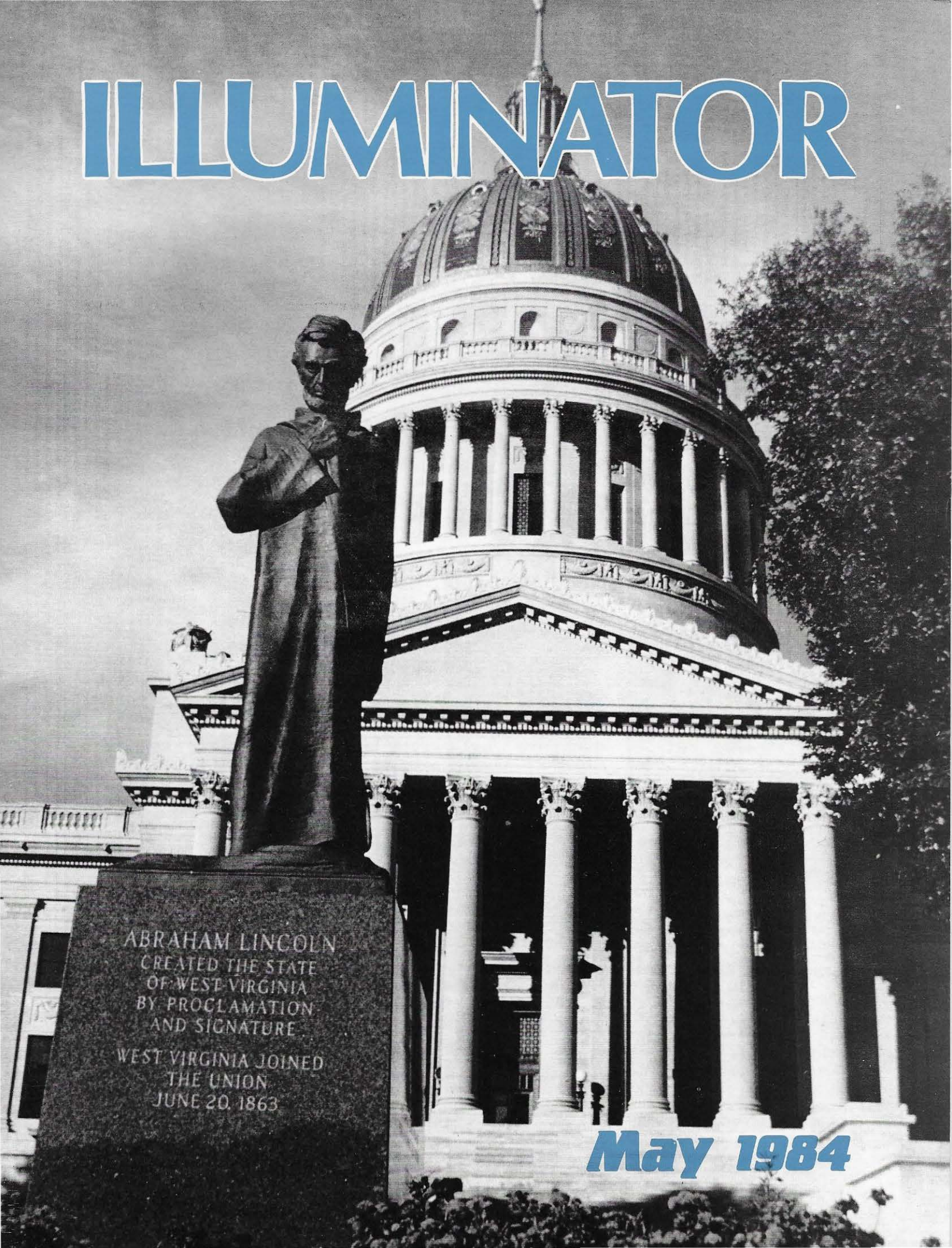
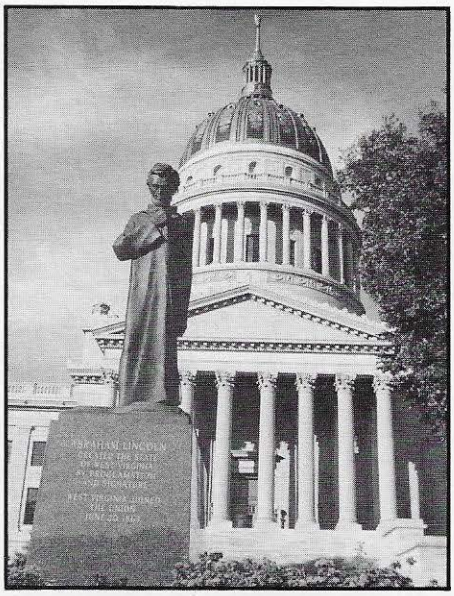
ILLUMINATOR



May 1984



The state capitol on the Kanawha River at Charleston, West Virginia.

Vol. 34, No. 8, May 1984

A publication of Appalachian Power Company, P. O. Box 2021, Roanoke, Virginia 24022, for employees of Appalachian and Kingsport Power Companies.

The inside story

AEP Savings Plan

Date	Fixed Income Fund		Equity Fund		AEP Stock Fund	
	VPU	UCPD	VPU	UCPD	VPU	UCPD
1/31/84	$1.8180	.5501	$2.6026	.3842	$1.6432	.6086
2/29/84	1.8360	.5447	2.5162	.3974	1.5575	.6421
3/31/84	1.8557	.5389	2.5621	.3903	1.5018	.6659

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.

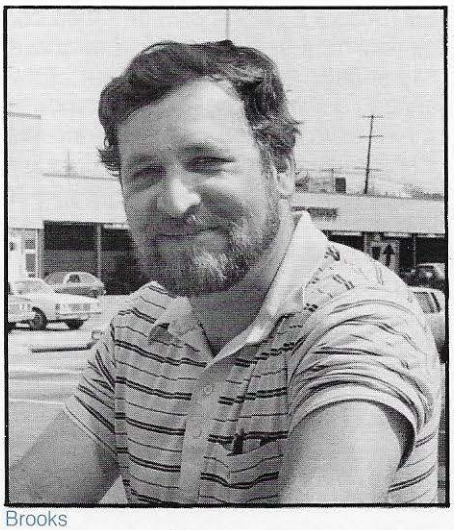
An important benefit

Paycheck direct deposit

- A long line stretching to a bank teller's window.
- Complicated arrangements for getting a paycheck to the bank **ahead** of a mortgage payment while on vacation.
- A paycheck misplaced or lost while enroute to the bank.

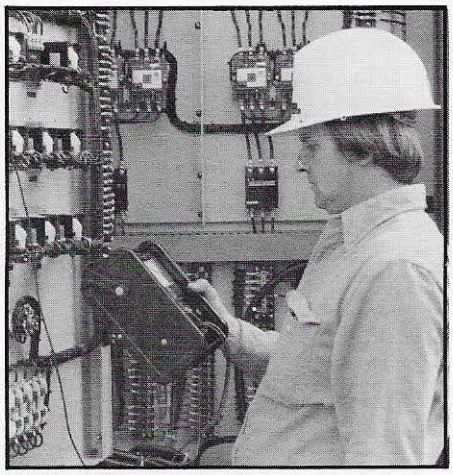
These are a few of the problems associated with paydays that are over for a growing number of Appalachian and Kingsport Power personnel. More than 1700 employees in the two companies have signed up for automatic direct deposit of paychecks since the benefit was first offered in mid-1980, and applications are coming in daily.

Through the paycheck direct deposit program, employees' earnings are reported directly to banks and automatically credited to their checking or savings account. Instead of receiving a check on payday, those employees receive a notification of direct deposit showing the amount of their earnings and deductions. The program has worked well in its four years of existence. Here's what some employees have to say about their participation:



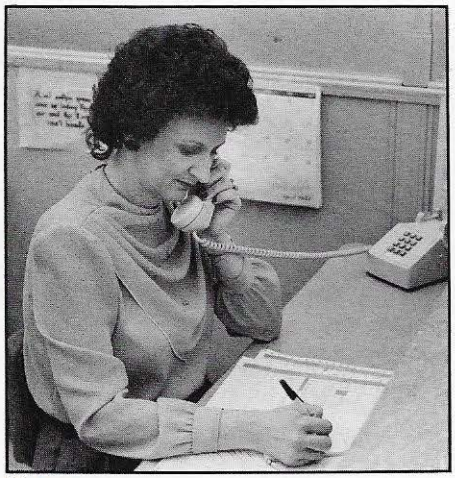
Brooks

"Prior experience with the convenience of direct deposit was enough to convince me to enroll in the company's system," says **David Brooks,** Roanoke line crew supervisor nonexempt. "I signed up for direct deposit when the government offered it while I was in service. The long lines at the bank teller window or waiting in the car at the drive-through are not my idea of convenience. On several occasions I was even denied the right to cash my check at both banking institutions and grocery stores because of the amount. The direct deposit system is also very handy if I'm away on vacation. I'm very satisfied with the system."



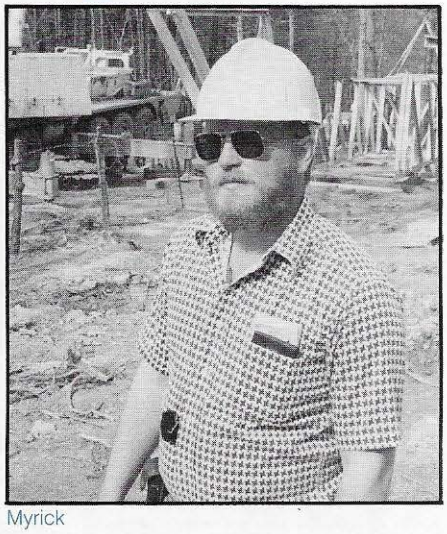
Smith

"Direct deposit was one of those things I thought about but never got around to doing anything about," says **Larry Smith,** transformer specialist, GO T&D Station, Roanoke. "Then my March 30th payroll check was lost in the mail, causing considerable inconvenience to me as well as the company. Payment had to be stopped on one check and another check issued. Hopefully, by going to direct deposit a lot of the possibility for error has been eliminated. Plus, I won't have to worry about getting my check to the bank when I'm out of town or on vacation."



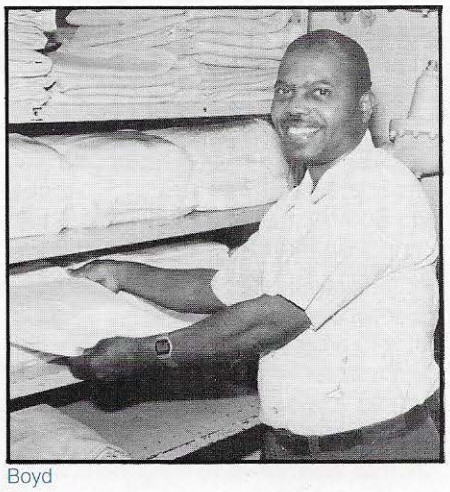
Dingus

Leta Dingus, Kingsport customer accounts clerk B, says, "I would recommend direct deposit to anyone. It is safe, convenient, and I love not fighting traffic or waiting in line."



Myrick

Larry Myrick, transmission engineer, GO T&D, Bluefield, destroyed one of his paychecks unintentionally. He says, "I used one to start a fire when it accidentally fell into a wastebasket near my woodstove. If I had entered the direct deposit plan earlier, this would not have occurred."



Boyd

"Safety is the reason I signed up for direct deposit," declares **Tommy Boyd,** custodian, General Office General Services, Roanoke. I work the evening shift, and I don't like getting off at 1 o'clock in the morning and walking to the car with the paycheck in my pocket. There have been robberies in the area, even in daytime. It is reassuring to know that if anything happens to me, my check will be in the bank for my family."

A lot of things can happen to your paycheck before it is safely deposited in the bank. Don't learn this the hard way. Sign up for automatic paycheck direct deposit today. □

Update

AEP employees, shareowners asked to fight proposed acid rain bills

AEP system employees and shareowners were asked last month by W. S. White, Jr., chairman, for their help in fighting recently proposed acid rain legislation in both the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives.

In a message to employees and a letter to shareowners, White urged that people contact their lawmakers concerning Senate Bill 768 and House Bill 3400, both of which would mandate reductions in sulfur dioxide emissions and, if approved, would pose serious financial consequences for AEP.

(H.R. 3400 has now been combined with H.R. 5084 to become H.R. 5314.)

The proposed SO_2 reduction would require the use of scrubbers, an expensive technology which, compared with AEP's present cost of service, could inflate the price of a kilowatthour by as much as 28 to 30 percent.

Currently, only two generating units on the AEP System are equipped with scrubbers and both are at Columbus and Southern Ohio Electric Company's Conesville Plant.

While low-sulfur coal is one alternative to scrubbers, the House bill — in an effort to protect the regional high-sulfur-coal market — prohibits the practice of burning low-sulfur coal from the West, called fuel switching.

Another alternative to scrubbers is coal washing. AEP has one of the most sophisticated and comprehensive coal washing programs in the country, but the excessive SO_2 reduction requirements being proposed far outdistance present coal-washing technology.

The pending legislation would require construction of scrubbers at up to eight System power plants. Plants too old to justify economically the addition of scrubbers would be closed prematurely. Those that could be retrofitted would be, but at a cost higher than what it would take to construct a scrubber at a new power plant.

Building new power plants to replace lost capacity would involve new construction costs of approximately $2,000 per kilowatt, about $1,800 more per kw as compared with existing plants.

While the House bill does include a plan to finance a portion of the scrubber costs — a one-mill tax charged to customers for each non-nuclear kilowatthour — in AEP's case this would only be enough to cover about one-third of its total costs.

