

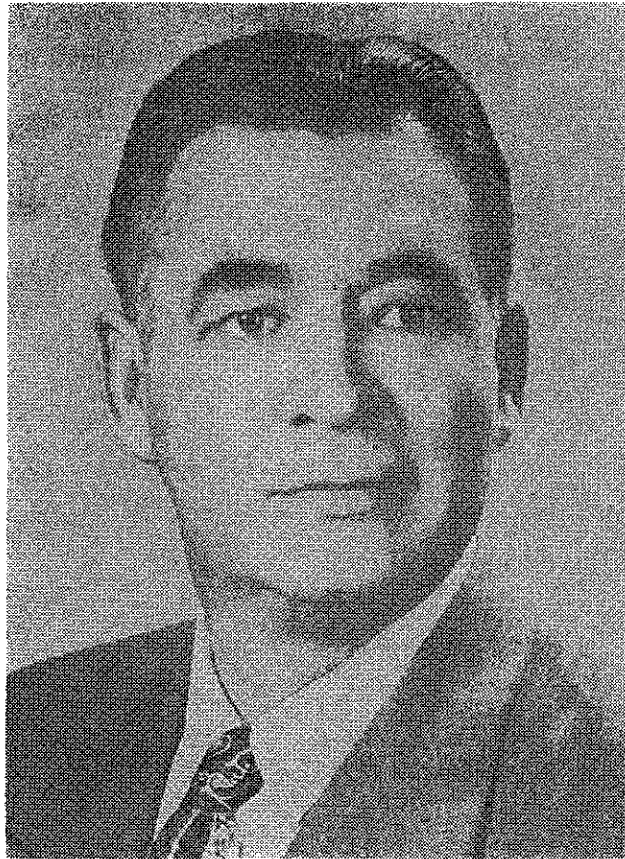


E. F. Kiland

We are proud to present Mr. E. F. Kiland, our first Project Superintendent. We feel that his tenacity of purpose, his firm belief in the remedial means of serving agricultural sections in this territory helped this REA project at its inception despite the numerous pitfalls and obstructions.

Ed is a native Minnesotan, having been born at Willmar in 1893. He holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Luther College at Decorah, Iowa, having graduated therefrom in 1917. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 1918 and served overseas in World War I. He was principal of the Sheldon, North Dakota, and the Grove City, Minnesota, high schools, as well as High School Superintendent at Elgin, North Dakota, previous to his coming to Red Lake Falls, Minnesota, in 1925, where he continuously devoted his energies to the Principalship of Lafayette High School until 1938. He next entered the field of life insurance as a representative of the Equitable Life Insurance Company of New York, and he remained with said company for two years. It was in January of 1940 that he accepted the Project Superintendency for this REA project and remained such until 1942. He was then appointed Rural Mail Carrier out of the Red Lake Falls Post Office and is at the present time filling that position with his usual wholeheartedness and friendly spirit.

Ed's services to the community have been varied and many, to-wit: He was Commander of the Gunder Austad Post No. 22 of the American Legion for one year; Adjutant of the same Post for four terms; Secretary of the Red Lake Falls Commercial Club for three years; a member of the Red Lake County Selective Service Board for two years; first Scoutmaster of the Red Lake Falls Boy Scout Troop; County Chairman of the United Service Organization, World War II; County Chairman, Disaster Committee of the Red Cross.



August Bourque

Many of you have had occasion to meet August Bourque because he was the Co-operative's first Maintenance Man and as such, supervised the organization's first lines.

August was born at Brooks, Minnesota, on August 8, 1905, and received his education in the Minnesota schools. He is a family man, having a wife and three daughters. He has had a wide fund of traveling experience, and his keenness in discerning the needs of the people in rural districts and his quick action in lending help to those in difficulty boosted the people's appraisal of him.

Prior to his appointment as Maintenance Man he had experience in REA as a groundman, lineman, easement solicitor and also preallotment work. He had been associated with the NePage Company of Portland, Oregon, which company had been engaged in REA line construction.

August remained with this Co-operative for a period of four years and resigned to accept the position of Manager of the Roseau Electric Co-operative, Inc. where he has attained success. We wish to give remembrance to his fine service while he was in the employment of this Co-operative.

