

## KINGSPORT POWER SEEKS RATE HIKE

Kingsport Power Company has applied to the Tennessee Public Service Commission for a \$3.8 million rate increase. According to John E. Faust, executive vice president of the company, the request includes an increase of about \$2.9 million to offset an increase in wholesale power cost and an increase of about \$900,000 for local operations. Faust said the average residential customer's bill would increase about 10.9 percent, based on August billings.

Kingsport Power's wholesale supplier, Appalachian Power Company, filed a request with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on July 31 asking for an increase of approximately \$2.9 million annually for electricity sold to Kingsport Power. The request cited the impact of inflation over the three-year period since the last wholesale increase. "We asked the Tennessee Commission to allow us to pass on to our customers only the amount approved by the FERC without any profit to Kingsport Power," Faust said.

The second part of the petition requested an increase of about \$900,000 annually for local operations of Kingsport Power. "The dramatic rise in the inflation rate over the past year has increased our cost of operations to the point where we must have this modest increase if we are to continue to provide adequate and reliable service to our customers," Faust said. He added, "Even with these proposed increases, our residential rates will continue to be among the lowest in the nation."

Kingsport Power Company's last rate increase request was filed April 17, 1978, asking for \$2.4 million. The Public Service Commission allowed an increase of \$1.3 million, or about 4.1 percent, effective October 27, 1978.

## APPALACHIAN CUSTOMERS SET NEW PEAKS

Customers of Appalachian Power Company set three new peaks for summertime use of electricity within one week last month.

The first peak of 3,644,000 kilowatts occurred during the hour ending at 6 PM on August 1. It represented an increase of 1.13% over the previous high peak of 3,603,000 kilowatts set on July 20, 1977.

That peak was eclipsed on August 7, when a new peak of 3,697,000 kilowatts occurred during the hour ending at 3 PM. This was a 1.45% increase over the peak set on August 1.

The following day, August 8, another peak of 3,845,000 kilowatts occurred during the hour ending at 3 PM and was 1% higher than the peak demand Appalachian had forecast for this summer.

John W. Vaughan, executive vice president of Appalachian, commented, "This is further evidence of a continuing increase in use of electricity by our customers as well as indicative of a generally strong economy in the area Appalachian serves." Noting that the peaks were established despite a federally mandated setting of 78 degrees on air conditioning thermostats, Vaughan said, "In addition to the hot, muggy weather, activity in the business and industrial sectors, as well as an increase of approximately 28,000 customers on Appalachian lines since the previous summer peak in 1977, also contributed to the new peaks."

## THREE NEW APCO VICE PRESIDENTS ARE ELECTED



Kepner



Simmons



von Schack

Three new vice presidents of Appalachian Power Company were elected last month by the company's board of directors. Those elected, effective October 1, are Jack W. Kepner, vice president — operations; Charles A. Simmons, vice president — construction and maintenance; and Wesley W. von Schack, vice president — administration.

In making the announcement, John W. Vaughan, Appalachian's executive vice president, noted, "These moves are a part of the company's continuing effort to strengthen its organization to meet the ever-increasing demands of providing an adequate and dependable supply of electricity to its customers."

Kepner rises to the position from that of executive assistant to the executive vice president. He will be responsible for company operations including coordinating the operation of the company's generating stations, its centralized plant maintenance, and its central machine shop.

An electrical engineering graduate of West Virginia University, Kepner began his career with Appalachian in 1939 at its Cabin Creek, West Virginia, plant. He went to Roanoke, Virginia, in 1950 as assistant superintendent of system operations and in 1962 became operations manager of the company. He was named executive assistant in 1977.

In his new position, Simmons will be responsible for the company's maintenance and construction programs, as well as the coordination of division activities.

Currently transmission and distribution manager for Appalachian, Simmons joined the company in 1956 as an electrical engineer at Point Pleasant, West Virginia. He was an area supervisor at St. Albans, W.Va.; engineering supervisor at Logan, W.Va.; and plant engineer and personnel supervisor at the Kanawha River Plant in Glasgow, W.Va., before moving to Roanoke in 1972 as labor relations supervisor for the company. He was named personnel director of Appalachian in 1972, executive assistant in 1977, and T&D manager in 1978. Simmons holds a degree in electrical engineering from West Virginia Institute of Technology and attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Program for Senior Executives.

Von Schack will relocate in Roanoke from New York, where he is an assistant vice president — finance for the American Electric Power Service Corporation.

In his new assignment, von Schack will be responsible for the company's tariffs, rates and contracts, customer services, accounting, purchasing, land management, and general services departments.

Von Schack has a degree in economics from Fordham University, an MBA degree in finance from St. John's University and is currently studying for his PhD in finance and management at Pace University. He is also a graduate of the executive management program at Duke University. He joined AEP in 1976 as director of banking and security analyst relations and was elected an assistant vice president in 1978. Earlier he had spent 12 years with the Bell System in various administrative responsibilities in both operations and finance.

## AEP SYSTEM GENERATION SETS RECORD

The American Electric Power System is the first investor-owned utility ever to generate 100-billion kilowatthours of electricity in a 12-month period.

During the 12 months ended July 31, the AEP System recorded net generation of 100,682,700,000 kwh — a doubling of electric production in about 11 years. Nearly one-fourth, or 23,593,093 kwh, of the total System generation was provided by Appalachian Power Company plants.

The System provides electric service to over 6-million people in seven east-central states: Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee.

AEP Chairman W. S. White, Jr. said that 85.8% of the System's power production over the past 12 months had come from coal and 13.2% from nuclear fuel. The balance of it was generated by hydro dams, gas turbines and "one oil-fired plant that represents 3/10ths of 1% of our electric energy production," he added.

During the 12-month period ended July 31, AEP's 13 coal-fired power plants consumed 37.8-million tons of that fuel, of which approximately 30% came from the System's own mines. AEP annually uses more coal than any other investor-owned company.

White added that about 20% of the System's generation over the past 12 months went to neighboring utilities, which in some cases bought AEP's coal-based power to replace their oil-fired generation.

## REGISTER NOW FOR EDUCATION AWARDS

October 2 is the registration deadline for the 1980 AEP System Education Awards Program.

The competition is open to AEP System employees' children entering their senior year of high school this fall. Thirty-four prizes totaling \$3,500 each will be awarded in 1980. Winners will receive \$2,000 for the first year of college and \$1,500 for the second.

Entrants are required to submit Scholastic Aptitude scores. Those who did not take the SAT in their junior years, or who wish to take it again, are required to take the SAT to be given December 1. Complete details and registration forms are available in your local Personnel office.



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AEP SYSTEM NEWS BRIEFS

Loftus Heads Public Affairs

William G. Loftus, vice president — public affairs planning of the AEP Service Corporation, last month was elected senior vice president — public affairs of the AEP Service Corporation, effective September 1. On that date he succeeded the retiring Harold R. Johnson as head of the Public Affairs Department. Loftus also was elected a director of the Service Corporation.

DiLorenzo Appointed

John F. DiLorenzo, Jr., has been appointed executive assistant to Richard E. Disbrow, president of the AEP Service Corporation, effective October 1. He will continue to serve as an assistant vice president and assistant secretary of the Service Corporation, as well as assistant secretary of the parent American Electric Power Company and of all of its operating and coal company subsidiaries. However, he will relinquish his duties as an assistant general counsel of the Service Corporation.

Four AEP Mines Closed

The closing of four underground coal mines in Boone and Kanawha counties, West Virginia, were announced last month. Effective at midnight August 20, the closings resulted in the layoff of 271 miners and 58 staff employees of the Cedar Coal Company and the Southern Appalachian Coal Company, subsidiaries of Appalachian Power Company. Productivity and the costs of mining coal were not in line with other company mines or with the general coal market at this time.

SAVINGS PLAN UNIT VALUES

Date	Value Per Unit	Units Credited Per Dollar
Fixed Income Fund		
1/31/79	1.0846	.9219
2/28/79	1.0912	.9164
3/31/79	1.0987	.9102
4/30/79	1.1060	.9042
5/31/79	1.1136	.8980
6/30/79	1.1209	.8921
7/31/79	1.1286	.8861
Equity Fund		
1/31/79	1.1920	.8389
2/28/79	1.1582	.8634
3/31/79	1.2241	.8169
4/30/79	1.2278	.8145
5/31/79	1.2066	.8288
6/30/79	1.2577	.7951
7/31/79	1.2705	.7871
AEP Stock Fund		
1/31/79	1.0355	.9657
2/28/79	1.0153	.9849
3/31/79	1.0167	.9836
4/30/79	1.0108	.9893
5/31/79	0.9784	1.0221
6/30/79	1.0267	.9740
7/31/79	1.0383	.9631

FIXED INCOME FUND INTEREST RATE INCREASES

The guaranteed interest rate on contributions made to the Fixed Income Fund on or after September 1, 1979 has been increased from 8.35% to 8.90%. This is the second increase in the interest rate since the AEP System Employees Savings Plan became effective on January 1, 1978. The actual yield earned by the total Fixed Income Fund will be a weighted average annual rate between 7.85% and 8.90%, and will constitute a composite of the interest rates on the following segments of the fund:

Contributions made from January 1, 1978 to June 30, 1978 ..... 7.85%

Contributions made from July 1, 1978 to August 31, 1979 ..... 8.35%

Contributions made on or after September 1, 1979 ..... 8.90%

The 7.85% rate is guaranteed until December 31, 1987; the 8.35% rate until June 30, 1988; and the 8.90% rate until August 31, 1989.

As the portion of the Fixed Income Fund earning interest at 8.90% grows larger in relation to the portions earning interest at 7.85% and 8.35%, the average yield will approach, but will never exactly equal, 8.90%. This change in the interest rate simply means that investments in the Fixed Income Fund will grown at a faster rate over the next 10 years.

EFFECT OF RIGHTS OFFERING ON SAVINGS PLAN PARTICIPANTS

American Electric Power Company explained last month how its previously announced common stock rights offering to existing shareowners, scheduled this month, would affect AEP System employees who are members of the Employees Savings Plan or the Dividend Reinvestment and Stock Purchase Plan. (The rights offering will involve the issuance to each shareowner of rights to subscribe for one share of additional common stock for each 15 shares held.)

Warrants will be mailed to all shareowners of record as soon as practicable after the record date, expected to be September 6. Such warrant will reflect all shares held by shareowners of record in certificate form and all full shares held in the Dividend Reinvestment Plan. Shareowners should take action with respect to their warrants well in advance of their expiration date. On the other hand, such warrants will not reflect shares held in the AEP Stock Fund by the trustee for the Employees Savings Plan. The trustee will determine whether to exercise or sell the rights for the shares in that fund.

NO CHANGE SOUGHT IN VA. FUEL COST COMPONENT

Appalachian Power Company last month informed the Virginia State Corporation Commission that the company will not seek a revision in the fuel factor included in its rates when the Commission conducts its next quarterly review on September 14. John W. Vaughan, executive vice president of Appalachian, said that "although Appalachian has been experiencing an increase in fuel costs, it now appears that our 1979 fuel expense will be only about 3% above the amounts anticipated to be recovered through the fuel cost factor included in our present rates. Because of this relatively small variance, the company decided against making a change in an effort to provide continuing stability in the rates charged its customers." He further pointed out this decision by the company means that the fuel factor will remain constant for all of 1979. "The next change in the factor will most likely come when estimates for 1980 fuel expenses are submitted to the SCC in November. Any change needed as a result of these estimates would be effective January 1, 1980," Vaughan concluded.

ACCEPTED OIP PROPOSALS

Abingdon Division	11
Beckley Division	1
Bluefield Division	7
Charleston Division	9
Huntington Division	3
Logan-Williamson Division	2
Lynchburg Division	2
Pulaski Division	14
Roanoke Division	5
John Amos Plant	4
Clinch River Plant	3
Glen Lyn Plant	7
Kanawha River Plant	4
Philip Sporn Plant	1
Central Machine Shop	2
Centralized Plant Maintenance	7
GO Accounting	1
GO Customer Services	1
GO General Services	1
GO Hydro	3
GO Land Management	1
GO Operations	6
GO Personnel/Executive	7
GO Public Affairs	1
GO Purchasing	1
Total accepted by General Office for processing as of August 17	107



## GONZALEZ WINS WEEK IN HAWAII



W. S. White, Jr. (left), chairman of American Electric Power Company and the AEP Service Corporation, draws the winning entry in the AEP System savings bond drive Hawaiian holiday contest as Thomas M. Abate (center), Manhattan Area Manager, Department of the Treasury, U.S. Savings Bonds Division, and Peter R. Steenland, vice president, administrative services, AEP Service Corporation, look on. White is national chairman of the public utilities industry for the 1979 U.S. Savings Bonds Campaign; Steenland is chairman of the 1979 AEP System campaign.

Doymar D. Gonzalez of Cardinal Operating Company, Brilliant, Ohio, is the winner of a week in Hawaii for two, which was offered as the grand prize in the 1979 AEP System-wide Savings Bond Drive.

