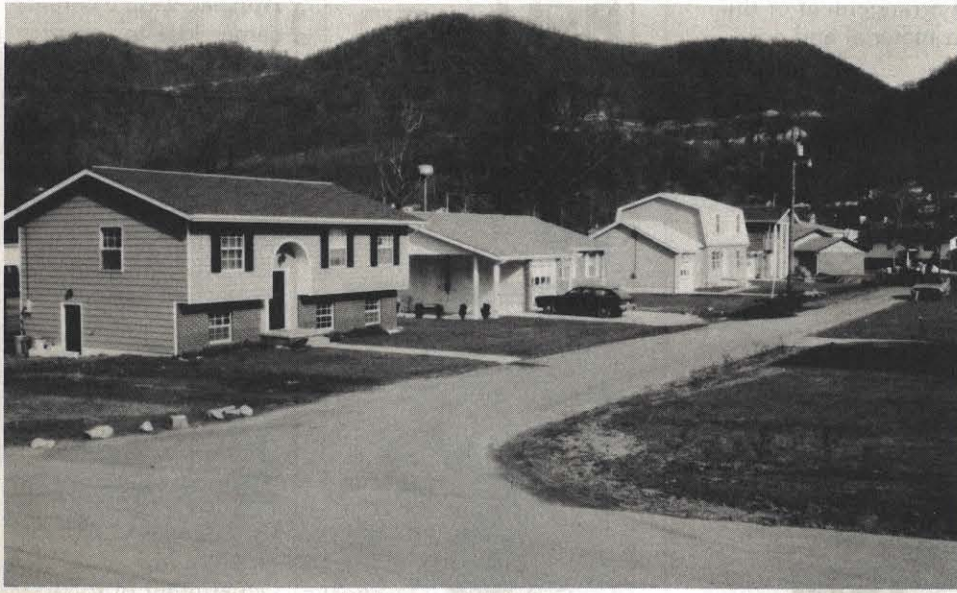
## DOE OFFICIAL JOINS AEP

Dr. Douglas C. Bauer, an official of the U. S. Department of Energy, on October 1 joined the American Electric Power Service Corporation as executive assistant to John Till-ingham, vice chairman for engineering and construction. Bauer was assistant administrator for utility systems in DOE's Economic Regulatory Administration.

Bauer, 40, had been in government service since 1972 when, as a White House Fellow, he served as special assistant to the Secretary of Transportation. In the following year, he was named manager of energy conservation programs in the Federal Energy Administration, and in 1976 became director of nuclear research and applications in the Energy Research and Development Administration. He moved to DOE last October.

Before entering government service, Bauer was associated with Bettis Atomic Power Laboratory, and earlier had worked briefly in power plant studies for AEP. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees in engineering from Cornell University and a doctorate from Carnegie-Mellon University. He also attended the Harvard Business School for Management Development.

(Continued on page 13)



Street scene in Adena Village, a 55-acre housing site at Montgomery, West Virginia, which was built on structural fill utilizing three-quarters of a million tons of fly ash from Kanawha River Plant.



Fly ash from Kanawha River Plant was used in the grout mix for West Virginia's New River Bridge, the world's longest steel arch bridge.



Cement-treated bottom ash from John Amos Plant is being spread on a secondary road in Kanawha County, West Virginia.

## POWER PLANT ASH: FROM A WASTE TO A RESOURCE



Power plant ash, for years considered a pesky by-product from coal's combustion in steam generating plants, is providing an answer for the critical land shortage in West Virginia's Kanawha Valley.

Conditioned fly ash from Appalachian Power's Kanawha River Plant has already been used in structural fills in at least 10 different locations. Either completed or planned on these fills are housing, a swimming pool, the sewage treatment plant in the Town of Glasgow, an athletic field, state police barracks, several commercial businesses, a coal loading facility and a new highway embankment where a portion of Route 60 was relocated. Two of the units at the John Amos Plant have been converted to a dry system, which will permit development of areas around the Amos Plant.

According to Ron Morrison, head of the AEP Ash Research and Utilization Section in Charleston, W. Va., "The massive tonnage market in the future is the use of fly ash as structural fill material. Since 1973 we have placed approximately 3 million tons of ash in structural fill applications. The biggest project we have worked with is the use of Kanawha River fly ash to develop a 55-acre housing site at Montgomery, W. Va., called Adena Village."

He continues, "We placed approximately three-quarters of a million tons of fly ash in that area over a three-year period. That use demonstrated to the public, the lending institutions, and other developers that our power plant ash could be utilized as a structural fill material. In the past few months we have had many contacts from industries and the public sector, requesting the use of ash to develop marginal property in the areas around the Kanawha River and John Amos Plants."

This is only one of a multitude of uses which has been developed for this now valuable raw material. And there is little likelihood that the supply of ash will run out. In 1977 alone, the steam plants of the AEP and Ohio Valley Electric Corporation Systems produced 6.6 million tons of ash. As new and larger coal-burning generating plants are being added to the System to meet our customers' increasing demands for electricity, disposal of the attendant ash will be a growing challenge.

Development of markets for the ash originally was largely the result of intensive sales efforts by Morrison and the late Henry Skaggs, former Kanawha River Plant manager, who was one of the early promoters of fly ash utilization and who encouraged its use in an almost evangelical fashion.

Since 1949, AEP has specified the use of ash in all of its construction projects. Then, in 1965, the AEP Ash Research and Utilization Section was formed to research, promote and market ash for use in many sectors of industry. The Section has been expanded to include Dennis Kinder, ash research sales and development engineer; Lester Nida and Mark Pennington, engineers; Dale Blount and Greg Keenan, engineering technicians; and Sue Shultz, senior clerk. The Section's program has grown until, in 1977, Kinder reports, "We marketed and utilized internally in excess of 2 million tons of material".

Kinder explains there are three kinds of ash produced in our power plants: fly ash, bottom ash and boiler slag. Fly ash, the fine particles that are carried out in flue gas and collected in precipitators, has a consistency of face powder. Bottom ash, collected in the bottom of the power plant furnace, is sluiced out to a holding pond near the plant. Bottom ash has the appearance of mortar sand. Boiler slag has a black, glassy appearance and consists of larger size particles. It is also collected in the bottom of the furnace and sluiced out.

In plants with dry bottom furnaces, 80 percent of the ash production is fly ash and 20 percent bottom ash. Only four of the system's plants produce boiler slag — I&M's Breed and Tanners Creek Plants and Ohio Power's Kammer and Muskingum River Plants. The ash production in these furnaces consists of 60 percent fly ash and 40 percent boiler slag.

Kinder continues, "You must have a quality ash to develop a market. The AEP General Lab in Huntington, W. Va., performs chemical analysis of fly ash for each plant, and the AEP Civil Lab at New Haven, W. Va., performs the physical analysis, involving strength, fineness and durability. These two groups have done an outstanding job since the inception of the ash utilization program."

Kinder notes, "We market essentially 100 percent of the bottom ash we produce. As a matter of fact, we compete with our own Construction Department in many instances for this material because they realize the merits of utilizing it. As an example, all of the bottom ash produced at Philip Sporn Plant is being used in a variety of ways at the new Mountaineer Plant now under construction."

He adds, "At Kanawha River Plant, the bottom ash is blended with coal mine refuse to reduce its acidity and also used as a block aggregate for concrete block production. At Clinch River the total production of bottom ash is used in concrete block production."

Kinder continues, "Until last year, the primary market for the bottom ash at Amos Plant was road base aggregate. Amos bottom ash has been used in the building of 300 miles of secondary roads in West Virginia. But in the past year, this bottom ash has been used as a filter material on the extension of the Amos fly ash dam. We have had to cut back on the sales to the Highway Department to service our own needs."

The primary uses of dry bottom ash are as road base material, back fill material on pipes and retaining walls, dry beds for concrete slabs, slip connections, concrete block aggregate, blend with coal mine refuse, sanitary land fill covers, and snow and ice control aggregate.

Boiler slag is primarily used as roofing granules, blasting grit and ice control aggregate. "All black roofing shingles have boiler slag as the granule material. We market thousands of tons to the eastern seacoast for use in blasting ships, particularly by the Naval Yards at Norfolk," Kinder reveals.

A sideline of the fly ash market is the sale of "floating" ash or cenospheres. Kanawha River, Amos and Big Sandy Plants have this material. Kinder says, "We have a company who recovers this floating material from our ash ponds and markets the finished product under the trade name of Fillite. This Fillite is utilized in a number of applications: bowling balls, grinding wheels, decorative furniture, automotive parts, carpet backing, paint and hair brush handles, office furniture and football helmets. The primary market is the automotive industry since all the dashboards and steering wheels today are made of plastic."

