

DISBROW ELECTED AEP PRESIDENT; CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE EXPANDED



Disbrow



Tillinghast



Dolan



Blackmore



DiLorenzo

A major strengthening of the top management of the AEP System was effected last month at meetings of the Board of Directors of the American Electric Power Company and the AEP Service Corporation.

On January 23 Richard E. Disbrow was elected president of the company, the seventh in its 72-year history, and on January 25 was elected president and chief administrative officer of the Service Corporation. Both presidencies had been vacant since the retirement of George V. Patterson in July 1977.

Two other major changes were also made in the make-up of the Office of the Chairman, the top-management group of the Service Corporation. John Tillinghast was elected vice chairman — research, and John E. Dolan, a new member of the Office, was elected to fill Tillinghast's former position of vice chairman — engineering and construction.

The Office of the Chairman now is made up of five members: the chairman, the president and the three vice chairmen: Frank N. Bien, vice chairman — operations, Dolan and Tillinghast.

In two unrelated elections by the Service Corporation Board, Gerald Blackmore, head of the Fuel Supply Department, Lancaster, Ohio, was named executive vice president, and John F. DiLorenzo, Jr. was named assistant vice president.

Prior to the elections, Disbrow had been vice chairman — administration; Tillinghast, vice chairman — engineering and construction; Dolan, senior executive vice president — engineering, and Blackmore,

senior vice president — fuel supply. DiLorenzo will continue as assistant secretary and assistant general counsel.

Chairman W. S. White, Jr., in announcing the moves within the Office of the Chairman, explained that its make-up was being expanded and strengthened to meet the new challenges and the growing complexities of the times.

He stressed the continuing dependence on new technologies by the electric power industry and pointed out that the selection of Tillinghast as the senior officer to direct the power system's research effort on a full-time basis was, aside from being logical, "the strongest kind of evidence of the importance that we will attach to technology in the years ahead." White described Tillinghast as one who had been deeply involved in AEP's research and development programs since the day he joined the company almost 30 years ago.

The elevation of Dolan to vice chairman for engineering and construction, White added, "means that AEP's engineering capability, for which it has a worldwide reputation, will continue to be in good hands."

Disbrow has been a vice chairman of the Service Corporation since 1975 and, for the past year, responsible for administration. He is a director of both the parent company and the service organization, as well as a vice president and director of each of the operating companies.

He joined the Service Corporation in 1954 as an engineer; served as its director of transmission and distribution operations and rose to controller in 1971. He was elected a vice president the same year, senior vice president in 1973, executive vice president in 1974 and then vice chairman. With the latter election he was also named a director of the parent AEP.

He holds engineering degrees from Lehigh University and Newark College for Engineering and an MS degree from Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Tillinghast, like Disbrow a director of the parent AEP Company, joined the Service Corporation in 1949 following graduation from Columbia University, where he received BS and MS degrees in mechanical engineering. He rose to chief mechanical engineer in 1961, then was elected a vice president and named chief engineer in 1966. He was elected executive vice president — engineering and construction in 1967, senior executive vice president in 1972 and vice chairman in 1975.

Dolan, also a Columbia engineering graduate and winner of its Illig Medal, the highest academic honor in engineering, started with AEP in 1950. He became head of the Service Corporation's Design Division in 1961, chief mechanical engineer in 1966, vice president and chief engineer in 1967, senior vice president — engineering and construction in 1973, executive vice president in 1974 and senior executive vice president in 1975.

Blackmore had had 32 years' experience in coal-mining management on two continents when he joined AEP in 1976 as senior vice president — fuel supply. Born in England and an honors graduate of the University of Wales, he had been executive vice president of Coleman Collieries, Ltd., Alberta, Canada, and president of four of its subsidiaries prior to joining AEP. Earlier he had held supervisory and management posts in the United Kingdom for 23 years, including 16 with the National Coal Board.

DiLorenzo, an attorney with the Service Corporation since 1968, was elected assistant secretary and named assistant general counsel in 1974. He holds a bachelor's degree from Seton Hall University and MBA and law degrees from Columbia.

APCO CUSTOMERS SET NEW PEAK

Customers of Appalachian Power Company established an all-time peak demand for electricity during the hour ending 9 AM on January 3, exceeding the generating capability of its power plants.

"A peak of 4,493,000 kilowatts was set, and Appalachian was able to meet the demand only because of its ability to draw on generation from other companies in the American Electric Power System," John W. Vaughan, executive vice president, said. Appalachian's generating plants have a capability of 4,475,000 kilowatts.

The January 3rd peak exceeds the previous all-time peak of 4,329,000 kilowatts, established January 17, 1977, by 3.8%. "The peak hour demand for 1978 occurred on February 17, and was 4,144,000 kilowatts. This occurred during the coal miners' strike when mines were not operating. Coal mines within Appalachian's service territory account for about 10% of the company's demand," Vaughan said. He added that the new peak is an 8.4% increase over the 1978 peak.

Vaughan further indicated the new peak confirms the company's position that customer demand for electricity in the Appalachian service area is continuing to grow and that the company must move forward with its massive construction program if these demands are to be accommodated.

APCO REFUNDS \$3 MILLION IN WEST VIRGINIA

Appalachian Power Company in late January began making an approximate \$3 million in refunds to its West Virginia retail customers as a result of a decision from the West Virginia Public Service Commission dated November 1 in a rate case which was filed in September 1977. This decision granted the company an additional \$36.5 million in annual revenues.

From March 15, 1978, through March 30, 1978, the company collected revenues at an annual rate of \$42.4 million. Because of the change in the West Virginia B&O tax, this amount was reduced to \$40 million on April 1, 1978.

Following the November 1 decision by the Commission, Appalachian filed for rehearing, reargument, and modification of the November 1 order.

In lieu of a hearing, the PSC issued a modified order on December 22, granting the points raised by Appalachian in its petition. In the major one, Appalachian had argued that the rate schedule ordered by the PSC for Large Power customers would result in a \$7-million revenue loss. The Commission agreed and ordered a redesign of these rates. The PSC also gave the company additional time in which to begin making the refunds.

In addition, the PSC agreed that for customers who had moved out of Appalachian's service area and were due a refund of less than \$1, the company need not make refunds. Appalachian had argued that because of the cost of making these refunds, and because unclaimed refunds cannot be retained by the company but escheat to the State of West Virginia, it should not have to make them.

For other refunds, those exceeding \$5 will be made by check. If a refund is less than \$5, it will be credited to customer accounts.

The Commission's modified order also allowed a change in handling taxes on Amos Plant pollution control precipitators.

The new tariffs in West Virginia were filed January 4, 1979.

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SYSTEM NEWS BRIEFS

WHITE HEADS BOND DRIVE

National chairman of the public utility industry for the 1979 U.S. Savings Bond Campaign is W. S. White, Jr., chairman of American Electric Power Company and the AEP Service Corporation.

His appointment to the Industrial Payroll Savings Committee was announced last month by U.S. Treasury Secretary W. Michael Blumenthal.

In accepting the assignment, White pledged the support of the utility industry for the effort, pointing out that regular purchases of U.S. savings bonds through payroll deductions offered both an investment opportunity and an easy method of saving for future financial needs.

The Industrial Payroll Savings Committee has been active since 1963 in conducting annual drives to increase employee participation in savings bond purchases through payroll deductions. The committee is made up of the chief executive officers of more than 60 major companies throughout the country.

73% DIVIDEND NOT TAXABLE

An estimated 73 percent of the 1978 cash dividends on American Electric Power Company's common stock is not taxable as dividend income for income tax purposes.

The Company notified its shareowners last month, noting that a more exact determination of the non-taxable portion of the year's dividends would be made and submitted to the Internal Revenue Service for approval when AEP files its 1978 income tax return next September. Meanwhile, it is appropriate for shareowners to use the 73 percent figure in filing their 1978 income tax returns.

SAVINGS PLAN SUMMARY

As Of	Fixed Income Fund		Equity Fund		AEP Stock Fund	
	Value Per Unit	Units Credited Per Dollar	Value Per Unit	Units Credited Per Dollar	Value Per Unit	Units Credited Per Dollar
1/31	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
2/28	1.0076	0.9925	0.9969	1.0031	0.9816	1.0187
3/31	1.0147	0.9855	1.0190	0.9814	0.9974	1.0026
4/30	1.0216	0.9789	1.1060	0.9042	0.9802	1.0202
5/31	1.0284	0.9724	1.1206	0.8924	0.9572	1.0447
6/30	1.0351	0.9661	1.1072	0.9032	0.9898	1.0103
7/31	1.0424	0.9593	1.1683	0.8559	1.0537	0.9490
8/31	1.0491	0.9532	1.2067	0.8287	1.0385	0.9629
9/30	1.0559	0.9471	1.2027	0.8315	1.0291	0.9717
10/31	1.0631	0.9406	1.0977	0.9110	0.9739	1.0268
11/30	1.0700	0.9346	1.1230	0.8905	0.9965	1.0035
12/31	1.0774	0.9282	1.1403	0.8770	0.9625	1.0390

EMPLOYEES' SUGGESTIONS SAVE \$2 MILLION

"1978 was a good year for Appalachian Power's operations improvement program," says GO methods engineer Fred E. Hornbeck, who coordinates the program.

He continues, "A total of 305 accepted proposals were received for processing by the time the 1978 program ended on December 16, representing a 98 percent increase over 1977. Basically responsible for the upsurge in participation were the 189 proposals submitted by the operating divisions, which increased 124 percent over the preceding year." Hornbeck added, "Proposals received after the December 16 deadline were carried forward for processing in the 1979 program."

Suggestions accepted in the 1978 program were estimated to save \$2,068,517, substantially more than the established corporate goal of \$997,000. Twelve locations achieved 100 percent or better of their committed goal for the year: Amos, Glen Lyn and Kanawha River Plants; Abingdon, Bluefield, Huntington, Lynchburg and Roanoke Divisions; GO Hydro, GO Personnel, GO Purchasing and GO T&D.

Thirteen U. S. Savings Bonds were awarded, via lotteries, to employees submitting suggestions during the year. Fourth quarter winners were: F. J. Long, Glen Lyn Plant, and Debbie Duncan, GO General Services, Roanoke, both \$25 bonds; H. E. Bragg, Charleston, \$50 bond; and Dayton Spencer, Amos Plant, \$75 bond. M. W. Vinson, GO T&D Meter, Roanoke was awarded a \$250 savings bond as winner of the APCo Derby grand prize.

Eight OIP coordinators were nominated by their managers to receive recognition for effective performance in the 1978 program: Dayton Neil, Kanawha River Plant; Debbie Belisle, Abingdon; C. E. Yeager, Huntington; Paul Keys, Lynchburg; Martin Ratcliff, Roanoke; J. L. Fariss, GO Hydro; John Horn, GO Purchasing; Ted White and Francis Debellis, Bluefield.

NET EARNINGS RISE SLIGHTLY

American Electric Power Company's net earnings have remained in the same general range for the past three years: \$236.3 million in 1978, \$235.4 million (restated) in 1977 and \$237 million (restated) in 1976.

Chairman W. S. White, Jr. last month announced the results of the AEP System's performance in 1978, which included new records in customers' use of electricity and operating revenues. However, net earnings rose only slightly above the year before, and earnings per share went down.

Total earnings were up 0.4 percent over 1977. Earnings per share dropped 14¢, from \$2.40 to \$2.26 (restated) — due to an increase of 6.5 percent in the average number of shares of common stock outstanding, from 98.1-million in 1977 to 104.5-million last year.

White said that a 17.7 percent increase in operating revenues, from \$2.03 billion in 1977 to \$2.39 billion in 1978, stemmed from greater electric demand by customers, from partial recovery of increased fuel costs and from higher rates collected by some of the AEP System's seven operating companies.

Customers' use of electric energy rose 4.9 percent to 85.9-billion kilowatt-hours, compared with 81.9-billion kwh the previous year. Use by retail customers went up 2.5 percent, while wholesale sales climbed 12.6 percent.

NEW VIRGINIA RATES INCLUDE ESTIMATED COST OF FUEL

Rate schedules containing a fuel factor based on its 1979 estimate of cost of fuel were filed January 2, 1979 by Appalachian with the Virginia State Corporation Commission.

The filing is in accordance with legislation passed by the 1978 Virginia General Assembly, which, in essence:

1. Ordered each electric utility in Virginia to file 1979 estimated fuel costs with the Commission, and, following hearings (held December 15 in Appalachian's case) and an order from the SCC based on the hearings, to file new tariffs incorporating a fuel factor. In simplified terms, the fuel factor is the total fuel cost estimate for 1979 divided by 12 and applied to rates.
2. Eliminated the fuel adjustment clause.
3. Provided for a quarterly review and possible adjustments in the fuel factor by the SCC.

Appalachian is estimating that its total fuel cost will rise from 7 to 10% in 1979 over 1978 costs.

The effect of the fuel factor on a customer's bill will vary with each class of customer and with usage. But, as an example, a residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt-hours in January 1979 will receive a bill that is 5.6% higher than the average monthly residential bill for 1,000 kilowatt-hours for the last six months of 1978.

While the company has placed in effect the fuel factor approved by the SCC, it also on January 3 filed with the Commission a petition for rehearing.

Chief among Appalachian's concerns in the fuel order is the continued application of a rule established in an earlier order which does not allow the company to recover increased fuel transportation costs from use of its own barges and railroad cars.

EVP SAFETY AWARDS GIVEN

Executive Vice President's Accident Prevention Awards for 1978 have been presented to General Office Transmission and Distribution, Clinch River Plant and General Office Accounting. The awards are given annually to the unit with the best continuing work hour record in the groups of which each is a part.



GO T&D, winner in Group I — Divisions, worked 2,709,486 consecutive work hours without a disabling injury as of December 31, 1978. Their record began August 14, 1975. Pictured is C. A. Simmons, T&D manager.



Clinch River, winner in Group II — Plants, had worked 1,282,627 consecutive work hours without a disabling injury as of the end of December. Their record began February 15, 1975. Pictured is T. W. Abolin, plant manager.



