

Ida's Notebook



Ida Risser

things which are never mentioned at home but of those that we heard about some were pleasant and some were not pleasant. However, they keep on accepting them because they are lucrative.

One child was paid to swim at the Country Club all one Summer with a very nice little girl. But recently this same child was asked to babysit for a family's children and ended up having seven boys only a bit younger than herself to watch over for several hours. I never could approve of a neighbor adding her brood to a sitter's already full job. Sometimes the work calls for feeding cats and

dogs in a nearby home in addition to regular duties.

At times my older daughter had to chase two boys over the ice of the Conestoga when they sneaked out of the house at night. Another time, one of our children was babysitting in the neighborhood when a big robbery took place in the area. That was a frightening night.

Why, I can remember when babysitting was an unusual occurrence here in the country some 30 or 40 years ago - mothers stayed home or asked Grandma to help.

If farmers had the time and the money to practice all that they know, we would really over produce in this country. My husband and son read, religiously, over half a dozen farm magazines so as to keep with an ever increasing knowledge in agriculture.

They travel to Ag Progress Days each year and watch

the large machinery operate and take tours to learn the latest on insect control and no-till planting. (Even I took a wagon tour in hopes of hearing my son lecture as he is in the agronomy department at Penn State.) However, putting into practice what we know is often the most difficult job in farming.

Over the years our children have had many different experiences as they

did babysitting jobs in the community.

I'm sure there are many

Know Where the Activities Will Be? Read the Farm Women Calendar.

xxx



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