All participants in the savings bond payroll-deduction plan, both new and existing buyers, were eligible to win one of 25 prizes to be awarded by random drawing. Savings bonds of various denominations, ranging from \$100 to \$25, went to these winners:

\$100 bond — M. J. Murray, I&M, South Bend.

\$75 bond — John Hanish, AEP Service Corporation, Canton.

\$50 bond — **Robert E. Dyke**, line mechanic A, Beckley; G. A. Emmert, Ohio Power, Canton; and Bill Harris, Kentucky Power, Pikeville.

\$25 bond — Patrick A. Wilson, AEP Service Corporation, Canton; Pamela J. Vitak, AEP Service Corporation, Canton; John W. Lizon, Ohio Electric, Gavin Plant; Thomas F. Weaver, III, Kentucky Power, Ashland; Mary M. Van Meter, Ohio Power, Canton; F. W. Grounds, Cedar Coal, Cabin Creek; Carl E. Nay, Ohio Power, Tiffin; Michael P. McCullough, Ohio Power, Steubenville; **G. T. Goodall**, transmission line supervisor, GO T&D Transmission, Charleston; C. E. Fields, Southern Ohio Coal, Raccoon No. 3 Mine; **Stephen L. Wilmoth**, meter reader, Charleston; R. L. Helm, Ohio Power, Canton GO; J. L. Landers, Cedar Coal, Cabin Creek; **R. E. Johnson**, customer service representative, Lynchburg; **A. Jane Ellis**, junior clerk, Huntington; **K. L. Parsley**, meter reader, Charleston; **T. J. Johnson**, guard, Kanawha River; W. E. Kidd, Central Appalachian Coal, Morris Creek; and Betty Fogt, Ohio Power, Lima.

**Stephen L. Jamison**, employee relations administrator in GO Personnel, Roanoke, was awarded a \$100 savings bond as the canvasser with the highest percentage of participation by employees he canvassed. All 18 employees in the Personnel Department bought savings bonds.

Six other canvassers who had 100 percent participation in the bond drive were awarded \$25 bonds: Wayne R. Kelly, I&M, Muncie; Kenneth L. Schultz, Ohio Power, Canton GO; **Dorcas H. Moncer**, customer services clerk A, Huntington; **W. P. Roeser**, administrative assistant, Abingdon; Greg Justice, Kentucky Power, Pikeville; and **Ammon Sears**, area supervisor A, Stuart.

Twenty other canvassers were selected by random drawing to receive \$25 bonds: Roger Caynor, Windsor Power House Coal, Windsor; Cathy L. Peterson, I&M, Muncie; C. R. Lewis, I&M, Fort Wayne; W. R. Verheyen, Ohio Power, Lima; **Deborah**

**Belisle**, engineering technologist, Abingdon; Larry Karlen, Ohio Power, Canton; W. R. Burkhart, Windsor Power House Coal, Windsor; C. E. Brogee, Ohio Power, Lima; **G. H. Johnson**, line mechanic B, Abingdon; Estelle Allen, AEP Service Corporation, New York; G. R. Liggett, Ohio Power, Tiffin; **Martha Horne**, residential advisor, Pulaski; **Reginald Hardy**, service supervisor, Beckley; G. E. Loniaker, I&M, Tanners Creek; D. M. Dinius, I&M, Benton Harbor; Pauline Knight, I&M, South Bend; W. L. Varney, Ohio Electric, Gavin Plant; **Kyle Ellison**, line and station superintendent, Beckley; **F. J. Long**, instrument maintenance supervisor, Glen Lyn; and Tara Lee, Kentucky Power, Pikeville.

## 30% AEP SYSTEM EMPLOYEES BUY SAVINGS BONDS

The 1979 AEP System savings bond drive was a rousing success.

When the campaign had ended and the last results tallied, a total of 6,286 employees — 30.5 percent of the System's 20,626 — were buying savings bonds via the payroll-deduction plan. Of these, 2,036 had signed up during the campaign, while 344 existing bond-purchasers had increased their deductions.

The 2,036 who signed up during the July drive represented an increase of 47.9 percent over the number of participants at the time it began.

W. S. White, Jr., chairman of AEP and president of Appalachian and Kingsport Power Companies, who served as national chairman of the public utilities industry in the 1979 savings bond campaign across the country, was proud of his own company's effort in the drive. He said, "As national chairman, I am pleased to see that the AEP System campaign resulted in 6,286 employees — over 30 percent of the total number of employees — purchasing U.S. savings bonds. As an AEP employee, I am proud that our 1979 sales campaign was a 56 percent improvement over 1978, and I want to congratulate and thank everyone who participated in this campaign, as either a saver or a canvasser."

The best percentage increase across the System was a 500 percent jump in participation by employees of the Cook Coal Terminal at Metropolis, Illinois, where deductions were increased from four to 24. Second best such gain was registered by employees of the Service Corporation's Fuel Supply Department in Lancaster, Ohio, with a participation increase of 214.3 percent, while the 200 percent increase by employees of the Philip Sporn Concrete Laboratory ran a close third.

Among the System's seven operating companies, two more than doubled their participation. Kentucky Power Company, with 155 new enrollees, increased 126 percent, and Indiana & Michigan Electric Company, with 387 new participants, went up 109.6 percent.

The best participation ratio among all System groups is the 62.5 percent record (five out of eight employees) of the Service Corporation's Ash Research Group in Charleston, West Virginia. Tied for second, each at 50 percent, are the Service Corporation's Environmental Engineering Laboratory (11 out of 22) in Huntington, West Virginia, and the Service Corporation's UHV Research Center (five out of 10) at Lakeville, Indiana.

Tops among the operating companies, with 86 participants out of 183 employees, is Wheeling Electric Company at 47 percent. And best among the coal companies is Central Appalachian Coal Company, with 149 out of 356, a ratio of 41.9 percent.

## NEW TOWBOAT IN USE AT MOUNTAINEER



The new towboat W. M. Robinson is at work at the Mountaineer plant on the upper Ohio River at New Haven, West Virginia, following its recent completion by Marine Builders, Inc., Clarksville, Ind. The boat is named for the manager of the plant.

The Robinson has a hull measuring 52 x 22 x 7½ feet, with an operating draft of 4½ feet. The hull was fabricated of 3/8-inch steel plate. The pilot-house has been raised to permit the operator to see over high empty coal barges and provides an eye level of 23 feet.

Although it will operate as a "dinner bucket" boat, all rooms were finished and paneled. Deck storage is available in an 11 x 16-foot room at the bow and a 16 x 17-foot room aft, on the main deck. There is an 8 x 8-foot storage room on the second deck along with a bathroom.

The new boat is powered by a pair of Caterpillar model 3408 diesel engines, each rated 365 hp. at 1,800 rpm., supplied by Wayne Supply Company, Louisville. Wayne also furnished the Lima self-regulating 55 kw. generator driven by a Cat 3304 diesel. Engines are cooled by water circulated through Johnson keel coolers. The full engine monitoring system was designed by Marine Builders.

The shafts are turned at a 5.17:1 ratio by Twin Disc MG-514 reduction gears. The mechanical-over-hydraulic follow-up steering system was designed by the builder for the two steering and four flanking rudders. Kahlenberg stainless steel 4-blade propellers measure 54 x 44 inches.

The W. M. Robinson can carry 9,500 gallons of fuel, 800 gallons of water and 150 gallons of lube oil. Also in the engine room is a Speedaire 2 hp., 60-gallon air compressor.

Electronics and navigation equipment include a Sperry MK-74 radar, Modar Triton 12 channel VHF radio, two Carlisle & Finch 14-inch searchlights and Kahlenberg airhorn. The Patterson 10-ton electric deck winches have controls on the work deck and in the pilothouse.

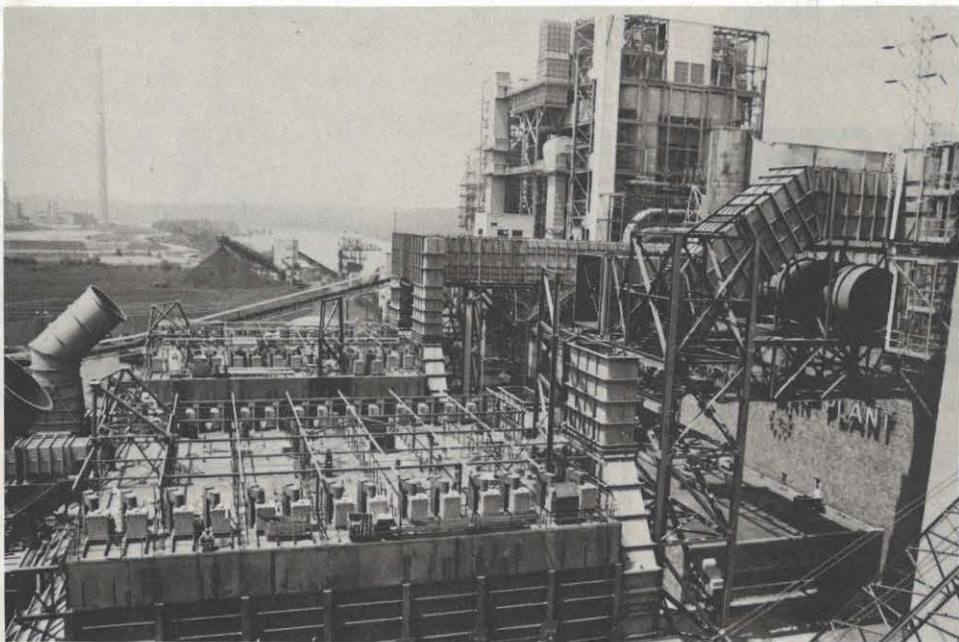
Story courtesy *Waterways Journal*.



The 437 employees of John Amos Plant completed 500,000 consecutive safe workhours on June 4. Their record began November 2, 1978. Plant Manager J. A. Moore, left, accepts an AEP certificate of merit for the accomplishment from John W. Vaughan, executive vice president of Appalachian Power.



## \$84.7-MILLION PROJECT BRINGS SPORN PLANT INTO COMPLIANCE WITH W. VA. EMISSION STANDARDS



Two units of the Sporn Plant are out of service so that they can be connected to new precipitators constructed for them.

An \$84.7-million project, involving installation of new electrostatic precipitators on the five units at the plant and associated equipment has brought the 1,050,000 kilowatt Philip Sporn Plant into full compliance with West Virginia's air quality particulate emission standards.

Electrostatic precipitators are devices which remove ash particles from burning coal before they are emitted from a power plant's stack. New Sporn precipitators are designed to remove 99.7% of these particulates.

Work on the precipitator program began in 1975. Precipitators on three of the plant's five units are in operation, and the remaining two units are out of service so that they can be connected to new precipitators constructed for them. One will return to service in September, the other in November.

Each of four units at the plant has a generating capacity of 150,000 kilowatts. Two of them are owned by Appalachian and two by Ohio Power, which also owns the fifth unit. It has a capacity of 450,000 kilowatts.

The \$84.7-million investment in precipitators at Sporn represents a portion of the nearly one-half billion dollar investment in precipitators on AEP plants in West Virginia during the 1970's. Other precipitator work has been carried out at the John E. Amos Plant at Morgan's Landing, Kanawha River Plant at Glasgow, the Mitchell and Kammer Plants near Moundsville, and the Mountaineer Plant at New Haven, due for operation in late 1980.

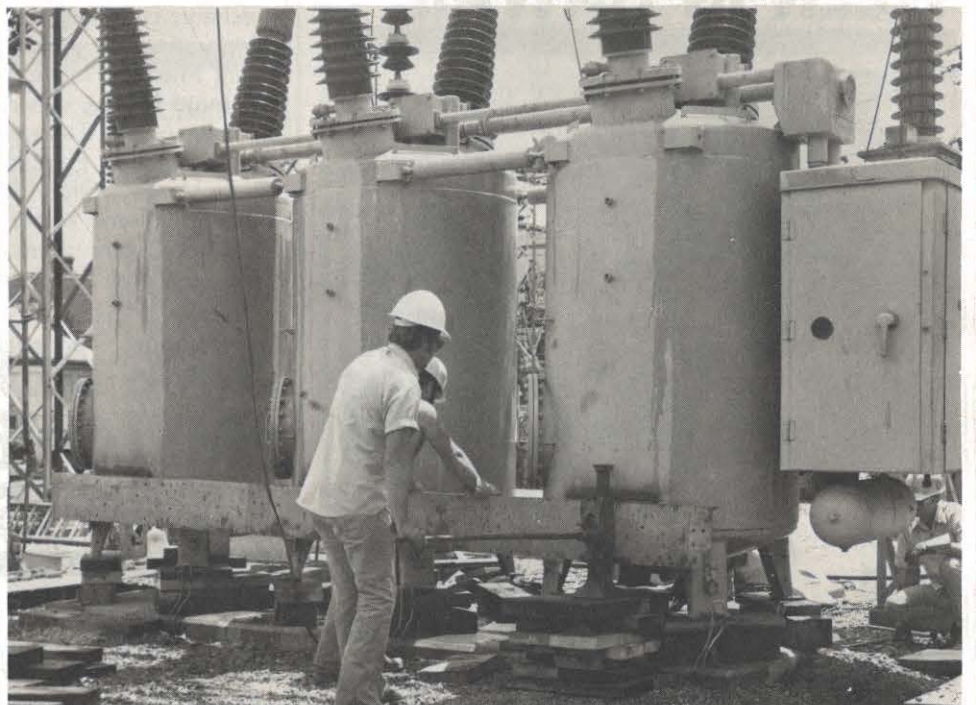
Work on the precipitators at Sporn has had a major economic impact on the Mason County area. For example, at the peak of construction, there were approximately 400 people at work, earning a weekly payroll of \$240,000. Much of this money was spent in the area.