GO Accounting, Group III — GO Departments winner, had worked 5,017,287 consecutive work hours without a disabling injury by the end of 1978. Their record started September 3, 1964.

GO Accounting has also been presented an AEP certificate of merit for attaining a 5,000,000 safe work hour pinnacle. Since this is the first time any Appalachian Power group has made this accomplishment, the Department received a third plaque which was inscribed, "Presented to the employees of General Office Accounting Department for 5,000,000 safe work hours, September 3, 1964 — December 13, 1978. Pictured is J. B. Berg, assistant secretary, assistant treasurer and accounting manager.

CRT SYSTEM WILL IMPROVE PURCHASE ORDER PROCESSING



Carolyn Hogan, flexowriter operator A (seated), and E. J. Clouser.

Conversion of purchase order input procedures to a cathode-ray tube (CRT) terminal operation is expected to result in a smoother, more efficient and accurate method of processing purchasing documents, according to E. J. Clouser, purchasing director of Appalachian Power.

He says, "Until 15 years ago, purchase orders were typed on manual typewriters. We obtained our first automatic equipment, a Friden flexowriter, in 1963. This equipment was a major improvement in speed, reliability and accuracy over the typewriter."

He continues, "Approximately ten or 12 years ago, there was a flurry of activity all across the AEP System as the result of a change to an IBM 360 computer in the Canton data processing center. As a result, considerable emphasis was devoted to the development of a more uniform purchasing system involving all purchasing locations — Roanoke, Canton, Fort Wayne, Ashland and New York. We advanced to a second-generation flexowriter referred to as the "2201". As our work load increased with the addition of the coal mines and Amos Plant, we subsequently obtained a third-generation piece of equipment known as the "5800 computer". Again, this was a much improved version of the flexowriters and this unit eventually became the workhorse of our operation."

Clouser adds, "We also had a computer-written purchase order involving the use of punched cards. Under these routines, a coding form had to be completed that was sent to the key entry section of General Office Accounting to have cards punched. The cards were subsequently entered to the system and purchase orders were printed in our data processing center. This was an excellent procedure; however, we were limited to the use of only coded data and a limited amount of account numbers."

Conversion to the new CRT system was started in late August, and Canton-based AEP personnel trained our Purchasing employees. Clouser notes, "Under the CRT system we do not prepare the hard copy of the purchase order in our department. This is the most significant change as far as our operation is concerned. Our operators spend their working day entering purchase order data from the various purchase requisitions. The purchase orders are then printed in our data processing center some time during the night, to be available for signature by the buyers and mailing the following day.

"There has been a great deal of emphasis placed on uniformity during the last ten years," Clouser points out, "and we find the new CRT system will refine and improve upon the uniformity achieved throughout the AEP System."

Clouser concludes, "The handling, processing and entry of purchase orders is a highly repetitive operation for the buyers, purchasing clerical personnel and machine operators. We issue in excess of 44,000 orders per year. We also have change orders and requests for quotations that are not on the CRT system. However, it is expected these will also be included in the near future."

COAL COMPANIES RECEIVE AWARDS FOR RECLAMATION

The Cedar Coal Company and Central Appalachian Coal Company received awards from the West Virginia Surface Mining and Reclamation Association at the association's surface mining symposium last month.

Central Appalachian and its contractor, T&S Coal Company, received an award for surface mining at the Young's Creek location. The association praised Central Appalachian and T&S for "superior employment of a unique method of steep-slope control placement mining in which the haul road is maintained on top of the totally backfilled highwall".

Cedar Coal Company received "special recognition for superior operational control and reclamation accomplishment in the construction of a unique valley fill which has the greatest vertical height of any completed rock-core, chimney-drain type fill in the country."

Judging of the numerous reclamation projects under consideration for the awards was done by the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources. DNR Director David Callaghan made the presentations.

SOME DESIGN, ENGINEERING FUNCTIONS TO STAY IN NEW YORK

The American Electric Power Service Corporation will continue to maintain a major design and engineering function in New York even after the proposed acquisition of Columbus and Southern Ohio Electric Company, if effected, would result in the transfer of other portions of the Service Corporation to Columbus.

The decision was announced in a letter from W. S. White, Jr., chairman, mailed to Service Corporation engineering and design personnel late in December.

He said that the absolute increases in System load, even allowing for a decline in traditional growth, "will continue to require a large engineering and design commitment." He noted that some of this work is now being done by outside architect-engineers, and observed that "we would prefer to undertake more of this work ourselves . . . New York represents one of the largest concentrations of engineering and design personnel in the country and is, therefore, an attractive location for a continuing engineering and design operation." Engineering and design responsibilities will remain in the New York office "for at least 10 years or, very possibly permanently."

White said that a move to Columbus would mean the establishment of a new engineering and design office there, to be "built around a nucleus of existing employees and gradually expanded . . . to assume a larger role in the over-all engineering and design functions.

He said that a division of responsibility and workload among a potential Columbus office and existing offices in New York and Canton has not yet been determined.

COUPLES MARRIED ON VALENTINE'S DAY REMINISCE ABOUT WEDDINGS



Sam Martin, Fieldale line mechanic A in the Roanoke Division, and his wife Lana met through a mutual friend. "As a matter of fact," Lana says, "my girlfriend that was sharing the house with me. They were never really serious. Sam and I started dating, and a year later we were talking marriage. Sam always tells everyone that I proposed to him."

"She did do the proposing," Sam jokes. "We'd been thinking about it; and, after I went back that week to Asheville on the construction job, she called to say we might as well get married Valentine's weekend rather than later on."

Lana adds, "What a romantic day to get married on! But, as it turned out, it wasn't so romantic after all. The dress I had made to get married in didn't fit on the day of the wedding. I guess I had lost weight, so, at the last moment, I had to wear one that I'd made my junior year in high school."

Sam didn't have a car of his own, so they borrowed his dad's car to elope in. "Dad knew we were getting married," Sam recalls. "I think he was glad to see me get married off."

Lana says, "The funniest thing about the whole day, we had a flat tire on the way to Chesterfield County, South Carolina, and the only picture that turned out on the roll of film was of Sam in his suit, fixing the tire."

Sam was 25; Lana, 20. "Still a baby in my father's eyes," Lana commented. "Sam was really nervous. He drank about two pots of coffee on the way. When we got there, a lady justice of the peace came to the door. She had an altar against the wall, and she said, 'Okay, face me with your backs to the altar'. We turned, and Sam was facing the altar while I faced her." Sam added, "As scared as I was, if it had been a church wedding, there's no way I would have gone." "You wouldn't believe how shy he was then," Lana said.

She continues, "Sam was too tight to go anywhere on a honeymoon. He's always been so practical. He said, 'Since you're renting a house, we might as well drive back tonight'."

"Another funny thing we laugh about now," recalls Sam, "is what happened on the way back. We stopped at a quaint little restaurant, and it must have been obvious that we were newly married. The manager and all the waitresses went out of their way to be so nice. When we couldn't finish the steak, an expensive meal for us then, we asked for a doggie bag. There was no way we were going to leave that good steak, and no way they would believe it was for a dog."

"The first night the only furniture we had was a dinette set, a small apartment refrigerator, and a bedroom suite — the bare necessities," Lana laughs. "The next morning we went to Mama's and Daddy's house while they were at church and swiped their small TV."

The next problem was how to tell Mama and Daddy their daughter had run off to get married.

"Mom was visiting my brother in Tennessee, and Daddy had picked her up at the Greensboro airport. On their way home, they decided to stop by my place. The only problem, Sam was there. I said, 'Mom, Dad, I've always tried to be open and honest — we got married yesterday'. To our real surprise, they weren't upset at all. I think it was because they liked Sam so much and, too, because of something that happened about a year earlier."

Lana continues, "I had been engaged to someone else, which was a mistake from the start. Right before the wedding, I broke it off. I had my wedding gown, rings, furnished apartment, invitations and envelopes printed, and the announcement and picture had appeared in the paper. It wasn't funny then; but, as I look back, it's funny now. My fiance said he was going to sue me for breach of promise. My first breakfast with Sam we used those wedding napkins with the little rings, names and pictures on them. Like the steak, we've always been practical, not wanting to waste anything." Sam added, "We did try to get rid of them as soon as possible!"

The couple is very happily married and says it's not by chance. "Marriage is like everything else, you have to work at it," says Sam. "You don't let disagreement stand in the way either."

Lana adds, "When you first get married, you're sorta blind to what awaits you. You think it's all going to be a bed of roses, and life isn't always that way. That's the hardest thing to overcome. Couples need to always talk their differences over, too. Our children are important, and a good marriage is a way of making them proud of their parents." They have two daughters, ages four and six.



Ben Selbe, line mechanic A in the Montgomery area of Charleston Division, met his wife Brenda on a blind date arranged through mutual friends. They attended a concert presented by the Four Seasons at the Charleston Civic Center.

After a courtship of nine months, they were married at the Ruthlawn Baptist Church parsonage in Charleston on February 14, 1970.

"One major factor", says Ben, "should be considered in setting a wedding date in February, and that is weather conditions. On the night we got married, there happened to be one foot of snow on the ground, making it a real hardship for even two people to get together, let alone 'getting to the church on time'." A large hill was between them and where they were to be married, and they had to make several passes as well as wait for a cinder truck before being able to get up the hill.

They planned to go to Hawks Nest, a lovers' paradise in West Virginia, for their honeymoon. But, because of the weather conditions, they were unable to make the trip and went instead to their mobile home.

Ben and Brenda have celebrated their anniversary by going back to the same restaurant for dinner each year, except for two years when weather conditions were bad and Ben was working on trouble calls.

The Selbes agree, "Even though February 14 is a sweetheart's date, it's not a particularly good time to plan to be married unless your plans can be changed on a moment's notice."

They have a daughter, 2, and a son, 2 months.



Herbert Figg, Jr., Lynchburg commercial engineer, and his wife Norma will observe their 35th wedding anniversary on February 14.

Herb relates he had known Norma since high school. "When I was on leave from the Army, I thought about Norma and decided to give her a call. One night, after we had been dating for three months, we were sitting in the car and all of a sudden I decided to propose. Fortunately, Norma accepted. We set a wedding date of July 1944 while I would be home on furlough. But due to the uncertainty of the future because of the war and my not knowing whether I would be sent overseas or not, we decided to get married on a three-day pass."

"I came to Lynchburg and picked her up and took her to Chesterfield, South Carolina, where we were married. Norma was working for the telephone company at the time. She came back, gave her two weeks notice and then came back to join me at Fort Macon."

He concludes, "The reason Norma and I have had such a long and successful marriage is that it is a 50-50 proposition and I let Norma be the boss 75 percent of the time!"



Ashby Hodges, Jr., Lynchburg engineering technician senior, and his wife Virginia will celebrate 37 years of marriage on February 14.

Ashby claims "it has been so long I can't remember" how they met. Virginia, however, says, "Back in those days we used to have field days at our school. Ashby was going to Brookville School and I was attending New London. He came to my school to compete in the field day events and soon we began dating. We dated about two years and planned to be married, but Ashby was drafted into the Army so we had to postpone it for a year. Ashby happened to get a weekend pass, and we were married at a friend's house called Lee's Home, an historical place in New London. We went to Charlottesville, Virginia, for our honeymoon."

Asked what has attributed to their longevity in marriage, Virginia replied, "You really have to work at it in order for it to be successful. We both have been extremely fortunate, and I am as happy as I was that day on February 14, 1942."



Harold Rulen and Jessie Siders met and were married in a whirlwind courtship of one week that only Cupid could arrange. Harold is manager of Central Machine Shop. The cupid in this case was Jessie's brother-in-law, "Curley" Bonecutter, married to her sister Millie.

Curley and Harold worked for Sollitt Construction Company on the construction of the first four units of Philip Sporn Plant. Curley had been trying to get Harold and Jessie together for some time but neither was interested because both were dating someone else.

One day Curley came home and told Jessie she had lost her last chance to get a date with Harold because he was really getting serious about the girl he was dating. He even went so far as to tell her she couldn't get a date with Harold if she really tried. Jessie replied, "You wanna bet?" He answered, "Sure, I'll bet you a dollar."

On Monday, February 7, 1949, Harold drove up to the senior high school from which he had graduated to do some girl watching. Seeing Jessie coming out of the school, he yelled at her and they talked for a while. He asked her for a date, but she told him she already had a date that evening. Harold replied, "So do I", so they made a date for the next evening, Tuesday. Evidently, Harold couldn't wait because he broke his date with the other girl and went on to Jessie's house. Jessie broke her date and went out with Harold.

The two dated every evening that week. When Jessie remarked that she was tired of school and would like to quit, Harold said, "You can, let's run off and get married." Jessie agreed.

On Saturday morning they went to the Holtzer Medical Center in Gallipolis, Ohio, for their blood tests. There was no waiting period in Ohio so they could be married right away. Both were 17 years old.

Harold had been out the night before celebrating his last night of freedom with the boys and hadn't had much sleep. When he took his blood test, everything went fine until he went outside to tell Jessie it was her turn. He fainted, and the next thing he remembered was being on a cot with Jessie standing beside him.

From there they went to Pomeroy, Ohio, to get their license. The clerk began asking the usual questions, name, age, address, etc. Harold fared very well, saying he was 21 years old. When the clerk started asking Jessie questions, she just couldn't look her in the eye and tell a lie. When she asked Jessie where she lived, she stammered, looked every place but at the clerk, and said, "down here on the hill". The clerk replied, "You may as well tell the truth, I know you aren't from here." They had to leave without a license; and, since by this time everything was closed, went back to their homes.

Come Monday morning, February 14, the two were still determined to get married. They got Jessie's mother, father, Millie and a friend of the family, who lived in Gallipolis, Ohio, and went to the courthouse again to apply for a marriage license.

The family friend said that Jessie lived in Gallipolis with her, and Jessie's mother and father signed so they could get married. Finally, the marriage license was issued, and they went to Point Pleasant, West Virginia, where they were married at the Main Street Baptist Church.

