

NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION



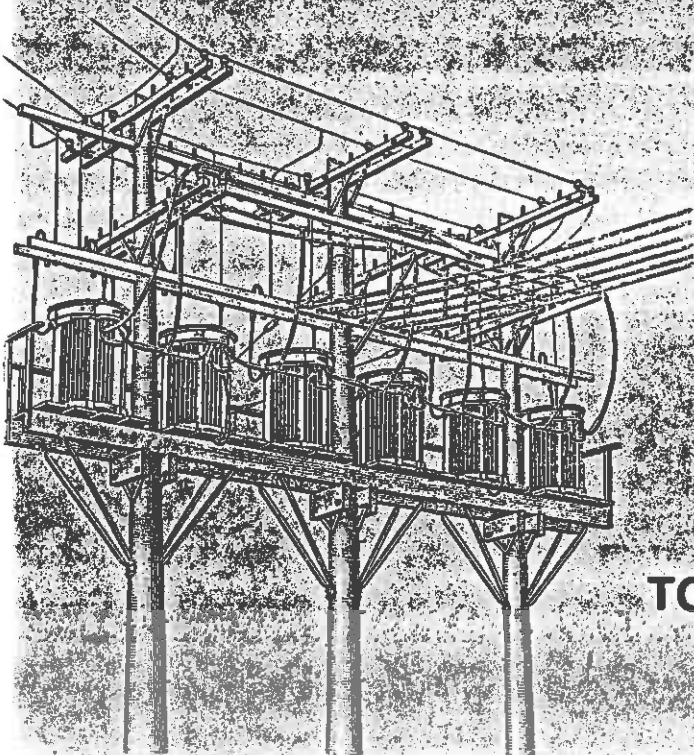
# DRIP POINTS

*Volume 13*  
*Number 4*  
*Summer 86'*



**NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION**  
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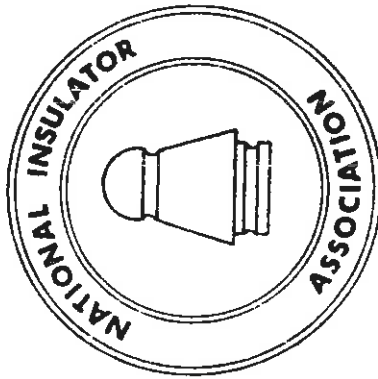
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# DRIP POINTS

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY

**National Insulator Association**



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NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION

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FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Dear NIA Members:

The NIA National time is here and as usual I'm looking forward to seeing all of you once again. Plans are going along well with the show and it should prove to be a dandy!

The Omaha Regional was quite successful and my congratulations to the show host, Paul Ickes, for his efforts. Many of you had an unforgettable evening of entertainment when yours truly made an idiot out of himself in a public display of musical suicide. But that's ok - I'm getting even with Charlie Allmon.

This is my final column as your NIA President. These past two years have been relatively quiet - much to my relief. No major catastrophies have developed in my administration, although we did have our share of short term panics. But as for now, all seems to be running smooth for the next administration.

Please make it a point to attend the NIA General Membership Meeting on Friday afternoon. We need your body there to help guide the Board in its decisions and policies. Everybody gets to say what they think, and we will listen!

Also, be reminded that we are still offering liberal discounts to all NIA members that rent a car from Alamo. We receive compensation from their association travel plan. Just remember to ask for the Association Discount and give the representative our number - #93236. You can make your reservations by dialing 1-800-732-3232. Look for the ad later in this issue of DRIP POINTS.

In closing, I want to thank all of you for permitting me to be your NIA President. These past two years have been great, and I'll continue to help this great hobby any way I can.

Keep in touch,

*Mike Bruner*

For short lines and pole systems with only a few wires it is not necessary to transpose very frequently. On longer lines it has been found amply sufficient to transpose once every quarter mile; that is to say to change the relative position of the wires of the different circuits at posts situated about that distance apart. This does not mean, however, that each pair of wires is transposed so often, but that on ordinary sized

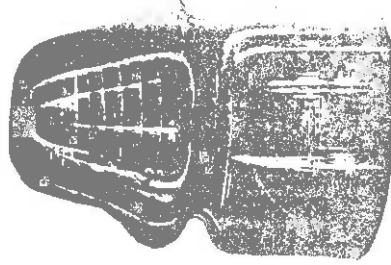


Fig. 906.—Telegraph and trolley glass insulator.

systems, the trolley wire is balanced relative to the ground. It is necessary to secure the best advantage

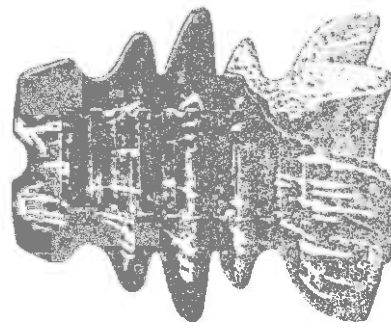


Fig. 907.—Type of insulator used in trolley transposition.

to be obtained. The circuit is simply shifted in position by a number of the different insulators, thereby insuring the best advantage.

