Farm Show Display

(Continued from Page B2) points out that babies were usually tied into the high chairs.

The two women pointed out that the chores done by the Victorian farm wife were done on a very regular basis, with a day to wash, a day to bake, and one to clean. "Their social schedule was their work," Nadine notes, "And they often made social affairs out of the work, like quilting bees and other get togethers."

In additin to the physical labor, it must be remembered that the Victorian farm wife often had the job of educating her children and providing for art in the home. This she often did through needlework and quilting.

In the Victorian era there were

many extended family situations, which gave extra help, and there was often hired help in middle class families. Of course, there also provided extra months to feed and clothing to care for.

To find information for preparing the exhibit Kim studied at the Franklin and Marshall Library as well as using information available at the Farm Museum. She read a variety of books and excerpts from journals and diaries. She points out, "I found what I expected to find as I did my research." Despite their long, hard days, Kim notes that farm wives often made their own relaxation in the evenings by reading or doing needlework.

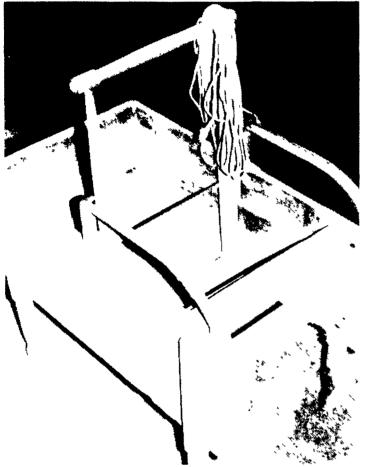


In addition to researching and then finding the artifacts she needed at the Musuem, Kim also wrote an exhibit script which details the different items which will be on display. Nadine supervised Kim's work during the internship and says, "It is a handson experience with objects which she wouldn't get in the classroom. It allows her to adapt scholarship to practical skills."

Not everything could be included in the exhibit because of space and security limitations. Nevertheless, the exhibit offers an accurate view Nadine Steinmetz, left, and Kim Becker, show off some of the items which they hope will attract attention to their exhibit on the main floor just outside the large arena. The items are all part of the treasures of the Pennsylvania Farm Museum of Landis Valley.

of some of the many jobs which kept the Victorian farm wife busy.

Nadine thinks it will draw a lot of interest and says, "I think people can identify with the late 19th century artifacts, and the stove will be a big drawing car. We've never concentrated exclusively on women before." The Farm Museum exhibit is located just outside the floor of the large Arena, and will be staffed throughout the week. The Farm Museum itself will also be open, except for Monday, and Farm Show visitors may wish to make the trip to Lancaster to visit the only museum of its kind in the state museum system.



This washing machine was the most modern piece of equipment available in the late 1800's, and saved work when compared with the washboard. The half-moon shaped tub sloshed the water and the clothing to help with the cleaning process. The dirty water was either dipped out or poured out.

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