Jessie had to use Millie's wedding ring, and Harold paid the minister \$5 for performing the ceremony. The newlyweds spent their wedding night at Millie's and Curley's house. Harold returned to work at Sollitt in a couple of days, and Jessie returned to

school. Following her graduation in May, they went to Portsmouth, Virginia, for a short honeymoon.

One of Harold's favorite stories is that he married Jessie as a child bride and put her through school. Although Jessie is now an excellent cook, Harold claims the reason he has stayed married so long is that his stomach could not stand breaking in another cook. He also says they would have gotten married sooner in the week, but he had to wait on payday. He was \$500 in debt for a 1939 Ford.

If there are any secrets to a long and happy marriage, Jessie says, "It's letting him be boss and forgiving him all the time." Harold adds, "It's give and take and negotiating, that's what counts."

They have one son, three daughters, two granddaughters and two grandsons.

APPLE BUSINESS GROWS BY WORD OF MOUTH



"In 1972, while on a weekend visit with my brother in Spruce Pine, North Carolina, I picked a couple of bushels of apples from his orchard and brought them home with me. Since this was more than we could readily use, my wife Jane gave some to our neighbors. Soon they were wanting to know if they could buy more apples. To accommodate them, I returned to Spruce Pine and got 50 bushels," relates John Ingram, Kingsport meter electrician A.

From that small beginning, John has developed a thriving business with customers in several states. This fall he handled over 1800 bushels of apples. He stocks three varieties — golden delicious, red delicious and stayman winesap. John says, "My first customer has bought apples each year, and this year she purchased 20 bushels for Christmas gifts."

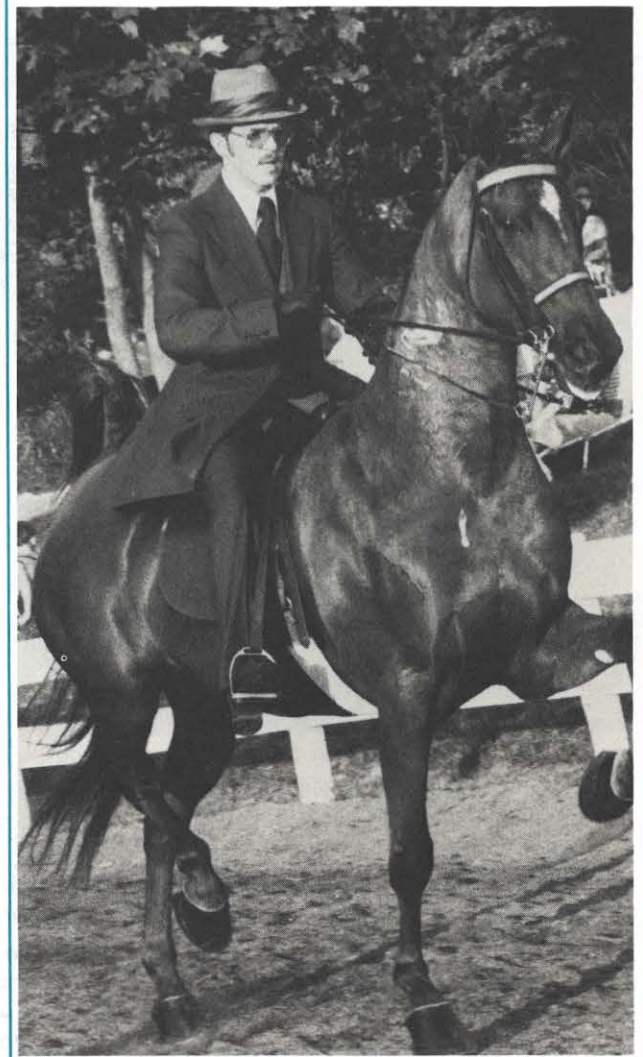
The storage of several hundred bushels of apples created quite a problem in the Ingram home. Jane said, "We used to have apples in the garage, the basement, my kitchen — anywhere we could stack apple boxes."

Last summer John constructed a combination apple storage house and shop at the rear of his home. The 50' x 18' block and concrete building is completely lined with 2-inch Styrofoam insulation and cooled to a constant 38 degrees F. by a three-ton commercial refrigeration unit. Half of the building is used for keeping apples and it will accommodate over 1000 bushels.

John adds, "I have over 500 regular customers each year and the number just keeps growing by word of mouth. I never advertise, and I have customers from as far away as Alabama who journey to my home each year for apples. My apples are hand picked and graded select, there are no culls. My business has been built on quality, and it has grown to almost more than my wife and I can handle."

He concludes, "My future plans call for retirement in a few years, and I plan to spend most of my time selling apples and possibly expanding to include other fruits and pure mountain honey."

SHOWING HORSES IS FAMILY AFFAIR



Wayne Thomas riding "The Stripper".

Wayne Thomas, Abingdon junior clerk, has been raising, training and showing horses for the last 16 years. He currently owns four American Saddle Breed horses.

"Owning a horse requires a great deal of time and money," Wayne states, "but the benefits received are well worth it." One benefit for Wayne is that he met his wife Kathy as the result of this hobby. He claims he "just demonstrated good horse sense" when he got Kathy. According to Wayne, "Meeting people of all types is a key benefit to the show horse enthusiast."

Some of the benefits are countered by the high cost of keeping horses, which can average about \$100 per horse per month. In addition, expenses such as travel, entry fees and associated costs can drive the costs well above the average person's ability to afford it.

In an effort to control costs and provide benefits to other equestrians, Wayne plans to open a training and boarding stable in Abingdon. "This facility would provide full service care for horses," he says. Hopefully, this project will be finished this summer.

Wayne does his own training, which he learned from observing Nancy Brown, a horse trainer he describes as "one of the best". The process of learning is continually evolving through showings and riding against other competitors. Wayne has 40 wins and several runners-up to his credit.

After the show season, from April through September, the horses can be used for pleasure. Wayne cites several weekend trips which offer "relaxation and relief from the hustle and bustle of work".

Wayne concluded, "It's a nice sport, but a lot of work is involved in addition to the expense and it really requires dedication". Wayne's dedication is obvious, as demonstrated recently when he and Kathy went out to buy some antique furniture and instead returned with a new horse. As a matter of fact, Kathy feels that by sharing these experiences, it has helped their relationship at home.

JAY FARLEY EMBARKS ON NEW MUSICAL HOBBY



After being intrigued with an Appalachian dulcimer he saw on a trip, Bluefield Engineering Technologist Jay Farley is now making them as a hobby.

He recalls, "I was down at Natural Tunnel in the western part of Virginia, and they had a dulcimer there. I got to fooling with it and decided I had to have one."

He continues, "It took me about 18 months to find any instructions for making one. Finally, I found a book at Williamsburg, Virginia. I took the instructions, modified them to suit myself and made the first one last spring."

"A lady found out I had made one and she wanted two for herself. I just go down in the shop and work when I want to. If I put in eight hours a day, I could possibly finish one in ten days, counting drying time." Jay uses walnut, birch or maple wood for the body of the dulcimer and African zebra wood for the trim. He uses no nails or screws to hold it together, just glue.

Jay adds, "It is very delicate work. One slip and it goes in the burn pile. If you mess up, there is no way you can go back and correct it. It has to be as near perfect as it can be."

He continues, "We have a little group called Advanced Shop which meets on Thursday night at the high school. We refer to it as our social group. We plane lumber, saw and put together, drink coffee and eat cookies. My teacher wanted me to make him a dulcimer. I said, 'no, I will show you how'. So we spent the entire semester in advanced shop working on his dulcimer."

Jay notes, "I never did like anything that comes in a kit. I know a fellow who has made dulcimers for years. He has helped me with mine."

Jay declares, "If you can count to nine, you can play a dulcimer. It is not played in the manner of a conventional stringed instrument. It is held on the player's lap. The nearest string is noted while the other strings are strummed, which produces an Oriental sound or the sound of a bagpipe. In fact, the dulcimer was brought to this country by the Scots, Irish and English."

"The dulcimer is made in whatever shape pleases the maker. It may take the form of a fish, a teardrop, an hourglass, or a square. Courting dulcimers, hammered dulcimers and dresser-drawer dulcimers are various types of this instrument. The hammer dulcimer was similar to the Autoharp or zither and was played with two hammers by striking the strings. The dresser drawer dulcimer was built on the bottom of a drawer and was played in the same manner as the hammer dulcimer. This gave a storage place for the instrument as well as a place for clothing."

He laughs, "Courting dulcimers, very unique instruments, were made for two people to play. It is said that in early days, a courting couple left alone in the sitting room would play this instrument. As long as Mom and Dad could hear the music, all was going fine. When the music stopped, it was time for Mom and Dad to serve refreshments and join in the conversation!"

SELLING CERAMICS IS CHANGE OF PACE FOR ROBERT MILLER



While a lot of people enjoy making ceramics as a hobby, Robert Miller, Kanawha River Plant maintenance mechanic D, finds selling ceramics to be relaxing, interesting and rewarding.

Robert says, "I got the idea of selling ceramics from my brother, who used to own a furniture store but had to sell out due to poor health. In traveling, I saw all these different ceramics in other states and thought it would be a good summertime job."

For the past three years, during good weather, Robert has set up a stand along Route 61 near Charleston. He enjoys talking with tourists when they stop to buy. The Millers travel to North and South Carolina, Ohio and Tennessee to obtain the ceramics for resale. Dolls, pigs, rabbits, birds, owls and lamps are the biggest sellers. If business is going real well, he sometimes has to make three trips during the summer to restock his supply.

Robert concludes, "I love to meet people. When I retire, I want to find a building where I can make my own ceramics. I'd also like to sell furniture and bicycles."

SCHILLING HAS UNIQUE WAY OF GETTING FIREWOOD



Joe Schilling, like an ever-growing number of Americans, has several cord of firewood neatly stacked in his backyard. But Joe, Kanawha River Plant equipment operator, didn't have to cut it himself or buy it at the going price of \$60 a cord.

Joe has an agreement with a local sawmill to keep its pits cleaned out. In return, he gets all scraps free. Most of the wood he gets are ends from 6' x 6' x 24" oak mine timbers so he has to do very little cutting.

The Schillings have a woodburning stove in their basement, and Joe has constructed a beautiful fireplace in their living room. He says, "My wife and five children really enjoy the burning fireplace. Even our pet Chinese pug must like it, too, for he keeps snakes and rats out of the woodpile."



WORST ICE STORM IN HISTORY SWEEPS SOUTHERN APCO TERRITORY

A paralyzing ice storm swept across the southern portion of Appalachian Power Company's service area January 19-21, felling trees and downing electric lines which left nearly 100,000 customers without power.

The ice storm, described by many as the worst in the company's 53-year history, affected six of the company's nine divisions.

Severe icing conditions started in the Abingdon, Beckley and Bluefield Divisions on Friday evening, January 19, and extended to Pulaski, Roanoke and Lynchburg Divisions on Saturday. Moderate to heavy rains occurred while temperatures hovered at 32 degrees F., resulting in a tremendous ice accumulation on trees. Most service and equipment problems resulted from trees sagging into lines and in thousands of cases, breaking and falling across the lines.

By Saturday afternoon, temperatures in the Abingdon, Beckley and Bluefield Divisions rose to about 40 degrees F., relieving the icing conditions. But the temperature hovered at or below the freezing mark for 24 hours in the Pulaski, Roanoke and Lynchburg Divisions. Rains caused runoffs and near flooding conditions in some areas.

Friday evening the ice storm began to take its toll on Abingdon's distribution facilities. Throughout Friday night and continuing through to Sunday night, crews worked to restore service in Smyth, Washington and Russell Counties, with minor problems in Scott and Dickenson Counties. Some 13,450 customers were interrupted between one and 42 hours. In many instances, as company crews would clear the lines and restore service, falling trees would take the lines out again. Some customers were interrupted as many as five times.

High water, which blocked access to many sites, hindered restoration efforts. Crews were forced to seek alternate routes when time was at a premium. Where no alternate routes were available, men had to walk in with their equipment to make the repairs.

On Saturday morning, 600 customers served out of Beckley Division's Cherry Creek Station were interrupted when trees fell into the line, breaking a pole and bringing conductors down. All available crews were called out, most working as many as 18 hours, until service was restored to all customers at 3:30 AM on Sunday. Minor outages were also experienced throughout the day Sunday.

Six thousand customers in the Tazewell and Blue-

field areas of Bluefield Division were interrupted on January 19, with all service restored within six to eight hours. Some 50 customers in the Pineville-Welch areas were without power on Sunday for no more than eight hours.

Sleet and freezing rain, which began Saturday in Pulaski Division, affected all areas, with Montgomery County hardest hit. At the height of the outage, some 6,000 customers were without power. Most areas had service restored by late Saturday or early Sunday, except Montgomery County. Service was restored to the last customer in that area on Friday, January 26, at 2 AM.

Beginning about 9:30 Saturday morning, all Roanoke crews were called out and contractor crews that normally work in the area were put on standby. By noon, when it became apparent there were more cases of trouble than people, all contractor crews that normally work in Lynchburg and Roanoke were called in. At that point, Lynchburg was having no trouble.

By 5 PM Saturday evening, company and contractor crews from Charleston and GO Transmission crews from Bluefield were requested to report to Roanoke early Sunday morning. The GO Transmission crew located in Roanoke was called out to repair various subtransmission lines in the Roanoke area.

Crews in Roanoke were fighting a losing battle Saturday night and early Sunday morning in restoring power. Trees were falling everywhere. No sooner would lines be put back up than trees would go through them somewhere else. The Roanoke Station, a vital link in the city's subtransmission system, along with 12 subtransmission lines, failed. Later, on Monday, the failure of the Kumis 138 transformer further set back restoration efforts.

More than 82,000, or two-thirds of Roanoke Division's total customers were without power at one time or another. Some 50,000 of these were concentrated in the Roanoke Valley, where 27 main circuits locked out.

Early Sunday morning, 12 crews, who had battled snow and icy roads, arrived from Charleston. Additional crews were secured from wherever they were available — Kentucky, West Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio, and Tennessee. Additional company forces from Bluefield, Charleston, Abingdon and Huntington moved into Roanoke later in the week.

