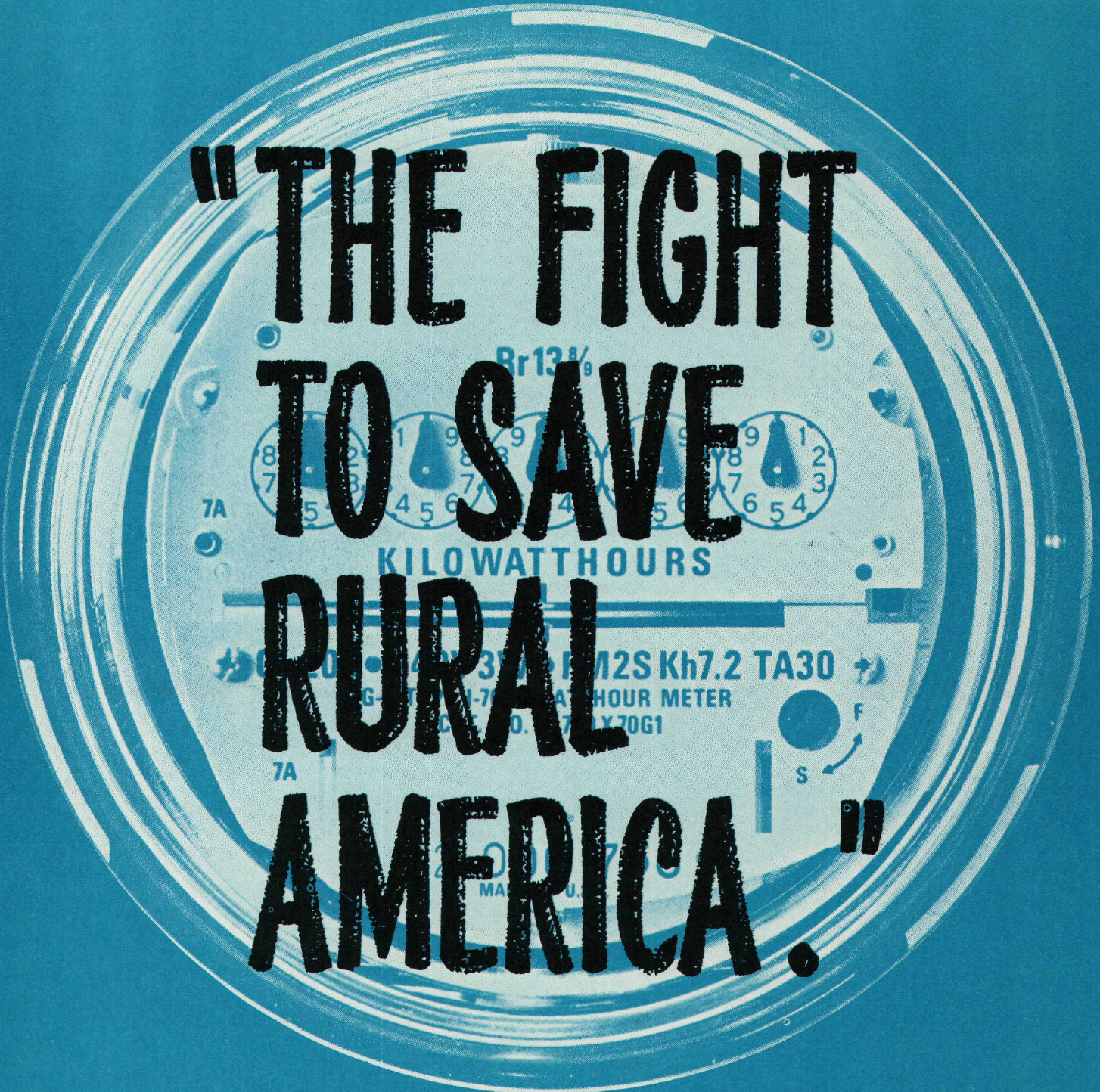


rural electricians rally  
for 2% program



"THE FIGHT  
TO SAVE  
RURAL  
AMERICA."



March 20-21

## MBSG Will Stress Third Unit

The 10th Annual Meeting of the Missouri Basin Systems Group (MBSG) will be held March 20-21 at the Brown Palace Hotel in Denver, MBSG Executive Director Robert Marritz has announced.

Marritz said the annual meeting will begin with a noon luncheon March 20. He said a speaker of national prominence will deliver the luncheon address.