FROM THE INFORMATION DIRECTOR;

Well, this makes it two years that I have sat behind this typewriter, now editing my last issue of DRIP POINTS. I now pause and look at my living room from where I have hand assembled over 6300 issues of DRIP POINTS in the past two years. It sure has been a lot of work!

I remember getting a letter from an Eastern collector, just after I took over this job from Mike Bruner. "Ken," he wrote, "You might as well just copy the last years DRIP POINTS and just change the dates and places of the shows. It seems that every article is pretty much the same; (Make reservations now..., tables going quick..., was a good show..., just nothing to hold the readers interest." I decided at that point to try and spice up the newsletter. I put in a few ads to solicit contributions from the general membership but ended up drawing very few donations. I mostly relied on drawings from Mr. Winkler and whatever I could copy out of my old books.

Almost a year later, I received a letter from the same collector who wrote: "...my opinion is still unchanged about the dry literary content of your magazine, however, I tend to favor the illustrations." Well, you can please some of the people some of the time... I just hope that I have pleased some additional collectors with the time that I have spent on DRIP POINTS. I know that some collectors have not been pleased with the tardiness of some issues, but after eight hours of work, four hours of night school and my one finger typing practice, I believe that I have done my best.

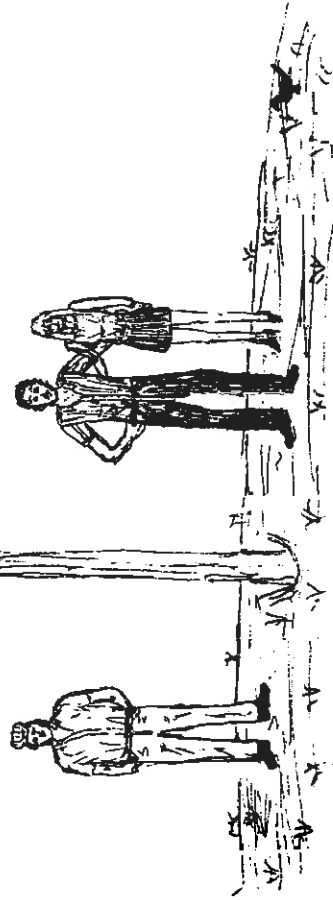
I feel that at this point that I must thank Mr. Robert Winkler for his fine supply of porcelain insulator details which he has donated to each

issue as a favor to me. Secondly, I must thank my lovely wife Paula (Babaint), who has offered endless help in artwork, assembling, typing and especially delivering. These two people have been super!

In closing, I have been very happy to serve the insulator collecting hobby in publishing DRIP POINTS. I hope that you the collector, have enjoyed the issues that we have put together in the last two years.

Sincerely,

*Ken Stefan*



(R. WINKLER)

(K & P STEFAN)

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Dear Friends:

This will be my last Drip Points update as Executive Director. Believe it or not, I'm finishing up four years in this position! I had pretty much made up my mind that, regardless of whether I tried for the Presidency and won or not, that four years in any position was plenty! Since so many of you have been helpful with suggestions and encouragement, I thought I'd offer my appreciation at the National. However, for those of you who I won't be able to communicate with in person, I will say - THANKX!

This issue will also be the last before the 17th Annual National Show in Saratoga Springs, New York. Make plans to attend NOW, before rooms, sales tables and banquet tickets are sold out!

I enjoyed meeting many collectors for the first time at the Central Regional Show in Omaha, Nebraska. I was also pleased with the fine turnout of insulators and insulator collectors at the Genesee Valley Bottle Show in Rochester, New York. Finally, the Yankee Polecat Insulator Club had a SUPER Spring show this year, with a packed house and a great turnout of collectors. If you missed out on these fine shows, make a better effort to attend them in the future. Please remember, these show hosts promote these shows for YOU, the collector. If YOU don't make an effort to attend, the dealers won't either and the local shows will just disappear. YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE - BE AN ACTIVE SUPPORTER OF YOUR HOBBY!

SEE YOU IN SARATOGA SPRINGS!



FROM THE CENTRAL REGION VICE-PRESIDENT:

Well, we're back home from the Omaha Central Regional. I saw a lot of old friends, met a few that I had only known by their telephone voices, and of course met quite a number of new people. We had dealers, as well as walk through collectors, from California all the way to New York, and as far South as Houston, Texas to as far North as Thunder Bay, Ontario. I think a good time was had by all. A big thanks goes to Paul and Carol Ickes for a great show.

This years show was loaded with a few surprises. Who would of guessed that in a local eating and drinking establishment there would be entertainment by an NIA celebrity. That's right, up there on stage on the organ, our own Mike Bruner. Maybe Mike was earning a little extra cash for that big purchase waiting at the show, or maybe he just wanted to get closer to that lady organizer with the wonderful voice. But then again, it could have been by popular demand of the large group of NIA members that practically took over the lounge and restaurant. Maybe we can catch him for an encore in Saratoga Springs. All kidding aside - Mike, you did great.