On Sunday, January 28, eight days after the storm began, the last isolated cases of trouble in Roanoke were cleared up.

Lynchburg's trouble began Saturday evening, and by 8 PM that night, all physical employees as well as contractor employees that normally work in the area were called out. It became apparent the storm had caused more damage than they could take care of, so 100 more contractor employees from five states were secured. At the height of the problem, Lynchburg was faced with restoring service to 25,000

customers. The last customers were restored to service in the Lynchburg Division on Friday morning.

At the peak period of restoration, over 900 people worked on the lines, as well as 200-300 others who performed switching operations, replaced the failed station transformers, directed and dispatched the mammoth operation, manned telephones, served as guides for contractor crews, scouted lines and transported supplies.

From the beginning of the storm until the last customer was restored to service, office employees manned telephones around the clock. Despite the extra employees assigned to answer trouble calls, the switchboards were swamped as thousands of customers tried to call in.

Most customers were not aware of the magnitude of the outage. Frustrated by not being able to get a call through, many came to company offices to find out when their service would be restored.

Perhaps the hardest thing for the public to understand was why no one could give them a definite answer as to when their power would be restored. Employees tried to explain as best they could that first, major circuits had to be restored. Then branch lines had to be free of trouble before the workers could restore them and then concentrate on reconnecting individual service drops which had been damaged in the storm. Also, there was no way of knowing how many breaks there were in the weblike route of lines from a person's home back to the functioning source of power.

Although there were some irate customers who complained, by far the majority were understanding and sympathetic to the enormous task facing the company.

Appalachian spokesmen also kept the news media informed with progress reports during the restoration of service, and the media were very helpful in informing the public.

The storm and the resulting devastation brought forth once again the best in our employees. The dedication, the loyalty, and the self-sacrifice displayed by each and every one was magnificent. Many worked long hours to restore power to customers while their own families suffered because electricity was out at their homes. Because concern for our customers was uppermost in their minds, many employees had to be forced to go home for a rest break even after working 24 hours or more at a stretch.

This kind of dedication and willingness to sacrifice has been a trademark of our employees throughout our history. But it was never more evident than during the week of January 19-26.

We live in an electricity-oriented society. When electricity goes, life nearly comes to a standstill. The importance all of us play in keeping electricity on, and in restoring it when it goes off, should not be taken for granted.

APCO FOLKS TRUE HEROES OF THE STORM

With trees falling, power lines snapping, transformers exploding and cars careening madly, many folks were content to stay at home the weekend of January 19-21. Some were fortunate enough to be able to watch television or read. But others, whose homes were among the thousands without power, had to content themselves with bundling up in blankets and staring at candles.

But for hundreds of APCo workers, it was just the beginning of what would become a week-long nightmare. A week of working around the clock in the cruelest of weather, in dangerous situations, to get the power back on.

Cecil Hill, Roanoke engineering technician senior, was one of those who worked as much as 63 hours straight to get service restored. "That was the first go-round," he said. "The next stretch lasted from noon Tuesday until midnight Wednesday." From noon Saturday until Sunday of the following week, Hill rested a total of 20 hours.

He recalled, "All of the time was spent heading up two contract line crews and two Bartlett crews, restoring service to the Poages Mill circuit. We spent from Saturday until mid-Friday on just that one circuit. Every single tap line from the station to the very end had problems, some extensive damage. In addition to the 50 or more tap lines in trouble, the three phases of the main line had burned down in one location. What really made it difficult was not being able to get the truck near the damage. Even where the three-phase line burned down, we could not reach it by truck."

As an example of how extensive the damage was, Hill noted it took a seven-man contract crew more than 16 hours just to restore service on one tap line serving about 50 customers. A full day and night were spent getting the tap line on which fed 12 O'Clock Knob Mountain Road. The line was down in several places involving as much as three or four spans each. On that one tap line, there were more than 20 spans down or partially damaged. "The customers that talked with us couldn't understand why we couldn't get the branch lines on. Many of these had cleared their own trees off of the lines. It was difficult explaining that we had to clear all the problems on the main line before we could restore service to them.

"Putting up with the weather conditions — soaking wet and freezing cold — was the most difficult experience associated with the ice storm," declared Gerry Barbour, GO regional chief dispatcher. Barbour reported for work on Saturday and worked 40 hours before going into his first rest period. "The subtransmission system was falling apart, that was my main concern. We had to get it back together so that when the distribution system was installed, we'd have something to feed it with." The subtransmission problems were primarily caused by trees in the 69 kv lines. To clear it up, the trees had to be removed and the lines repaired before energizing. It was one problem after another. In addition to extensive line damage in some places, two stations were completely interrupted as a result of faults on 69 kv lines and four stations were partially out of service for the same reason."

P. L. Humphreys, Roanoke line crew supervisor, said, "It was just like a bad tornado had come through. Everywhere you looked, lines were down, trees on them, broken poles, transformers in the street, irate customers. I have never seen anything like it. It was plumb unreal as cold as it got. You had to turn your back to keep the wind out of your face."

Bobby Bower, Roanoke engineering technologist, worked in 24-hour stretches throughout the week. He said, "My job was to relieve Jesse Aird and give him a break and help him dispatch the station crews. But the line crew dispatcher was pretty heavily loaded, so I helped dispatch some of the line crews. It was pretty hectic. You started about 5:30 in the morning and until midnight every night there was hardly a minute you wouldn't be talking on the radio or over the telephone."

Don Hale, Roanoke engineering technician, recalls, "They called me to come in Sunday at 6 AM, and I

had to start at 4 AM to cut my way out to get in by 6. I was assigned two contract Bouligny crews. We worked 98 hours out of the first 120 hours. The reason we quit when we did was that we were all so giddy headed and tired we were afraid we would get somebody hurt. When it gets to the point where you can't think, it is very dangerous. It is best just to pull off and come back fresh. The attitude of the people made our job much better. For example, my customers on Bent Mountain — I am a planner up there. They opened the restaurant on their day off just to feed us breakfast and then closed. The wind chill factor was 40 below zero when I went over to a customer's house at 3 in the morning and got him to go to his service station and gas up our trucks so we could continue working. The customers there are storm-trained. They patrol lines for us, try to clear up lines with chain saws, communicate on CB. In fact, they can patrol line as good as anyone. The hardest thing I had to accept was putting on as many customers as we could and leaving a few isolated ones for later. I had men come up and beg us to put lights on. It makes you feel hard-hearted. Old women, 80 years old, just begging you to put lights on. I had to say I was sorry, I couldn't, and they just didn't understand."

For Michael Simmons, Roanoke line mechanic D, his first day as an Appalachian employee won't soon be forgotten. "I came in at 8 o'clock Monday morning, January 22, and left Tuesday morning at 7:15 AM. My wife couldn't believe it!"

Earl Woolridge, Roanoke meter service mechanic, commented, "I have been around this world for 53 years, and I have never seen it this bad. We might have had something similar to the ice storm in the Bent Mountain area, but when you've got the whole area as far as you can see, that's something else. You couldn't go on a street without seeing a service wire down."

Bill Loope, Roanoke station crew supervisor NE, recalled, "Jesse Aird called me at 10:30 Saturday morning and told me to come in. It took me about an hour to get there because I had to chip heavy ice off my truck. When I got here, he said we had a catastrophe. I remember those words real well. He sent me and Gary Sink, station mechanic, to Kumis Station west of Salem. Both CBs were locked out at the station. We were to stand by there for switching and determine damage on lines. We met a line crew consisting of Charlie Worley, Mary Slocum and Wayne English, and they were cutting trees off the lines. As the day wore on, it looked more hopeless instead of better. Every time they would cut trees off, two more would fall. We spent the whole day in the area assisting them because there wasn't much we could do in the station to restore power."

He continues, "When we came back into the station, trees had fallen across the road. A crew from Christiansburg stopped to assist us. We were out in front of the truck cutting trees out and a locust fell across their bucket. We had to carefully remove it. It fell across the boom, and not much damage was done to the bucket. We worked from 11 o'clock Saturday morning until 9 PM Sunday night without a break. Then came back Monday morning at 7:30 and worked until about 7:30 on Tuesday morning, mainly station switching. After that we were doing switching and assisting line crews in different jobs. It all runs together."

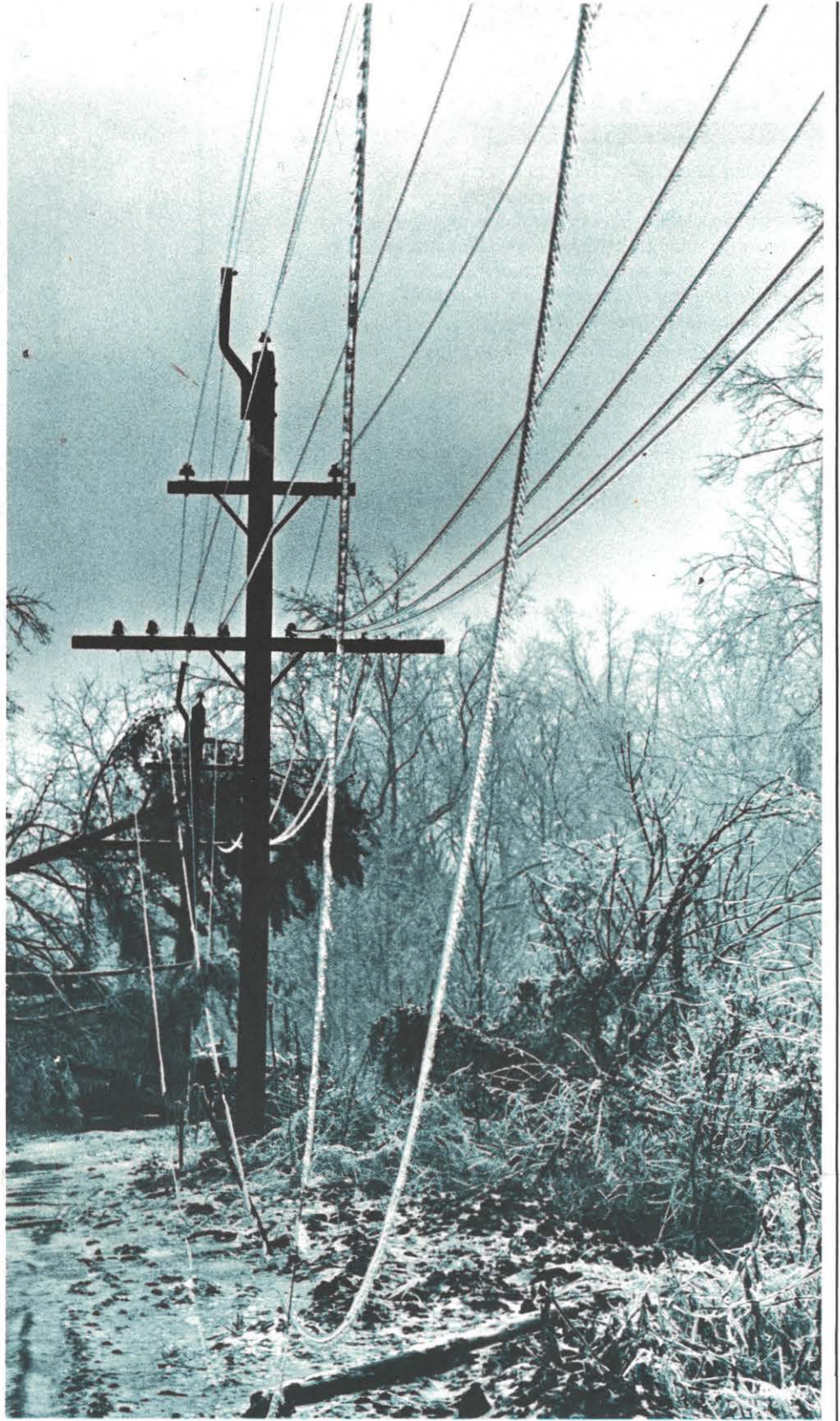
"We did have a funny thing happen," Loope recalls. "The fire department called and said a service had set a house on fire. We went out and the service was in the yard, burning. We opened up the transformer, cleared it up, taped the service up, about a 10-minute job. On the way back, Ronnie Journette wanted a pack of cigarettes. He had his hard hat on when he went into the store. I saw a lawyer in town talking to him. Then he came out to the truck and told me, 'Mr., I want you to put my service on. I will give you each a hundred dollar bill if you will put my service on.' I told him we were station people and that there was nothing we could do and that we couldn't take his \$100 anyway. I have never seen anybody as desperate. They were working on his section at the time, but he was at the point he would do almost anything to have the service restored. He mentioned two or three times, 'I will give each of you a hundred dollar bill if you will just come out and put on my lights.'" Loope concluded, "This thing has brought company people together who didn't know each other. There is a real sense of brotherhood that we didn't realize until this happened. We all have one common purpose — getting the job done."

Roanoke Line Crew Supervisor Bennie Hartwell, a 32-year veteran, said, "Without a doubt, this is the worst time I have ever experienced. When you could find a wire as big as your wrist and icicles a foot long, you knew it was bad. We found icicles on the insulators straight up in the air, pointed out in all directions. It was weird. When I came to work, I didn't visualize anything of this magnitude. But it just mushroomed. My first job was out in the Williamson Road area, where a line had broken because of trees. Then we started losing station after station, and during this time we knew it was becoming very serious. All Saturday and Saturday night we were working, but we were actually losing more than we were restoring. Not until the latter part of Sunday night were we able to start picking up some parts of it. The first 36 hours I had two cold sandwiches. No coffee, nothing. Nothing was open to serve us. Not only that, the public wasn't aware of what was happening to us. The wind and the rain for two or three days was most unbearable. Some people, after being restored to service, would thank us and be very understanding. We ran into some that were fighting mad literally and would want to know why we didn't do as they said. I would always try to take the time to talk to them and keep in mind their problem, but also try to stay within the area I was assigned. It was difficult to leave that area and move down the road a mile or two to help someone else. But lots of time we would do it by notifying the coordinator. You could move by every block, every street, in every direction and find trouble."

