

Foresmans

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everyone of the hundreds of people who helped rebuild the farm, they are happy to have heard from many of them.

"Some of them have been back," Bob Jr., says. "They brought their families to show them all that happened and how their work looks." He notes that some of the workers whose religious beliefs forbid owning a car hired drivers to make the trip from as far away as Ohio.

For the Foresmans, most of the bad luck seems in the past. Although a compressor broke this morning and the manure spreader isn't cooperating, Bob Jr., says things are generally working well and the new buildings are practically flawless.

As Bob Jr., talks, his dog Misty barks the cows to their feet in their stalls. Friendly and tail-wagging today, this is the same dog who quivered and snarled at reporters in the first days after the tornadoes. Although the dog seems normal now, Eleanor reports that, like humans, Misty becomes restless and anxious at the sound of a storm.

The summer storms are far away now. Misty, like everyone at the Foresmans', is busy working. In the comfortable new barn, an hours-old calf snuffles deeper into a warm sawdust pile and two more calves tied nearby welcome her into the world.

"Things are looking up," Bob Jr., says.

Ida's Notebook

Ida Risser



It is finally quiet again. At least as quiet as a dairy farm gets to be. The calves are bawling in their hutches and a big motor throbs in the milkhouse. But here in the house the only sound is the furnace blasting away and the grandfathers clock ticking.

For the past ten days, we have had house-guests from Tunkhannock, Pa., Atlanta, Ga., Old Town, Me. and Chicago, Il. Even if they were relatives, it did make a difference in our daily routine. Of course, I tried to cook each child's special favorite—everything from parsnips to coconut custard.

The Christmas tree remains and I shall have a difficult time removing it. It is a large, perfect, white pine that just touches the ceiling. If I keep it watered, it will hold it's needles for a long time.

All of the gifts have disappeared from under the tree except my husband's and mine. He got a solid

steel unbreakable vacuum bottle, three shirts, candy and a rechargeable cordless light. My pile includes a camera, blouse, pajamas, photo album and candles. The biggest gift, in size, is a picnic basket with a set of bright red dishes inside together with a tablecloth and napkins. The smallest, in size, is a gift certificate to two restaurants.

We cut and wrapped a 40-pound block of cheese as our Christmas gifts to others. Then we in turn were given a big box of assorted cheeses. We'll be well supplied for a long time.

The tables have been returned to their normal size and the extra chairs have been carried to the

Twin Valley FFA wins silver in BOAC Contest

ELVERSON — Members of the Twin Valley FFA returned from the 58th national FFA convention in Kansas City, MO with a silver emblem award in the National FFA Building Our American Communities competition.

The Twin Valley chapter was judged the best BOAC chapter in Pennsylvania during competition last summer.

The BOAC program recognizes an FFA chapter's community activities. BOAC awards are presented on area, state, and national levels. Twin Valley's application described activities such as working with area retirement homes, presenting educational programs on agriculture to elementary students

attic. The washing machine can return to its usual number of loads per week—no more loads of towels. Now, maybe I can do a little genealogy research and finally finish a braided rug that I started last spring.

of the Twin Valley District, providing petting zoos for surrounding areas, working with the Berks County Farm-City Week Council, and sponsoring an American Agriculture Day Breakfast for Twin Valley area farmers, agribusinessmen and school staff.

BOAC winning chapters were recognized in Kansas City by Vance Clark, administrator of the Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Laird Wilson, vice-president, Del Monte Corporation.

National award-winning chapters were invited to a special banquet by Reynolds Industries of Winston-Salem, North Carolina (parent company of Del Monte).

National winning chapters also received convention recognition and received a plaque in recognition of their accomplishment. Twin Valley Chapter has been recognized for its community activities 10 times on the area level and four times on the national level.



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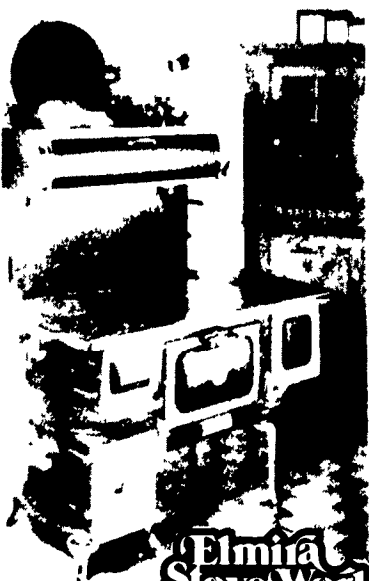
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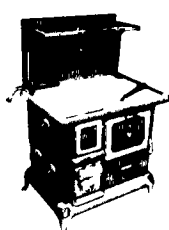
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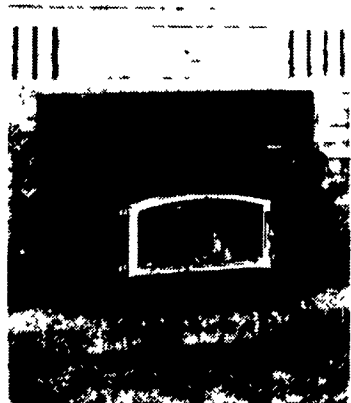


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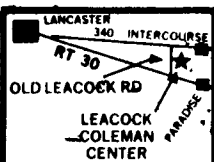
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