Kinder explains that "we have ash brokers who act as an extension of this section to market the material. In order to permit them to operate and make a profit, we sell the fly ash at a reduced cost of \$2.50-\$3.00 per ton to these people. The average selling price of boiler slag is 75 cents a ton. "However," he adds, "we have manufacturing plants located on the Kammer-Mitchell complex property and at Tanners Creek which process this material for roofing granules and blasting grit, and we receive 10 percent of their FOB selling price. Bottom ash is also normally sold at 75 cents per ton FOB the ash pond. The average price of fly ash is \$5 per ton FOB the plant. In 1977 our program was worth \$4.3 million to AEP, including both revenues and our own utilization."

Kinder points out that the economics of hauling the ash from the power plant to the site plays a very important role in whether the ash can be utilized. For instance, "You can only reach out within a 150-mile radius of a power plant to sell ash to concrete producers. Any further than that is not economical."

Ash is primarily transported by trucks, either pneumatic tankers or tandem dump trucks covered with tarpaulins. When shipping by rail, dry ash is carried in covered hopper cars and boiler slag in open rail cars. Large quantities of fly ash have also been shipped by barge for use in concrete on the Corps of Engineers lock and dam projects.

The largest sale of fly ash to a private company was recently negotiated by the Charleston office. Some 42,000 tons of fly ash from the Kanawha River Plant will be used as a replacement for cement in VEPCO's Bath County, Virginia, pumped storage project. "You must have a quality ash to sell another utility company a material they are currently producing at their own plants," Kinder points out.

Fly ash concrete is also being used in 50 miles of interstate pavement in West Virginia. This market resulted from 10 years of efforts to obtain a specification that would allow the use of fly ash in concrete pavement.

Morrison emphasizes that power plant ash is beginning to be recognized as a new mineral resource. "It is conceivable that some time in the future, ash recycling complexes will be located adjacent to power plants. The complex would have one major plant whose function would be to separate ash into the various minerals of which it is composed. My big dream is to take aluminum out of fly ash."

He concludes, "For our job, it takes a lot of enthusiasm. We just really enjoy marketing and promoting and coming up with new ideas. I've gotten so now that everything I look at, I think about what the potential would be for ash."

An Ash Advisory Committee has been formed at West Virginia University, and Morrison and Kinder have been appointed to serve as industrial representatives on the committee. Each August a short course covering topics dealing with ash utilization is held at WVU. Over 300 people from all parts of the United States and seven foreign countries have attended the short course during the past three years. Henry Skaggs would be proud!



Dennis Kinder, left, and Ron Morrison will be developing new markets for Amos Plant ash now that two of the units have been converted to a dry system.



Some of the more "exotic" uses for ash include fire and building brick, bowling balls, ceramic pore insulation, sound deadening material, paint brush handles and auto dash panels.



Pneumatic tanker is being loaded with dry fly ash from a silo at Clinch River Plant.

# POWER PEOPLE MAKING NEWS

## Beckley



**Linda Lively**, daughter of Line Inspector W. H. Lively, was named press representative for the Black Diamond Girl Scout Council Area 7. She will serve as liaison between the Scout troops and the news media. Linda is assistant leader of Senior Troop #2264 and is studying journalism at Beckley College.

Personnel Supervisor **J. C. Barker** was elected second vice president of the Beckley Kiwanis Club.

**C. W. Claytor**, husband of Junior Clerk Barbara Claytor, teamed with Dr. William Wine to win the men's doubles in the Fayette County Sports Festival tennis tournament.

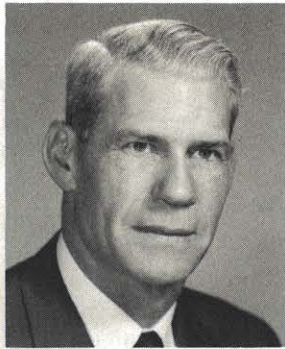
**Richard Begley**, son of Line Crew Supervisor J. W. Begley, placed second in the par 3 golf contest held in conjunction with the Fayette County Sports Festival.

**Jack Howard**, Rupert line mechanic A, was runner-up in the Rainelle Golf Club's recent tournament.

## Bluefield

**Randy Turpin** was appointed by the dean of Lee College to serve as student government representative on the college board. He is the son of Jim Turpin, equipment service representative.

**Duke Wright**, retired administrative assistant, made a hole-in-one at the Bluefield, Va., Richwood Golf Club. Duke's third hole-in-one in his golfing career came on the par 3, 145-yard No. 2 hole.

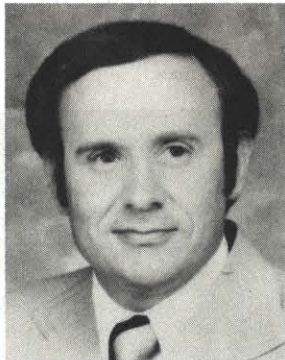


**Oscar Adams**, customer services manager, was installed as Lt. Governor of the Eighth Division of the West Virginia Kiwanis District. This area covers McDowell, Wyoming and part of Mercer Counties.

**Harold Cutlip**, drafter B, and **Jack Hawks**, line crew supervisor NE, were runners-up in the July member-guest golf tournament at the Tazewell County Country Club. The annual event is a 54-hole, 2-man best-ball, three-day affair.



**Eddie Fanning**, son of Building Supervisor "Buck" Fanning, is the recipient of a \$1,000 scholarship from Consolidation Coal Company. Eddie has worked for Consol the past two summers and is majoring in mining engineering at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.



**Daniel Farley**, son of Tazewell Area Supervisor Clyde Farley, was installed as governor of the West Virginia District, Civitan International. He previously served his district as lieutenant governor, South, and governor-elect. He is a past president of the Princeton Civitan Club and served as sergeant at arms during the 1978 International convention in New Mexico.

**Jane Meadows**, wife of Howard Meadows, electrical engineer senior, was installed as secretary of the Mercer County Unit of the American Cancer Society.

**Frances Keller**, personnel assistant, is chairman of the Mercer County Commission on Aging.

**Patti Jane Owensby**, daughter of Junior Clerk Patricia Owensby, won a trophy for high series with handicap in the children's summer bowling league at Bluefield's Mountaineer Bowling Lanes.

**Ed Odle**, electrical engineer, was installed as first vice president of the Cumberland Heights Lions Club.

## Central Machine Shop



**Michelle "Mimi" Stewart** was elected catcher on the Dunbar Little League girls' softball all-star team. Dunbar won the district and West Virginia state championships and was first runner-up in the division championship. Mimi is the daughter of Joe Stewart, power equipment mechanic A.

## Charleston

**E. J. Shaver, Jr.**, division office supervisor, was appointed a member of the Washington Community Education Center Advisory Council.

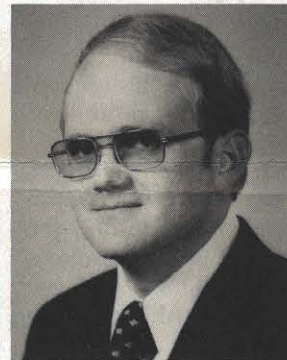
**Lloyd Pomykata**, customer services manager, was appointed chairman of the membership drive committee of the Downtown Kiwanis Club.

**Barbara Baker** and **Nancy Shahan**, daughters of Norvil Baker, electrical engineer, have passed the West Virginia State Board examination to become registered nurses.

**Scott Corder**, who played in the Marmet Senior League, was named to the Cabin Creek South all-star baseball team. **Dawn Corder**, who played for the Marmet Little League girls blue team, was named to the Cabin Creek South girls all-star softball team. Dawn is head majorette for the Marmet Little League football team and was second runner-up to Miss Pantherette at the DuPont Band Majorette Festival in August. Scott and Dawn are the children of Terry Corder, line mechanic C.

## General Office

**Gordon Bryan Middlekauff** was awarded a trophy and plaque as the most outstanding band member at William Fleming High School. He is the son of O. Victor Middlekauff, transmission station supervisor, GO T&D Station, Roanoke.



**Stephen L. Jamison**, employee relations administrator, GO Personnel, Roanoke, has been presented a key to the City of Lynchburg. Former Lynchburg Division administrative assistant, Steve was honored for his outstanding efforts and creative leadership in a program to revitalize downtown Lynchburg.

**Lewis Young**, husband of Doris Young, statistical analyst in GO Rates and Contracts, Roanoke, was graduated from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University with a master of business administration degree. Lewis, on leave of absence from Dominion Bankshares Corporation, has been accepted in graduate school to work toward a PhD in finance.



**Aubrey Powell**, drafter A in GO T&D, Roanoke, was elected president of the Hollins Lions Club for 1978-79.

**Mike Kolnok**, husband of Linda Kolnok, general records clerk A in GO Accounting, was elected third vice president of the Hollins Lions.

## Glen Lyn



**Fairley J. Long**, instrument maintenance supervisor, was installed as president of the Peterstown Rotary Club. His wife **Bernice** is the leader of The New Pioneers 4-H Club in Peterstown.

## Kanawha River

**Perry Sheets**, son of Jeanne Sheets, administrative assistant, and B. E. Sheets, AEP Fuel Supply, attended a Devil Pup Camp at Camp Pendleton, California, in August. The camp is a physical fitness program for 14- to 17-year-olds. Perry was awarded a certificate for completing the program and came in first among the 300 attendees for doing the most pushups.