Larry Conner, Roanoke line mechanic A, noted, "From Saturday until Thursday, I only slept 12 hours. I was a walking zombie. After working here 12 years, my wife has gotten used to me not coming home for three days at a time. It is an accepted way of life. You sit in the office and take a lot of lip, but it is not as bad as being out there. I don't want to see any more (storms) like this one."

Richard Isner, Roanoke stores supervisor A, commented, "One of the main problems associated with an outage like we had is that you just don't have the kind of material you need to handle it. A large amount of material had to be gotten on very short notice from the suppliers, such as fuses and splicing material." He estimated that some 14,000 splices were made to restore service in the Roanoke Division. Other material which had to be obtained included reclosers, which were brought in from other parts of the system. He said, "We were well stocked with much of what was needed, but there were basic items such as cutout boxes. Two hundred of these were installed during the week. Some supply houses opened their warehouses over the weekend, even though they were without electricity. They accommodated us to get particularly needed supplies, such as rain gear, batteries, lights, etc." About 40,000 units of material were issued out of the supply room during the outage. "I suppose the most significant thing is that no crew left the storeroom lacking for material needed for service restoration."

Sandra McClelland, Roanoke T&D clerk, was on call the weekend the storm hit. She came in on Saturday at 10 AM and worked throughout the week in 16-hour stretches. "I couldn't go out and put up the service, but maybe answering the phone helped. There was a doctor's wife who called and said, 'My children never appreciated all the comforts they have now. I am so glad we are out of power to show them how things were like when I was growing up.' We had others who called back to say thanks for the power being back on." Sandra concluded, "The guys were really terrific. The hours they worked makes me real proud to know them. The team work was really something. A lot of the people from the downtown office had never been in this building (service center). Pulling them in to answer phones gave them a chance to see the situation and maybe they can help explain to family and friends at home. I hope it never happens again, but I am sure we have learned a lot from it."



DEAR FELLOW EMPLOYEES:

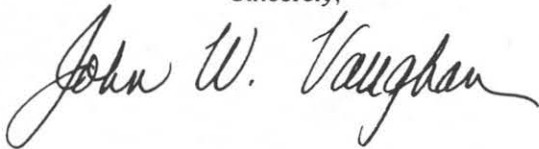
Our ability to supply the more than 700,000 Appalachian customers a high degree of continuous and reliable electric power is always challenged and made more difficult by severe and unusual weather conditions. Yet it is always in these moments of adversity that the dedication and skills of all our employees rise to the occasion.

At no time has this been more true than during the ice storm experienced in the Beckley, Bluefield, Abingdon, Pulaski, Roanoke and Lynchburg Divisions beginning on January 19. Employees in these divisions, assisted by personnel from other divisions, the G.O., Kingsport Power and outside contractors, turned in a truly outstanding performance in the restoration of service to approximately 100,000 customers. Although the weather was most disagreeable, long hours were worked by many and great efforts were expended to treat our customers courteously.

There have been many favorable comments and letters from customers attesting to this and expressing appreciation for your performance.

I wish that I could personally thank each of you and express my appreciation for the part you played in this effort. Since this is not physically possible, I hope you will accept this brief note as a measure of my appreciation for a job well done.

Sincerely,



John W. Vaughan

CUSTOMERS LONG ON PRAISE, SHORT ON CRITICISM

The ice storm is now history, and it's "back to business as usual" for Appalachian employees and the nearly 100,000 customers who were without electricity because of it.

Many customers took the time to write or call about the events which took place January 19-26. A few of the comments are shared below:

"It surely is good to be back 'in the land of the living'. I told the men when they got to us Monday afternoon, they were the best looking things I had seen in a long time. Surviving three days without electricity is an ordeal — we don't even have water, as we have a well."

"I would like to thank each and all of the linemen for their excellent work and their hard work. I prayed for their safety when they were out so many cold hours. Not only them, their families at home worrying about them. It's things like this that make us realize how precious our current is."

"I keep getting the idea that I'm not being heard. 96 hours without heat is almost unbelievable. It would seem to indicate a lack of due diligence on the part of Appalachian Power. I am sending this so that I will have tangible evidence of Appalachian's knowledge of the plight of persons on my road."

"Another day cannot pass without expressing my gratitude to the A.P.Co. and its people for restoring our power. God will surely bless all those fine men who so bravely and diligently worked in such adverse conditions to give us the comforts of home. One of the most gratifying times of my life was when I saw the crew drive up and work so hard to give us current."

"We live in the village of Shawsville and were without power for approximately 56 hours. After seeing some of the damage that was done in our area by the ice, we feel very fortunate that APCo was able to restore our power as quickly as they did. When considering the damage done to the substation, it seems even more incredible."

"Seem's this is the only way to communicate with you people. I tried for four days to get an open line,



and I know you had the phone off the hook. How do you people expect someone to report power off when you deliberately blank off answering the phone?"

"Thanks for restoring electrical power to our home on Tuesday, January 23. We had been without electricity since Saturday, and we certainly were thrilled to once again have heat, refrigeration, hot water and all those other luxuries we've come to depend upon in the 1970s. We especially appreciate those hard working men and women who have probably suffered cold, long hours in order that the rest of us could get back to normal. To each of them, a hearty thank you."

"I simply could not go to bed tonight without expressing my thanks and appreciation to you all for our restored electric power. It's wonderful. May God bless and keep each worker safe."

"It is 11:20 AM Thursday, January 25. I have been without water, heat, lights and have had an intermittent telephone since last Saturday afternoon because of a hot wire entangled with telephone wires and a fallen tree branch decorating my driveway. A few things I deeply, bitterly resent: paying a utility bill and not having utilities; paying customer service and getting none; hearing a fellow on my battery operated radio stating that there would be some discomfort to some customers. The gross understatement of this or any other year. For me it has been an expensive, bone-chilling, inconvenient experience, having become a nervous wreck, lost all our food in two refrigerator/freezers, and the expense incurred on long distance telephone calls when the telephone could be utilized."

"We have tried to be patient for these 112 hours we have been without power, but it is wearing thin. The bills are going up a lot faster than the service."

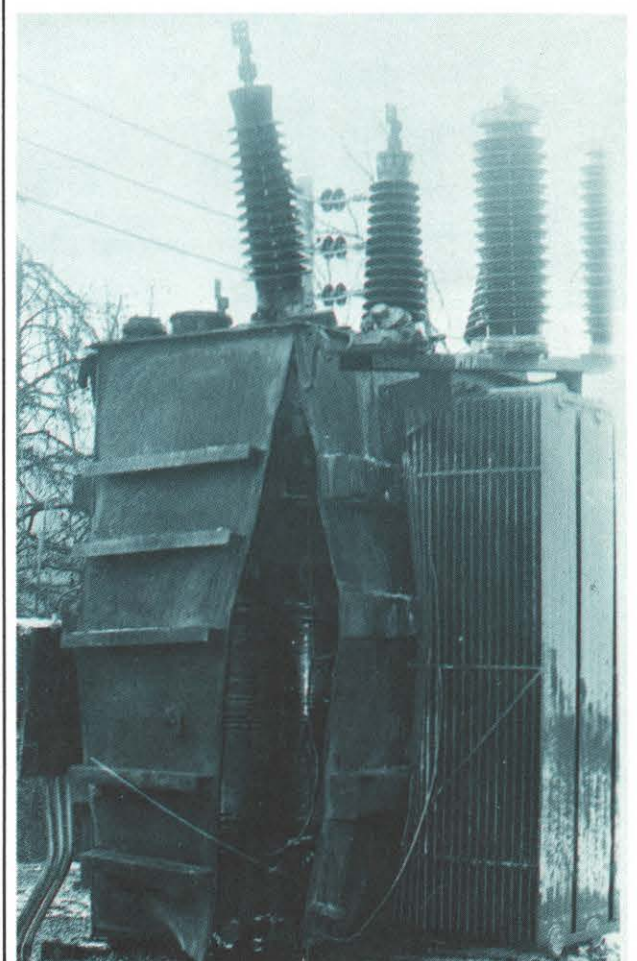
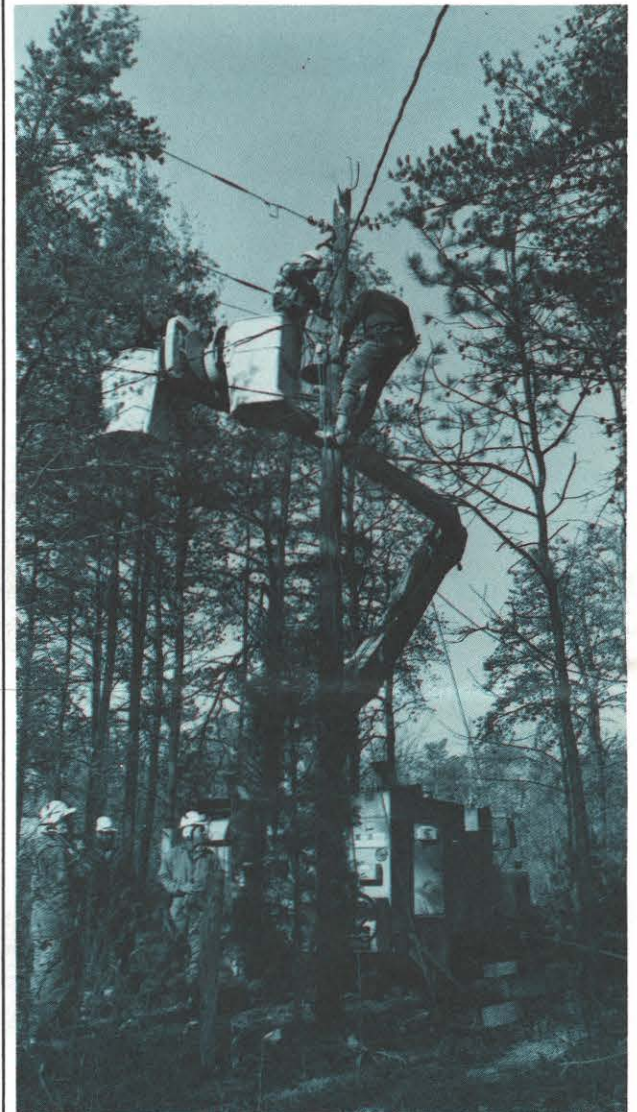
"Our service was off for 25 hours, 10 minutes on January 20 and 21. I'm not sure that I could go back to pioneer days for much longer than that. Our thanks to all the folks who made it possible for our lights to go back on as soon as they did."

"I realize that through the recent storm you probably received many complaints and telephone calls concerning the interrupted service. I, for one, would like to express my thanks and appreciation for all of your people for working the hours they did and the time they put in in very adverse conditions in order to get the electricity restored as quickly as they were able to do."

"I am enclosing a list of what the power outage caused me to lose. I am sure my list is small compared to others people could send you if they would."

"We wish to express our appreciation for the good work you have done and are doing. I am sure everyone on APCo's lines feel the same. There have been some inconveniences to us but nothing to compare to the work and expense this has caused you. My husband and I are in our 80s and can comprehend in a small way what you have done for your customers."

"The business community of Franklin County would like to express to all Appalachian Power Company workers, both local and out of area, our deep appreciation for the dedication shown by each of you during this history-making ice storm in Franklin County. In the different areas of our home communities, we observed the long night vigils in pouring rain and ice and the long hours spent trying to patch together our battered county. It is our belief the workers deserve more gratitude than mere words can express. Where sunken eyes and drooping shoulders told their story, and long hours without sleep was the rule rather than the exception, you fought a sometimes losing battle. We realize that mistakes were made, tempers were short in some cases, and that we have many plans that should be made while this experience is still fresh. We still feel that every man and every woman that aided in this fight deserves the county's deepest gratitude, and while no medals will be pinned to your chest, you showed a bravery that is unequalled. We salute you and we thank you."



KEENE RETIREES EARLY



"I wanted a job when I went looking for work at Appalachian, and the checks were never late — you can't beat that," says Omar Arch Keene, who was a meter service mechanic at Stuart in the Roanoke Division before electing early retirement February 1.

Arch was born and raised on a farm in the little community of Newton, West Virginia. He says, "You've heard of wide places in the road where communities are located. Well, Newton was a narrow place in the road."

He continues, "My daddy was a school teacher for Roane and Clay counties, and much of the farm work had to be done by the rest of the family. That was during the '30s, and it was rugged — that's the only way you can put it. We didn't have the machinery and fertilizer for making the ground better. It was hard work, mostly by hand, and long hours."

Arch moved to Stuart, Virginia, in 1939. "I was working for a fellow that people around Stuart called Boss Handy. He had been in Roane County selling apples when I met him. After he returned home, he wrote me and offered me a job driving and cutting timber."

"I don't remember who it was, but someone told me Appalachian was looking for a hydro man. Randy Lewis, GO station engineer senior, came out about two weeks after I applied and offered me a job. He told me to be ready to go to work the next morning."

The long days Arch had gotten used to on the farm continued for a while in his hydro job. "I'd get up real early in the morning

before daylight and head for the old hydro plant that produced much of the power for the Stuart area. There I would clean the racks, oil the bearings and dress the belts on the generator. In those days, there were no line crews in Stuart. I'd leave the plant at about 7 AM in time to join up with Randy Lewis. After the day's line and service work was performed with him, I would have to go back to the plant and finish up. In other words, I was working 15-16 hours a day."

Arch notes, "I had a lot of bosses in those days. For my job reading meters, I answered to Garnett Harvey, now retired Roanoke Division personnel supervisor. In the line crew end of it, John Stephens, now retired electrical engineer senior gave me instructions. Bill Chilton handed down the orders for the meter service work."

Arch, in recalling his first day on the job, says, "I never had seen a pair of climbers. C. J. Hewitt, the plant operator, gave me instructions on using them to move up a pole. That first day I started practicing climbing, and then Randy began teaching me line and meter service work. They were good to help me; all of them were just tops."

About his long service, Arch says, "The company always came first. I wanted a job when I went there, and I always had one. Lester Flatt used to sing a song, 'The Good Things Outweigh The Bad'. I think that pretty well sums up my feelings about the company; the good things certainly outweighed any bad. In my work, I might not have done the best thing every time, but I know I tried."

