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Cover

Troy Young visits his grandparents' farm near Boones Mill, Virginia, to select just the right turkey for his Thanksgiving feast. Troy is the 4½-year-old son of Betty Young, junior stenographer, GO Land Management, Roanoke.

Savings plan unit values

Date	Fixed Income Fund		Equity Fund		AEP Stock Fund	
	VPU	UCPD	VPU	UCPD	VPU	UCPD
1/31/81	\$1.2907	.7748	\$1.7132	.5837	\$1.0145	.9857
2/28/81	1.3001	.7692	1.7508	.5712	.9748	1.0259
3/31/81	1.3106	.7630	1.8171	.5503	1.0064	.9936
4/30/81	1.3208	.7571	1.7770	.5627	.9912	1.0089
5/31/81	1.3317	.7509	1.7862	.5598	1.0340	.9671
6/30/81	1.3425	.7449	1.7768	.5628	1.0757	.9296
7/31/81	1.3537	.7387	1.7805	.5616	1.0842	.9223
8/31/81	1.3652	.7325	1.6956	.5898	1.1047	.9052
9/30/81	1.3767	.7264	1.6172	.6184	1.0519	.9507

VPU — value per unit
 UCPD — units credited per dollar

HOW TO READ THE ABOVE CHART: The first column lists the days on which unit values are figured; the second shows the market price or value of each unit on that day; and the third indicates how many units you could have bought for \$1 on that day. For example, if the market value or "value per unit" of the Equity Fund were 50¢ on the valuation date (last day of each month), then "units credited per dollar" would be 2.000. This also holds true for the AEP Stock Fund and the Fixed Income Fund.

The variable interest rate for October on the Fixed Income Fund is 14.16%. All monies placed in this fund after April 1 will be credited with an interest rate of 14.16% during the month of October. □

Synowiec named assistant manager at Amos Plant

David B. Synowiec was promoted to the position of assistant manager of John E. Amos Plant on November 1, succeeding Virgil Adams, Jr., who is on LTD leave. Synowiec rises to the position from that of operations superintendent at Mountaineer Plant.



The filling of this position is consistent with the establishment earlier this year of a second assistant manager's position at Amos.

An electrical engineering graduate of West Virginia University, he began his utility career in 1966 as an electrical engineer for Ohio Power Company in Zanesville. He transferred to Kammer Plant in 1967 as a test engineer and later worked as performance engineer and performance supervising engineer. He moved to Mitchell Plant in 1972 and subsequently held the position of control supervisor, plant performance superintendent and operations superintendent. Synowiec was lead start-up engineer for Cardinal #3 and transferred to Mountaineer Plant in 1979. □

Huffman earns CPS rating

Ann Huffman, office services supervisor, GO General Services, Roanoke, has been awarded the rating of certified professional secretary after successfully passing a two-day, six-part examination. She was presented a certificate by a representative from the Institute of Certifying Secretaries at a dinner meeting last month.



A 24-year veteran with Appalachian, Huffman is working toward an associate degree in business management from Virginia Western Community College. □

Appalachian ranks third in nation in generating efficiency

Among the hundreds of electric utilities in the United States, Appalachian Power Company ranked third in the generating efficiency of its power plants in 1980.

Only Duke Power Company and Canal Electric Company (a single-plant utility in New England) ranked ahead of Appalachian. In 1979, Appalachian had achieved the record for being the most efficient in the country.

The rankings were disclosed in a nationwide survey, completed recently by AEP's Financial & Regulatory Reporting Division of the heat rates achieved by fossil-fueled generating stations (fueled by coal, oil, or gas) of all utilities. (Heat rate, the measure of the generating efficiency of a power plant or company, is the number of British thermal units of heat energy required to produce one kilowatt-hour of electricity).

Four of Appalachian's plants were among the top 15 in the nation in 1980. Clinch River Plant at Carbo, Va. ranked fifth; John E. Amos Plant at Morgan's Landing, W.Va. ranked eighth; Mountaineer Plant at New Haven, W.Va. ranked 13th; and Kanawha River Plant at Glasgaw, W.Va. ranked 15th.

The American Electric Power System, of which Appalachian is a part, ranked second among holding companies in the nation during 1980. In addition to Appalachian, other AEP operating companies also performed well. Kentucky Power Company was fourth in the nation; Indiana & Michigan Electric Company fifth; and Ohio Power Company tenth. In addition, Ohio Valley Electric Corporation and Indiana-Kentucky Electric Corporation (their plants were designed, engineered, and built under AEP supervision) ranked seventh and eighth.

Appalachian's heat rate in 1980 was 9,464.

The Standings

	Heat Rate (Btus/kwh)
Holding Companies:	
1. New England Gas & Electric	9,580
2. American Electric Power	9,879
Operating Companies:	
1. Duke Power Co.	9,398
2. Canal Electric Co.	9,446
3. Appalachian Power	9,464
4. Kentucky Power	9,661
5. Ind. & Mich. Electric	9,695
7. Ohio Valley Electric	9,737
8. Indiana-Kentucky Elec.	9,849
10. Ohio Power Co.	9,922
Power Plants:	
1. Belews Creek (Duke)	8,871
5. Clinch River (App.)	9,371
8. John E. Amos (App./O.P.)	9,427
13. Mountaineer (App.)	9,482
15. Kanawha River (App.)	9,500
23. Breed (I&M)	9,616
Generating Units:	
1. Belews Creek #2	8,802
10. John E. Amos #2	9,202
19. Clinch River #1	9,353
24. Clinch River #2	9,374
28. Clinch River #3	9,383

APCo granted \$20.5 million increase in Va.

In a final order issued last month, the State Corporation Commission granted Appalachian Power Company a \$20,555,078 rate increase for its customers in Virginia, an overall rate of return of 11.40% and a return on equity of 15.75%. The new rates were effective on October 13.

Appalachian had filed a request with the SCC on May 15 for a \$28.8 million increase in rates for all of its retail customers, effective June 15.

In the order, the SCC also allowed a delayed payment charge of 1½% per month on account balances which remain outstanding at the time of preparation of the next succeeding bill, to become effective December 1, 1981.

Additionally, the SCC allowed an increase in the company's bad check charge to \$10, an increase in the annual fixed charge rate applicable to extensions of service, and increases in service and connection fees to \$2.75 and \$7.50, respectively.

The order also made permanent two interim rate increases: an \$11.1 million increase which became effective February 1, 1980, and a \$22.3 million increase which went into effect on September 15, 1980. □

APCo seeks fuel rehearing

Appalachian Power Company last month petitioned the Public Service Commission of West Virginia for a rehearing and reargument in two fuel-related cases filed earlier this year.

In the semi-annual fuel review filed August 17, Appalachian requested an increase in its fuel expense recovery factor which would have produced approximately \$18-\$19 million in additional revenue over the period October 1, 1981 through March 31, 1982. In addition, Appalachian requested that it be allowed to recover over the six months beginning October 1 its under-recovery of non-affiliated coal

expense of approximately \$6.1 million experienced over the six months ended September 30, 1981.

On May 14, Appalachian filed a petition with the PSC, requesting that it be allowed to surcharge its customers for the recovery of the 1981 strike-related costs experienced by its affiliated coal companies. The requested 2/10 of a cent surcharge would have amounted to an additional \$2 for a residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt-hours a month. The company had asked that the surcharge be made effective June 1 and continue until extraordinary costs were fully recovered.

The Commission issued an order October 1, following a combined hearing on the two cases on September 24. All of the company's requests were denied and the Commission ordered that the fuel recovery level currently in rates is reasonable and should continue for the period October 1, 1981, through March 31, 1982. □

EPP contest off to good start

At the end of September, the second month in Appalachian Power's Equal Payment Plan (EPP) contest for employees, 5,851 customers had signed up for the EPP. The company's goal is to add 25,000 new EPP customers by January 31, 1982.

The prize winners for September are as follows:

Location	Most sign-ups	Draw winner
Abingdon	Linda Kegley	Pat Cornett
Beckley	Elizabeth Nixon	JoAnn Richmond
Bluefield	Dianna Bishop	Billie Woolridge
Charleston	Carma Slater	Doris Foster
Huntington	Pauline Gilkerson	Vickie Sowards
Logan	Debbie Bailey	Ona Murray
Lynchburg	Joe Ann Otey	Ami Watson
Pulaski	E. L. Mahler	Shirley Moon
Roanoke	Martha Jones	Patricia Brogan

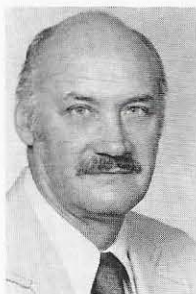
The grand prize winner's name will be drawn at the end of the contest from the names of the 54 monthly winners. □



Families of Central Machine Shop employees had an opportunity to see where their parents or spouses work during open house October 24. Some 233 attended the event, which featured a tour of the shop and a buffet luncheon. Guests viewed a videotape about the shop's operation. Sandy Byus, Charleston customer services advisor, gave a demonstration on holiday cooking for the ladies. Jack Shaver, Charleston administrative assistant, and Harold Wiseman, Charleston power engineer, presented a demonstration on electrical safety. Special guests included T. A. Seery, staff engineer, AEP nuclear engineering division, and J. A. Moore, retired Amos Plant manager, both of whom were instrumental in the formation of Central Machine Shop; E. A. Painter, division manager, AEP plant maintenance division; Nick Roomy, vice president of Appalachian, T. W. Abolin, vice president — operations for Appalachian; and Doug Forbes, Appalachian's safety director.

Adams joins CMS in new position

Edward E. Adams has joined Central Machine Shop in the new position of equipment inspection superintendent.



His responsibilities include providing plant services in the area of planning, coordination, direction and management for the inspection and repair of turbine generator and/or other major

power plant equipment on the AEP System. He will also participate in the development and execution of training programs for AEP personnel in the inspection and repair of turbine generator equipment.

Jones worked for the Joe E. Seagram Company and Jefferson Proving Ground, both in Indiana, before joining IKEC's Clifty Creek Plant as a master maintenance man in 1955. He has been with General Electric Company in Omaha, Nebraska, as a field engineer in the I. & S. E. Department since 1968. □

Third quarter System earnings show decline

American Electric Power Company, Inc., reported third quarter earnings of \$87,915,697 or 55 cents a share, a decline from the \$93,464,725 or 64 cents a share reported for the same period in 1980.

For the 12 months ending September 30, AEP reported earnings of \$337,843,454 or \$2.22 per share, compared with restated earnings of \$344,553,668 or \$2.40 per share for the same period in 1980.

AEP Chairman W. S. White, Jr., said the chief factors for the earnings decline were the continued sluggishness of the economy in major parts of the seven-state region served by the

utility holding company's eight operating electric companies, as well as sharply increased interest rates and extraordinarily mild weather.

The decline in earnings per share also reflects the increases in the average number of shares outstanding. For the quarter, the number of shares increased 9.5 percent and the increase was 6 percent for the 12-month period. □

APCO seeks suit dismissal

Appalachian Power Company on October 18 filed its response to a suit which had been brought against the company, the Virginia State Corporation Commission and the United States of America by Howard E. Musser and some 65 other customers of the company.

The suit asked for damages as a result of action by Congress in 1976 that killed the company's Blue Ridge pumped storage and hydro-electric project on the New River.

In its filing in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Virginia, the company asked for dismissal of the action against Appalachian.

The company's motion cited several legal reasons for dismissal. It noted that the company had fully litigated the issues in the Blue Ridge case, including an appeal to the United States Supreme Court. The company also contends that federal statutes prohibit federal courts from exercising jurisdiction over constitutional objections to rates fixed by state regulatory commissions.

The company had been granted a license in 1975 to construct the project by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (then the Federal Power Commission). Congress in 1976 passed a bill designating the portion of the New River in the project area a wild and scenic river, thus effectively invalidating the license.

Appalachian's president, John W. Vaughan, noted the company has repeatedly pointed out that its customers were the losers because of Con-

gress' actions. "Because of this, the company filed a claim against the federal government and litigated the matter to the United States Supreme Court which refused to hear the case. We believe we have fulfilled our obligation," Vaughan said. □

AEP board declares dividend

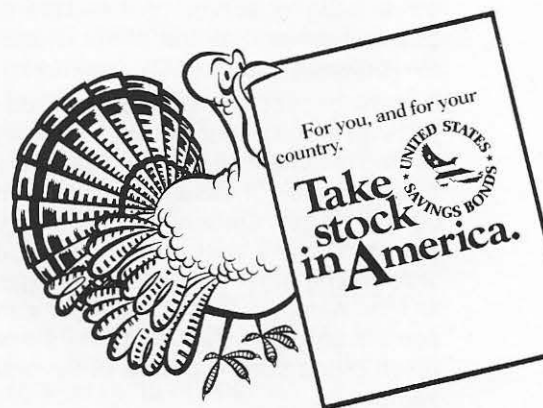
American Electric Power Company's Board of Directors last month declared a regular quarterly cash dividend of 56½¢ per share on the common stock, payable December 10 to shareowners of record November 10. □

APCo sells preferred at record high

Appalachian Power sold a million shares of cumulative preferred stock on October 28 at a record high annual cost to the company of 17.2%. The number of shares the company had originally intended to sell was reduced to one million because of the high cost.

The shares were purchased by a syndicate led by First Boston Corporation, the winning bidder.

The money will be used by Appalachian to repay unsecured short term debt of the company and for other corporate purposes. □



Figures can tell you a story



Smith

For Woody Smith, sitting down to pore over a column of numbers is like curling up with a good novel.

"I can read figures and things just like somebody else reading a book," Woody said in an interview prior to his November 1 retirement. "Figures mean something. They'll tell you a story if you know how to read them."

Of course, during 36 years in the accounting department at Kingsport Power Company, Woody had ample opportunity to indulge in numbers. Over the years he gained a reputation as a keen observer of trends and changes as well as the effect of certain policies on the utility business.

Reaching over his shoulder, Woody pulls an old notebook from a cabinet behind his chair. "I keep a little three-ring notebook of essential things that go on. I get certain reports every month. I'll take that information and enter some of it in columns on pages in that notebook. At a glance I can see the changes, the trends that have taken place over a period of several years.

"Well, is that a good change, a change that we want? Or is there

something developing that needs our attention? I have certain things that I take a look at periodically that tell me how the office is going," he said.

Woody's career with Kingsport Power started jokingly, for him at any rate. "My wife Reba was working for the office manager, Jimmy Duncan. It was during the war, and I had decided not to go back to the job I had had before. One day Jimmy asked me if I wanted to go to work. Just kidding, I said yes. As it turned out, when I was discharged from the service, I came in and went to work," Woody said.

"That was in January of 1946. I started out as a petty cash clerk. They were refunding deposits. It took about two years to finish that. After that they made me a utility clerk. I moved around the office doing different jobs," he said. In 1965 he became customer accounts supervisor.