By the way, there were some fine photos circulating around at the show from the Charlie Allmon family reunion. The family resemblance is amazing! Maybe Charlie will bring a few with him to New York in July.

The National is just around the corner now and we'll soon be living it up in New York. I'm sure that Kevin, John, and Doug have got one of the best ever in the works. We will be going to Cedar Rapids, Iowa on June 28 for the Iowa Antique

Bottlers annual show, put together by Larry Whitlock, and then its off to Saratoga Springs.

See you there,

*Dennis Whitlock*

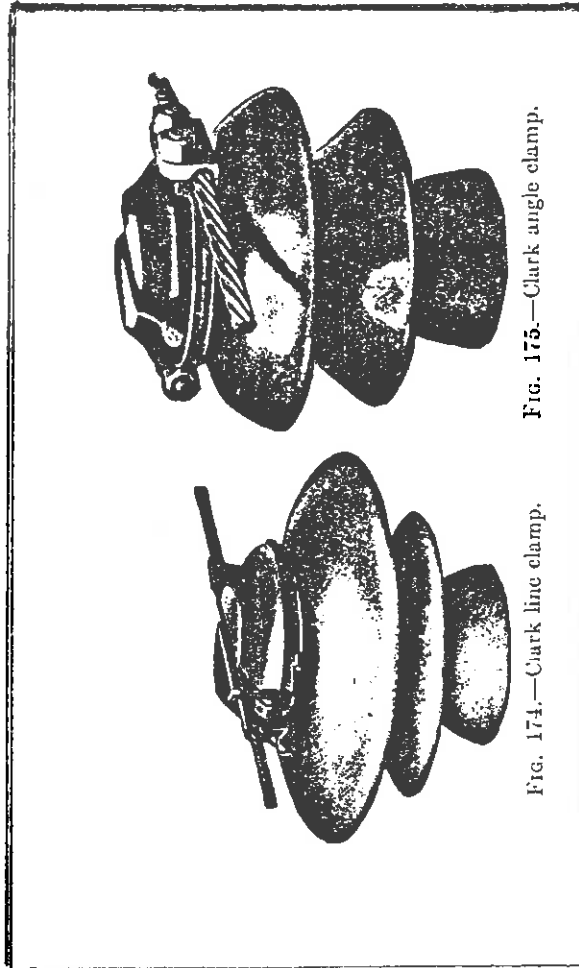


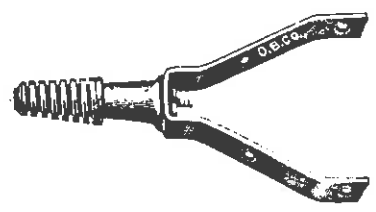
Fig. 174.—Clark line clamp. Fig. 175.—Clark angle clamp.

Mechanical clamps in the place of wire ties, have been used extensively, such as those manufactured by the Clark Electrical & Manufacturing Company shown in Figs. 174 and 175; the employment of mechanical clamps is often specified by railroads for high-tension crossings; as will be noted they are made for both straight line and angle work. On some work a type of mechanical clamp has been used consisting of a cast-iron cap cemented over the head of the insulator, to which is bolted a cover plate, the cap and plate being provided with a groove in which the conductor is clamped.

FROM THE WESTERN REGION VICE-PRESIDENT:

The Western Regional Show held May 3 & 4 in Enumclaw, WA was a great success this year with 110 sales tables (the most we've ever had) and 14 displays. Everyone seemed to have a great time, and lots of good glass found a new home. It's nice to visit with all the friends and fellow collectors we otherwise seldom see. Now we're looking forward to a trip to British Columbia and Alberta in June, and to Bakersfield in October. In between we'll be doing several other shows, so we'll be quite busy the next few months.

We've had several beginning collectors calling lately who are very interested in insulators, but didn't know where to turn for information. Milhollands book is not available in all the libraries which is where some of them had checked first. We leave our card which shows our insulator collecting hobby and address at the antique malls in the area. In several cases we've had calls from people who were interested in getting started, or who had insulators to get rid of. It might be a good idea for each collector to try and get Milholland's book in the local library and then contact the antique malls as we have done. Who knows - there may be someone out there just waiting to start a collection!



*Ticket Dr. v. v. v.*

Fig. 121.—Ridge pin.

FROM THE SHOW STANDARDS CHAIRMAN:

Hello to everyone in N.I.A. land.

Is it summertime already? Wow - how time flies! It seems like only a few weeks ago I wrote my column for the spring issue.

By now it is common knowledge that the 1986 central regional show is history. Wow - what an extravaganza! I hope you were lucky enough to attend.

First of all, congratulations to Carol and Paul Ickes, who sponsored the show. You did a super job, and everyone I spoke with agreed, regarding their appreciation of the outstanding job you performed.

Next - congratulations to Cecil Boos. Cecils' display was the winner of the N.I.A. trophy. And a very worthy winner it was. This display featured historical information, large color prints, and personal notes on the Collins Telegraph line. And - of course, a lighted display of many impressive insulators he personally found along the Collins.

A few other miscellaneous awards follow:

Dan Wagner won the best bachelors' guide award, for his extensive knowledge of risque night clubs.