"You go into retirement with mixed feelings. No one wants to admit to themselves they are getting older, but that must come. On the other hand, retirement lifts a burden in many respects. When the phone rings at night, knowing that I don't have to go out in the freezing and wet weather means something!"

Arch is a member of the Stuart Baptist Church and a former assistant fire chief of the Stuart Volunteer Fire Department. Golf

is his favorite hobby. He and his wife Clara have two children and one grandchild.

CHARLIE EDMONDS RETIREES



Charles William Edmonds, transmission mechanic A in General Office T&D Transmission Line, Bluefield, retired September 1, 1978.

A native of Princeton, West Virginia, Charlie began his career in 1949 as a system lineman B and was promoted to system transmission man A in 1952. He is currently working for the Valley Bank and Trust Company in Green Valley, W. Va.

Charlie attends Johnston Chapel Baptist Church in Princeton. He and his wife Nellie have two children and four grandchildren.

REED PLANS MORE CHURCH WORK



Harold Harebell Reed, Glen Lyn Plant maintenance supervisor, elected early retirement February 1.

A native of Elmore, West Virginia, he worked for the Virginian Railroad before joining Appalachian in 1945 as a working foreman at Glen Lyn. In 1954 he was promoted to boiler maintenance foreman and three years later to the

position he held at retirement.

Harold's retirement plans include traveling and increasing his work at the Church of God, Princeton. He is currently chairman of the ushers, Bible Class teacher and assistant Sunday School superintendent. Harold also will have more time to work on his hobby of building a scale model (1½" to 1") live steam locomotive.

He and his wife Vera have three children and four grandchildren.

THOMPSON RETIREES EARLY



Thomas Thurmond Thompson, Glen Lyn Plant equipment operator, elected early retirement February 1.

A native of Glen Lyn, Virginia, he began his career in 1951 as a laborer and was a utility operator A, auxiliary equipment operator and boiler operator B before being promoted in 1968 to the position he held at retirement.

Tom's retirement plans include working around the house and gardening. He and his wife Emma have four children and two grandchildren.

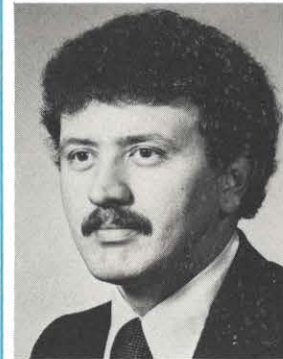
MOVING UP



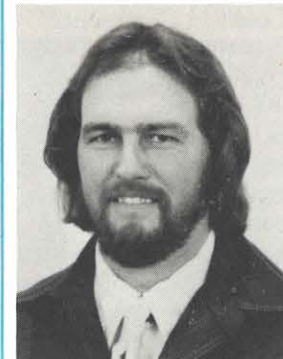
Donald W. Howell, former electrical engineer, was promoted to meter engineer senior in Roanoke on December 1. He holds a BS degree in electrical engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.



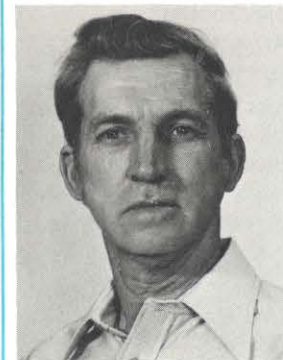
Mary Jamison, former payroll file maintenance supervisor, was promoted to payroll records supervisor, General Office Accounting, Roanoke, on January 1. She attended Cornett School of Business.



Donald Robins, former payroll clerk A, was promoted to the exempt position of payroll accountant, General Office Accounting, Roanoke, on December 1, 1978. He holds an associate in science degree in business management from Virginia Western Community College.



C. W. Burke, former line mechanic A, was promoted to line crew supervisor in Kingsport on December 30. He succeeds W. K. Bradshaw, who is on LTD leave.



Donald A. Buckland, former maintenance mechanic A, was promoted to maintenance supervisor at Glen Lyn Plant on February 1. He succeeds Harold Reed, who elected early retirement.



Joseph Hawkins, former communications engineer, was promoted to communications engineer senior, General Office T&D Communications, Roanoke, on January 1. He holds an associate in science degree in electrical engineering technology from Roanoke Technical Institute and an associate in science degree in mechanical engineering technology from Virginia Western Community College. He has also studied through International Correspondence Schools and is a registered professional engineer in Virginia.



Lenwood D. Finney, survey party chief, was promoted to engineering technologist supervisor, GO T&D Civil Engineering, Roanoke, on January 1.

IDEAS SHARED

Five Appalachian Power employees offered suggestions for improving performance and saving money in the January/February issue of AEP **Operating Ideas**.

George Youell, Kanawha River Plant instrument maintenance supervisor, was the author of "Fabricates Washer for Critical Gages".

John W. Vermillion, Bluefield meter superintendent, wrote "Aids Checking Meter Socket Wiring".

S. M. Taylor and **S. E. Greenlee**, control technicians senior, and **R. M. Walker**, control technician, all of Amos Plant, collaborated on "Improves Weight Indicator for Coal Silos".

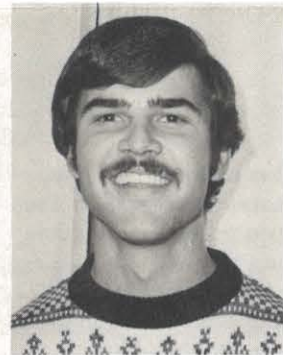
POWER PEOPLE MAKING NEWS

Abingdon



Phil Rasnick, son of H. H. Rasnick, Gate City line mechanic A, has graduated cum laude from East Tennessee State University with a BS degree in labor and industrial relations.

John Painter, AEP auditor, was elected a deacon at the First Presbyterian Church. John, 22, is reportedly the youngest church member to attain this honor.



Hawley



Carr

Jeff Hawley, son of Clifford and Dorothy Hawley, and **Vickie Carr**, daughter of Valentine Carr, were included in the 1979 edition of "Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges". Both are sophomores at Virginia Highlands Community College.

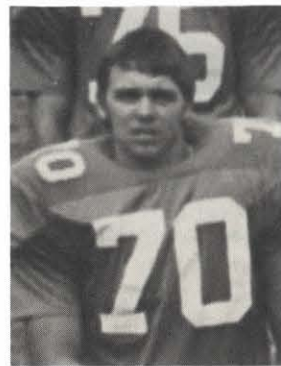
Beckley

D. L. Kendrick, Jr., customer services manager, was appointed to the Raleigh County Home Economics Advisory Committee established by the Cooperative Extension Service of West Virginia University.

Bluefield

Mrs. W. C. Kidd, wife of the retired division superintendent, was re-elected to a second five-year term on the board of trustees of Bluefield College.

C. B. Yearout, retired GO safety coordinator, was reelected co-chairman of the Mountain-Dominion Resource Conservation and Development steering committee.



Dale Rice, son of Mary Lou Rice, Princeton customer accounts representative C, was selected for the All-Coalfield Conference football team for 1978. Dale, who played for the Princeton High School Tigers, was a standout as offensive tackle and outside linebacker on defense. He also received honorable mention recognition on the West Virginia AAA All-State football team selection as well as All-Area Southern West Virginia honors. To date, Dale has been contacted by Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, West Virginia University and the Merchant Marine Academy to play football.

Buck Fanning, building supervisor, was selected layperson representative on the Student Services Committee in the self-evaluation study being conducted by Graham High School. The evaluation determines accreditation for GHS in the Southern Association of High School Accreditation.

Charleston

Eugene Smith, engineer B, was elected vice president of the West Virginia Computer Society for 1979.

Haskel Jones, area superintendent B, was elected to the board of directors of the St. Albans Chamber of Commerce for 1979.

Jody Jividen, son of Residential Representative Lindy Jividen, was selected as editor of the Marshall University newspaper, *The Parthenon*, for this semester. A junior, he was sports editor and managing editor before assuming his new position. Jody was a summer reporter for the *Charleston Daily Mail*.

Charlie Walker, residential representative, was elected secretary-treasurer of the Charleston Electric League for 1979.

Golda Johnson, GO secretary-stenographer, was appointed by the national office to the West Virginia Etta Association of the Alpha Iota Sorority.

Lloyd Pomykata, division customer services manager, was appointed chairman of the membership growth and education committee of the Charleston Downtown Kiwanis Club.

John C. Frazier, personnel supervisor, was reelected to the board of trustees of Highland Hospital for 1979.

General Office

Blake Blackwell, son of Employee Relations Supervisor J. Emmett Blackwell, GO Personnel, Roanoke, was ranked 24th in the State of Virginia for age 12 and under tennis competition. He was also ranked 43rd by the Mid-Atlantic Lawn Tennis Association, which covers Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia.

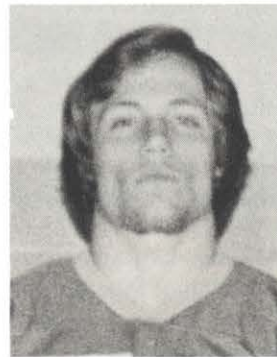
Harden Davis, station mechanic A, GO T&D Station, Roanoke, was elected a trustee of the Peters Creek Church of the Brethren.

Glen Lyn

Sons of three employees are members of the undefeated Narrows High Green Wave football team which was the 1978 New River District champion.



Rusty Coffman, son of Chemist Assistant Robert R. Coffman, was named All New River District first team kicker, All Virginia Highlands first team kicker, and All Region IV first team kicker.



George Alan Thwaites, Jr., a tackle, was named to the All New River District first team offense and defense, All Virginia Highlands first team offense and defense, All Region IV second team offense and defense; honorable mention All Area (Bluefield) and honorable mention All Timesland. He is the son of Unit Supervisor George Thwaites.



Steve Thornton, 6'3", 175 lb. senior, was selected All Virginia Highlands first team quarterback, All New River District second team quarterback and honorable mention All Area (Bluefield) and honorable mention All Timesland. He is the son of Equipment Operator Earl Thornton.

Huntington

Division Manager **Fred Helm** was reelected to a three-year term on the Huntington Area Chamber of Commerce board of directors. He also participated in the Living Christmas Tree music program at the Fifth Avenue Baptist Church.

Bill Coyne, son-in-law of Building Supervisor Richard Smith, has been ordained an Episcopal priest. He is assistant pastor of the Church of the Atonement, Westfield, Massachusetts.

Kingsport

Linda Todd, daughter of Residential Representative John Randall, has joined Phi Kappa Phi, a national honor society. She is an art major at the University of Tennessee.

Nathan Hughes, son of Cashier Brenda Hughes, won a trophy for attaining the highest score in the doubles tournament of the Bantam Bowling League.

Lynchburg

Division Manager **J. Robert Davenport** was elected to the board of directors of the Rotary Club of Lynchburg. He was also installed as a deacon in the Rivermont Presbyterian Church.

James W. Dalton, station mechanic A, was elected to the board of directors of the New London Ruritan Club. He was also reelected to his third term as the club's sergeant of arms.

Pulaski

Employees and their spouses have been elected or appointed to various positions in the First United Methodist Church of Pulaski:

Mrs. G. K. Smythers, wife of the residential representative, is membership chairperson, United Methodist Women; treasurer, kitchen committee; and advisor, altar guild committee.

Mrs. R. C. Nickols, wife of the retiree, is co-hostess of the kitchen committee; member, Lord's Acre committee and commission on ecumenical affairs.

Mrs. P. T. Gress, wife of the commercial representative, and **Ruby Lowman**, retiree, are members of the library committee.

Mrs. C. R. Settle, wife of the retiree, is a member of the commission on ecumenical affairs.

Retiree **C. R. Settle** is a member of the property and maintenance committee.

Mrs. M. C. Spangler, wife of the retiree, is a member of the altar guild committee.

Dorothy Whitaker, personnel assistant, is mission coordinator of Christian global concerns for United Methodist Women; member, administrative board, alternate lay delegate to annual conference; member, commission on missions, finance committee, pastor-parish relations committee and altar guild committee.

Retiree **R. C. Nickols** is a member of the board of trustees, administrative board, commission on evangelism and Lord's Acre committee.

Division Manager **C. K. Kirkland** is a member, board of trustees.

Residential Representative **G. K. Smythers** is a member of the administrative board.

Administrative Assistant **J. B. Brillheart** is a member of the administrative board, committee on nominations and commission on missions.

Retiree **H. B. Newland** is a member of the administrative board.

Mrs. J. B. Brillheart, wife of the administrative assistant, is a member of the administrative board.

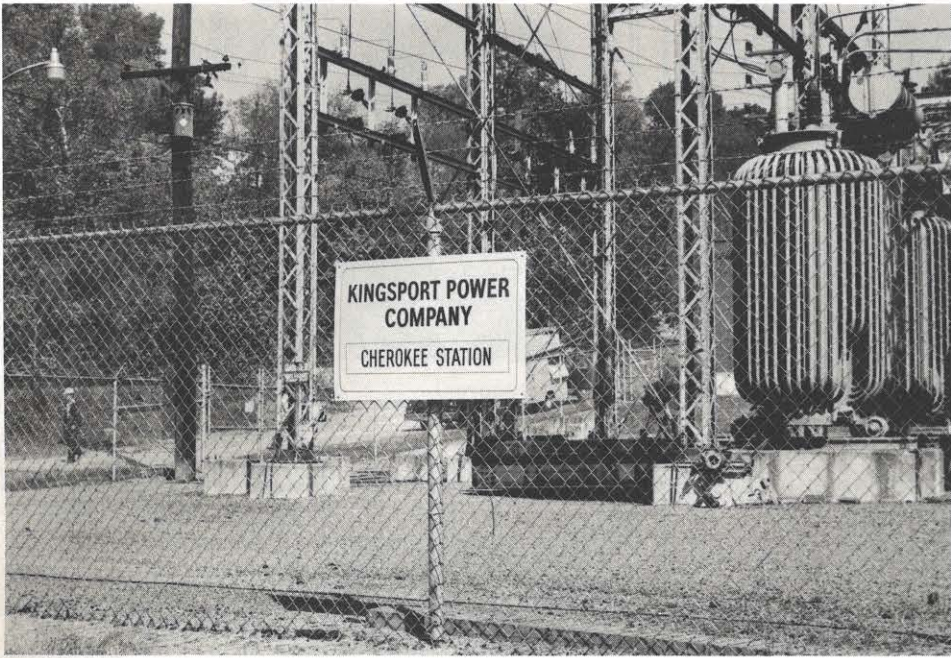
Engineering Supervisor **R. H. Love** is chairperson of the commission on evangelism and member, administrative board and council on ministries.

