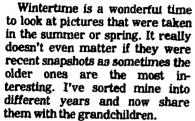
# Ida's Notebook

## Ida Risser



When I re-examine the recent Christmas photos of our family, it is just like reliving the experiences of all being together again. My children all own cameras and some have several expensive models. They've even taken courses in photography and entered some in contests and won prizes.

My talent is lacking in that area as I have trouble placing a group of people in the center of a picture. My favorite subjects are my flowers and plants. At this time of year, I enjoy looking at last years's flower beds. There are various pictures of wild flowers too that



were taken in our woodlands.

My great uncle was quite interested in many areas and so he traveled all over the county taking pictures of all the covered bridges, historic buildings in Lancaster city, plus banks and hotels in the villages of our county.

I believe he must have been given a camera as a child as many of his pictures are brown and yellow from age. There are pictures taken indoors of his family and pets which I think is unusual for that time. Some include men working in the fields, his own personal horse and the machinery used in the 1800s.

Recently I was able to share some of these with a professor who is publishing a picturial history of the Pa. Dutch Country. They included an old car, a steam engine, wheat binder, distillery and a Civil War gun mill.

I'm not sure that my uncle realized how many people would

# Interest rates drop on FmHA loans

DALLAS, Tx.-Interest rates for loan programs of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farmers Home Administration dropped again on Monday, reported Secretary of Agriculture John R. Block.

"These lower interest rates, which apply to most loans made by the USDA farm credit agency, will be of great benefit to the rural economy and particularly for the nation's farmers who depend heavily on credit," Block said.

It is the third such reduction since October 1962 by the agency, which makes farm, home and other loans to rural residents and communities who cannot get credit from private lenders.

Block said the reductions are possible because of a general move toward lower interest rates across all sectors of the economy and because of lower costs of federal borrowing.

Interest rates for farm operating loans, used to finance annual costs of production, dropped from 11.5 to 10.25 percent.

appreciate his efforts in the years

from 11.5 to 10.75 percent.

Interest rates for "limited resource" borrowers-those unable to afford the full interest rate—dropped from 8.5 percent for operating loans to 7.25 percent. Limited resource farm ownership loans go from 5.75 to 5.25 percent.

The interest rate for actual loss loans due to natural disasters remains at 8 percent for those farmers unable to get credit from private lenders. For farmers who can obtain natural disaster loans elsewhere but choose to deal with the Farmers Home Administration, the rate remains at 14.25 percent.

The interest rate for production loans to farmers who need financing above the actual loss and are unable to get credit elsewhere drops from 14 to 13 percent. The rate for real estate purposes remains at 13 percent.

Interest rates on long-term loans for soil and water conservation, grazing associations, irrigation and drainage and Indian land

If you have fat

Farm ownership rates dropped acquisition drop from the present 11.5 percent to 10.75 percent.

In housing, interest rates for single family homes drops from 11.5 to 10.75 percent except for borrowers who can afford rates charged by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Their rates remain at 12 percent.

Rural rental housing loan rates go from 11.5 to 10.75 percent.

On Dec. 31, 1962, rates for water/sewer and rural community facility loans were lowered. The 'market" interest rate for those communities able to affort it went from 10.625 to 9.750 percent, and the "intermediate" rate dropped from 7.875 to 7.375 percent. The poverty-line interest rate remained at 5 percent.



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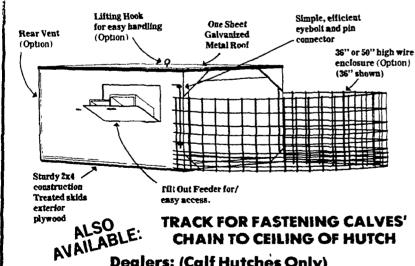
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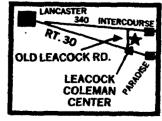
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