Environmental Elements Corporation, a division of Koppers, supplied the precipitators, and Union Boiler Company of Nitro was the prime contractor on the job.



The 378 employees of Philip Sporn Plant completed 1,000,000 consecutive safe workhours on July 1. The record for these employees began on February 23, 1978. For their accomplishment, they were honored with two banquets held at the Kinfolks Restaurant in Point Pleasant last month. Dave Williams, senior vice president-operations for AEP; Jack Kepner, executive assistant; and Doug Forbes, safety director, were guest speakers at the events.

## PULASKI STATION RAISED



J. D. Spraker, station crew supervisor NE (foreground) and M. L. Saunders, Jr., station mechanic A, raise the 88 kv Byllesby oil circuit breaker.

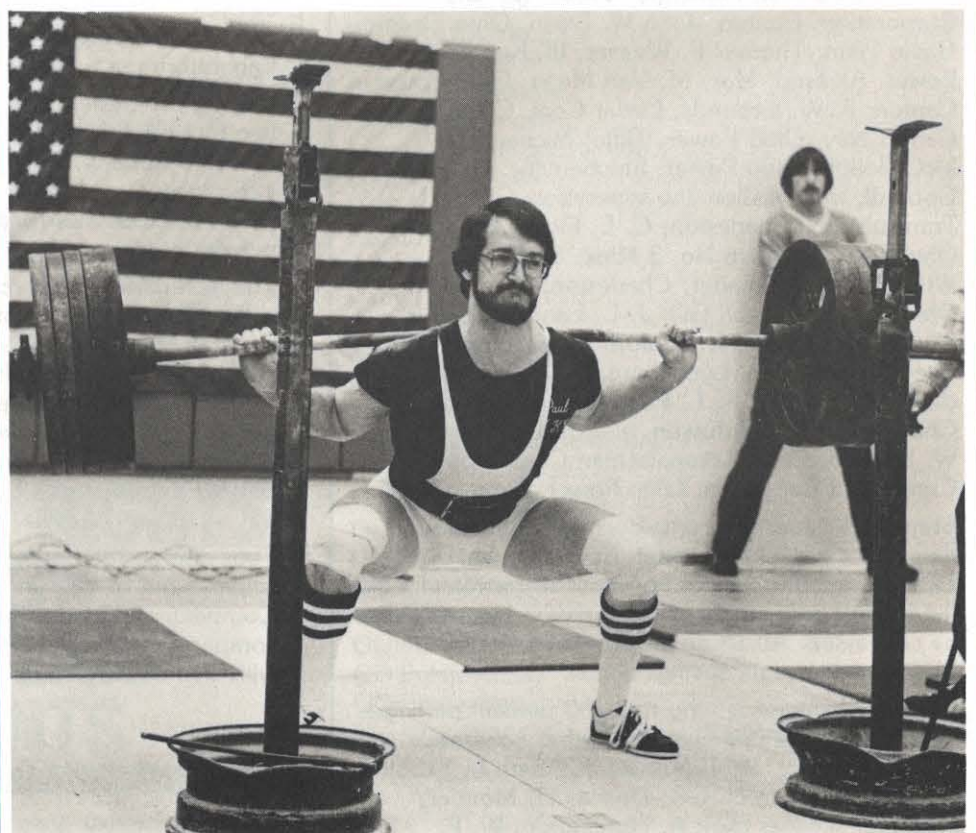
Because of the elevation of the Pulaski 88-34.5-12-4 kv substation and its close proximity to Peak Creek, there have been several occasions when water has covered the station yard to depths up to 4½ feet. The latest flooding, which occurred in April 1977 when more than 4 inches of rain fell in two days, took the entire station out of service for 13 hours. The water level reached 53 inches in the station yard and 32½ inches in the control building.

To alleviate the possibility of customer service interruption and station equipment damage, crews began in May raising the circuit equipment and controls above flood levels. This involves moving two 88 kv, two 34.5 kv, two 4 kv oil circuit breakers, all controls on eight 12 kv oil circuit reclosers, relay panels, relays in the control house, and other miscellaneous equipment.

K. M. Sharp, station crew supervisor, helped supervise the crews through the strenuous work of raising the large circuit breakers and equipment boxes. "We're going to raise them at least 26 inches above where they are now. That will put them above the last flood," he said. "It wasn't so much a problem with the breakers as it was the controls. We want to make sure the water won't get up into the controls."

To do that, the control boxes were moved higher on the steel stands they are mounted on. The crews also emptied the oil from the 36,000 pound circuit breakers and, using large jacks, and railroad ties, raised the breaker tanks up and remounted the tanks on 18 inch and 9 inch "I" beams. Inside the control house at the station, the batteries, relays and control cables all are in the process of being raised. Another sump pump has been added to the building.

Appalachian decided on the new level for the equipment based on the 1977 flood, considered by Pulaski residents as the second worst in the town's history.



Paul Sutphin set a new national record and won the AAU National Power Lifting Championship in the 148¾-pound lightweight class in Los Angeles, California, in July. Sutphin had a 545-pound squat lift, a 595 dead lift and lifted 341 on the bench for a total of 1,481. He broke the old total record of 1,449 set by John Orsini of California in last year's meet when he defeated Paul for the national title. Paul, the son of Jim Sutphin, GO station mechanic A, Bluefield, will compete in the senior's competition in a few weeks. Should he win there, he will move on to the World Championships in Dayton, Ohio, in November.



## JOHNSON RETIRES FROM SERVICE CORP.



Harold R. Johnson retired September 1 after more than three decades in Public Affairs with the AEP System.

A native of Newark, Ohio, and an alumnus of Denison University in nearby Granville, Johnson began his career as a reporter for the Newark Advocate upon leaving college. He was city editor of the paper by the time he was 25.

During World War II he served as public relations officer of the U.S. Army's Fifth Service Command and held the rank of major. During 1946-48 he was public relations director of the Veterans Administration's four-state branch office in Columbus, Ohio.

He joined Ohio Power Company in 1948 as its first public relations director. In fact, he was the first to hold that position in any operating company on the System. In 1952 he was transferred to the AEP Service Corporation in New York as director of public relations and later was elected a director of the Service Corporation. In 1961 he was elected a vice president and in 1974 a senior vice president.

During his 31 years with the AEP System he has participated in or lent a guiding hand to a vast array of communications and public relations activities across the System: for example, the establishment of employee publications in each of the operating companies and the Service Corporation; numerous ground breakings, dedications and plant tours; production of company movies, hundreds of booklets and a series of weekly and daily newsletters in the operating com-

panies, and the recent expansion of System-wide video services.

In addition, he has been responsible for direction of the System and corporate advertising programs from 1952 to 1979 and was involved in planning the Smith Mountain, Cook Nuclear and Rockport Information Centers.

Johnson was active for many years in public relations activities of the Edison Electric Institute and presently serves as a director of Reddy Communications, Inc.

A golfer since his teens, he is a member of the Upper Montclair Country Club near his home in Essex Fells, New Jersey. He and his wife, Tennille, have lived there for the past 17 years.

While he intends to devote more time to trying to improve his golf handicap in retirement, Johnson said that golf will only be a secondary activity.

"My primary interest will be to stay alert to what's going on in the utility business and in the world in general," he said. "I've always had an insatiable appetite for information, and I don't expect to lose it after I retire. I love reading and I love keeping busy, just as I've done ever since I got my first job at age 14."

## BROWN TO KEEP BUSY IN CIVIC AFFAIRS



"When I graduated from high school, you couldn't steal a job," recalls Melvin Brown, who was customer accounting supervisor at Fieldale in the Roanoke Division before electing early retirement September 1. He continues, "I worked for a year with Sunlight Bakery before joining Appalachian. I

developed a sales route between Roanoke and Martinsville that grew from \$6.11 gross sales the first day to \$480 a week by the end of the first year. When the boss wouldn't give me a dollar a week raise, I quit. It was in 1935 and things were tight. They were paying me \$19 a week for 96 hours' work. After getting on with Appalachian, a representative from the bakery came down and wanted me to come back. I told him there was no way I would leave my present job to return with them." Melvin remembers that he called on Garnett Harvey, retired Roanoke Division personnel supervisor, at least once a week for 18 months until he gave him a job.

"The first week of employment with Appalachian, I had a terrible boil on my face. My chin was swollen badly and hurt in an awful way. I absolutely refused to let it interfere with my work, though. My job as office boy required carrying mail up three flights of steps six times a day, and every step I took I felt it in my chin."

A native of Roanoke, Virginia, Melvin worked as a telephone operator and clerk before taking military leave to serve with the U.S. Navy during World War II. "Al Beatty, Tom Kirby and I left Roanoke on the same train in the same draft." He returned to work as a clerk special and was a utility clerk before transferring to Fieldale as local office supervisor in 1949. He held the position of local office manager, district office supervisor and customer accounts supervisor before being promoted in 1969 to the position he held at retirement.

Melvin recalls with pride helping set up the accounting office in Fieldale. "It's one of the things in my career that was most enjoyable and something that I take great satisfaction in. Assisting me were Albert Fudge (recently deceased), Audrey Harlowe, secretary-stenographer, and Raymond Martin, area supervisor. We made great strides over these last 30 years."

He adds, "Any success for which I may have been credited has to be shared with many cooperative and hard

working people who did most of the work. I especially appreciate over the past 25 years the tremendous support that the company and I received from Dot Via, customer accounting supervisor NE. I sincerely appreciated her most valuable support and help."

Melvin's community involvement over the years has included being organist and pianist at the Fieldale United Methodist Church for 30 years; former chairman of the Fieldale United Methodist administrative board; Boy Scout sponsor; member, board of directors of Bassett Country Club; chairman of various committees of the Henry County Chamber of Commerce; member, advisory board of the Virginia National Bank; and member and pianist of the Martinsville Rotary, and chairman of the Henry County board of supervisors from 1972-75.

"One of the things I look back on with much satisfaction is the board of supervisors' work, and some of the accomplishments we were able to make. A new jail and a new administration building were built with no increase in the tax rate." In 1973 Melvin went to Hawaii as a representative to the National Association of Counties, where he accepted seven awards for Henry County. The awards totaled more than any other Virginia county received and as many as any county in the United States received.

Melvin's retirement plans include his continued involvement as president of the Fieldale-Collinsville Volunteer Rescue Squad. He is helping raise \$175,000 for the new building program. He also plans to read, salt water fish, camp and play golf. He was company golf champion from 1958-1961 and plays in the Virginia State Seniors Golf Tournament annually at Hot Springs, Virginia.

Melvin is married to the former Juanita Lucas, who worked in the company's General Office prior to their marriage in 1941. She is currently an insurance agent. The Browns have four sons and two grandsons.

## RETIREE HITS CAMPAIGN TRAIL



Fred Miller Bennington, residential representative at Galax in the Pulaski Division, retired September 1 after more than 40 years' service. He has announced his candidacy for the Virginia House of Representatives from the 4th legislative district, comprising the counties of Wythe, Grayson and Bland and the City of Galax.

The Grayson County native recalls how he came to work for Appalachian. "I was working part-time at Mick or Mack during December 1938 when W. H. 'Duck' Spangler (now deceased) and his wife Sue came in. While I was totaling up the groceries, Duck asked me if I had ever put in an application for a job with Appalachian. I said I hadn't because they didn't have anything I could do. Duck replied, 'You'll never know until you ask.' I took his advice and was hired as a 'grunt' in the line crew. The local crew consisted of only seven men to do all line construction, which was done by manual labor, plus the meter connects and disconnects and collecting of unpaid accounts."

Fred continues, "One of the first holes I dug took me about a half a day because the crew wouldn't let me use dynamite. The five-piece digging set was about all I could carry as I only weighed 120 pounds."

"When we built the line to Mr. Tom Osborne's farm, I was up in a tree trimming some limbs with an axe while E. S. Dickerson (now deceased) was watching. G. C. 'Mac' McCall, the line supervisor, came up and asked Ed what he was doing. Ed told him he was watching me cut the limbs. Mr. Mac said, 'If you

don't have anything to do, you can at least stand in a strain when the boss is around.' Mr. Mac looked up at me in the tree and said, 'boy, that's a d--- good way to cut your leg off. Get you a saw for that work'.

