


Ida's Notebook

Ida Risser



April is the best month to hunt for wild flowers. They bloom in the early spring before the overhead leaves become too dense

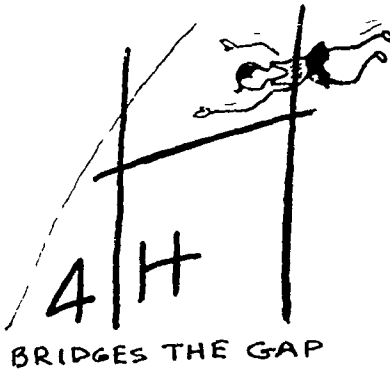
So this morning I started through the fields to some woodland even though the temperature was in the 30's and there was a brisk wind blowing I was thinking about the cold weather when a rabbit surprised me by hopping away toward the nearby bushes.

Soon I saw some Dutchman's Breeches, Dogtooth Violets and a few Bloodroots peeping through the leaves. Then I came to an area of meadow where thousands of bluebottles with various shades of blue, pink and lavender flowers were blooming and I picked a few to replace the dried marigold arrangement on the dining room table



I noticed that the upper meadow fence will need a lot of repair before the heifers can be pastured there Not only have people climbed over it but at one place a neighbor cut down a white birch and threw it into our meadow and tore the fence in the process.

It was a cold but sunny day and noisy wild ducks and geese were on the river. There were groundhogs and their holes were in evidence everywhere. Some new sink holes have opened in the old corn field and will have to be filled The trees were pushing yellow-green leaves and flickers, mourning doves and cardinals were flying about in them. There were so many rabbits that I think they were having a convention


A long walk like this is supposed to help one lose a few ounces but that is only true if you don't get hungry and come home and eat something. Sorry to say, I couldn't resist the desire for an apple from our fruit bowl.



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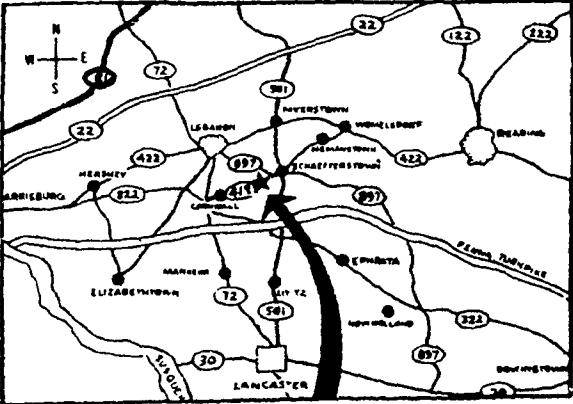
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