The two-day program will include a panel discussion and progress report on the Third Joint System Unit and associated transmission facilities scheduled to be in operation in mid-1979. The Third Unit is being planned to meet the power needs of cooperatives and municipal utility systems in the Missouri Basin region.

The Third Unit progress report will

include preliminary reports on fuel proposals as well as a preliminary report on site studies.

A panel dealing with the problems and developments of energy and the environment will be moderated by Larry Hobart, Assistant General Manager, American Public Power Association.

A progress report on the 1980-1990 Power Supply Study will also be presented to MBSG delegates. Marritz is task force chairman and study manager of the long-range study. Marritz said a panel discussion on the growth and development of arrangements for future power supply over the Joint Transmission system is to be presented. A paper on the Joint Transmission System

will be read and distributed to the delegates.

MBSG subcommittee meetings will be held on March 19. The MBSG business and planning committee meetings will be held on the morning of March 20 prior to the noon luncheon address.

Now in its tenth year, MBSG was organized in 1963 to promote effective planning and pooling of generating and transmission resources in the Missouri Basin region. MBSG is the regional power pool and planning group of 125 consumer-owned electric systems and the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation in nine Missouri Basin states, reaching from Montana to Kansas.

Dennis Lindberg of Odebolt, Iowa, is President of MBSG.

## Hydro Rate Hike Due 1/1/74

The Department of Interior, January 26, delivering the latest in a series of Administration budget announcements, said that the Bureau of Reclamation hydroelectric power rates would be increased as of January 1, 1974. In the Eastern Division the increase will be one-half mill per kilowatt hour, or about 10 per cent.

Coming on top of the Department of Agriculture's announcement of cutting out the 2 per cent REA direct loan program and replacing it with 5 per cent guaranteed or insured loans, the hydro

rate increase will also work hardship on rural America. The principal customers of the Bureau of Reclamation are rural electrics and municipals.

Basin Electric General Manager James Grahl said he believes such a rate increase "appears unjustified" as "the information available indicates that the Bureau is ahead of its payback schedule on hydro power facilities in the Missouri River Basin Program by \$10 million. It will be further ahead by the end of 1973, possibly by \$20 to \$25 million."

Earlier in January, Midwest Electric Consumers Association Executive Director Fred Simonton talked about recent Bureau reports; "despite glowing reports of good water years, increased revenue and rapid repayment, rumors persist in the region that a Bureau rate increase is being planned," Simonton said. He cited the recent cutbacks in Federal programs, sharply affecting the Missouri Basin, as examples of "Administration disregard for the needs of the nation's rural people."

## No Joint Planning -- Yet -- For Wyodak Area

The Wyoming Public Service Commission on January 23 granted approval to a Pacific Power & Light Company application for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity to build a 68-mile 230 kv transmission line from Buffalo to Wyodak in Wyoming.

Basin Electric had testified in opposition to PP&L's unilateral application at a December 7 hearing in Cheyenne, Wyo., that the application in question did not consider joint planning efforts and the total needs of all utilities in the area.

PP&L's line as presented in the application will not be part of any sort of total area transmission plan worked out with the Bureau of Reclamation and all area utilities participating.

Basin Electric requested at the December 7 hearing that the Wyoming PSC "hold the application in abeyance until all interested (power) suppliers can develop a joint plan for construction, ownership and authorization of facilities to meet their service, delivery and stability requirements with minimum investment and environmental impact."

**REPORT** is published monthly by Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Suite 624, Provident Life Bldg., 316 N. Fifth St., Bismarck, North Dakota, 58501.  
Editor • Marilyn Gajeski



# RECs RALLY FOR 2% PROGRAM

## "We Protest"

More than 1,000 rural electric cooperative leaders from around the country overflowed the Mayflower Hotel Ballroom in Washington, D. C., January 23 to hear Senator Hubert Humphrey (D-Minn.) blast the Nixon Administration's cancellation of the REA 2 per cent loan program.

The Humphrey address signalled the beginning of an emergency three-day Rural Electric Rally called by NRECA Manager Robert Partridge after the December 29 announcement by the U.S. Department of Agriculture that it was calling an abrupt halt to the 2 per cent program, replacing it with a 5 per cent loan program from the private money market.

As Humphrey spoke to the standing-room-only crowd, large signs hanging from the packed balconies proclaimed, "We Protest." Humphrey told the participants, "Let's stand up for the constitutional rule. We are going to use the REA case as a test to determine the legality and the constitutionality of this Administration act."