Residential Representative **J. R. Boulton** is chairperson of the pastor-parish relations committee and member, administrative board and finance committee.

Mrs. R. H. Love, wife of the engineering supervisor, is chairperson of work area on family life; member, administrative board, altar guild committee, council on ministries and pastor-parish relations committee.

Roanoke

Cathy Baldwin, daughter of E. C. "Jack" Baldwin, Jr., customer accounts representative A, has completed her internship in radiologic technology at Roanoke's Lewis Gale Hospital and has passed the federal test to become a registered technologist.



As part of Kingsport Power's continuing efforts to improve its public image, all stations within public view have been identified with new signs.

Signs at some of the stations were faded while other stations had no identification at all. The Public Affairs Department, with the cooperation of a local sign company, developed a sign of a design and size that would meet the needs of the station locations. The signs were installed by Station Department employees.



Officers of the Bluefield Office Coffee Club for 1979 are, 1. to r., Robert Edwards, engineering technician assistant, president; Nell Nunnery, secretary-stenographer, secretary-treasurer; and Linda Wiley, secretary-stenographer, vice president.



Serving as officers of the Appalachian Chorus, composed of Roanoke and General Office employees, for 1978-79 are: front row, from left, Marsena Hartless, general bookkeeper, GO Accounting, treasurer; Susan Altizer, personnel clerk A, GO Personnel, secretary; Doris Young, statistical analyst, GO Rates and Contracts, historian; Pat Short, engineering clerk C, GO T&D, vice president; and Linda Naff, T&D clerk A, GO T&D, librarian. Second row, from left, Ron Hogan, electric plant clerk A, GO Accounting, president; Helen Honaker, secretary-stenographer, GO T&D, director; and Tom Hubbard, electric plant and stores accounting supervisor, business manager.



The Appalachian Chorus, under the direction of Helen Honaker, secretary-stenographer, GO T&D, Roanoke, presented a program of Christmas music to Roanoke Division and General Office employees at their December safety meeting. Employees attending contributed 185 cans of food and more than \$250, which was donated to the Salvation Army for distribution to needy families. The same music program was also presented to retired APCo employees, employees of a Roanoke insurance company and residents of two Roanoke homes for the aged.



Andy Martin, president of BAMCO, the Junior Achievement company sponsored by Appalachian Power in Charleston, receives the company charter from C. O. Carlini, Charleston division manager, as the JA advisors look on. From left, John Kilmer, electrical engineer; Martin; Carlini; Fred Pioch, electrical engineer; Charlie Walker, residential representative; and Nick Shenoy, electrical engineer.



Officers of the Bluefield Girls' Service Club for 1979 were installed at the club's annual Christmas party. From left, Mildred G. Bishop, secretary-stenographer, treasurer; Joan Leftwich, junior stenographer, president; Helen Sabo, GO stenographer, vice president; and Sue Hankins, GO stenographer, secretary.

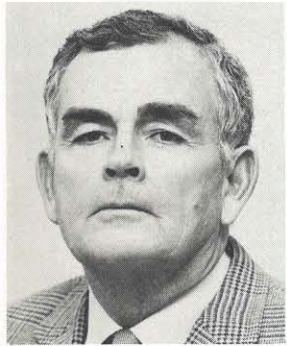


Serving as officers of the Abingdon Employees Club for 1979 are, l. to r., H. H. Stovall, engineering technologist supervisor, president; Vickie Davidson, GO junior stenographer, treasurer — service building; Linda Phillips, junior stenographer, secretary; John Morefield, engineer B, vice president; and A. S. Buchanan, residential advisor, treasurer — main office.

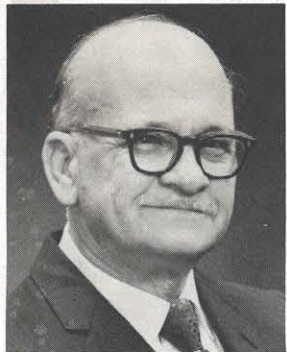
VETS RECEIVE SERVICE AWARDS



T. C. Smith
Residential Rep.
Roanoke
40 Years



Ammon Sears
Area Supv. A
Roanoke
40 Years



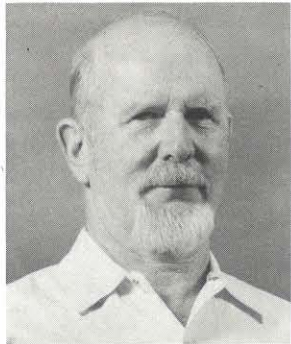
D. T. Briles
Equipment Operator
Philip Sporn
35 Years



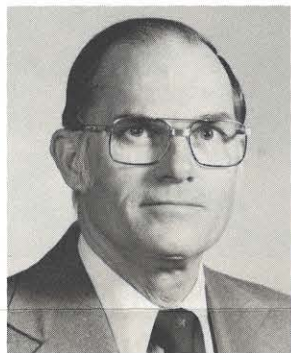
L. W. Price
Service Supervisor
Charleston
35 Years



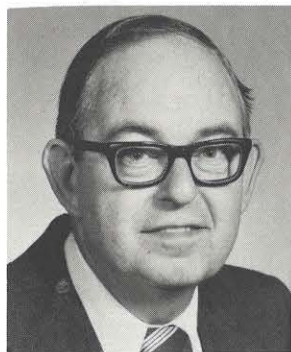
W. A. McClung
Public Affairs Dir.
GO-Roanoke
30 Years



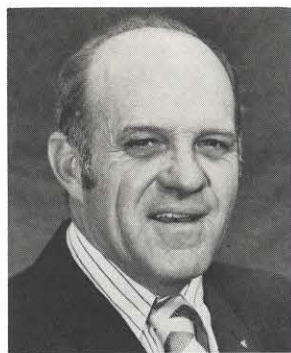
W. J. Winebrenner
Collector
Charleston
30 Years



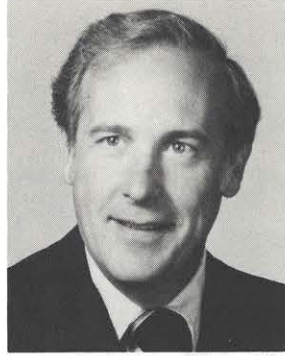
J. F. Meador
Eng. Technologist
GO-Roanoke
30 Years



V. D. Willis
Gen. Rec. Cont. Supv.
GO-Roanoke
30 Years



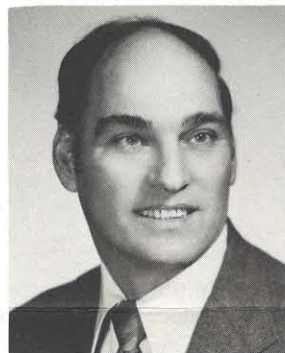
M. T. Roush
Shift Op. Eng.
Philip Sporn
30 Years



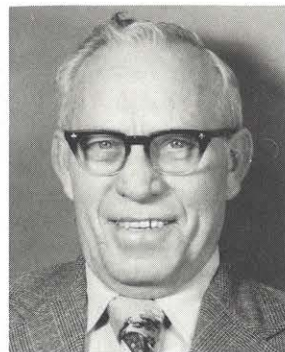
R. D. Webster
Division Manager
Roanoke
30 Years



Jeannette Kidd
Secretary
GO-Roanoke
30 Years



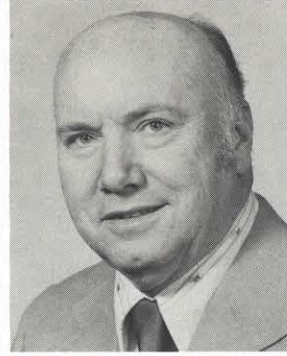
P. C. Elliott
Line Mechanic A
Beckley
30 Years



L. E. Hudson
Meter Electrician A
Charleston
30 Years



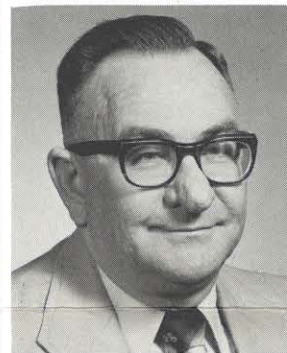
G. R. Smith, Jr.
Eng. Technician Sr.
Pulaski
30 Years



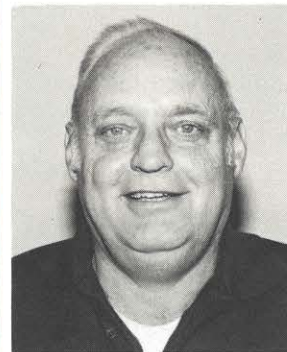
S. H. Martin
Cust. Accts. Asst.
Roanoke
30 Years



E. G. Clevenger
Maint. Mech. A
Philip Sporn
30 Years



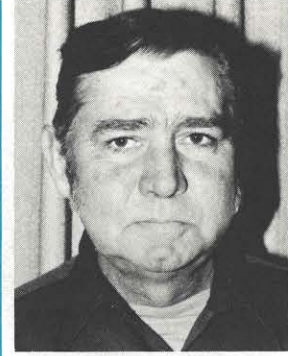
S. J. Farmer
Fuel Records Acct.
GO-Roanoke
25 Years



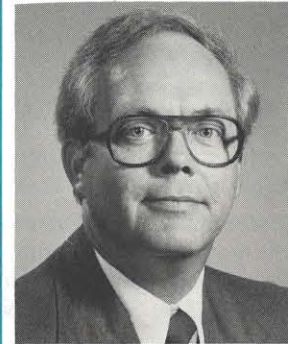
E. D. Cooper
T&D Clerk A
Bluefield
25 Years



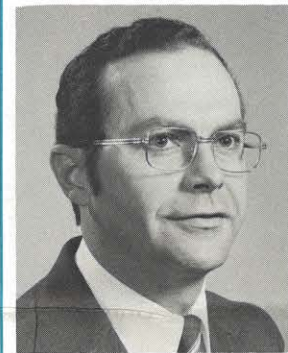
E. J. Wooten
Eng. Technician
GO-Charleston
25 Years



E. B. Gregory
Driver-Ground Helper
Bluefield
25 Years



M. E. McCrary
Asst. Acctg. Mgr.
GO-Roanoke
20 Years



H. E. Rhodes
Labor Relations Supv.
GO-Roanoke
20 Years



F. A. Hicks,
meter service mechanic
A. C. T. Hicks, line
mechanic A. 5 Years:
C. L. Bryant, line
mechanic B. V. H.
Branham, custodian.



Wesley Morrison,
maintenance mechanic A. Michael Nester,
maintenance mechanic A. Roger Hatcher,
maintenance mechanic A.

General Office
15 Years: **Mary Agnes Sublett**, secretary, GO-Roanoke. **D. E. Linkous**, engineering technologist, GO-Abingdon. 10 Years: **C. M. Thacker**, hydro engineer senior, GO-Abingdon. **R. T. Norcross**, electric plant clerk B, GO-Roanoke. **G. W. Drewry**, right of way agent, GO-Roanoke. **W. M. Shafer**, statistical accountant, GO-Roanoke. **J. W. Wolford**, maintenance mechanic A, GO-Roanoke. 5 Years: **H. S. Hubbard**, drafter C, GO-Roanoke. **C. M. Lagrow**, regulatory and statistical reports supervisor, GO-Roanoke.

Huntington
15 Years: **N. C. DeVault**, meter reader. **W. O. Tate**, custodian. 10 Years: **T. J. Gordon**, line mechanic A. **D. S. Fuller**, line mechanic A. **T. E. Wells**, station mechanic A. 5 Years: **J. D. Traylor**, line mechanic B.

Pulaski
10 Years: **D. L. Eversole**, maintenance mechanic B.

Roanoke
10 Years: **J. E. Allie**, customer accounts representative A. **J. B. Aird**, station superintendent-division. **L. D. Miles**, meter electrician D. 5 Years: **F. E. Stone**, line mechanic C. **S. M. Burnette**, T&D clerk C. **B. J. Michael**, line mechanic C. **S. J. Shively**, line mechanic C.

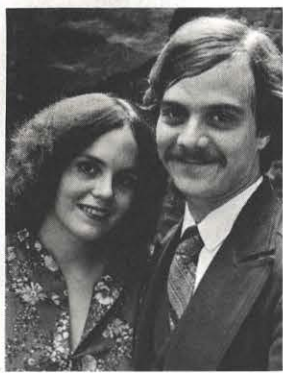
Philip Sporn
10 Years: **J. W. Ohlinger**, maintenance mechanic A. **R. L. Riggs**, unit supervisor. 5 Years: **P. C. Pierce**, maintenance mechanic B. **W. R. Neutzling**, maintenance mechanic A. **M. D. Bevan**, maintenance mechanic B.

BLOOD DONOR HONOR ROLL

Bluefield
Howard Meadows, electrical engineer senior, one gallon.

Roanoke
Sandra McClelland, T&D clerk A, seven gallons.

SYSTEM COUPLES MARRY



Katrina Landon to **Robert E. Pillow**, son of Thomas H. Pillow, Lynchburg power engineer, December 31.



Teresa Ann Evans to **Larry Willington Lively**, son of Ray Lively, Kanawha River Plant operations superintendent, December 16.



