



Building a new fence requires tearing down a lot of old before the task can be accomplished.

## Couple, Bored With Retirement, Returns To Farming

BY LINDA WILLIAMS  
Bedford Co. Correspondent  
DUTCH CORNER (Bedford Co.) — Louise and Paul Long have spent most of their married lives farming.

Marriage and farming were a partnership to them and they both worked hard at maintaining and profiting from their 342 acres located in beautiful Bedford Valley where they milked 85 head of registered Holsteins.

Then, at ages 60 and 61, Paul and Louise sold their farm and decided to retire. Buying a home in the nearby town of Bedford, they settled down for a life of relaxation.

"But, Paul just couldn't sit and do nothing," Louise laughs. "First he got a job as a janitor, then he tried washing cars, and then he went back to being a janitor. But, all he really wanted to do was farm."

This past summer, Paul and Louise bought a 257-acre farm in Dutch Corner, a well known farming area in Bedford County.

"We had to," Louise laughs.



Paul and Louise are working long hours to complete the barn remodeling before cold weather and the arrival of the new beef cattle.

"We were spending every spare minute we had driving around looking for a farm. We just weren't happy living the city life."

Louise is quick to admit that Paul carries the heaviest load in

the farming venture. In 1968, she lost her foot due to a battle with a corn harvester. Because she insisted she had to continue milking, the doctors performed a Symes operation which allowed her to bend at the ankle and continue her farm chores.

However, it was shortly after the accident that Louise developed serious arthritis which has continued to plague her ever since. "Strange as it may seem," she says, "I still get pains in the foot I no longer have."

Small in stature, but a fighter, Louise keeps up her spirits despite the pain and does her best at helping with the new farm work.

The Longs do not consider having milk cows again, but the Dutch Corner location with a large farm pond and bubbling stream coupled with wide open pastures will allow for a substantial herd of beef cattle.

"So far our venture has been all work and no pay," Paul laughs. "But that's okay, we didn't expect it to be different. And we are so much enjoying life again."

The Longs have clipped and cleaned up the meadows and fields and are presently working at constructing new fencing which will allow the beef cattle to graze. They are also doing some barn remodeling and plan to paint the weathered gray boards an attractive color.

"The barn is solid," Paul says. "It just needs a little repair work."



Louise holds the ladder while Paul hammers.

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