Years of reviewing customers' bills taught him a few tricks. "I've done this time and time again on high bill complaints because I used to handle just about all of them that came in. Someone would come in, and there would be no reason for their bill to have gone up. But you can look at their usage pattern and come back and say, 'Your baby was born at such and such a time.' And you hadn't even asked them if they had had a baby. But there is a definite pattern. Usage drops off just before the wife goes to the hospital. Then, usage goes up for a couple of months after the wife comes home with a new baby.

"I only got fooled on that one time. This one fellow was 70-some years old, and I had asked him everything else. Finally, I said, 'Is there a new baby in your home?' He popped out in a smile from ear to ear, and that settled his complaint," Woody smiled.

"The name of the game is change," he noted. "That's all we've had in the 35 years I've been here. Some people resist it right down to the last wire, and others are eager for a change and adapt right off. Overall it's a good place to work or I wouldn't have stayed here. I'm that independent. All in all, it's a challenge, and I've enjoyed it." □

I'll just let the good Lord guide me

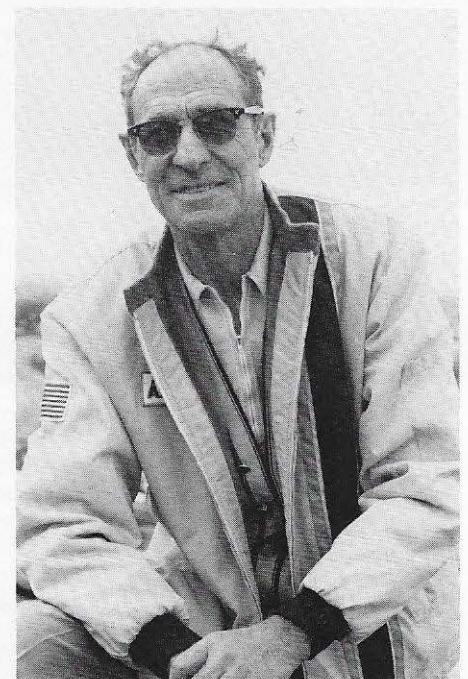
Kimber Allen "Mose" Hayes, on November 1, ended a 36-year, 16-day Appalachian career during which he "stripped just about all the busswork the company's got and rebussed a great part of its stations," he says with a smile.

Mose, a native of the Bluefield, Va., area, has lived in Tazewell County most of his life. "Except for a short time as a boy when we moved to West Virginia," he adds.

During World War II, Mose served in the Army's field artillery as a communication repairman, working on radio transmitters, telephone switchboards and related equipment.

"I came home in September 1945 and a couple of days later applied for a job with Appalachian," he says. "I got the job, but I had to wait until the 15th of October to start work."

Mose spent his entire Appalachian career in the GO T&D Transmission Department. "I worked on the ground for a day or two, and then I started



Hayes

climbing. Climbed thereafter until I became a foreman in 1963," he remembers.

The retiring transmission general supervisor, who works out of the Bluefield Service Center, says he has "done everything" in connection with installing and maintaining transmission lines. "I've seen this company grow from one using conductors the size of shoestrings to what it has today. There's been a lot of change," he adds.

As he enters retirement, Mose says he plans to spend more time doing woodwork. "I've got a wood shop loaded with tools. Some are brand new and haven't ever been used. They've got dust on 'em," he says.

He says he'll build anything that strikes his fancy. In the past he has built furniture and cabinets. He helped build his home and a garage with a large shop in the rear.

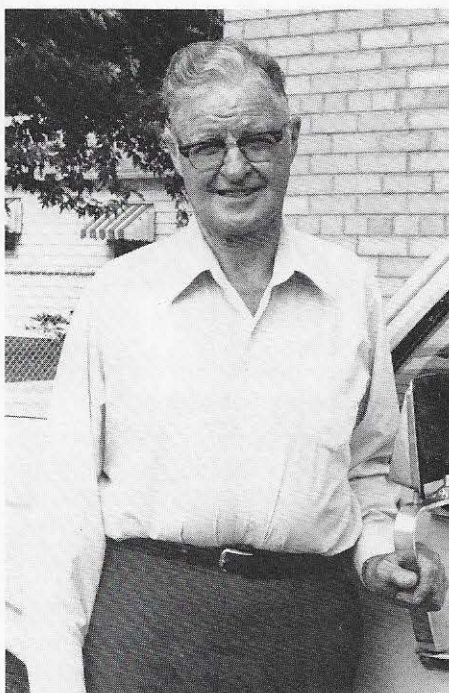
Otherwise, he says his retirement plan is to "do whatever the good Lord wants me to do. I'll just let him guide me," he says.

Mose and his wife Mabel have two daughters, one in Bluefield and another in Galax, Va. □

People still call me when there's trouble

"People still call me whenever there's trouble even though it's been five years since I worked," says Claude Bernard Smith, Montgomery area service restorer in the Charleston Division. "I looked after Montgomery, Smythers and on up toward Oak Hill and Pratt. The last three or four years before I left, calls would come in to the dispatcher. Before that, my number was one of three listed in the directory under Appalachian."

Smitty continues, "I was in construction work for about six years before I came with the power company. That was an awful good experience. I worked around the Charleston area on buildings and then went to Florida



Smith

with the same contractor and worked for about a year and a half, helping build an Air Base. I started out as a meter reader for Appalachian in 1941, left in '45 and came back the next year as a laborer in the Distribution Department in Charleston. Then I worked several years in Nitro-St. Albans before transferring to the Montgomery office in 1952."

It was Smitty who was responsible for Charles Simmons, now vice president — construction and maintenance, joining Appalachian. "Charles' mother and dad live right near me. I asked Jack Lloyd if he would give Charles a job and he did. Charles is my pride and joy," Smitty says.

Smitty's own career with Appalachian was cut short in September 1976, when he went on LTD leave after sustaining serious injuries in a fall from a tree. He officially retired November 1.

"I would really like to travel some," Smitty says, "but I find I can't sit down very long. I have to get up and walk around. I have a cabin in Randolph so I do have a place to go to hunt and fish. I have a garden at home and one at camp, too. I like to putter around and do things. I'm not an expert at anything, but working on construction like I did, I can do most

anything that needs to be done around home.

"There is a little grade school across from my house, and my wife Freda is an assistant cook there. When the cook doesn't show, they call her and she just walks across to the school."

Smitty has one son, who is an insurance agent in Charleston, and three grandchildren. He attends the Deepwater Methodist Church. □

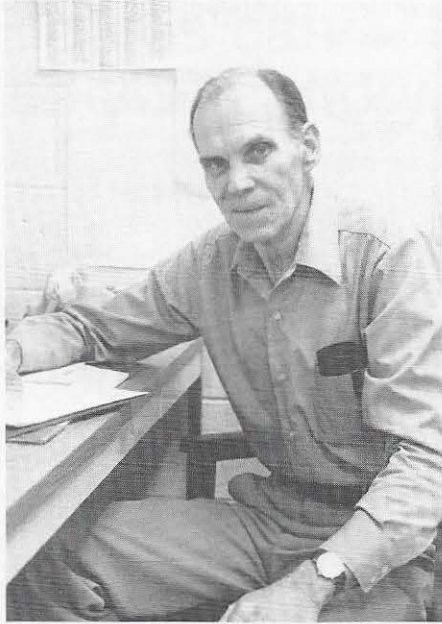
I've always been a company man

"I've been around eight new units in my time with the company," says George Alfred Jeffers, who retired November 1 as assistant shift operating engineer at Mountaineer Plant. "I didn't have anything to do with putting this one (Mountaineer) on, but I helped on Sporn 3, 4 and 5; Mitchell 1 and Amos 1, 2 and 3."

George continues, "I was hired in 1950 as a laborer at Sporn. I guess I was in the labor gang less than a week and transferred to operations. I moved pretty quickly with those new units coming on and had worked up to assistant shift operating engineer at Sporn by 1966. I was startup engineer on Mitchell 1 and in 1970 got a chance to go to Amos with Al Moore (now retired plant manager). I transferred to Mountaineer in December of '79 and was the one who got the operations improvement program started here.

"There have been many changes in the units and the method of doing things in the last 30 years. I guess Sporn was the first centralized control room, where the running of the boiler and turbine was all in one place. There was a revolution in technology when the supercritical unit 5 was built, and then we got to the 800 mw units beginning with Mitchell and the 1300s at Amos. Things we used to do by hand can now be done by pushing a button. It's hard for some people to realize how one 1300 mw unit can put out more kilowatts than five smaller units at Sporn."

George continues, "I am a company man and have been ever since the



Jeffers

first day I walked in. When I was at Sporn, I used to go home and eat supper and then come back and work until 9 or 10 o'clock. I thought the plant couldn't run without me. But then I was off three months after an ulcer operation and found out they could get along anyway.

"I enjoyed the work, but the thing I will remember the most is the people I worked with. A couple of guys who helped me are gone now — Ralph Warner and Phil Wolpert. Wilbur Dennis I remember for many things. Ron Wentz, Amos operations superintendent, helped me. And Andy Trawick and Bill Robinson have been real good to me. I can't name all the people I worked with, but they have all been real fine people.

"After I retire, Pauline and I want to go to Florida for two or three weeks. Her aunt and uncle go down to New Smyrna Beach every winter, and we like to go down and fish with them. We like it down there, but we won't go permanently. I got enough of Florida when I spent 17 months there during World War II. I was a radio operator and instructor with the Army Air Force Signal Corps for 17 months, then I spent another 17 months overseas in China-India-Burma. I've been around the world and that is the way I got around — the Army sent me."

A member of the St. Joseph Catholic Church in Mason, W.Va., George has a ham radio, which he operates at both UHF and VHF. He also dabbles

in string art and makes his own designs instead of buying kits to put together. The Jeffers' have three children and six grandchildren. □

Charleston men aid customer

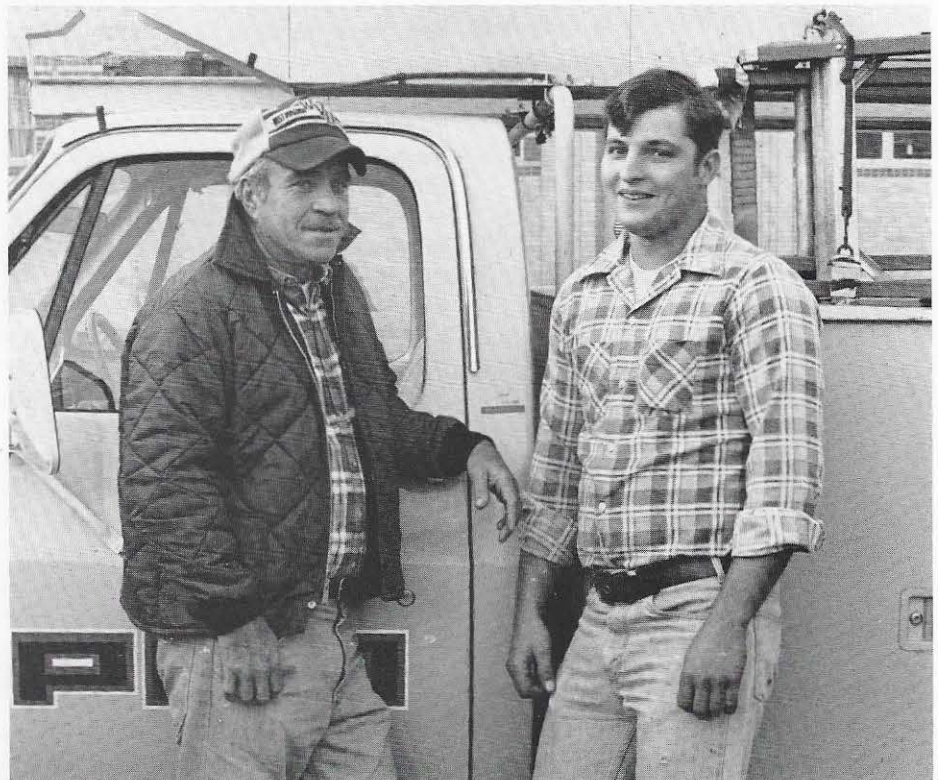
When two North Charleston employees went out on a job to upgrade service to a home recently, little did they realize they would end up possibly saving the customer's life.

Dick Bradley, meter service mechanic A, and Ray Fletcher, line mechanic D, arrived at the job site, and Dick knocked on the door and said he was from the power company. A woman inside the home called out that she was sick and couldn't get out of bed. When Dick entered the house, at her request, he recalls that the woman was shaking all over. "It was a hairy situation for a while. I thought at first she was having a heart attack. I asked her what was wrong and she said she couldn't breathe.

"I noticed an oxygen tank sitting on

the floor and a hose going to the bed. She told me that her husband had gone out to play golf, and the hose had slipped out of her nose and she was so nervous she couldn't put it back. She was too weak to get out of bed to call for help on the kitchen phone. I put the hose back in for her and left after she assured me her husband would be back in a couple of hours.

"The next day when we went back to finish the job, she told me how much she appreciated our help. She explained that she has emphysema and has to stay on oxygen 18 out of 24 hours. There were houses on both sides," Dick recalls, "but it would have been too bad if we hadn't happened along." □



Dick Bradley, left, and Ray Fletcher

Retirement doesn't slow Bryan's work in community

On the eve of his retirement seven years ago, Clancy Bryan said, "We don't have a big rocking chair to loaf in."

That has certainly been true. Bryan may have shifted gears when he retired as executive vice president of Kingsport Power Company, but he didn't slow down very much.

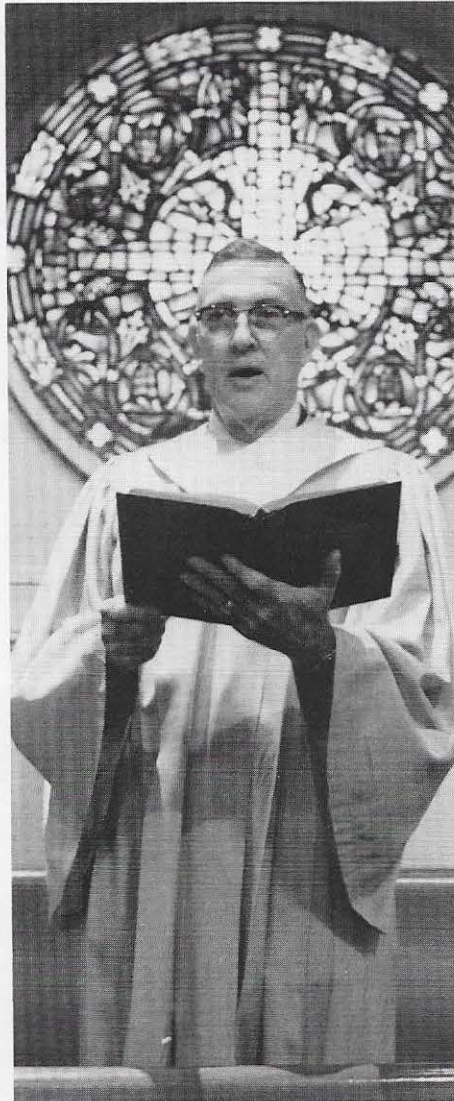
Bryan's numerous community activities are rooted in his nearly 45 years with the power company. "Kingsport Power always had a strong place in the community life as it developed during the years. We always became a part of whatever community endeavors were underway," Bryan said.