"In Memoriam"



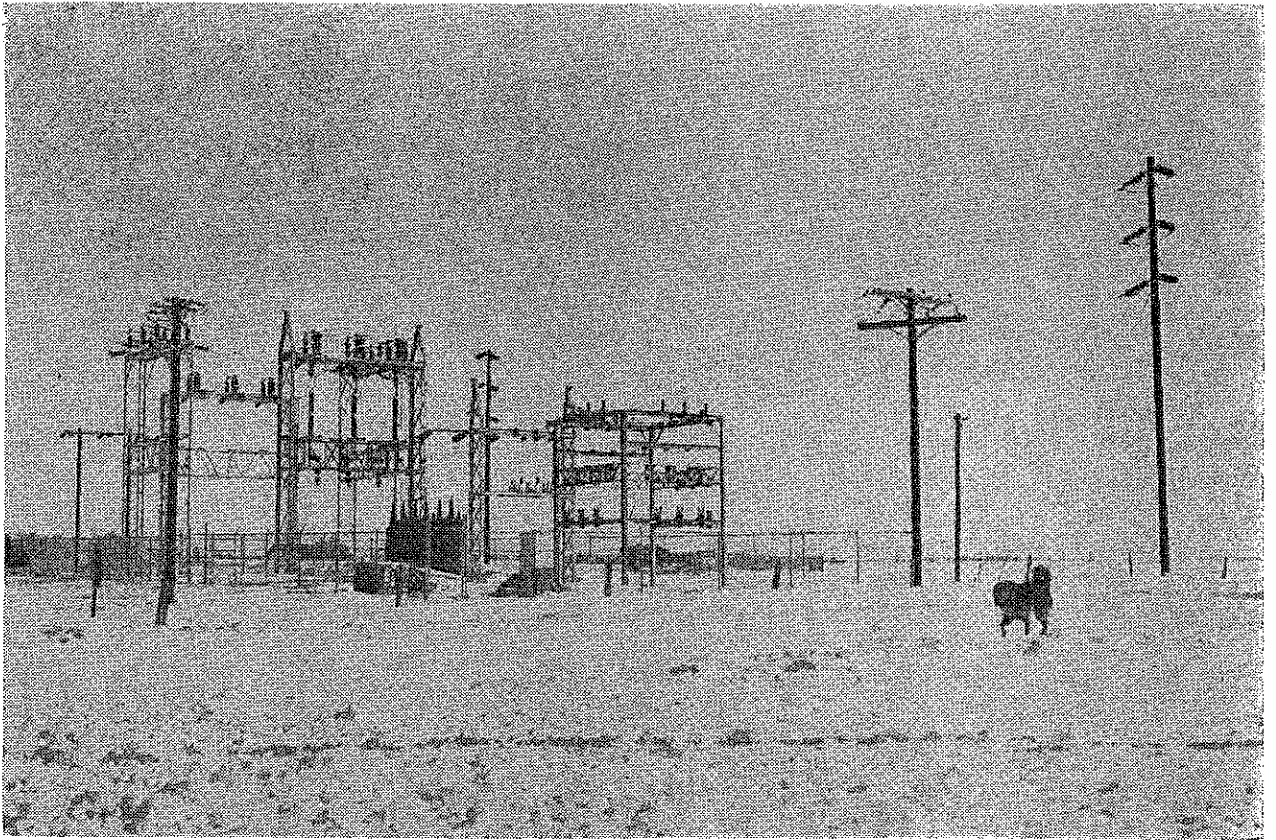
"Walter Coe"

On October 10, 1944, at 5 o'clock p.m. this Co-operative suffered the great loss of a capable lineman and genial friend.

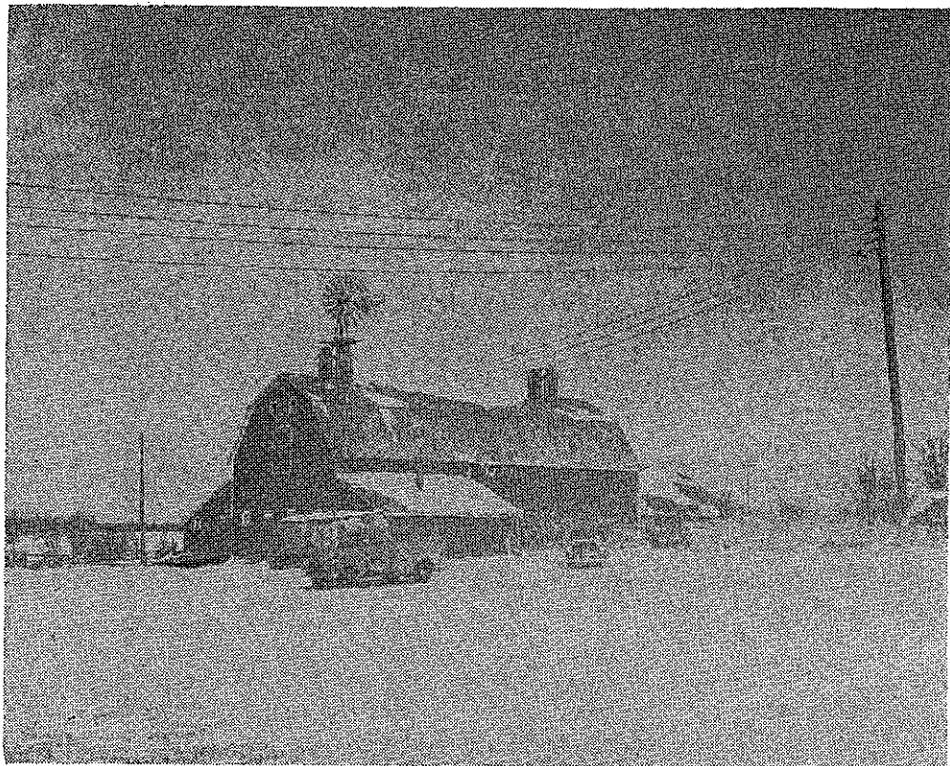
Walter Coe, who replaced August Bourque as Head Lineman in June of 1944, met death through electrocution while in the employe of this Co-operative. The accident occurred approximately 6 miles Southwest of Red Lake Falls, Minnesota.