## Lynchburg



**Leon Hawkins**, son of Carolyn Hawkins, customer accounts representative B, was selected class repre-

sentative from the sixth grade to the Student Body Association at Sandusky Middle School.



**Vickie McConaghy**, junior clerk, rolled high game of 264 in the Tuesday Night Women's Summer Bowling League. She was awarded a trophy and patch from WIBC for 100 pins over her average.

**J. Robert Davenport**, division manager, was selected a member of the program committee for the James River Basin Association.

## Mountaineer Construction



**Amy Patricia Young**, daughter of E. A. Young, civil construction assistant II, took first place in the Meigs County, Ohio, Fair pretty baby contest, 3-6 month division.

**Heidi Gleason**, daughter of P. R. Gleason, construction time-keeper II, took second place in the Mason County, West Virginia, Fair pretty baby contest, 3-6 month division.

**Jarrett Flesher**, son of Sherry L. Flesher, junior clerk, took third place in the Mason County, West Virginia, Fair pretty baby contest, 18 months-2 year division.

**Michael Pethtel**, son of W. R. Pethtel, construction office manager, was elected president of the seventh grade class at Wahama Junior High School.

## Pulask

**C. A. Schmidt**, Christiansburg customer accounting supervisor, will participate in the "executives on loan" program in connection with the upcoming United Way campaign.

**Diana Nicholson**, stepdaughter of C. A. Schmidt, received a master's degree in educational supervision from The College of William and Mary.

**J. K. Dunn**, son of J. L. Dunn, Pearisburg T&D clerk A, received a bachelor of science degree in business administration from Concord College.

**L. L. Bucklen**, engineer B, was reappointed by the national commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars to the national membership committee.

## Roanoke

**Jamilia Casey** was one of several youth honored at a reception by the Franklin County Library in recognition of their outstanding participation in the summer reading program. The students read a total of 1,697 books. She is the daughter of Abron Ralph Casey, meter service mechanic.

**Teresa West**, daughter of Helen West, personnel assistant senior, was elected treasurer of the FTA at William Byrd High School.

**Joyce Wray**, wife of Stores Attendant R. L. Wray, won a first-place ribbon for her ceramic raccoon at the Martinsville-Henry County Fair.

**Bennett Shuff**, customer accounts representative B, was elected secretary-treasurer of the youth group and the Sunday School Department of the Buffalo Ridge Pentecostal Holiness Church.

**Joe Higgins**, Fieldale manager, was appointed to the board of directors of the Patrick

Henry Community College Scholarship Foundation, Inc.

**Kathy Cobbler**, stenographer, was appointed a den mother in Cub Pack 330, Patrick Henry District, Blue Ridge Mountains Council, Boy Scouts of America.

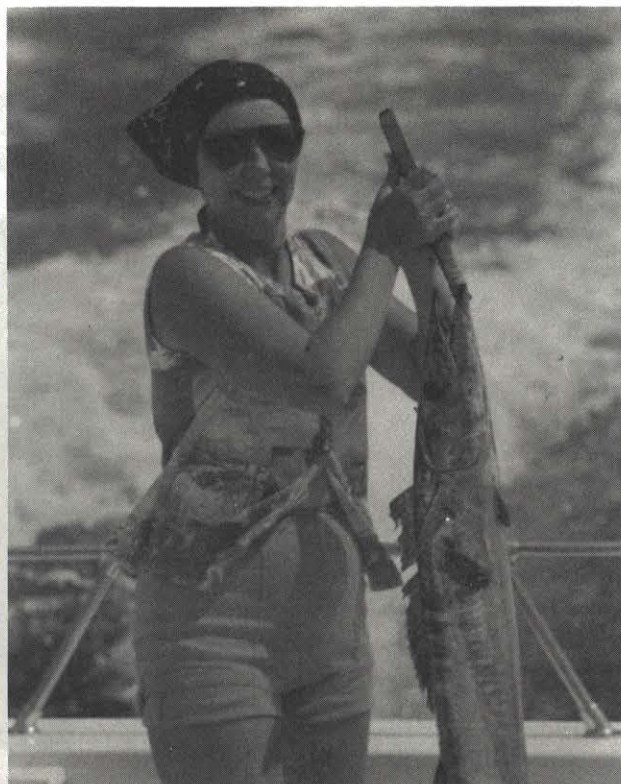
## YOUTH IS LITTLE LEAGUE STAR



Russell Shrewsbury played first base for the Greater Princeton Little League all-star team that captured the 1978 West Virginia Little League championship and finished third in a field of 13 state champions in the Southern Regional Tournament in St. Petersburg, Florida. He is the son of Sherri Shrewsbury, customer accounts representative C in Bluefield Division's Princeton office.

A four-year starter on his regular season team, Russell compiled batting averages of .290, .351, .485 and .510 and was named to the League's all-star team in 1977 and 1978.

Russell looks back on several highlights in his Little League participation: twice named to the Princeton Midget League basketball all-star team; leading that league in scoring during the 1977-78 season; playing on three league championship football teams; twice named his team's most valuable player; and twice selected to the Midget League football all-star team.



## DEEP SEA FISHING LURES SAMPSONS TO FLORIDA

Floating out in the Gulf of Mexico, 75 miles off shore, on top of 1,400 feet of water, trolling along a "tide line" in water that is such a rich, deep shade of royal blue it has to be believed. And when your line hooks up with something, you look out to see a 35- or 40-pound bull dolphin send its brilliant bright green and gold body out of the velvet water and into the sunshine where the rays strike it and make it shine with an almost blinding radiance.

It's experiences like these that inspire Hazel Sampson, Charleston customer services clerk A, and her husband Howard to return year after year to the "Miracle Strip" for another chance to fish and enjoy the area's riches.

The Sampsons have been going deep sea fishing for 20 years, ever since their three children were small. Hazel recalls that on their first two-week trip they stayed in a small tent and "we really enjoyed it. Now we have a camping trailer and just Howard and I go, but we still look forward to it each and every year."

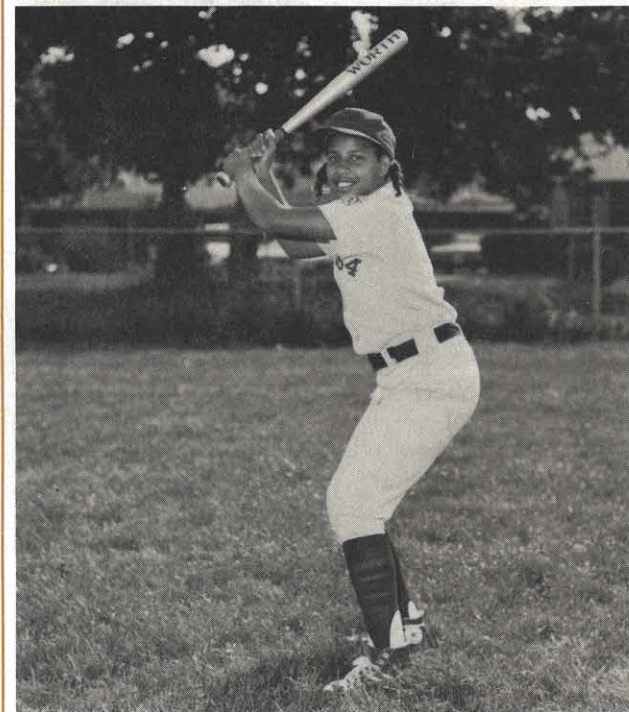
She continues, "We save all year long just to make this trip, and we usually go in July. We try to beat the hurricanes, which usually hit in August. But we have been caught twice by hurricanes, Camille in 1968 and Eloise in 1975. We sure did pull up stakes and move back in during those storms!"

They have caught nearly every kind of fish except a sail fish. Hazel declares she would like to catch one before Howard does; but, she adds, "I'd normally rather someone else catch the fish and let me enjoy the struggle and beauty. When you have the fish on your line, you miss a lot because you have to concentrate on the fish, and sometimes it's hard work. I guess the largest we've caught was a 250-pound shark. Howard caught it, not me. He also caught an eight-foot blue marlin. I guess my biggest one was a six-foot wahoo." This year Hazel caught the biggest fish but Howard caught the most.

"Regardless of who catches what," says Hazel, "we have fish in our freezer all year long from our vacation in Florida. I'd still enjoy the boat rides out and back even if I didn't catch anything. I'm already looking forward to our next year's trip and hope we can stay four weeks."

Story courtesy *Herald-Dispatch*, Huntington.

## FEMALE FEARSOME OPPONENT ON MOUND, AT BAT



When Monique Johnson talks, her words might be in any one of three languages — throwing, hitting or just plain English — but other Little League baseball players usually get the message. Monique is the daughter of Alzelia Johnson, Huntington T&D clerk C.

Most teams hear from Monique's arm or bat when they play VFW 1064 from League Four. She reserves her English for her teammates.

"Everybody in the league is afraid of her," says Coach Claude Gore of his co-captain. "She just tells them (her teammates) to get out there and hustle," he added, noting she is about 5-feet-9.