He offered an example. "We've had a successful Community Chest drive for 50 years. Back in the Forties I was drive chairman for three years in a row. I was the only one they have ever had to handle it three years in a row. I'm not bragging. I'm just saying that was the degree of involvement the company had in our community, that they were willing to let someone from the company have that responsibility," he said.

It's obvious he did not approach community work as an obligation or something that was done strictly for appearances. "My wife and I have looked on retirement as an extension of some of the things that we've put our life investment into over the years. If it has been beneficial over the years to yourself and your community, then a continuation is most worthwhile," he said.

Throughout his life in Kingsport (he knew only one family in 1929 when he first worked for the company as a coop student from the University of Tennessee), one activity has been constant and unbroken. For over 50 years he has been a member of the choir of First Baptist Church. "Honestly, the most active service and where there has been great joy has been in the music ministry," he said. "I can't sing like I once thought I could, but I've enjoyed it."

Bryan is also among the lay leaders of



Bryan

his church, having served as a deacon for over 45 years and in an active capacity in five of the past seven years.

Prior to his retirement, Bryan served on the boards of Kingsport Federal Savings and Loan Association and Holston Valley Community Hospital as well as president of the Kiwanis Club and Chamber of Commerce. He remains an advisory director of Heritage Federal S&L, a successor institution, and is on the advisory board of what is now called Holston Valley Hospital and Medical Center.

"Through Kiwanis we have organized an American Association of Retired Persons chapter in Kingsport. I serve as one of the officers in the local chapter from time to time. We now have over 300 members," he said.

Though a 1932 electrical engineering graduate of the University of Tennessee, Bryan's work in the area of higher education has focused on Carson-Newman College in nearby Jefferson City, Tennessee. "I have enjoyed working with Carson-Newman. Three of our children have graduated from there as have a brother and sister. A son is Dean of Students there. I serve as a member of the advisory board and have served as an officer. In their capital fund drives since 1974, I have taken part. Now we are in the midst of a campaign called Vision 80. Like any other small college, Carson-Newman is in need of funds," he said.

It isn't all work and no play. Bryan says he tries to make it out to the golf course a couple of times a week, for at least nine holes per outing.

"Also, my wife Mickey and I have done some traveling because we believe that you have to get away from your own locale once in a while. We have visited the Scandanavian countries and Germany. We went to eastern Canada on one trip and to the Pacific Northwest. We have visited one of our sons in California. One of our most interesting trips was to Nassau. We had never been on a cruise before," he said.

Bryan had some free advice for someone approaching retirement. "Retirement needs to be planned for. You have to be willing to accept that **that** is it. It is a new beginning but part of the whole, another phase in one's life. If you don't accept it, you're going to be miserable.

"I worked the last day before I retired at age 65. The next day I was retired. I didn't say this is the end. It was the end of a period, but we don't criticize the day when night falls," he said. □

Focusing on the photography of

JERRY JORDAN

"I've carried a camera with me all my life," says Jerry Jordan, "but it's just been within the last two years that I've gotten into photography seriously. All of my shots are color slides."

Several years ago, Jerry's slide of two little girls giving a six-months-old St. Bernard a bath in a river was a state winner in the Huntington *Herald Dispatch's* annual photo contest. It went on to win honorable mention in national competition.

"Last spring I had an exhibit in an arts and crafts fair, but didn't qualify for competition because I was out of the county," Jerry adds.

A T&D clerk in the Point Pleasant area of Huntington Division, Jerry finds it easy to combine her interest in photography with her love of traveling. In fact, it was an experience while traveling that prompted Jerry's decision to upgrade her camera equipment.

"My husband works at Kaiser and gets 10 weeks' vacation. Every five years Appalachian allows you to take



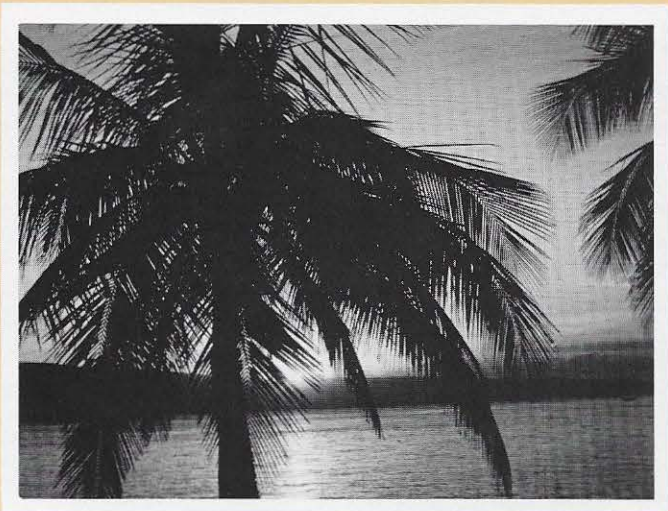
two years' worth of vacation at one time. In 1978 my husband and I took our camper and toured New England and the Maritime Provinces. I just had a Kodak Instamatic then; and, when I got home, I had 20 rolls of slide film that were no good. The camera

was out of sync. We were there during the peak of color season, and it was just sickening to think of all those beautiful scenes that had gone to waste.

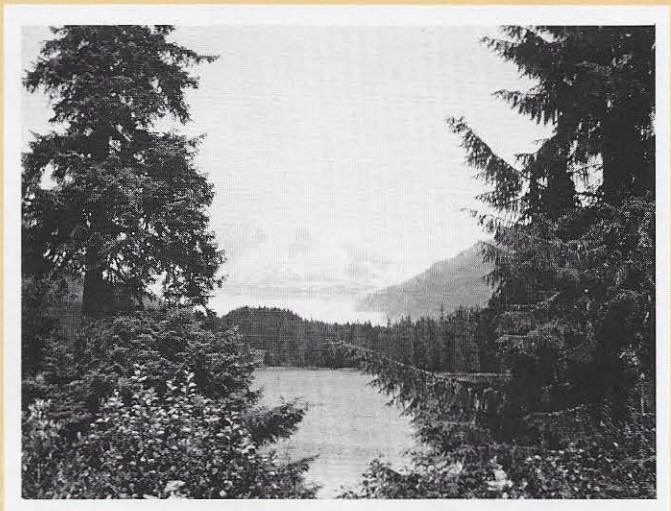
"It was then that I bought a Nikon camera and several lenses and took a 10-hour Nikon photography course in Charleston. I also read a lot of books and articles on photography.

"I especially like to photograph scenery and am partial to sunsets. I've really gotten some beautiful photographs on our dream trips to Hawaii and Alaska. We hope before long to go back to the Maritime Provinces and retake the photographs that we lost three years ago."

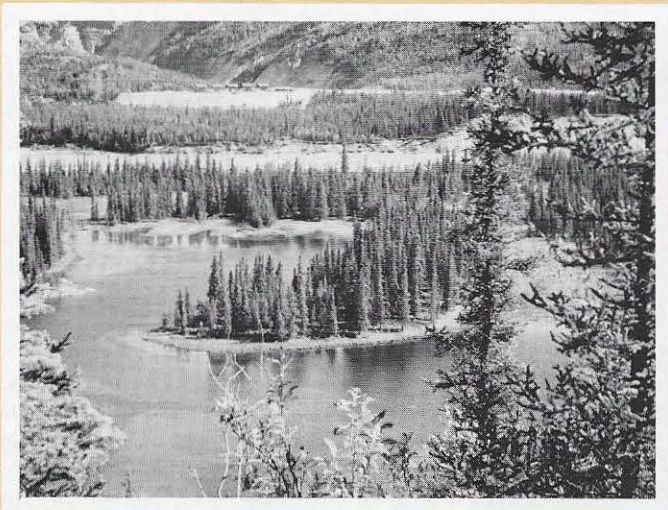
Jerry's photos on the following page are some of her favorites. □



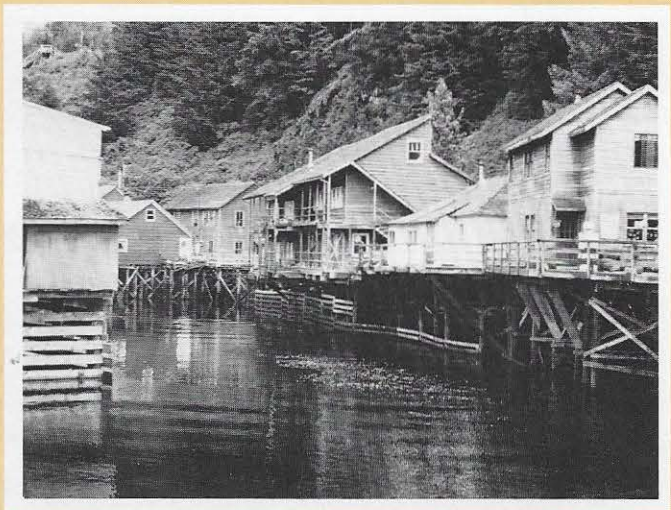
Maui with Lanai and Molokai in background



Mendenhall Glacier, Juneau, Alaska



Horseshoe Lake in Denali (Mt. McKinley) National Park, Alaska



Creek Street, Ketchikan, Alaska

“I love my town” says Mayor Jeffries

Eleanor. An ordinary name perhaps, but Eleanor really isn't an ordinary town. Just ask Charles Jeffries, a maintenance mechanic B for Centralized Plant Maintenance, who has been the Mayor of Eleanor for the last 11 years.

“I wasn't born in this town,” Charles says. “I was born at Red House, but I went to school here. My uncle and grandfather lived in Eleanor, and I spent every minute I could here. When I moved back to West Virginia from Kansas, I called my mother and told her to find me a place in Eleanor.

“I attended the council meetings and wanted to do my part for the town, so in 1970 I ran for mayor. I didn't get to

do much campaigning because I had been in a motorcycle wreck. The man who beat me served only six months of his term and resigned. Then another man lasted a month or two, and I was appointed to fill out the unexpired term. Since then I have ran unopposed three times and opposed three times. The last election I was really unopposed but there were some write-in votes for a former councilman.”

Charles continues, “I have never made a campaign promise. I don't believe in them. I just see things that need to be done, and I try to do everything that I set out to do. It has been hard, but I can't deny the people of

the town have been a big help in the whole process.

For a small town — only about 1,300 people — Eleanor has a great many assets, many of which have come about during Charles' terms as mayor:

- A nine-acre park in the center of town, which includes basketball and tennis courts, swings and sliding boards; a gazebo and picnic shelters;
- A 200-acre city-owned, county-developed park adjacent to town, which includes a swimming pool, ball-fields, archery and shooting ranges, and walking trails;
- A police department with a full-time chief, five part-time patrolmen and two cruisers;
- An active, well-equipped volunteer fire company; and
- A town hall that has doubled in size in the last year with not a penny owed.

The town has well laid-out streets with neat little houses in neat little rows, many of them thanks to the federal government, which gave Eleanor a well-planned start as a home-stead project during the Great Depression.

In the mid-1930s, Eleanor rose through the labor of WPA employees and the government provided the poor with homes to live in and garden plots with which to feed themselves.

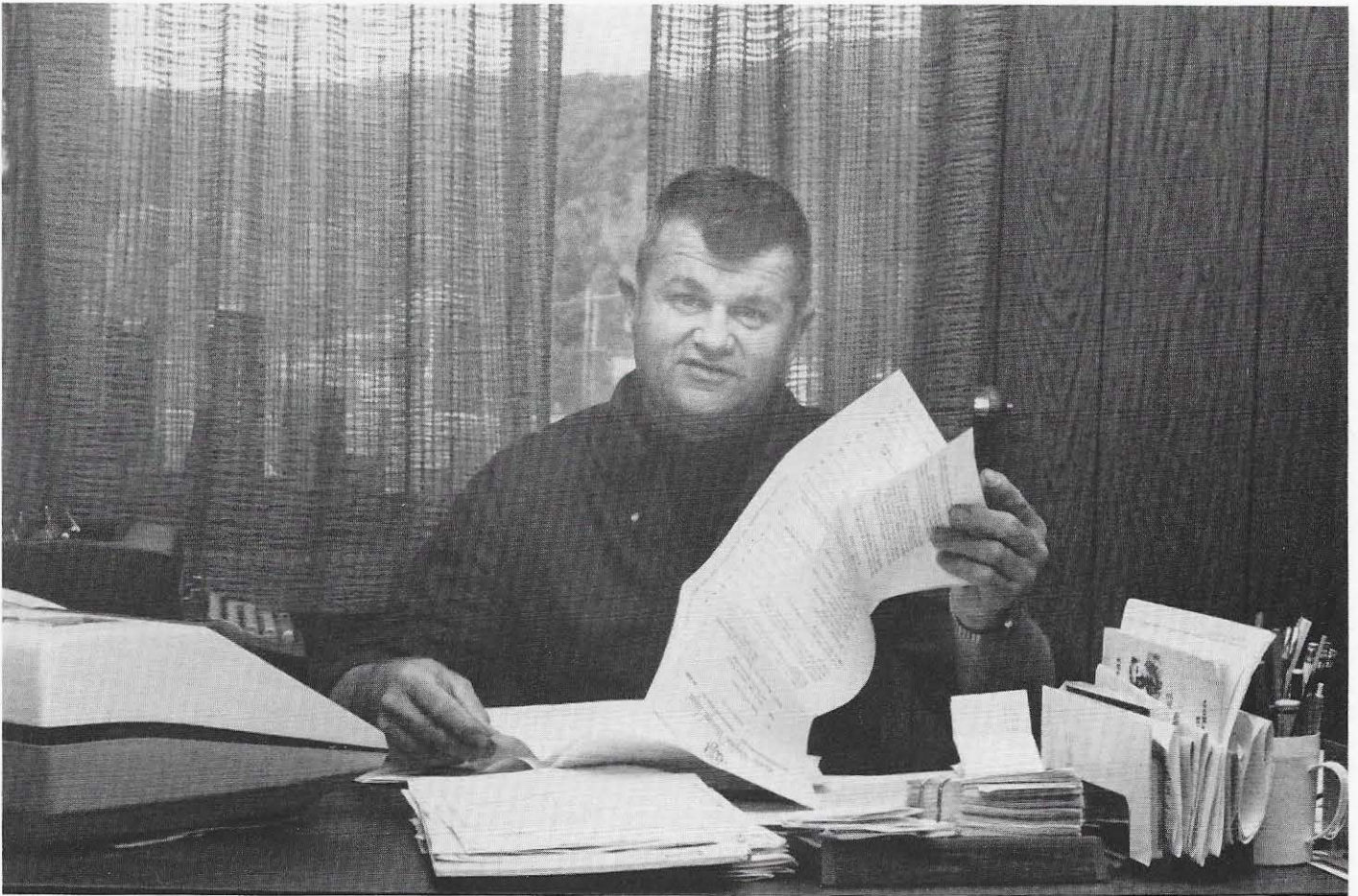
When the government retreated from Eleanor in 1946, residents had a real community and were working to improve it. A residents' association was the forerunner to town government, which officially came in 1966, when Eleanor was incorporated. Originally called Washington Homesteads, Eleanor was renamed in honor of the wife of President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Visitors to the town are quick to notice its neatness. There isn't **any** litter on the streets. Eleanor is so neat, in fact, that A. James Manchin, Secretary of State, has twice proclaimed Eleanor “The Cleanest Little Town in West Virginia”.

