

Ida Risser

Our Christmas decorating is about finished. All except the tree, which will be cut just a few days before Christmas.

Day by day I add a few more pieces and wait for the children to notice them when they come home from school.

The decorative candles are on the bookcase, the plastic reindeer and stuffed Santa are hung in the doorway and the miniature manger scene is on the table. The gilded bird cage decoration, which I made several years ago, consists of bent wire hangers, hemlock boughs and red balls. It is always hung in the same spot in the kitchen where I can enjoy it.

We hope to have the three college children home for Christmas.

Our oldest plans to travel across the continent from Seattle, Wash., on the Canadian railroad. This trip sounds especially interesting to me, as I well remember my own two-week train tour of the United States at about her age.

We went West in December and the snow covered Rockies bathed in moonlight shall remain one of my favorite memories.

Do you know where William Henry Place is in Lancaster?

Finding myself with a little extra time on a recent trip to town, I decided to visit the Central Market. There on the Southwest corner of the building was the street sign saying "William Henry Place". It would be interesting to know how it got that name.

As a child, I occasionally had an opportunity to go along to market with my Grandfather Shreiner. Often I would pick long stems of a pinkish snapdragon-like flower from our meadow and sell them for five and 10 cents a bunch.

The next step, of course, was to beg to be taken to the store so I could buy candy.

I considered myself lucky to get a small bunch of Mums for the holidays for 10 times that long-ago price.

xxx

It is time for me to heave out the pile of newspapers and magazines, which I carefully save in the hope of finding time to read them.

I always feel as though I've missed something when they are discarded before I have opened them — even if they are old.

Farm Women Societies

Society 7

Farm Women Society 7 honored charter members, Mrs. Emma Denlinger, Mrs. Ruth Snead, and Mrs. Hazel MacIlvaine, at the December meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Eshelman, Paradise.

Miss Vanessa Homsher, Miss Jennifer Denlinger and Miss Stephanie Denlinger modeled clothes worn during the early 1900's. Each girl presented reminiscences of one of the three living charter members, and then presented to that member a commemorative candlestick holder which had been hand-crafted and lettered by Mrs. David Gehman, New Holland.

Society 7 held its first meeting in 1921 at the home of Mrs. E. E. Keneagy of Kinzer. At that time they elected Mrs. Keneagy as president and Mrs. Emma Denlinger as treasurer. Mrs. Denlinger, who also served as president of Society 7 from 1943 to 1944, was County coordinator for the fresh air children program for over 25 years.

Mrs. Snead, a former school teacher, joined the Society in December of 1921. Mrs. MacIlvaine, who joined the group in October of 1921, is commonly known for her concern for others and serves presently as chairman of the sunshine committee, whose job it is to cheer those who might be less fortunate.

The original 11 members of Society 7 came from Paradise, Salisbury, Leacock, Strasburg, East Lampeter and Chester County.

From a small beginning of sending money to the Near East Relief, the Society expanded interests through the years to include support of the Red Cross, Heart Haven, March of Dimes,

homes for crippled children, Cancer drive, Community Chest, the Lancaster Public Library, Girl Scouts, 4-H Clubs, T. B. Society, Needlework Guild, Blind Association, American Bible Society, Cleft Palate Clinic, Child Development Center, and Christ's Home.

Society 7 donated the shrubbery surrounding the Paradise High School in 1928 when the school was built, as well as a Bible at the dedication. In 1939 an outstanding senior award in English was begun. In 1956 when Pequea Valley High School was dedicated, the Society again donated the shrubbery surrounding the entrance to the school.

At early meetings the members were more intent on helping others than entertaining themselves. As a result, costly speakers were foregone in favor of the entertainment of the victrola.

In 1950 cancer bandages were sewn for the first time, and in 1955 Society 7 received second place honors in the County for making the most cancer dressings.

In 1962 the Farm Women entered a float entitled "An Apple Butter Boiling Scene" in the 250th Anniversary celebration of Paradise.

In 1965, community concern included paying a months rent for a family whose house had exploded.

In 1967 Mrs. Mary Denlinger, daughter-in-law of charter member Mrs. Emma Denlinger, was elected second vice-president of the Lancaster County Farm Women. Mrs. Denlinger will serve for the next two years as president of the County organization.

The 50th Anniversary celebration luncheon was held in October under the chairmanship of Mrs. Carlton Homsher. The culminating events took place in December with the presentation of the commemorative gifts to the charter members.

Hostesses for the event were Mrs. Arthur Eshelman and Mrs. Earle Beane. Mrs. Mildred

Hersh, president, presided at the meeting. Devotions were led by Mrs. Charles H. Rohrer.

Miss Joan Lucas, Lancaster County assistant home economist, presented a program on "Holiday Foods."

Society 29

Farm Women Society 29 met at the home of Mrs. Ronald Ober, Mount Joy RD2, for a Christmas party and gift exchange Mrs. Jay Bixler was cohostess

During the opening, Mrs. Donald Drager read the Christmas story from the Bible and other literature

Mrs. Dale Hiestand, president, conducted the business portion of the meeting.

Mrs. Robert Herr, Elizabethtown, was installed as a new member.

Proceeding the group party, the members present split into three groups. Each group delivered the "fixings" to provide a Christmas dinner for three area families. A visit was included with the presentation of the gift.

The next meeting will be held beginning at 7:30 p. m. January 17 at the Maytown Elementary School when members will wear old gym suits or high school colors. A physical fitness evening is planned.

Progressive Parties Held

201 Progressive Parties, sponsored by Fulton Grange to benefit the Southern Lancaster County Family Health Center, have been held to date netting \$3,079.08

Mr. and Mrs. Morgan E. Foose Jr and Mr. and Mrs. Willis B Krantz held parties recently. Also a \$20 donation was given

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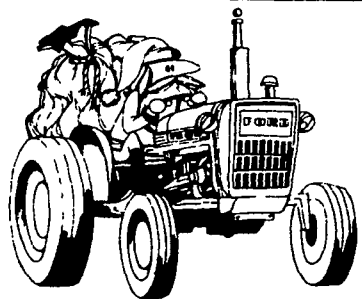
By NANCY SEWELL



Press-on Roses

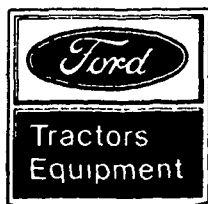
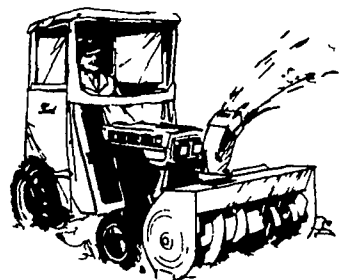
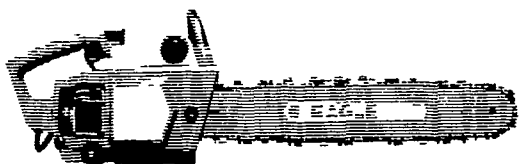
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Farm Women Calendar

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