

Homestead Notes



Mrs. Phyllis Endslow

Active in Family Beef Operation and Church Work



by
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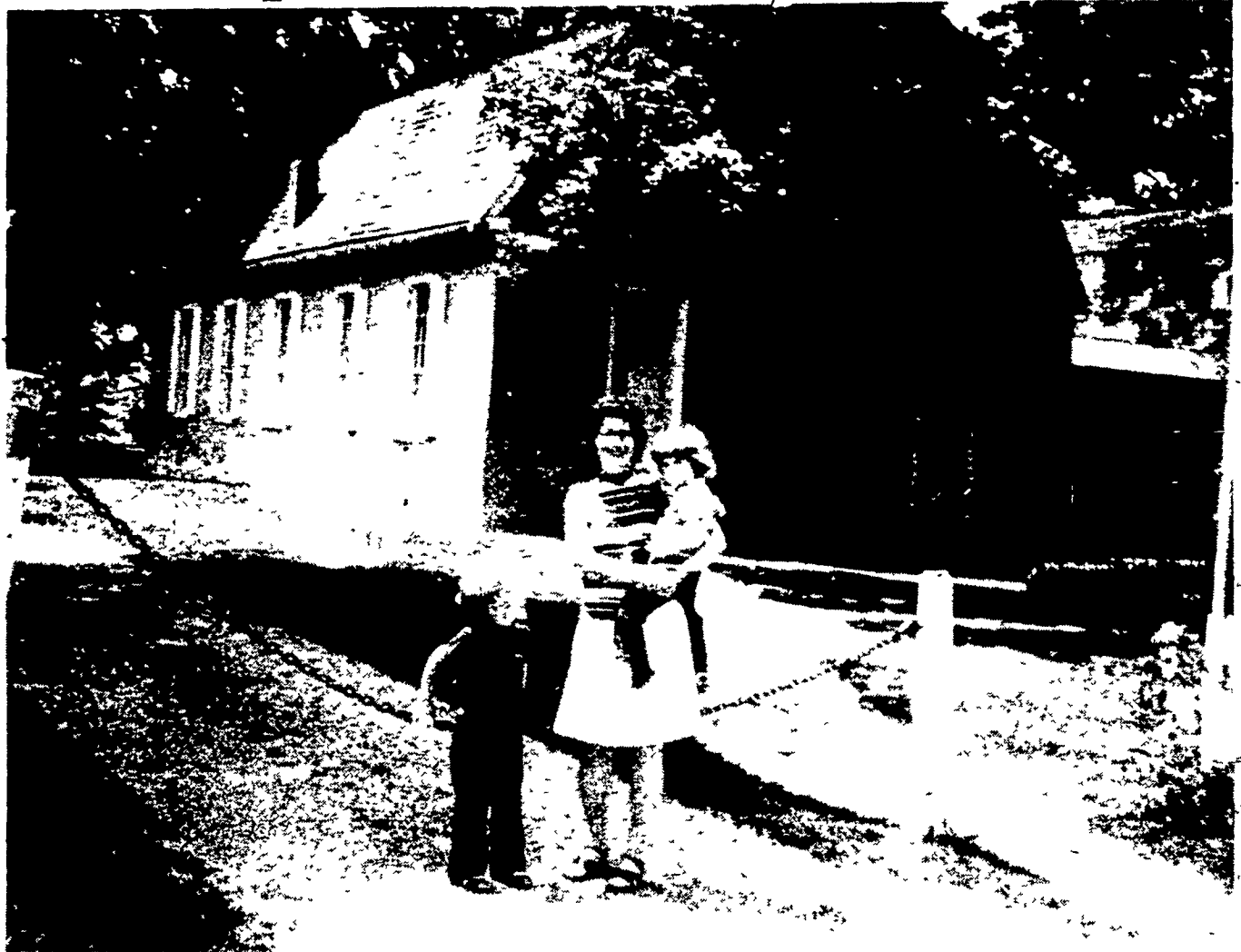
Mrs. William S. (Phyllis) Endslow, Marietta RD1, wife of a beef cattle farmer and mother of two small children considers her home and children her first duty but has also found way to be a real partner in the business and a leader in her church.

Mrs. Endslow says "I prefer to stay at home." Her husband also thinks its best for her to manage the home and she takes care of the farm work. They have a son Billy, four and a half years old, and a daughter Janie Sue, two and a half years old. Billy was named William Harold Benson for his father and grandfather and his uncle Benson Brown of Spokane, Wash., who has the same birthday. Billy is the only boy of his generation that will carry the Endslow name so his parents have him the family name. Janie Sue was born on her great grandmother Jane Elizabeth Endslow's birthday and her mother wanted a Susie so she was named Jane Elizabeth Suzanne. Billy attended Mrs. Jack Wenger's nursery school the last half of the past term and will attend his coming school term. Janie Sue will attend there when she is three and a half years old. Mrs. Wenger lives near Endsloes and conducts one session of the nursery from 9:30 to 1:30 A.M. and another from 12:30 to 2:30 P.M. in the basement of her home.

