



Monday, May 25
Berks Society 5 meets at the home of Anna Moyer to hear Dr. Rothermel, chiropractor

Wednesday, May 27
Lancaster Society 24 meets at the Farm and Home Center for "Miracles of Nature" by Mr. J. Carl Nolt

Thursday, May 28
Lancaster Society, Lucille Buckwalter, tour Glen Landvater home

Lancaster 11 to entertain Society 1 at Quarryville United Methodist Church

Lancaster Society 28 to tour Herr's Potato Chips

Asparagus

(Continued from Page C2)

wreaked havoc with the crop, necessitating going through the fields and cutting all the tips which were up - "anything that was through the ground," Alice explains. This, of course, delays harvest until tips can grow out again.

Alice says there is an old saying that you can cut asparagus until June 21. "I don't know if there is any truth in it," she states with a laugh. She doesn't test the theory, however, because the Brickers stop harvesting their asparagus about the first week of June when their pick-your-own strawberries take over the bulk of their attention.

When the last asparagus is cut, the Brickers go through the field and cut off everything that is showing through the ground. "We cut all the buds off on the last day and then spray it for weeds. Then we let it grow up and it comes back into ferns," Alice explains. The ferns are cut off after the first frost, then left on the field. "Just plain manure is added in winter," Alice adds.

Asparagus patches can last about 15 years. "They'll begin to go back after that, but you can hold a patch a long time," Alice says.

Tending asparagus and strawberries sounds like strenuous, time-consuming work, but Alice likes her life. "I enjoy it. I really do. I like to be out. But we do get days when we think we are never going to see the end of it."

The Brickers are relatively new to the asparagus and strawberry business, having begun about five years ago when they decided to disperse their dairy herd. Despite their recent entry into the market, Alice's experiences with both crops are old. She recalls, "My grandparents had always grown asparagus. I had to cut it as a kid. I had to help out when I was in school. Oh how I remember! It wasn't anything we went into not knowing anything about."

The strawberries cover about 100

acres, with the Brickers starting 20,000 new plants a year. A patch lasts two years, Alice explained. She said going into the pick-your-own business was not difficult. "We had everything set up and had it planned the year before." They enjoy pick-your-own, and Alice explains, "We don't have any loss from it. We give them the carrier and the boxes. We'll start them down a row, but if they want to go somewhere else it's alright. Bossing doesn't work. It all works out real well."

They pick strawberries from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m., every day but Sunday. All their varieties are freezing varieties, and Alice states, "All our flavors blend. We don't have any preference."

After retiring from the dairy business, the Brickers purchased some sheep to help keep the pasture mowed, and now raise about 30 head of sheep for wool and farm about 215 acres of corn and wheat. They also have some steers.

They have six riding horses, and Vance rides with the Shrine's mounted patrol.

Alice is active in Farm Women Society 17 and is currently county corresponding secretary. She is also active in Eastern Star and she and her husband are members of the Allen Church of God.

The Brickers work very intensively with their asparagus and strawberry crops, but their produce is much appreciated and they enjoy the way of life which allows them to enjoy the outdoors at one of the most beautiful times of the year.



Lancaster Co. Society 3

The monthly meeting of Society 3 was held on Saturday, May 16 at the Cloister Diner Restaurant in Ephrata.

During the business meeting the Society made a contribution of \$100 to the Ephrata Public Library.

The Cancer committee thanked the members and friends who contributed their time and materials. Various size bed pads, slippers, and lap robes were made for the Cancer Society.

The Society will again conduct

their food stand on Main Street, Ephrata during the September fair.

Five new members were installed by President Allegra Leninger: Mildred Pfautz, Nancy Hertig, Mary Schantz, Susan Martin and Beatrice Kurtz.

The meeting concluded with a tour of the Ephrata Cloisters.

The June meeting will be held at the home of Ethel Gerhart on Saturday, June 20.

Lancaster Co.

Society 8

Farm Women 8 met in the Donegal Church recently for their mother and daughter meeting. Society 31 was entertained and daughters of nearby kin accompanied members.

Margaret Heisey read thoughts on mothers. Visiting ladies were introduced as members responded to roll call. Eighteen visitors and 15 members attended.

Mary Adams a teacher in the Manheim School District was the special speaker for the evening. She centered her talk on areas of child life in the home and elsewhere. She stressed the importance of concern and love for children in the home.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Helen Wivell, Columbia Rt 1 June 20, at 2 p.m. "Summertime Desserts" will be the theme for the program.

Lancaster Co.

Society 19

Society 19 and their husbands met in hostess homes on May 16 at

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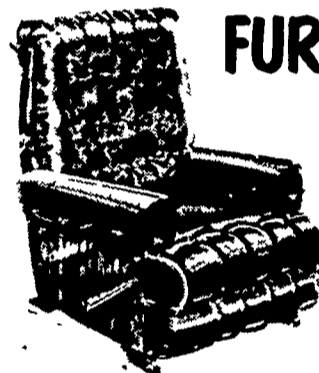
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