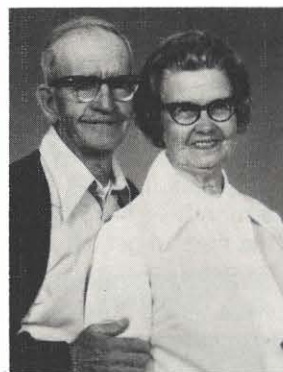
Deborah Ann Grimm, daughter of Berton H. Grimm, maintenance mechanic B, John Amos Plant, to Leonard Lee Adkins, December 22.



Kimberly R. Vanater to **Clarence Bailey**, Charleston meter reader, December 23.

Betty Carneal Chaffin to **James Roland Drenan**, Huntington line crew supervisor NE, January 12.

Maria Stallo to **T. Randall Bias**, son of Leo Bias, retired Huntington accounting supervisor, December 26.



Robert and Lucille Bias celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on December 20, 1978. They have one daughter, two grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. Robert was a tractor operator at Kanawha River Plant before electing early retirement in 1967.

BABY PARADE

Beckley
Jaami', son of **Clifford L. Washington, Jr.**, station mechanic C, December 11.

Charleston
Rachel Elizabeth, daughter of **Bobby Jett**, St. Albans meter reader, December 19.

Cynthia Elizabeth, daughter of **Charles F. Coleman II**, automotive mechanic C, December 28.

Amanda Sherri', daughter of **Greg Keenan**, junior technician, AEP Ash Utilization and Research, December 27.

General Office
Christopher Kyle, chosen son of **Carrie Crawford**, classification and accounts payable clerk A, GO Accounting, Roanoke, adopted December 13.

Brian Michael, son of **Danny Sink**, classification and accounts payable clerk A, GO Accounting, Roanoke, January 15.

Glen Lyn
Roger Wesley, son of **Linda Shepherd**, utility operator, December 7.

Huntington
Kevin Scott, son of **Garry Rayburn**, line mechanic D, Point Pleasant, December 18.

Shelly Marie, daughter of **Corky Lambert**, technician, AEP Lab, November 11.

Kanawha River
Andrea Lisa, daughter of **Ardavaz Shahbazian**, performance engineer, January 2.
Lawrence Edward, II, son of **Lawrence Hancock**, equipment operator, December 29.

Kingsport
Corey David, son of **David Greear**, meter reader, November 29.

Roanoke
Shannon Wayne, son of **Bob Ragland**, drafter A, December 31.

Philip Sporn
Thomas, son of **John Morgan Powell**, maintenance mechanic B, December 14.

John Richard, son of **Samuel Richard Larch**, maintenance engineer, December 17.

Jennifer, daughter of **Robert L. Rutan**, maintenance mechanic C, December 31.

Julie, daughter of **James D. McDougal**, utility operator, January 5.

Thomas, son of **John M. Powell**, maintenance mechanic C, December 14.

MCCLURE SINGS FOR FUN



What does a geology professor, an engineer, insurance salesman, grocery store magnate and an Appalachian customer service representative have in common? A men's chorus and barbershop quartets.

George McClure, Huntington customer service representative, is a member of a men's chorus called the Huntingtones. This group is included in the McIntosh Western Division of the Johnny Appleseed District, with some 3100 members in Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. George sings tenor with the Huntingtones

and is treasurer of the group. The Huntingtones also form two well know barbershop quartets, the Masqueraders and another known as Almost Heaven.

According to their members, barbershop and chorus are the most sublime forms of recreation ever invented. If you sing just for the fun of it, you are a true barber-shopper even though there is stiff competition between chapters. George says his most memorable experience was when the Huntingtones won fifth place in a recent Western Division chorus contest. To place that high among the 16 or 18 groups entered was quite an accomplishment. Judging was based on stage presence, sound, blend, interpretation and arrangement.

The quartets and chorus sing for school groups, churches, nursing homes, business groups and others. And what a show they put on! At one of the quartet's performances, to the delight of the audience, a tenor removed his toupee to emphasize a song ending on a high note!

NEW FACES AROUND THE SYSTEM

John Amos Plant
Charles Williams, maintenance mechanic C. **Burl Hunter**, **Rodrick Richardson**, **Larry Hodges**, **John Miller**, **Michael Mosteller** and **Richard Brooks**, maintenance mechanics D.

Bluefield
Galvester Wade, line mechanic D, Welch. **Darren Simpkins**, line mechanic D.

Central Machine Shop
Felix Harris, drafter C.

Centralized Plant Maintenance
David Watson, **William Massar**, **John Pickering**, **James Mosier, Jr.**, and **Earl Neely**, maintenance mechanics B.

General Office
Charles Bailey, right of way agent B, Charleston; **Gary Gilpin**, engineering technologist, Roanoke;

Earl Harrison, custodian, Roanoke; **Shirley Kelley** and **Donna Cowling**, junior key entry operators, Roanoke; **Larry Cannon**, transmission mechanic D, Abingdon.

Huntington
Bryan King, line mechanic D, Point Pleasant. **Gene McKee** and **Vicky Mays**, technicians, AEP Lab-Huntington.

Kanawha River
Mark Tackett and **Joseph Wilson**, utility workers B.

Lynchburg
Wayne Clark, tracer.

Pulaski
Jackie Phillips, meter reader, Hillsville.

FRIENDS WE'LL MISS



Omer Lewis Robinson, 70, retired Bluefield accounting supervisor, died December 24. A native of Fountain Run, Kentucky, he began his career in 1930 as local office manager in Kentucky Power's Pikeville office and retired August 31, 1973. Robinson is survived by his widow Brooke, 1224 Heatherwood Road, Bluefield, W. Va.; one daughter, one son and two granddaughters.



Maxwell L. Saunders, Sr., 71, retired Pulaski lineman A, died January 6. A native of Pulaski, Virginia, he began his career in 1928 as a lineman helper and elected early disability retirement October 31, 1966. Saunders is survived by his widow Hallie, 619 Franklin Avenue,

Pulaski, Va.; four daughters, three sons, one brother, one sister, 14 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. His son, M. L. Saunders, Jr., is a station mechanic A in Pulaski.



Woodrow Wilson Scott, 60, Roanoke driver-ground helper, died January 6. A native of Walton, Virginia, he began his career in 1945 as a groundman and had been on long term disability leave since February 1976. Scott is survived by his widow Margaret, 4019 Main Avenue, Roanoke, Va.; one son, two daughters, and four sisters.



Lloyd C. Mollohan, 74, retired Beckley station foreman, died January 14. A native of Frametown, West Virginia, he began his career in 1925 as an electrician in Charleston and retired May 1, 1967. Mollohan is survived by his widow Laura, 101 Mollohan Drive, Beckley, W. Va.; one son and one daughter.

Ruby R. Chandler, 81, retired system station operator B in General Office Operations, Roanoke, died January 14. A native of Bedford, Virginia, she began her career in 1943 as an operator and retired May 1, 1962.

97-YEAR-YOUNG J. T. HARROLD IS OLDEST APCO RETIREE



Jaybird and Mary Harrold

Javen T. "Jaybird" Harrold, Appalachian Power's oldest living retiree, will be 97 years young on February 11.

Jaybird was employed by an Appalachian predecessor, the Kentucky and West Virginia Power Company, from 1915 to 1923, when he left for about ten months. Returning in November of that year, he remained with the company until retirement at age 65 in 1947. He went to work as a fireman at the old Sprigg Plant and also worked as a boiler repairman, lineman and groundman during his career.

After retiring, Jaybird and his wife Mary moved to North Carolina and raised poultry for several years before returning to Williamson. Their home and possessions were lost in the disastrous Williamson flood of 1977, and his health declined somewhat after being in the hospital for several weeks in the aftermath of the flood. Although confined to a wheelchair for two years, he still has an obvious zest for life.

Jaybird, Mary and their daughter, Sue Akers, who has lived with them for several years, moved into a mobile home at Varney, West Virginia. Close by lives another daughter, Virginia Grimmett. The two daughters make sure Jaybird and Mary are well cared for.

When asked if he recalled any of his former co-workers, Jaybird smiled and named Amos Fields, Ben Scalf, Doc Salton and several others. He said, "Doc Salton was always telling me, 'Jaybird, slow down. You'll kill these young folk!'"

Jaybird has always been a man who "had to be doing something". Virginia remarked, "He was always determined to work. My husband used to

hide the lawn mower when Dad visited. You know, only two years ago, he could lay his palms flat on the floor. Right now, in bed, he can bring his feet back over his head."

Sue notes, "He's in and out of bed. He always wants to straighten his own bedclothes. We can't fix them to suit him. He wants everything just so. Except for the time in the hospital after the flood, Dad was in the hospital only one day in 1978. He never uses his hearing aid or glasses, doesn't need them.

Jaybird kept a diary of his years with the company, recording on a daily basis people, places and happenings. The diary was lost in the flood and with it went an accurate history of the old Williamson and Sprigg Districts. "I can't write anymore," says Jaybird. However, he recalls that in the old days "you carried insulators and other equipment on your back to the tops of the mountains. That's when Salton would tell me to slow down."

Asked if he thought he could still carry an insulator to the top of a mountain, he replied, "I'll do my part of it." When a daughter asked, "Dad, do you really think you could do that now?", he answered, "No, I couldn't, but I'd like to." Determination shone in his eyes when he said, "If they've got the nerve to dump me at the sawmill (put me to work), I might just hand out there." Sue asked, "You'd like that, wouldn't you?" Jaybird replied, "Be crazy if I didn't like it."

When asked how he managed to stay in such good physical condition all these years, Virginia commented, "Work. He was always working. He even made us kids do exercises." With a laugh, she added, "He almost worked us to death. But I'll tell you his job gave him a long life."

In Jaybird's case, longevity is spelled with a capital L. His father lived to the age of 98; his mother, 97. And he and Mary will celebrate their 66th wedding anniversary on March 5. It is a union that has been blessed many times over. Jaybird is the eldest of five generations — six until a short time ago. These include numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. One grandchild, Sue's son Jerry Akers, is an area service restorer in Matewan.

Surrounded by a loving family, Jaybird is very alert, obviously proud of his age and, at the same time, thankful he has been permitted a long life.

Appalachian Power holds a special place in his heart. According to Mary, "The company has been mighty good to us. They were very nice when our house was flooded, very concerned."

Indeed, Jaybird holds a very special place in the hearts of the people at Appalachian Power!

APCO STILL MY COMPANY



"The day Appalachian called me to go to work was the happiest day of my life," states Andy Good, retired Roanoke lineman A.

Andy's electric utility career actually began in 1926 with an APCo predecessor, the Roanoke Railway and Electric Company. He recalls, "Mr. W. S. Peak, district superintendent then, hired me on a temporary basis to help wire the Walnut Avenue offices which were under construction. They had a big push on purchasing stock; and, when I went to work, I signed up for two shares. It was \$100 a share, and the company took \$2.50 out of each check to pay for it."

He continues, "About two months after I hired on, I

told Mr. Peak if he would put me on permanent that I would buy three more shares of company stock. He said, 'okay, okay' and I was on regular."

Andy adds, "When the two companies split in 1926, I got on the wrong side of the fence, ending up with the railway company. That job lasted nine years, and I quit. It was the hardest and worst work for the money that I've ever done. It was during the Depression though, and I guess I was lucky to have a job. The railway (streetcar) signals were my responsibility, and they would get all crossed up, which meant having to go out on call all hours of the night. The pay was the same regardless — \$110 a month — but I had to work day and night most of the time to get it."

"When I left the railway company, it was to go to work for Norfolk and Western. They laid me off soon after. The future looked pretty bleak, having a wife and two kids to feed and a mortgage, too."

It was Jimmy White, then Roanoke district manager, who was responsible for Andy returning to work for Appalachian. "I knew him real well and Mr. W. I. Whitefield, division manager, too. I think Jimmy hired me just to get rid of me pestering him."

Andy enjoys telling this story about his very good friend and former co-worker, Austin Neal, now retired GO senior staff engineer. "Every time I've thought about this incident, I always had to laugh. Austin came into the office one day, and it was obvious he was upset over something. About every other word, he threw out a cuss word. He told us he'd been involved in a wreck up the road and added, 'What makes it even worse, the police checked my permit, and it had expired a month ago.' Right after we all had a big laugh, I left the office to go on a trouble call, and I kept thinking about that driver's permit. When I pulled mine out, it had expired three months earlier. It meant taking the test and whole works over. I don't know if I ever told Austin about that or not."

Andy also has kind words to say about R. A. "Pete" Armistead, retired Roanoke division superintendent. "He was always so good to me, he was a great boss."

It was Pete who sent Andy out on a complaint call which turned out to be rather unusual. "About ten years before I retired, Pete sent me down to Lithia. The property owner had called to say that a steer had gotten a chain wrapped up in our guy wire and choked to death. When I arrived, I didn't know what to think. There were several people standing around, and I didn't know what they might say. The owner said, 'I left it just the way I found it — didn't want to change anything until you could look at it.' When we started to undo it, I said, 'Someone has purposely chained this steer to the guy. There's no way it could have hooked through the loop that way.' He looked at it real close and said, 'You know, I think you're right.' He said he sort of suspected someone trying to steal it after the other cows went in."

About his career, Andy said, "My sailing with the company was pretty smooth most of the time. When the company sent me a letter recently, raising my retirement, it made me very, very happy. I couldn't find adequate words to show my true appreciation. It just goes to show how really good the company is. It's still my company."

Andy claims to have done nothing "real constructive" since his retirement. "My friends and neighbors know I'm retired and call on me right often to act as handyman. I always help out, and I've never charged a penny. It makes me feel better knowing that I've helped someone."

"I've been very happy during retirement with the exception of losing my wife seven years ago. She was a wonderful lady, wife and mother to our children."

Andy was complimentary of the company helping him to educate his children. "The company and my chicken business. They were in school a long time. I averaged selling about 200 dozen eggs each week for about 14 years. My sons, of whom I'm very proud, have managed to get good jobs and doctorates in their respective fields."

His son, Melvin, is assistant director of the Division of Cultural Arts for the North Carolina State Department and in 1978 was elected to a two-year term as the state PTA president.

Andrew, Jr., is a minister in the United Church of Christ, Sherburne, New York.

Andy, a member of the official board of Trinity Methodist Church of Roanoke, is still active in church work himself.

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