The four-year Little League veteran gives her opposition reason to be fearful. During the season the 12-year-old drilled eight home runs and added her ninth, a three-run shot, in the second round of the city championships. In the first-round game, she struck out 11 batters, walked six and gave up six hits. She struck out 53 batters in five games during the regular season.

Monique broke into Little League as an outfielder and has played shortstop, second base, pitcher and catcher, the position she likes the best. "You see more action behind the plate," Monique says. "I like to throw the ball down and try to pick people off." But that doesn't usually happen. "They don't steal on me too often," she explains.

Gore feels Monique plays her best game behind the plate. She knows the fundamentals and plays well, he said. "Sometimes she likes to call the game for the umpires," Gore said. Although she will glare at the umpires when she thinks they missed a call, she does not argue and her attitude is good, Gore said.

"She has the talent to make a Babe Ruth team with no problems," Gore added. The only problem might be a fear by coaches the league is too rough for her.

Monique is considering trying out for Babe Ruth, but her fear is of being "cleated" by metal spikes. When she joined Little League, girls were allowed on teams for only the second time and were still raving they could play with the boys. There was only one other girl in the league and she was 12 years old.

"I was really scared at first. One thing I was scared of was being beamed," Monique said. At first she was shy, but starting with her second season she became more assertive.

Monique, who plays guard and forward in basketball at Cammack Junior High School, said she has a 50-50 chance of making a Babe Ruth team. She plans to try out for an outfielder position because she believes her chance will be better for being picked and for playing.

## SYSTEM COUPLES MARRY



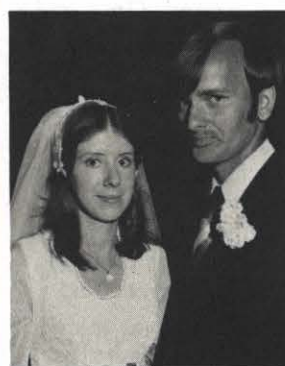
**Cynthia K. Robertson**, daughter of William Alvin Robertson, Lynchburg station mechanic A, to M. Richard Martin, Jr., August 26.



**Connie Sue Nipper**, Abingdon junior clerk, to Charles Williamson Jackson, Jr., August 19.



Donna Gail Shaver to **Delford Lynn Morgan**, Glen Lyn Plant utility worker A, September 2.



**Darlene K. Sayers**, Abingdon junior clerk, to Cecil David Robbins, August 12.



Hope Teresa Dene to **Clifford Wayne Hawley**, son of Clifford Hawley, Abingdon building supervisor, and Dorothy Hawley, Abingdon T&D clerk A, August 5.



**Martha Josephine Hulme**, daughter of William Hulme, retired Pulaski records supervisor, to James Macfarland Neblett, III, September 16.



**Kimberly K. Wright**, daughter of Tivis M. Wright, Jr., Abingdon line mechanic A, to Bruce Stone, Jr., July 29.



**Frances G. Gilliland**, daughter of Franklin L. Gilliland, Kanawha River Plant maintenance mechanic B, to James S. Sagraves, August 5.



Deborah A. Johnson to **Phillip W. Martin**, Kanawha River Plant chemist assistant, August 18.

**Mary Frances Harper**, Amos Plant custodian, to James Fred Cash, August 15.

**Gertrude Elaine Braxton**, Charleston customer accounts representative B, to Donald E. Ricks, September 2.

## BABY PARADE

### Abingdon

Alicia Michelle, daughter of **Kenneth Hicks**, custodian, September 11.

Rachel Lee, daughter of **J. D. Blevins**, Marion meter reader, September 9.

Robert Cory, son of **R. B. Forrester**, meter reader, September 4.

### John Amos

Sara Rose, daughter of **Neal Moats**, maintenance mechanic C, August 7.

### Beckley

Jennifer Lynn, daughter of **Jimmie L. Dunford**, stores attendant, September 12.

### Central Machine

Patrick Erle, II, son of **P. E. McGue**, welder 1st class, August 28.

### Clinch River

Jessica, daughter of **Dennis Steffey**, maintenance mechanic C, August 5.

### General Office

Timothy Scott and Gregory Thomas, twin sons of **Wayne T. Sink**, electrical engineer, GO T&D Station, Roanoke, September 24.

### Huntington

Bradley Owen, son of **Kerr Baird**, Point Pleasant meter reader, August 24.

## CONNER FOSTER ACTIVE IN MEALS-ON-WHEELS PROGRAM



H. M. Figg, Sr., left, greets R. Conner Foster as he delivers a meal.

About a year after his retirement, Conner Foster, former Lynchburg administrative assistant, decided he wanted to do something to help his fellowmen. He became involved in the Meals-On-Wheels program, and now, one Friday each month, Conner and his friend, Charlie Smith, deliver hot meals to elderly recipients.

The Meals-On-Wheels is a vital service to people in the Lynchburg community who cannot prepare a hot meal for themselves and have no one to do it for them. In many cases, the meals and the human contacts that come with them provide a new grip on life itself for these individuals. Conner states, "My only regret is that I just don't have the time I would like to spend with these people. Many of them desire someone just to talk to but, due to the necessity of keeping the meals hot and getting them delivered, you just cannot visit with them as long as they would like."

One of the people to whom Conner takes meals is H. M. Figg, father of Herbert Figg, Lynchburg commercial engineer. Figg says he really looks forward to this meal each day.

The cost of the meals is borne by three sources: those that fall below the poverty level are partially covered through funding of the Older Americans Act and the Social Security Act by contract with the Department of Social Services and Institutions. Those who can afford it, pay for their meals. The meals are provided by Lynchburg General-Marshall Lodge Hospital.

This is a very valuable service to the City of Lynchburg with volunteers like Conner making it work. They endure every kind of weather, soup stains on the car's upholstery, and the rising cost of gasoline. Their commitment remains unabated.

There is also another benefit of the program. Once when a volunteer could not get in to deliver a tray and a subsequent phone call by the director of the program failed to get an answer, she called the police and together they entered the house, where they found the occupant lying on the floor. A rush trip to the hospital resulted in complete recovery for the individual.

## PILLS SPEED PLANT GROWTH



When Joan Bonham, Charleston customer accounts representative B, read a magazine article saying that birth control pills are a good fertilizer for ailing and slow growing plants, she decided to test the theory.

Joan tried to buy the pills at a drug store but found they are only available by prescription. When she called a local doctor's office to see if he had any samples, the nurse hung up on her, thinking someone was trying to be funny. Finally a friend of Joan's gave her a pill to try on the plants.

She first dissolves the pill in a little hot water, and then mixes it in a gallon of cold water. The solution is fed at two-week intervals for one month, then once each month for two months. Does it work? Joan responds, "Call me a pill-popper if you like, but you should see what it has done for my plants. They have grown leaps and bounds in a short time and have really produced a lot of bloom."



# GET ME TO WORK ON TIME



Has an extra 40 winks, an alarm clock which didn't go off, or snarled traffic ever kept you from getting to work on time? If so, consider the plight of Walt Minsker, Charleston commercial representative, who during the summer months must get up at 5:30 AM to be at the office by 8:00 AM.

During the summer, Walt lives at his camp on Elk River, about eight miles above Clendenin, on the opposite side of the river from U. S. 119. His typical morning routine goes like this:

Arise at 5:30 AM and take a cold shower outside. Walt says, "I have a water heater at the camp to install, but I haven't gotten around to it yet." In the meantime, he has water heating on the range so he can shave. Then he's ready to dress and head toward Charleston, some 28 miles down the Elk River.

Walt walks down the fairly steep river bank in his shined shoes and searches for his boat, which he hopes is still anchored where he left it the evening before. If it has rained during the night, he has a bailing job to do before hopping in the boat to row across the river. Sometimes, if there has been a hard rain, Walt finds himself downriver from where the car was parked.

When he finally reaches his car, Walt faces another obstacle course. The 20 miles of interstate between Charleston and Clendenin is under construction. As a result, he must endure traffic delays, flagmen, detours, dirt roads as well as bumper to bumper traffic on a narrow U. S. highway. Forty-five minutes later, he finally arrives in downtown Charleston, where sometimes traffic is backed up for blocks due to the early morning rush. Somehow, Walt manages to reach the office about ten minutes to eight, just in time to grab a cup of coffee.

After a hard day at the office — and sometimes an occasional evening appointment or meeting — Walt has to return home the same route. Walt, however, enjoys every minute of it, especially when he gets back up on the river to relax and do the things he wants to do!



Lynchburg Division employees completed 500,000 consecutive safe work hours on August 25. Their record began October 21, 1976. In recognition of their accomplishment, employees were treated to a breakfast prepared by supervisors and members of the safety steering committee.

# FRIENDS WE'LL MISS



**William B. Spencer**, 66, retired Lynchburg stationman B, died August 24. A native of Oakridge, Virginia, he began his career in 1947 as assistant hydro operator C at the old Blackwater Substation in Lynchburg and retired September 1, 1977. Spencer is survived by his widow Betty, 1815 Rivermont Avenue, Apt. 31, Lynchburg, Va.