If approved, the legislation would cost the AEP System more than $1 billion annually, and the national cost, over the long term, could be several hundred times that. □

Water release will aid bass spawning

For the 22nd year, Appalachian Power Company and the Virginia Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries are cooperating in efforts to enhance fish spawning in the Roanoke and New Rivers.

From April 23 until June 6, the flow from Appalachian's Leesville Dam is being regulated to a predetermined level to encourage the striped bass, a favorite game fish, to make their annual spawning run up the Roanoke River rather than the Dan River. The length of the Roanoke River between the Kerr Reservoir and the Leesville Dam, approximately 100 miles, is favorable to the natural spawning. In addition, a state hatchery is located on the Roanoke River at Brookneal.

Appalachian is also attempting, unless influenced by severe weather conditions, to maintain the elevation of the Claytor Lake on the New River above 1844 feet during the months of April and May. By minimizing the fluctuation in the level of the lake during this period, the natural spawn of white bass and other fish in the New River will be enhanced. □

New insurance claim method to begin June 1

A new method of submitting medical insurance claims, scheduled to go into effect June 1, will allow AEP System employees and retirees to file claims directly with Aetna Life Insurance Company, instead of with company claims representatives.

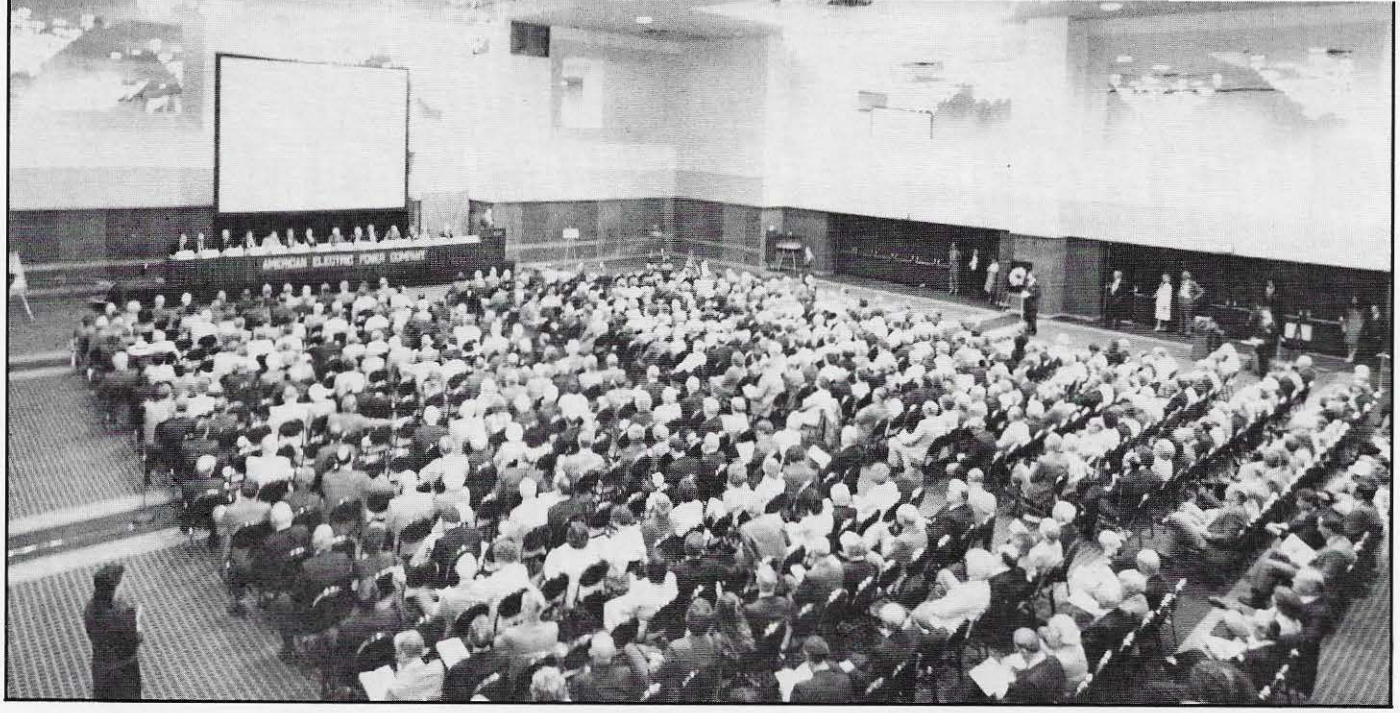
According to Robert Strahan, director of compensation and benefits for the AEP Service Corporation, elimination of the company's role in processing the claims will let the employees receive their insurance reimbursements much faster than at present.

The new system has been tested in a pilot program at Indiana & Michigan Electric Company for the past six months, he said, with excellent results. In addition, System employees have been filing dental claims directly with the insurance company for the past three years. "That program is working very well and this is the same idea," he said.

Prior to June 1, employees and retirees will receive a packet of information containing new self-mailing forms and an explanation of the new system. Active and retired employees and their spouses will receive a plastic card bearing their identification number and a toll-free telephone number with which they — or their physicians — may contact Aetna about coverage details.

The Personnel Department will continue to answer questions about the medical plan and assist employees and retirees with claims that cannot be resolved directly with Aetna, Strahan said.

"Most of Aetna's large policyholders already use the direct approach," he added. "I think we'll all be satisfied with the new system. It's faster; it's better. No one wants to wait any longer than necessary for his check to arrive." □



White: outlook positive for AEP

The outlook for American Electric Power Company is positive, both for 1984 and for the years beyond, W. S., White, Jr., chairman, told shareowners at their 77th annual meeting in Columbus on April 25.

To support his optimistic appraisal of AEP's continuing comeback from the economic recession of the past two years, White cited a number of encouraging factors, including these:

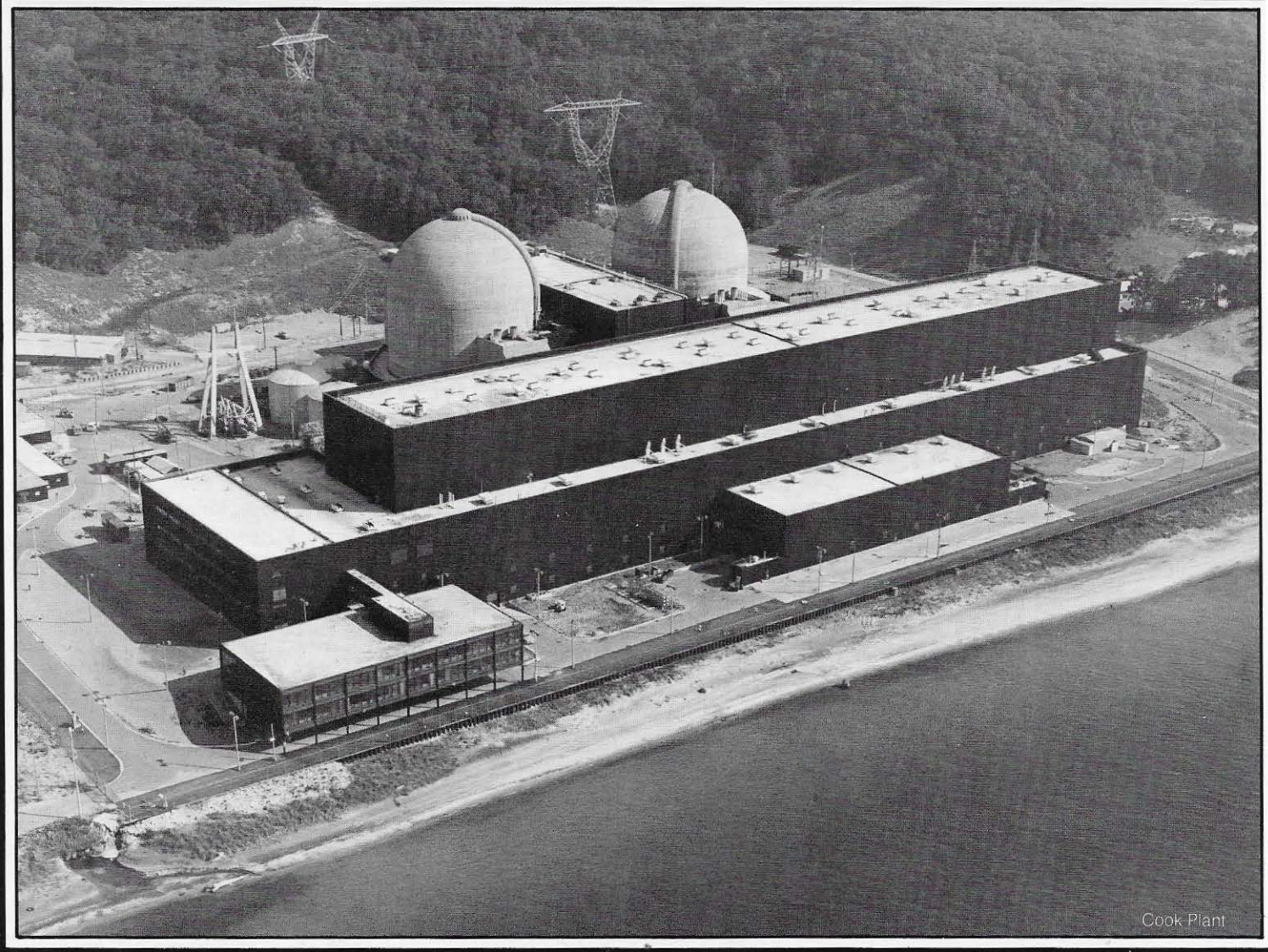
- A cost-reduction program put in place in late 1982 was a significant factor in AEP's financial improvement. "We cannot control the weather, and we have little if any impact on the external events that shape our economic destiny," he said, "but we can exert and have exerted the maximum effort at controlling the internal affairs that influence our financial health, and we have done so in a way that will not harm the integrity or the quality of service to our customers over the long term."
- "The earnings outlook for 1984 looks positive." Electric energy sales were up 21.4% in the first quarter, which helped to lift earnings per share for the quarter to 81 cents (the highest level since 1973).
- Annual construction expenditures over the next five years are expected to be below those of recent years. Such spending is projected at $788 million this year but below that level in 1985 and 1986 (in contrast to earlier projections in excess of $1 billion per year). Part of the lower expenditures is attributed to AEP's recent decision to defer for two years the completion of the second of two 1.3-million-kilowatt generating units under construction at its coal-fired Rockport Plant in Indiana. Its first unit is scheduled for completion late this year; the second, however, has been pushed back to late 1988.
- AEP's financing program for 1984 will be its lowest in a number of years, resulting in an anticipated net decrease of $17 million in long-term debt and $25 million in short-term debt.
- The effects of rate increases granted System companies in 1983 will become fully felt in 1984; in addition, decisions are awaited on three other rate cases pending before state commissions, two of which White rated as "major" in significance.
- The System's series of four 1.3-million-kw generating units (soon to be joined by a fifth such unit) is continuing its outstanding record of availability: close to 90% in 1983. And the System's only nuclear facility, the Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant in Michigan, "continued to build the best record for lifetime capacity factor among the larger nuclear plants in the nation," which White described as "one of the best kept secrets in the nuclear power industry."
- In particular, White cited the overall strength of the AEP System as the major underlying factor behind his positive outlook. "At AEP we are very fortunate in that we have a strong physical system, strong in generation, strong in transmission, strong in fuel supply and strong in our people," he said. He pointed out that only one power plant was under construction at this time, which, with the modest growth in demand experienced in recent years, "should take care of the needs of our customers for additional energy well into the 1990s."

White, while outlining the positives, did not overlook the negatives. "We do have several very perplexing problems with which we are going to have to deal," he said.

He cited the Zimmer project as the principal problem of the moment. Speaking of the January decision of Zimmer's three partners (The Cincinnati Gas & Electric Company, The Dayton Power and Light Company and AEP's Columbus and Southern Ohio Electric Company) to convert the plant from nuclear fuel to coal operation, White said, "We are convinced that the conversion is feasible, from both a technical and an economic standpoint. There are a number of issues to be resolved, but, by and large, the plant after conversion will be technically very similar to coal-fired plants in operation on the AEP System today." He added that the detailed design and accompanying cost estimates should be completed by the mid-year; however, obtaining the necessary permits may

(please turn to page 11)

Change: legacy of TMI


Cook Plant

Three Mile Island was the most-studied industrial accident in American history. Much has changed at I&M's Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant in the five years since.

Most Americans would be hard pressed to remember the date, perhaps even the year. But anyone even peripherally associated with the nuclear-power industry remembers all too well that Three Mile Island happened March 28, 1979.

Happened is exactly the word, too, for Three Mile Island — or TMI, as it's casually called — on that date became more than a two-unit nuclear generating station on the Susquehanna River near Middletown, Pennsylvania: it became a synonym for disaster.

Not technical disaster, as it turned out, though a technical error on the part of an operator compounded the problem, but a public-relations and financial disaster for an industry already suffering the skepticism of a nation vaguely uneasy with anything nuclear. (Nuclear power is often mistakenly associated with nuclear weapons. Apart from their both using the power of nuclear fission, there is no similarity between the two.)

The week of the accident it was impossible for anyone, even industry insiders,

to gauge the extent of the damage to the troubled reactor, much less the damage to the industry at large — damage still keenly felt in corporate boardrooms, on Wall Street, and in the 76 commercial nuclear plants now operating in the United States.

Today, the industry is still deeply troubled, its future uncertain. Between 1974 and 1977, 37 new applications were made to build commercial nuclear plants. In the 60 months since TMI, no new applications have been made — an indication that utilities and investors are still not sufficiently confident to brave regulatory and economic buffeting.

Moreover, there's been a spate of cancellations of nuclear projects begun prior to TMI. Cincinnati Gas & Electric's Zimmer Plant, of which AEP's Columbus and Southern is part owner, was supposed to be a single-unit nuclear station before its three owners decided three months ago to convert to coal.

