

# N. D. Native Named Area 52 REA Director

A native of Cooperstown, N. D., has been named director of the REA North Central Electric Distribution Area office in Washington, D. C.

He is Kermit O. Overby, former North Dakota newsman and one-time editor of the Concoridian at Concordia College.

Overby, who has been chief of the information services division of REA since January, 1947, has had a long career in the field of publications.



Overby

Born in Cooperstown in 1910, he was editor of the Williams County Farmers Press, publisher of the Griggs County Sentinel Courier and a night editor on The Fargo Forum before joining the Agriculture Department in 1938 as an information specialist.

During World War II he served as an army private for four months and a lieutenant in the navy from October 1943 to March 1946.

The new office he will head has responsibility for relations with electric distribution borrowers in Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, North and South Dakota and Wisconsin.

The office, with headquarters in Washington, will begin functioning July 1.

REA Administrator Claude R. Wickard said the office serving this area is one of five being organized "to streamline" the REA organization for handling the rural electrification program.