



FOR THE
FARM
WIFE
AND
FAMILY

The Farm Home Of Mrs. Clyde Wivell Is Rooted In History

by Mrs. Charles McSparran
Lancaster Farming Staff Writer

Mrs. Clyde Wivell of Donegal Creek Farms, Columbia R 1 co-chairman (together with Mrs. Jesse Wood) of the Women's Committee of the Lancaster County Farmers Association is not only a well known rural woman of Lancaster County but also lives on one of the oldest, if not the oldest, farm in the county.

An Indian fur trader built the "Peter Allen House" in 1717 and settled there by the Donegal Creek. This little house is still partially standing. Tiny and old as it is, it still is a thing of beauty and just to look at it is a reminder of our country's history even before the white man set foot on American soil.

Now to get some more history of the owners of this farm, the Rev. Andrew Anderson who was the first minister of the Donegal Presbytery bought the farm from its original Indian owner and later sold it to William Ross who was an uncle of the historically famous Betsy Ross. Andrew Hershey bought the farm from William Ross and in 1810 built the present large farm house in which the Wivells live. Ben Heaston bought the farm from Andrew Hershey and it remained in the Heaston family for three generations, Fitzgerald Heaston having sold it to Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Wivell eight years ago. The following year they also purchased the adjoining farm. The two tracts have a total of 350 acres.

The Wivells have renovated this attractive, well-built old farm house by selecting various parts of other old houses and combining them in such a way that the interior is very striking and unusual. There's the huge corner cupboard in the dining room, the marble front on the brick fireplace in the living room that came from Ironmasters Mansion in Marietta and the old Franklin stove built into a large corner fireplace in the den combined with stone from part of a public building in

Lancaster. Then they included lots of bookshelves for their books and family prized possessions.

The Wivells farm 400 or more acres of land at present. They keep approximately 40 Holstein milking cows and 16 heifers, fatten 100 Hereford Angus and Charolais steers and 250 Yorkshire and Chester White hogs a year. They prefer the Yorkshire and buy them as shoats and fatten them for market.

Mrs. Wivell says "I'm a good pinch-hitter around the farm." She finds herself helping to milk when one of the men is absent, running many farm errands and acting as chauffeur for their children and for Mr. and Mrs. Albert Habecker who have made their home with the Wivells for one and a half years. This fine couple are each 92 years old and raised Mr. Wivell from early childhood.

The Wivells were married under the famous Witness Tree at the Donegal Presbyterian Church near Donegal Springs. Mr. Wivell is President of Lancaster County Farmers Association, chairman of the Board of township Supervisors and is serving on the County Crime Commission.

They have five children. Virginia is married to Donald Ranck, lives at State College, Pa. and works in a doctor's office. She is a licensed practical nurse. Lili Ann is a Junior at McPherson College in Kansas, majoring in Home Economics. She has won distinction in a public speaking course and was selected to go on a public speaking tour to Arizona over Easter vacation. Joseph is a Senior at Donegal High School. Thomas is in eighth grade at the Wilbur I. Beam Junior High School in Mount Joy. Both boys love to farm and want to stay in the Agriculture field. Joe is more business minded and Tom more mechanically minded. Pamela is 9 years old and in fifth grade at Maytown Elementary School and belongs to the Brownies. She likes to work in the garden and pick fruit, seed cherries



AN OIL PAINTING of the Peter Allen House done by Mrs. Rebecca Sheetz hangs in Mrs. Wivell's living room. L. F. Photo



THE HILL SIDE, a marble front on the living room fireplace forms the backdrop for Mrs. Clyde Wivell and her daughter Pamela. The fireplace front came

from the Ironmasters Mansion in Marietta. The antique sleigh bells on the mantel are reminders of merry days gone by.

L. F. Photo

etc. She is going to be in the 4-H Cooking Club this summer and wants to be a nurse. She is musically talented.

Mrs. Wivell, the former Helen Martin, was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Curvin H. Martin. Mr. Martin was a school director and has always been interested in civic affairs. He lives in Mount Joy. They always talked over civic affairs in their family and so it isn't strange that Helen became so much interested in local organizations and in legislation of interest to the farmer and rural people. She graduated from Maytown High School and was a practical nurse at the Crippled Children's Hospital at Elizabethtown before and a short time after marriage.

She says "I'm not much for hobbies. I enjoy working with people more than things." She is an expert seamstress and took a course in tailoring the past winter in an Extension class. She was active in 4-H when the children were in it and will be an assistant 4-H Leader this summer in the Cooking Club. She enjoys leading making floral arrangements and doing things as a family such as taking hikes along the stream feeding the trout which were placed in their stream by the Pennsylvania Fish Commission. She says "The children grow up too fast."

Mrs. Wivell is a member of Trinity Lutheran Church at Mount Joy, is active in Lutheran Church Women, a former teacher and now a substitute teacher in the Sunday School.

She is corresponding Secretary of Farm Women Society #8, formerly served as Recording Secretary and on various committees.

Mrs. Wivell served last year on the Ag Craft Committee for the Vo-technical school in Lancaster County, concerned with extending horticulture and floriculture with Agriculture to be extended. One school will teach irrigation.

Mrs. Wivell's greatest interest outside her family is working on the Women's Committee of the Lancaster County Farmers Association. They meet several

times a year and sometimes jointly with the Directors of the Lancaster County Farm and Home Center. They aim to be active in legislation and citizenship and assist the Directors of the Farmers Association with various activities.

Last year the Lancaster County Farmers Association won "The State Legislative" and "The P.T.A. Supply (service)" awards from the State Farmers Association. The Women's Committee won recognition for their Directory of Scholarships for high school students. This was a project of the Education Committee of which Mrs. Wivell is chairman. Each year they have a public relations meeting

in the county when they entertain a different group. Last year they entertained the Chamber of Commerce and this year it's the County Ministerial Association.

Mrs. Wivell is on the Women's Committee of the Pennsylvania Farmers Association, being representative for District 10 which comprises Lancaster, York and Adams Counties and serves as liaison between the women and directors of the Pennsylvania Farmers Association. Their greatest event of the year is "Ladies Day Out" when four Districts meet together.

At home the vegetable garden is Helen's project and Pammy helps with it. She enjoys freezing. (Continued on Page 21)



MRS. WIVELL has a shelf for each child where she displays their pictures and opposite each one their trophies and ribbons. Top is Ginny with her National 4-H Award through Home Economics and her 4-H baby beef trophy. Second is Lili Ann with her awards through 4-H district dress review. Third shelf is Joe and his championship awards in wrestling, horseback riding and Jr. High Citizenship. Mrs. Wivell holds Tommy's picture and Pammy's picture is on bottom shelf. L. F. Photo