Time required to complete a nuclear-power plant has increased from six years in the early 1970s to an average of 14 today. Costs, too, have soared.

That's the bleak side. The bright side is that those nuclear plants put in service before TMI — including I&M's two-unit Donald C. Cook — are now running safer and better than ever before.

"A lot was learned from the confusion at TMI," says Milt Alexich, AEP vice president-nuclear, who served in the U.S. Navy as commander of several nuclear-powered vessels. "The commercial nuclear industry now has an increased awareness of responsibility for safe operation."

Says Ken Baker, operations superintendent at Cook: "I'd say the greatest lesson learned from TMI is that nuclear power demands **constant attention.** We need much more than the huge initial capital investment; we need quality people with good training. Some good has definitely come of out of the accident."

At Cook Plant, employees learned all they could about the accident. They scrutinized procedures, speculated how they would have reacted under similar conditions.

The federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) studied the accident, too, as did a special task force appointed by then-President Jimmy Carter. The nuclear industry formed the Institute for Nuclear Power Operations (INPO), which set up rigorous safety and operations standards, regular evaluations of plants and staff, and a mechanism for routinely sharing information among nuclear utilities.

The majority of TMI-related changes at Cook have come in three areas — operations, training and emergency preparedness.

Ken Baker heads an Operations Department of about 100 people. Baker — who spent seven years in the nuclear Navy and 10 years with the NRC before coming to Cook two years ago — has a one-foot-tall stack of post-TMI regulations on his desk. He says reactor operators and supervisors have been heavily affected by new regulations.

"Operators are under more pressure than ever before," he says, citing stiffer NRC licensing exams, increased supervision in the control room, more months of training and a much lower tolerance for operator error.

"Operators have always lived under great scrutiny," Baker says, "but now they live in a fish bowl."

Still, TMI brought operators some relief, too. For one, operator fatigue is now offset by working-hour limitations. Shifts are rotated to allow some operators to attend training programs during their normal work time.

Operators, however, are compelled to file more in-depth reports on operating experiences — additional work, certainly, but with a dividend: more detailed information with which to better perform their jobs.

"There's no question that we now have more rigorous, more formal, communications between operating shifts," Baker says.

Here, too, operators have received invaluable assistance from lessons the industry has learned from other high-tech businesses — aerospace, for example, and the chemical industry, both of which depend on highly trained people to safely operate complicated machinery.

"To some extent," says an INPO report, "the industry (prior to TMI) was hardware-oriented — plants were assumed to be 'people proof' because of their multi-tiered, defense-in-depth protection systems and nuclear energy's consistent record of safety."

While it's true that no one was injured as a result of the TMI accident, and true that the plant's safety features did contain all but insignificant amounts of radiation, human error made the problem worse.

"That's why we're getting more interested in what's called 'human-factors engineering,'" says Baker. "We're reviewing Cook's control rooms for clarity of instrument instructions and placement. We're looking for every possible means to help operators mitigate an accident, should one occur."

Baker has one employee working full time on operating procedures, making sure the plant's practices match specifications in post-TMI regulations. Baker spends much of his time verifying to the NRC and other regulators that changes have been made, that the plant is in compliance.

"The burden of proof is on us," he says. "If we say a procedure or protective mechanism is adequate, we have to **prove** it's adequate, and that takes lots of time and documentation."

We're taking the systematic approach to training used in other high-tech industries," says Dave Nelson, Cook Plant training coordinator.

Nelson, a 13-year Cook veteran who also previously served in the nuclear Navy, says the substance of operator training hasn't changed much since TMI but that instruction methods differ greatly.

"Our training is based on needs analysis. We identify all the tasks associated with every job, and train accordingly," he says.

The needs-analysis approach is all the more important after TMI because the department must now quickly impart more information to more people. By breaking jobs down into their component tasks, needs analysis makes training more specific.

Nelson says that Cook will likely build a control-room simulator on which operators can train for any contigency the computer can conjure up. The price: between $17 and $26 million for the system, the building to house it and the engineering support to make it work.

"A simulator is cost-effective when you must give start up exams on the unit itself," Nelson says. "The cost of taking a unit out of service just to test an operator's skill is prohibitive." With a simulator in place, all operators will go through an NRC-administered hands-on examination. Every knob, dial and switch on the simulator will correspond to the real thing.

In the next three to four years, Nelson says, all nuclear-plant training programs will be accredited by INPO. This self-regulation will guarantee standardization and assure that the best response plans are made available to all nuclear personnel.

"TMI happened because of human error," says Nelson, "and we're trying to prevent that from ever happening again. Fully trained and qualified personnel don't make as many mistakes. It's a question of pay now or pay later. We can't afford to learn by the school of hard knocks ever again."

Before TMI, the nuclear industry as a whole lacked coordinated emergency plans, says Eustace Smarrella, Cook staff assistant temporarily responsible for emergency preparedness.

"We had some emergency procedures, but we weren't prepared to handle the situation off the plant site. Now we have a coordinated response ready. We've become more aware of people outside our boundaries."

In addition to installing warning sirens in the vicinity of the plant, I&M has conducted emergency-preparedness exercises since 1980, all of which have drawn high marks from regulatory agencies.

The company has built two facilities to coordinate the flow of information during a crisis.

A technical-support center in the plant features a computer system capable of monitoring radiation levels, water flow, and system pressures and temperatures.

Offsite, on the grounds of Benton Harbor Division's service building, is the emergency-operations facility. It, too, is equipped with a computer system that can provide the same information available in the technical-support center. In the unlikely event of a serious accident, much of the so-called recovery work would be centered there.

In I&M's General Office Public Affairs Department in Fort Wayne, Vince LaBarbera, information services manager, coordinates the public-information aspects of the company's emergency-response plan. Central to the effort is delineating who is responsible for what (and when) and the quick establishment of a joint public-information center 12 miles from the plant. At the center, county, state and utility officials share information, help dispel rumors and provide news briefings for reporters.

"The cooperation between the county, the state and I&M has been excellent," says LaBarbera. "We're got a good, efficient system and we've practiced it thoroughly. We're certain the confusion that occurred at TMI wouldn't happen here."

Apart from costly procedural changes and stiffer training requirements, TMI spawned a number of regulations whose implementation required extensive hardware additions — **backfits**, as they're called. The costs vary from plant to plant, but at Cook about $36 million has been spent on backfits in the last five years. Major design changes include:

- improved instrumentation on reactor vessels, including a reactor-vessel water-indication system. (One of the major problems at TMI-2 was operators' inability to determine water levels in the reactor vessel.)
- installation of a post-accident sampling system that can provide information on reactor-coolant-activity levels and the presence of hydrogen or radioactivity in containment.
- revision of the radiation-monitoring system. The revised system is better able to monitor radiation moving off the plant site, in the event of an accident. Also, more monitors have been installed inside the containment itself.
- installation of a distributed-ignition system to insure against the buildup of hydrogen pockets in the containment.

Five years hence, it's clear the accident at TMI couldn't have happened at a less opportune time.

For one thing, **The China Syndrome** — starring Jane Fonda, Michael Douglas and Jack Lemmon — had recently opened to good reviews and enthusiastic audiences nationwide. The film's plot centered on an accident at a California nuclear plant and on the efforts of a TV-news crew to reveal the details to the public.

The movie was a compelling drama — even its severest critics concede that — but it shared with much of its audience several basic misconceptions about nuclear power. When trouble at TMI hit the news, the film came readily to mind.

And, too, the accident occurred at the end of a decade fraught with political controversy and energy panic. Watergate and the Arab oil embargo were fresh memories. Cheap energy, once considered an American birthright, was a thing of the past; Americans were beginning to pay more for electricity, and some bitterly resented it. Add to this the confusion and rhetoric of a presidential-election season heating up, and the recipe for suspicion and fear was complete.

Americans have always been a mechanically minded people; the whir of well-oiled machines would make a suitable national anthem. But scientific advances during and after World War II have left many people confused. So it is with nuclear power, whose workings are mysterious to many.

"The technical community did not do a good job communicating to the average citizen what we do in nuclear power," says Bo Smith, Cook Plant manager. "We engineers tend to think in terms of slide rules, not communication. The technical community's attitude has changed since TMI."

Eustace Smarrella agrees. "The industry is totally different since TMI," he says. "We were locked up in our own thoughts. TMI woke a lot of us up. We began a series of self-examinations to improve the industry and those who work in it. In this respect, the industry is far better for TMI."

Del Shaller, Cook Plant manager at the time of the TMI accident, later worked at INPO as a loaned executive. Now a staff engineer in AEP's nuclear division, Shaller says his INPO experience confirmed "there was not an adequate exchange of information from plant to plant.

"What initially happened at TMI had happened at other plants and been adequately handled. Today, an operator would very likely recognize the situation for what it was and react accordingly. Communication has been much improved."

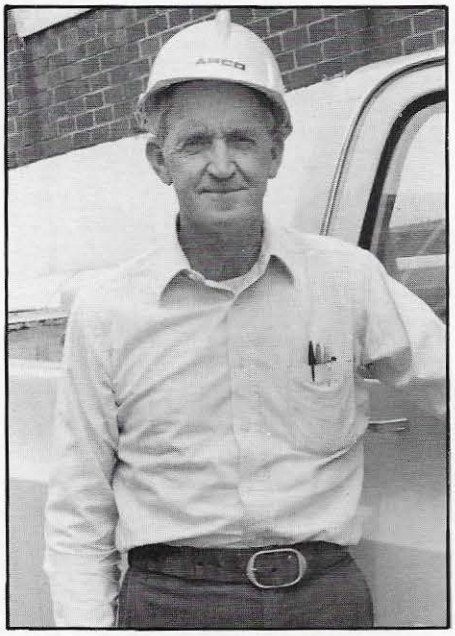
For nuclear power, the 1970s began well and ended badly. The '80s will likely tell the tale. Still, confidence best characterizes the outlook of I&M and AEP nuclear people — confidence based partly on their having adapted successfully to a more demanding operating and regulatory environment.

"I think nuclear power is our bridge to the next century," says Bo Smith. "I believe in the technology. People's fears will subside in time."

Until then, **change** — in every aspect of the industry — will be the legacy of TMI. □

Retirements

Henry Jones



"I have enjoyed working for the power company," relates Henry Jones, who was a general servicer in the Lebanon area of Abingdon Division before electing early retirement May 1.

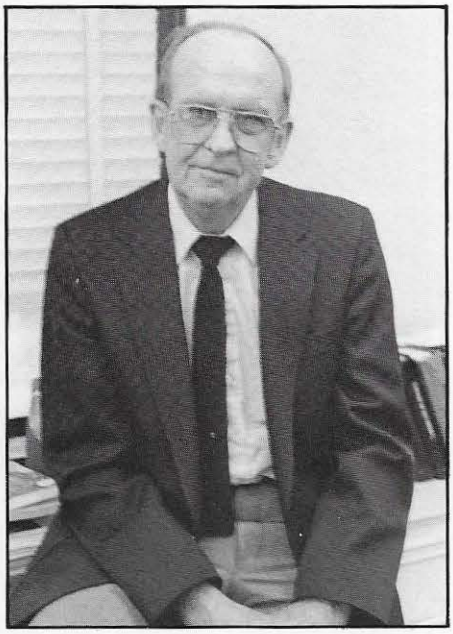
"I've had some great experiences," he says. "We have some really fine people, and I made a lot of friends. I will probably miss them now that I'm retired, but I'll be back. I told the boys I wasn't leaving them completely."

Henry recalls, "I was hired at Bluefield in 1947 and went to work in Princeton. I stayed there just a few months before moving to Cleveland, where the line crew was located. Next I went to Honaker as meter serviceman. I have worked out of the Lebanon storeroom for the past 18 years."

Henry adds, "I worked the entire Russell County and put about 18- to 20,000-miles a year on my truck. I worked more than 36 years without a lost time or chargeable vehicle accident, and that is something I'm really proud of. I have been lucky, I guess, but you have to pretty well have your mind on what you are doing to have a record like that."

Henry is going back to his homeplace, a farm at Rosedale, Va., for his retirement years. "My time will probably be spent remodeling the house and gardening. Between times my wife and I may travel some." □

Jack Newland



"Appalachian has been family to me for a long time," says Jack Newland, who was Bluefield engineering technologist supervisor before electing early retirement May 1. "As a matter of fact, my brother and sister-in-law, Red and Opal Newland, retired from Pulaski Division in 1977."

Jack continues, "I had a nice group of boys working with me, and I'm bound to miss everybody after 37 years of association. I don't know of a better company to work for.

"My wife was a school teacher before retiring last July, but it took me nine months to make up my mind to take that step. We will just play it by ear at first. I very likely will get back into golf. I like to fish, and we leave our camper over at Claytor year-round so that gives me somewhere to go. I do a pretty good job of refinishing furniture, too. I like that really well.

"Like my wife says, if she plans on doing something today and doesn't get it done, she will just do it tomorrow. That's going to be pretty much my attitude from now on."

He adds, "We have a four-year-old granddaughter here, so we'd be hesitant about moving somewhere else."

Jack served in the Marine Corps during World War II and, as a reservist, was recalled during the Korean War. □

L. E. Hollins

"I couldn't find a better company to work for. That is why I stayed with Appalachian for a lifetime," declares L. E. Hollins. He was an assistant shift operating engineer at John Amos Plant before electing early retirement May 1.