Mrs. Endslow says "We like to travel. We like to take the children on our trips. We usually get one good meal a day at a restaurant and have two in our room." The family went on a tour the past January to a no-till farming conference in Hawaii, staying in Honolulu. The tour was sponsored by World Wide Farm Forums which is affiliated with No-Till Farmer and Farm Wife News magazines. Over 200 couples were with the tour. Bill's brother George and a fourteen year old cousin Nancy Werst, who was their baby sitter, also went. Bill and Phyllis had gone on an eight island tour of Hawaii five years ago.

Phyllis went on a nine and a half week guided tour of 18 European countries in 1963 which was arranged by Kenneth Kreider of Elizabethtown. The tour took them into Russia; East Germany; Poland where they visited the Polish state farm; Hungary; London, England; Ireland, Scotland; Holland; Austria; Geneva, Switzerland; Italy and the island of Sardinia. Bill also went to Sardinia Island with friends in 1965.

Bill and Phyllis own the Ebersole farm and the farm where Phyllis' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Longenecker and her sister Judy live. Bill is also in a four farm partnership with his two brothers George and James and they do business as the Endsloes Brothers. They farm a total of 650 acres in East Donegal Township: 400 acres of corn, 120 of wheat, 65 of barley, 35 rye and the rest alfalfa and pasture. Bill, George and Arthur Longenecker do practically all the work. In a real



Phyllis Endslow holding her daughter Janie Sue with her son Billy in front of the Donegal

Presbyterian Church where she is serving as president of the Women's Association.

busy harvest season like now when Bill is hauling wheat and he sometimes has a long wait to unload they have three boys helping. Phyllis can pitch in and drive the tractor if necessary. James does not work on the farm. He is a computer programmer for Huth Engineering. This is the fourth year that they have had some no-till corn planted for silage after the barley was harvested. Last year and this they did some no-tilling for early planting of corn but their future plans do not call for no-tilling all their corn. The neighbors harvested some alfalfa for them. The partnership raises some hogs.

Bill and Phyllis are finishing 179 Angus steers on their Ebersole farm this year. They should be ready to market about October or November. They have automated feeding for the steers. Phyllis keeps all the farm books. She is involved in hedging for their farm. She phones her commodity broker in Harrisburg and gets prices for corn, wheat and beef daily then keeps records. By this hot line they can get in on a good price or can hedge for a later delivery. Hedging is a tool for stabilizing farm income. You must know your cost to produce the commodity and then decide what is a break even price.

Last year they had 345 cattle to more over an eight week period from November into January. The price went from 38 to 35 then to 41 dollars a cwt. and they considered \$50. a break even price. Phyllis said "I just realized it would be a good thing to do what I could at home to help." She started working with the commodity broker in January and they were then able to hedge their last 39 head of steers at \$54. They have been moving their steers at about 1200 pounds but now the market has changed and they try to move them at 1000 pounds. Anyone interested in hedging farm products can contact their broker in their local city and ask for the commodity man. About two percent of the farmers in Pennsylvania do this but out in the mid west about eighty percent hedge the market. Endslow's steers go the Lancaster Stock Yards.

Phyllis and Bill live on Airport Road, next to the Elizabethtown-Marietta Airport, formerly the Donegal Airport. Their home was built on the original Endslow farm by a Mr. Landis who also built onto the house. The house went back to the Endsloes when Ken Hershey bought the airport and since that Mr. and Mrs. Gene Day have bought the air-

port. Bill has been piloting and he does quite a bit of flying. They use it especially to take their dog to the Poconos to be bred, to take guests a ride and do not hesitate to use it for farm usage such as going for machinery parts. Their children have ridden in the plane since they were six weeks old and think no more of flying than by going by automobile.

Endsloes breed miniature Collie dogs or Shetland Sheep dogs, nicknamed "Shelties". They are used for farm or house dogs. Phyllis started breeding them ten years ago. The first one was given to her and then she bought one female dog and started breeding as a hobby. They only have one female now which is a granddaughter of the first one she bought. They have had as many as three female dogs at one time. They expect a litter by September 1st.

The children have other pets such as two white rabbits, a turtle and two ducks. One of the duck hens has 16 ducklings and the children are trying to train them to follow them.

Phyllis grew up on the farm and has been on the farm most of her life. She attended school mostly in the Denver-Ephrata area and graduated from Ephrata High School. She was in 4-H sewing, baby beef, Holstein, garden, capon and flower clubs a total of nine years. As an adult she was a 4-H flower club leader for two years in Northampton County and a 4-H sewing club leader nine years in Drumore, Marietta and Maytown.

She attended Elizabethtown College for two years and received a degree in Medical Technology. She then worked one year for Dr. Coursin at St. Joseph's Hospital in Lancaster. He was working for the federal government on vitamin research, setting up procedures for determining vitamin content in blood. She quit working in medical technology then went to the Moravian College in Bethlehem part time for two and a half years and received a degree from Elizabethtown College. Meanwhile she was employed in various hospitals. She then taught Biology and Chemistry at Solanco High School for three years.

William, the son of Mrs. Elizabeth Endslow and the late William Harold B. Endslow, was born in Rapho Township but moved to their present farm when he was two months old. He has lived there ever since and graduated from Maytown High School. He was in the Red Rose 4-H Baby Beef and Lamb Club for eleven years and was also in the Mount Joy area 4-H

(Continued on Page 31)



Phyllis is knitting her son a sweater. Other hobbies include ceramics and antique collecting.