Jeanne Weber won the loudest laugh award.

Russ Hughes won the most disgruntled diner award, for his vocal criticism. Imagine this: Here we are at Cascio's restaurant Saturday night - Twenty-eight of us

dining on Italian food. We are all having very refined and intellectual conversation, when Russ stops his waitress and blurts out, "I've had better spaghettii out of a can!"

Chris Hedges won the "Johnny on the spot" award for always having his camera ready to take pictures for the NIA scrapbook. Chris hopes to bring the choice photos to the National.

Clarice and Wes Gordon won the tardiness in arriving at the show award. They took the Amtrak from San Diego to Omaha. No wonder they did not get to the show until almost noon on Saturday.

Steve Corfidi won the sleeps with his sox on award. And he showed his great endurance by doing it two nights in succession. Chris Hedges camera went "click".

Mike Bruner won the musical entertainer award for his wonderful performance playing the Lowry organ at Cascios. (But alas - No one could recognize what he was trying to play! But what a performance it was.)

Princine Petinga and Liz Wagner tied for the most patient ladies award. Both should be awarded baseball bats to make "attitude adjustments" on their men's heads.

Paul Houpt won the misplaced priority award for choosing to return to his hotel room and watch a baseball game, rather than whoop it up with everyone else.

Mike Swanson won the good behavior award for acting mature and responsible all weekend long.

And finally - Mike Bliss and Eldon Myers won the secret dealings award for their separate insulator sales and purchases. But - No one is suppose to know about these deals (ssshhh!)

Looking forward to seeing all of you in July.

Best of Luck,

*Charlie Allinton*

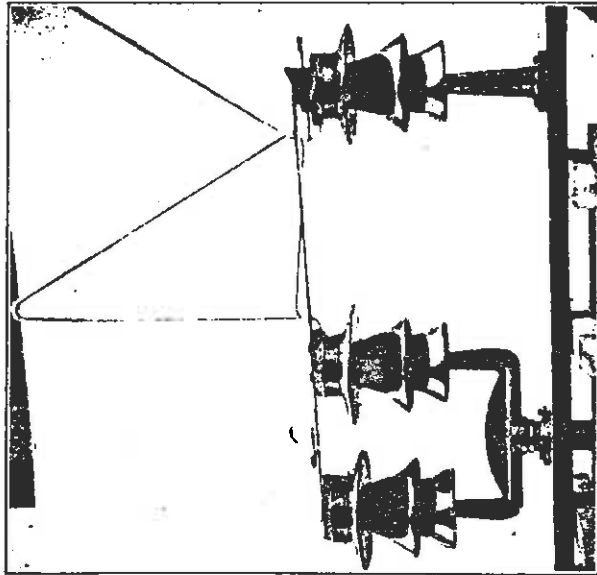


Fig. 106.—Burke switch—closed.

FROM THE HISTORIAN:

( Reprint of letter to the Information Director )

Dear Ken:

Well the NIA library is really beginning to take shape. I now have all books, publications, and photo albums, etc. up on shelves and in order by date etc.

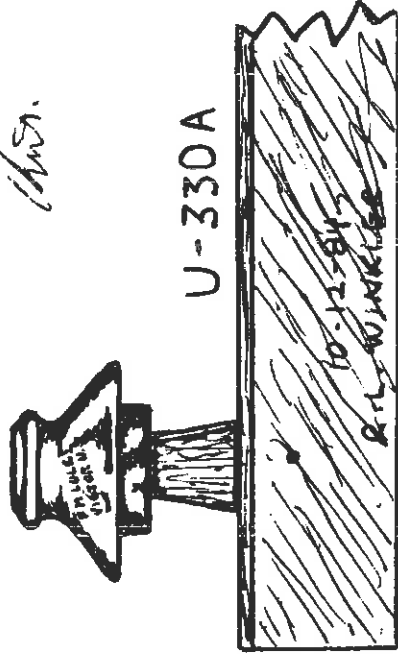
Inclosed is a list of books and publications in the NIA library. This doesn't include Crown Jewels, Cross Arms, or photo albums.

I would like to have it published in DRIP POINTS, and by doing so request donations of any publications which the NIA does not possess.

Drop me a line on any ideas you may have on the subject. Hope all is well, any good power stuff lately?

Sincerely,

*Char.*

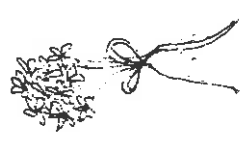




BOOKS INCLUDED IN THE NIA LIBRARY:

Albers, Marilyn			
<u>Glass Insulators From Outside North America</u>	c1981		
Albers, Marilyn			
<u>Worldwide Porcelain Insulators</u>	c1982		
Alexander, Bob			
<u>The Standard Color Guide For Insulators</u>			
Alexander, Bob	c1975		
<u>The Story of Insulators</u>			
Brown, Gerald			
<u>Collectable Porcelain Insulators</u>	c1971		
Brown, Gerald			
<u>Collectable Porcelain Insulators - 2nd edition</u>	c1972		
Brown, Gerald			
<u>Collectable Porcelain Insulators - supplement</u>	c1974		
Brown, Gerald			
<u>Unique Collectable Insulators</u>	c1975		
Brown, Gerald			
<u>Insulators Came from Everywhere</u>			
Brown, Gerald			
<u>The Story of Fred M. Locke &amp; His Insulators</u>	c1977		
Cranfill, Gary & Kareofelas, Greg			
<u>The Glass Insulator-A Comprehensive Reference</u>	c1973		
Cranfill, Gary & Kareofelas, Greg			
<u>Dictionary of Glass-Ceramic Insulators</u>	c1974		
Cranfill, Gary & Kareofelas, Greg			
<u>The Collectors Guide for Glass Insulators (Book 1, revised)</u>	c1967		
Cranfill, Gary & Kareofelas, Greg			
<u>The Collectors Guide for Glass Insulators (Book 2)</u>	c1970		
Delling, David & Mary			
<u>Before Threads</u>	c1971		
Hill & Pickett			
<u>An Insulator Book for Collectors</u>	c1968		
Knowles Manufacturing Company			
<u>Standard Insulators</u>	1902 edition		
Locke Insulator Manufacturing Company			
<u>The Insulator Book</u>	1906 edition		
Milholland			
<u>Glass Insulator Reference Book</u>	c1967		
Milholland			
<u>Glass Insulator Reference Book #2</u>	c1969		
Milholland			
<u>Supplement-Glass Insulator Reference Book #2</u>	c1970		
Milholland			
<u>Most About Glass Insulators</u>	c1971		
Milholland			
<u>Most About Glass Insulators</u>	c1972		
Milholland			
<u>Most About Glass Insulators - 2nd revision</u>	c1973		
Milholland			
<u>Insulator Price List (white, 28 pages)</u>			

<u>Milholland</u> <u>Suggested Insulator Price List</u>	c1969	Tibbitts, John <u>A Guide for Insulator Collectors</u>	cFeb. 1969
<u>Milholland</u> <u>Suggested Insulator Price List &amp; Index</u>	c1970	Tibbitts, John <u>A Guide for Insulator Collectors</u>	cSep. 1969
<u>Milholland</u> <u>Suggested Insulator Price List</u>	c1972	Tibbitts, John <u>A Guide for Insulator Collecting</u>	Vol. 2, 2nd prtg.
<u>Milholland</u> <u>Suggested Insulator Price List</u>	c1973	Tibbitts, John <u>A Guide for Insulator Collecting</u>	Vol. 2, 5th prtg.
<u>Milholland</u> <u>Suggested Insulator Price List</u>	c1974	Tibbitts, John <u>A Guide for Insulator Collecting</u>	Vol. 3, 2nd prtg.
<u>Milholland</u> <u>Suggested Insulator Price List</u>	c1975	Tibbitts, John <u>A Guide for Insulator Collecting</u>	Vol. 3, 4th prtg.
<u>Milholland</u> <u>Suggested Insulator Price List</u>	c1976	Terrill, Francis <u>Rare Insulators with Prices - Book 1</u>	
<u>Milholland</u> <u>Suggested Insulator Price List</u>	c1977	Terrill, Francis <u>Scarce Insulators - Priced - Book 2</u>	
<u>Neal, W. Keith</u> <u>Searching for Railway Telegraph Insulators</u>	c1982	Terrill, Francis <u>Hemingray Insulators - Priced - Book 3</u>	
<u>Montgomery Ward &amp; Company</u> <u>Rural Telephone Lines - How to Build Them</u>	c1975	Terrill, Francis <u>Insulators with Embossing Errors - Book 4</u>	
<u>Rippee, James</u> <u>Goodbye Central; Hello World</u>		Terrill, Francis <u>Choice Insulators Priced - Book 5</u>	
<u>Schroeders</u> <u>800 Insulators Priced &amp; Illustrated</u>		Terrill, Francis <u>Porcelain Insulators Photographed &amp; Priced - Book 6</u>	
<u>Stuarts</u> <u>Insulator Guide</u> 2nd edition	c1969	Tod, Jack <u>Porcelain Insulators - Supplement A</u>	Oct. 1972
		Tod, Jack <u>Porcelain Insulators - Supplement B</u>	Nov. 1973



Tod, Jack  
A History of the Electrical Porcelain Industry  
in the United States c1977