The Minnesota Senator told the rural electric leaders that he and Senator George D. Aiken (R-Vt.) had introduced a bill in the Senate to restate the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 to "direct" instead of "empower" the Administration to make the REA loans authorized by Congress.

(As of January 26, 50 of the 100 U. S. Senators had signed the Humphrey-Aiken bill. An identical bill in the House of Representatives, introduced by Congressman Frank Denholm (D-S.D.) had been signed by 49 House members.)

Humphrey hit hard at the Administration's use of the Rural Development Act of 1972 as an excuse for axing REA 2 per cent loans and the dismantling of other rural programs.

"I know more about the Act (The Rural Development Act) than all the Executive Branch put together," he said, "Because I co-sponsored it with Senator Talmadge. There's not one word there

about 'supplanting' previous programs, only about 'supplementing them'. The Secretary of Agriculture knows this. Nixon knows this.

Humphrey went on to hit the Administration for other farm cuts. It's not just REA, it's housing, and pollution control and water management, and the raise in rates by the Commodity Credit Corporation and all the others. The whole rural program is being gutted."

NRECA General Manager Robert Partridge then briefed the rural electric leaders and urged them to call upon their Senators and Congressmen to sign and support the Humphrey-Aiken Bill and Denholm bill as the Rural Electric Rally moved to Capitol Hill.

Later in the day, Senator Gale McGee (D-Wyo.) announced at a news conference that as chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Appropriations for Agriculture the subcommittee "will not receive the Department of Agriculture budget, but will invite Department of Agriculture witnesses to testify on any budget request until the terminated programs, which were duly signed into law, revert back to their constitutional state."

## Hamil:

Appearing before the delegates after they returned from Capitol Hill, REA Administrator David Hamil told the group, "I am a part of this Administration and when a new program comes out

you either get with it or you get out. Maybe we can switch this thing around and turn this disaster into a means for long term low-cost funds.

"But," Hamil continued, "I think 2 per cent is dead. I'm not a 'Johnny-Come-Lately' to this program. I hope my judgement is reasonable on this matter of needs. This situation in rural areas is bad. I know it and the Office of the Management and the Budget knows it. But we are not the only ones who have had to make a change."

Hamil said many of the legalities for administering a 5 per cent loan program have not yet been worked out.

"We must have a plan to implement the 5 per cent loan program placed in the Federal Register for 30 days. I want to be able to present this plan to you at your annual meeting in Dallas if I can," Hamil said.

Hamil is scheduled to speak at the NRECA annual meeting in Dallas February 26.

Delegates continued to call on Congressman and Senators January 24. Morning calls on Capitol Hill were limited because most offices were closed because of the day of mourning declared on the death of former President Lyndon B. Johnson.

(cont., next page)

Administrator Hamil



Sen. Humphrey



RALLY....

### **NRECA Resolution**

Meeting in Washington the day before the rally, the NRECA board of directors passed a resolution backing the Humphrey-Aiken and Denholm Bills and stating their willingness to negotiate an amendment to the REA Act to provide changes required to improve budgetary impact and/or interest rate structure so long as low interest capital will continue to be available to those borrowers who need it.

Telegrams supporting the NRECA stand taken by General Manager Partridge came in large numbers from all parts of the country prior to the NRECA board meeting.

Many of the telegrams came from the Missouri Basin region—from rural electric leaders, heads of farm organizations and consumer organizations. Labor organizations in the Missouri Basin states also wired expressions of support. Heads of AFL-CIO organizations in Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Wyoming and New Mexico sent messages backing General Manager Partridge's position to fight the Administration action. Earlier, the Chambers of Commerce of Mandan and Bismarck, N. D., had passed resolutions supporting

restoration of the 2 per cent loan program.

The Board of Directors of Mid-West Electric Consumers Association, meeting in emergency session January 23 in Washington, endorsed the NRECA resolution.

Wally Beyer, Manager of Verendrye

Electric Cooperative, Velva, N. D., was appointed by the NRECA Board to a special financial advisory committee which has been directed to make recommendations to the standing NRECA finance and legislative committees prior to the association's annual meeting in Dallas February 25-March 1.

**THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED BY THE NRECA BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD HELD MONDAY, JANUARY 22nd, 1973, IN THE NRECA BOARD AND MEETING ROOM, 2000 FLORIDA AVENUE, NW, WASHINGTON, D. C.**

**WHEREAS, it is our view that the President has wholly exceeded his authority in terminating the statutory REA electric loan program, and**

**WHEREAS, the Rural Development Act of 1972 is completely unsuited in its language and purpose to achieving the objectives of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, and was never intended by Congress to be used in lieu of the Rural Electrification Act.**

**WHEREAS, although there may be electric cooperatives who can accept loan capital at rates in excess of 2%, there are still many such systems which cannot afford higher interest rates;**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That we wholeheartedly support legislation of the type offered by Senators Humphrey and Aiken to restore effectuation of the statutory REA program.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That as soon as loan procedures under the Rural Electrification Act are reinstated, we will negotiate in good faith with all parties concerned toward amendment of the Rural Electrification Act to provide whatever changes may be required to improve its budgetary impact and/or interest rate structure with the understanding that low interest rate capital will continue to be available to those borrowers who need it.**

## **Basin Electric Confers With OMB**

In addition to calling on Senators and Congressmen in their states during the Rural Electric Rally, a delegation of Basin Electric directors, headed by President Arthur Jones and General Manager James Grahl, met with William Morrill, Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) January 24. REA Administrator Hamil also participated in the meeting.

Basin Electric Directors attending the OMB meeting were Herbert Weber, Wayne Bond, Quentin Loudon and Leo Carmody.

It was explained by the Basin Electric representatives to the OMB Assistant Director that financing of \$51.1 million for completion of the 460,000 kw addition to the Leland Olds Plant and 528 miles of 345 KV transmission line had been promised by REA publicly and privately on numerous occasions. It was further pointed out that this financing was made necessary because of escalating costs and air pollution control requirements.

Morrill responded by saying, "We are desperately concerned about runaway inflation. You may feel rural America is taking a singular beating, but this is not the case. I know it seems inequitable but we have to do something. Hopefully we can decide what is a reasonable rate—we do not intend to bill rural

America or discriminate against rural America."

President Jones answered Morrill, saying, "You say your lines well, but we can't sell it in rural America."

Other directors expressed their strong objections to the way the Department of Agriculture announced the REA loan cancellation without consulting members of Congress or those who would be affected by the cancellation. They also expressed to Mr. Morrill, the fact that the Federal government was not living up to its promises and commitments.

Earlier in January, Basin Electric President Jones had written a letter to President Nixon, objecting to the 2 per cent loan cancellation, and explaining the history of REA loan commitments to Basin Electric.

In the letter, Jones said, "The termination of the REA direct loan program occurred on the same day that Basin Electric had been promised an REA supplemental loan of \$25 million at 2 per cent interest to help finance completion of our 460,000 KW power generating station and 528 miles of 345 KV transmission now under construction in North and South Dakota. To avoid costly delays to this \$168 million construction program and a power shortage in the Missouri Basin in mid-1975, we respect-

fully request you to release REA loan funds needed to complete this project."

Jones explained that completion financing of \$51.1 million had been promised to Basin Electric by REA to cover the cost of inflation and air pollution control equipment.

"The REA Administrator told us that we would make an initial loan of Basin Electric in June, 1972. In June he postponed the date of the loan until October, 1972. In October, the Administrator postponed the date again but categorically promised a \$25 million loan on or about January 1, 1973 and the remaining \$25-26 million on July 1, 1973."

Jones added that "REA Administrator Hamil and his staff have been most diligent and helpful in supervising and controlling this largest REA-financed project in the history of the program. Bureau of Reclamation officials have helped invaluable in closely coordinating our planning and operations with the Federal system and others in the Missouri Basin."

"Your approval of our request for the supplemental financing will assure timely completion of a power project of great importance to a huge area. It will, I assure you, be a most efficient power producer and an essential asset to one of the great food-producing regions of the world," Jones concluded.

## 25 Years APPA's Radin



American Public Power Association General Manager Alex Radin is celebrating his 25th year of service with that organization. A native Tennessean, Radin became associate editor of APPA's "Public Power" magazine and assistant to the then General Manager Carlton Nau in 1948. He succeeded Nau as General Manager in 1951.

As head of APPA, Radin has held many leadership posts in areas of related concern. He has been a special consultant to the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs and was a member of a U. S. inspection delegation that toured hydro power facilities in the U.S.S.R. He also participated in the United Nations-sponsored Electric Power Seminar in Mexico City, D. F. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Consumer Federation of America, and chairman of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

In 1968 and 1971, Radin was a delegate

to the World Energy Conferences in Moscow and Bucharest. He is also a member of the board of directors of the Breeder Reactor Corporation for the demonstration plant being built on the Tennessee River.