"When we built the Fallville Community line, the crew accused me of hiring a little boy with a red wagon to haul my tools from one hole to the next. The first time I was allowed to climb, it was with a pair of 16-inch hooks. I went up to the service wires to make the connection while Lem Lawrence (now deceased) told me what to do. The job done, I could not figure how to get back down, so I finally just cut out and burned the pole all the way down. When I was allowed to do more climbing, Mr. Mac gave me a pair of 14-inch hooks. My climbing days were not very long since I was transferred to the rural electrification program just before World War II. I feel the many job experiences I have had during my 40 years has helped me to be a better employee and to render a greater service to the customers."

Fred adds, "Appalachian has made it possible for me and my family to have a better way of life. I'll miss the fellowship I have had with other employees."

He plans to continue to raise registered Hereford cattle and operate the 265-acre farm which originally belonged to his grandfather, known as the old Bennington homeplace. He wants to spend more time with his three children and their families and will continue his student recruiting for Ferrum College.

He is a member of the Mt. Zion United Methodist Church; Oldtown Lodge No. 68 A.F. & A.M.; Shrine Kazim Temple, Roanoke; and the Carroll-Grayson Shrine Club. He is a past president and 36-year member of the Galax Lions Club and past district governor of District 24F, Lions International of Virginia. He is on the board of directors of the Virginia Agribusiness Council and is a member and past board member of the Galax-Carroll-Grayson Chamber of Commerce.



# MOVING UP



**Chester A. Burdette, Jr.**, former electrical engineer senior, was promoted to engineering supervisor in Charleston on July 1. He succeeds Don Newman, who retired. Burdette holds a BS degree in electrical engineering from West Virginia University.



**R. D. Tickle**, former line crew supervisor NE, was promoted to area supervisor A in the Hillsville area of Pulaski Division on September 1. He succeeds C. A. Shepherd, who elected early retirement.



**F. G. Fowler, Jr.**, former drafter B, was promoted to the exempt position of right-of-way agent in Pulaski on August 1. He succeeds S. L. Sisson, who was transferred to Hillsville/Galax as residential representative. Fowler studied real estate at New River Community College.



**Roger E. Grubb**, former control technician senior, was promoted to performance engineer at John Amos Plant on August 1.



**Donald M. Casey**, former Roanoke auto repairman, was promoted to garage crew supervisor in Lynchburg on August 11. He succeeds G. N. Patterson, who is on LTD leave.



**Johnnie W. Wright, Jr.**, former Roanoke residential representative senior, was promoted to customer accounting supervisor in the Fieldale area of Roanoke Division on September 1. He succeeds Melvin W. Brown, who retired.



**David B. Stoner**, former Roanoke credit supervisor, was promoted to centralized cash supervisor in General Office Accounting, Roanoke, on August 1. He succeeds Valorie Harvey, who was named staff accountant in GO Accounting.



**Dennis Whitley Patrick**, former station mechanic A, was promoted to station crew supervisor NE in Roanoke on August 11.



**Harry Edward Ruloff, Jr.**, former engineering supervisor, was promoted to Logan-Williamson division superintendent on July 1. He succeeds J. L. Richmond, who will retire October 1. Ruloff holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from West Virginia Institute of Technology.



**Franklin J. Mullins**, former line mechanic A, was promoted to line crew supervisor NE in the Rupert area of Beckley Division on July 28. He succeeds D. R. Sanford, who was promoted to line crew supervisor exempt.



**H. H. Rasnick**, former line mechanic A, was promoted to line crew supervisor NE in the Gate City area of Abingdon Division on July 21.



**B. R. Cornett**, former line mechanic A, was promoted to line crew supervisor NE in the Marion area of Abingdon Division on July 22. He holds an associate in applied science degree in civil technology from Wytheville Community College.



**T. L. Russ**, former line mechanic A, was promoted to line crew supervisor NE in Abingdon on July 23.



**Winfred H. Hart, Jr.**, former distribution staff engineer, was promoted to engineering supervising engineer in General Office T&D Engineering, Roanoke, on July 1. He holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and also attended Phillips Business College.



**William O. Hickman, III**, former station operator A, was promoted to regional dispatcher in General Office Operations, Roanoke, on June 1. He attended Roanoke College.



**Richard L. Hill**, former engineering technologist, was promoted to transmission inspector in General Office T&D Transmission, Bluefield, on August 1. He succeeds K. W. Hylton. Hill holds an associate degree in electrical engineering technology from Bluefield State College.



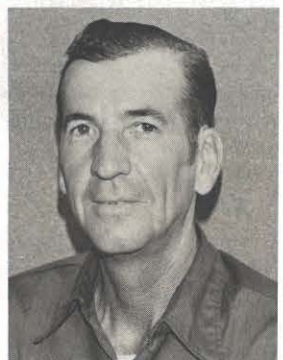
**Wayne O. McClearn**, former engineer B, was promoted to engineering technologist in General Office T&D Engineering, Roanoke, on July 1. He holds an associate degree in electrical engineering from Virginia Western Community College.



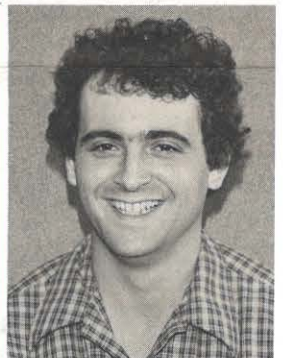
**Kenneth Wayne Hylton**, former transmission inspector, was promoted to transmission supervising inspector in General Office T&D Transmission, Bluefield, on August 1. He has studied through International Correspondence Schools. Hylton succeeds F. W. Wilburn, who retired.



**Beryl A. Wilson, Jr.**, former equipment operator at Gavin Plant, was promoted to unit supervisor at Mountaineer Plant on June 1. He attended West Virginia Institute of Technology.



**Dayton H. Spencer**, former shift operating engineer at Amos Plant, was transferred to Mountaineer Plant in the same capacity on May 16.



**Carl R. Scaggs**, former operations foreman at Cook Coal Terminal, was promoted to assistant yard superintendent at Mountaineer Plant on May 1.



**Ronald L. Neal**, former performance engineer senior at Amos Plant, was promoted to performance supervising engineer at Mountaineer Plant on June 1. He holds a BS degree in chemistry from Marshall University.





**B. H. Shires**, former unit supervisor at Amos Plant, was promoted to assistant shift operating engineer at Mountaineer Plant on May 16. He attended Concord College.



**Gerald G. Cunningham**, former unit supervisor at Kammer-Mitchell, was transferred to Mountaineer Plant in the same capacity on June 1. He attended West Liberty College and Marshall University.



**B. Wayne Kayser**, former equipment operator at Amos Plant, was promoted to unit supervisor at Mountaineer Plant on June 1.



**Joseph D. Sayre**, former unit supervisor at Gavin Plant, was promoted to assistant shift operating engineer at Mountaineer Plant on May 16.



**Richard A. Smith**, former performance technician senior at Mitchell Plant, was promoted to instrument maintenance supervisor at Mountaineer Plant on July 1. He attended DeVry Institute of Technology.



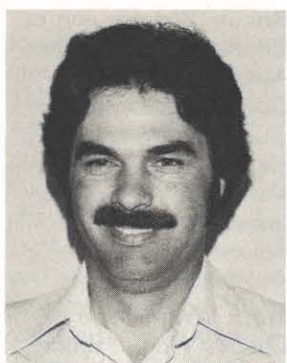
**E. Roger Smith**, former equipment operator at Amos Plant was promoted to unit supervisor at Mountaineer Plant on June 1.



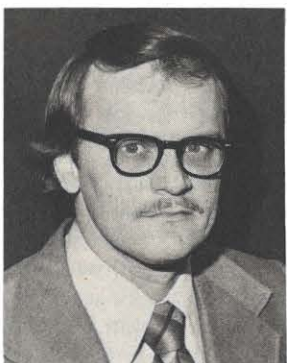
**Norman G. Leget**, former assistant shift operating engineer at Gavin Plant, was promoted to shift operating engineer at Mountaineer Plant on May 16.



**George L. Grimm**, former maintenance supervisor at Kyger Creek Plant, was transferred to Mountaineer Plant in the same capacity on April 9.



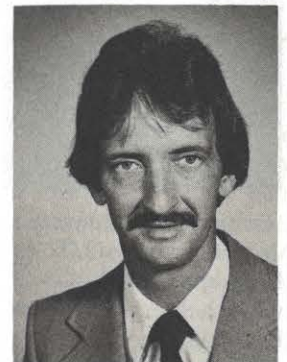
**Forrest T. Cunningham**, former performance engineer at Cardinal, was promoted to performance engineer senior at Mountaineer Plant on June 1. He attended Ohio University.



**Allen Wayne Hamm**, former chemist assistant, was promoted to the exempt position of chemist at Philip Sporn Plant on August 1. He holds a BS degree in chemistry from Ohio University. Hamm succeeds J. L. Babiak, who transferred to Mountaineer Plant.

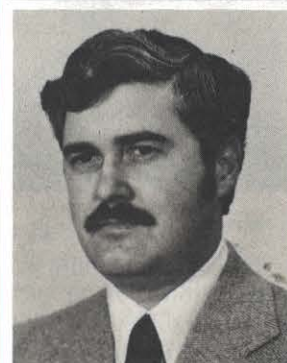


**Ronald E. Pinson**, former line mechanic A, was promoted to line crew supervisor NE in Huntington on July 21. He succeeds M. J. Johnson, who was promoted to general line supervisor.



**Ronald W. McComas**, former line mechanic A, was promoted to line crew supervisor NE in Huntington on July 21. He succeeds D. C. Watts, who is on LTD leave.

## TOWNLEY TAKES I&M POST



Everett L. Townley has been named assistant plant manager at Indiana & Michigan Electric Company's Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant, effective September 1. He rises to the position from that of maintenance superintendent at the Glen Lyn Plant. In his new assignment, Townley will be the "second" assistant plant manager at Cook and will be responsible for maintenance.

Townley holds a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. He began his career with the AEP System as a test engineer at Kyger Creek Plant in 1965. In 1969 he went to the Mitchell Plant, where he worked as a performance engineer senior, performance supervising engineer and operations superintendent. He was named staff assistant at Glen Lyn Plant in April 1978 and was promoted to maintenance superintendent in June of that year.

## WALDORF HEADS CMS STORES



Thomas R. Waldorf last month joined Central Machine Shop as stores/transportation supervisor. He succeeds Paul Slack, who transferred to Charleston Division. Waldorf, who holds a

BS degree in business administration from West Virginia State College, was formerly employed as stores department supervisor for Avtex Fibers, Incorporated, Nitro, West Virginia.

## TRAVEL AHEAD FOR WILBURN



Frank Peery Wilburn, transmission supervising inspector in General Office T&D Transmission, Bluefield, elected early retirement August 1 after more than 37 years' service.

A native of Tazewell County, Virginia, Frank began his career in 1941 as a lineman and truck driver. He worked as a lineman A and system transmission foreman before being promoted in 1971 to the position he held at retirement. His jobs included doing maintenance work, hot line work and new construction — building towers, sagging overhead conductors. He recalls that the towers had to be built with an "A" frame and a gin pole. They didn't have the cranes that are used today.

Frank was chairman of four GO T&D OSHA safety inspection committees in Huntington, Charleston, Bluefield and Roanoke. He had three articles published in *AEP Operating Ideas*.

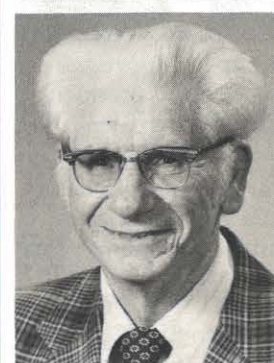
Frank's retirement plans include a great deal of traveling in his 31-foot Airstream camper. He and his wife Mildred hope to attend several of the Virginia Airstream rallies and go on some Airstream caravan trips. They also plan to spend several of the winter months near St. Petersburg, Florida.

Frank has a son who is married and lives in Washington, D.C., with his wife and four children. A stepson lives in Atlanta, Georgia. The Wilburns

also plan to spend more time with them during retirement.

Frank was commissioned a Kentucky Colonel in 1961 by the then Governor Bert Combs. He is on the board of trustees, administrative board and chairman of the building and grounds committee at the Virginia Avenue United Methodist Church.

## SWEENEY RETIRES AFTER 38 YEARS



"I have numerous things I want to do and am looking forward to the additional time in which to do them," says Cecil Allen Sweeney, who was a right-of-way agent in the General Office T&D Real Estate and Right-of-Way Section, Roanoke, before electing early retirement September 1.

He continues, "I plan to work at home on various projects and will take some trips at a later date." He enjoys photography, genealogy and woodworking.

A native of Summers County, West Virginia, Cecil began his career in 1941 as a draftsman. He was a draftsman senior and lead draftsman before being promoted in 1972 to the position he held at retirement.

Cecil recalls that one of the early methods of air conditioning the office was filling several tubs with ice and using fans to blow air across them.

Active in the Garden City Baptist Church, he is chairman of the deacon board and assistant Sunday School director. He has held the posts of president, Baptist Men; church clerk; Berean Class teacher and general secretary of Sunday School.