“We have a lot of people who take pride in the town. They just jump in and help,” Charles points out. “Girls from a Scout troop planted flowers in the town park, and many of the retired citizens keep busy doing things like necessary maintenance. We just re-



Mayor Charles Jeffries takes time to pull a few weeds from flower bed in town park.



There's always papers to be signed.

cently hired a full-time maintenance man, paid by the town."

Even with all the help, being a mayor is far from being an easy job. "I am over here at town hall every day," Charles admits. "I pretty well have to be on my death bed before I won't be here. When I am working at Amos, I will stop in the morning to check things before going to the plant. And I stop coming back to see if there is anything to be signed. As a rule, there is always something here to take care of or someone to go see.

"I get telephone calls at all hours of the day and night on anything and everything. You have to be a lawyer, a pastor and a lot of other things in this job," Charles says with a smile.

"It is rough on my kids, I can't deny that. I have a 17-year-old boy and 11-year-old twins, a boy and a girl. I can't let my kids go out and defy the law, they have to be examples. They sometimes resent the fact they don't get to do a lot of things they see other kids do.

"I have always told the policemen that there are no favors to my family.

If you catch my wife running a stop sign, she gets a ticket just like everybody else. You don't cut any slack on anybody."

Does Charles plan to run again for mayor when elections are held in June of 1982? "Right now, I'll say yes," Charles admits. "But my wife wants me to hang it up. She asks me how in the world do I put up with it. But to me, it seems like it gets a little more interesting every time. My feeling is that most people in this town

want me to continue.

"I'm not going to do anything to interfere with my job at CPM. I never have. Perhaps at times I should have taken off to do something here, but I haven't. My recorder knows that only in an extreme emergency is she to bother me at work. So far it has worked out real good. If it ever did start hindering my work, I'd have to make my choice and I know being mayor can't pay enough for me to raise a family on.

"You know, I lay in bed at night thinking about this crazy town. Maybe in a way I'm like the Mayor of Boston, who was interviewed on television the other day. He was voted the outstanding mayor of the year, and they asked him why he liked to be mayor. He replied, 'I love my town'. That's the way I feel about it.

"The people are behind me and I am behind them. There is not a soul in this town I don't bend over backward to help out in any way I can. I guess that is why I will never have anything in my life. I would give the shirt off my back if need be." □



Retirement is . . . travel and new friends

If you were to ask Brooks and Kathleen Miller what retirement means to them, they'd reply without hesitation, "travel and new friends".

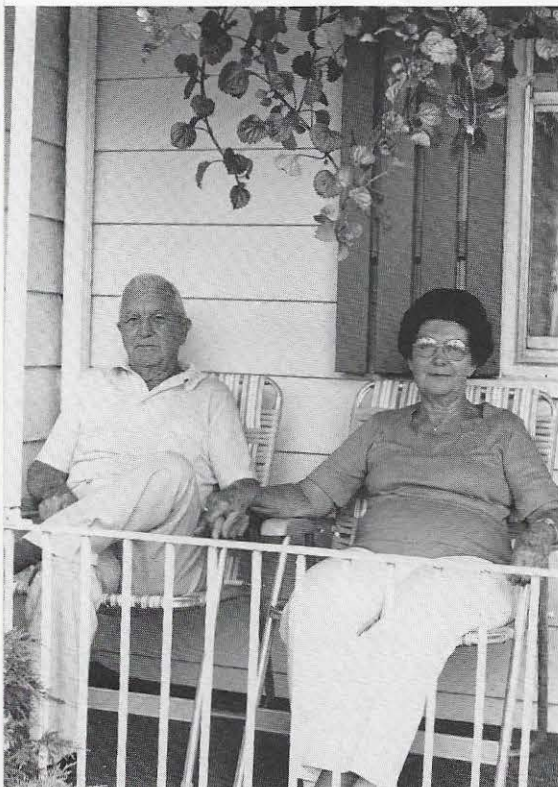
Since Brooks' retirement in 1970 as an auto repairman A in Charleston, the couple has spent considerable time traveling around the country. In fact, they've been to every one of these United States except Alaska, and a trip there is planned for 1982.

The Millers travel both on their own and with the Ina Webb Travel Club, which has 400 members from Charleston, Clendenin and Montgomery. Some of their favorite trips were a Caribbean cruise on their 40th anniversary, the Canadian Rockies, California, Nova Scotia and Germany.

"Our tour director on our group trips has always been our bus driver's wife," Kathleen says. "But she is not interested in the Alaskan trip so I'm making all the arrangements for that one. We will go from here to Seattle on the bus, then take a boat across to



When the Millers' German friends visited this summer, they attended their first picnic. From left, Kathleen Miller, Li Juranek, Gunther Juranek and Nick Roomy, Appalachian vice president.



Brooks and Kathleen Miller

Alaska, and reboard the bus once we get there. We'll be gone over a month."

Their first trip abroad occurred earlier this year when they went to Germany as part of a Friendship Force from Charleston. Kathleen explains that, under the Friendship Force program, a limited number of persons from the Charleston area visit in the homes of people in a given country (in this instance, Germany). These persons must provide sponsors for the same number of visitors to the Charleston area.

Kathleen recalls, "My beautician and her husband had been to Germany two years ago and told us we would simply love it. They offered to be a sponsor for us if we wanted to go. We had to go to a lot of meetings and read books to find out all we could about Germany before we left.

"Our host couple in Germany were Li and Gunther Juranek. We thought at first we would stay with a teacher, because I was a teacher before I re-

tired. When we got a card saying we would stay with Dr. Juranek, I thought he was a medical doctor. Then I found out he was a doctor of engineering. An employee of R.A.G., he buys coal from the Ruhr Valley and markets it in 30 countries throughout the world.

"We really enjoyed our visit with them. They are quite well-to-do and both speak English fluently. This summer they came over and spent three days at our home on a combined business-pleasure trip. While they were here, we took them to a company picnic for Charleston employees. They had never been to a picnic before and didn't really have an idea what a picnic was. They had a good time, and Li said she would remember that experience all of her life."

The Millers are active in a senior citizens group at their church, and Brooks enjoys bowling and playing golf. Kathleen concludes, "Time goes by so fast for us. A week is just like one day. It's really hard to believe." □



Special studies involving the 765,000-volt-line phenomena are performed at the lab. Here, John McCallin, senior technician, changes the test line arrangement.

AEP System is giant test facility

The AEP Service Corporation's Electrical Test Laboratory in Canton produces only one product — raspberry-red covered test reports. These represent the efforts of four engineers, 10 technicians, two clerk-typists and Andy Litsky, the lab manager.

The lab is located adjacent to the Sunnyside transmission station on the southeast edge of the city. Physically, the lab area is not large — but this is not significant, since it uses the entire AEP System as a test area. So, looking at it in this way, the lab is probably the biggest one in the world. For example, two recent sets of tests in which the lab participated used the 330-mile, 765,000-volt circuits between Indiana & Michigan Electric Company's Dumont Station (South Bend, Indiana) and Ohio Power Company's Kammer Plant (Moundsville, W.Va.).

The Canton Electrical Test Laboratory was started in 1967 as an arm of the Service Corporation's Electrical Engineering Division. Initially, it was conceived as a place for company engineers to perform tests. A small staff of three people was to provide equipment and some help. This approach did not work well so it was found necessary to formalize the set-up. In 1971 a laboratory section was established, with engineers and technicians permanently assigned to it. Each of these persons was to be a specialist in some needed area.

The lab has filled a real need from the beginning. In the past, manufacturers ran tests for or with AEP as part of doing business. However, they became more and more reluctant to continue this practice because of increased costs. Also, they began treating development and research information as proprietary.

AEP could, and still can, hire manufacturers to run tests for it, but the charges are high and there is little control over their scheduling.

No testing is cheap. However, the Canton lab can carry out testing for less money and with more flexibility.

The lab today is capable of doing a wide variety of tests. It attempts to satisfy all reasonable requests for test information in areas not specifically covered by AEP's Huntington Environmental Engineering or Civil Engineering Laboratories, both in West Virginia. These include physical aspects as well as the electrical ones. For instance, electrical insulators are tested for their ability to withstand physical strains from line-loading, thermal-cycling and shotgun and rifle projectiles.

This past year the lab completed, and reported on, 47 dif-

ferent tests. These ranged from a sophisticated test involving a fiber-optic system using glass fibers to transmit electrical data, through areas where there is severe electrical interference to the simplest testing of ropes for physical and electrical withstand.

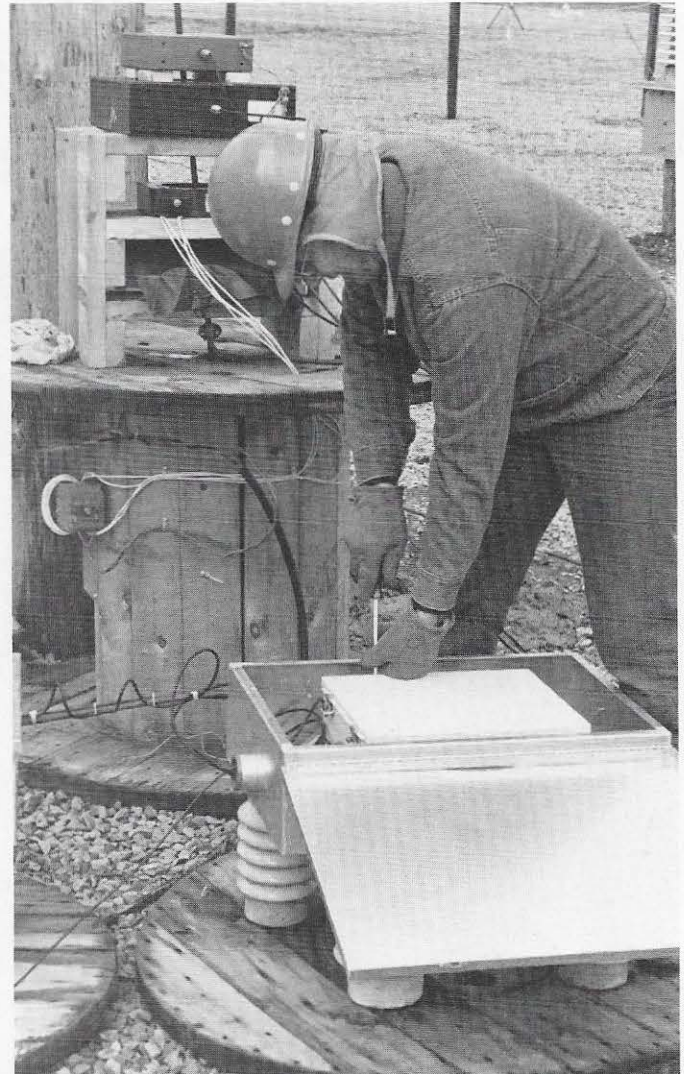
The Canton lab has assisted in the performance of several significant tests.

Vocal critics claimed that extra-high-voltage transmission (EHV) lines were producing tons of ozone. The Canton lab answered by making exhaustive field measurements along such lines under all kinds of weather conditions. Also, in-house tests were conducted in an environmental chamber to determine how ozone is created, while independent tests were made by outside laboratories. The result: it was found that ozone was not being produced as claimed.

Considerable basic work was done at the lab to determine the feasibility of using air-insulated, underground conductors for EHV and ultra-high-voltage (UHV) transmission. The idea was that such a system could eliminate some of the right-of-way and clearance problems associated with the EHV system. The lab ran tests on full-scale models using various conductor spacings and proved the theory was sound. However, the limited foreseeable uses of this approach did not justify further development.

A few years ago the lab was actively involved in the field testing of an idea using what was called a current-limiting device. With the growth of the AEP System's generating capacity, fault currents were increasing. If these fault values were to exceed the fault-clearing capability of the switching equipment, then they would probably fail to isolate the fault when needed and the switching device would probably be damaged as well.

The current-limiting device was supposed to sense a fault at its very beginning and start an operation that inserts a non-linear resistor in the circuit. This would reduce the current to a value safely handled by a switching device.



Wilbur Moser installs the fiber-optic system prior to line-switching tests at the Marysville 765,000-volt transmission station.

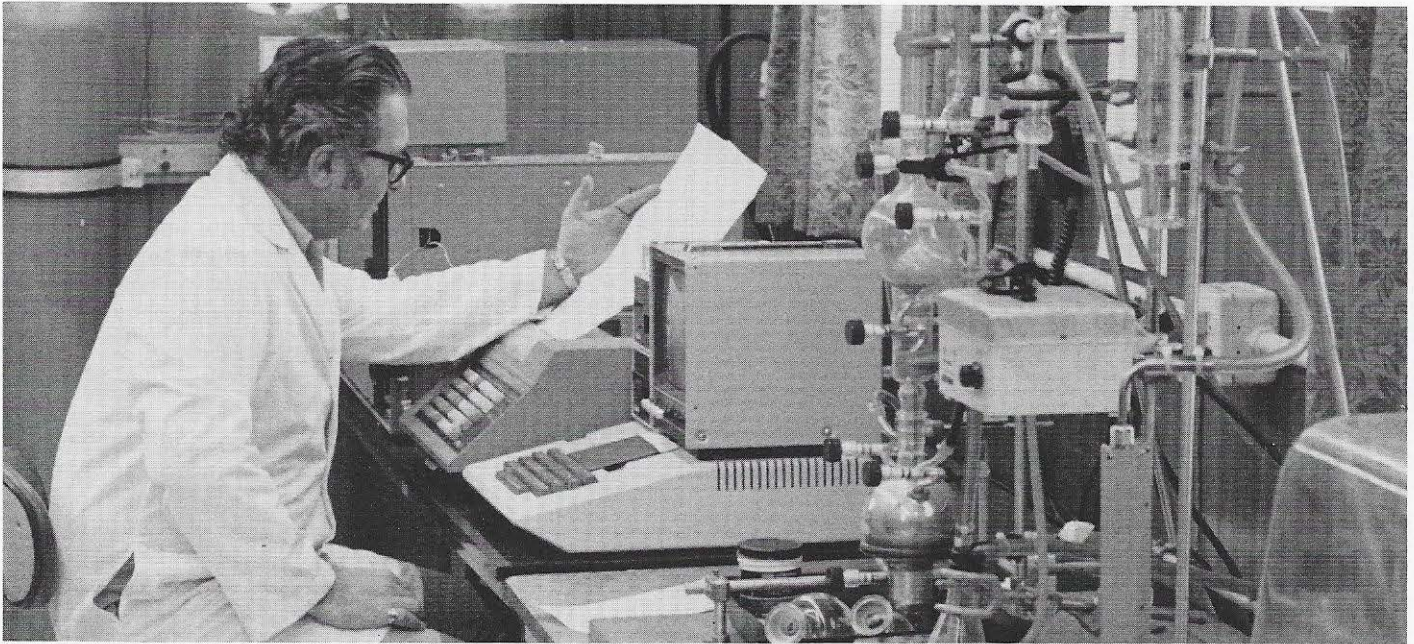


Senior Technician Bob Halter, with the lab since 1968, prepares to test an electrical insulator.

