

**On being
a farm wife
- And other
hazards**

Joyce Bupp

It's coming! It's coming!
Wait - I'm not ready yet!
The gifts aren't all here,
And the tree isn't set.

There are letters to address
And Cards that need sent,
Some toys to be bought
(But the milk check's all
spent).

Our turkey for dinner
Is still running 'round,

And the decorative pine
cones
Lay out on the ground.

No cookies are baked.
The fudge has gone runny.
The fruitcake's half eaten,
And the mixed nuts smell
funny.

A holiday dress
Is just pattern and pins.

There's an insect nest
hatching
On the boughs we brought in.

Our gift wrap roll's empty.
The Scotch tape is all.
The windows have spots,
And the silver is dull.

But all this will pass
In the joy of the season,
For such worries are
fruitless
Without rhyme or reason.

Rather let us remember,
As Christmas draws near,
To rejoice in His birth
During this time each year.

For God sent his Son
To bring peace and great
love,
An incredible gift
Sent to us from above.

So away with our worries;
Away with our cares.
Let us sing songs together;
Let's smile and let's share.

The true meaning of
Christmas
Is what counts the most,
Not the fanciest gift
Or the most lavish host.

Now from our house to your
house,
We wish you good cheer,
And a most blessed
Christmas
And a peaceful New Year.

Merry Christmas!



**Grangers call for
high mileage diesel car**

HARRISBURG — The Energy Advisory Committee of the Pennsylvania State Grange issued a call Friday for Congress to investigate the possibility of American auto manufacturers making a high mileage diesel automobile available to the American consumer.

"Since the American automobile manufacturers don't seem to be moving too quickly toward energy efficient motor vehicles, Congress should act in America's best interest and find out why not," the Committee reported.

In answer to increasing demands on the country's energy resources State

Grange Master, Charles E. Wismer Jr. appointed the EAC to advise the 46,000 member organization's leadership on priorities in energy issues.

In terms of farm energy, the EAC recommended that the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee make funds available from farm alternate energy projects.

Other areas considered by the Committee included encouraging the use of solar hot water heaters in private homes and cutting back on the use of outdoor lighting.

Members of the Grange's EAC include Chairman Paul Harris, Waverly, Bradford County; Kent Shelhamer, Berwick, Columbia County; Ben Slick, Roaring Springs, Blair County; Robert Leonard, Frenchville, Clearfield County; Donald Lutz, Mohrsville, Berks County; and David Gross, Red Lion, York County.

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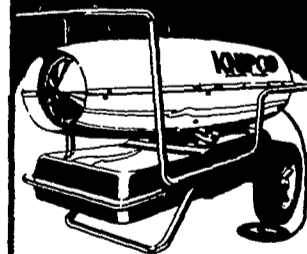
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