

On being a farm wife - And other hazards

Joyce Bupp

"Do you realize this is the first Saturday night we've been out alone together in ages?" I remarked to the farmer as we headed up the road last weekend.

Overhead, the clear sky was darkening to dusk, stars faintly twinkling in the deep blueness. From the western horizon, the setting sun cast a brilliant crimson

glow across the peaceful evening.

Romantic, you might even say. Except that on the passenger side of the family car sat the farmer, a cold, bloodied washcloth cradling his left little finger.

"That's going to take stitches," was my earlier opinion of the two-inch gaping split that sliced down the side of the finger. "Maybe," he countered, but gave little argument about the inevitable need for medical needlework.

But first, the cows had to be tied in their stalls and fed, then the milking started. Arrangements were made for Glenn to stay even later after his already long day in the field to help milk.

Wouldn't you know, Bambi chose this time to deliver her calf. Bad enough that she presented us a big bull, but did it have to come upside down?

Still oozing blood after two hours of barn chores, the wound showed no signs of miraculously healing so he could finish the remaining work at hand.

"Sure, just wait to go have it stiched when you have time," wryly observed his mom, with a horrified look at the finger when she dropped by on an errand.

Eventually, calf delivered, the day's grease and barn dirt somewhat dispersed by a quick shower, he meandered through York Hospital's emergency entrance.

"Mashed finger between a cow's head and a pipe," dutifully typed the records computer operator. With a grin, she added, "I like to make 'em laugh when they read these."

During our relatively brief wait, a rapid succession of sprained and broken arms and ankles, one obviously pregnant lady, a baseball player sporting a cut above his eye and four ambulances bearing an elderly fall victim and car accident cases swelled the thin ranks of the

waiting room.

Each in turn received prompt, professional attention in spite of the paperwork involved in such medical care and the sudden crowd that had assembled.

Waiting his turn, the farmer made an observation: "Everyone should see this now and then. It makes you aware and thankful of the care that's available."

One X-ray, a thorough washing with germicidal cleansing solution, several stitches and a couple of precautionary injections later, we exited the now-calmer emergency center to return home, the evening lit with a romantic full moon.

Looking back, maybe I just should have called the vet. He does the exact same kind of stitching. And it might have been easier to get him up here to the farm, than to slow down the farmer long enough to go for repairs.

In a flash of useless hindsight, if I'd known this was the kind of Saturday night date I could expect from a farmer, I'd never have agreed to go steady.

Maryland crowns Farm Queen



Ellen D. Brown, Rising Sun, Md., was crowned the Cecil County Farm Queen recently at the Maryland Farm Queen Contest

at the Timonium Fair. With her are, left, her mother Ruth, and right, Beth Warrington, chairman of the Farm Queen committee.

Penn State offers tax workshop

SUNBURY — Penn State Extension Service will hold Federal and Pennsylvania Income Tax Workshop at DuBois and Lancaster in October/November. The purpose of the workshop is: to provide the latest information in preparing the 1982 tax returns; and to provide methods and techniques for those individuals that are interested in preparing tax returns for others or just doing a better job on their own returns.

The course will qualify for CPE credits.

The workshop will be held: Oct. 26-28, at DuBois, Holiday Inn, U.S. Rt. 219 South, Exit 16 off Interstate 80; and Nov. 2-4, 1982 at Lancaster, Farm and Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster.

Individuals will receive instruction in preparing individual

farm and small business tax returns. Limited instruction will be discussed in terms of partnerships and corporations.

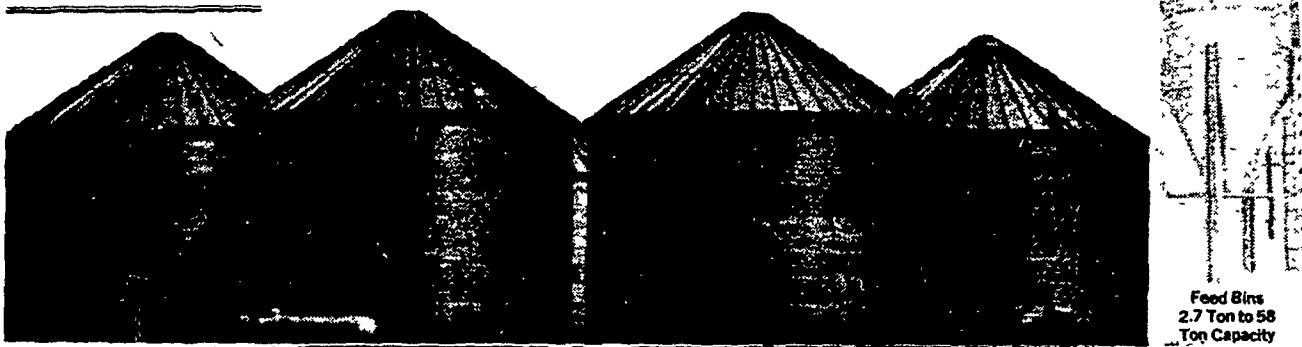
Subjects covered will include: income, expenses, Schedules F and C; miscellaneous types of income; depreciation, new method ACRS; capital gains/losses; various credits available; changes in federal and state tax laws, how to reduce taxes, use of family labor, IRA, etc.

Advance registration is required. Fees will cover 1982 materials and lunches. Applications are available from your local County Extension office or by requesting application from: Taxes, 202 Armsby Building, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802; phone 814/865-7656.

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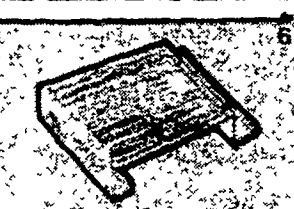


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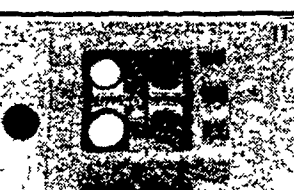
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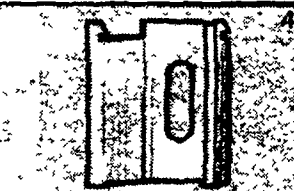
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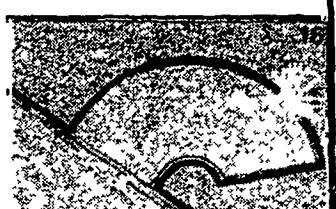
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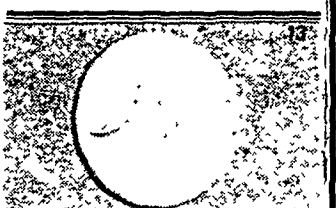
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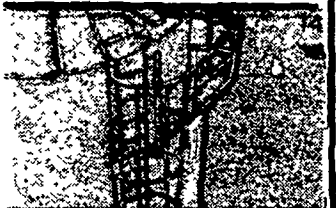
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