Cecil and his wife Edith have eight children and eight grandchildren.



# POWER PEOPLE MAKING NEWS

## Abingdon



**James L. Moore** has been elected president of the Weber City Lions Club.

**Mary Lou Angle** has been appointed assistant director of nursing at Johnston Memorial Hospital. The wife of L. C. Angle, Jr., she received her graduate nurse degree from Indiana University and a baccalaureate degree in nursing from East Tennessee State University.

**Gordon Craig**, a charter member of the Abingdon Lions Club, was recently honored for 25 years' participation in the organization.

## Beckley



**Mike Dyke**, son of R. E. Dyke, Oak Hill line mechanic A, was selected for the all-tournament team of the Martinsville, Va., Invitational Basketball Tournament. Mike was a member of the Beckley Bitty All Stars which won the championship by defeating the Martinsville All Stars.

**C. W. Claytor**, husband of Junior Clerk Barbara Claytor, won the men's 17-over singles in the Mullens Lions Club tennis tournament. He teamed with John Beasley to win the men's doubles title.

## Bluefield

**Hobart White**, general line supervisor, is serving on the board of directors of the 40 & 8 Society in Welch.

**Ken Roberts**, Welch power engineer, is vice commander of the McDowell County American Legion.

## Charleston

Residential Advisor **Sandra Byus** has been appointed to the committee for allocation of monies for the United Way campaign.

**Wanda Burdette**, daughter of Engineering Supervisor Art Burdette, was the winner of a base running contest in the seven-year-old group at a Charleston Charlies baseball game. Wanda was the division winner prior to participating in the final run and was the grand champ for her age group. The contest was sponsored by the Kanawha County Parks and Recreation Department.

## Clinch River



**Cherie Ferguson**, daughter of Equipment Operator Kenneth Ferguson, was crowned Junior Teen Miss Virginia in a pageant at Virginia Intermont College. She also competed in the North America national finals in Louisville, Kentucky.

## General Office



**Evans**

**L. D. Evans**, heating and air conditioning engineer, GO Customer Services, Roanoke, was elected president of the Roanoke Chapter of the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers for 1979-80.

**R. L. Jones**, commercial engineer, GO Customer Services, Roanoke, was elected a member of ASHRAE's board of governors.

**Randy Weddle**, 12-year-old son of Kathy Weddle, payroll clerk A, GO Accounting, Roanoke, was selected to play on the All Star Team in the Botetourt County Intermediate League. During the regular season, Randy played on the Troutville Little League Team and ended the season with a .476 batting average.



**Brian Kuehn**, son of Joe Kuehn, engineering technologist, GO T&D Engineering, Roanoke, was a member of Wilmont Arby's in the Sandlot "T" Ball League which went undefeated this summer to take the Roanoke City championship in their division.

**Tammie Sue Ruble**, daughter of Tom Ruble, engineering technologist supervisor, GO T&D Station Design, Roanoke, graduated from Timken High School in Canton, Ohio, and is employed in the Engineering Department of AEP, Canton.

**Ronnie Wright**, son of Charles Wright, drafter A, GO T&D Station Design, Roanoke, graduated from Liberty High School, Bedford, Va., and will major in forestry at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

**Mark Wright**, son of Charles Wright, drafter A, GO T&D Station Design, Roanoke, attended a 9-week YCC Camp for the Clinch Valley District of the U.S. Forest Service held in Wise County, Va.

**I. C. McCormick**, transmission line supervisor NE, GO T&D Transmission Line, Bluefield, was installed as senior warden of the Princeton Lodge No. 134, A.F. & A.M.

**C. E. Graham**, transmission mechanic A, GO T&D Transmission Line, Bluefield, was installed as junior warden of the Princeton Lodge No. 134, A.F. & A.M.



**Ramona Ball**, daughter of Harold Ball, general records control supervisor, GO Accounting, Roanoke, was selected for inclusion in "Who's Who Among American High School Students". She is a rising senior at William Byrd High School, Vinton.



**Richard M. Anderson, Jr.**, compiled a 2.3 ERA and batted .475 while helping the North Roanoke Rec Club's Angels to win the Rookie League (8- and 9-year-olds) championship. While Richard, Jr., was playing and earning post season All-Star honors, **Richard, Sr.**, load research and allocation analyst, GO Rates and Contracts, Roanoke, coached the Angels.

## Huntington

**Tommy Stricklen**, son of Point Pleasant General Line Supervisor W. H. Stricklen, won the 18 years and under tennis tournament held in Point Pleasant.

**B. C. "Chris" Connelly**, service supervisor, made a hole-in-one on the par 3, 143-yard sixth hole at Riviera Country Club. He was playing with Charles Botts, T. J. McComas and Mike Reed during an outing of the APCo Golf League.

Electrical Engineer **Elvin Epting** and Administrative Assistant **Dick Roush** were elected to the board of directors of the Huntington Jaycees.

## Kingsport



**Jim Warrick**, son of Garage Supervisor Gordon Warrick, was selected by the Lakewood, Ohio, Parent-Teacher Association as "teacher of the year". He is director of the 210-member Lakewood High School "Ranger" marching band, which this summer made a two-week tour of England. The Rangers held clinics and demonstrations for members of the Redcar, England, marching band and marched in numerous parades and performed exhibitions at festivals for their English hosts. **Mrs. Gordon Warrick** accompanied the band as an invited guest.

## Lynchburg

**Paul Keys, Jr.**, was awarded a sportsmanship trophy by the Boonsboro Dixie Youth Baseball Team. **Brian Keys** was awarded a trophy as the most dedicated player on the Boonsboro Dixie Youth Minor League Baseball Team. They are the sons of Paul Keys, division right-of-way agent. Division Manager **J. Robert Davenport** was elected to a three-year term as deacon in the

Rivermont Presbyterian Church. He is also chairman of the economic development department of the Greater Lynchburg Chamber of Commerce.

## Pulaski

**S. A. Dewey**, retired commercial engineer, and his guest, Abingdon Division Manager **J. R. Whitehurst**, tied for first place in the fourth flight of the Thorn Spring Golf Club's 13th annual member-guest golf tournament. Their two-day total was 158.

## Roanoke

**Robbie Lane**, station mechanic C, used a 3-iron to score a hole-in-one on the 185-yard 15th hole at Blue Hills Golf Course in Roanoke. It was his second ace within a year.

Line Inspector **Mike Pitches** bicycled 103 miles in 8 hours to receive his first century patch from the Roanoke Valley Bicycle Club. The ride was sponsored by the Greensboro Cycling Club. This is Mike's first year of serious cycling, and he now commutes to work via bike.

**Jim Martin**, husband of Abbie Martin, Fieldale Customer Accounting, netted a catch of 19 pounds to win the Henry County Bassmasters competition at Buggs Island Lake. His catch of six bass included the largest catch of the day, a 4 lb. 12 oz. largemouth.

# BLOOD DONOR HONOR ROLL

**General Office**  
**J. R. Loving, Jr.**, meter engineer senior, GO T&D Meter, Roanoke, 7 gallons. **J. G. Ferrell**, engineering technologist, GO T&D Communications, Roanoke, 3 gallons.

**Roanoke**  
**Kim Wright**, drafter, 2 gallons.



## OWEN HAWKINS SIGNED YOUR PAYROLL CHECKS



Owen Hawkins, a man whose name every employee looked forward to seeing at least twice a month, retired September 1. Why is Owen's name so special? Since 1962 his was one of the authorized signatures on Appalachian Power employee paychecks. Actually Owen has been signing disbursement checks since 1937 and paychecks for some locations prior to 1962, before that function was centralized in Roanoke's General Office Accounting Department.

Owen attended the Charleston School of Commerce, LaSalle Extension University and Virginia Southern College and took the AEP System management training program at the University of Michigan Graduate School of Business.

A native of Greenbrier County, West Virginia, he began his utility career in 1934 as a stenographer for Kanawha Valley Power. Owen recalls, "On several occasions in 1934 and 1935 I took shorthand dictation from Philip Sporn, who was then chief engineer but later became president and chief executive officer of AEP. During construction of the Marmet and London hydro plants, Mr. Sporn would make monthly visits to the construction sites. After making a physical inspection of the job, he and Harry Slocum, the construction engineer in charge, would dictate a report, frequently with both talking at once and using engineering terms that had no standard shorthand characters. That is when I developed my own "ABC" shorthand system for those terms. Later an "ABC" system of shorthand became widely used."

Owen became bookkeeper for Kanawha Valley Power in 1935 and from 1937-39 was bookkeeper for the construction of Appalachian's Claytor Hydro. He was named general bookkeeper in the company's General Office Accounting Department, Roanoke, in October 1939 and was assistant department supervisor, department supervisor, general bookkeeping supervisor and general records, tax and statistical supervisor before being promoted in 1977 to general accounting administrator.

Owen recalls, "Soon after I started working for the company, I moved into a boarding house in a new neighborhood. A spinster, who lived next door with her father, learned that the new boarder worked for the power company so she assumed that I was an electrician and asked my landlady to tell me to come over and fix her electric carpet sweeper. I went over to tell her that I wasn't an electrician and didn't know much about any kind of sweeper except a broom; but, before I could explain, she expressed so much confidence in my ability to fix it that I didn't have the courage to turn her down without first making a try at it."

He continues, "She brought the sweeper out, and I removed the cover and immediately saw a loose wire hanging down. After locating a vacant terminal, I reattached the wire, plugged the cord into a receptacle and turned on the switch. The sweeper began

to run like new and I gave a sigh of relief, thinking to myself that I had bluffed my way out of a corner. She said, 'I have never seen anything like it. You are a genius. Maybe you can fix my electric coffee pot.' So I was back in another corner. I thought I might as well bluff it through so I accepted the challenge and took a look at the coffee pot, wondering how to tackle the job. I turned it upside down and saw a small plate covering an opening in the bottom. I loosened the screw that held it tight and slid the plate around to open the small access door. When I looked inside, I immediately saw a small blade switch that was in an open position. I closed the switch, plugged the cord into a receptacle and it began to heat up."

Owen added, "I gave another sigh of relief and wondered what was next. I was greatly relieved when she didn't bring up another problem. She was so impressed by my performance that she told everyone in the neighborhood that I was an electrical genius and could fix any electrical problem in a matter of minutes. Then I was afraid that I might get a flood of requests for appliance repairs but fortunately there were not many electrical appliances in the neighborhood so I never received another call. I learned an important lesson from that episode and that was to never say I can't do something until I have given it a try."

"Incidentally," Owen said, "my landlady was an aunt of Sidney Smith, retired payroll supervisor."

Another interesting experience Owen recalls took place in January 1937 during the construction of Winfield Hydro. "We had our construction office building on the river bank just above the plant. As the winter snow began to thaw under heavy rains, the Ohio River began to flood and backed up the Kanawha River beyond the Winfield plant and surrounded our office and blocked all roads leading into the plant area. After trying every country road leading to the plant and failing to get into the office over a period of three days, we took the train from Charleston to Red House, across the river from the plant. On the way, the train went through water so deep it came into the floor of the coaches. A photographer flying overhead took a picture of the train which looked like a steamboat on a river."

Owen continued, "After getting off the train at Red House, we found a lake of water between us and the river bank. We hired a man with a rowboat to take us to the river bank at the government locks. From there we signalled a work boat of the Dravo Corporation to pick us up. They took us to the opposite bank near the office, which was still above water. We packed a few of the accounting records into a footlocker borrowed from the Federal Power Commission auditors, who were there at the time, and retraced our steps back to Charleston and set up a temporary office in a room at the Kanawha Hotel. After about a week the waters receded and we were able to return to the office."

Owen noted, "One of the urgent chores we worked on during the flood was changing our payroll procedures to handle the new nuisance called "social security tax" which had become effective January 1, 1937. It required major changes in the payroll system because up to that time we had not had any payroll deductions that were based on a percentage of pay. All we had deducted prior to that time was fixed deductions for life insurance and sickness and accident insurance on a few key personnel. All the others hired for the construction job were considered temporary employees and thus were not eligible for insurance coverage."

He continued, "During that time we also prepared the initial annual return for the new Federal unemployment tax which became effective January 1, 1936. The return, due January 31, 1937, was filed and the tax paid under protest on the contention that it represented an unconstitutional burden on the free enterprise system. Needless to say, the protest was to no avail."

Owen and his wife Ethel will continue living in Roanoke. He says, "We will spend a lot of time catching up on neglected chores and looking after our real estate and other investments. No specific travel plans have been made; but, if the gasoline situation permits, we hope to be able to visit many of our relatives scattered throughout the United States over the next few years. I also hope to join some of my fellow retirees in playing a little more golf than my present schedule permits." The Hawkins have three children and ten grandchildren.

## RETIREE RECALLS EARLY YEARS



"I had been playing on climbers for about ten years before I started to work for Appalachian," says Charles Alva "Shorty" Shepherd, who was area supervisor at Hillsville in the Pulaski Division before electing early retirement September 1. He continues, "I started climbing as a kid with an old pair of climbers that belonged to my father. I had to wire them on and almost wore out an old chestnut pole practicing."