Main benefit of the test was the subsequent successful development of an ultra-high-speed sensing relay, now installed on a 138,000-volt circuit at the Sunnyside Station, where it is undergoing a long-term field trial. This is the closest thing the industry has had that approaches a "fault anticipator".

The Canton lab, as part of Electrical Engineering, has always carried a test load predominantly electrical, although it never turned away a request from any other department for any testing which it was capable of doing. However, in recent times, the lab has been conducting tests involving power plants with the idea of helping to improve their operations.

Earlier this year, for example, the lab worked with the Service Corporation's Plant Engineering Division in Canton to perform its first in-plant test — a load rejection test conducted on a generating unit at the Ohio Valley Electrical Corporation's Kyger Creek Plant. Supplying and applying sophisticated electronic equipment, the lab helped to determine if the unit could load-reject without overspeed tripping. The tests showed that the device installed to prevent an overspeed trip didn't do what it is supposed to do.



Larry Balanti, at the lab's gas chromatograph, runs the transformer combustible gas-testing program.

Two major tests involving switching of the 765,000-volt Dumont-Marysville-Kammer lines gave the Canton lab the opportunity to put together what is probably the world's most advanced instrumentation system for high-voltage field testing. The first series of tests was made in 1974 to determine the actual overvoltages produced when lines were switched. Computer and model studies had been made in advance to arrive at the overvoltage values that could be expected in actual operation; however, switching of the actual lines was needed to confirm these earlier values. The second series of tests, in 1979, was conducted to check the feasibility of single-pole switching and the new relay system associated with the scheme. A second reason for this testing was to determine the System's responses to various switchings and fault clearings.

This type of testing presents a real challenge to the people recording the data because of the great many parameters to be measured and recorded at the same time and continuing on in time. Duration of the operations to be recorded is in the micro-second and milli-second ranges. Another difficulty is that the electrical signals that must be accurately recorded are subjected to the electrical interference arising when faults occur or are created in switching. Unless such extraneous static is eliminated or substantially reduced, the data is useless.

To record data from many sources, simultaneously as time elapses, the lab purchased a number of multi-channel tape recorders to record, store and play back data. The recording can be made at high speed and later analyzed at slow speed.

The problem of eliminating the unwanted electrical interference was solved by designing and building a set of fiber-optic data links which translates the electrical data signal into a modulated light signal. The latter is transmitted by means of a light channel through the area in the station where interference exists and then changed back to an electrical signal in a trailer shielded against electrical interference. (Light is not subject to distortion

from electrical disturbances.)

Use of a gas chromatograph to determine the health of the System's power transformers is a significant area of activity at the Canton lab. This interesting device separates a mixture of gases into its separate gases and then measures the quantity of each one.

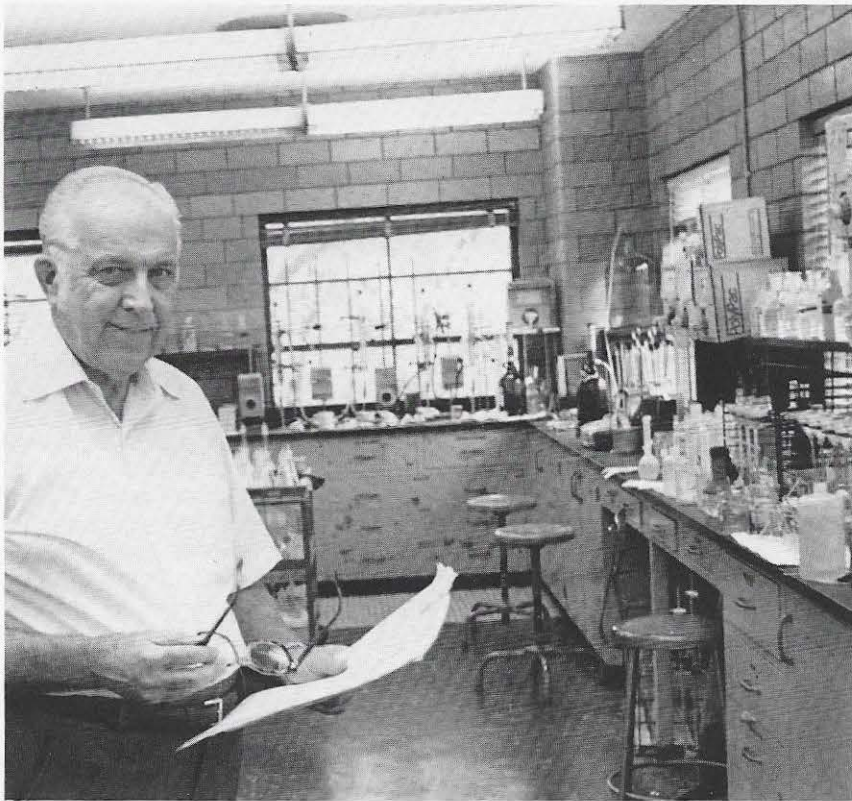
A transformer is made from paper, copper, steel, wood and oil. An incipient fault within the transformer usually involves the overheating or burning of these materials. Each material or combination of materials, when burned, produces gases that are absorbed in the oil. By extracting the gases from the oil and analyzing them, an experienced technician has a reasonably good idea of what is wrong with the transformer. For instance, if acetylene is present in the gas sample, arcing has definitely occurred within the transformer. With this diagnostic tool, the operator is better able to determine if a gassing transformer should remain in service or be removed for safety's sake.

The Canton lab started with one \$700 chromatograph in 1969 and developed the basic techniques for its use. Now each of the major AEP operating companies and the Canton lab has a state-of-the-art chromatograph to check transformer oil on a regular basis. The results are computer-analyzed to determine the basic condition of the transformer. Through such a test program, many transformers have been found to have incipient faults which were remedied before they could go to final failure.

Since start of the UHV test program, the Canton lab has assisted the project in a number of areas. These have included providing temporary high-voltage test sources until the permanent ones were available. The lab's expertise has been in constant use at the UHV site and will probably continue to be used.

Lab Manager Litsky says he would like to think that the 1970s saw the Canton lab come of age and that the 1980s would see the fulfillment of its considerable potential. □

Huntington Lab keeps watch on the environment



Huntington Lab manager Clyde Johnson.

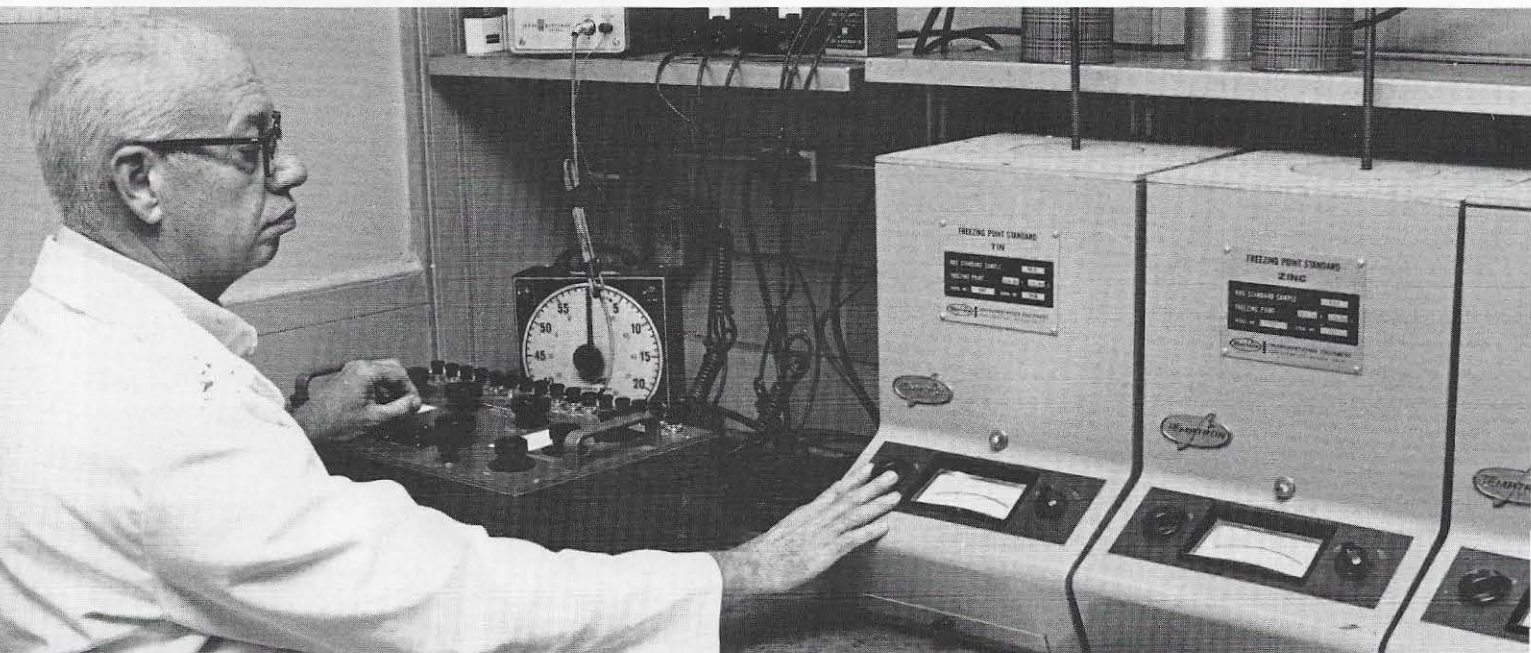
Tucked away on the second floor of Appalachian Power Company's Huntington Division service building are several rooms with scores of wooden and metal counters cluttered with glass beakers, test tubes and assorted samples.

It's AEP's Environmental Engineering Laboratory. Although it's not glamorous, it has been the home of the company's environmental "watchdogs" since 1954.

Head of the lab is Clyde R. Johnson, a chemist and a 45-year veteran of AEP. Forty of those years have been dedicated to the work of the system lab. There are 28 on the staff: Johnson, 12 chemists, 12 technicians, a protective coating specialist, a biologist and a secretary.

Responsibilities of the lab have grown tremendously during the past 10 years, particularly due to environmental concerns and the extensive regulations associated with them. In 1969 the lab had 16 employees with only 20 percent of the workload devoted to environmental activities. Today, the 28 who don the white lab

Plant standard thermocouples are calibrated by Forrest Stewart, chemist. The accuracy of all temperatures on the system is based upon these calibrations.



coats are involved with environmental assignments 75 percent of the time.

"There is no such thing as a typical week. It's just like a fire station around here," Johnson said. "There is a different priority or a new crisis every time you turn around. The one thing you're taught around here is a lot of humility."

The lab also focuses on research and development projects. Although the time allotted to R&D has decreased in recent years as the environmental workload has increased, two major R&D projects are being carried out. They involve the study of acid rain and the testing of flyash as a potential landfill and as a substance to complement blacktop in road resurfacing work.

With the large amount of work the lab must get out, it recently acquired ultra-modern automated equipment to save the precious time of its chemists and technicians. Within the past year the lab has added a viscosimeter, a gas chromatograph, a total organic carbon analyser and a weatherometer to its arsenal of tools to do its job even better.

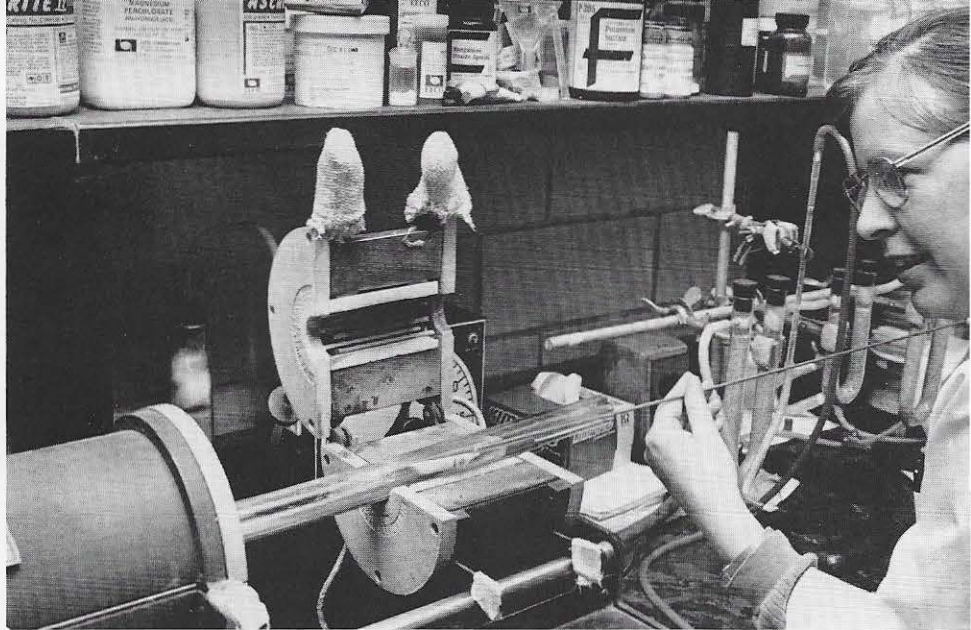
The viscosimeter measures the quality of the many oils and other fluids used by the System in its generators, pumps and other heavy-duty machinery; the gas chromatograph identifies the many elements and compounds in water samples sent from the streams on which its power plants are situated; the total organic carbon analyser measures the carbon content of water samples, and the weatherometer identifies the variables on coatings, such as paint.

"We couldn't keep abreast of our workload if it weren't for this exotic instrumentation," Johnson said.

Even before the addition of modern and efficient equipment, the Huntington Lab was known as the best equipped utility lab in the country for oil studies. Prior to the Arab oil embargo in 1973, many domestic oil companies would arrange for the lab to test additives in their refined products.

"We have the capability to conduct 18 different tests on oils and other fluids," said Johnson. "The oil companies knew of our ability and reputation and came to us regularly."

The laboratory occupies 10,344



Carbon-hydrogen furnace is operated by Terry Michnowicz, technician, as part of our quality control work with coal.

Jimmie Saunders, technician, determines the kinematic viscosity of oil. This test determines the flow characteristics of oil in system equipment.

