

# SPARKS



VOL. I-NO. 1

HARTWICK, N. Y.

March, 1944.

## COOP LINES GOING UP

There are a lot of obstacles in the way of building this REA cooperative line. The power companies who were not willing to build lines to the farmers are doing everything they can to prevent REA from serving the farmers in Otsego and parts of Madison and Chenango counties. We have noted that in some cases they have come in and served a small group only and have not gone on to serve the farmers beyond who are more scattered. This is one way they are trying to hamper the REA movement. They don't seem to care about the farmer beyond.

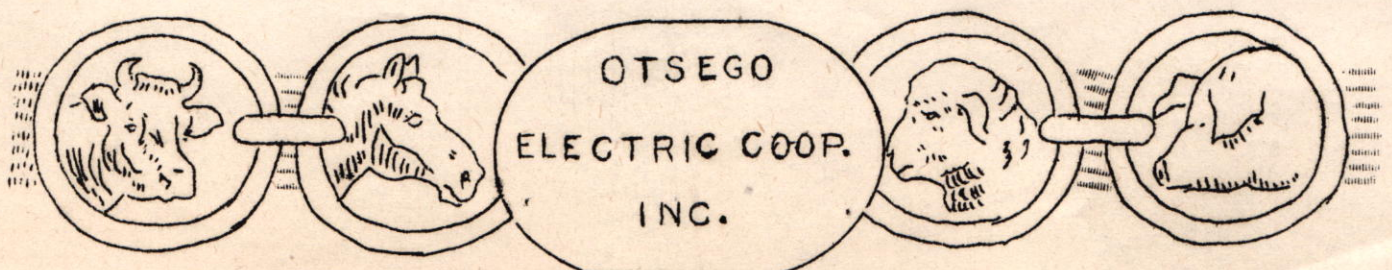
They are willing to cut below cost to serve a limited few if they can drive a wedge into the Otsego Electric Cooperative lines and thus cut our line to pieces and either force us to build around them or force us to cut off part of our line and leave a few farms without service.

Before REA came in they were not willing to build lines out to serve scattered farms. They are only doing so now to hamper the REA movement. Therefore, it should be easy to see through their willingness to serve a few groups here and there. We are sure that the majority of our members realize this. With this realization they should stand firm and united in their loyalty to their cooperative. We are looking to each and every member to reject the offers of the power companies to serve them and to use their influence with their neighbors who might be listening to sales talks and propaganda. Every member should stay with the co-op and help their farmer neighbors get electric service.

Work on our Oaksville sub-station is progressing nicely and the New Berlin sub-station will be started within the next 10 days. All of the line hardware and insulators have been received and so have all of the transformers including the sub-station transformers which are at Oaksville and New Berlin. We are doing every thing possible to hurry things along so that we will be able to energize the line sometime the latter part of April.

Recently you received from your co-op a printed statement "An Important Message" setting forth the situation in Otsego County as it exists today regarding electrification of your farm.

We will have in the co-op office at Hartwick a display room showing milk coolers and machines, pumps, motors and lighting fixtures. All members are invited to see this display and to ask questions about the co-op.





OTSEGO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

PHONE HARTWICK 3301

Vol. I, No. 2

June 1944

Hartwick, N. Y.

## HOW YOUR COOPERATIVE IS SET UP TO GIVE YOU SERVICE

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336 Miles of Line Staked  
 145 Miles of Tree Clearing Completed  
 Over 125 Miles of Holes Dug and Poles Set  
 Two 150 KVA Transformers at Oaksville Substation  
 Three 100 KVA Transformers at New Berlin Substation

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We are sure you are looking forward to the benefits of electric service as soon as you can get it. Your electric cooperative system will consist of two essential parts. Each part plays its own distinct role in bringing you an abundance of cheap power that will, with the mere snapping of a switch, perform in many ways as a servant, making your life one of ease and happiness and enriching it with the necessities that even our poorest neighbor as a citizen of this great nation so justly deserves.

These parts, each vital and of equal importance, are: (1) The 44,000 to 7,200 volt transformation step down substations, and (2) The 7,200 volt distribution system. They will require constant attention. Patrols and inspection, at regular intervals, of each and every piece of this equipment will be made to assure its constancy of operation. All this is for the purpose of making certain that you receive service as perfect as is humanly possible to render. Your Board of Directors and Management will not relax but will make every effort to have it continue so.

This system consists of a 7,200 volt electric pressure which will be in continuous operation twenty-four hours of the day. It is known to be dependable by the engineer, other than the designers, who have taken the time and trouble to investigate in detail.

The substations, which have been completed, are located at New Berlin and Oaksville. The function of these two substations is to step down the electrical pressure from 44,000 volts to 7,200 volts. This is then distributed to individual transformers which, in turn, step the pressure down to 120/240 volts for use in operating electrical appliances and equipment in the home and on the farm. The safety of your co-op is thus assured.

May we take this opportunity to urge our members to impress upon their children and others the DANGER of playing around electric power lines.

From time to time the propoganda which is being spread about, that your co-op is either going bankrupt, or going out of business, or sell-out to the power company, has come to our ears from loyal members. None of these rumors is true.

Probably no other co-op has been harder hit by the shortages of material and labor than the Otsego Electric Cooperative. We have all the material needed now to complete our project but the labor situation has kept us from completing it on time. A few weeks ago we had hopes of energizing our lines but the shortage of linemen was, and still is, very critical. We are assured by the contractor, however, that the project will be completed within the time allowed them.

Members, this is your cooperative. Its success will depend upon your continued interest and support. Thank you for your cooperation.

John Kissel  
 Manager

David Brown  
 President

HELP WANTED

The labor situation is still critical. Members, if you have any spare time, apply for work in the construction of your project. A list of those who can help will be given to the contractor, necessary arrangements will be made, and you will be notified when and where to report for work. The contractor will pay the prevailing wages and work will consist of right-of-way clearing and digging of pole and anchor holes. Contact this office.

Come on, members, help complete your project and enjoy the use of electric power sooner.

ADVANCE NOTICES

The energization program of your co-op will take place at the Oaksville Substation and at Hartwick on June 24. There will be moving pictures, demonstrations, entertainment and refreshments. Watch the newspapers for additional information. Plan to be present.

The annual meeting of the members of the Otsego Electric Cooperative will take place on August 3. More information about this this meeting later.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

We have received approval from the War Production Board to construct additional lines to our members. These extensions will be completed together with the "A" project. Also, we have applications before the War Production Board to construct another 37.7 miles.

There are displays of electric equipment for the farm at the co-op office in Hartwick. You are welcome to look it over at any time and also to bring your electric problems to the manager.

As you know, the advantages from these lines are available to the members of the co-op only. If you are not a member, apply for membership immediately. The fee is only \$5.00. Contact the director nearest you or the co-op office in Hartwick.

Soon after the line is energized, meter cards will be mailed out. Remember to return these by the 25th of the month. We don't want to send some one out to read your meter and then charge you 50 cents to help defray the expense of reading.

We are enclosing a purchase certificate for rationed farm equipment and a farmer's certification for the county rationing committee. Kindly fill out and return to the co-op office so that we can assist you in obtaining the equipment you need.