

Chester County IFYE tells of life in Belgium

EDITORS NOTE: Suzanne is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Iseminger, Malvern. She was a member of the Tri-Community 4-H club in northern Chester County, and was chosen to participate in a four-month cultural exchange program as an International 4-H Youth Exchange (IFYE) delegate to Belgium. While in Belgium, Suzanne will have lived as a family member with several different host families. The following is her letter.

Greetings!

It's hard to believe that in one short month I'll be home again. The time has just flown by. I'm living with my 3rd host family now - the Creteurs. They live in Montrevil-au-Bois, which is north of Tournai. They are a family of four with two daughters - Marie-Paule, 17, and Dominique, 16. They have a 35 hectare farm which is about 88 acres. They raise winter barley, wheat, potatoes, and sugar beets. We are going to harvest the potatoes this week, hopefully. I spent a week with friends of theirs, the Deven's, who live in Comine. Monsieur Deven is a Professor of Economics at the University of Louvain. Both parents speak four languages - French, Flemish, German and English. They have three children - Patricio, 17, Michelle, 14, and Yvan, 8.

I had a fantastic week traveling all over Northwestern Flanders. This is the part of Belgium which speaks Flemish. We spent two days visiting the ancient, medieval city of Bruges. This is a city that dates, in written record, back to 892. You experience an overwhelming sense of awe when you walk its streets. Bruges is called the Venice of the North because of the canals which run through it. We took a boat ride through the canals and the view of the houses and shops was magnificent. During the 15th century, Bruges was the center of the famous Flemish School of Painting. Its founder was the great master Jan van Eyck, who is renowned for his realistic portraits. I had a wonderful view of the town from the belfry tower of the town hall. We reached the top after climbing 366 steps but believe me, it was well worth the effort. We stayed overnight with a friend who has an apartment overlooking the North Sea in Ostende. One note: Seas don't smell salty like oceans! We then visited the fishing port of Zeebruges before returning to finish our visit of Bruges. Bruges is also a lace center. It was fascinating to watch the women who still make the lace by hand. Their fingers flew as they twisted and crossed the many linen threads.

I also visited the Beguinage of Bruges. The Beguinages are both beautiful and interesting. Beguinages began the middle of the tenth century. Because of the Crusades and the many feuds and wars, there was a surplus of marriageable girls and widows. It began with these women meeting regularly to pray and do handiwork. This evolved into the establishment of communities which were separated from the town by a wall and gate. The women lived lives of prayer, very similar to nuns, but not bound by the same rules as in a convent. They lived under the direction of a superior, called the Headlady. They wore a black or grey dress and a white veil. They supported themselves by making lace and doing embroidery. They also taught children and helped the sick and the poor. When you enter through their gate you immediately feel the peace and serenity surrounding their little houses. Following the death of the last Beguine in Bruges, the Beguinage was taken over and it now is maintained by the Benedictine Sisters. There are, however, three Beguines still living at the Beguinage in Courtrai. These groups

were founded everywhere in Western Europe but especially in Belgium. In the Middle Ages there were 94 Beguinages in Belgium. Germany had 54, the Netherlands 38, France 36, Austria-Hungary three, Switzerland and Italy each two, England and Poland each one.

The city of Ieper was also interesting for me, not only because it is a beautiful city, but also because my grandfather was stationed here during WW I. They have a curious custom in Ieper. Each May it was customary for the jester of Ieper to throw two or three living cats from the Belfry tower. This was begun in 962 by order of Baldwin III, Count of Flanders. The city continues this tradition today by throwing stuffed cats to the waiting crowd below. I also admire the courage of the people of Ieper because during WW I their town was completely destroyed. They have since restored it to its original beauty, which like Bruges, dates back to the Middle Ages.

I'd like to end this last newsletter with a little poem.

IFYE TO BELGIUM
1978

The greatness of Europe passes before me,
Abundant castles, caves and
Majestic cathedrals beckon me inside;

Beautiful old villages lure my steps.
Shadowy remains of abbeys,
Ancient masterpieces by Rubens,
Festivals and processions,
All of these I have seen
And the people I have met,
With their cheery smiles and rosy cheeks;
Always kissing you thrice,
Then spreading a gourmet's delight before you.
These are just a few of the things,
I'll remember the rest of my life;
Belgium has changed me in so many ways,
Enriching my mind and coloring my soul.

S.D.I.
9-1-78

After I return home in November, I will welcome the opportunity to give your club or organization a slide presentation between December and mid-March on my exchange tour to Belgium. Scheduling arrangements should be made by contacting the Cooperative Extension Service office, 235 W. Market St., West Chester; telephone (215-696-3500).

Best wishes,

Art, photography to be shown

DENVER, Colo. - The lecturer's department of the National Grange sponsors a program of competition in art and photography for members of the Grange. Thousands of entries go through local, county and state judging each year. The first place entries on the state level are sent to annual National Grange conventions for judging by experts in both fields.

All of the entries this year will be on display at the 112th annual session of the National Grange, Nov. 13 to 20 at the Regency Hotel in Denver, Colorado. National winners will be announced on Nov. 14 by Kermit Richardson, Barre, Vt., Lecturer of the National Grange. The display will be open to the public.

Soil Facts

It takes about 500 years of chemical, physical and biological processes to make one inch of soil. Modern farming practices, though, can destroy this inch in only a few years. The healthiest soils are made of 10 per cent humus, 40 per cent minerals, 25 per cent water and 25 per cent air.