**James W. Proffitt**, 74, retired Kingsport general serviceman, died September 19. A native of Speedwell, Tennessee, he began his career in 1936 as a laborer and retired December 31, 1963. Proffitt is survived by his widow Pearl, Route 1, Speedwell, Tenn.



**James Maxey Scites**, 69, retired right of way supervisor, General Office T&D R/e & R/w, died September 19. A native of Myra, West Virginia, he began his career in 1939 as a right of way agent in Huntington and retired October 1, 1974. Scites is survived by his widow Juanita, 2953 Third Avenue, Huntington, W. Va., and a daughter.

# CONNER BUILDS WOOD STOVE TO HEAT HOUSE



"Since I had an abundant supply of wood available, I decided to build a wood stove that would supply the entire heating requirements of my home," says Don Conner, Kingsport auto mechanic A.

Don had a set of plans for a wood-burning stove that claimed to be so efficient it would produce only a dishpan full of ashes per month — a claim Don says turned out to be true. During the coldest period last winter, it required only six logs to provide heat for 24 hours. The stove is built on the coke oven principle — the logs lie on a deep bed of ash and the air flow is controlled by two solid brass damper controls on the door. These controls can be adjusted so the stove is completely air tight.

The stove is constructed of one quarter inch welded steel plate lined with fire brick. It is 20 inches wide, 32 inches deep and 35 inches in height at its tallest point. The flat top makes an excellent cooking surface. For finishing touches, the stove was painted black with heat resistant paint and a few ornaments, taken from a brass bed, were added.



Glenn Spencer, a junior at East Bank High School, captured four second-place, one third-place, two fourth-place and three fifth-place ribbons as a member of the Glasgow swimming team this past summer. He participated in the freestyle, breast stroke and back stroke competitions. The son of Roy Spencer, Kanawha River Plant personnel supervisor, Glenn did not participate in all the swim meets because he worked full time for the West Virginia Department of Highways.

# VETS RECEIVE SERVICE AWARDS



M. C. Griggs  
R/e & R/w Acctg.  
Coord.  
GO-Roanoke  
40 Years



D. W. Henry  
Stores Attendant Sr.  
Roanoke  
40 Years



C. R. Hefner  
T&D Clerk A  
Abingdon  
35 Years



J. L. Moore  
Meter Reader  
Abingdon  
30 Years



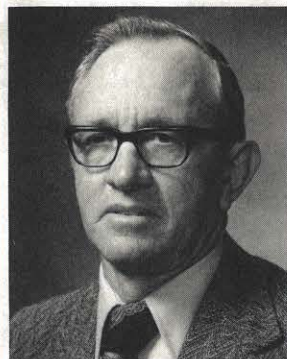
J. F. Dooley  
Area Service Restorer  
Charleston  
30 Years



E. P. Lethcoe  
Electrical Engineer Sr.  
Abingdon  
30 Years



C. C. Harper  
Meter Serv. Mech. A  
Charleston  
30 Years



W. H. Grizzel  
Line Crew Supv. NE  
Abingdon  
30 Years



A. H. Barlow  
Station Mechanic A  
GO-Roanoke  
30 Years



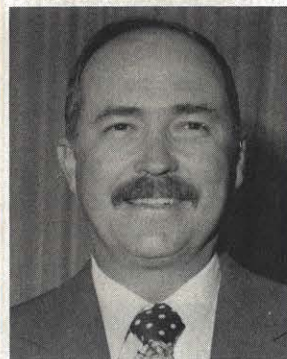
R. D. Persinger  
Area T&D Clerk A  
Huntington  
30 Years



Amos Workman  
Maintenance Supv.  
Kanawha River  
30 Years



J. S. Orr  
Line Crew Supv. NE  
Abingdon  
30 Years



J. L. Earles  
Line Crew Supv. NE  
Pulaski  
30 Years



C. H. Young  
Meter Reader (LTD)  
Charleston  
30 Years



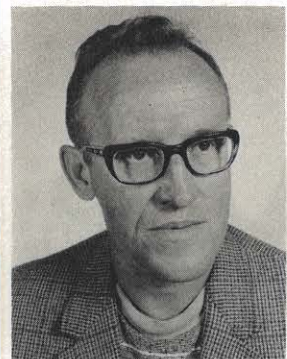
W. L. Mitchell  
Line Mechanic A (LTD)  
Bluefield  
30 Years



C. G. Smith  
Line Inspector  
Bluefield  
30 Years



A. W. Bonds  
Driver-Ground Helper  
Beckley  
30 Years



J. L. Kern  
Inst. Maint. Mech. A.  
Kanawha River  
30 Years



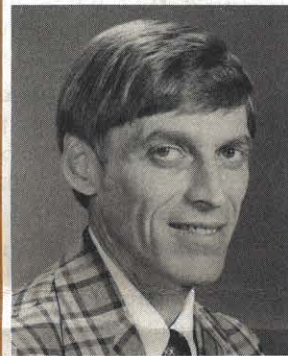
R. E. Dennis  
Line Crew Supervisor  
Roanoke  
30 Years



E. H. Presley  
Line Crew Supervisor  
Kingsport  
30 Years



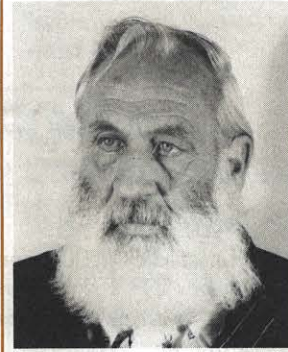
H. E. Stone, Jr.  
Mech. Const. Asst.  
Mountaineer  
30 Years



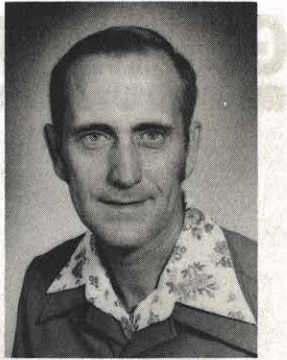
C. R. Lovegrove  
Pub. Inf. Supv.  
GO-Roanoke  
25 Years



Adelene Newman  
Cust. Serv. Clerk A  
Pulaski  
25 Years



E. E. Sparr  
Meter Serv. Mech. A  
Charleston  
25 Years



E. M. Colegrove  
Meter Reader  
Huntington  
25 Years



J. K. Allen  
Plant Janitor  
Kanawha River  
25 Years



S. E. Burdette  
Maint. Mechanic A  
Philip Sporn  
25 Years



R. G. Rhodes  
Maint. Supervisor  
Philip Sporn  
25 Years



L. F. Pomykata  
Cust. Serv. Mgr.  
Charleston  
25 Years



G. W. Arnold  
Conveyor Operator  
Philip Sporn  
20 Years



J. C. Scott  
Maintenance Mech. A  
Philip Sporn  
20 Years

**John E. Amos**  
5 Years: F. J. Elswick, II, utility operator A. R. E. Craig, performance technician. J. R. Dunn, engineer B. B. E. Casto, utility operator A. Sharon Lett, plant clerk B.

**Beckley**  
5 Years: Joanne Richmond, customer accounts representative C.

**Bluefield**  
10 Years: Jacqueline Houston, customer accounts representative B. 5 Years: Daniel Currence, meter reader. Sharon Shrewsbury, customer accounts representative C.

**Central Machine Shop**  
5 Years: D. C. Donohoe, NDE inspector 1st class.

**Charleston**  
10 Years: D. L. Tackett, station mechanic B. Anna Cyphers, secretary. Mona Sue Charlton, senior telephone operator. 5 Years: B. K. Carter, customer accounts representative C. T. J. Ruffin, line mechanic C.

**Clinch River**  
20 Years: Garland Hackney, coal equipment operator. 5 Years: Michael Witt, equipment operator. Danny Belcher, utility operator A.

**General Office**  
15 Years: Kathryn Smith, electric plant clerk A, GO-Roanoke. W. R. Franklin, engineering technologist supervisor, GO-Bluefield. 10 Years: J. F. Zimmerman, classification and accounts payable clerk A, GO-Roanoke. J. H. Dickerson, station mechanic A, GO-Roanoke. 5 Years: R. L. Minnix, data processing operator B, GO-Roanoke. Anna McCadden, senior key entry operator, GO-Roanoke.

**Huntington**  
30 Years: W. E. Chapman, customer accounts assistant. 10 Years: L. A. Smith, Jr., line mechanic A. W. K. Baird, meter reader, Point Pleasant.

**Kanawha River**  
5 Years: Michael Smith, auxiliary equipment operator. Steven Peay, utility worker A.

**Kanawha Valley Power**  
10 Years: T. R. Pendleberry, hydro utility operator. 5 Years: C. W. Campbell, hydro utility operator B. C. W. Richardson, hydro maintenance mechanic C.

**Lynchburg**  
30 Years: John Ward, driver-ground helper. 25 Years: Charlene Thompson, secretary-stenographer. 10 Years: B. L. Jefferson, Jr., line mechanic A.