Before coming to APPA, Radin was a reporter for The Chattanooga Times, and from 1938 to 1942 was an administrative assistant in the Food Rationing Division of the Office of Price Administration. After the war, from 1945 to 1948, he held the same position in the Foreign Service Planning Division of the Department of State.

Radin is a graduate of the University of Chattanooga and also attended George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

The American Public Power Association is the service organization for more than 1200 local publicly-owned electric utility systems in 47 states, Puerto Rico, Guam and the Virgin Islands.

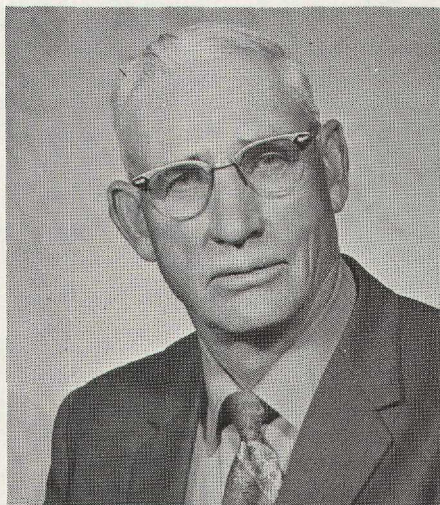
## South Dakotans Rally On Rural-Farm Issues

Kicking off a January 13 South Dakota Farm Rally in Huron, **Senator George McGovern** told the overflow crowd that the Administration has "given the back of its hand to farmers and to rural America" in cutting back programs such as REA, REAP, disaster relief funds and the Water Bank Program. He said that the actions openly challenged Congressional intent set down in the 1970 Agricultural Act and the Rural Development Act of 1972. McGovern also said that these will not be savings at all to the Federal government but "will instead multiply future costs by many times."

"We are told that the two percent rural electric loan program is ended. That program is the only reason why more than 90,000 rural consumers in South Dakota have electric service at all. And since rural South Dakota consumer density is among the lowest in the country, the loss of low-cost credit will hurt our rural electric cooperatives most of all. There will be a minimum increase of 150 percent in the cost of capital to rural electric systems," McGovern stressed. "This decision threatens the survival of many distribution cooperatives, and it poses a grave threat as well to the all important objective of permitting rural electric members to generate their own power." Referring to the financing of the Third Joint System Unit, Senator McGovern asked what this would cost the people in this region under the new high loan rates.

Speaking to the more than 1,500 people who packed the auditorium and stood in the lobby and hallways of the New Senior High School in Huron, S. D., freshman Senator James Abourezk pinpoint-

ed the issue when he said, "It's about time the U. S. Congress quits cringing every time the President cracks his whip . . . We are the body that the people look to for making law . . . that created REA and REAP. If we let the President take those things away then we have no right to cry over the results."



Jones

**Basin Electric President Arthur Jones, Britton, S. D., testified that the termination of the REA 2% loan program "threatens to create a serious power shortage in the Missouri Basin in the summer of 1975."** He told his fellow South Dakotans that Basin Electric's Unit No. 2 had been delayed once for a year by the Federal government, from 1974 completion to 1975, and that "if this large and complex program is again delayed, this time by a hold-up in financing, we cannot know when it might be completed or what the total cost might eventually become. We cannot control

the project if it is to be whip-sawed by people in offices 1500 miles away." Jones is also the President of East River Electric Power Cooperative, and was a long-time member of the South Dakota State Legislature.

South Dakota Governor Richard Kneip and Congressmen Frank Denholm and James Abdnor also addressed the gathering.

**John Olson**, executive manager of the South Dakota Rural Electric Association sharply criticized the Administration for making mockery of the nation's rural citizens by stating that the termination of the REA 2% direct loan program "was made possible by the enactment of the Rural Development Act of 1972." Olson quoted Senator Herman Talmadge (Ga.) Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, and one of the principal authors of the Act, "I can assure one and all that this is a clear subversion of the intent of Congress under this Act . . . if we had wanted to change the REA program we would have done so."

In addition to remarks from the floor, other speakers were Rapid City Mayor Don Barnett, S. D. Telephone Cooperative Association President B. Maynard Christenson, S. D. OEO Housing Specialist Bob Hiatt, S. D. State Secretary of Agriculture William Schroeder, Keith Carr of the S. D. Land Improvement Contractors Association, S. D. Farm Bureau Executive Administrator Gary Enright, Brown County ASC Committeeman Ned Hunsted and South Dakota Farmers Union President Ben Radcliffe. The SDFU is circulating a statewide petition urging Congress to re-instate the rural programs cut back by the Administration.

