

Silk Creek 4-H Electricity Club for Girls Is First in Country



(left pix) Do girls like shop work? Just ask these two pretty craftsmen. Both Eva McMurrick, 12, and Kathleen Richardson, 11, are completing table lamps which they made from scratch and wired for electricity—even tying their own Underwriters knot. (middle pix) Those absorbed expressions on Kenneth Richardson and Patrick Morgan's faces should dispel any doubt that youngsters find electricity interesting, especially when leader C. J. Robinson explains its workings. (right pix) Review of an Underwriters knot accounts for this huddle between C. J. Robinson, Elda Vay Morgan, Patrick Morgan and Betty Melvin.

(Editor's note: The following article is being printed through the courtesy of Lane News, monthly publication of Lane County Electric Cooperative, in the February issue of which appeared the story.

Their dolls haven't been forsaken, and they still love to connect in the kitchen, but you should see the members of the Silk Creek Girls' Electricity club tie the Underwriter's approved knot in an electric cord. Or hear their explanation of the lines of force in

the map of the magnet.

"You know about the map of the magnet?" they ask anxiously, looking you straight in the eye. To these girls—age 9 to 12—the importance of the "map of a magnet" is paramount since it is basic in understanding electricity.

That C. J. Robinson, leader of the club, is particularly proud of the girls is evident. Under his direction, the boys' 4-H electricity club has been named "outstanding" 4-H electricity club in Lane County for three consecutive

years. But for the most part, people have assumed that girls weren't especially interested in learning about electricity. A theory which C. J. Robinson set out to disprove, and has succeeded.

"Women as a group use electricity most, yet know least about it," said Robinson, a retired electrical engineer whose hobby is working with young people. "The reason they know so little about electricity is that their interests from girlhood have been diverted to other channels. Girls should be

taught the use of electricity. Especially, they should become acquainted with safe practices in its use. The greatest potentiality for electricity clubs is among girls."

A year ago this same group of Silk Creek girls were organized in a hobby and woodworking club. In the community-built 4-H clubhouse on C. J. Robinson's property, the girls learned to drive a straight nail, use a saw, straight edge, drill and hand shop tools. This year the girls reorganized,

Vertrees Is Local UN Pilgrimage Rep

Bill Ray Vertrees, 17, a junior in the local high school and son of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Vertrees, Cottage Grove, was chosen from the local high school to compete in the Oddfellowship sixth annual United Nations Pilgrimage for Youth to be held in New York this summer.

His essay was on "How I Can Assist the U. N. in the Future." He will compete with other contestants of Lane county high schools in the final speech contest at 8 p.m. April 16 in the IOOF hall at Springfield. At this time a 3-minute speech will be given by each entrant.

The trip to New York and back will be paid by the Odd Fellow and Rebekah lodges, sponsors. Fourteen will go from Oregon, and will be joined by 10 from Washington and 10 from British Columbia. The 34 students and three

selected electricity as their new 4-H project. Already, more than one father has been amazed at his daughter's scientific knowledge.

Robinson sets high standards for 4-H electricity club members. His conviction is they must understand the "why's" and "wherefore's" of electricity before they graduate to actual use of it. Since October, the girls have completed three experiments—basic to the foundation of their new project. Now they are combining their newly acquired electrical knowledge with their woodworking know-how to make handsome table lamps.

chaperones will leave Spokane July 8 and will return August 3. They will visit places of interest in New York for one week, also historical places of interest in Washington, D. C., and the capital. The return trip will be thru Mt. Rushmore, Yellowstone and other places of interest.

Bill won the "Voice of Democracy" contest in the local high school; his hobbies: orchid raising and book collecting; is Junior class president; 4-H Forestry club; Thespians, Sports editor; International Relations club secretary; Junior assistant scoutmaster of troop No. 28 and is interested in school and radio programs.

The Lane county representative will be given a \$25 check to help defray expenses.

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