Tod, Jack  
Porcelain Insulators - Guide Book for Collectors  
c1976

Woodward, N.R.  
The Glass Insulator in America - 1967 Report

Woodward, N.R.  
The Glass Insulator in America - 1969 Report

Woodward, N.R.  
The Glass Insulator in America - 1973 Report

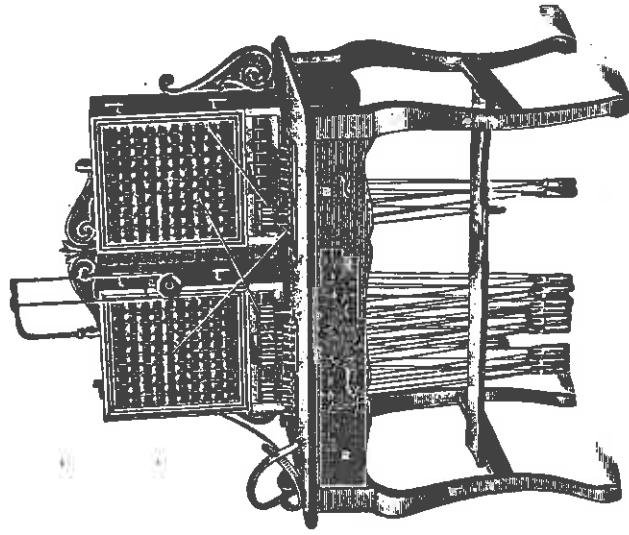
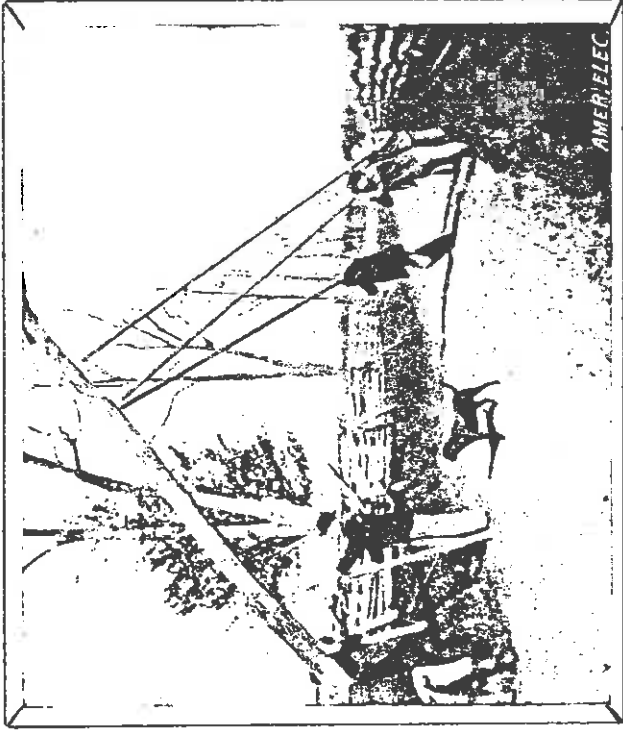


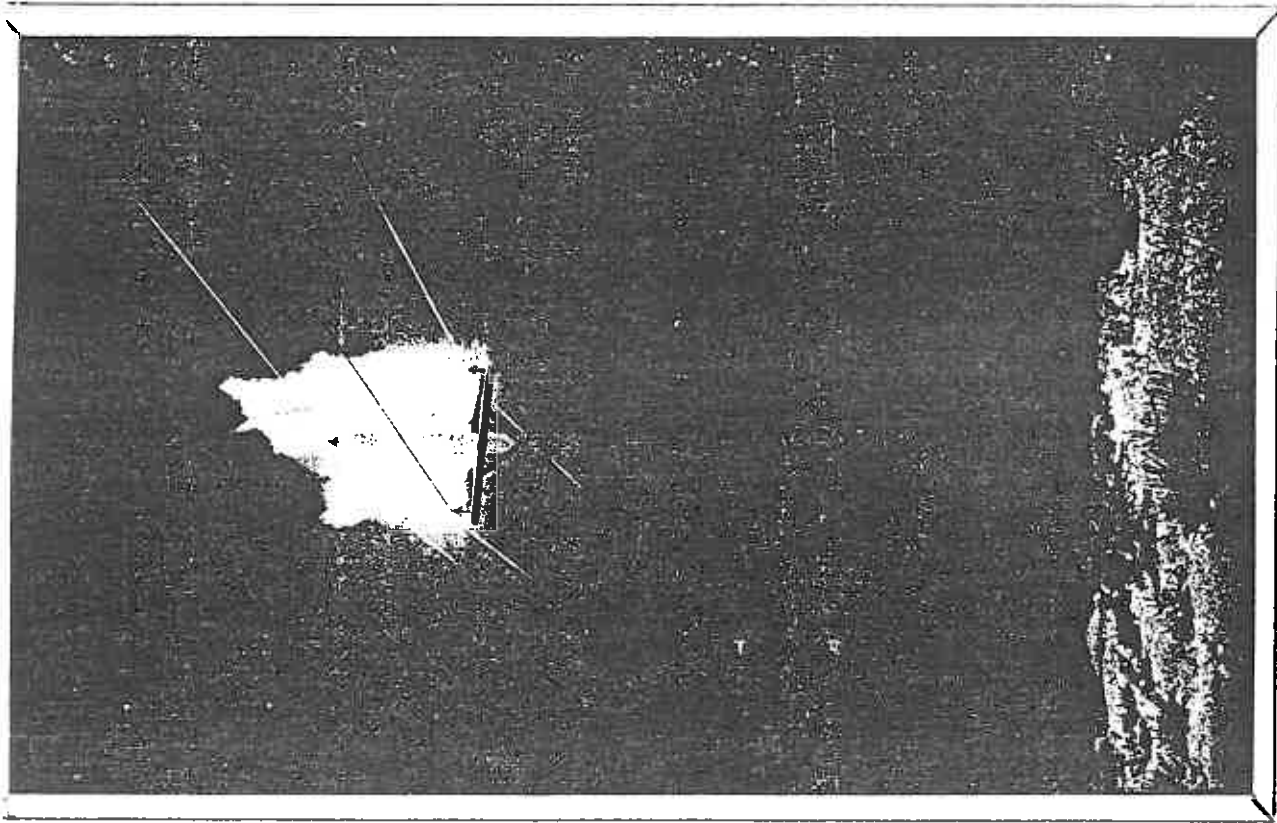
Fig. 168.—“Western” 200-Drop Table Switch-Board.