In 1947 Appalachian bought out Cranberry Manufacturing Company, which had only locust poles. "We went from climbing pine and chestnut poles to climbing locust poles. You could hardly drive a nail in those locust poles they were so dried out and hard. That's something the younger generation hasn't had to deal with." After buying Cranberry, Appalachian formed a crew in Hillsville in January 1948. "I am the last of that original crew. We operated out of the old Carroll County jail." Shorty says the company has been wonderful to him and his association with employees, from the oldest down to the youngest, has been great. "I'm going to miss this association. I've never asked anyone in the division for their cooperation that I didn't get it. I think this cooperation has made Pulaski Division one of the best divisions to work in." Retirement isn't bothering him too much, "but it will be hard to adjust to not coming in and seeing these people every day after 42 years."

Shorty enjoys both salt water and fresh water fishing and plans a trip to the State of Washington for some salmon

fishing. He adds that "the gas situation will determine where I fish." In the winter he makes artificial bait and has also made some fishing rods.

Shorty and his wife Lila have three children and four grandchildren, whom they would like to visit more. He is a member and past president of the Hillsville Rotary Club; member, Grover King Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars; Hillsville Masonic Lodge #193 A.F. & A.M.; Shrine Kazim Temple, Roanoke; Galax-Carroll-Grayson Chamber of Commerce; and member and past board member of the Hillsville United Methodist Church. He is also an inactive member of the Hillsville Volunteer Fire Department.

## MANN ENDS 33-YEAR CAREER



Clifford Harlan "Shorty" Mann, Beckley drafter A, elected early retirement September 1 after 33 years' service.

A native of Fireco, West Virginia, he began his career in 1946 as a rodman. He was a draftsman junior and senior and lead draftsman before moving to his present position in 1977.

Shorty has a travel trailer and will leave this month for a trip to the New England states and Canada. A deacon in the Daniels Bible Church for 18 years, he enjoys camping, hunting and fishing. Shorty and his wife Macil have three children and five grandchildren.



## SYSTEM COUPLES MARRY



Nancy G. Snyder to **Charles V. Talley**, Abingdon electrical engineer, June 23.



Deborah Lynne Pfost, daughter of L. J. Pfost, Jr., GO fleet maintenance supervisor, General Office General Services, Charleston, to **Richard William Harmon**, June 15.



Cheryl Ann Givens to **Arnold O. Yost, Jr.**, son of A. O. Yost, Beckley area restorer, June 22.



Susan Lynn Morris, daughter of Roy Douglas Morris, Roanoke line mechanic A, to **Bobby Clare Culbertson**, July 21.

Kathy G. Adkins to **Ronald G. Harrison**, line mechanic C in the Ripley area of Huntington Division, July 14.



Donna Jeanette Barley to **Kenneth Wayne Hylton, Jr.**, son of Kenneth W. Hylton, transmission supervising inspector, GO T&D Transmission, Bluefield, July 21.



Deborah K. Chapman to **Lyle D. Adkins**, utility helper, General Office Operations, Huntington, June 14.



Frankie H. Bryson to **Kenneth L. Ashworth**, Roanoke line mechanic B, June 26.



Elizabeth A. King to **Charles William Wynn**, Lynchburg general servicer, July 27.



Penny Holbrook to **Harry Lynn Stanley**, Abingdon line mechanic D, July 29.



Joyce Sue Breedlove to **Jerry Midkiff**, Kanawha Valley Power hydro maintenance helper, August 3.



Charlotte Jane Robinson, daughter of William M. Robinson, Mountaineer plant manager, to **Robert Stephen Dunford**, June 16.



Wanda Crum Mandela, daughter of Leonard Crum, auto mechanic A, Logan-Williamson Division, to **Ted Robinson**, May 6.



Alice Elizabeth Payne, daughter of P. C. Payne, Sr., retired Pulaski transportation supervisor, to **Donald Lee Holcomb**, July 28.

Donna Ferrell to **David Wheeler**, son of James A. Wheeler, engineering technologist, GO T&D Distribution, Roanoke, August 11.

Kathy Lynn Elkins to **William Andrew Jackson**, Huntington station mechanic D, August 11.



Carla Hawley to **James W. Hatcher**, son of P. W. Hatcher, Jr., Beckley garage supervisor, June 30.

Djuna S. Bower, electric plant clerk B, General Office Accounting, Roanoke, to **Harold W. Turner**, June 23.

Anita Hopkins to **Donald R. Anderson**, Amos Plant utility worker, July 11.

## BABY PARADE

**Abingdon**  
Brent Wayne, son of **Gary Hester**, Marion line mechanic D, July 27.

**Beckley**  
Gregory Wayne, son of **J. L. Brown**, engineering technician, July 26.

**Centralized Plant Maintenance**  
Matthew Thomas, son of **Paul T. Williams**, maintenance mechanic A, August 13.

**Clinch River**  
Jonathan Brent, son of **N. Gene Lester**, instrument mechanic B, June 10.

Waylon Dax, son of **Larry E. Perry**, maintenance mechanic B, May 3.

Garnett E., Jr., son of **Garnett E. Taylor**, maintenance mechanic A, April 2.

**General Office**  
Brandie Jean, daughter of **C. H. Craig, Jr.**, regional dispatcher, GO Operations, Turner, June 21.

Seth Alexander, son of **D. H. Pearson**, junior clerk, GO General Services, Roanoke, June 6.

Kelly Lee, daughter of **Anne Flanagan**, cash clerk B, GO Accounting, Roanoke, July 25.

**Glen Lyn**  
Clinton Scott, son of **H. Scott Barker, Jr.**, performance engineer, July 16.

## Huntington

Jennifer Megan, daughter of **Dick Roush**, administrative assistant, August 6.

Jeremiah Allen, son of **Ronald A. Roush**, Ripley line mechanic C, July 29.

Tammy Michell, daughter of **J. A. Bush**, Ripley line mechanic A, August 8.

## Kanawha River

Jason Scott, son of **T. F. White**, stores attendant, July 19.

**Logan-Williamson**  
Melissa Kay, daughter of **Randy Roberts**, Williamson line mechanic D, July 11.

## Pulaski

Douglas W., son of **H. C. Osborne, Jr.**, Christiansburg line mechanic B, August 10.

## SCHOOL AWARD HONORS MCCARTHY



The Alma McCarthy Award has been established by the James River Day School, Lynchburg, in honor of its first secretary. Alma is the wife of Joseph W. McCarthy, retired Lynchburg customer accounts supervisor.

The award, a silver bowl, was presented to the school in Alma's honor by Mary Campbell Horner. The award will be presented annually to the student who evidences general growth in maturity, thoughtfulness and responsibility as selected by the faculty.

At this year's commencement exercises, Mrs. Horner said, "Eight years ago last summer, not long before James River Day School opened for its first year, a very special person offered to help the group of people who started the school. That first year she continued to serve the school as secretary and bookkeeper, as nurse for hurts, fevers and tears, helper in the library and lunchroom.

Because she was the bookkeeper she knew that James River Day School did not have a penny to waste. She always reminded us to be very careful to save and never to be wasteful. She would not even let us pay her a salary to be our secretary — only gas money for her to get to and from work. This special lady stayed at James River Day School as secretary until 1974. After that she came to read to the second grade whenever she could. She and her husband still make their delicious mints for the food sale and fair.

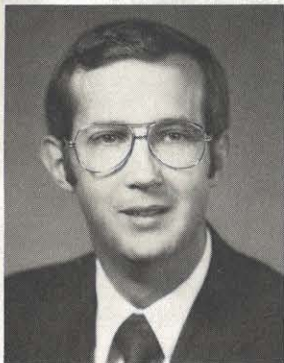
"It is not improbable to say that James River Day School could not be as good a school today if Alma Walker McCarthy had not helped to make it grow. She would not want me to say that. But many of us will always think of her when we say James River Day School."



Joe and Mildred Hill were honored on their 50th wedding anniversary with a surprise dinner party given by their children at the Guyan Golf and Country Club, Huntington, West Virginia. The Hills were married August 22, 1929, in Catlettsburg, Kentucky. He was regional chief dispatcher in General Office Operations, Kanawha dispatch office, before retiring in 1963. The Hills, who now reside in Huntington, have three daughters, seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.



## PUGH LOANED TO UNITED WAY



Wayne Pugh has been loaned by Appalachian Power Company to the Cabell-Wayne United Way for three months. He is public information coordinator-nuclear in General Office Public Affairs, Lynchburg.

Pugh, a former Huntington resident, temporarily will take over the administrative duties of United Way executive director Ed Bowman, who resigned effective September 1. Pugh's main duty will be the administration of the 1979 United Way campaign. The position of executive director is expected to be filled by December.

## NORCROSS IS CPS



Wanda Norcross, secretary-stenographer in General Office Tariffs, Rates and Contracts, Roanoke, has earned the rating of Certified Professional Secretary from the National Secretaries Association (International). She is one of 28 in the State of Virginia to be certified in 1979.

The six-part CPS examination is given annually and all parts must be passed within five years. The parts are: economics/management, psychology, accounting, secretarial skills/decision making, business law and office

procedures and administration.

In addition to the CPS rating, Wanda will receive credits toward an associate in applied science degree in management from Virginia Western Community College, where she is enrolled.

Wanda notes, "It gave me a great deal of personal satisfaction and a feeling of professional accomplishment to earn the CPS, and I feel relieved that it's over. I am especially thankful to the company for its financial support through the educational assistance program."

## COLLEGE GRADS



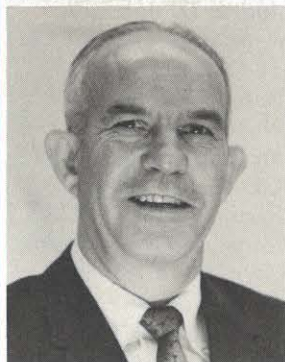
**Gail Bosta**, wife of W. A. Bosta, rate analyst, General Office Rates and Contracts, Roanoke, master's degree in special education from Radford University. Member Phi Kappa Phi honor society.

**Julia Anne Simpson**, daughter of Marvin C. Simpson, Jr., Kingsport executive assistant, bachelor of science degree in ornamental horticulture in landscape design from the University of Tennessee.



**Linda Randall Todd**, daughter of John A. Randall, Jr., Kingsport residential representative, bachelor of arts degree in psychology (summa cum laude) from the University of Tennessee. Member Phi Eta Sigma and Phi Kappa Phi honor societies.

## FRIENDS WE'LL MISS



**Charles Albert Fudge**, 66, retired area T&D clerk in the Fieldale area of Roanoke Division, died July 29. A native of Chilhowie, Virginia, he began his career in 1929 as a messenger boy in Roanoke and retired September 1, 1975. Fudge is survived by his widow Beulah, P. O. Box 612, Fieldale, Virginia; one daughter and one son.



**Edward James Stalker**, 67, retired Glen Lyn Plant stores supervisor, died August 3. A native of Scranton, Pennsylvania, he began his career in 1942 as a maintenance man at Glen Lyn and retired January 1, 1974. Stalker is survived by his widow Fannie, Box 1, Rich Creek, Virginia; one son, two daughters; one sister; three grandchildren and one great-grandchild.



**Clyde E. Green**, 67, retired Kingsport engineering supervisor, died August 4. A native of Rye Cove, Virginia, he began his career in 1938 as a clerk and retired June 30, 1977. Green is survived by his widow Thelma, 2344 Brandon Lane, Kingsport, Tennessee, and one daughter.

## CHAINS WED 50 YEARS



Gordon Chain, retired Huntington chief draftsman, and his wife Mable celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last month. The couple were married August 10, 1929, in Catlettsburg, Kentucky.

Gordon relates, "The early '30s were times that try men's souls. Work was scarce and so was money."

During the early part of his marriage, Gordon was employed as an architectural draftsman for Sidney L. Day. Business was slow; and, as part of his wages, Gordon took flying lessons from his employer, who owned a plane. He became an excellent pilot with the ability to successfully perform many difficult flying stunts. For instance, Gordon was the first to fly a plane under the 6th street bridge in Huntington.

He is an acclaimed motorcycle stunt rider; and, at the age of 54, became adept at riding a unicycle. He is a gifted painter and his paintings are frequently exhibited throughout the Tri-State area. One painting called "Eternity" received widespread recognition. Huntington's city seal and flag were designed by this Renaissance man of the 20th century.

Mable has many varied interests, one of which is horticulture. Among her most valued plants is the rare "Christ in the manger" plant. This unique plant, she relates, blooms once a year and only then for two or three hours. The plant gets its name because, when the flowers are completely open, there appears to be a baby in the manger inside. A star, called the Star of Bethlehem, also can be seen toward the end of the cradle.

Gordon's latest interest is building clocks. The grandfather clock shown in the photo above was fashioned from 3/4" solid walnut and was a gift to Mable, symbolizing their timeless love.