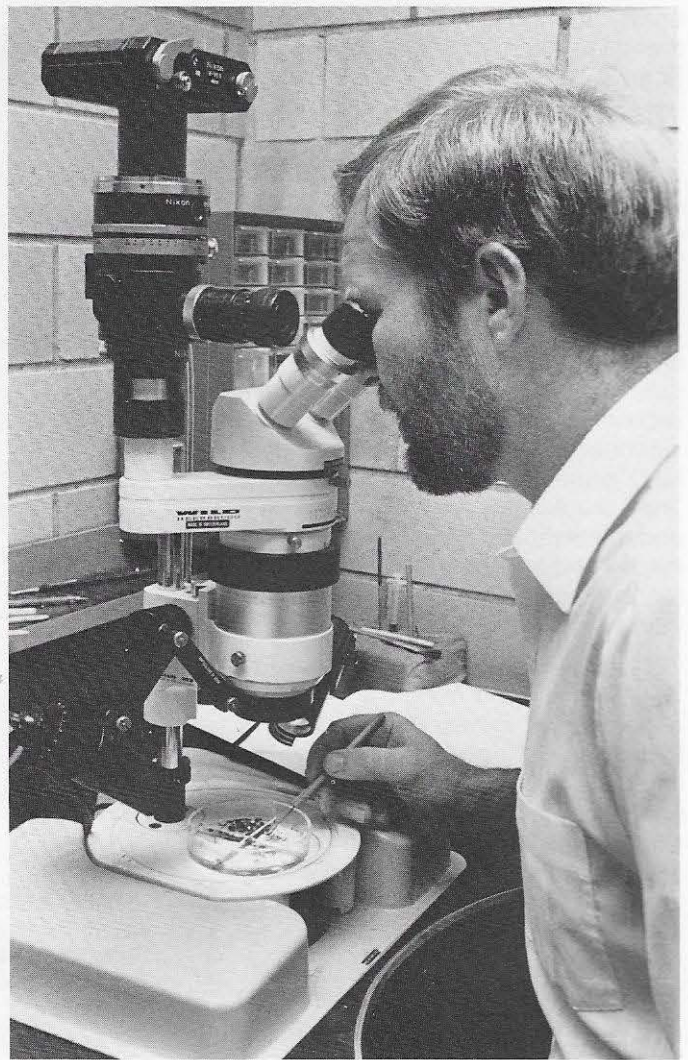


To determine trace elements in water, Jacqueline Bechtle, chemist, operates an atomic absorption spectrophotometer.

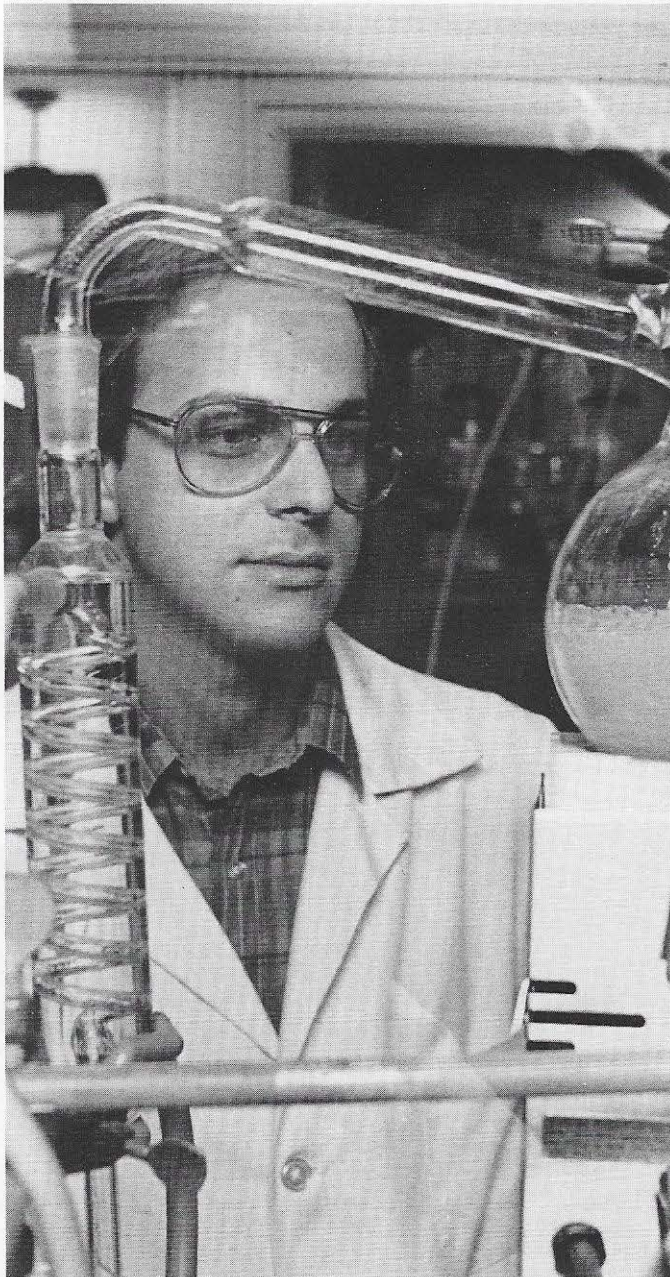


square feet of Appalachian's Huntington Division service building. It started out in 1919 as a one-room, one-man shop in the basement of Ohio Power's old Windsor Plant, now torn down. Later, the lab moved into a nearby building of its own, a barracks-like structure that soon proved inadequate to house its expanding functions. In 1954, it was moved to Huntington.

"Our location is ideal," Johnson said. "From Huntington we can be at nearly all our plants within two hours. And



As part of the system stream study, Ken Wood, biologist, uses a stereo microscope to identify aquatic species.



Eugene McKee, technician, conducts a distillation test as part of our system environmental surveillance program.

for our other plants farther away, the Huntington airport provides excellent service."

Throughout its history, the lab has had only three directors: Robert G. Call, who started it and retired in 1963; William F. Huss, who died in 1963, and Johnson.

The laboratory has played a major role in the development of the AEP System's technology and in the study of its environmental conditions, analyses and quality control through the years. Now, with its added complement of time-saving equipment and a dedicated, flexible staff of personnel, the lab is well equipped to continue to perform that vital function. □

WHO'S NEWS

Abingdon

Don Landreth, engineering technologist, scored a hole-in-one on the par 3, 174-yard seventh hole at Glenrochie Country Club.



Dena, daughter of Denver Osborne, Marion T&D clerk A, was crowned 1981 Queen of the 29th Annual Chilhowie Apple Festival by State Senator Rick Boucher, who served as grand marshal of the parade. She was also recently crowned Miss Marion Senior High 1981-82.

Two employees won ribbons at the annual Washington County Tobacco Festival. **Marlene Mitchell**, customer accounts representative A, won three blue ribbons in stitchery and horticulture. **Linda Kegley**, stenographer, won a blue ribbon and a pink ribbon in stitchery. □

Glen Lyn

Mary, daughter of Everett Harris, chief chemist, has successfully completed the Virginia State nursing exams to be certified as a registered nurse. She graduated with distinction from the University of Virginia School of Nursing with a bachelor of science degree and has accepted a position at Johnson-Willis Hospital, Richmond, Va. □

Huntington

A basketball league has been organized in Huntington Division, with **Clarence Snyder**, engineering technician, GO T&D Communications, as president and **Robert Hale**, junior clerk, as secretary-treasurer. The four teams formed and their captains are: Beavers — **Clarence Snyder**, GO engineering technician; Green Hornets — **Steve Wilhelm**, GO station engineer senior; Doughboys — **Lannie Rowe**, chemist, AEP Lab; and H T C — **Rick Frazier**, GO station mechanic B. Employees and their families will be admitted free to the league tournament, slated for the Guyandotte Boys Club in January 1982.

Allen, husband of Cathy Taylor, secretary, AEP General Lab, Huntington, placed first in the Middle States Whitewater Canoe Championship Race on New River at Hinton, W.Va.

Earlier this year **Cathy** and partner **Debbie Riggs** won first place in the Buchanan River Strawberry Festival Canoe Race. The wins brought them an invitation to the Governor's Cup Canoe Race on the Kanawha River at Charleston. Only Allen could participate, however, since there is no women's class in that race. He received a trophy for his second-place win. □

Logan-Williamson

The Lenore Angels, coached by **Gary Hall**, meter service mechanic A, and **Glen Maynard**, line mechanic A, won the Lenore Kiwanis Girls' Softball League championship for the second consecutive year. Gary's daughter, **Teresa**, and Glen's two daughters, **Teresa** and **Elizabeth**, are members of the team.

Paul Owens, Williamson area superintendent, was chosen division chair-



When **Reece Overcash, Jr.**, chairman of the board and chief executive officer of The Associates Corporation of North America, returned to his home in Dallas, Texas, recently, he took a reminder of Pulaski County with him. Overcash, a former Pulaski businessman, was the keynote speaker at the 30th annual membership banquet of the Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce. He was presented an oil of a scenic view of Draper's Valley and Peak's Knob, painted by **Mary Whitehurst**, wife of Pulaski Division Manager **Jerry Whitehurst**. Whitehurst is a member of the board of directors of the Chamber. **Claud Kirkland**, retired division manager and currently Chamber president, presided at the banquet.

man of the professional and utilities division of the Tug Valley United Foundation.

Jerry, wife of Division Manager Floyd Taylor, was low net winner in the championship flight of the Fall Invitational Tournament at Logan Country Club.

George Mathis, drafter A, was elected president of administration of affairs for the new Logan County Volunteer Rescue Squad, Inc. He was also appointed to a two-year term on the Logan County Ambulance Authority. □

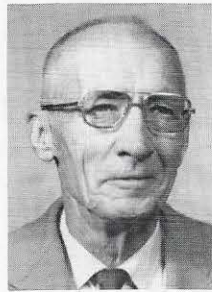
Pulaski



Willie Gardner, Hillsville line crew supervisor nonexempt, and his partner from North Carolina defeated 14 of the 16 teams competing in the eight-week horseshoe pitching tournament sponsored by the Hillsville Volunteer Fire Department. The pair won a runner-up trophy for finishing second in the finals.

Bob Kilgore, division superintendent, was installed as first vice president of the Pulaski Kiwanis Club.

Rodney, son of Larry Dunn, Pearisburg T&D clerk A, received a masters degree in statistics from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University this summer and was presented the 1981 Boyd Harshbarger Award. A summa cum laude graduate of West Virginia Tech, Rodney is employed by Corning Glass, Corning, N.Y.

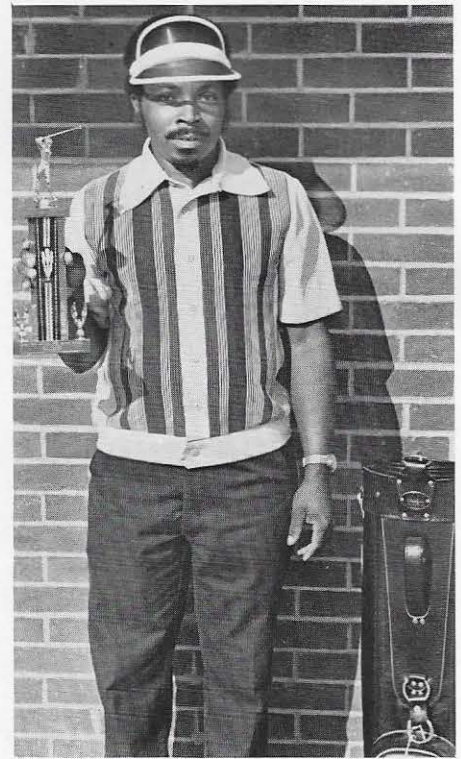


Fred Bennington, retired Galax residential representative, was named to the board of directors of the Galax-Carroll-Grayson Chamber of Commerce.

New officers of the Hillsville Employees Benevolent Association are: **Jack Phillips**, line mechanic C, president; **John Collins**, T&D clerk A, vice president; and **Carl Goad**, line mechanic A, treasurer.

Elected officers of the Pulaski Employees Benevolent Association are: **Ted Aaron**, energy services engineer, chairman; **Juanita Dunagan**, office messenger, secretary; **Don Abernathy**, electrical engineer, treasurer; and **Kathy Bopp**, secretary-stenographer, **Patra Armbrister**, T&D clerk A, **David Shrewsbury**, engineering technologist; and **Harry Jennings**, records supervisor, directors. □

Kelly Buckland, retired T&D clerk, senior, was elected president of the Pulaski Farm Bureau. His wife **Evelyn**, secretary-stenographer, was elected secretary.



Chester Robinson, Galax meter reader, received a trophy and golf bag as second flight champion in the Beaver Creek Golf Tournament. Chester shot a 78 in the final round over the par 72 Beaver Creek Golf Course, Dobson, N.C. □



Twenty-two employees and guests participated in the 1981 Beckley Division Golf Tournament at Grandview Country Club. Trophies were awarded to Jennings Begley, Oak Hill line crew supervisor, low gross; "Wheel" Thomas, Oak Hill area service restorer, runner-up low gross; Dave Ransom, Rupert engineering technician, low net; Lloyd Humphrey, engineering technologist supervisor, closest-to-the-pin on #7; and Kyle Ellison, Jr., line and station superintendent, longest drive on #10.

Lynchburg



Douglas, son of Grady Parker, Lynchburg line and station supervisor, participated in the second Olympics of the Mind World Finals competition at Glassboro State College, Glassboro, N.J. He was one of a six-member team representing the Odyssey '80 Gifted and Talented Program in Campbell County Schools. The team's project was to design and build a 'Windy Cool Rod' to carry one member of the team as far and straight as possible. The energy used to propel the Windy forward had to come from two typical 20" window fans, and the team which traveled the farthest distance received the most points. There was a \$15 limit on materials for the Windy. Although Douglas' team did not win, their entry was recognized as being the most creative in all the age levels of competition. They were the only ones to use the principle of stored energy (water) to enhance the propulsion of the Windy. The team's interview with Bill Moyer will be carried on public television sometime this fall.

Bill Ford, Jr., customer services manager, was selected co-chairman of the 1981 Lynchburg Classic, the seventh annual marching competition for ten championship high school bands from Virginia and other states.



Ralph Bird, energy services engineer, won two trophies in the Fairview Christian Church Bowling League. He received one for high series scratch (639) and one for bowling on the team which placed second in the league. The annual Virginia Ten-Miler Race,

which each year draws runners from numerous states and countries, was held in Lynchburg. Three employees successfully completed the course. Larry Ring, stores attendant, recorded a time of 66 minutes, 20 seconds; David Gordon, electrical engineer, 73 minutes, 30 seconds; and Doug Fitchett, electrical engineer, 83 minutes.

Mel Wilson, Jr., administrative assistant, is chairman of the public service division of the 1981 United Way Campaign of Central Virginia. □

Roanoke

Mike, son of Charles Shannon, general servicer, was selected for inclusion in "Who's Who Among American High School Students" for 1980-81. Mike ranks 12th in his class of 400 at Franklin County High School and is captain of the varsity football team and a member of the National Honor Society. □



The Utility Gang is the 1981 Amos Plant softball champion, outscoring last year's defending champion, B Shift Operations, 16 to 4. The Utility Gang had a 7-0 record during regular play and ended the season with 13-1. Team members are, front row, l. to r., Don Hamrick, Terry Lilly, John Hull, Harold Hedrick and Dave Smith. Back row, l. to r., Alva Kuhl, Rick Warren, Tom Thursack, Mike Janey, Van Greene, Mitch Crislip, Pat Farry and Roger Gautier. Not pictured are team members Doug Jones, Mark Christian, Dick Thewes and Bill Pauley.