Walt, as shown above, wore a smile at all times as broad as the great outdoors. He was always willing to give everyone a friendly word and a helping hand.

He gave his life in striving to bring electricity to the members of this Co-operative. We believe that Walt is a large part of us in our every day existence.



Winter view of the new sub-station which was energized September 1950. This sub-station, one of three now serving this Co-operative is located near the village of Terrebonne.



Pictured above is a February 1951 view of the Dona Rivard Barn and yard with an appropriate view of one of the REA's trucks. On the following page is a pictured interview with the Rivards enjoying some of the comforts obtained through Electricity.



Upon a personal interview with Mr. Dona Rivard we learn that he is cultivating two hundred-eighty acres of land in small grains in Terrebonne Township. Since the advent of electricity in the community, his farm has been modernized to the fullest extent, and all five of his buildings have been wired. The first electric appliances purchased by him were a refrigerator, a washing machine and an electric iron. Since then he has purchased an electric cream separator, a milking machine and has an all electric pressure water system throughout the barn and house.



Mrs. Rivard reports with zest that no words can tell the story of the time and energy she has been saved by the use of the various electrical appliances now on their farm.

Mrs. Rivard was in the process of making a cake with the use of her electric mixer when we called upon them for an interview.

Mr. and Mrs. Rivard are natives of Minnesota and were married twenty-eight years ago. They have six children. When questioned as to whether or not they would care to dispense with electricity, they replied that they would never farm again without the electrical helper.



JOSEPH BRUNELLE

Representative from District No. 1 is Joseph Brunelle, born January 22, 1898, in Crookston township on the farm where he is now living.

After completing his elementary schooling in his district and three years at the Crookston Agricultural College, he returned to his 480 acre farm along the Red Lake River. During the years, he has built up a highly productive farm.

On June 2, 1926, Joseph Brunelle married Melvina Brule. They have three children, Elaine, Willard and Leona.

Mr. Brunelle has been an ardent supporter of the REA program since its beginning and has served as a director for several years.

As a supporter of farm groups and co-operatives, he has been a participant in the following organizations: director of the Farmers Union Oil of Crookston, member of the audit committee of the Red Lake Co-op Federal Credit Union, director of Gentilly Dairy Association, and clerk of Crookston township.



MANVEL MOE

Manvel Moe, representing the members of the Co-operative from District No. 2, has served on the board since 1947. He was born July 22, 1904 on the home farm which adjoins his farm in Agder township in Marshall county. With the exception of several months when he lived in Thief River Falls, he has made his home on his 160 acre farm.

Besides being a farmer, Mr. Moe is a very able carpenter, perhaps doing more carpentering than farming since leaving his father's farm.

Manvel and his wife, Adeline, have three children, Marilyn, Lorna and Ronald, who are attending school in Holt, Minnesota.

Mr. Moe has been very active in the affairs of his community, some of which are: in 1940 in cooperation with Farm Security, he was carpenter instructor at the National Youth Administration; supervisor of Agder township; president of the Excel Co-operative Telephone Company; member of the school board; construction engineer for the Farm Security; and a member of the board of trustees of the Satersdahl Lutheran church.



JOHN ISAACSON

John Isaacson was born at Mountain Iron, Minnesota, April 30, 1901, is the representative from District No. 3.

When he was 14, the family moved to a 240 acre farm west of Middle River in Spruce Valley township where he and his wife, Gladys, are now living. A diversified farmer, John is presently engaged in raising a large flock of poultry.

