

Consumers Need to Know

by LEE LANDIS

America is an energy-conscious nation. It has to be. We love appliances, and most every home has several. We own millions of TVs, air conditioners, and refrigerators. A black-out in any area could be a disaster.

With "brown-outs" experienced in various sections of the country, consumers are beginning to realize that our "fuel gauge" is dropping. We are consuming our natural energy resources at a rate which cannot be sustained for many more years.

It's going to take everyone's cooperation to conserve our petroleum and natural gas until new sources of power are found. Not only must we make the most efficient use of our supplies, but we must be sure that the proper legislation is passed for a national energy policy.

The National Association

of Manufacturers' president, E. Douglas Kenna, warned that the country might be saddled with an unproven and restrictive national energy system. Speaking before the Electric and Gas Industries Association, he pointed out that legislators are not moving ahead on a national policy because the public has not made their opinions known.

The NAM has been aware of potential fuel shortages for some time now and advocates a national policy which would resolve differences between energy producers and consumers, as well as recognize the need to protect the environment. The same healthy competitive system, which has given American consumers such a high standard of living, is needed to help shape the nation's energy policy.

The important thing for consumers to watch is that legislation not be passed restricting our free enterprise and right to choose.

Mr. Kenna said the next 11 years will be the crucial period. By 1985 our long overdue nuclear power should take its place as a substantial supplier of energy.



Officers were elected at the April 9 meeting of the Grassland Chapter, Future Farmers of America. Serving the Chapter for the coming year are: (front row, left to right) Nelson Martin, State FFA president; Dale Sensenig, secretary; Wayne Martin,

vice-president; Ray Martin, president. (Back row) Ken Groff, chaplain; Ken Mull, treasurer; Larry Ressler, sentinel, and Scott Steffy, reporter. Clifford Day is Chapter advisor.

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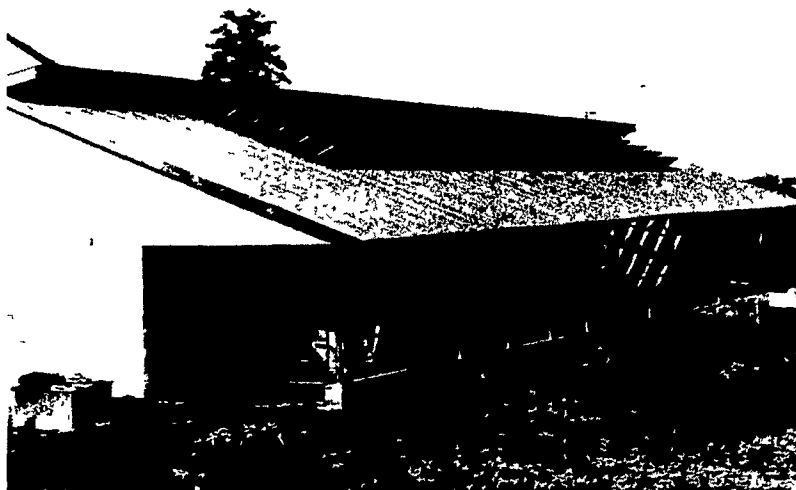
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