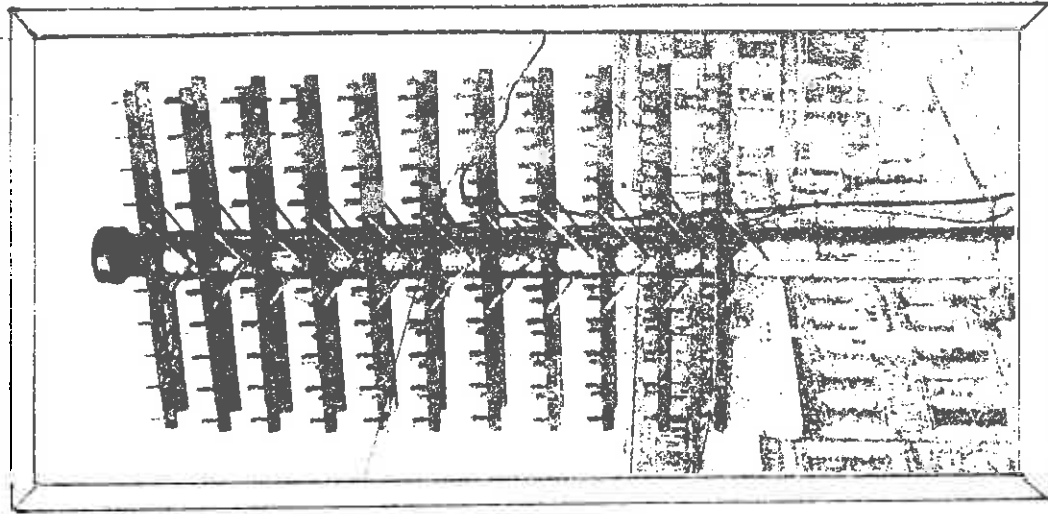
Six men and a dog erect a telegraph pole around 1897.



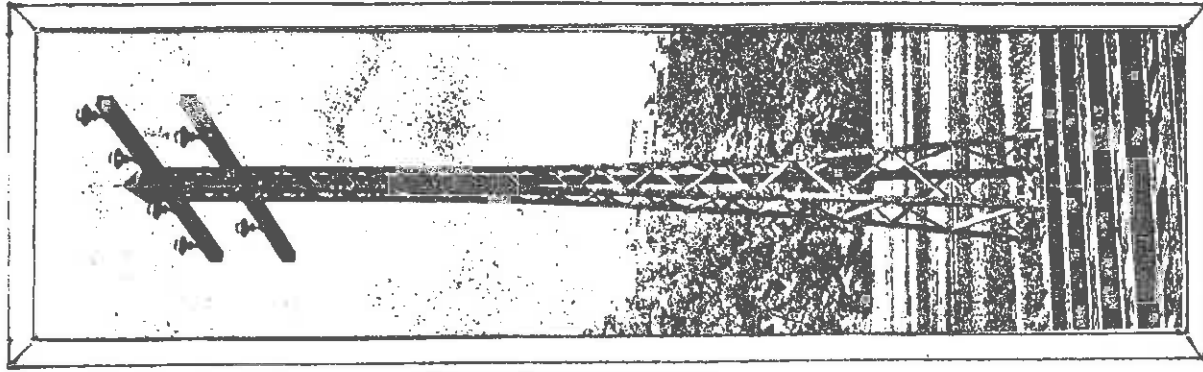
Major line relocation to underground in Cleveland around 1895.



Flashover occurring on a transmission line running through the old basin of the Great Salt Lake. Provo insulators were no match for this salt storm. Photo was taken prior to 1902.



Tole with "Cook Terminal"



Steel pole used by New York Central & Hudson River Railroad

**NEW NOTICE:**

Re: SPRING SPECIALTY LISTING

Due to the combined CJ/Drip-Points Membership Guide being published now in the Fall, and a similar listing being published now in CROWN JEWELS, the specialty listing was not published in this Springs issue of DRIFT POINTS as was last year.

Thank you for your kind letters supporting this specialty listing idea. I believe we had two times the amount of entries as last year without even mentioning a reunion this Spring. I am sorry if I led anyone to believe that this listing would be run on an annual basis.

— Keri

**Additional Note:**

There are about two dozen tripartite towers still in use in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. These towers were installed between 1910 to 1918.