# Second National Rural Housing Conference

...the need for a new national conscience



The Second National Rural Housing Conference convened in Washington, D. C., November 28-30, 1972 in a 2½ day working session designed to get to the heart of the housing problems in rural America.

Sponsored by the Rural Housing Alliance and the Housing Assistance Council, the conference goals and objectives were to examine—the inadequacies of existing rural housing policy, focus public attention on housing needs of people in small towns and rural communities and work out the essential elements of an effective program to meet these needs.

An indication of the growing concern in trying to provide adequate housing throughout the rural areas of America was evidenced by the size and determination of the group. The expected attendance of 300 grew to an overflow crowd of more than 600 representatives of all areas of housing.

Distinguished speakers such as Aaron Henry, President of the Mississippi NAACP and RHA Board member; Dr. Clay Cochran of the Rural Housing Alliance; Juan Patlan, Mexican American Unity Council and Chairman of the Board of the Housing Assistance Council; Richard Margolis, Chairman of the Board of RHA; Dr. Leon Keyserling, noted economist and many others identified as the single biggest hurdle, the lack of a proper conscience and will within the country, Congress and the Administration to provide vitally needed social services along with necessary funding.

Inflation is the major cause of hold-backs on funding needed programs, according to Dr. Keyserling. "Since the

early 60's we went from concern over inflation to total preoccupation with inflation. Inflation is not the problem, the lack of redistribution of wealth is, and we can overcome this only through public spending. The funds are available and without tax increases. By closing tax loopholes and putting the unemployed to work in proper directions we can generate billions in additional tax revenues," said Dr. Keyserling.

The reoccurring question from conferees was how do we change the National conscience, how do we get the needed funds? By making the Congress respond was the standard answer offered by the panelists.

**Senator James Abourezk (SD) keynoted the Conference: "We have a tax loophole housing program for the rich, a middle class program, and one for the near-poor. But nothing for the one at the bottom."**

"As bad as things are, they may get worse before they get better," Abourezk said. He predicted a Presidential "deep freeze" of housing dollars with "obstructionism" disguised as "reorganization."

**North Dakota's new Governor, the Honorable Arthur A. Link spoke to the conference and promised in his Administration to "focus attention on the plight of the rural poor." Governor Link praised the "excellent and effective" rural housing program initiated by Basin Electric, in his talk. He and other Conference speakers repeatedly appealed to delegates and others to support the McGovern-Abourezk bill which will be reintroduced in the next session of Congress. It would provide direct federal housing subsidies to 2.5 million rural poor.**

Basin Electric's People's Housing Program was observed by the conference as one of the most successful housing programs in America. An illustration of this success is the many visits by housing people from various parts of the country to take a firsthand look at PHP's methods. PHP is one more example of how the REC's in the Upper Great Plains have been leaders in making significant progress in providing for the needs of the residents of the region.

Shown in photo is panel of "HUD: Programs, Problems and Constraints", with People's Housing Program Field Director William Schott.

## NRECA ANNUAL MEETING: February 25 - March 1

Announcement has been made of some of the highlights of the 1973 annual meeting of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, this year scheduled for Dallas, Texas.

**Opening the meeting on Monday, February 26, NRECA General Manager Robert Partridge will address the full meeting at Convention Center. Senator Herman Talmadge of Georgia will address the meeting, also on the forenoon of the 26th. During the afternoon, five sectional panels will be in session at Convention Center.**

Monday night a special hearing is scheduled at the Statler-Hilton on the proposed NRECA dues increase.

The REA Administrator's address to the assembly is set for Tuesday morning at Convention Center. That afternoon is open for exhibits and the Women's Seminar, both at the Center. Tuesday night is International Night.

**On Wednesday morning, February 28, there will be a general session panel on "The Role of Congress", at Convention Center. Panel participants will be Senator Charles Mathias of Maryland; Representative J. J. Pickle of Texas; and Washington, D. C. attorney John D. Hawke.**

The ACRE meeting is set for Wednesday afternoon, with an ACRE barbecue that evening.

Regular business sessions are scheduled for Thursday forenoon.

Travel arrangements should be made through your Statewide.