After completing elementary school, he attended Duluth Business University in 1924 and 1925.

Always interested in the REA program, Mr. Isaacson has acted as a director since 1947.

He is interested in all sports, especially hunting and fishing, and has been president and director of the Sportsmen's Club of Middle River.

Isaacson's other activities include: chairman of the local Red Cross, trustee for the bondholders of the Middle River Co-op Creamery, member of the Spruce Valley town board, member of the Marshall County Land Use Planning committee, and substitute railway mail clerk.



HENRY W. PAUL

Plainview, Minnesota, was the birthplace of director Henry W. Paul from District No. 4, born on December 22, 1895.

Upon completion of elementary school in Plainview, Mr. Paul attended an engineer's school for several years intermittently, but the desire to farm was stronger than his urge to build. Fifteen years ago, he moved to his 320 acre farm in Lambert township where he has lived since.

"Henry and Anna", as their neighbors call the Pauls, have three married daughters, Genevieve, Margaret and Jean.

Mr. Paul is now the vice-president of the co-operative.

Along with his REA duties he is an active member of the American Legion of which he has been commander for six years, member of the town board, Boy Scout leader, 4-H leader, treasurer of the school board, chairman of the AAA board and director of the Red Lake County Soil Conservation District.

The Pauls received the "Valley Farmer and Homemaker of Red Lake County Award" in the winter shows at Crockston and also an award for "Meritorious Service" during the war for the many services rendered.



MILLARD F. DAILEY

President of this co-operative and representative from District No. 5 is Millard F. Dailey. His enthusiastic interest in and loyal support of the REA have been most valuable in aiding its growth.

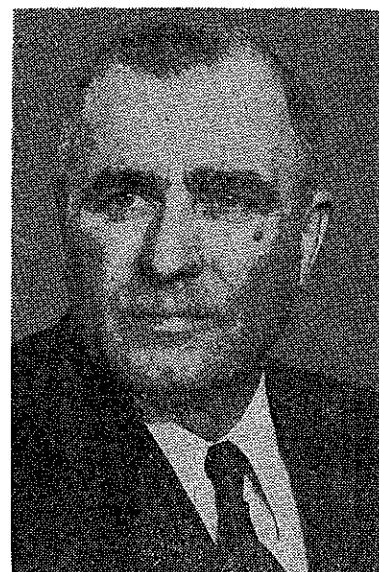
Mr. Dailey hails from Creston, Illinois, where he was born June 24, 1908. When he was young, his family moved to Northern Minnesota where he has resided since.

After completing elementary and high school in Red Lake Falls, he engaged in farming the 400 acre homestead in Red Lake Falls township.

In 1930 he married Thelma Rustad, and they have three children, George, Robert and Vivian.

Seeing the great need for electrical power on the farm, Dailey took an active interest in the co-operative when it was in its infancy. He was one of the eight incorporators.

In addition to REA activities, Mr. Dailey has been a director of the Northwest National Farm Loan Association, member of the school board, and director of the Minnkota Electric Power Co-operative.



JOSEPH F. SKALA

Joseph F. Skala, representative from District No. 6, was born July 21, 1889, in Red Lake Falls, Minnesota. Upon completion of his elementary schooling there, he enrolled at St. John's University for two years and attended the Northwest School of Agriculture at Crockston for one year.

Then he joined his father in operating their general store and running the 1,000 acre farm in Red Lake Falls township. After his father's death, he continued in this dual role until 1936 when the farm required his complete attention.

Joe and Mrs. Skala, Alice to her friends, have four children, Anna, Isabel, Henry and Evelyn.

Active in Rural Electrification since its beginning here, Mr. Skala has served on the board for many years, eight of which were in the capacity of secretary-treasurer. His modernized farm, well illustrates his belief in the work of this co-operative.

Mr. Skala's other activities have been director of the Farmers Elevator; City Council member; director of the Co-op Store, and director for the Red Lake County State Bank.



J. L. RADNIECKI

J. L. Radniecki represents the members from District No. 7. He was born in Poland on June 1, 1883. When he was 6 years of age, his parents immigrated to the U. S., settling in Chicago, Illinois.

Mr. Radniecki completed elementary and high school and in 1904 filed on a homestead in Deer Park township where he has 636 acres and raises many turkeys.

Radniecki was married in 1906 and has ten children.

He has been interested in the REA program for a number of years, although his active participation didn't begin until 1945 when he became a director.

