

LIFE on the farm

By Dieter Krieg, Editor

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One of the things a farm boy always has time for regardless of how busy he's kept with the chores is mischief. My brother Ingo and I got together for a bit of it one Summer shortly after several thousand bales of straw had been hauled into the barn.

For days we had picked up, pitched and stacked bale after bale; sweating and becoming tired under either a hot sun or an even hotter slate roof. Shirts - If we wore any - were soaked with perspiration whenever we worked in the mow. We breathed air which was heated beneath the roof and saturated with dust. You'd think we'd be glad to get out of it, and then stay out, but when there's a possible laugh involved, you can take more.

Ingo and I spent what little spare time we had lifting bales higher and higher until we were just beneath the roof. We built a wall which was straight up at the front of the mow and left "dungeons" behind it. We were going to be moving from that farm that Summer and thought it was neat to leave such an unusual mow behind for the next tenant. We never even noticed how much we sweated during those hours. Obviously, that wasn't work at all!

Our prank was nothing, however, compared to one my father engineered when he was a teenager

He and some of his friends dismantled an old spoke-wheeled wagon which was used for hauling manure during those days. Then they lifted it piece by piece to the roof of the barn and reassembled it. That should have been work enough for anyone, but the boys didn't let it end there. The pranksters proceeded to load the wagon with manure and left it atop the barn roof for all to see and wonder about the next day.

My favorite target for pranks was our hired man, Marvin. Practical jokes included building a big snowman atop his tractor, holding his cap directly beneath the fertilizing end of a cow, and filling his milk can with water (which he wouldn't discover until he got home.)

But the prank which was worth the most laughs for me took place one day when Marvin was pulling the manure spreader out of the loading area. It was on a lower level, and I was standing above the entrance.

"Hey Marv," I hollered as he steered his tractor towards daylight. He looked up, and what he saw

gave him the impression that I was about ready to give him a rude shower.

Never before or since have I seen Marvin hit the throttle of the tractor as fast as he did that day.

Conservation field day set

LANCASTER Lancaster County Conservation District and the Agricultural Extension servation District are en-Service's annual field day will be held at the Ken Kreider farm, Strasburg, on July 19, beginning at 10 a.m. In case of rain, the event will be held on July 21.

found by going east on Route 896 out of Strasburg. Turn right onto Bishop Road, go a half mile to Beaver Road, turn right and it is the first farm on the right.

Two contests will be held again this year - contour

The plowing and level land Con- plowing. The directors of the Lancaster County Concouraging as many persons as possible to enter the contest.

The activities planned for the day are:

10:00 a.m. Plowing Contest The Kreider farm can be in contour and level land divisions.

10:30 a.m. Land judging contest.

12:00 noon Lunch.

1:30 p.m. Rooster chase (4-7 years) (7-14 years) Greased pig chase (14 years and under)

2:00 p.m. Awards and prizes.

J. Everett Kreider is the chairman of the days ac-

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