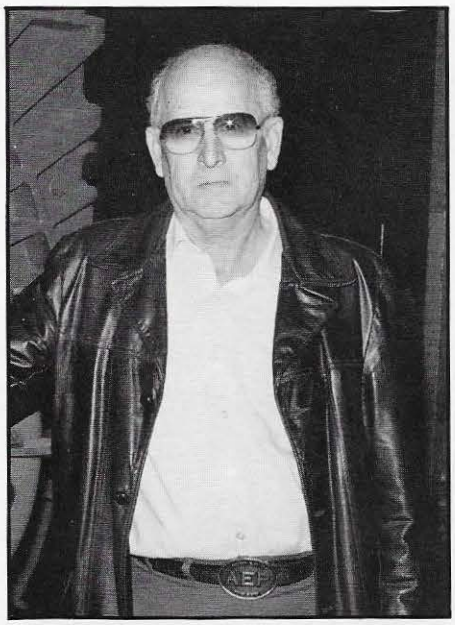
L. E. continues, "We made a contract in 1948 that if I worked eight hours the company would pay me for it. I always got paid, so I must have done a good job. Because of the savings plan and the benefits we have now, I would recommend anyone starting with the power company."

A native of White Gate, Virginia, L. E. began his utility career at Cabin Creek Plant. He moved to Kanawha River and then to Clinch River for the start-up of those units. "I spent some time in the New York office helping write the manual for the start-up of units 1 and 2 at Amos," he notes, "and moved to Amos in 1970."

L. E. adds, "My wife and I are not planning on staying in West Virginia after this summer. We don't know where we will settle down, but it will probably be somewhere in the sun belt. We expect to do some traveling, of course. I've been in about 40 of these United States so far.

"We have one son, who will graduate from the University of Tennessee in December. He is planning on going to graduate school." □

Gene Brown



Gene Brown, coal equipment operator at Glen Lyn Plant, elected early retirement May 1 after nearly 28 years' service.

He says, "It has been a good job, and the power company has been good to me. But there has been some hard wintertime work, and I'm certainly not going to miss that."

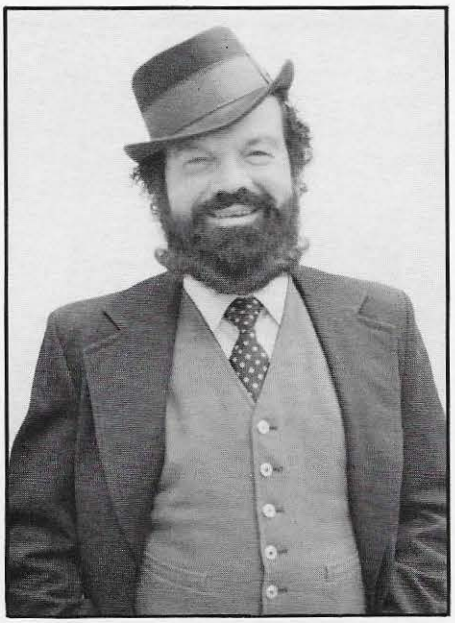
He continues, "Our benefit program has helped me. It was handy to have the LTD leave to fall back on when I developed my inner ear problem.

"If I can get that problem under control, I'd like to get back into making furniture. I've made both my children and myself grandfather clocks, and I made everything that is in one of my grandson's bedroom. The last thing I made was an altar rail for my daughter's church at Winfield, West Virginia. Her husband, incidentally, is Randy Camden, a unit supervisor at Amos Plant."

Gene, who is a trustee at Faith Temple Pentecostal in Pearisburg, says, "There's always plenty to do at the church to keep me busy. And I always put out a garden and flowers. It takes a lot of work just to keep them tended."

Gene concludes, "My four grandchildren will probably keep me busy, too." He and his wife will continue to make their home in Narrows. □

Carl Hager



"I figure I traveled between 700- and 800,000-miles with the company through Virginia, West Virginia, Tennessee and Kentucky," claims Carl Hager, who was a transmission mechanic A in GO T&D, Bluefield, before electing early retirement May 1.

"I liked my job and loved the people I worked with. I was in the same crew from the time I started in 1948 until I left. I made a lot of good friends, from supervision on down, in both Appalachian and Kingsport Power."

Carl jokes, "I told the boys I was going to keep busy mowing their lawns in the summer and shoveling snow for them in the winter."

He adds, "I am looking forward to getting better acquainted with my wife Nora after all these years of being away. We enjoy fishing and hunting together. We have one daughter and three grandchildren who live in Roanoke, and about all the traveling we'll be doing is going to visit them."

Carl continues, "My hobbies are hunting, fishing, gardening and taking care of the lawn. I do a little artwork, too, and have done some pretty good pastels and oils.

"I won't have any trouble with retirement. I have three older brothers who live within walking distance. Between their supervision and my wife's, I'll be under control." □

Ralph Bowling

"I served in the infantry during World War II in Africa and Italy," recalls Ralph Bowling. "After getting out of service I worked at a garage for three years before hearing about an opening at the Glen Lyn Plant.

"My job has been a good one," he continues. "Except for a short time in Operations, I worked in the Maintenance Department." Before electing early retirement May 1, Ralph was a maintenance mechanic B.

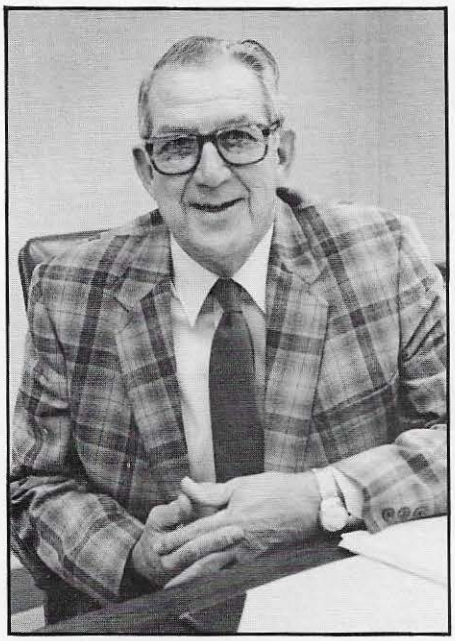
"After being at this place 33 years, I'm bound to miss it," he says. "I just wish we had had the savings plan when I first started.

"I may do a little hunting, fishing and gardening, but mostly I'm just going to take it easy," Ralph states. "My wife works at a school cafeteria, and I don't know when she will retire.

"We'll be going out to see our son, who works for General Motors in Flint, Michigan. Our daughter and two grandsons are here.

"I also hope to spend a lot of my free time in church work." A member of the Peterstown Methodist Church, Ralph is a former trustee, on the administrative board and the pastor-parish relations committee. □

Ed Maxey



"The company has been very fair with me," says Ed Maxey, "and I have enjoyed working. There will be a letdown from the old routine of 8 to 5, but I am looking forward to retirement. After 45 years, it is time to go." Ed retired May 1 as property representative senior in GO Land Management, Roanoke.

He continues, "I don't think there is a better group of people on God's green earth than the ones I worked with."

Ed has made no real plans for retirement. "I am sort of the neighborhood electrician, and I guess I will be piddling around with electrical work. And we will be taking some short trips that normally we would take on vacation time. Now we'll be able to go whenever we want."

Ed continues, "I have been on the Roanoke County board of zoning appeals for about six or eight years. Before that I was on the county planning commission for eleven years. I still belong to the Vinton Lions Club."

Ed served in Europe with the Army Corps of Engineers during World War II. He says, "The boys I served with still get together every two years. We are planning a reunion in Lexington, Ky., this summer."

Ed and his wife Evelyn, a former APCo employee, have one daughter. □

Raymond Cole

A 33-year electric utility career came to a close May 1 for Raymond Cole, unit supervisor at Philip Sporn Plant.

Raymond, a native of Richmond, Virginia, says, "I've really appreciated my employment here. People don't realize how important our fringe benefits can be. I had an illness or two, and I really appreciated our benefit package."

Raymond adds, "I don't have any definite retirement plans right now, but I'll stay busy. I've talked to some other retirees, and they say summer months pass quickly but the winters are kind of long. So I'll probably pick up a hobby for the winter.

"I know it is going to be nice to come and go when I want. While I was on shift work, I was tied to my work schedule and that always came first. Now I'll just plan my time as I go.

"My wife and I live in a rural area and we don't have many close neighbors so I know I'll miss the company of my fellow workers. Retirement is something all of us are faced with at some time, and my time has come." □

Annual meeting

(continued from page 5)

take as long as three years and construction up to four years.

White told the shareowners, "We are working hard to ensure a minimum impact (from the conversion) on the investors of the three companies involved. The critical regulatory issue will be how much of the total investment will be allowed in the rate base and what portion of that which is disallowed can be recovered in some manner. We are working and will continue to work very hard to obtain satisfactory answers to these questions."

Another potential problem for AEP and the electric utility industry — acid rain — also came in for mention by the AEP chairman. He called it "an issue that is likely to be with us for some time to come" and "one which has the potential of being very expensive for our company, our customers and our service territory."

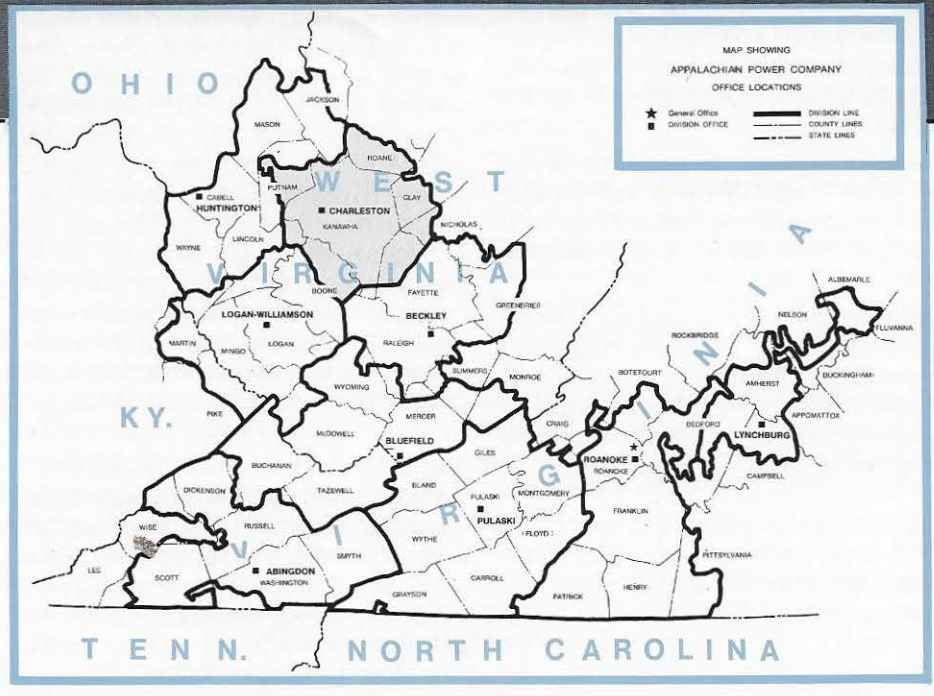
Turning to the national and international scene, White told the audience that "the federal government's continuing inability to deal with its growing financial deficit" was foremost among the external factors creating uncertainty for the future because of its strong influence on interest rates and inflation. "While both of these factors are of major concern to the entire economy," he said, "they are of even more concern to utilities because their effects on us have been and can be once again devastating."

He also pointed to the Middle East and "the fragile nature" of the current stalemate there. "A breakdown in that part of the world could change the nature of the world's energy supply overnight," he warned. Then he concluded with a note of caution: "While we feel reasonably secure in the knowledge that electric energy supplies are quite adequate today, we need to remain alert to possible changes here as well." Because of this, the nation's electric utilities cannot afford "to make the same mistake twice" — i.e., assuming too little growth in the years ahead, just as they assumed too much growth for the decade of the 1970s.

* * *

Two of AEP's 15 directors stepped down from the board as of the annual meeting. They are: George V. Patterson, retired AEP president and a director since 1966, and Ben T. Ray, a director since 1980, who retired February 1 as president of Columbus and Southern Ohio Electric. The other 13 were reelected. □

CHARLESTON DIVISION



The state capitol was designed by the noted Cass Gilbert and completed in 1932 at a cost of $10 million.

(fourth in a series)

Although not established by act of the Virginia General Assembly until 1794, Charleston, West Virginia, origins date back to the pre-Revolutionary War days when frontiersmen began the westward trek toward the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. From a fort built as a military outpost in the Virginia system of frontier, Charleston and its surrounding communities have developed into a major industrial and commercial area strategically located to the large urban areas of the east, south and midwest.

The story of Charleston reaches back to the closing days of the French and

Indian War. The first white man of record to view the site was Matthew Arbuckle who, in 1764, passed from the Greenbrier Levels (Lewisburg) down the Kanawha Valley to a French trading post on the site of Point Pleasant. It was subsequently visited by many traders and land surveyors. General Andrew Lewis, with his Virginians, camped on the site in 1774, on the way to take part in the Battle of Point Pleasant. In May 1775, most of the site of the city was embraced in a land survey made for Col. Thomas Bullitt for service rendered "in the late war between Great Britain and France". This land, in 1787, was sold to George Clendenin for five shillings, the tract embracing the "east side" of Elk River.

In April 1788 a company of Virginia Rangers under Col. Charles Clendenin erected a stockade fort at the corner of the present Brooks Street and Kanawha Boulevard, officially known as Fort Lee, which was a part of the frontier defense until the close of the Indian wars in 1795. In 1794, forty acres of the Clendenin holdings were laid off in lots and a town authorized by the Virginia Assembly, to be known as Charleston in honor of Charles Clendenin. In 1796, the residue of the "military survey" was sold to Joseph Ruffner, Sr. On January 19, 1918, Charleston, by name, was officially established.