**Mountaineer**  
5 Years: Cozette Halstead, stenographer.  
**Pulaski**  
5 Years: E. E. Kirk, line mechanic D. M. K. Linkous, meter reader.

**Roanoke**  
30 Years: W. E. Collins, meter service mechanic B. 15 Years: J. P. Morris, head meter reader. G. W. Conner, meter service mechanic A. 10 Years: D. E. Vaught, power engineer. L. G. Redden, line mechanic A. 5 Years: C. Price, meter reader.

**Philip Sporn**  
25 Years: J. H. Bearhs, maintenance mechanic A. C. E. Searls, maintenance mechanic B. C. D. Kennedy, maintenance mechanic A. P. E. Forbes, chemist assistant. 20 Years: V. E. Hoyt, stores clerk A. 10 Years: C. F. McDaniel, instrument

mechanic B. Gil Johnson, maintenance mechanic A. C. R. Duncan, maintenance mechanic B. D. G. Goodnite, maintenance mechanic A. G. A. Icenhower, maintenance mechanic A. R. R. Ross, maintenance mechanic A. G. E. Evans, maintenance mechanic A. 5 Years: H. A. Elliott, auxiliary equipment operator. R. R. Proffitt, equipment operator.

## ARCHER CLOSES UTILITY CAREER



Clarence E. Archer, whose AEP career began 41 years ago as an electrician's helper, retired September 1 as one of the System's most knowledgeable power plant individuals.

For the past 14 months, he had served as an administrative assistant on the staff of David H. Williams, senior vice president for all Service Corporation functions at Canton. Clarence had been involved principally in the maintenance and operating costs of System power plants.

Earlier, he had served 20 years as manager of Appalachian Power Company's Glen Lyn and Clinch River Plants and of Ohio Power's Cardinal Plant.

Clarence, holder of electrical and mechanical engineering degrees from the University of Kentucky, began his AEP career in 1937 as an electrician's helper at Welch, W. Va., then a district operation for Appalachian Power.

Eight years later, he moved into power plant operations as supervisor of maintenance at Glen Lyn. There, he became assistant manager in 1951 and manager in 1957. Unit 6 was constructed during his tenure there.

He became Clinch River manager in 1959. "That plant managed itself, almost," Clarence said, "and I became involved in a number of community activities. It was almost impossible to say 'no' to those organizations."

Clarence was named manager of Cardinal Plant while it still was under construction in 1965. "I found that job to be most interesting," he said, adding that the Cardinal job "offered challenges that I hadn't been involved with before." He referred to the co-ownership of the plant, along with Buckeye Power Corporation. "This was a new idea; a new concept, and I am glad to have been a part of it," he exclaimed.

Other than plans for a short-term consulting project, Clarence is looking forward to a relaxing retirement. On the agenda are a move to the Glen Lyn area, an opportunity to spend more time with his outdoor activities (fishing, hunting and golfing), and frequent winter trips to Florida.

## POWERS RETIRES EARLY



"I have tried to the best of my ability to give good service to the company and to our customers," says Carl G. Powers, who was a T&D clerk A at Wytheville in the Pulaski Division before electing early retirement September 1.

A native of Wythe County, Virginia, Carl attended Emory and Henry College and National Business College. He began his career in 1945 as a clerk senior and advanced through the positions of junior, senior and area T&D clerk before moving in 1977 to the position he held at retirement.

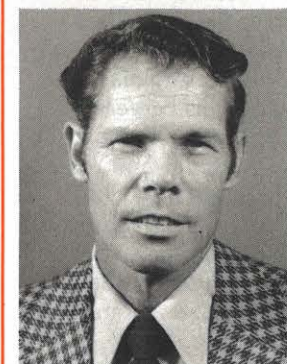
Carl taught a Bible class at the First Christian Church for 25 years and is currently a member of Fellowship Baptist Church. He was one of the first Cubmasters in Wythe County and at one time had 100 Cub Scouts in his Pack. A 30-year member of the Wythe County Kiwanis Club, he has held every office and is now a senior board member and historian. Carl is the recipient of the Legion of Honor and Distinguished Service Award from Kiwanis International. He is a member of the National Heart Association and past chairman of the Wythe County Heart Association. He is also a Past Noble Grand of the I.O.O.F. Carl says retirement will give him a chance to do a lot of things he's never had time for before. He notes, "I will get up and do whatever comes naturally each day and enjoy life." He and his wife Helen are planning a trip to Hawaii.

## MOVING UP

(Continued from page 4)



J. E. Woolridge, former accounts payable supervisor in GO Accounting, Roanoke, was promoted to supervisor of transportation accounting for the AEP Fuel Supply Department, Lancaster, Ohio, on June 1. He attended Virginia Southern and National Business Colleges.



Jackie L. Caldwell, former area service restorer, was promoted to line crew supervisor NE in Charleston on August 12.

## LETTERS WE LIKE

The following letter was sent to Charleston Division Manager C. O. Carlini by Ralph R. Cowgill, manager of the Kanawha Airport in Charleston:

"On behalf of the board of members of the Central West Virginia Regional Airport Authority, I want to thank you and the employees of your company for the assistance which was rendered to our maintenance personnel late Wednesday afternoon, August 2, 1978.

"It is hard to put into words our sincere appreciation for the help which Mr. Don Loy gave us by immediately dispatching two men to Kanawha Airport. One of the three 2400-volt transformers malfunctioned, resulting in a power outage to the Terminal Building. As you can well imagine, our tenants and the traveling public began to register complaints because they were unable to continue business as usual.

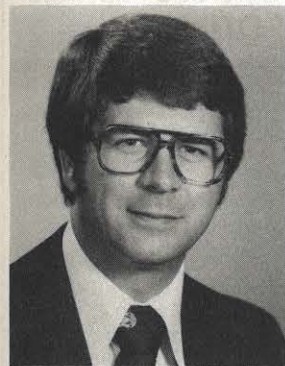
"Your men displayed a great deal of professionalism by correctly diagnosing the problem and making a repair before the hours of darkness.

"It is surprising how quickly we were able to return to normal operation and all complaints ceased immediately. In short, it was a "JOB WELL DONE".

This letter was sent by 91-year-old Joseph B. Swope, Sr., of Kimberly, West Virginia, along with his electric bill payment:

"A word or two: If other utilities had as much honesty and gave half the service you do, it would be a more pleasant world. Your service is not only the best but the most economical of all. One pays you with pleasure rather than a feeling that one is bamboozled."

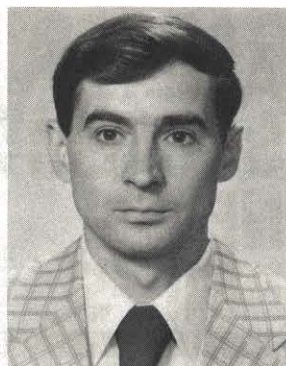
## MOVING UP



**J. Tobie Eaton**, former transmission staff engineer, was promoted to real estate and right of way superintendent in the General Office Transmission and Distribution Department, Roanoke, on October 1. He succeeds T. A. Rotenberry, who was named Beckley Division manager. Eaton holds a BS degree in civil engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.



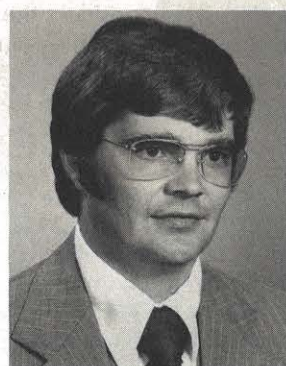
**Richard L. Roush**, former public affairs coordinator, General Office Public Affairs, Mountaineer Plant, was promoted to administrative assistant to the Huntington division manager on September 1. He succeeds Wayne Pugh, who was promoted to public information coordinator-nuclear in General Office Public Affairs, Lynchburg. Roush has an associate arts degree from Ohio Valley College and a bachelor of arts degree in social psychology from Morris Harvey College. He is working toward a master's degree at Marshall University.



**R. D. Harrison**, former Abingdon customer accounting supervisor, was transferred to Kingsport Power as customer accounting supervisor on September 1. He attended Washington County Technical School and has also studied through International Correspondence Schools.



**Joyce A. Cook**, former general records control supervisor, was promoted to general records accountant in General Office Accounting, Roanoke, on October 1. She holds an associate art in accounting degree from National Business College.



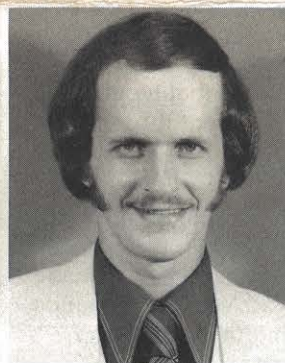
**P. M. Weaver**, former communications engineer senior, was promoted to communications supervising engineer in General Office T&D Communications, Roanoke, on September 1. He holds a BS degree in electrical engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.