Philip Sporn

Julie Ann, daughter of Dallas Love, production superintendent-operations, was selected for inclusion in the 1980-81 edition of "Who's Who Among American High School Students". She is a senior at Gallia Academy High School, Gallipolis, Ohio.

Russell, son of Jack Frey, retired shift operating engineer, was selected by the United States Jaycees for an "Outstanding Young Man of America" award. Russ, an ordained priest at St. Basils Seminary, Metheun, Mass., has founded a very successful Teen Encounter Program that has won recognition in several areas of the United States and Canada. □



The three children of Loren Price, semi-tractor trailer driver for Central Machine Shop, have received awards for achievements at Arnoldsburg Elementary School. Ten-year-old Dennis received certificates of award for football, basketball, wrestling, baseball, best scholastic and best liked. He also was elected Molasses Festival king and won a second-place trophy in a baseball tournament. Eight-year-old Vicki Lynn was chosen "Miss Majorette" at the Spencer, W.Va., Festival and received certificates of award for best athlete, best writer and best liked. Twelve-year-old Douglas Loren is a quarterback for the football team and pitches for the baseball team. He won first place in the 62 lb. weight class in countywide wrestling and placed second in the baseball tournament. He received certificates of award for football, basketball, wrestling and baseball. From left, Dennis, Vicki and Doug.

John Amos

Grindl, daughter of Gary Painter, maintenance supervisor, was crowned "Miss Poca Dot" during homecoming festivities at Poca High School. A senior, she is head cheerleader and a member of the band, ski club, FBLA and National Honor Society. □



General Office

Jennifer, daughter of Judy Caldwell, R/e & R/w special clerk, GO T&D R/e & R/w, Roanoke, was elected president of the Student Cooperative Association at Masons Cove Elementary School.

John, son of Bob Harper, GO Land Management, Charleston, won two first place trophies and a blue ribbon in the 13-15 year-old category in the 11th annual Sternwheel Regatta Bicycle Race. **Bob** won the two-mile cycle race for the 30 and over category. This was the second consecutive win for both John and Bob. □



Roanoke-based employees held their annual tennis tournament September 25-27. Jim Salter, operations engineer, GO Operations, and Jeff Danforth, purchasing & stores staff assistant, GO Purchasing, were the doubles winners, with Wayne Sink, relay engineer senior, GO T&D Station, and Wink Martin, station construction representative senior, GO T&D Station, as runners-up. Jim Salter won the singles championship, with Wayne Sink in the number two spot. Tom Owen, Roanoke engineering technologist, won the first annual Bob Mickey Award, presented to the person voted the worst player in the tournament. From left, Danforth, Salter, Martin and Sink.

WEDDINGS



Thursack-Elliott



Endicott-Colegrove



Bailey-Hatfield



Coffman-Lucas

Toni Elliott to Thomas Thursack, Amos Plant utility worker, September 29.

Cinda Lea Colegrove to Rick Eugene Endicott, October 9. Cinda Lea is the daughter of Ernie Colegrove, Huntington meter reader.

Kimberly Lane Hatfield to Michael Wayne Bailey, September 12. Kimberly is the daughter of Troy Hatfield, Huntington station crew supervisor.

Sharon Lucas to Rusty Coffman, September 5. Rusty is the son of R. R. "Red" Coffman, Glen Lyn Plant chemist assistant.

Robin Bonar to Mike Hudson, Mountaineer Plant utility worker, September 25.

Ingred Mellott to Benjamin Flurie, Glen Lyn Plant performance engineer, September 6.

Lisa Gail Peters to Charles Stanley, Mountaineer Plant control technician junior, September 29.

Betty Minnick Pearson, Lynchburg customer services representative, to Bailey Goodman Wilkins, September 19.

Pamela Sue Shabdue to Roger Lee Harris, October 1. Pamela Sue is the daughter of Hubert Shabdue, area development consultant, GO Executive, Charleston.

Lorilee Arnold to Jay Locke, Charleston engineering technician, September 5.

Mary Frances South to Marshall Dunn, Glen Lyn Plant auxiliary equipment operator, September 26.

Rose Mary Meadows, Pulaski junior clerk, to William Dean Moody, October 10. □

BIRTHS

John Amos

Alison Lynn, daughter of Richard Rutledge, utility worker, September 11.

Jason Douglas, son of Douglas Tyree, utility operator A, September 19.

Bluefield

Brent Adam, son of Jack Crotty, Princeton meter reader, September 23.

Centralized Plant Maintenance

Melisha Diana, daughter of Melvin Swisher, maintenance supervisor, August 20.

Charleston

Louis Jones, II, son of Frank Jones, line mechanic B, September 17.

Aaron Franklin, son of James Hall, auto mechanic A, August 26.

Matthew Ray, son of Dennis Loudermilk, stores attendant, September 10.

Laura Beth, daughter of Harold Ward, line mechanic C, September 7.

Tiffany Nichole, daughter of Norman Caldwell, hydro utility operator, September 24.

General Office

Sarah Katherine, daughter of Gary Ronk, operations analyst, GO Operations, Roanoke, October 7.

Tamika Gayle, daughter of William Hickman, III, regional dispatcher, GO Operations, Roanoke, September 13.

Huntington

Heather Nicole, daughter of David Gillilan, line mechanic C, September 15.

Stephanie Leigh, daughter of Allen Frye, station mechanic C, September 29.

Kingsport

Ryan Matthew, son of Dianna Hurd, customer services clerk A, August 28.

Lynchburg

Jason Quentin, son of Robert Williams, station mechanic B, September 18.

Mountaineer

Amanda Lucille, daughter of Buddy Blank, performance supervising engineer, September 6.

Nicole Marie, daughter of Ray Fields, maintenance mechanic B, September-8.

Benjamin Lee, son of Lee Gangwer, utility operator A, September 27.

Donald Allen, son of Ray Proffitt, maintenance mechanic A, October 3.

Joshua Seth, son of Ron Steele, coal equipment operator, October 4.

Roanoke

Monica, daughter of Bill Walker, Jr., Rocky Mount line mechanic D, August 20.

Kevin T., Jr., son of Kevin Bradshaw, Fieldale station mechanic B, August 20.

Michael David, son of David Crouch, T&D clerk B, September 2.

FRIENDS WE'LL MISS



McCarthy



Kates



Payne



Sparr



Harmon



Conley

Joseph W. McCarthy, 78, retired Lynchburg customer accounts supervisor, died October 20. A native of Lynchburg, Virginia, he was employed in 1925 as a hydro operator and retired April 1, 1968. McCarthy is survived by his widow Alma, 231 Westmoreland Street, Lynchburg, Va.; one son; one daughter; and one brother, Clarence McCarthy, retired hydro plant foreman.

Willie F. Kates, Sr., 71, retired Huntington custodian, died October 13. He joined the company in 1936 as a laborer and retired August 1, 1975. Kates is survived by his widow Eddie, 1670 — 11th Avenue, Huntington, W.Va.; one daughter and two sons.

Posey C. Payne, Sr., 72, retired Pulaski transportation supervisor, died October 14. A native of Witt, Virginia, he began his career in 1940 as a laborer and retired August 1, 1974. Payne is survived by his widow Elizabeth, 805 Gateway Drive, Pulaski, Va.; two sons; two daughters; two brothers; two sisters and five grandchildren. One son, Posey Payne, Jr., is a meter electrician A in Pulaski.

Everett Sparr, Charleston meter service mechanic A, died September 30 of an apparent heart attack. A native of Elkview, West Virginia, he was employed in 1953 as a groundman. Sparr is survived by his widow Jean, Box 21, Falling Rock, W.Va.; three sons and one daughter.

James Jahue Harmon, Sr., 78, retired area serviceman in the Bluefield Division, died October 26. A native of Ivanhoe, Virginia, he began his career in 1923 as a utility man and retired July 1, 1968. Harmon is survived by his widow Virginia,

Maybeury, W. Va.; five daughters and two sons, both company employees. **James J. Harmon, Jr.**, is Bluefield engineering supervisor, and **Ernest L. Harmon** is a GO transmission mechanic A, Bluefield.

Enoch L. Conley, 75, retired Clinch River Plant equipment operator, died October 18. A native of Logan, West Virginia, he joined Appalachian as a laborer at Logan Plant in 1939 and retired April 1, 1966. Conley is survived by his widow Opal, 60 High Street, Logan, W.Va.

Charles Wilmer Hedrick, 70, retired

Bluefield truck driver-groundman, died September 29. A native of Gratton, Virginia, he was employed in 1946 as a groundman B and retired February 1, 1973. Hedrick is survived by his widow Morene, Route 1, Box 484, Falls Mills, Va.; and one daughter.

Minnie Dalton, 80, retired Huntington janitress, died September 10. A native of Martinsville, West Virginia, she was employed in 1944 and retired August 1, 1966. Dalton is survived by one son and several grandchildren. □

NEWCOMERS

Bluefield

Joseph Johnson, station mechanic D. **Donnie Bailey**, line mechanic D. **Howard Harmon, Jr.**, **Paul Shortt**, and **Robert Hagy**, line mechanics D, Grundy. **Jack Hash**, meter reader, Grundy. **Donald Muncy**, customer services advisor, Welch. **Willie McKinney, Jr.**, line mechanic D, Pineville. **Charles Viers, Jr.**, temporary meter reader, Pineville.

Central Machine Shop

Edward Adams, equipment inspection superintendent.

Centralized Plant Maintenance

Teresa Ray, field clerk C.

Charleston

Randy Saunders, office messenger. **Douglas Paitsel**, meter electrician D. **Dennis Loudermilk**, stores attendant. **Robin Hildebrand**, junior clerk, Montgomery.

General Office

Richard Davieds, statistical analyst, GO

Rates & Contracts, Roanoke. **Jeffrey Brubaker**, associate staff accountant, GO Accounting, Roanoke. **Dale Stoepker**, associate statistical analyst, GO Rates & Contracts, Roanoke. **James McCreary**, operations engineer, GO Operations, Roanoke. **Kathy Simmons**, junior clerk, GO Accounting, Roanoke. **Philip Hancock, Jr.**, office messenger, GO General Services, Roanoke.

Huntington

Charles Burdette, engineering technician, Point Pleasant.

Kanawha River Plant

Tim Carrico, **Johnny Creathers**, **Craig Ervin** and **Gary Turley**, utility workers B.

Mountaineer

Neil Sanders, II, performance technician junior. **James McClanahan, Jr.**, and **Richard Shaddeau**, utility workers.

Pulaski

David Bell and **Tommy Dalton**, meter readers, Christiansburg.

PROMOTIONS



Powell



Life



Ashton



Blank



Harrison



Lambert



Harvey



Aliff

Charles A. Powell, plant performance superintendent, was promoted to operations superintendent of Mountaineer Plant on November 1, succeeding David Synowiec. He holds a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

Ralph E. Life, production superintendent — operations, was promoted to plant performance superintendent of Mountaineer Plant on November 1, succeeding Charles Powell. He holds a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

Warren Ashton, performance supervising engineer, was promoted to production superintendent — operations for Mountaineer Plant on November 1, succeeding Ralph Life. He holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

James "Buddy" Blank, plant engineer, was promoted to performance supervising engineer for Mountaineer Plant on November 1, succeeding Warren Ashton. He holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical engi-

neering from the University of Pittsburgh.

Ronald D. Harrison, office supervisor, was promoted to Kingsport customer accounts supervisor on November 1, succeeding W. Q. Smith, who retired.

Kenneth Lambert, unit supervisor, was promoted to assistant shift operating engineer at Clinch River Plant on August 1.

John D. Harvey, line mechanic A, was promoted to line crew supervisor nonexempt in the Princeton area of Bluefield Division on September 12.

Barbara S. Aliff, customer accounts assistant, was promoted to office supervisor in the Williamson area of Logan-Williamson Division on October 1, succeeding Virginia Renn, who is on sick leave. Aliff holds an associate degree in business administration from Southern West Virginia Community College. □



Bluefield Division employees were treated to a breakfast during the weeks of October 5 and 12 in recognition of their having completed 3-million safe work hours on August 2. The record began over 4½ years ago, on October 31, 1976, and is continuing. This picture was taken at the breakfast meeting in Welch.

SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES



Doc Craft
head T&D clerk
Roanoke
40 years



Earl Robertson
data proc. supv.
GO-Roanoke
40 years



Jim Heslep
office supv.
Glen Lyn
40 years



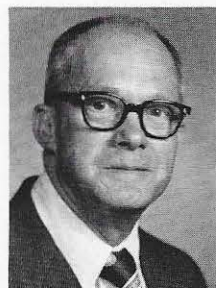
Jesse Ashworth
cust. serv. rep.
Lynchburg
35 years



Carl Buck
area service restorer
Charleston
35 years



William Chaffins
stores attendant sr.
Bluefield
35 years



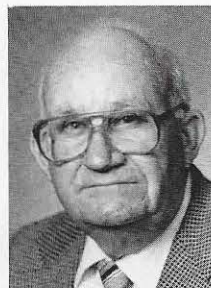
Bill Burgess
custodian
Logan-Williamson
35 years



Frank Giles, Jr.
office supv. (LTD)
Lynchburg
35 years



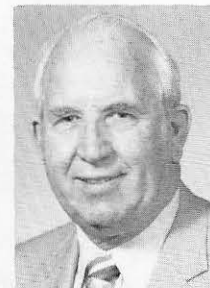
Wimpy Stricklen
gen. line supv.
Point Pleasant
35 years



Thomas Hanley
cust. serv. rep.
Logan-Williamson
35 years



William Haulsee
regional chief op.
GO-Danville
35 years



L. A. Philpott
general line supv.
Roanoke
35 years



Oscar Thompson
station mech. A
Logan-Williamson
35 years



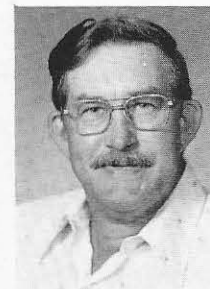
Marler Sharp
cust. acctg. supv.
Pulaski
35 years



Leroy Dalton
hydro op. supt.
GO-Roanoke
35 years



Harry Rasnick
line crew supv. NE
Abingdon
35 years



Dorsie Drake
line con. & main. rep.
Logan-Williamson
30 years



Roger Fairfield
electrical eng. sr.
Charleston
30 years



Richard Barton
unit supervisor
Philip Sporn
30 years



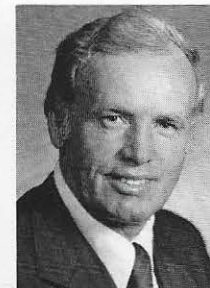
Jim Bowman
appliance serv. A
Kingsport
30 years



