

# Ida's Notebook

Ida Risser



A book was recently published which gives a pictorial history of Pennsylvania Dutch Country. It contains pictures pertaining to the German-speaking people in York, Lancaster, Lebanon, Berks, Lehigh and Northampton Counties. These counties were developed as a rural area with individually owned farms. The many pictures in the book together with absorbing text help us to understand the early settlers. As they prospered, towns and industries sprung up. And as succeeding generations moved west, they took with them what they had learned here in Eastern

Pennsylvania.

One reason that I am interested in this book, beside the fact that I enjoy history, is the presence of several photos that I supplied to the authors, Gary and Elizabeth Hovinen. They were kind enough to give me credit in their acknowledgments. Several of the pictures were taken by my great uncle who had an intense interest in photography.

One picture is of a covered bridge near his former home. The bridge was demolished in 1953 in order to construct a wider bridge. Another picture shows him sitting

on a binder pulled by four horses as it harvested the wheat crop.

However, the one scene that pleases me the most is a two-page spread of my father's 1923 Overland as it sits on the edge of a muddy road. My mother, sister and I are standing beside the car. The text explains that "early automobile travel on country roads demanded considerable time, patience, and willingness to endure discomfort. Conditions of secondary roads were poor."

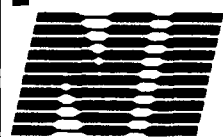
If I took time to read all of the books that I own, I wouldn't get any garden or housework done.

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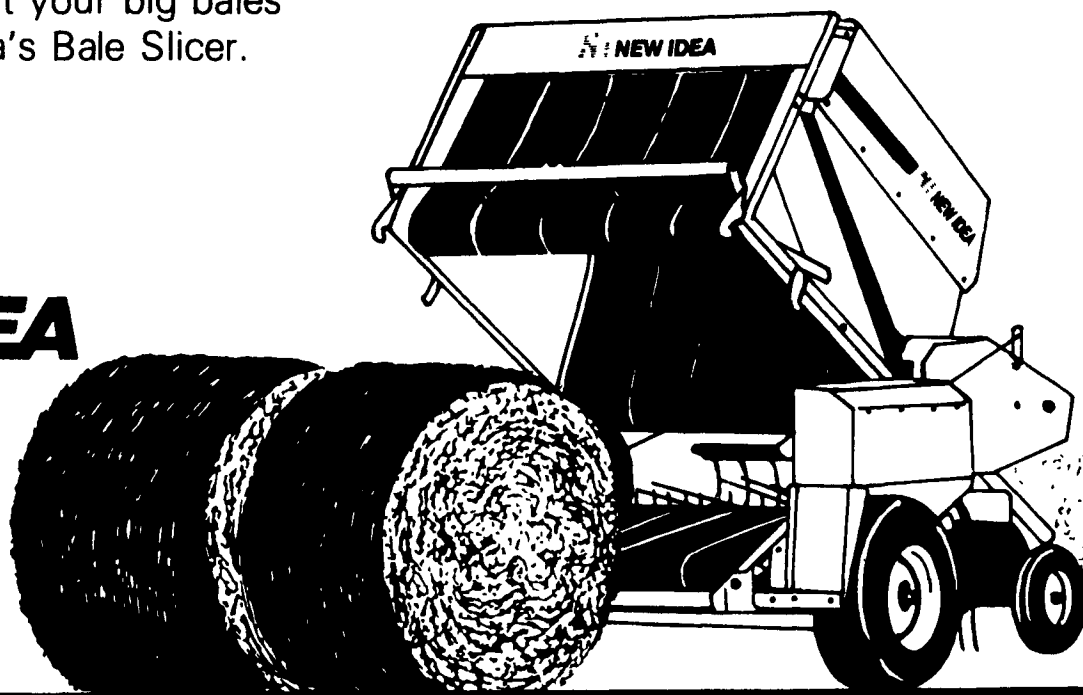
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