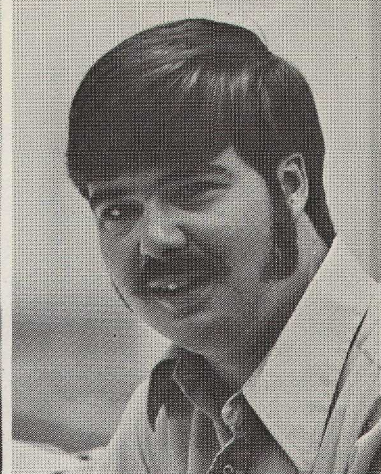
Davis



Schauer



Houn



Lang

## EMPLOYEE NEWS

New **electrical engineer** in the Bismarck office is **Walter L. Davis** who was hired effective January 15. He is working with Design Engineer Elvin Quiring in the construction program.

Davis is a graduate of Harrold, S. D. High School, and a 1968 electrical engineering graduate of the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in Rapid City. He had formerly worked in Westinghouse Electric's Special Products Group in Minneapolis and Milwaukee on design and fabrication of relay and control panels and switchboards.

Davis also worked for Continental Power Services in South Dakota for two summers on maintenance of circuit breakers, and high voltage insulation testing. While a student he was a member of Sigma Tau honorary engineering society.

Walter and Shirley Davis have a three year old daughter and a six month old son. They are Bismarck residents.

**Rhonda J. Schauer**, who has been at Basin Electric for some time, in the Bismarck office, became a permanent employee last summer. Her duties include filing contracts and other documentary materials under supervision of Patricia Bosch, secretary of the comptroller.

During her senior year at Bismarck High School, Miss Schauer worked as a student trainee at Basin Electric through the school's cooperative work program. After graduating last spring she began working full time as File Clerk. She is now working half days and is a student in the liberal arts division at Bismarck Junior College. She has also done summer work with the Bismarck Park Board.

Miss Schauer is to be married this coming August.

**Robert Houn**, a native of Kintrye, N. D., began work as a **draftsman** in the Bismarck office in mid-December, 1972. He is replacing Scott Lang who has been transferred to Right-of-Way.

Houn graduated from Linton, N. D.,

High School in 1966, and was a punchpress operator for K-P Manufacturing in Minneapolis until 1967 when he entered the U. S. Army. He was stationed in Viet Nam as an engineering inspector until 1969. After release, he worked for Sweetheart Bakeries in Bismarck until June, 1971, when he began electrical technology studies at the Wahpeton State School of Science, Wahpeton, N. D. He was on the President's list of honor students at WSSS.

Robert and his wife Marion are residents of Bismarck.

**Scott M. Lang**, formerly a draftsman for Basin Electric, has been transferred to the right-of-way department as right-of-way specialist, and was replaced by Robert Houn. Lang has been with Basin Electric since June, 1971. He is a graduate of Moorhead, Minn., High School, and graduated with an Associate of Science diploma in civil engineering technology from the Wahpeton State School of Science.

## MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS -- IT'S GOOD BUSINESS

Remember when it was thought to be a pretty good rule to "mind your own business"?

That's the central idea, really, when somebody asks now, "Who's minding the store?"

It's a good question. Think about it a minute.

Who should mind the store? Or tend the garden? Or shingle the roof?

Not the fellow down the street. Or the one around the corner. Or in the next town.

Of course not.

If it's your store . . . or your garden . . . or your roof—YOU do it. Or YOU see that it's done. Either that or, usually, it simply does not get done.

It's that way with your cooperative too, isn't it?

You own it. It was first put together to serve its member-owners; it exists now for that sole purpose.

The cooperative is beautifully suited to respond to the needs of people. But no way has yet been found to enable it to sense those needs. People must speak up for themselves.

The cooperative member has a platform—the annual meeting. He has an amplifier—his chosen board of directors. The self-starter, however, remains himself, and there is no satisfactory substitute.

And so we come full-circle back to the place of beginning . . .

Mind your own business.

(reprinted from: COOPERATION, a feature of the Cooperative News Service, Cooperative League of the USA, Washington, D. C.)

## MEETING DATES

—National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) annual meeting. February 25—March 1, 1973. Convention Center, Dallas, Texas.