Industrial development

The early years of Charleston are much interwoven with the story of the great salt industry of the Kanawha Valley. As early as 1796, salt was manufactured at the mouth of Campbells Creek, almost directly opposite the homeplace of Daniel Boone, who resided at the present Kanawha City from 1790 until 1795. In the hands of the Ruffners and others, this industry rose to great proportions. The "locks" become Kanawha Salines, now Malden. By 1860, salt was shipped to all parts of the United States from some 49 great furnaces. Nearby, as early as 1774, had been found natural curiosities known as "burning springs" from which exuded natural gas. This was used for fuel in the furnaces.

Next came the development of Charleston as a market and wholesale town to serve the rapidly-developing coal mining industry in southern West Virginia. The Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad was completed through the city in the spring of 1873, giving the coal industry added impetus. This was followed between 1880 and 1883 by the Ohio Central Railroad, which is now part of the Consolidated Rail Corporation. The Coal & Coke Railroad was opened in 1906 from Charleston to Elkins, using in part an earlier railroad constructed by the Elk River Valley, and is now part of the Baltimore & Ohio system.

Union Carbide Corporation's South Charleston Plant is symbolic of the industrial might of Kanawha Valley.

The third, or present, era is marked by the development of Charleston as one of the great chemical centers of the United States, based upon the manufacturing utilization of the natural resources which surround the city. The present era is divided into the gas and glass period, the war period and the synthetic period. The gas and glass period was a result of the extensive development of oil and gas fields around Charleston. The first World War period saw the location and expansion of a number of manufacturing plants which were designed to be converted easily into war munitions plants. The synthetic period is the present, and is marked by the location of branches of internationally known chemical industries here. Like earlier industries, most of these are based upon the salt brine and other natural resources underlying the Kanawha Valley.

The presence of manufacturing plants, the nearby location of natural resources such as coal, oil and gas, and the facilities for transportation, combined with isolation from the seaboard, led to the location of the Naval Ordnance Plants of the U. S. at South Charleston in 1917 and the location of the U. S. Government's Nitrocellulose Plant for the manufacture of guncotton, in the same year. As part of the war production effort in 1942-43, the nation's then largest installations for the production of bulk synthetic rubber were built at Institute.

The old Naval Ordnance Plant complex in South Charleston has been completely renovated and today is called the Charleston Ordnance Center, providing space

for over 30 smaller companies as well as the Charleston Stamping Plant of Volkswagen of America, Inc. The Nitrocellulose plants have been cleared from their original sites at Nitro, but FMC, Monsanto and other major companies have developed facilities in the same area. The bulk synthetic rubber property at Institute today belongs to Union Carbide Corporation, the Kanawha Valley's largest employer.

First utility companies

A vital part of the industrial development of the region has been the evolution of the Charleston Division of Appalachian Power.

First illumination in Charleston occurred in 1871 when gas street lights were introduced by Charles Ward and the Charleston Gas Light Company. In 1886 the Charleston Water Works was organized.

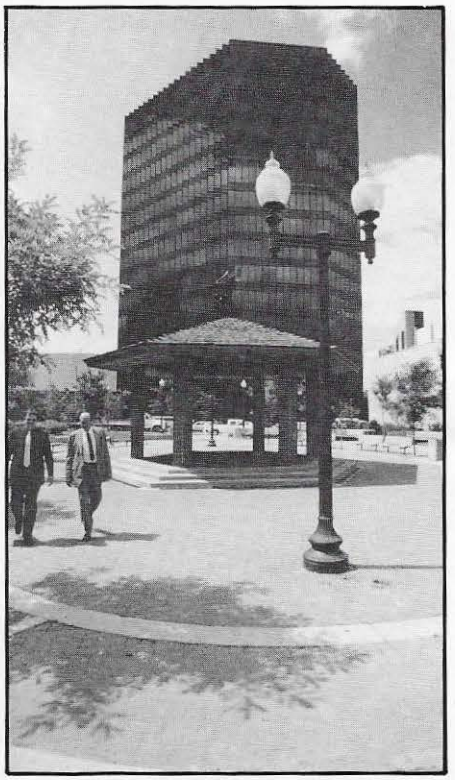
In 1886 the town council granted Otto Michaelson and Philip Frankenberger permission to furnish Charleston with lights and to supply electricity to homes and businesses under the name of the Kanawha Light Company. A 100 kw generator was belted to a steam engine and put in operation at Alderson Street. Electric service was available only during the dark hours before midnight. By 1888 the company was serving 150 customers.

The Charleston Gas Light Company, realizing that electricity would have its place in the illuminating field, installed a gas engine and belted it to a generator. The two companies competed until they consolidated under the name of the Charleston Gas and Electric Company in 1891.

In 1893 a 50 kw direct current generator was installed at Alderson Street to serve street cars which had been mule drawn. Once the street cars were operating, other businesses began installing electric motors. The first was the Scott Drug Company which used a motor to operate an ice cream freezer. The motor was fed off the street car line.

In 1903 the Charleston Gas and Electric Company consolidated with the Charleston Water Works Company, forming the Kanawha Water and Light Company. A survey made in 1906 showed the company furnishing electricity to 1,759 incandescent lights, 29 motors, 7 electric pianos, 10 elevators, 11 electric signs, 21 arcs and 1 massage machine.

The NEW Charleston has emerged as the pivot point of a vast regional transportation network. When completed, three interstate highways and one Appalachian Corridor highway will inter-connect near downtown Charleston.



The all-electric One Valley Square.

In 1912 the company was changed from the Kanawha Water and Light Company to West Virginia Water and Electric Company. Two years later one of the first plants in West Virginia designed to transmit power over a large territory was placed in service near Charleston by the Virginian Power Company. Cabin Creek Plant had an initial capacity of 13,200 kilowatts. Additional power for the area was available in 1918 from the Charleston plant of the West Virginia Water and Electric Company, which had a capacity of 8,250 kw.

The American Gas and Electric Company started purchasing small utilities in the valley in 1923 and the Charleston division of Appalachian Electric Power Company was formed in 1926. Among the companies consolidated were the Virginian Power Company, the West Virginia Water and Electric Company, Hartland Power Company, Kanawha Valley Power, St. Albans Electric Power and Light Company, and the Dunbar Light and Power Company.

The future

Division Manager Cal Carlini notes, "Exciting changes have taken place in Charleston in recent years and are continuing. Focus of the NEW Charleston is its ambitious urban-renewal program, high-lighted by the new 26-acre Town Center, a $100 million downtown shop-

An interior view of the new 26-acre Town Center, a $100 million downtown shopping mall.

ping mall. Town Center lies between the main business district and the Charleston Civic Center. Part of the latter is the new Coliseum, a 12,500-seat arena supplementing a new convention facility at the original center, as well as a 3,000-seat city auditorium nearby. Also in the area are the new 12-story Kanawha Banking & Trust Center; the One Valley Square office tower; the new Kanawha County Judicial Annex, and the West Virginia Public Service Commission building under construction.

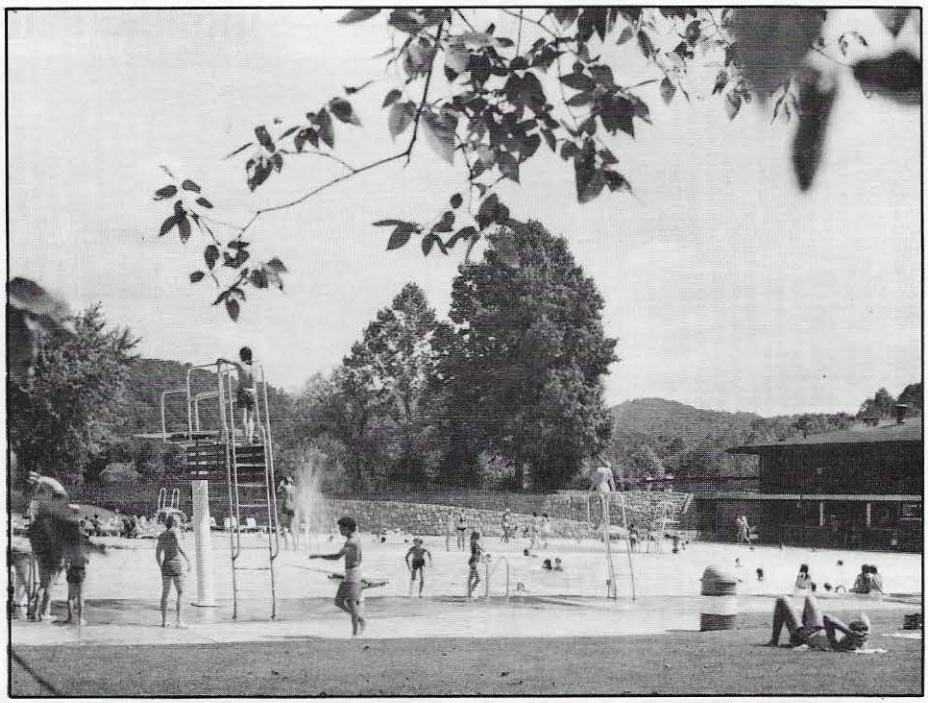
"The NEW Charleston also includes the Kanawha Mall, a new 70-store shopping center in Kanawha City, and the West Virginia Cultural Center, adjacent to the state capitol, which houses a museum, art gallery and performing arts facility.

"The older areas of downtown Charleston are entering into a period of change, also. The Chamber of Commerce hired a consultant to identify problem areas, and the non-profit Charleston Renaissance Corporation has been formed to develop these areas through public and private funding. Much of the downtown area will be renovated, using an "Old Charleston" theme. Facade improvements will restore buildings to their Victorian era appearance. Lighting, street furniture, plants and trees will complete the atmosphere of a Victorian street scene." □

Statistics

(12/31/83)

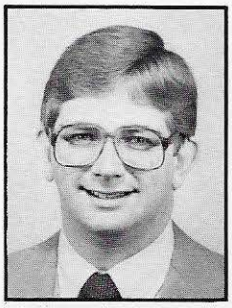
Area served — sq. miles	1,887
Customers	118,515
Miles of line	
Transmission	642
Distribution	3,620
Employees	335
Annual Payroll	$8 million



Located within 15 minutes of downtown Charleston, the 1,200-acre Coonskin Park is the Kanawha Valley's most popular recreational facility.

Who's News

Abingdon



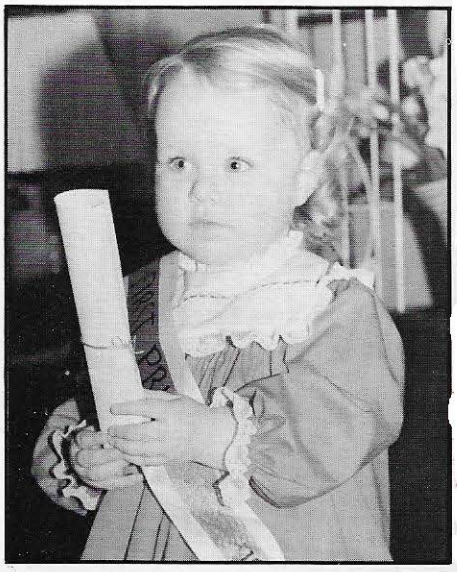
Isaac Webb, Gate City area supervisor, was elected president of the Scott County Jaycees for 1984-85.

Marcy, daughter of Dave Spencer, line mechanic A, was selected to attend Presidential Classrooms for Young Americans in Washington, D.C. She is a student at Marion Senior High School.

Cindy, daughter of Berkley Burkett, meter reader, was named to the All-Hogoheegee District girls' volleyball team.

Division Manager **Dan Carson** was appointed to the budget and allocation committee of the United Way of Washington County for 1984. □

Pulaski



Emily Suzanne, daughter of Galax Meter Reader Carl Martin, won first place in the 0-24 month division of the Little Miss and Mister Pageant at Waddell Nursing Home.

Teresa Anne Little, daughter of Roy Jennelle, will represent New River Community College as a princess in the court of the Apple Blossom Festival in Winchester, Virginia, this month.

Meter Reader **Gary Johnson** has been presented a life membership in the Christiansburg Jaycees. A 12-year member, Gary has served the organization as vice president, state director, secretary, director and two terms as president.

Teresa, wife of Ted Aaron, electrical engineer, has been included in the 1984 edition of "Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges". She is a student at New River Community College.

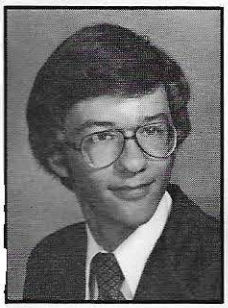
Mark, son of Sonny Alley, engineering technologist, won five out of six games at a chess tournament held at Critzer Elementary School. Two hundred sixty players from four states and the District of Columbia participated. Mark was a member of the winning sixth grade team from Pulaski Middle School.

James "Cannonball", son of Custodian Jerry Smith, was awarded a junior varsity letter in wrestling for the 1983-84 season at Pulaski County High School. He also won first place for his team in the Grundy Open Wrestling Tournament.