**G. A. Settle**, former customer accounts assistant, was promoted to Abingdon customer accounting supervisor on September 1, succeeding R. D. Harrison. Settle holds a BA degree from Emory and Henry.



**Fredrick A. Stotts**, former welder 1st class, was promoted to production supervisor at Central Machine Shop on September 1. He attended Mountain State College.



**C. H. Craig, Jr.**, former station operator B, was promoted to regional dispatcher in General Office Operations, Charleston, on October 1.

## ASH SHARES WORK IDEA

**A. R. Ash**, transmission mechanic B in General Office T&D, Turner Station, is the author of an article entitled "Extra Mirror Eases Control of Winch Loads" in the September/October issue of *AEP Operating Ideas*.

## MUNDAY TO HEAD PUAV



**E. L. Munday, Jr.**, vice president of Appalachian Power Company, last month was named president-elect of the Public Utilities Association of The Virginias.

Presently serving as first vice president and a member of the executive committee, Munday will succeed Leon D. Johnson, III, as president on January 1, 1979. Johnson is senior vice president of Virginia Electric and Power Company, Richmond, Va.

Taking office in January with Munday are Paul M. Horst, Jr., vice president of Potomac Edison Company, Hagerstown, Maryland, as PUAV's first vice president and O. C. Hall, executive vice president of Wheeling Electric Company, Wheeling, West Virginia, as the association second vice president.

James B. Berg, assistant secretary and assistant treasurer of Appalachian, was reelected as treasurer and Morris E. McCrary, assistant accounting manager of Appalachian, was reelected assistant treasurer.

PUAV is an organization of investor-owned electric utility companies operating in Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee to promote the common interest of both the public and member companies.

## NEW FACES AROUND THE SYSTEM

### Abingdon

**Roger Meade**, meter reader, Gate City. **Kenneth Flemming**, line mechanic D, Clintwood.

### Bluefield

**George Edgar Odle, Jr.**, electrical engineer.

### Charleston

**David Summerfield**, meter service mechanic D. **Bonita Harper** and **Kenneth Smith**, meter readers. **Gene Herdman**, line mechanic D, St. Albans. **Joseph Snyder, Arlen Breeden, Jr., Terrence Shrewsbury** and **Alpha Armstrong**, line mechanics D. **Izola Buckley**, tracer. **Judith Burton**, meter service mechanic D. **Ricky Hunter**, station mechanic D. **David Wehrle**, meter reader.

**Bobby Jett**, meter reader, St. Albans. **Ella Adkins** and **Kimberly Goodall**, junior clerks. **James Stamper, Jr.**, custodian. **Terry Tucker**, line mechanic D, Montgomery.

### Clinch River

**Stanley D. Campbell**, utility worker B.

### Centralized Plant Maintenance

**Kenneth Neigler, Theodore Fisher, Stephen LaValley, Thaodore Woods, Gary Sigman** and **Timothy Wamsley**, maintenance mechanics B.

### General Office

**Robert White**, engineering technician, GO T&D Transmission, Bluefield. **Hussein Serry**, transmission engineer senior, GO T&D Transmission, Bluefield. **Howard K. Hypes, Jr.**, transmission mechanic D, GO T&D Transmission, Bluefield. **Cihan Celebi**, communications engineer, GO T&D Communications, Bluefield. **Amando Hernandez**, electrical engineer, GO T&D Meter, Charleston. **Kevin Pannell, Tony Martin, Charles Akers, Patrick Caldwell, Randy Kessler** and **George Azar**, station

mechanics D, GO T&D Station, Roanoke.

**Michael Shafter**, engineering technician, GO T&D Station, Huntington. **Palma Maynard**, station mechanic D, GO T&D Station, Huntington. **Rodney Morehead**, station mechanic D, GO T&D Station, Bluefield. **Robert Whitaker**, electrical engineer, GO T&D Station, Roanoke. **Paul York**, business trainee, GO Accounting, Huntington. **Michael Kline**, electrical engineer-hydro, GO Hydro, Roanoke. **Simon L. Herman, Jr.**, utility helper, GO Operations, Kingsport. **Christie Ripley**, junior stenographer, GO Public Affairs, Lynchburg.

### Glen Lyn

**Kenneth Dwayne Meadows, Jr., Richard Sidney Frymyer** and **Ricky Dean Miller**, utility workers B.

### Kanawha River

**John D. Jones, Robert L. Rawlings** and **Rickey S. Skaff**, utility workers B.

### Logan-Williamson

**Sarah Lowe** and **James Kozee**, engineering technicians, Logan. **Terry Booth** and **David Hairston**, line mechanics D, Williamson. **Jill Baisden**, meter reader, Logan. **Billy Smutko**, line mechanic D, Logan. **Ervin Starr**, station mechanic D, Williamson. **Ressa Fields** and **Vanessa Thaxton**, junior clerks, Williamson. **Kimberly Blackburn**, station mechanic D, Williamson.

### Lynchburg

**Donna Wade**, junior clerk.

### Mountaineer Construction

**Gary Palmer**, construction accountant C. **Sandra Harris**, junior clerk. **Robert Allen**, electrical construction assistant I.

### Roanoke

**Richard Ferguson**, meter reader. **Roxana Caudill**, part-time junior clerk.

## APCO'S "TEST" PROGRAM UNDERWAY IN LYNCHBURG



Darrell Beck, operations engineer, sets up a test program on the message generating unit in General Office Operations, Roanoke.

Appalachian Power Company's experimental program in controlling the operation of electric heating and air conditioning equipment began June 1 in the Wildwood Subdivision near Lynchburg, Virginia.

The program, called "Test of Energy-Sharing Technology (TEST)", is another in a series of experimental load management programs by Appalachian and is being carried out to determine its potential for helping to stabilize the cost of electricity.

The Wildwood Subdivision was chosen because it met the criteria needed to conduct the experimental program: it contains at least 120 homes with both electric furnaces and central air conditioning and all of the homes are served by the same distribution line.

During June "nicking tests" were conducted to establish "diversified demand" pattern for the subdivision. In the nicking tests, all air conditioning load was dropped 7½ minutes every hour on the hour. The tests determined the total air conditioning load, base load without air conditioning, average air conditioning demand per customer and how the air conditioning load varies with temperature changes.

Various "cycling tests" have also been conducted to determine the effect on peak demand by maintaining predetermined amount of load shed. Future tests are planned to determine customer reaction to various amounts of load shed. According to C. M. Wagner, residential services coordinator in General Office Customer Services, Roanoke, Wildwood customers have been extremely cooperative during the tests conducted thus far and there have been very few complaints.

The test programs are set up on a message generating unit located in the General Office Operations Department in Roanoke. Test signals are sent by microwave to the Lynchburg office and from there by leased telephone line to a radio transmitter located near the subdivision. From the transmitter the signals are sent to transceivers located on pad mount transformers near each residence. The transceiver converts the radio signal to a carrier current, which then travels through the customers' electric service drops to signal controllers located on the customers' heating and cooling equipment when to turn the equipment off or let it operate.

## NERC REPORTS SLOWDOWN OF LOAD GROWTH BUT PREDICTS FUTURE SHORTAGES

The National Electric Reliability Council told the nation last month that it might expect to have electricity shortages in the 1980s. At the same time, the organization, representing nearly all of the country's power systems, said that the short-term outlook was improved, largely because of a general slowing down of load growth.

The Service Corporation's Raymond M. Maliszewski, assistant vice president — bulk transmission planning, was chairman of the NERC committee responsible for writing the report.

NERC attributed the slowdown to conservation, increasing cost of electricity and a lagging industrial expansion pace. At the same time it said that, if the economic growth envisioned as part of the President's energy plan is to be realized, load forecasts will have to be expanded.

And, given the "restrictive government legislation and over-regulation, severe financial problems, fuel supply uncertainties and opposition to various aspects of power generation and transmission," the utility industry will be hard-pressed to bring needed facilities into use at the right time to avoid economic stagnation and possibly rationing.

NERC called for the removal of constraints against the mining, transportation and utilization of coal and uranium as "the most effective way of reducing the nation's dependence on oil . . . and natural gas to generate needed electricity."

## TROUT THRIVE IN BYLLESBY POND



One of the last water-cooled transformer banks in Appalachian, located at Byllesby Hydro, was replaced in 1976 by a 35,000 kva, 13.8/69 kv, 3-phase bank.

After the bank was removed, employees decided to stock the cooling pond, which is fed by a mountain stream, with rainbow trout. In May 1977, they put 200 fingerlings in the pond.

Employees chipped in to buy food pellets and fed the fish daily as they were coming to or leaving work. The trout thrived on their diet and by July of this year some of them had reached the 2½- to 3-pound level.

Feeding the fish was getting to be expensive, about \$15 a week, and the pond was getting crowded so most of the fish were disposed of. Some were transferred to ponds close to where the employees live and others found their way into the frying pan.

Those that were kept are still growing. Who knows, maybe Byllesby will come up with a super rainbow!

## AEP SYSTEM NEWS BRIEFS

(Con't. from page 3)

### AEP ANNOUNCES PERSONNEL CHANGES

Changes in both the AEP System and Service Corporation personnel functions in New York were announced last month.