The Burlington team, coached by Lynchburg Meter Reader Jerry Walton, captured the minor league championship in Madison Heights, Virginia, with a 9-8 win over the Virgil's team. Burlington finished the regular season with a perfect 17-0 record, the first time in five years that a minor league team has gone undefeated. For the past two seasons Walton's team finished in second place. Six Burlington players were chosen for the all-star team, including Walton's son, Mark, .525. Jerry is on the back row, center, and Mark is in the first row, third from left.



## VETS RECEIVE SERVICE AWARDS



J. H. Basham  
Division Office Supv.  
Pulaski  
40 Years



J. W. Kepner  
Executive Assistant  
GO-Roanoke  
40 Years



J. B. Eplin  
Meter Serv. Supv.  
(LTD)  
Charleston  
40 Years



C. H. Hand  
Groundman  
Kingsport  
35 Years



B. M. Brown  
Maintenance Supv.  
Glen Lyn  
35 Years



J. R. Dorman  
Eng. Technologist  
Lynchburg  
30 Years



L. D. Evans  
Htg. & Air Cond. Eng.  
GO-Roanoke  
30 Years



R. L. Loudermilk  
Commercial Engineer  
Beckley  
30 Years



B. L. Altice  
Engineering Tech. Sr.  
Roanoke  
20 Years

### Abingdon

15 Years: **J. C. Morefield**, engineer B. 10 Years: **M. M. Hughes**, line crew supervisor NE. **R. O. McGlocklin, Jr.**, line mechanic A. **L. W. Leonard**, line mechanic A. **E. D. Lee**, line mechanic A. **P. W. Baker**, line mechanic A. **W. M. Gilliam**, line mechanic C. 5 Years: **R. L. McCoy**, line mechanic C.

### John Amos

10 Years: **R. L. Blankenship**, unit supervisor. **D. L. Thompson**, maintenance supervisor. 5 Years: **C. E. Lewis, Jr.**, utility operator A. **R. A. Brown**, utility operator A. **C. W. Reed**, barge handler. **D. R. Cremeans**, barge handler. **J. E. Skeens**, maintenance mechanic B. **J. S. Kirtley**, maintenance mechanic B. **L. A. Goff**, maintenance mechanic B.

### Beckley

5 Years: **W. E. Tolbert**, line mechanic B. **S. L. Winkfield**, line mechanic C.

### Bluefield

35 Years: **Otho J. Bragg**, commercial engineer. 10 Years: **Paul David Hill**, engineering technician. **John E. Rowan, Jr.**, line mechanic A. 5 Years: **Steven N. Crumpton**, meter reader. **Lawrence E. Head, Jr.**, meter reader.

### Central Machine Shop

5 Years: **W. J. Allen**, power equipment mechanic 1st class. **J. J. Beane**, production supervisor. **J. D. Dunlap**, welder 1st class.

### Charleston

10 Years: **A. S. Faucett**, meter electrician B. 5 Years: **B. J. Haynes**, custodian.

### Clinch River

10 Years: **Thomas D. Taylor**, maintenance mechanic B. **Alvin V. Taylor, Jr.**, chemist. 5 Years: **Judy K. Miller**, chemist assistant. **Glenn S. Kincaid**, maintenance mechanic C. **Arlen D. Henderson**, plant clerk C. **Dennis J. Steffey**, maintenance mechanic C. **John T. Puckett, Jr.**, maintenance mechanic C.

### General Office

10 Years: **D. L. Williams**, programmer, GO Accounting, Roanoke. **R. G. Linville**, transmission mechanic A, GO T&D

Transmission, Charleston. **G. E. Layne**, station mechanic C (LTD), GO T&D Station, Charleston. **E. R. Lambert**, engineering technologist, GO T&D Meter, Roanoke.

**Judith D. Johnson**, stenographer, GO T&D Transmission, Bluefield. 5 Years: **Norma Shelton**, forms and office supply clerk, GO General Services, Roanoke. **D. C. Allen**, forms and office supply clerk, GO General Services, Roanoke.

### Huntington

10 Years: **E. D. Lambert**, line mechanic A. 5 Years: **E. H. Baker**, cashier B.

### Kingsport

10 Years: **S. G. Harnsberger**, commercial representative.

### Lynchburg

35 Years: **Hazel Bell**, secretary stenographer. 10 Years: **C. H. McDaniel**, meter reader.

### Pulaski

10 Years: **M. D. Cox**, line mechanic A. **R. W. Frazier**, line mechanic A. **J. B. Gregory**, line mechanic B. **A. S. Jackson**, customer accounts representative B. **H. C. Osborne**, line mechanic B. **B. D. Phillips**, line crew supervisor NE. **B. M. Phipps**, line mechanic A. **R. T. Wingate**, area service restorer.

### Roanoke

15 Years: **Cecil Hill**, engineering technician senior. **Maurice Prillaman**, station mechanic A. 10 Years: **Robert E. Jones**, stores attendant senior. **Glenn L. Adams**, collector. 5 Years: **Kelvin T. Bradshaw**, station mechanic D.

## NEW FACES AROUND THE SYSTEM

### Abingdon

**Connie Jo Callahan**, tracer. **James David Garrett**, **Richard H. Harvey** and **Roger K. Salyer, Jr.**, line mechanics D, Lebanon. **Donald D. Frye**, stores attendant. **Gary W. Hester** and **J. U. Ashburn**, line mechanics D, Marion. **J. Richard Thomas**, meter reader. **Danny**

**W. Hensley**, meter reader, Gate City.

### John Amos

**David L. Waggoner**, control technician junior. **Nancy L. Arthur**, junior clerk.

### Beckley

**Mary H. Carter**, meter reader. **Harold R. Anderson** and **Roger D. Pittman**, station mechanics D. **Paul T. Shrewsbury**, line mechanic D. **Roy D. Carte**, line mechanic D, Oak Hill.

### Bluefield

**M. David Andrews**, tracer. **Richard Lee Crigger**, meter reader, Welch. **Danny F. Roark**, stores attendant, Grundy.

### Centralized Plant Maintenance

**George R. Starcher** and **Charles A. Jeffries**, maintenance mechanics.

## MARGARET OXLEY RETIRES



"They were all good days," says Margaret Oxley in talking about her 36-year career with Appalachian Power. She was a classification clerk in General Office Accounting, Roanoke, before her retirement May 1.

Margaret continues, "I will always remember starting to work with the company. My first husband had just died. I knew I had to go to work because I had two children to rear. I was scared to death because I got married after high school and had never worked. I knew Arthur Fleshman, who was an employee of the company, from school. He told me to see Harry Gardner, who was in charge of the Accounting office.

"Mr. Gardner was a wonderful man to me. I still converse with him today. He understood my problem. He knew I didn't have any work experience, but I remember him telling me that he would give me a try at the job for six weeks. He said if he was happy with my work in that time

period and if I was happy with the job, then we would talk about putting me on regular."

Margaret adds, "After about two weeks on the job, I got a call from Norfolk & Western Railway. I had put in applications all over Roanoke and was quite surprised when N&W called me. I came from a railroad family, but I remember my father telling me to stick with Appalachian because you never knew when you were going to get laid off at the railroad.

"I was hired as a mail clerk. At that time the mail room was under Accounting. My salary was \$85 a month; and, after Mr. Gardner found out what type of worker I was, he gave me an additional \$15 a month. I was offered other jobs within the company, but I liked the job I was doing and wouldn't take them. I have always believed that one must be happy in a job."

Margaret spent her entire career in the General Office Accounting Department. She advanced through the positions of clerk intermediate, senior file clerk, invoice and order clerk, and invoice audit clerk before being promoted to classification clerk in 1974. She has been on long term disability leave since October 1975.

Margaret reflected about the good times and parties she and her co-workers enjoyed. "We used to give showers to all the girls when they were getting married or having babies, so one day we decided to give Tommy Mitchell a shower. I will always remember how flabbergasted he was. When he went home that evening, he was loaded down with presents. I still have pictures of the parties we had."

Margaret's hobbies include raising plants and crocheting. She would like to get involved in volunteer work at the hospital. "My husband Harold and I have a soft spot for older people. Not because we are old, but because we like to help others who cannot help themselves." They have three children and 11 grandchildren.





Pam Glover, junior stenographer in General Office T&D Real Estate and Right-of-Way, Roanoke, riding Vanity's Gay Boy, won a first place award and the championship award, a silver platter and \$80, at the Giles County Horse Show, Pearisburg, Virginia. Other wins this year include a second place at Statesville, North Carolina, and a second place and reserve champion at Abingdon, Virginia. Pam will close out the show season at Raleigh, North Carolina, this month. She owns a four-month-old colt, two horses which are retired from the show ring, in addition to Vanity's Gay Boy.

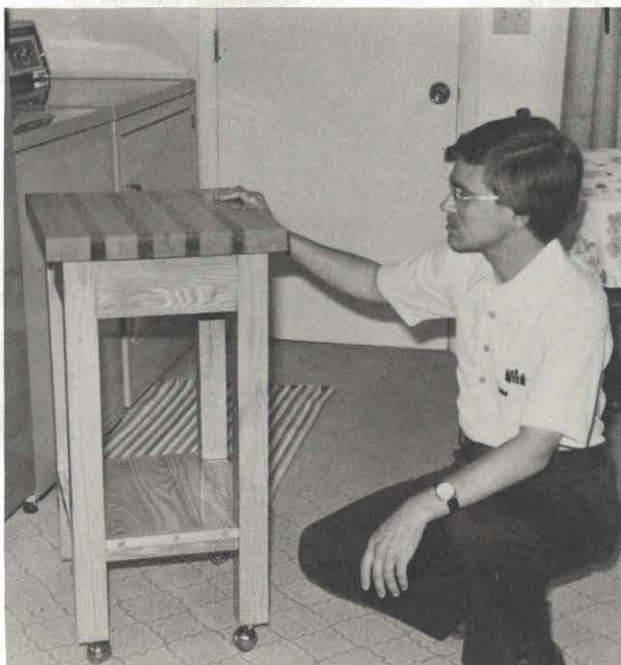


Kevin Hall, son of D. L. Hall, maintenance mechanic B at Kanawha River Plant, has been named to the All Star team for the second consecutive year. He played shortstop and pitcher for the Shrewsbury Braves during the regular season and third base and pitcher during the All Star games. Kevin pitched one no-hitter and struck out 16 in another game. He ended the season with 6 wins and 1 loss and received a trophy as best player in each league. Kevin's father has been a coach's helper for the past three years and is involved in several money-making efforts, such as selling donuts, to help the team.



Dave Bair, (back row, right) line mechanic A in the Oak Hill area of Beckley Division, coached the Colts of the Beckley Minor League to their second consecutive Western League championship and captured the 1979 Round Robin Tournament with a 19-1 record. Dave's two sons, Tracey (first row, second from left) and David (second row, second from left) were members of the team.

## SUMMERS BUILDS BUTCHER BLOCK KITCHEN TABLE



Steve Summers, engineer senior in Williamson T&D, can vouch for the fact that necessity is the mother of invention. His wife Sally had wanted a butcher block table for their kitchen for some time, but every one they found was either too large or too expensive.

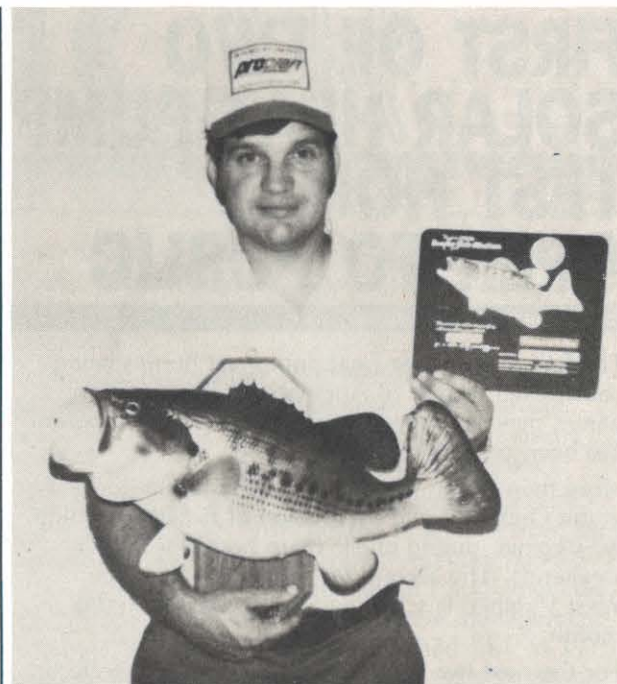
Undaunted, Steve visited his dad's workshop, where he found rough planks of oak and an old walnut log that had been laying beside the shop for about ten years, and went to work. He sawed the lumber into 1 1/2" x 1 3/4" x 18" pieces. He then assembled these with wood glue, alternating the light and dark wood.

Steve notes, "The most difficult thing to do was to find straight pieces of lumber. Once I did I sanded and then planed them, screwed the pine legs on, and the result was a beautiful butcher block table which cost about \$50 and four weekends of labor. Otherwise, it would have cost at least \$150, and we still would not have gotten what we wanted. It may not look it, but the base is made of rough lumber. It's amazing what a little sanding and varnish will do."

