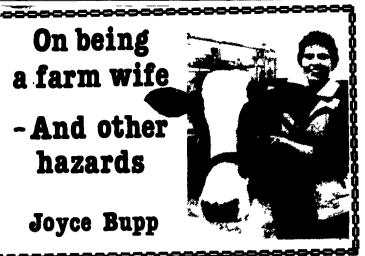
On being a farm wife

-And other hazards

Joyce Bupp



On and on it goes, this continuing flap about a national beauty pageant winner and the magazine that is raking in millions off the public penchant for peeping.

Personally, I haven't seen that renowned "skin" publication issue - and certainly won't bother going out of my way to look for one.

Already we have more "girl" magazines rolling in through the mail each month faster than anyone can keep up with the printed pages of each issue's featured beauties.

Thick and glossy, every issue is chock full of layouts featuring attractive females shown in headto-heel living color. Each is carefully posed to emphasize her

most charming physical attributes

Should it be considered an indignity that the farmer so frequently buries his attention into these printed pages?

One recent issue, for instance, came complete with a fold-out extra-page, full-color centerfold, and included such phrases as "cover girls," "supurb individuals," "stylish and well-grown," "tall and angular," with 'long, wide rumps.'

Oh sure, each and every issue carries numerous informative articles on such diverse topics as health, investments, travelogues and computer up-dates.

still command the most immediate

Long ago, I gave up any hope of ever weaning him away from his intense addiction to these subscriptions that focus so intently on female figures.

They go along to meals, the barn office, on vacation, to shows, sales, and conventions. Stacks of these magazines pile up all over the

It came to the point of "If you can't lick 'em, join 'em.

And that's why you'll find our whole family fighting for the latest issue of the Holstein purebred cattle breed publications.

Franklin County 4-H Shepherds

The Franklin County 4-H Shepherds recently completed the required project tour to inspect and grade all club members' barns and market lambs.

The club went in two groups, with extension agent William Reagan doing the grading for the northern half of the county and club leader Elizabeth Keener grading the projects in the southern part of Franklin County. All market lambs were ear tagged at that time.

The club met for a picnic lunch at Caledonia State Park, Fayet-Face it though. Those pictures teville, and spent the afternoon Blacksmithing

(Continued from Page B10) inspired them to take up the craft they now loved.

In 1973, Bealer invited about 25 enthusiasts to his home. There they formed the Artist Blacksmith Association and scheduled their first conference for the next year.

In 1974, the group had about 200 members. By 1980 there were 1,260. By the time of this year's conference, on the grounds of St. Norbert's College, membership stood at 2,400 and was still clim-

The phenomenon apparently is international. Richard Quillen of suburban London attended the 1976 conference and became inspired to form the British Artist Blacksmith Association. That group now has more than 200 members, several of whom attended this year's U.S. conference.

swimming in the park pool. Earlier, the club had a fitting and showing clinic at the home of David and Christiana Keener, which was conducted by John and Diane Conaway, Newville.

The Conaways showed the proper way to prepare a lamb for competition and how to show the lamb in the show ring. Following the clinic, members were joined by their families for a picnic supper and outdoor lawn games.

A survey of the American association's membership earlier this year disclosed that more than half did their smithing purely for enjoyment. Most of the rest earned at least part of their income by selling their work, and 202 of the 1,500 participants in the survey worked at it full time.

The growth in numbers has led to the formation of many local and oups: the Blacksmiths Guild of the Potomac, Southern Ohio Forge and Anvil, Black...

of Missouri, and the like. There also has been a spurt in blacksmithing books, and courses on techniques are offered at some universities.

What's the Appeal?

What is the appeal of this venerable craft? Many attending the conference echoed Whitaker. who said, "It's a turning-away from mass-produced junk, toward something creative."

Whitaker should know. At age 15, he began to study with Samuel Yellin of Philadelphia, widely acknowledged to be the greatest 20th-century smith. Yellin's workshop had as many as 200 students at one time, before the Depression destroyed the ornamental iron market.

Now Whitaker, who worked for 35 years in Carmel, Calif., before moving to Aspen in 1962, is semiretired. He has been teaching workshops for nine years, and says quality has improved "tremendously."

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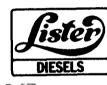
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