THE GLENWOOD

HYDRONIC WOOD STOVE
And HOT AIR WOOD STOVE
FOR CENTRAL HEATING SYSTEMS



Model No. 1250

The Glenwood is designed to meet today's need for a high efficiency wood fired boiler. With its fully baffled interior and secondary combustion chamber, the gases of the wood are forced to be thoroughly ignited and burned before leaving the stove, thus generating more usable heat from less wood.

With over 44' of coil and a heat collecting water jacket the Glenwood 1250 boasts a 200,000 BTU out put.

The Glenwood comes equipped with automatic electronic draft controls which control the draft by sensing the water or plenum temperature. Also featured are a manual overriding control which can be used in case of power failure.

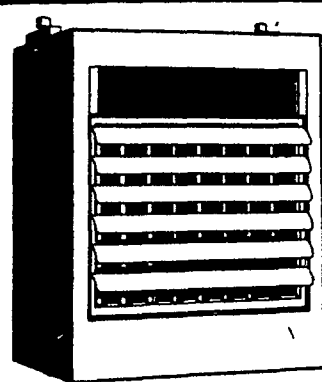
Two hot water, three hot air sizes.

All Glenwoods can be used in conjunction with an existing system as an add on or as a primary furnace with optional blower units or Circulators.

FREE LITERATURE

GLENWOOD STOVES

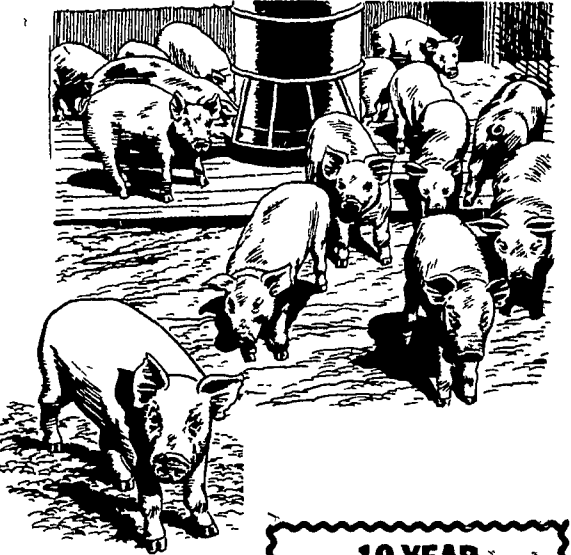
Fireplace Stoves, Box Stoves, Insulated Chimneys,
Chimney Brushes, Splitting Axes, Fireplace Accessories
HEAT ONE ROOM OR AN ENTIRE HOUSE
Phone: (717) 733-0703



PERFECT FOR:
HOG HOUSES

ALSO

- Calf barns
- Farm repair shops
- Other farm building



- * **COMPLETE LINE** — Fan, blower and duct models 25,000 thru 400,000 Btu/hr. All units are A G A an C G A certified for Natural and LP gases
- * **FIRE TESTED** — Every heater is tested under full fire before leaving the factory. All controls are double checked during fire test
- * **4-WAY ADJUSTABLE LOUVERS** — Outlet air is distributed evenly over a wide area

10 YEAR GUARANTEE

Complete heat exchanger and draft hood assembly is guaranteed for a full ten years. This is not a pro-rated or "mileage" type warranty.

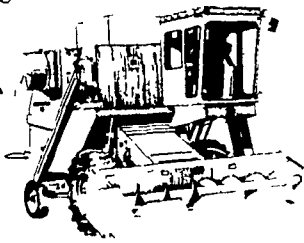
MYER'S METERED GAS SERVICE, INC.



P.O. BOX 71
MANHEIM, PA 17545
CALL (717) 665-3588



RED POWER HARVESTING HEADQUARTERS



NEW 715 COMBINE READY TO GO
SELECTION OF 844 CORN HEAD OR 13' 810 HEADER THAT'S IDEAL FOR GRAIN OR SOYBEANS

USED COMBINES INCLUDE

- IH 815 w/744 CORN HEAD
- IH 315 w/227 CORN HEAD & GRAIN HEADER
- IH 205 w/227 CORN HEAD
- MF 82 w/GRAIN HEADER



NEW 720 AND 830 HARVESTERS READY TO GO
CORN HEADS AND PICKUP UNITS
ALL ELECTRIC CONTROLS

USED HARVESTERS INCLUDE

- AC 780
- PAPEC 180
- NH 717
- CHOICE OF HEADS
- LIKE NEW-NEW IDEA 325 SUPER SHELTER
- FOX 546
- IH 50
- IH 550

WAIVER OF FINANCE OR ALTERNATIVE CASH ALLOWANCES TO 3/1/79 ON NEW HAY EQUIP., AND TO 6/1/79 ON NEW FORAGE EQUIP. OFFER ENDS 10/31/78.

* Now is the time to winterize your equipment. See our Parts Department for: Anti-Freeze, Batteries, Tires, Starting Fluid, Battery Chargers, Welders.



SWOPE & BASHORE, INC.

RD 1, Myerstown, Pa.
Located 1 Mile S. of Int. 78 & 6 Miles N. of Myerstown on Rt. 645 in Frystown
PHONE: 717-933-4138