Robert N. Hurt was named special assistant to the vice president — personnel. Succeeding Hurt as director of employee relations in System Personnel was William E. Irving. Succeeding Irving as personnel director of the Service Corporation was George G. Bilderback, who had been manager — employment and manpower development in System Personnel. All moves were effective October 1.

Both Hurt and Irving are former Appalachian Power employees.

### FARLEY, TUIE PROMOTED IN PLANT MAINTENANCE

Edward A. Farley has been named section head maintenance planning in the AEP Service Corporation's Plant Maintenance Division in Canton, Ohio. He has been an engineer in the Maintenance Planning Section of the Plant Engineering Division. In his new position, Farley will establish appropriate System maintenance schedules and assist in detail planning of generating unit outages. He also will monitor outage work progress and maintenance costs, coordinate outage resources, and establish welding and quality-control procedures.

Farley succeeds Donald E. Tuite, who has been named a staff engineer in the Plant Maintenance Division, where he will work in planning and carrying out major maintenance work and special projects.

## ENGINEERING DIVISION SECTIONS FORMED

Two new sections have been formed in the AEP Service Corporation's Plant Engineering Division, Canton, Ohio, and will be activated by the end of 1978.

Earlier this year John A. Gibboney was promoted to head of the Performance Instrument and Control Engineering Section. Ralph R. Davis, recently named acting manager of Indiana & Michigan Electric Company's Tanners Creek Plant, will head the Performance Engineering Section.

## BLOOD DONOR HONOR ROLL

### Bluefield

C. T. Gibson, meter electrician A, one gallon.

### Charleston

Robert L. Chafin, Jr., line mechanic B, and James M. Crane, building supervisor, one gallon. Homer E. Bragg, Jr., customer accounts assistant; Vernon Costello, engineering technician senior; Thomas A. Craft, equipment service representative; Clifford Picklesimer, general line supervisor; Marl D. Prowse, general line supervisor; W. L. Salmon, drafter A; Milton W. Scott, residential representative; Samuel J. Dunn, line crew supervisor; Kenneth Estep, line crew supervisor; C. C. Harper, meter service mechanic A; R. W. Hayes, station crew supervisor; Donald R. Huffman, engineering technician supervisor; Robert Isner, engineering technician senior; Oscar W. Kallmerten, line crew supervisor; James R. Lowther, GO meter engineer senior and Jack B. Weaver, engineering technologist, two gallons. Carl E. Buck, area service restorer, three gallons.

## RAILROADING IS IN HIS BLOOD



Elbert Presley, Kingsport line crew supervisor, is once again riding the rails behind a steam locomotive on the railroad his father helped to build. Elbert says, "I was born in Erwin, Tennessee, which is the headquarters of the Clinchfield Railroad that runs from Elkhorn, Kentucky, to Spartanburg, South Carolina. I have always been fascinated by railroading, especially the huge steam locomotives. In 1954 the Clinchfield retired all its steam equipment and most of the engines were cut up for scrap. However, one engine was set aside and given to the City of Erwin for display in a public park. The City never got around to displaying the engine and it remained on a railroad siding for almost 20 years." In 1970 the railroad president decided to rebuild the rusting 80-year-old engine and operate it on excursions.

Elbert continues, "The rebuilt engine, affectionately known as 'Old No. 1', and 12 or 14 refurbished coaches make several trips during the year to various points along the railroad's 300-mile route. My wife and I have ridden the train on virtually every excursion it has made."

Soon after World War II, Elbert began a scrapbook which contains many photographs, newspaper clippings and other memorabilia of the Clinchfield Railroad. He also has movies and cassette tapes of many of the railroad's excursions.

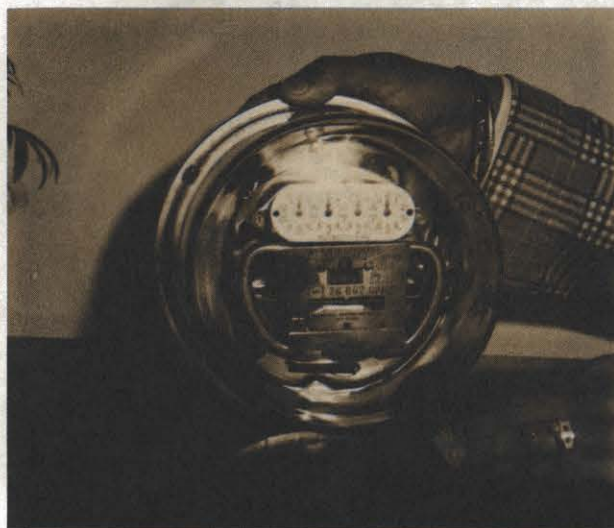
"If I hear about a steam excursion that is within driving distance, I will try to be aboard," Elbert says. "In recent months my wife and I have taken excursions from Knoxville to Chattanooga and Asheville to Knoxville. My favorite trips are the 'pure' steam runs on the Clinchfield Railroad from Erwin to Marion, North Carolina."

He concludes, "There are many steam excursions operating, especially in the western states, which my wife and I plan to ride when I retire."

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## ABINGDON CUSTOMER HAS GOLD METER



"Abingdon Division has had a lot of firsts, but this one has got to be the most unusual," said Division Manager Jerry Whitehurst. He was referring to the gold electric meter which was recently removed after being in service on a customer's residence in Damascus, Virginia, for 23 years.

The meter was brought to Whitehurst's attention when L. W. Blevins, brother of the deceased owner, requested that the gold meter be returned to him. Technically, the meter belongs to Appalachian but, because it is such an unusual circumstance, the meter was given to Blevins.

According to Mrs. R. L. Blevins of Damascus, "The meter was given to my husband by the Westinghouse Meter Plant in Newark, New Jersey, for completing 44 consecutive years of service." The meter is completely gold plated except for the stator plate, dials and glass. In an effort to add authenticity to the gift, the meter was requested to be placed in service.

C. W. Johnson, retired Abingdon meter supervisor, remembers the meter clearly even though it was installed over 23 years ago. He says, "The meter was brought in and tested just like any other meter. (The record card shows the accuracy of the meter to be 99.8 percent low and 100.2 percent fast for an average accuracy of 100 percent.) The meter was installed in March 1955 and, because of the special occasion, M. A. Steckel, Charleston meter superintendent (now retired), came down to help make the presentation."

The present value of a kilowatt-hour meter is about \$20; but, according to a jeweler in Abingdon, the replacement cost of the gold meter would be between \$400 and \$500.

Administrative Assistant Bill Roeser notes, "We're not absolutely sure that we are the only division to have a real gold meter but we're the first to report one. Anyway, if you're wondering what to get for the person who has everything, we in Abingdon might just have the answer for you!"



Twenty two persons participated in the Beckley Division championship golf tournament held at the Grandview Country Club last month. Trophy winners were (from left) Steve White, electrical engineer, low gross; Jack Howard, Rupert line mechanic A, runner-up; Bob Thomas, Oak Hill area service restorer, championship; and Ray Vest, administrative assistant, runner-up low gross. Not pictured is Wesley Walker, right of way agent, who was awarded a trophy for closest to the pin on the par 3 seventh hole.

## ROANOKE PAIR SAVES MACHINERY FROM FIRE DAMAGE



Tommy Abshire stands in front of the barn ruins. Quick action on the part of two Roanoke Division employees prevented a fire, which totally destroyed a barn containing 4,500 bales of hay in the Daleville area, from spreading to farm equipment housed in a wooden shed nearby.

Tommy Abshire, meter service mechanic A, and Artis Jacobs, meter service mechanic B, spotted smoke and immediately went to investigate. "That fire started about as fast as any fire I've ever seen", says Tommy.

He continues, "We drove by the barn while looking for a meter installation that we had, and there was no sign of smoke or fire. When we couldn't find the job site, we turned around and headed back. It was no more than five or six minutes from the time we passed the barn until we turned around and saw the smoke."

"I said to Artie, 'There's something on fire back there since we drove in'. When we got near the barn, I told him not to stop and to head on to the house. We beat on the door; and, when we couldn't find anybody home, Artie ran to the truck to get the company to call the fire department and I took off to the barn."

"My first thought was to see if any people or animals were in the barn. Luckily, there were not. I did find some chickens in one section. When I opened the door, they flew right out in my face."

"By this time, Mrs. Quarles, one of the farm tenants, ran up and was nearly in hysterics. She couldn't find her husband and was afraid he was inside the barn. I told her we'd already checked everything and no one was inside."

There was no fire at all in the bottom of the barn. It started right in the top of the hayloft. The fire department said green hay that had been placed in the barn a couple days earlier ignited and caused the barn to burn.

Tommy adds, "There was a lot of farm machinery in nearby sheds. Right before the fire department arrived, Eddie Glover, engineering technician, had seen the smoke and drove to the scene also. We started moving some of the machinery in the clear." He concludes, "You see something like that fire take place, and you feel like you have to stop and do what you can."