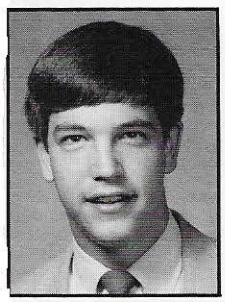
Renee Moon was selected for the varsity track team at Pulaski County High School, and **Darlene Moon** was chosen for the track team at Pulaski Middle School. They are the daughters of Shirley Moon, customer accounts representative B. □

Huntington

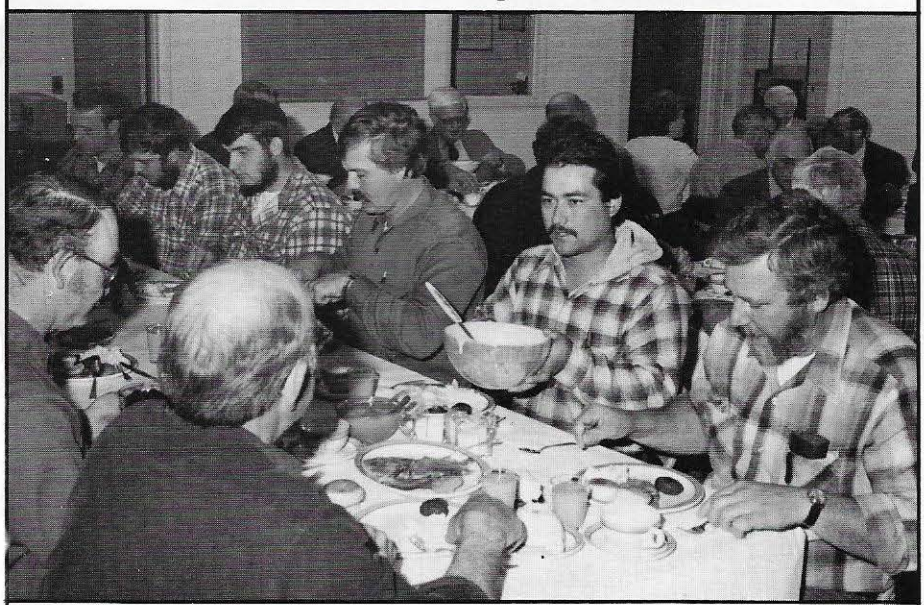
John, son of Wimpy Wickline, retired Point Pleasant customer service representative, was appointed sports editor of the West Virginia University student newspaper, The Daily Athenaeum. A junior at WVU, John is a journalism major.



Rick, son of Mavis Weaver, Point Pleasant customer service representative A, won second place in expository preaching at the 1983-84 Mountaineer Association of Christian Schools annual competition, which attracted 300 contestants. He is a student at Heritage Christian Academy. □



Bluefield safety breakfasts



For working one year without a disabling injury, Bluefield Division employees were treated to breakfast recently. Pictured above are Tazewell office employees at one of the seven breakfasts held throughout the division.

Beckley

Jamie, daughter of Loretta Pryor, customer accounts representative C, was selected "Miss Afro 1984" at Woodrow Wilson High School, where she is a senior. □

Kingsport

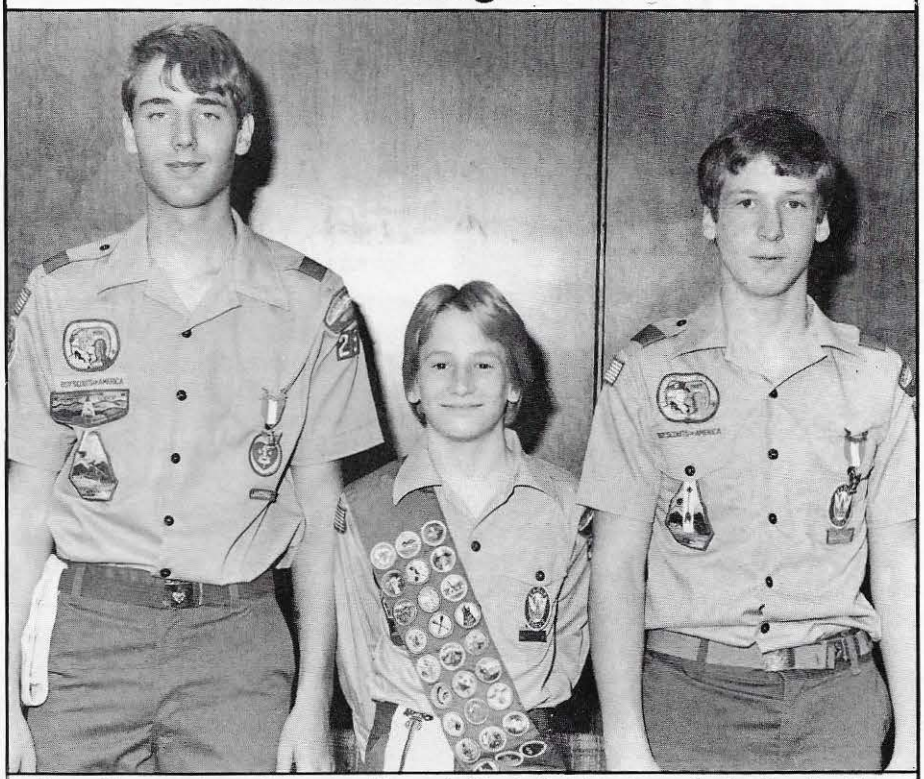
Using a #5 iron, **Steve Allen,** customer accounts assistant, scored a hole-in-one on the 170-yard, par 3, 14th hole at Graysburg Hill Golf Course.

Linda, daughter of John Randall, marketing and customer services representative senior, was awarded the $5,000 Hilton A. Smith Graduate Fellowship at the University of Tennessee. She will work toward a master of science degree in social work.

Lisa, daughter of Jack Hunt, line mechanic A, was chosen to attend a one-month accelerated course in electrical engineering at Tennessee Technological University in July. She is a junior at South High School.

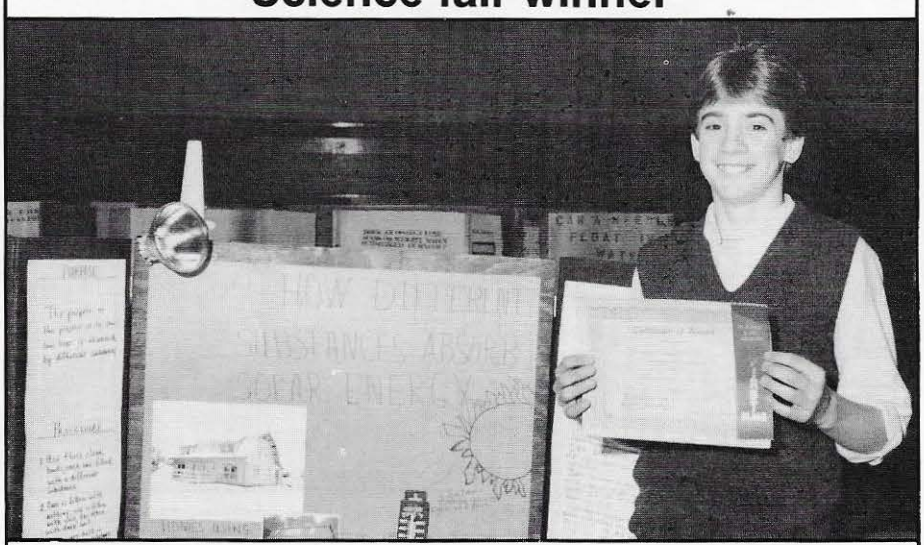
Nick, husband of Adele Williams, customer accounts clerk A, was awarded a plaque "for outstanding and dedicated service to Home Beneficial Life Insurance Company". He was staff manager for the Kingsport office of Beneficial before going on medical leave last year. □

Roanoke Eagle Scouts



Sons of three employees have earned the rank of Eagle, the highest award in Boy Scouting. They are, l. to r., Robert, son of P. L. Humphreys, Roanoke line crew supervisor nonexempt; Scott, son of Gordon Parker, building supervisor, GO General Services, Roanoke; and Kevin, son of Raymond Totten, tax accounting supervisor, GO Accounting, Roanoke. They are members of Troop 252 sponsored by St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Each boy is a member of the Order of the Arrow, and Robert and Kevin are brotherhood members. Each also earned the Arrow of Light award while in Cub Scouts. Raymond Totten serves as chairman of the troop committee, and Gordon Parker is a committee member.

Science fair winner



John Beaver, II, won first place for his exhibit on "how different substances absorb solar energy" in the eighth grade category of the Point Pleasant Junior High School Science Fair. He is the stepson of Jack Wray, utility worker A at Philip Sporn Plant.

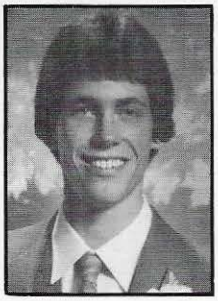
Philip Sporn

Kenda, daughter of Kenneth Carsey, maintenance mechanic A, received a superior rating for her science fair project on the use of generators. Nearly 200 projects were entered in Meigs Junior High's first science fair, and those receiving superior ratings were entered in district competition at Ohio University.

Chemist Assistant **Peggy O'Brian Harris** rolled a 615 series with individual games of 224, 201 and 190, and **Jerry Davis,** auxiliary equipment operator, rolled a 645 series with individual games of 181, 216 and 248. Both bowl in the Tuesday night Sporn/Mountaineer Industrial League at Skyline Lanes, Gallipolis, Ohio. □

Students receive national honors

Branscome



Sigmon

Absher

Three employees' children have been named 1984 United States National Award winners by the United States Achievement Academy.

Kathy, daughter of Buck Branscome, Princeton line crew supervisor nonexempt, is a winner in business education. Curtis, son of Larry Sigmon, Bluefield station mechanic A, is a winner in art. Both students attend Princeton Senior High School.

Jennifer Absher, daughter of Judy Caldwell, R/e & R/w special clerk, GO T&D R/e & R/w, Roanoke, is a winner in English. She is an eighth grader at Northside Junior High School. □

Charleston

Cal Carlini, division manager, was elected to the Fund for the Arts board of directors.

Rodger Woodrum, power engineer, was a judge for Kanawha County's Science and Social Studies Fair. Some 1,200 elementary, junior high and high students submitted more than 750 projects for judging. □

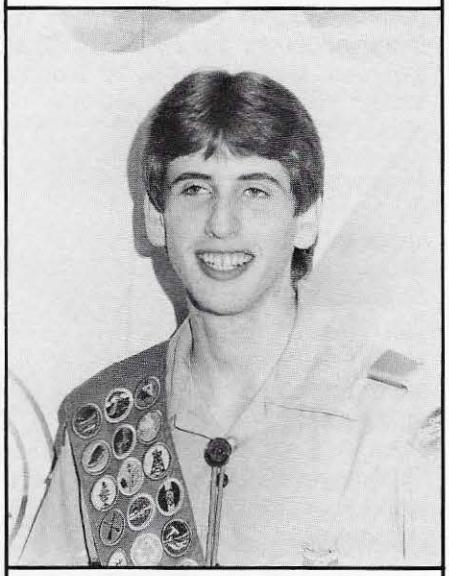
Big Sandy team wins Huntington basketball tourney

A basketball tournament organized by Huntington Engineering Technician Rick Pettrey attracted teams from four Appalachian Power locations as well as two teams from Ohio Power and one from Kentucky Power.

The team from KPCo's Big Sandy Plant won first place in the tourney, held at the Ceredo-Kenova War Memorial Auditorium, Ceredo, West Virginia. The winning team was presented a trophy as well as a jacket for each member. Composing the team were: Mike Brown, Bobby Williams, Jake Arbaugh, Perry Steven, John Ruggles, Jim Lane, Charley Jackson, Tom Pettrey, Ron Sexton and Roger Robertson.

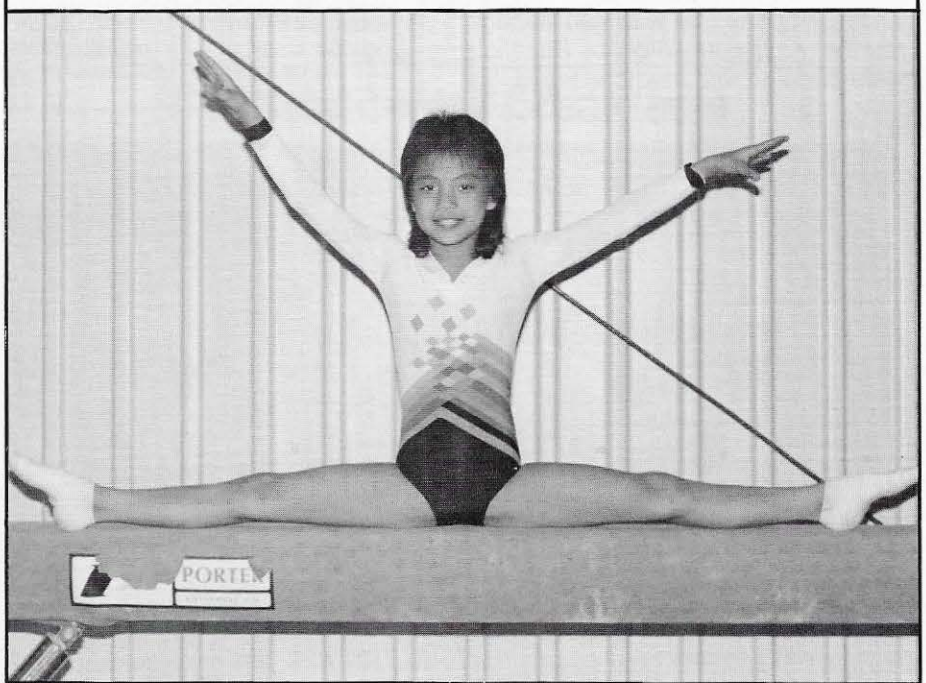
A runner-up trophy was presented to the team from Huntington, made up of Pettrey, Mike Dawson, Jack Preece, Mark Harner, Roger O'Dell, Alan Fry, Wes Fizer, Lanny Rowe and Tom Kincaid. □

Eagle Scout



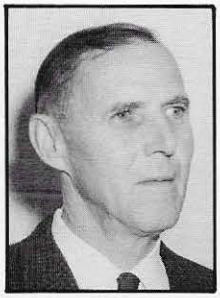
David Baughan has earned the rank of Eagle, the highest award in Boy Scouting. The son of Ralph Baughan, Logan office supervisor, David is a member of Troop 69 sponsored by the Chapmanville Mine Service. He is junior assistant scoutmaster and a member of the Order of the Arrow.

