

Marie Steinmetz

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shrink from responsibility. Her daughter jokingly refers to her mother as "the German Stoic" because Marie lives by the creed of "doing what has to be done to the best of my ability, learning to accept whatever comes along and realizing that other people are worse off than myself."

Marie admits there have been plenty of things she has done in life, not because she enjoyed them, but because they needed to be done. For example, after her hus-

band's death in 1965, Marie quit a job she liked but could not survive on financially in order to work at a state hospital in the dietary and laundry departments. She admitted, "I liked the pay and the benefits, but not the job." Still, she's glad she did it. "It supported my daughter and me, and now I have a retirement pension," she said.

Marie describes herself as "a housewife, not an outdoor person." She adds, "I enjoy people. I need to do things with people."

For many years, Marie has been a volunteer tour guide for Landis

Valley Museum. There she has earned some fame for appearing on TV in support of the museum's services and for being in an article in *Country Home* magazine.

Marie is a member of a Pennsylvania German chorus in Berks County. She explained that her parents never spoke English to each other and that she grew up with a heavy Dutch accent for which she was ridiculed. Nevertheless, because the Pennsylvania Dutch language is part of our culture, she considers it a shame that it is dying out.

Marie is active in her church's missionary group where she does a lot of sewing for missions. She also waitresses for fire company banquets, volunteers at the Cedar Haven County Home and bakes, mostly angel food cakes, for friends.

As president of Farm Women, Marie hopes to increase membership. She pointed out that while many counties lost members last year, Lebanon gained. "A lot depends on how enthusiastic the president is," she said.

This is her second stint as county president, and Marie admitted that "It's a lot of hard work." But

she added, "You don't get anything worthwhile without responsibility. Headaches are involved in everything."

Once again, her German stoic-

ism is rising to the occasion. Lebanon farm women members can count on their president doing what needs to be done and doing it right.

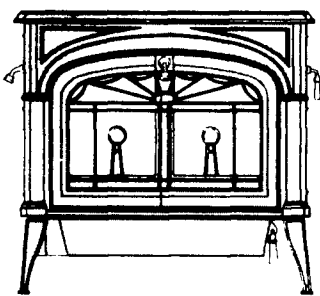


Marie admits that although the dog belongs to her daughter, she has become deeply attached to it.



As a professional seamstress, Marie seldom sits without some sewing in her hands.

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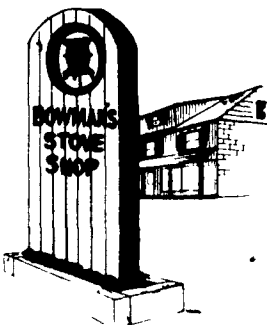
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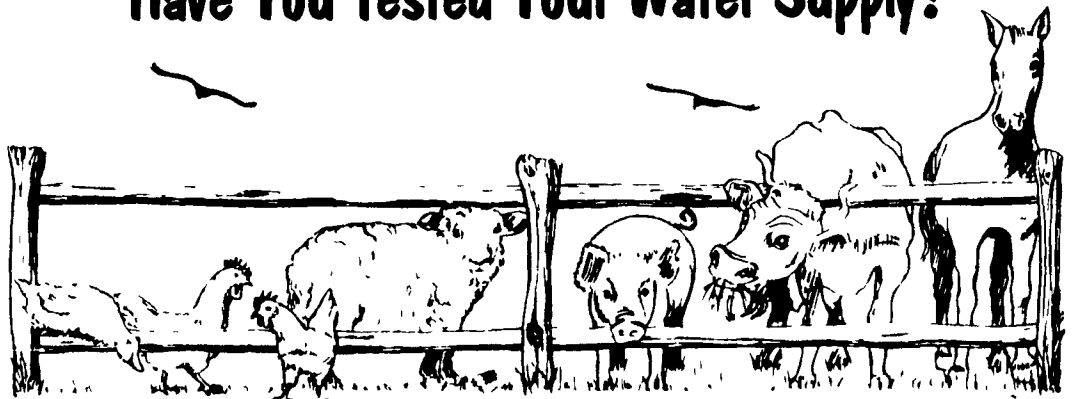
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