# ASSOCIATION TRAVEL

SUMMER 1986

REPORT

**ASSOCIATION RATES NOW GUARANTEED THROUGH AUGUST 31, 1986**

**WHAT'S NEWS**

- **Alamo Rent A Car** now offers a **Free Upgrade** in each of their Florida cities listed below. Coupon below must be presented at time of rental.
- **Free Frequent Flyer Mileage** Now earn a 1,000 mile credit bonus in Delta Airlines Frequent Flyer Program with each rental in conjunction with a Delta flight.
- **Alamo: Expanding to Meet Your Needs Nationwide.**

FULLY EQUIPPED MODEL	NATIONWIDE		FLORIDA HAWAII WEEKLY SPECIAL
	DAILY	WEEKLY	
ECONOMY	\$22.00	\$99.95	\$79.95
COMPACT	\$24.00	\$119.95	\$89.95
MIDSIZE	\$26.00	\$139.95	\$99.95
STANDARD	\$28.00	\$159.95	\$119.95
MIDSIZE WAGON	\$30.00	\$179.95	\$129.95
LUXURY	\$32.00	\$199.95	\$159.95

Surcharges will apply during peak periods. Car category subject to availability. Prices guaranteed through June 1986. Fuel service charge \$15.00 for 4 tank minimum. Tax, rental deposit, optional Collision Damage Waiver and Personal Accident Insurance are extra. 3 day minimum for weekly rate.

**RESERVATIONS:**

- Call Toll Free 1-800-732-3232
- Request Plan Code "BY"
- You Must Use Your Association I.D. #

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**ASSOCIATION TRAVEL \$AVER COUPON**



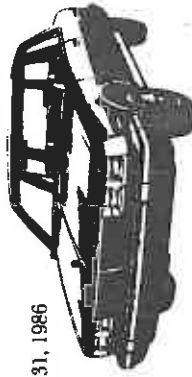
ID # 93236 (NIA)

ALAMO ASSOCIATION ID # REQUIRED

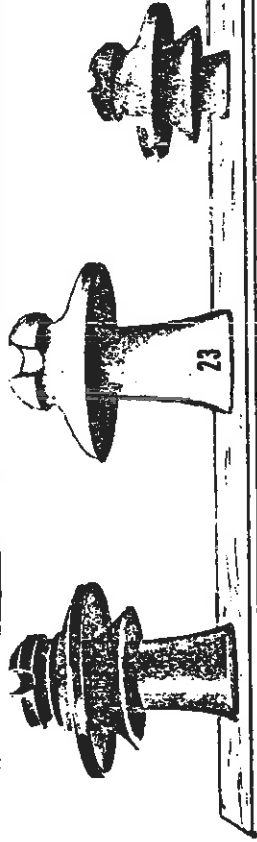
Present this certificate on arrival at the Alamo counter at any location. Call your Professional Travel Consultant or Alamo at 1-800-732-3232. Reserve 24 hours in advance. Be sure to LAC your Association I.D. Number and request Plan "BY".

**FLORIDA FREE UPGRADE OFFER**

- Must Be in Conjunction with Association Rates
- Minimum Rental of 3 Days
- Effective April 1 through August 31, 1986



Alamo features five General Motors cars such as the Buick Park Avenue.



**NATIONAL INSULATOR ASSOCIATION**

**INFORMATION ON N. I. A. MEMBERSHIP**

The Fiscal year for membership dues starts and ends on March 31. The current dues amounts for various membership classes are:

- \$8.00 Adult (Regular individual membership)
- \$8:00 Family (This type of membership is for one voting adult and other family members at the same address. Enclose an additional \$1.00 for each family member who wishes voting privileges.)
- \$1.00 Junior (Under 18 years of age)

Make checks payable to "National Insulator Association" and send to: National Insulator Association, c/o Treasurer Rod Krupka, 2615 Echo Lane, Ortonville, MI 48462 (313-627-6351).

Each member, if not a subscriber to the magazine "Insulators--Crown Jewels of the Wire", will receive a copy of the March issue of that publication which serves as the name-and-address directory of all NIA members. Subject to the availability of March copies, new members may have to await the succeeding March directory issue.

New members are entitled to all membership privileges immediately upon payment of current dues. Regular and Junior members receive all NIA mailings including the quarterly newsletter, membership directory and membership handbook. Family members do not receive duplicates of these mailings to the same address, but do receive the membership card.

A current membership allows a member to display and purchase a sales table at NIA National Conventions and assures admittance to the show on the first day, Friday, which is limited to NIA members only.

I (we) apply for ( ) New Membership ( ) Renewal Membership in the National Insulator Association.

NIA # (If Renewal)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Family Members: # \_\_\_\_\_

# \_\_\_\_\_

# \_\_\_\_\_

# \_\_\_\_\_

# \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT**

Marilyn Albers NIA #541  
14715 Oak Bend Drive  
Houston, TX 77079  
(713) 497-4146

**SECOND PAST PRESIDENT**

Pat Patocka NIA #140  
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