Winning gymnast



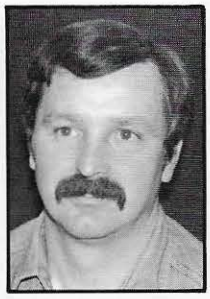
Kimberly Dawn, 10-year-old daughter of Ray Casto, Central Machine Shop machinist 1st class, has captured several awards in only two years of gymnastic competition. In 1983, she won 2nd through 5th place ribbons on beam, vault and floor events. This year, at state competition in Morgantown, West Virginia, she won second-place silver medals for floor and beam and a fifth place all-around bronze medal.

Friends We'll Miss


Cook


Smith


Price


Holbrook

Benjamin Calvin Cook, 79, retired Lynchburg material clerk, died April 15. A native of Franklin County, Virginia, he was employed in 1926 as a groundman and retired December 1, 1967. Cook is survived by his widow Cornelia, 203 Irvington Springs Road, Lynchburg, Virginia; one daughter and two granddaughters.

James P. Smith, 72, retired Kingsport meter serviceman A, died April 6. A native of Sugar Grove, West Virginia, he was employed in 1946 as a groundman and elected early retirement February 1, 1974. Smith is survived by his widow Martha, 409 Starnes Street, Kingsport, Tennessee; two sons; two grandchildren and one sister.

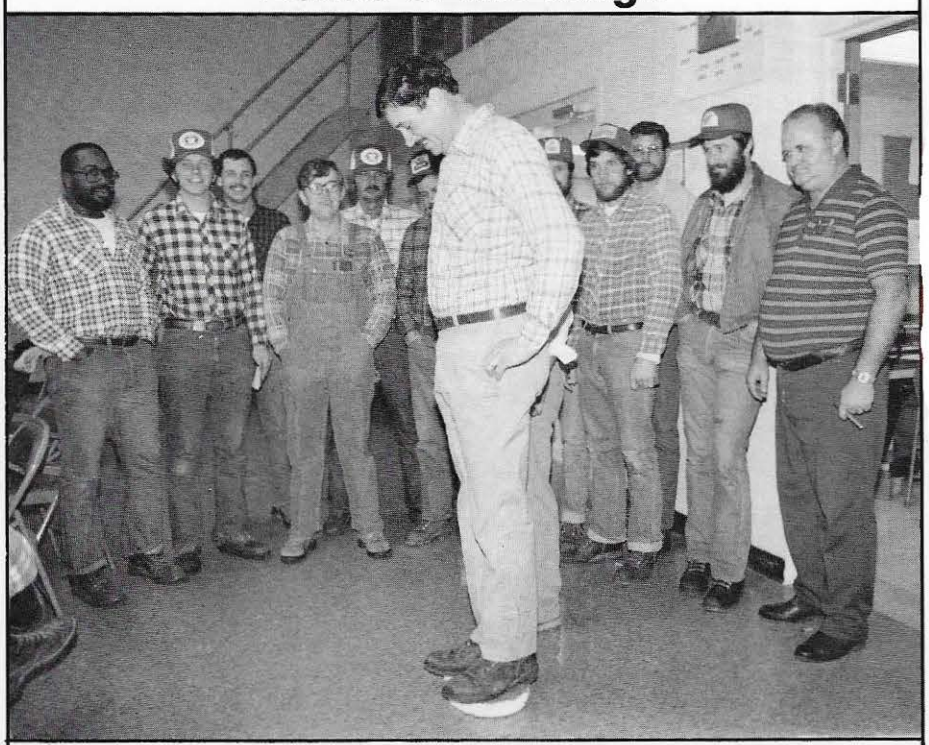
Lewis H. Price, 69, retired Roanoke stationman C, died April 27. A native of Roanoke, Virginia, he began his career in 1937 as a groundman and retired April 1, 1975. Price is survived by his widow Estelle, 3357 Frontier Road, Roanoke, Virginia, and his son Dean, right of way agent senior, GO T&D R/e & R/w, Roanoke.

Roger W. Holbrook, 36, line mechanic B in the Clintwood area of Abingdon Division, died April 20. A native of Dickenson County, Virginia, he was employed in 1977 as a lineman helper and had been on long term disability leave since November 1982. Holbrook is survived by one daughter.

Okla D. Walker, 54, Philip Sporn Plant maintenance man, died April 15. A native of London, West Virginia, he was employed in 1973 and had been on long term disability leave since May 1976. Walker is survived by his mother, one son, one daughter, two brothers and one sister

Tony G. Calfee, 25, maintenance mechanic B at Claytor Hydro, was killed in an automobile accident April 21. A native of Radford, Virginia, he was employed in 1977 as a meter reader in Christiansburg. Calfee is survived by his widow Jackie, 190 Colonial Drive, Christiansburg, Virginia; his mother; four sisters; one brother; one step-sister; and one step-brother. □

Battle of the bulge



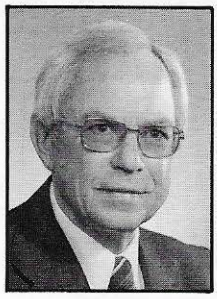
There were no "losers" when 16 Abingdon employees decided to lose weight as their New Year's resolution. Fourteen line crew members were joined in the competition by one man from Engineering and one from the Garage. As an incentive, the contestants pooled their resources and offered monetary prizes to the two individuals who lost the highest percentage of their body weight in the specified time limit of 30 days. Randy Forrester, pictured on scale, won the top prize by losing 39 pounds, or 14.77 percent of his weight. Jim Kelley came in second with a weight loss of 26 pounds, or 14.28 percent. The total weight loss of the group was 184 pounds, or 6 percent. Randy continued his weight loss program until he reached a "skinny" 200 pounds. He says, "I have had a lot of diets before, but it really helped to have support from the rest of the group. This time I stepped up my exercise program and cut down on my food intake, eating mostly vegetables. I'm tickled to death."

Attention graduates!

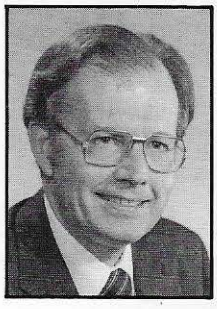
Graduates from high schools, colleges and technical schools will be recognized in the July issue of The Illuminator.

Employees or their children or spouses who are graduating this year should give the information and photos to their local Illuminator reporter by May 31. All photos will be returned following publication. □

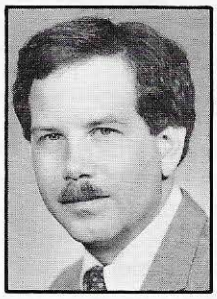
Promotions



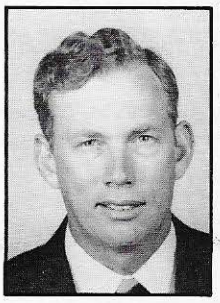
David D. Taylor, Abingdon marketing and customer services manager, has been promoted to general services manager, GO General Services, Roanoke, succeeding R. A. Youngman, who will retire June 1. Taylor graduated from West Virginia Business College and holds a diploma in business administration from International Correspondence Schools.



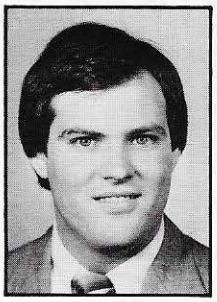
James C. Hughes, personnel supervisor, was promoted to Abingdon marketing and customer services manager on April 1, succeeding David Taylor. He holds a bachelor of science degree in business administration from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and has attended the AEP System Management Program at the University of Michigan Graduate School of Business Administration.



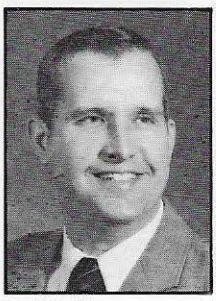
Bob Heil, personnel assistant senior, GO Personnel, Roanoke, was promoted to Abingdon personnel supervisor on May 1, succeeding Jim Hughes. Heil holds a bachelor of science degree in chemistry from West Virginia Institute of Technology and a master of administration degree in personnel management from Lynchburg College.



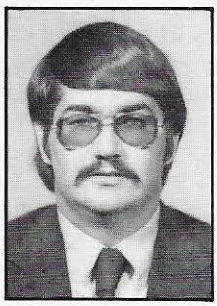
Roger W. Dillon, line mechanic A, was promoted to line crew supervisor in the Rocky Mount area of Roanoke Division on April 1. He succeeds Bill Harlowe, who elected early retirement.



Robert W. Glenn, Jr., energy services engineer, was promoted to power engineer in Roanoke on April 1. He holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from North Carolina State University.

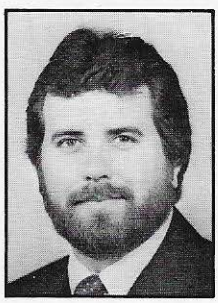


Harry Christenberry, production superintendent-maintenance, was promoted to maintenance superintendent at Clinch River Plant on April 1, succeeding Joel Harrison, who was named assistant plant manager. Christenberry holds a bachelor of science degree in engineering, operations-metallurgical from North Carolina State University.

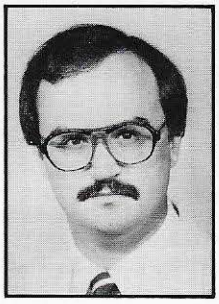


Robert L. Kern, Pulaski electrical engineer, was promoted to Wytheville area supervisor on May 1, succeeding D. L. Adams. Kern holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

Jeffrey K. Atkinson, maintenance engineer, was promoted to performance engineer senior at Philip Sporn Plant on April 1. He succeeds Anthony Kopec, who was promoted to plant engineer. Atkinson holds a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering from the West Virginia Institute of Technology.



Wayne D. Sink, electrical engineer, was promoted to electrical engineer senior in Roanoke on April 1. He holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University.



Frank W. Stiff, electrical engineer, was promoted to electrical engineer senior in Roanoke on April 1. He holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from Clemson University.

Weddings


Anthony-Baldwin


Brannan-Ray


Schwitzerlette-Wills


Hogan-Overstreet

Cathy Baldwin to Lee S. Anthony, Jr., March 17. Cathy is the daughter of E. C. "Jack" Baldwin, Jr., Roanoke customer accounts assistant.

Teresa Ray, Centralized Plant Maintenance field clerk, to Robert E. Brannan, March 3.

Teresa Schwitzerlette, Beckley junior clerk, to Steve Wills, March 16.

Esther Charlene Overstreet to **Ronald H. Hogan,** electric plant accountant, GO Accounting, Roanoke, March 24.

Susan Ensminger to **David Perfater,** March 31. David is the son of Glenn Perfater, buyer, GO Purchasing, Roanoke.

Becky Sue Pugh to **Bill Martin,** Lynchburg line mechanic A, March 17.

Dawn L. Allen to **Oran K. Nance,** Glen Lyn Plant utility operator, March 15. □

Births

John Amos

Jonathan Cody, son of **John Jeffries,** ash technician, March 12.

Justin Timothy, son of **Joe Hysell,** barge handler, March 17.

Beckley

Adam Wayne, son of **Kevin Garlow,** customer servicer, April 1.

Bluefield

Howard Damon, Jr., son of **Howard Mullens,** Tazewell line mechanic C, April 5.

Charleston

Derek, son of **Robin Hildebrand,** Montgomery cashier B, February 7.

April Lynn, daughter of **John Nuckles,** Montgomery line mechanic C, April 2.

General Office

Stephanie Angela, daughter of **Steve Ellison,** transmission mechanic C, GO T&D Transmission, Bluefield, January 5.

Chad James, son of **Larry Cannon,** transmission mechanic C, GO T&D Transmission, Abingdon, March 17.

Alan Ray, son of **Sam Canode,** station transformer supervising engineer, GO T&D Station, Roanoke, March 28.

Mountaineer

Luke Tyrel, son of **Roy Hoffman,** maintenance mechanic C, March 17.

Pulaski

Chad Jackson, son of **Clyde Turner,** Pearisburg line mechanic C, April 12.

Roanoke

Theresa Lynn, daughter of **Linda Atkinson,** drafter C, March 31.

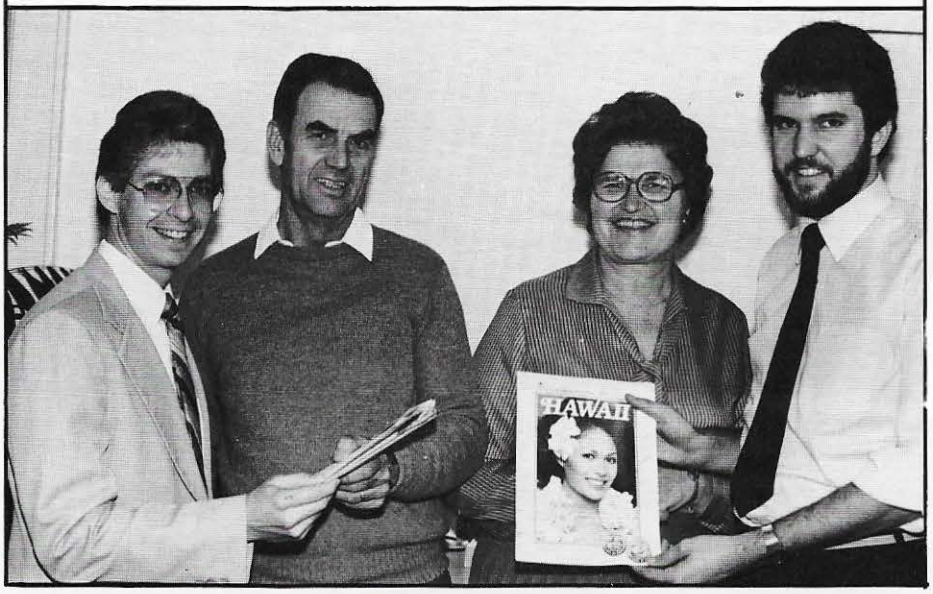
Michelle Allison, daughter of **John Wilmer,** office supervisor, January 7.

