

Ida's Notebook



Ida Risser

The other Saturday I traveled by bus to Bethlehem, Pa. for a walking tour of the city. We started at the restored 1869 Luckenbach Grist Mill. After viewing a film, we followed our guide who wore early Moravian dress. As we sat in Central Church, which seats 1500, she explained the humble beginnings in 1741 of the Moravian settlement. Bethlehem is three centuries of history come alive.

Within a few years of its founding, the Moravian settlers had developed a complex of 32 crafts and trades along the banks of the Monocacy Creek. In 1762 they had the first municipal water-pumping system in the American Colonies. The buildings of pre-Revolutionary Germanic architecture are not simply museum preservations — families live in them and worship in the old churches and chapels.

The German Haus built in 1741 and the oldest building still standing in Bethlehem houses a Moravian Museum. It not only contains old furniture, but also silver, musical instruments, art and needlework plus many clocks. In God's Acre (1742-1912) the headstones are laid on the ground rather than standing at the head of the graves.

By 1 o'clock, when we arrived at the Sun Inn for lunch, everyone was quite hungry. But, due to a change in personnel, they were not expecting 35 people. After a long wait, we were eventually served a very nice meal. At least the six

people at my table were good conversationalists. Some had lived in Switzerland, Turkey, Hong Kong and Thailand, while others had traveled extensively.

In the afternoon, my sister and I took a quick walk to see the display of antique furniture, oriental rugs and Bohemian glass in the Kemerer Museum on North New Street. The parlors had red and gold wallpaper and rose-carved furniture with needlepoint upholstery done by Annie S. Kemerer who died in 1951.

Now I'm looking forward to enjoying some historic homes in northern Lancaster County with my friends when we take a tour this month.

Penns Valley Beef Club

The Penns Valley 4-H Beef Club met on April 30 at Myers Brothers Meats for an educational field trip.

The group saw a beef animal being killed and skinned, then watched a State Inspector check it. The meat was then transported to a freezer to prepare it for cutting up.

The group's next meeting will be on May 31 at the Penns Valley High School in Room 20 at 7:30 p.m.

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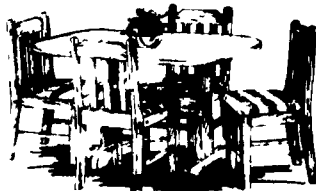
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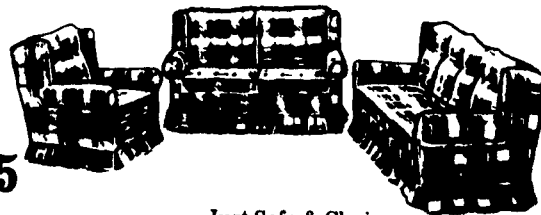
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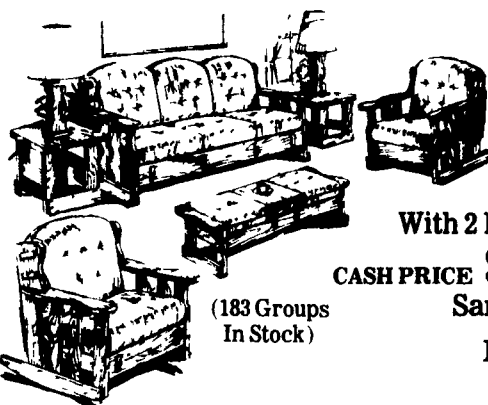


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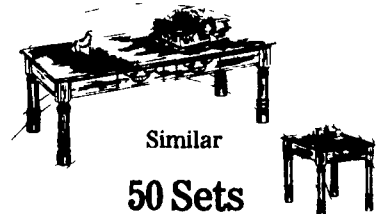


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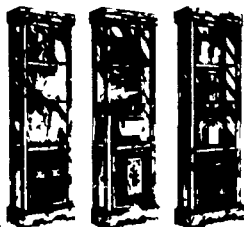
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