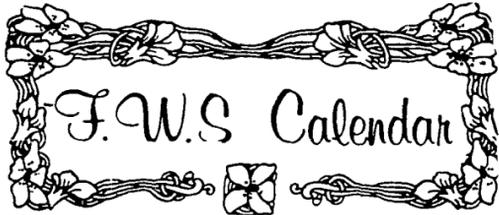




**On being
a farm wife
- And other
hazards
Joyce Bupp**

Sociologists have long held to the theory that wire coathangers, left alone in a dark closet, will reproduce at an astonishing rate. No one who ever spent time trying to untangle a family cluster of these tangled mobs is likely to dispute. But if you become alarmed at the population growth rate of coat hangers, then don't even ponder the divorce statistics of gloves and mittens. It's truly an appalling statistic. Not one single pair of gloves or mittens that's ever come to live at our house has ever remained married to its mate. Oh sure, some pairs manages to remain faithful to each other for three, four, maybe even five months at a time. Sooner or later, though, they fall prey to the separation epidemic and split. In desperation, I sometimes arrange mixed marriages. A red glove goes off to find new happiness with a green one, while that lonesome blue mitten will

eventually creep off into a coat pocket to live with a white and pink printed one. Rules of winter dress in a cold barn are broadminded and no one questions the strange arrangements. Nevertheless, I still persist in trying to buck the trend by fussing at our charter members of the Lost Mitten and Glove Association. Sometimes, the perpetrators of mitten divorces are chased back out to the back yard or the haymow to reunite the separated pair, a policy of pure torture to those who ascribe to the liberal political philosophy of "let Mom hunt it." And, to encourage the stability of maintaining pairs of happily married handcoverings, a box in the basement outdoor clothing storage area is kept in service at all times. It was supposed to be a sort of married mitten couples condominium. Turns out that it's been a singles place all this time.



F.W.S. Calendar

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| Today, January 12
Lancaster Co. Society 7 meets at the Paradise Fire Hall | Wednesday, January 16
Berks Co. Society 1 meets at the home of Mrs. Angess Noll |
| Tuesday, January 15
Berks Co. Society 6 meets at the home of Mrs. Steve Hetrick, Oley. | Thursday, January 17
Lancaster Co. Society 15 meets at the home of Ida Reinhart, 1 p.m. |
| Lebanon Co. Society 14 meets at the home of Mrs. Jerry Yeager | Lancaster Co. Society 18 visits Conestoga View. |
| Lancaster Co. Society 22 meets at the home of Mrs. Henry Hess. | Saturday, January 19
Lancaster Co. Society 3 meets at the home of Vera Smoker |
| York Co. Society 26 meets at the home of Mrs. Ralph Kohler, 12.30 p.m. | Lancaster Co. Society 18 meets at 1 30 p.m. in the home of Martha Stoner. |

HARRISBURG — The 64th Pennsylvania Farm Show opened at 1 p.m. on Sunday, January 6. But teams of people have been working for weeks, sometimes in 50 degree temperatures, to set up exhibits and check in the cattle, poultry, fruits, vegetables, clothing, foods, crafts and other items that have to be categorized for judging before the show opens.

It's almost like Christmas, as boxes containing quilts,



York Co. Society 1

Amy Miller opened the York County Farm Women Society 1 meeting with "Thoughts for the New Year" and a Scripture reading. The first meeting of the new year was held on January 2 in the home of Amy Miller. During the business meeting, acknowledgments were read from the New Life for Girls, Marie Smyser and Pat Sechrist. Committee reports were given by Mae Houston, Elsie Rishel, Ivy Hoover and Lida Bear.

Mabel Rishel suggested each member send a birthday card to Lida Bear on February 28, her 93rd birthday.

The Society's 50th anniversary to be held at the home of Mabel Rishel, was discussed.

Seven delegates of Society 1 attended the State Convention this week.

Iva Craft won the door prize while Nora Baylor won the pig.

Wayne Kramer from the Goodling Oil Co. showed an interesting movie presentation on conservation of oil for heating.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Alberta O'Neal on February 6 at 1 p.m.

Lancaster Co. Society 19 meets in the Landisville Church of God, 10 a.m.

What it's like before the show

Painted trays and macrame are opened. All competitive exhibits must have been grown, made or fashioned in Pennsylvania since the 1979 Farm Show, unless otherwise stated. They must also be the property of the exhibitor.

In adjoining rooms, 15 extension home economists bundled in coats and blankets, some trying to write with gloves on, poured through hundreds of clothing entries — everything from baby clothes to men's jackets and ultra-suede dresses.

On the other side of the Farm Show Complex, maple syrup was being carefully siphoned out of 1/2 gallon jugs and put into small numbered containers for judging.

In the exhibition hall,

hammers pounded and the smell of paint was strong as booths went up and were decorated. It was icy cold with garage sized doors constantly opening and closing to let in trucks and livestock. Many cattle wore special protective "white

coats." The main lobby of the complex was filled with Poinsettias, which by opening time had been scattered about to decorate the building.

Another Farm Show had begun

Who's the best?

HARRISBURG — What do you do when nearly all the items you're asked to judge have first prize potential? This dilemma faced crafts judge, Susan Boushman of Carlisle, at the 64th Pennsylvania Farm Show, now in progress.

The quilts submitted this year were good, superb in fact, she said. So she had to get down to what she called "pickey little points" in making her decisions. The degree of difficulty of

the design became very important. The judge also looked critically at cutting and piecing technique. Extreme accuracy became a factor in the final ratings.

This year the fabrics and colors were excellent and they were appropriate to the designs of the quilts. Boushman noted, adding that this is often not the case. "Judging was difficult, but it's wonderful to see such quality work," she said.

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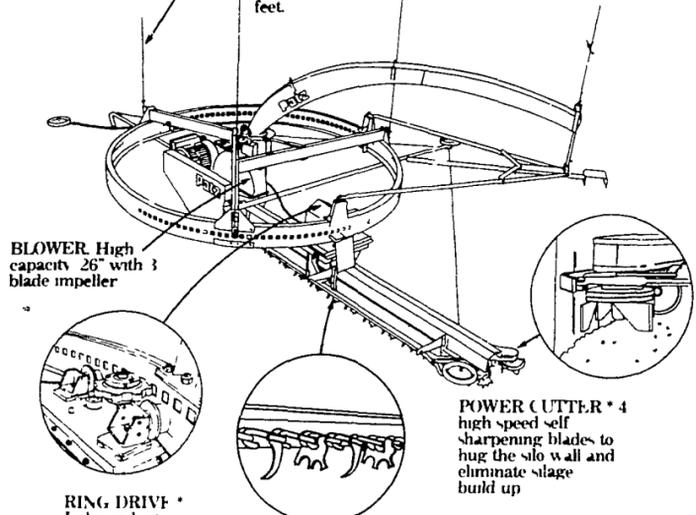
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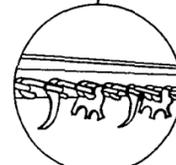
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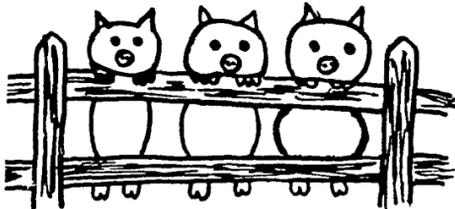
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