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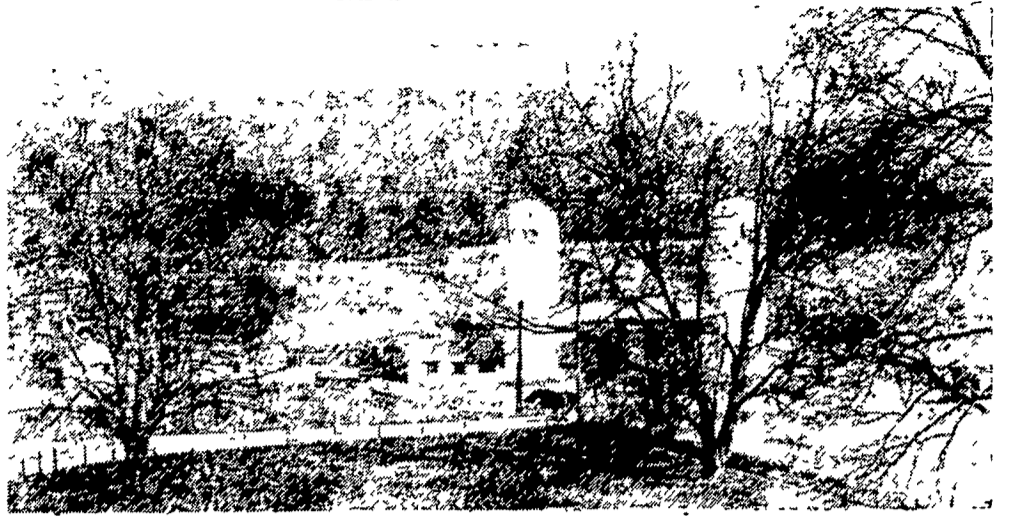
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LIFE on the farm

By DIETER KRIEG

When my mother wanted to keep an old bulky iron stove, I was convinced she was crazy. After all, those monstrous things went out of style more than a generation ago and there were a half a dozen better ways for cooking and heating.

Somehow the ancient contraption came along when we moved from a farm in Lancaster County to one of our own across the river. Moving it was a job in itself, and had I been allowed to have my way at the time, the old stove and the Krieg family would have parted company.

The pale green and yellow thing sat in one corner of the kitchen and was pretty much an ignored item for most of the year. During the warmer months it was covered with an old tablecloth to hide its plain black top. It served as a handy place to set jars of fruit ready for canning.

When the weather got cold, the old stove was fully exposed, and eventually Mom would ask to have a fire built in it. Then the built-in thermometer in the oven door would creep up from a reading of around 50 degrees Fahrenheit to several hundred. Occasionally it became a game to see how hot a temperature the old gauge would register.

That poor old stove - scorned and ignored for most of its existence - became an appreciated item during this time of year. And Mom wasn't so crazy after all for wanting to keep it.

Especially since the kitchen had no other source of heat except for what little was generated during the cooking processes.

The old stove was fueled with wood - a resource which was plentiful on the farm and gathered at practically no cost.

My grandfather saw to it that we'd never run out of firewood. Every year he would devote much of his time to salvaging any wood which could be used for something. The better pieces were neatly stacked in a shed and were used for miscellaneous building projects. Everything else - from fallen twigs in the yard to half-rotten boards - was chopped and stacked for firewood.

Wasting practically nothing and finding a use for most everything was a way of life to which my grandfather was accustomed, and one which he taught by doing.

We never ran out of firewood at home, thanks to my grandfather.

We had warmth in the kitchen on the coldest Winter days, thanks to that old stove which my mother wisely kept.

And so, as on many other farms, an "old" way of life blended in nicely with the new. And, as always, the family made use of everything that could be of possible service. Even an old stove, fallen twigs, partially decayed boards, and rusty, bent nails.

Enfield appointed to ag commission

ANNAPOLIS, Md. - Leon B. Enfield, a Frederick County dairy farmer and Maryland Farm Bureau vice president, has been appointed to the Maryland Agricultural Commission by Governor Marvin Mandel.

Enfield is also president of the Frederick County Board of Supervisors of Elections and alternate member of the Board of Zoning Appeals in that County.

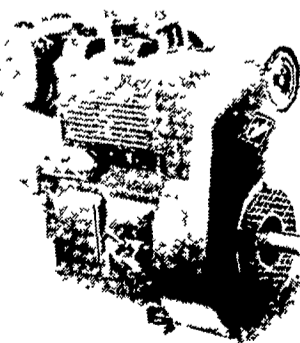
In addition to his public service, Enfield is a past president of Frederick County's Farm Bureau and in 1962 was the president of the Maryland Associated Farm Bureau Young People's Program.

Despite all of his civic involvement, Enfield is actively involved in his family farm which is a 208 acre dairy farm with 150 cows, 100 of which are milkers.

The appointment to the commission fills one of the dairy representative positions on the 17 member Department of Agriculture Advisory Board.

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