The following are only a few activities which have made his life a busy one: appointed Postmaster in 1904 and served until 1909, secretary of the River Valley Creamery, director of the Red Lake River Drainage and Conservancy District, organizer and first president of the Deer Park and Hickory Telephone Co., plus many wartime activities.

In 1944 Mr. and Mrs. Radniecki received the "Honor Farmer and Homemaker Award" at the winter shows in Crookston.



H. I. FINSTAD

A native Minnesotan, H. I. Finstad represents the members from District No. 8. He was born April 17, 1892, on the farm where he is now living in Rocksbury township.

At the age of 20 Mr. Finstad was accepted by Civil Service for the position of rural carrier for Thief River Falls. After 2 years went into farming on his own in Highlanding township, later in Wyandotte township. In 1936 he bought his father's estate of 240 acres and returned to engage in dairying. He has received the "Red River Valley Dairymen's Award" for A-1 milk.

The Finstads have seven children, six boys and one daughter.

A loyal supporter and director for four years, Mr. Finstad has been to Washington twice for allocations of loans.

Other activities in which he has engaged include: director and treasurer of the Farm Bureau, president of the Consumers Co-op Association of Thief River Falls, president of the Farmer's Mutual Telephone Co., secretary-treasurer of the St. Pauli Lutheran church, secretary-treasurer of Midland District No. 5 and secretary-treasurer of the creamery.



LEONARD MELIN

Newest and youngest of the directors is Leonard Melin, representing District No. 9. He was born in 1915 on his father's farm in Polk Center township where he was reared and has since made his home.

He attended elementary school in that district and finished a three year course at the Northwest School of Agriculture at Crookston.

Following his schooling, Melin farmed with his father until 1939 when he began diversified farming independently at home. It was also in that year that he married his wife, Isabel. The Melins have no children.

Mr. Melin is a supporter of farm organizations and co-operatives. In addition to his duties as a director of this co-operative, he has been a director of the Wylie Co-operative Elevator for the past two years and chairman of the school board for nine years.

Youth groups receive his firm support. He was an active member in 4-H Club work, winning several trips with his prize livestock.

Mr. Kilowatt

Rural Electrification has long since ceased to be a novelty to most of us, and has joined such things as good roads, the modern farm tractor and other modern farm machinery as a thing of necessity to the proper functioning of the modern farm.

Lest we forget what things were like some years ago, it might be well to think of the way things used to be.

We can well remember, I'm sure, when very few owned a tractor, and the power for farm work was supplied by horses. What a great amount of work it was to care for them. We can also recall the days when there were no all-weather roads, and a trip by automobile to Minneapolis or St. Paul was not to be attempted in anything but the most favorable weather.

Remember how the threshing was done by the use of the old steam threshing rig, with its long hours, and enormous crews of men and teams which reminded one of a circus coming to town. They usually left the farmer with a huge expense and his wife exhausted and the cupboard bare.

How times have changed! A trip to the "Cities" is a matter of hours any day in the year; the tractor has replaced the horses and does the farm work in a fraction of the time; and the combine with the automatic baler does the harvesting and threshing in a minimum of time and with a minimum of labor.

Then in March of 1941 a new hired man went to work on many of the farms in the Red Lake Electric Co-operative, Inc., area. He was a little fussy about the way you handled him, but the wages were exceedingly small. The Chinese coolie used to be considered the cheapest labor in the world, but this fellow worked lots cheaper than that. He got along famously with the housewife. He did most of the washing and helped with the ironing, separated the milk and cooled it, froze the meat and vegetables, hauled the water and heated it, helped to cook the meals and bake the cake and cookies.

While all of this was going on, he not only furnished light, but relieved the drudgery and monotony by bringing entertainment into the home through the radio.

He was no sissy though, for he worked outside too. He pumped water, ground feed, hauled grain into the granary and milked the cows. You would also see him in the shop welding, drilling, grinding and hammering. The fact is the farmer is always thinking up something for him to do.

Another thing to his credit is he seldom takes time off. He never asks for a vacation, and he is very clean. His name is Mr. Kilowatt. Maybe his brother works for you.

Mr. Kilowatt has another peculiarity. He is "cheaper by the dozen". In the plant where all the kilowatts are born, the more they are multiplied the cheaper each one becomes; so the more work we give him to do, the cheaper he works.

So much for Mr. Kilowatt. We hope you will read this booklet through. There will be enough facts and figures so you can all get the picture of what has been accomplished in the past ten years. We are certain you will see much to be proud of, knowing that each member has had a part in the success of this Co-operative. We have had growing pains and our difficulties with getting material, but we should be glad that the job is nearly complete. Barring national or international disaster, we are sure to have electric service on our farms indefinitely.

MILLARD F. DAILEY,
President