

# Easter Eggs

(Continued from Page C2)

and some say resembled Christmas trees. These trees were fashioned from evergreen trees, trimmed with blown, dyed eggs and often filled with candy. A loop of contrasting ribbon was glued to the broad end of the egg and served as a hanger. Often gifts were placed under the trees.

In the early 1900's this custom became popular in the United States, especially in areas with large concentrations of German people, and even today it remains popular among the Pennsylvania Dutch. The bright eggs light up the spring landscape.

The parents of three children, Lloyd and Darlene are members of the Pequea Brethren in Christ Church. One son attends Penn State, and one son and daughter are married.

Darlene is very active in Farm Women Society 22, of which she is a charter member. The Society will celebrate its 30th year, and Darlene has served in every elected office. She is currently acting as cookbook chairman and cookbook treasurer, no small job since the Society has two cookbooks which they are actively selling. Her primary job is to keep track of the money and see that members always have cookbooks to provide to the outlets which distribute them. Darlene says, "It's busiest in the summer when the tourists are here. It is a very successful project. I really enjoy the Society."

Much of her time is spent working at Cloth World, a job which she enjoys because she has sewed since she was very young. She observes, "More people are sewing now than ever before, mostly because of the high price of garments."

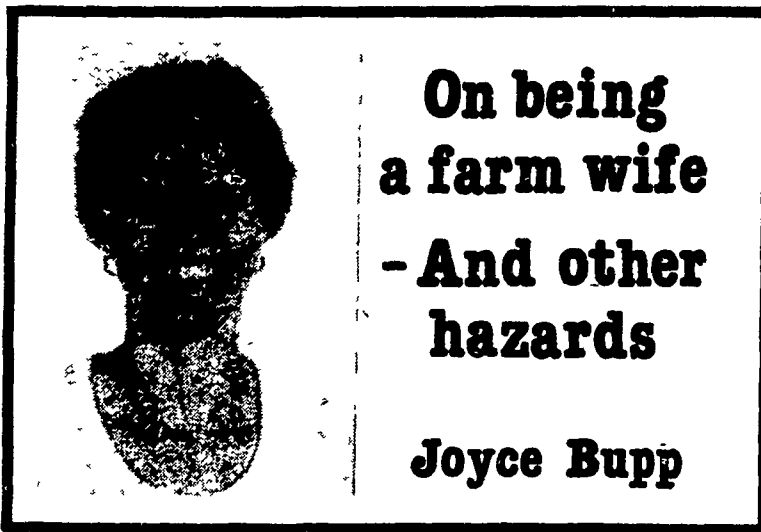
She especially enjoys arranging fresh flowers and grows an abundance in her yard. She has started her marigolds and pepper plants for the summer and she'll be busy canning and freezing once local produce comes in.

Darlene enjoys learning new crafts and says she can usually follow instructions for something new. She adds, "I find something and experiment." With another Farm Women member, Pat Landis, she learned to make waste cans adorned with a Holly Hobby type girl and a fishing boy. After learning to do the craft, she taught members of the society to do them at two workshops and helped her daughter make nearly 25 of them as gifts.

Each Christmas she tries to make something new for her only grandson, 2½ year-old Nathan. He has received a waste can, a stuffed teddy created at her sewing machine and a playful yarn kitten.

Darlene also needlepoints and says, "Crafts are really becoming more popular. The younger girls are interested in these things."

For Darlene, her Easter decorations are just another example of the extra touches she adds for each holiday. She stores them in tissue in shoe boxes. As she carefully unwraps each egg she shares in that ancient wisdom which shows the eggs as a symbol of the rebirth of the earth from the bleakness of winter into bright promise of spring.



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

Lately, it seems that most days here on the farm are akin to boxes of Crackerjacks: there's a surprise in each one.

Of course, some of those surprises we'd just as soon forget, like a cow with a twisted stomach, a man bearing out in some piece of cranky equipment, or heifers headed for the Paradise of the outside of the pasture fence.

But then there are the more pleasant and memorable surprises, like the one that arrived last Friday evening.

Honey freshened. Honey's one of our very best registered Holsteins, a strapping big cow with records to

25,000 pounds of milk and over 1000 pounds of fat.

Naturally, she'd been given orders to bring forth a heifer calf, a female offspring to continue her bloodlines and production potential, and to enhance our breeding possibilities from this family.

The infant's pink nose was a deepening purple from delayed birth when the farmer came to Honey's rescue. From the fine-boned leg he found upon examination of the cow, he was sure the presentation of a valuable heifer calf was imminent. Quickly, he pulled the calf.

It was a bull. He'd been weakened in the delivery, but strong enough to respond to Honey's motherly cleaning of her new son.

But wait. Further examination confirmed the presence of still another set of feet in the birth canal.

A second quick delivery.

A second bull.

And here was the real surprise. The second baby arrived with bright rust-red splotches of hair scattered across the white background.

Red and White Holsteins are a mutation of the normal coloring, with certain bloodlines more prone to producing the unusual colored cattle.

Resembling the Aryshire breed in coloration, Red and Whites have gained popularity in recent years, due to their "collectibility" and the relative scarcity of the breeding lines.

After a quick reflection on Honey's pedigree and breeding, we realized that, unintentionally, we'd bred the daughter of a "red-factor" sire to "red factor" mating.

Result: our very first surprise Red and White calf.

And it appears that "Surprise" will be the pampered novelty pet of the calf nursery for the next several weeks.



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| 2 Pc. Mattress Set (Dbl)          | 209.95   | 149.95   | 78.00    |           |
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| 3 Pc. Living Room Suite           | 909.95   | 589.95   | 388.00   |           |
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