

# Ida's Notebook

Ida Risser

Flowers are important to me—both house plants and outdoor ones. Sometimes I think that I inherited the liking for flowers as

my aunt and my cousins practically made their living growing flowers to sell on market. I remember seeing rows of crocks filled with

gladiolas in their summerhouses.

In my childhood, I'd pick meadow flowers and sell them for five or ten cents a bouquet. Some of the plants that these people gave me decades ago are still growing in my yard. They are pleasant reminders of people who no longer live. There are five kinds of lilies blooming at the same time.

On Sunday I prepared a floral centerpiece for a refreshment table at our church. Only two people commented on it and they were older ladies. Many folks think that it takes too much time to tend flowers. And, when I want to give bulbs to friends, they often say, "No, thank you" when they find out that they must be dug up in the

fall and replanted in the spring.

Some of my flowers reseed themselves and I end up with too many calendulas or larkspurs. The place that they are planted makes a big difference in how well they grow. The Golden Glow and Bee Balm are too prolific now that I've moved them into a sunny area.

And not to be outdone, my husband has a nice rose bed with a

variety of colors. He sprays his plants which is something that I've never done. He also puts wood shaving around the plants as he accumulates so much in his woodworking shop. He recently made a picnic table in a few hours for our son. And, he is making four holes in some 20 locust posts for a rail fence around our house. These things plus our gardens certainly keep him busy.

## Bechtel Represents Dairy Promotion In Tioga County

MANSFIELD (Tioga Co.) — Becky Bechtel was crowned 1993 Tioga County Dairy Princess by the reigning princess Suzanne

Jackson. The pageant was held on Monday evening in Mansfield. Laura Fitch was named alternate dairy princess.

Becky is the 16-year-old daughter of Robert and Dianne Bechtel of R.R. #1 Covington. Laura is the 16-year-old daughter of Elwin and Charlene Fitch of Roaring Branch.

As part of the contest, each girl was required to present a skit or speech promoting dairy products. Both contestants presented skits emphasizing that people should look for the "real seal" on products they buy.

Judges for the pageant were Don Sanders, Agri King representative, Millmont; Jenny Teeter, farm wife, Milan; and Christine Michols, advertising manager Brodhart, Muncy Valley.

The Dairy of Distinction Award was also presented at the pageant to the Jenkins-Pizzaglia Farm located near Roseville. The award was presented by Larue Thomas, District 17 chairman.

Dairy maids, who also assist in promotions, are Heather Wood, Erin Gummo, and Jennifer Johnson.

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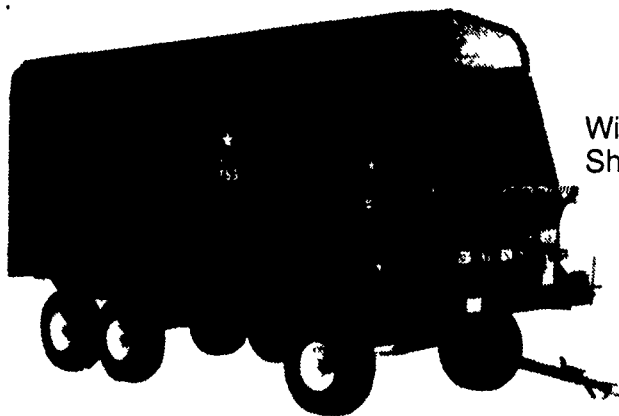
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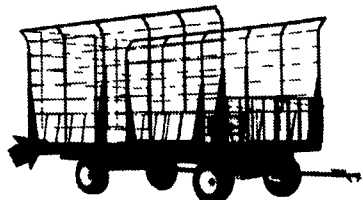
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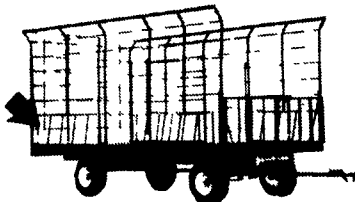
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