

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

Joyce Bupp

Say, are you keeping house more and enjoying it less?

Do you stumble across the living room floor and trip while traveling to the kitchen?

Is your throat parched and raw from pleading for help?

Do you inexplicably "lose" things for weeks at a time?

Uh hun. Just as I thought.

Another case of chronic "clutteritis."

This disease knows no bounds of race, religion or location, but seems most apt to attack females, especially those with children and farmer husbands.

Symptoms are legion, easily identified and may include these:

-drawers that refuse to close because six Weekly Readers are jammed behind them;

-dirty milk glasses and cocoa cups parked under the coffee table;

-last week's papers and this month's magazines liberally scattered through the house, in quantities to supply your local library;

--toys, sports equipment, sweatshirts, bookbags, shoes and various and sundry personal gear stored from this corner to that.

I had just about given up finding a cure for common clutteritis.

Then a dear friend, a dairy farm wife who works full time off the farm, hit upon the answer.

"What I need is a wife!" she reasons "Someone to keep the dirty clothes washed and put away, to sweep the floor, to start dinner."

Ah, yes A wife would be the answer for those of us suffering from clutteritis.

She could put supper away while I go start the evening milking, pick-up the bathroom after the troops have demolished it getting ready for bed, find a safe home for the Erector Set screws hiding in the carpet and put the cat out for the fourth time today.

Yes, That's it. I need a wife.

Except, I don't think a farmer can afford another one


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