



been ringing at the Service Center almost constantly, were finally quieting down.

Except for isolated customers, all service was restored to Menomonie on Monday morning, July 21. Those crews, too, moved to Eau Claire. By this time, supplies of replacement materials had run low and stores and warehouse people had to get most of their supplies from the Twin Cities.

By Tuesday, the end of the battle was in sight. Customers were still being reminded to have an electrician repair their mast. Although portions of the west side and the east side hill were still problem areas, the rest of the city was now restored to service.

On Wednesday, July 23, only individual services remained to be

attached. Crews from other utilities were released and NSP crews were looking forward to somewhat shorter working hours. The ordeal had lasted eight days.

While final service reconnections were being made, half of the line-crews were released from work on Friday and the others on Monday. It was a long-awaited chance to catch up on the many hours of lost sleep.

Despite the long hours and exhaustion, everyone pulled together and miraculously no one was seriously injured. But the real miracle was that in the space of ten days, 300 people had managed to virtually rebuild a system that had taken years to construct.

—Lynn Moline—