Otha Hawkins
auto. mechanic A
Lynchburg
25 years



Carl Gibbs
maint. mechanic B
Philip Sporn
25 years



Coonie Hager
line crew supv.
Logan-Williamson
25 years



Arlene Clark
technician
AEP-Huntington
25 years



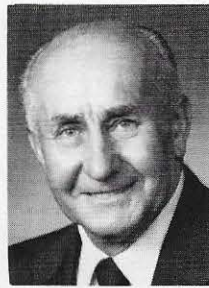
Delbert Murray
unit supervisor
Philip Sporn
25 years



Charlie Johnson
cust. accts. rep. B
Charleston
25 years



T. J. McComas
T&D clerk A
Huntington
25 years



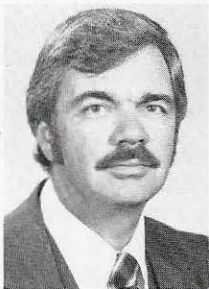
George Hodock
trans. mechanic B
GO-Bluefield
25 years



Jim Johnston
plant clerk A
Glen Lyn
25 years



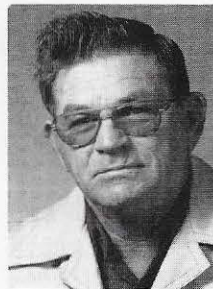
Holley Mutter
station mech. A
GO-Roanoke
25 years



Norman Tyler
elec. test spec.
GO-Roanoke
25 years



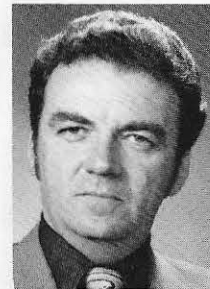
Hazel Sampson
cust. serv. clerk A
Charleston
25 years



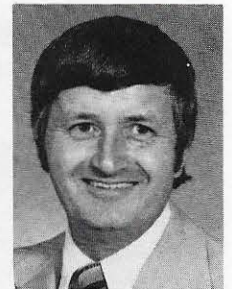
William Stivers
maintenance mech. B
Centralized Plant
25 years



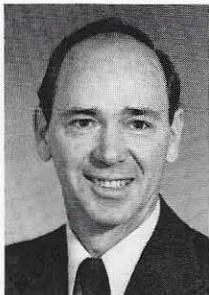
Frank Queen
r/w agent
Logan-Williamson
25 years



James Barnette
asst. shift op. eng.
Clinch River
20 years



John Barrett
maint. mechanic A
Clinch River
20 years



Ira Owens
inst. mechanic A
Clinch River
20 years



Wilson Howell
control elec. A
GO-Roanoke
20 years

John Amos

15 years: Dannie Carte, production superintendent-yard. 10 years: Thomas Hancock, II, coal equipment operator. Gregory Bird, transportation specialist. 5 years: Charles Browning, utility operator A.

Bluefield

5 years: James Archer, engineering technician.

Central Machine Shop

5 years: Alex Anderson, machinist 2nd class.

Charleston

15 years: Charlie Moore, engineering technician senior. 5 years: Gary Bledsoe, meter reader.

Clinch River

20 years: Daniel Higgins, maintenance mechanic A. 15 years: Roger Meade, instrument mechanic B. 10 years: Ernest Justice, unit supervisor. 5 years: Gilbert Christenberry, maintenance-production superintendent.

General Office

35 years: Mary Lee Farrier, secretary, GO Personnel-Roanoke. 30 years: Elizabeth Harrison, secretary-stenographer, GO T&D Civil Engineering-Roanoke. 15 years: Patsy McIntyre, stenographer, GO T&D R/e & R/w-Charleston. 10 years: Frank Campbell, senior reproduction machine operator, GO General Services-Roanoke.

Glen Lyn

15 years: Hobert Martin, custodian (LTD).

Huntington

15 years: Lee Bostic, general servicer. 5 years: Maxie Finnegan, meter reader.

Kingsport

10 years: Coy Klepper, meter clerk A.

Lynchburg

15 years: Norman Fowler, engineering technician senior.

Mountaineer

15 years: Jim Gress, maintenance supervisor. 10 years: Wayne Kayser, unit supervisor. Ed Roush, maintenance mechanic A.

Pulaski

15 years: Buddy Umberger, line crew supervisor nonexempt.

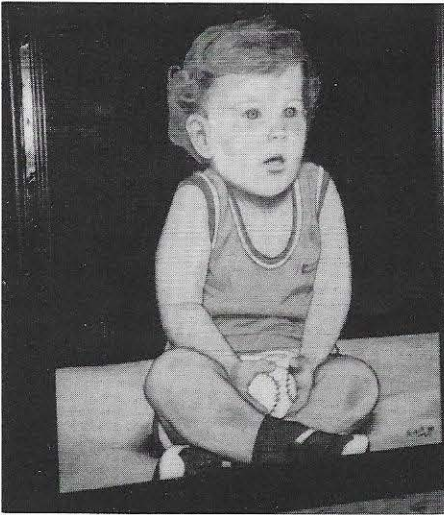
Roanoke

15 years: A. B. Tuck, reservoir supervisor nonexempt. Willie Feazelle, general servicer.

Philip Sporn

5 years: Okey Livingston, maintenance mechanic A. □

Bob paints the night away



Pam See's son at age one.



Portrait of a \$17,000 horse.



Bob's daughter Tracy and her son.

Art has been a part of Bob Roach's life as long as he can remember. "I started drawing when I was about three years old. We had a china cabinet with glass doors, and I took a nail and scraped a picture on it. My dad had a fit, too," Bob recalls with a smile.

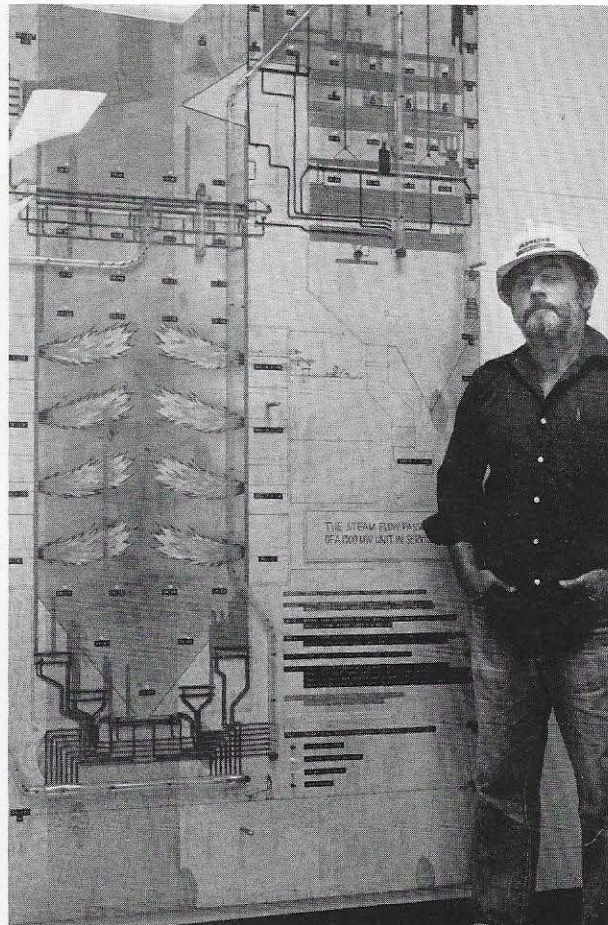
But it is from his dad that Bob apparently inherited his artistic ability. "My dad could draw and, as a matter of fact, took an art course. I guess I really should have gone to school for it, too."

A welding supervisor at Mountaineer Plant, Bob even uses art in the performance of his work. He drew a 4' x 8' picture showing the steam flow passage of a 1300 mw unit in service. "It is color wired exactly like the unit. It helps us out on tube leaks and things like that," Bob explains.

According to Bob McDaniel, maintenance superintendent, whenever there's a problem, Bob crawls into the boiler and draws a picture on the back of his hand of what needs to be fixed. "It's so accurate, we can use Bob's drawing to find out exactly where the trouble is."

Bob started out in oils but found "you kinda have to keep with it. Then I took up charcoal and pastel because they are quicker and you can start and stop."

Bob confesses that he has to be in just the right mood to paint. "I do everything at night and usually when it is raining. I just take a notion to paint, and it might be 12 or 1 o'clock at night when I get started. The painting is always done by 7 o'clock the next morning and then I come to work."



Bob Roach poses beside the drawing he made of the steam flow passage of a 1300 mw unit in service.



This picture of Christ and Bob's two children is painted on the living room ceiling.

Most of his paintings are of scenery and animals although he has done a number of portraits. He is particularly proud of the portrait he did of Pam See's boy when he was one year old. Pam is a plant clerk B at Mountaineer. "This little boy had a real soft, innocent look. The portrait really turned out beautiful."

Many of Bob's pictures are hung in various places around the community. For example, he painted a picture of the men raising the flag on Iwo Jima and the battleship West Virginia, which hangs on the wall of the American Legion in New Haven.

"The hardest painting I have ever done is on the ceiling of my living room. It is a picture of Christ and my

two kids. Right after I came to Mountaineer, I saw a black and white picture in a magazine, which was captioned, 'Can you see the face of Christ?'" I looked at it and didn't see anything. In a few weeks, another magazine came with the same picture. I looked and looked and still couldn't see anything. Then I took it home and asked my daughter Kellie if she could see a face in it. She pointed right to the face of Christ.

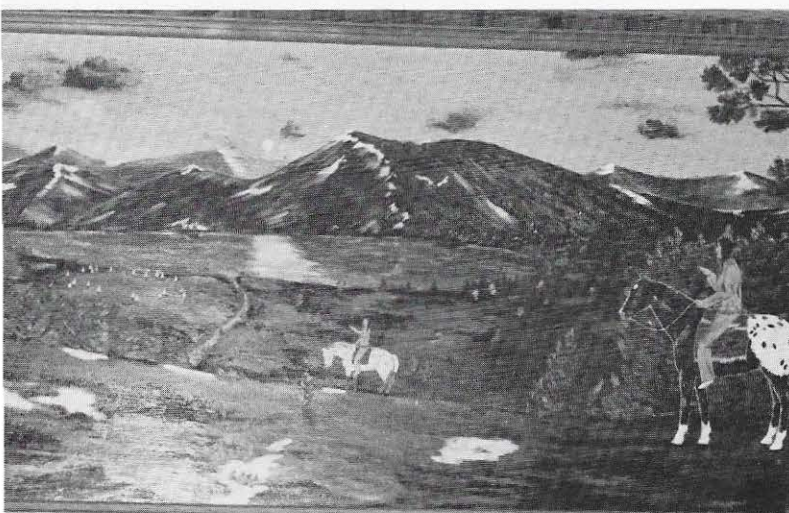
"Kellie had been wanting me to paint the ceiling in the living room, so I decided to paint this face of Christ on the ceiling. I ended up drawing the whole body, and I still wasn't satisfied so I drew the kids, too. I was working the evening shift then and would paint

three or four hours after I got home. I had to stand on a chair to paint and it took a good two months to complete. I couldn't bend my neck for a while," Bob recalls. "I was going to paint over the ceiling later on, but Kellie says that as long as she is home she wants me to leave it as it is.

"I've been building a carport all summer so I haven't painted anything recently. I find that the best time to paint is during the winter when I can't do anything outside. I've done a painting of my oldest daughter, Tracy, and grandson, so this winter I'll probably get around to painting a portrait of Kellie that she's been wanting me to do from one of her school pictures," Bob concludes. □



Bob and his daughter Kellie admire a portrait he painted of his two children when they were young.



Many of Bob's paintings are of scenery and animals.



Bob got the idea for this painting from a picture he remembered seeing on a container of salve some years ago.

Music is therapy for residents

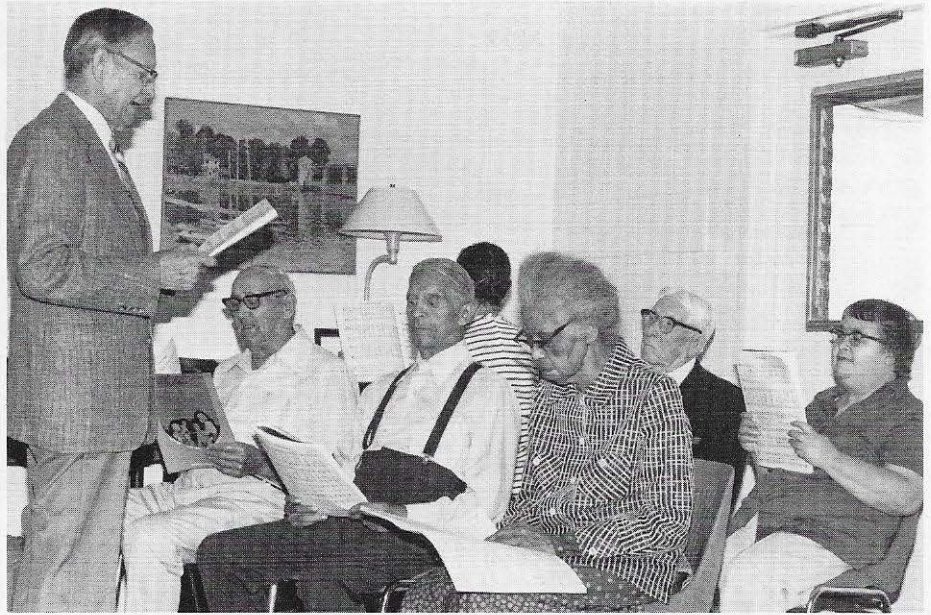
"Each of us should take an interest in things and not just sit back and wait for Tom, Dick or Harry to do it," claims Burnette Caldwell. It is because of Burnettes' enthusiasm for being involved that a resident chorus has been organized at The Oaks Home For Adults in Salem, Virginia.

Burnette, who retired in November 1964 as supervisor of budgets and special reports in GO Accounting, Roanoke, moved into The Oaks about two years ago.

He says, "I don't read music and don't consider myself a singer by any means. But I was asked to join the chorus at McVitty House Nursing Home (adjoining The Oaks) and began to enjoy it. But I was the only one in the chorus who was ambulatory; all the rest were in wheel chairs.

"I knew that one of the residents here at The Oaks had been a high school music teacher, another one plays the piano, and another one had mentioned she liked to sing. It dawned on me that if we could get a group together, it would be good therapy. Some of the residents weren't doing anything else in the way of activities. I spoke to The Oaks social director and administrator, and they thought the idea was great."

Although small in number, the Chorus



Burnette Caldwell, standing, leads The Oaks Chorus during a practice session.

practices three times a week and has presented several programs for residents and visitors since its organization early this year.

"The first program we had was for Mother's Day," Burnette recalls, "but our biggest program was for the Fourth of July. The piano is furnished by The Oaks, but we keep it tuned and buy our own music. Just recently we bought 30 hymnals for use by all of

the residents."

In addition to directing the Chorus, Burnette also provides leadership for other programs from time to time, such as prayer and Bible study groups.

"I don't lack for something to do," Burnette says with a smile. "I just feel like we're doing something really and truly worthwhile for those less fortunate." □



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