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Grange Sewing Contest Open

With pants outfits added for the first time to the list of eligible garments, the 1971 National Grange sewing contest recently set a new high goal of 1,200 entries.

Mrs. Ross Metz, Allensville, director for Pennsylvania, said enrollment began February 1 and will remain open until April 30.

Mrs. Metz, chairman of women's activities in the State Grange, said the 1971 goal is nearly 200 above the previous record of 1,020 set a year ago.

Traditionally an event that has appealed solely to women and girls, the contest will avoid any discrimination by admitting members of the opposite sex who can qualify.

Contestants must be non-professionals 12 years of age or older and may be non-members of the Grange if sponsored by members. They will make any type dress or suit including pants outfits in one or more of three different classes.

Garments will be judged in May by subordinate and pomona granges preliminary to state finals in June at State Grange headquarters in Harrisburg where a champion in each class and a best-of-show will be selected.

At nationwide finals in New York following the state judging, Pennsylvania winners and champions from the other state will compete for national honors and prizes that include an ocean cruise and \$1,000 in cash. Attractive prizes will be awarded also to winners at the subordinate, pomona and state levels.

Mrs. Metz emphasized that entries, to be considered for judging, must conform to contest rules. Detailed information on the contest, she said, may be obtained from women's activities committees in all grange bodies. Assisting her on the state com-

Ida's Notebook



By Ida Risser

Already I've seen wild geese flying North. They were quite noisy and I hurried outside to see them.

It was one of those warm days when the ground thaws and we know Spring isn't far away.

In fact, the same day a car became stuck in the mud in one of our fields and needed a tractor to get out. People don't realize the limitations of a car on soft ground.

In the middle of our garden is a brick smokehouse. It's been there for about 160 years and has been used rather regularly.

Just now we are burning hickory wood to smoke sausage and tongue. Usually we use green apple wood and the smell, which clings to our clothes as we tend the fire, is very pleasant.

Recently my son took a picture of the meat hanging from the poles. It will probably be a fond memory for him in years to come.

My teenage daughter is a compulsive baker. Most every Friday night she plans what she will make on Saturday.

A usual day gives us two loaves of white bread, one of rye bread, a dozen dinner rolls and either doughnuts or sticky buns.

My only quarrel with this routine is that when all these goodies are around we eat them. And since I'm not as active as the children I dare not eat as many. We even had home-made noodles recently.

Would you like to hear about a scrap of paper which I find very intriguing? It is a time-worn and browned draft of a tract of land across the Conestoga from our farm.

It is unique in that it is dated 1734 and that it shows a Dutch Settlement where no houses presently stand.

Could there have been cabins there 237 years ago? I really don't know.

However, it is pleasing to know that most of this area is still being farmed, although one section has become a building development.

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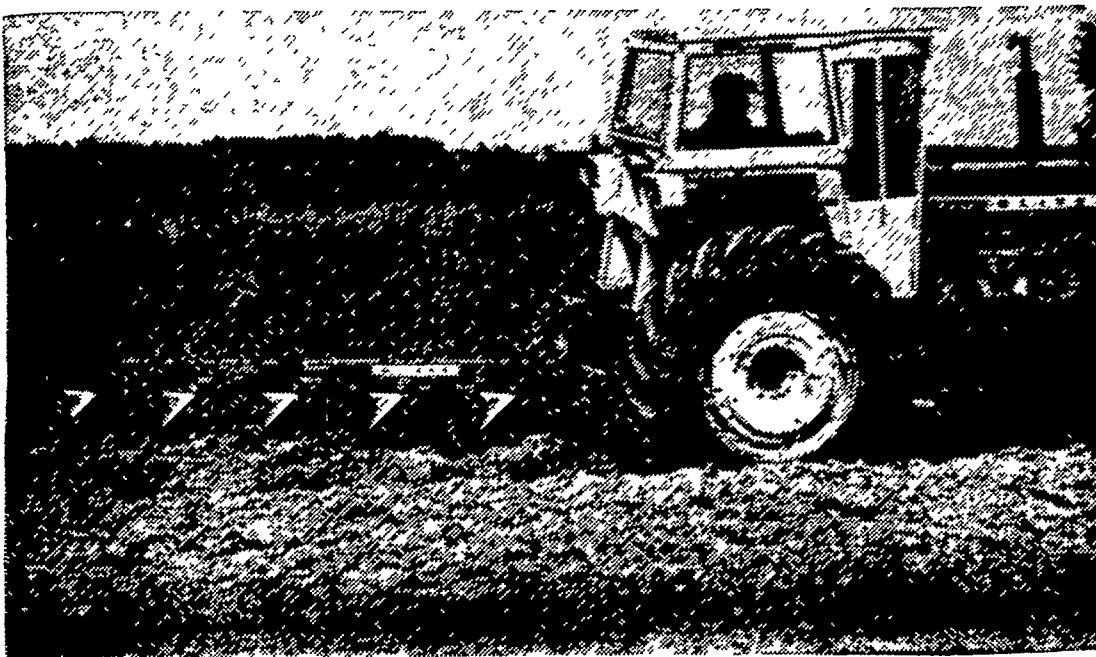
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