

## Ida's Notebook

I've just been checking and not only are the daffodils and the hyacinths coming up, but so are those pink-red shoots of rhubarb. Each year we have an abundant supply of rhubarb to eat, freeze and share with friends.

Even my houseplants are benefiting from the sunshine of these longer days. They are blooming a bit more and it is a joy to water and check on them.

Somehow, though I don't have a "green thumb" like my aunt and cousins, I still bring in a lot of plants, as I can't see the frost kill them.

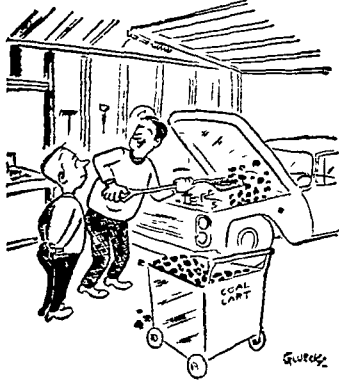
Then a few die here and there and only enough remain to fill the windowsills.

Generally, I think of farm women as being an ingenious lot. There are so many times when they must improvise. When you don't live next door to a store, you make substitutions in cooking and in repair work and all lines.



By Ida Risser

## My Neighbors



"This is one of the earlier models."

I'd like to tell you a story of an elderly farm woman who used her ingenuity in another manner. I was surprised to hear that she shared my dislike for long-winded salesmen.

This is what she told me: "After a salesman has held up my husband for an hour, I open the kitchen door and call 'telephone'. Then, they usually wind up their conversation in a hurry and he comes to the phone."

She added that he usually thanks her for getting rid of the agent. This sounds like a wonderful idea to me, but so far I haven't had the nerve to try it. You see, I might not get thanked.

At a recent farm meeting, I overheard a woman say that when word got out that her husband was in the market for a silo, they were besieged with salesmen. Aren't we all?

## Farm Women Calendar

Saturday, March 13

1 p m—Farm Women Society 13, entertain Society 21 and County Board Officers, Witmer Fire Hall

1 p m—Farm Women Society 7, entertain Society 15, covered dish luncheon, Leacock Presbyterian Church

1:30 p m—Farm Women Society 25, Vera Nauman, hostess.

6:30 p m—Farm Women Society 2, banquet with husbands, Willow Valley Restaurant.

Thursday, March 18

Farm Women Societies 6 and 7, entertain guests, Conestoga View.

Saturday, March 20

12:30 p m—Farm Women Society 5, covered dish luncheon, Church of the Brethren, East Petersburg

Farm Women Society 3, Mrs. Robert Hollinger, Lutz RD3, hostess

Farm Women Society 8, St. John's Lutheran Church, Maytown

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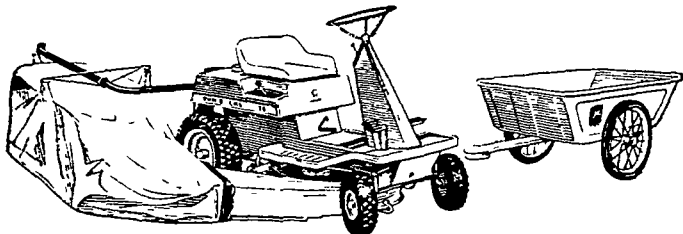
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