Steve says woodworking is good therapy for him and he's already decided what his next project will be: wooden plant shelves with grow lamps for their African violets.



Ray Vest (third row, left), Beckley administrative assistant, coached the Sluggers of the Beckley Minor League's eastern division to a 15-5 season and the runner-up spot in the league's Round Robin Tournament. Ray's three sons, Jeff (first row, left), Brian (first row, third from left) and Mike (second row, fifth from left) were members of the team.



Gary Holbrook, Huntington auto mechanic A, was awarded a plaque from the Virginia Department of Natural Resources for catching the largest black bass of the season. Holbrook's catch, made at Gaston Lake, weighed 9 lb. 10 oz.

## RON KENNEDY: ANOTHER WILT CHAMBERLAIN?



Be on the lookout for future headlines about Ron Kennedy, Jr., being another Wilt Chamberlain. The son of Ron Kennedy, engineering technician senior in the St. Albans area of Charleston Division, Ron, Jr., recently attended the University of Charleston basketball camp, where he was awarded a trophy for retrieving the most rebounds during the session.

Ron, Jr., a tenth grader at South Charleston High School, is already 6' 8" tall. He says, "I would like to be 7' tall but no more." He has grown 2" in the last two years, but did not start participating in basketball until he was in the eighth grade.

"Prior to that time," Ron, Jr., admits, "I didn't like the game. But after the coach at Spring Hill Junior High School and some of my fellow students tried to get me to go out for basketball, I finally did. Now it's a great game. There's only one other boy in the Kanawha Valley Conference as tall as I am. He plays for Stonewall Jackson and is a senior this year. I have talked with my high school coach, and he has indicated I probably won't see too much action this year but should develop for my last two years of high school."

Ron, Jr., has been practicing at least two hours each day all summer and has a lot of enthusiasm for the game. His coach says he should be an outstanding player by the time he is a senior. Ron's ambition is to play in the NBA after college. He wants to attend Duke University, with West Virginia University and the University of Charleston as second and third choice, respectively.



# FIRST OF TWO SOLAR HEAT PUMP TEST HOMES OPEN TO PUBLIC

The first of two solar heat pump test homes being constructed as part of Appalachian Power Company's new residential energy-conservation program has been completed and occupied.

More than 2,100 people visited the home, located in the Orchard Lake subdivision of Botetourt County, Virginia, during public open house over four weekends. The second test home in Hurricane, West Virginia, is scheduled to be completed this month.

For the next two years, the home will be monitored in several ways. Appalachian will obtain data on the load characteristics and electrical energy use of the solar-assisted heat pump system. They will monitor the performance of the system by determining how much useful solar heat can be collected and by determining approximately the total heat supplied to the house. In the second year, tests will be made on the effectiveness of using off-peak electricity with solar energy.

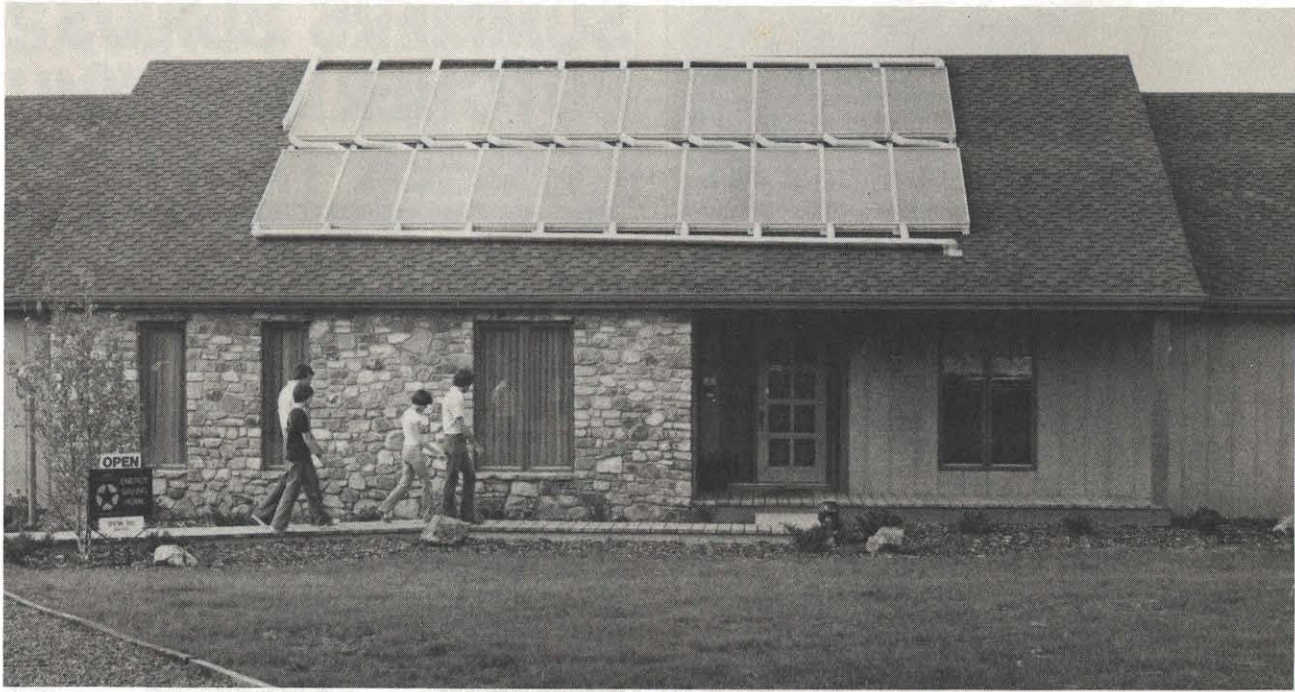
L. D. Evans, heating and air conditioning engineer in General Office Customer Services, Roanoke, said, "This is the only house in the American Electric Power service area where we are combining solar heat pump, domestic hot water system and off-peak energy storage." Among other things, he said, Appalachian hopes to find out how much of the house's energy can be obtained from the sun. Sixty percent is the figure that generally is used, he said, but added that this is something Appalachian will have a better feeling about after the house has been operating for a year.

Evans continued, "We wanted to get a home that did not exceed 2,000 square feet or one story, a house that was built by an owner who wanted to occupy it. We wanted to work with a house that would be contemporary but not extraordinary in design, a house that could be built in a subdivision and have a broad appeal."

The builder, DVW Inc., and the couple for whom the house was built worked together to design the final product, a three bedroom, 2½ bath ranch with a double garage, full basement and approximately 1,800 square feet of living space. Appalachian asked them to stay within certain guidelines, to use only 15 percent of the wall space for windows, not to use cathedral ceilings, recessed lighting or sliding glass doors. In the final product, only 8 percent of the walls of the house are glass. The house has a fireplace and a wood-burning stove in the basement, but the owners have agreed not to use either for the two years the house is being monitored.

Bulk Rate  
U. S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Roanoke, Virginia  
Permit No. 241

Appalachian Power Company  
Post Office Box 2021  
Roanoke, Virginia 24022  
**ATT. POSTMASTER  
DO NOT FORWARD  
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**



This solar heat pump test home is located in Botetourt County, near Roanoke, Virginia.

Evans said Appalachian hopes to operate the solar system under these controlled conditions to determine the potential savings of solar-assisted heating, to determine the efficiency of the system and to make recommendations for improvements to the system. APCo has agreed to provide maintenance on the solar system.

The solar panels, which are manufactured by Revere Co. for Carrier Corporation, are double-glazed tempered glass that can't be broken by hail or flying baseballs. Each weighs 145 pounds.

The home's 8-12 roof pitch gives it a more traditional look than some solar houses that have steeper roofs. Evans said 16 collectors and a 14-12 roof pitch could have been used.

The basic Solaround Heat Pump System by Carrier consists of a three-piece air-to-air heat pump system, the solar collectors, a 900-gallon insulated storage tank, pumps and controls. The test home also has a solar-assisted domestic hot water system with an 80-gallon heater. The house also has extra insulation, a sill sealer between the basement and first floor and triple-glazed windows.

Appalachian paid for the solar system and its installation, and the owner paid for the rest of the house. Evans put the price of the solar system at about \$16,000, excluding the cost of the extra

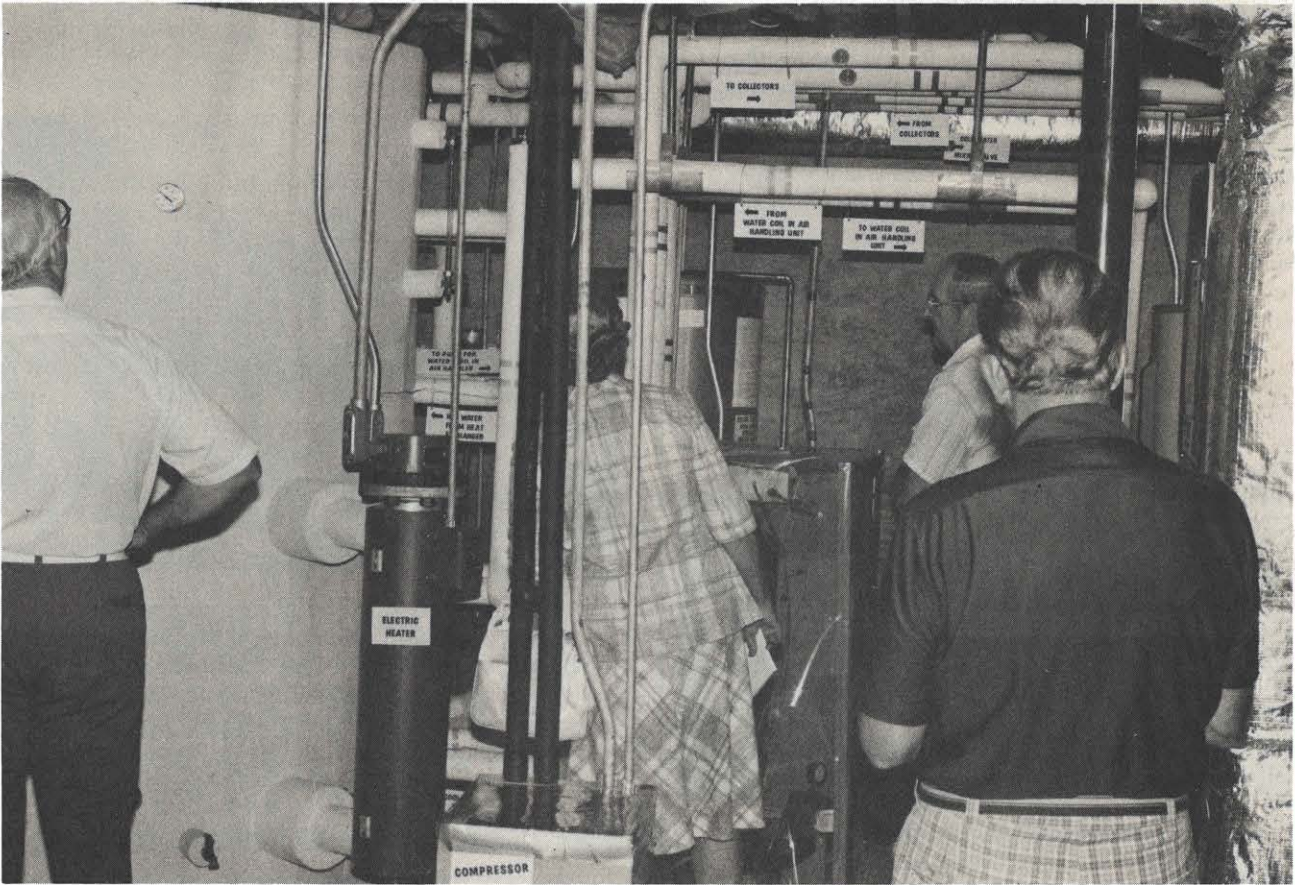
meters and special testing devices. Solar systems can be built for considerably less but this one was built with exceptional quality, he said.

Evans said Appalachian has not projected how long it will take to pay back the cost of the solar heating system on the test home, and this is one thing they hope to learn by monitoring the system. He said a 12 to 14-year payback period is projected on many solar systems, but this is "not cost-effective for a fast payback".

Solar domestic hot water systems, on the other hand, are cost-effective now. One can be installed for about \$2,500 and the investment will pay for itself in five to seven years.

Evans said many people wondered why a power company that makes its money selling electricity would be interested in developing solar systems that cut down on the use of electricity. "We are interested in conservation." Throughout the house, energy-conserving devices are used. Among them are shower head flow controls and efficient fluorescent lighting as recommended in Appalachian's SAVE (Save America's Valuable Energy) Program.

The home features the latest models of efficient appliances and lighting fixtures, including a microwave oven, electric range, refrigerator/freezer, washer, dryer and dishwasher.



Normally the piping arrangement for a solar heating system would be simple; but, because of the research involved on the test home, the piping is somewhat complex. The 900-gallon insulated storage tank is at left.