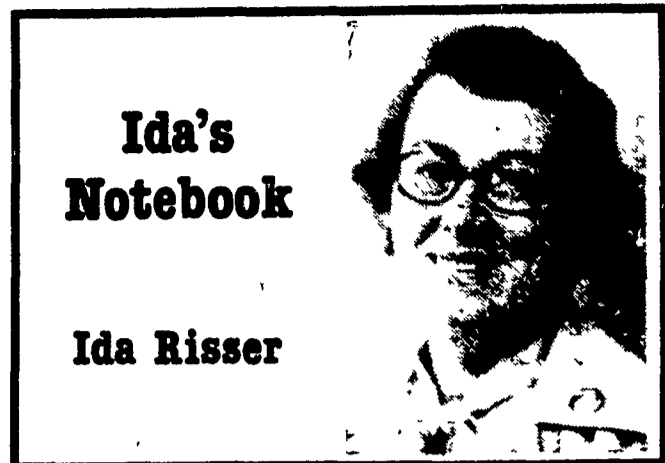


Bergland tells farmers no reserve



Ida's Notebook

Ida Risser

As we come to the end of December 1979, I decided to read my diary of December 1948 which was the end of our first year here on the farm. Some things were very different and others were the same as now.

Writing down in a diary the little things which go to make up the whole of life and then reading them years later brings back a flood of memories.

You see, that December I was waiting for the birth of our first child and was often isolated down here on the farm as my husband struggled to make a living selling and hauling potatoes.

We had no telephone until many years later and no near neighbors and so I often felt depressed.

Of course, there was plenty to do, especially after our daughter was born. Water for all washing had to be carried from the well; I made butter from our one cow, and carried wood to keep the stove going. We bought linoleum and laid it ourselves in the living room.

I'm surprised when I read how many squirrels I shot and how many pigeons and rabbits we ate. Mush was also a cheap food but we did have a few pigs and that helped the food supply.

My husband put shelves in the cellar for the 200 quart of food which I canned that first year.

We surely started on a shoestring, so to speak. A hose laid on the ground to water my father's steers which were in the barn often froze up. Corn had to be shelled by hand and one day we took 400 lath of tobacco down and put it on a pile. We sold our potatoes and cauliflower at Farmer's Markets in Lancaster and Berks Counties.

That year I bought seven fishbowls and filled them with plants from our woods in order to make "winter gardens" as gifts. I also hung evergreen boughs with a big red ribbon on our front door the same as I've done all the following years.

That first year I put lights on an outside tree but since then we've always had a tree inside. For many years we topped some of our own but now we must buy one.

And now with a new year coming up, when I get discouraged at set-backs, I guess that I should read an old diary and try to realize

ST. LOUIS, Mo. — Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland has assured American Soybean Association leaders that the USDA currently has no plans for a federal soybean reserve program.

"We were extremely pleased with the secretary's assurances that there would be no soybean reserve," said ASA President Allan Aves, a soybean grower from Kirkland, Illinois.

"The secretary did say, however, that USDA may consider a soybean reserve if soybean prices fall between \$4.00 to \$4.50.

"Secretary Bergland was very receptive to ASA's stand that soybeans have traditionally responded to the supply-demand system and that as a result, soybean producers do not need a federal soybean reserve," he said.

how far we really have come.

Even though Allen and I both have automated equipment now, we still remember how it was back then.

The soybean leaders discussed a wide range of topics with Secretary Bergland. Another major topic was the level of funding to the Foreign Agricultural Service for soybean market development programs. FAS will allocate about \$2.8 million for soybean market development activities in FY80.

At the same time, soybean growers have committed about \$5.3 million of their grower investment checkoff funds for soybean market development and research programs.

This combined funding, however, still does not meet identified opportunities for soybean market development and research programs.

"Secretary Bergland told

us soybean farmers would be pleased with his budget proposals for FY81," said ASA First Vice President Frank Ray, a soybean producer from Baker, Florida.

"The secretary said farmers who commit the most funds to market development programs should receive the most

support from FAS funds

"He said he plans to get USDA's market development funding to a 50-50 basis where FAS would match every dollar invested by farmers. Such an increase in FAS funding would be greatly beneficial to soybean growers and to everyone in the U.S.," Ray said.

Blue Mountain FFA

initiates Chapter Farmers

CRESSONA — On December 18, the Blue Mountain FFA initiated five additional Chapter Farmer Degrees.

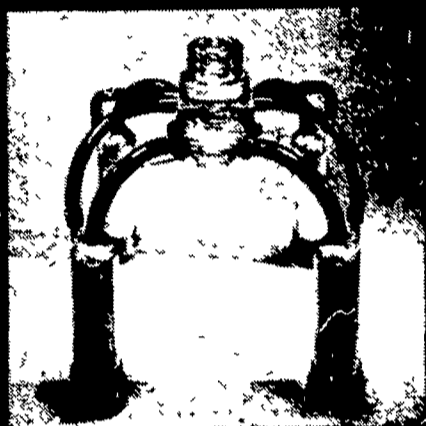
Receiving the honors were Darryl Fidler, John Fryer, Steve Dunn, Dennis Seltzer, and Paul Homrighauser.

The Blue Mountain FFA

also announced they sold 856 crates of fruit during the annual citrus sale. The high salesman again this year was Scott Tucker. He sold 102 crates.

The FFA Parent - Student banquet will be held on February 21, 1980.

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