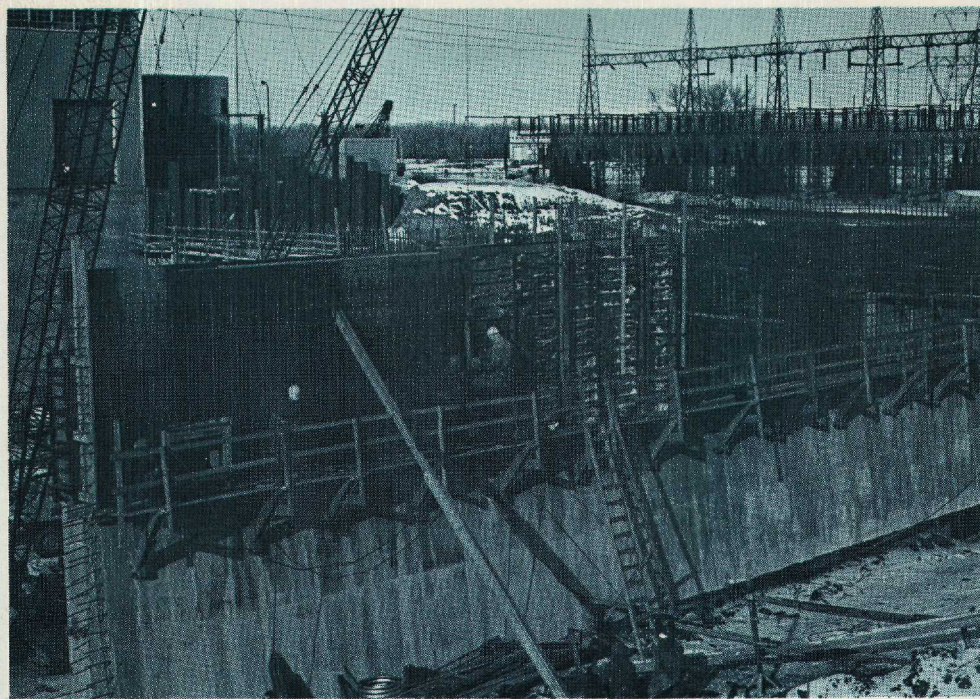
—Central Power Electric Cooperative annual meeting. March 13-14, 1973. Minot, North Dakota.

—Missouri Basin Systems Group (MBSG) annual meeting. March 20-21, 1973. Brown Palace Hotel, Denver, Colorado (See page 2).

—National Coalition for Land Reform. April 26-27, 1973. San Francisco, California.

—American Public Power Association (APPA) annual conference. May 14-16, 1973. Marriott Hotel, New Orleans, Louisiana.

BASIN ELECTRIC POWER COOPERATIVE  
SUITE 624, PROVIDENT LIFE BUILDING  
316 NORTH FIFTH STREET  
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA 58501



Looking northwest as a third lift of wall is readied on the east wall of Unit No. 2. (Burns & Roe photo).

## CONSTRUCTION REPORT

M. W. Kellogg Co. has completed the 350-foot Unit 1 stack and will complete installation of the elevator in late January.

General Construction Co. continues placing reinforcing steel and pouring concrete at the turbine-generator pedestal and main foundation walls. The turbine-generator pedestal is now 27 per cent complete.

Backfilling and waterproofing at the main building walls is 60 percent complete. Burns & Roe Resident Construction Manager Harry Jacobs reports.

Babcock and Wilcox and the Maxon Corporation are setting structural steel base plates for erection of the boiler and the main building.

Excavation for the Unit 2 stack foundation was begun and formwork for the Unit 2 electrostatic precipitator has also been started.

Two 25 KV breakers were delivered at the end of January to be installed at the Fort Thompson substation. Basin Electric's portion of the Fort Thompson substation upgrading is scheduled to be completed in June of this year. The U. S. Bureau of Reclamation will begin its portion in July. The total upgrading project is targeted for completion in the spring of 1975.

## 1972 RECORD PRODUCTION YEAR

End of the year reporting by Basin Electric's Plant Superintendent Kent Janssen indicates that 1972 was a record production year for the Leland Olds Station. **Net production for 1972 was 1,575,379,000 kwh, two percent above the previous record set during 1970.** The 1972 net production figure was seven percent above that of 1971.

Basin Electric General Manager James Grahl attributed the new production record at the seven-year-old lignite-burning facility to "a genuinely dedicated, serious and hard-working group of employees at the plant. If these people didn't care, we wouldn't set any new records."

### Month of December

During the last month of 1972, net production totalled 144,522,000 kwh and average gross generation was 209,600 KW. Lignite burned during the month was 119,343 tons.

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit 224  
Bismarck, N.D.