Kathryn Elizabeth, daughter of **John Tucker,** electrical engineer senior, April 6.

Philip Sporn

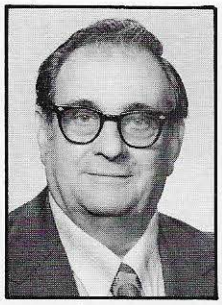
Casey Lee, son of **Anthony Lee Fields,** maintenance mechanic A, and **Linda Fields,** Mountaineer intermediate clerk, March 26. □

Hawaiian Get-Away



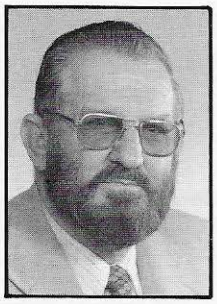
Cliff Hawley, Abingdon building supervisor, and his wife Dot, T&D clerk A, enjoyed a seven-day, all-expense-paid trip to Hawaii last month. Cliff was the grand prize winner in the "Cupid Hawaiian Get-Away" contest sponsored by WBBI/WABN Radio and The Travel Shop. Pictured at the presentation ceremony are, l. to r., Shane Southern, WBBI Radio; Cliff; Dot; and Tim Webb, The Travel Shop.

Service Anniversaries

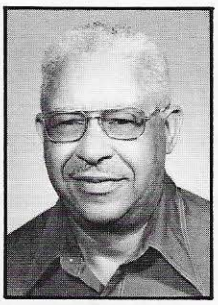


J. L. Hart
yard supt.
John Amos
35 years

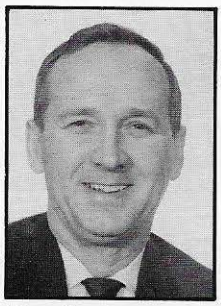
Dan Janosko
civil eng. sr.
GO-Roanoke
35 years



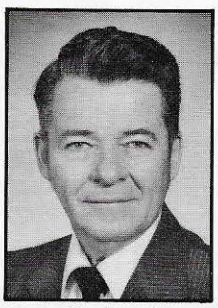
Thomas Crabtree
T&D clerk A
Abingdon
35 years



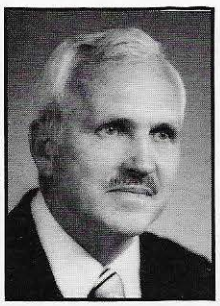
Arthur Bonds
express driver
GO-Roanoke
35 years



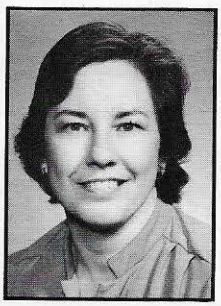
Glen Hensler
operations supt.
Philip Sporn
35 years



Oscar Fowler, Jr.
eng. tech. sr.
Huntington
35 years



Bill Robertson
station mech. A
Lynchburg
30 years



Judy Caldwell
R/e & R/w spec. clk.
GO-Roanoke
20 years

Abingdon

10 years: **Lorene Cornett**, customer accounts representative B. 5 years: **Lynn Stanley**, line mechanic A. **Billy Stevens**, line mechanic B.

John Amos

10 years: **E. C. Rollins**, personnel clerk A. **W. E. Sayre**, maintenance supervisor. **C. W. Lovejoy**, maintenance mechanic A. **T. W. Barrett**, plant clerk A. **J. G. Woody**, maintenance mechanic B.

Beckley

10 years: **Deborah Williams**, stenographer. **Loretta Pryor**, customer accounts representative C. 5 years: **Mitchell Mason**, drafter C. **William Rubin**, meter reader.

Bluefield

15 years: **Douglas McClanahan**, station mechanic A. 10 years: **Paul Lowe**, area service restorer.

Central Machine Shop

10 years: **Ernie Harless**, winder 1st class. **Kenny Cline**, winder 1st class. **Steve Burford**, power equipment mechanic 1st class. 5 years: **Doug Graley**, NDE inspector third class.

Clinch River

15 years: **Thomas Taylor**, maintenance mechanic A.

General Office

35 years: **Walter Cochran**, transmission line supervisor, GO T&D, Bluefield. 15 years: **Ruth Santopolo**, junior buyer, GO Purchasing, Roanoke. **Glen Perfater**, buyer, GO Purchasing, Roanoke. **Randall Odell**, transmission mechanic A, GO T&D Transmission, Abingdon. **Sharon Reese**, payroll clerk A, GO Accounting, Roanoke. **Jimmie Fariss**, engineering technologist supervisor, GO Hydro, Roanoke. **Jack Kirby**, distribution staff engineer, GO T&D Engineering, Roanoke. 10 years: **Brenda Pearman**, station clerk B, GO T&D Station, Roanoke. **Merle Mitchell**, engineering technologist, GO T&D Station, Bluefield. **Gordon Ford**, station operator B, GO Operations, Turner Dispatch. 5 years: **Teresa Lynch**, electric plant clerk C, GO Accounting, Roanoke. **Terry McMahan**, electrical engineer senior, GO T&D Engineering, Roanoke.

Glen Lyn

15 years: **James Smith**, maintenance mechanic B. **Clayton Atwood**, maintenance mechanic B. **James Skeens**, equipment operator.

Huntington

15 years: **Harold Rowe**, collector. 10 years: **Eloise Baker**, cashier.

Kanawha River

15 years: **D. L. Bradberry**, maintenance mechanic C.

Kingsport

15 years: **Roy Kern**, line mechanic A.

Lynchburg

15 years: **Steve Burnette**, line mechanic A. 10 years: **Don Morris**, line mechanic C.

Mountaineer

10 years: **Steve Greenlee**, instrument maintenance supervisor. **Dennis Harris**, control technician senior. **Smitty Jarrell**, maintenance supervisor. 5 years: **Steve Baird**, utility operator A. **Marti Couch**, utility worker.

Pulaski

15 years: **Don Pratt**, engineering technologist. 10 years: **Pat Yates**, customer accounts representative B, Christiansburg. **Jeanette Frazier**, customer accounts representative B, Wytheville. 5 years: **Gil Bowers**, line mechanic B, Wytheville. **Jerry Smith**, custodian.

Roanoke

15 years: **Donnie Robins**, administrative assistant. 10 years: **Robert Lane**, station mechanic A. **Ronald Journiette**, meter electrician C. 5 years: **William Morris**, surveyor assistant-rod. **Jeffrey Hayden**, line mechanic B.

Philip Sporn

5 years: **Michael Dean**, coal handler. **Max Knopp**, auxiliary equipment operator. **Jerry Davis**, auxiliary equipment operator. **J. P. Halstead**, auxiliary equipment operator. **D. J. Bloxton**, maintenance mechanic D. **D. D. Stewart**, auxiliary equipment operator. **T. L. Tucker**, utility worker A. **P. W. Weikle**, maintenance mechanic D. **T. E. Anderson**, auxiliary equipment operator. □

Newcomers

Clinch River

James Puckett, Jr., and **Robert McComas**, utility workers B.

General Office

Michael Kelly, associate staff accountant, GO Accounting, Roanoke. **Paul Turner**, electrical engineer, GO T&D Station, Bluefield. **Stephen Aspell**, communications engineer, GO T&D Communications, Roanoke.

Kanawha River

J. C. Harrah and **T. L. McKnight**, utility workers B.

Roanoke

Sandra Ware, telephone operator, Fieldale.

Philip Sporn

Richard Lee Williamson, control technician junior. □

Margaret Isner with quilt she stitched.

A stitch in time helps Isner with cancer

Once over the initial shock of learning she had cancer, Margaret Isner reacted in her customary manner. She embarked on a research project to learn all she could about her cancer, first diagnosed as Schwannoma but since identified as rare Leiomyosarcoma, a muscle-attacking cancer.

She documented each successive tumor and treatment, from the first in early 1976 to the seventh discovered in March. She takes her case history to each new physician. "They almost faint," she says.

Margaret organizes her household tasks and social, church and club events, and even plans menus around her treatment schedule. She has learned that for about three days each month, when she undergoes chemotherapy, she is "under par".

During those hours, she has created a quilt. "The main point that got me started on the quilt is the waiting that's involved. You wait for appointments. You wait in waiting rooms. You wait for the results of tests. After chemotherapy, you wait to see if your hair is going to fall out." (It did.)

So as Margaret waited, or recovered, she stitched. And studied. And scheduled.

The research and planning had been a way of life during her 40-year career with Bell Telephone Company. She retired in 1981, just six months before the second tumor was discovered. But the sewing was a new pasttime. "The quilt gave me a goal — to finish it and to keep enjoying it," Margaret said.

Now, countless thousands of stitches later, the quilt is complete. It went on display at the new Kanawha Mall, where donations were accepted and a drawing for the quilt held. The $1,525 raised through this endeavor went to the American Cancer Society.

Margaret admitted it was hard to part with the full size, mostly pink and white, dogwood pattern quilt — just perfect for a girl's bedroom. "I would like to think some of the funds that came out of my quilt will aid the people in West Virginia that I'm close to," Margaret said.

She's quick to point out that 60 percent of the funds collected in the state remain in West Virginia, supporting programs of public education and information, patient service, rehabilitation, fund-raising, development and administration. The 40 percent which goes to the national organization supports research and other activities.

It was only last year that Margaret and her husband Bob, retired Charleston engineering technician senior, became active volunteers with the Kanawha County Unit of the American Cancer Society.

She went about that in a characteristically organized manner. After the pair decided they would volunteer, Margaret made an appointment with society officials. "I took a resume of my background that might give them something to work with." Today the Isners are members of the unit's board of directors, and she is a member of its speakers bureau.

A bit of the Isner philosophy is apt to rub off on any patient and family they are assigned. "Once we got over the shock, we decided consciously, deliberately, in discussion . . . that we would not allow cancer to dominate our whole life. We go days without mentioning it," Margaret said.

For her, a statement by Alexander Graham Bell sums it all up. "When one door closes, another opens. But we often look so long and so regretfully upon the closed door that we do not see the one which has been opened for us," she quotes him as saying.

"That's exactly what has happened to me. The American Cancer Society has opened the new door," she said. □

Photo and story courtesy Evadna Bartlett, Charleston Daily Mail.

Archery champ

In only his second year of archery competition, Lynchburg Electrical Engineer Ron Tucker shot his way to the Virginia state indoor championship in the bow hunter freestyle class. The event was held in Christiansburg, which has facilities to accommodate 200-300 shooters. There were 55 competitors in Ron's class this year.

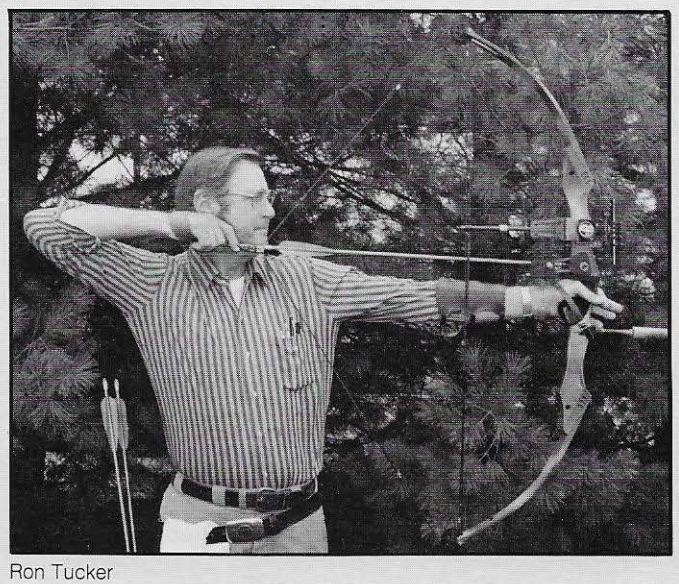
He says, "Larry Smith, transformer specialist, GO T&D Station, Roanoke, got me interested in archery competition. He is a past champion in West Virginia. Larry gave me some of the necessary equipment and pointers to get started. He was a real help."

Ron adds, "When I lived in Roanoke, I used to bow hunt, but I started getting serious about it last year. I shot in competition at least every other week. The meets are sanctioned by the National Field Archery Association and the Virginia Bow Hunters Association. To shoot in these meets, you have to belong to both organizations because they set up the rules and regulations."

Ron continues, "Normally the club shoots start around the first or second week of March. The state open is usually around the end of May, and the state closed shoot is around the end of September. The trophy shoots and other shoots are held throughout the year.

"The class I shoot in is bow hunter freestyle. In this, you use five fixed pins, peep sight, release aid, and a stabilizer no longer than twelve inches because this is essentially what you would hunt with. I think bow hunter freestyle class is harder than the other classes because you don't have all the extra equipment that's permitted to be used in other freestyle classes."

Last year Ron shot in the Mid-Atlantic event at Newport News. "Your past score average will determine what flight you will be placed in," he says. At Newport News, Ron shot himself out of the A class into the championship flight. He ended up either



Ron Tucker

fourth, fifth or sixth. Ron says, "When I left, I was fourth, but two other participants' scores hadn't been posted." The Mid-Atlantic attracts participants from all states between New York and North Carolina. There again, he feels he had a lot of luck to finish as high as he did.

"Last year, when the state open was held at the Roanoke Club, I came in third in the outdoor open. This year I will be shooting a hunting bow in order to get ready for an elk hunt in Montana.

"If you are going into target shooting, you can spend about $350 and get really good equipment. Some will pay $300 to $350 for bows only. Most of us shoot with bows that cost in the range of $175 to $250."

Ron says, "I've met a lot of interesting people and made quite a few new friends. Even though the other participants are in competition with you, when you need help with a piece of equipment or some other problems, they are right there to help. I feel it is a real challenging sport and a real effort trying to up your score each time out." □

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