

Her picnic table

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occasional trip through to pull the weeds by hand. Carol said that if she keeps after the garden in the beginning, the weeds don't get ahead of her - unless she goes on vacation like she did last year.

Laughingly she said, "I get a lot of exercise. I found muscles I didn't know I had. Mostly I don't think about the work."

As expected, Carol's family loves vegetables, and she happily offers advice on preparing vegetables if her customers ask.

Along with her love of gardening, Carol also enjoys stripping tobacco. She said she prefers doing it with her husband, but she goes out almost every day alone because "it gives me a chance to get out of the house."

Carol's interests are many, and varied. Before her gardening began taking so much of her time, she did custom sewing.

She feels she must give it up now and devote her time to the garden, and philosophically she said she likes gardening better for the family "because we can work together."

Sewing will remain a strong interest for Carol. She sews suits for her husband and clothes for the entire family. She had two years of sewing in 4-H and two years in school and recalls that she was determined to learn to sew well. "I remember the pride and joy in my first dress." She has taken some sewing courses over the years especially to update her knowledge with things like knits, and adds. "When I'm sewing it's hard to put down."

Over this past Winter Carol lost 35 pounds, and now she admits, "I don't have time to sew and I don't have anything to wear." She also enjoys needlepoint, embroidery and knitting, and reading "when I have the time." Most of these activities are pursued in the winter. Flowers and

houseplants are another interest, and the Hottensteins are redoing parts of their brick farm house, built in 1847. "I was the fifth brid to move in," Carol states, "and we are the fifth generation to live here. I'm proud of it for that reason."

An interesting experience for Carol last Summer was to be selected for a visit by the editor of the national magazine, *Farm Wife News*. Editor Ann Kaiser spent two nights with the Hottensteins and worked during the day with vegetables. Since she helped plant the broccoli and cauliflower, Carol sent her some fresh vegetables when they matured in the Fall. "It was a nice experience, a wonderful experience. Ann really wanted to help and learn."

The Hottensteins are members of the Congregational Bible Church at Marietta, and in December Carol completed a year as president of the Women's Fellowship. She also works part-time at the Watt and

Shand Department Store, at times, a job which she says gives her pin money and "a nice outlet."

She said she chooses not to get into too many activities while her children are small. She notes that with the role of women changing, "I've got plenty of years left to pursue other interests."

For the next several months, however, she will have little time for interests other than her garden. Her enthusiasm and seemingly boundless energy help to provide a waiting public with high quality produce, cared for with devotion and love.

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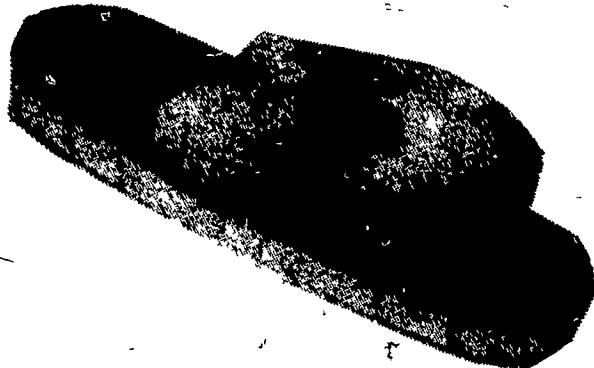
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