

Ida's Notebook

Ida Risser

Ordinarily we would have our garden planted by this time in April. The sugar peas would be in double rows the length of the garden and the onions would be pushing up green sprouts. But as I write this, I can't even see the ground as it is still snow and ice covered.

I've sent for a few things from a seed catalog but mostly I'll use seed that I've saved from last year and the year before that. Just last week I asked my husband to bring me several bunches of peanut plants that were hung high on basement rafters. After roasting them, I had an opportunity to share some with several people and even gave them raw ones to plant in their gardens.

Now when I go to the grocery store, I fill the cart with products that I would not have thought of buying 10 years ago. For one thing I find it is very convenient to have

a few cans of soup on the kitchen shelf for a quick meal. And, I never bought salad dressings as we had cole slaw and that only needed sugar and vinegar.

When our six children were all at home, I did not spend as much in one week as I do now for two of us. I realize that things cost a lot more, but in those days we got along by just buying flour at the mill and sugar, salt, bread, and baked beans at 10 cents a can at the store. Then, as now, we had freezers full of beef, pork, fruit, and 20 kinds of vegetables. We had lots of milk and I made custards most every day. A neighbor sold eggs to us at a very reasonable price and we ate very well indeed — maybe that is why our children are all so tall.

One of these days I'll be able to go out and get dirt under my fingernails again and start a new garden.

Invest In Tree Planted At Conservancy

MIDDLEBURG (Snyder Co.) — Nestled away in beautiful Snyder County is a bountiful treasure waiting to be discovered by lovers of nature, food and family. The Middle Creek Conservancy, located in Middleburg, offers opportunities galore for families and individuals to experience the joys and pleasures of farm life without the hassles and hard work. This special farm has been registered in the American Farmland Conservancy Trust. The Conservancy has been designated for the production and care of over 3,500 nut trees.

For a fee of \$49.95, the conservancy will plant and maintain a nut tree of your choice and guarantee that tree and its crop for 15 years. You can select from delicious varieties of specially grafted trees that produce giant, thin-shelled nuts unlike anything you can purchase in a grocery store. You can harvest and enjoy luscious varieties of nuts from the finest grafted stock of American Black Walnut, Persian Walnut, Pecan Chinese Chestnut, Butternut, Hickory, Filbert, or Persimmon trees.

The fee also offers you the privilege of visiting the conservancy to harvest your tree, fish in the ponds, pet animals and pick from many varieties of fruits and veget-

ables grown right on the 1,000 acre farm.

All the trees are cared for naturally, with no spraying of pesticides. The conservancy plants, prunes, protects and irrigates all trees as necessary. Registry of your tree is maintained at the farm headquarters. Your tree is beautifully labeled and identified. It is numbered, and you receive a certificate identifying your tree and establishing your membership in the conservancy. You own the rights to the tree and its produce for fifteen years. After that time,

you can still renew your annual membership.

If you can't come to the farm to harvest your nut tree, the conservancy can take care of that, too. For just an additional small fee for labor and shipping, the conservancy will harvest and ship your nuts to any location you desire.

For directions to Middle Creek Conservancy or to learn about the other options available at the farm, call Karl I. Zimmerman, general manager at (717) 837-3703 or (215) 543-1787. Or write, Middle Creek Conservancy, Middleburg, PA, RD 2, Box 24, 17842.

Look At 1930s Labor Practices

HERSHEY (Dauphin Co.) — In conjunction with the current exhibit, "Who's In Charge? Workers and Managers In the United States," Hershey Community archivist, Pam Cassidy will examine management practices at the Hershey Chocolate plant prior to the 1937 strike in a Hershey Museum program on Sunday, April 17, at 2 p.m. The anecdotal accounts used in her presentation help to illuminate prevailing attitudes and practices of the period. Also included in the program are clips from the 1932 film, "The Gift of Montezuma" showing the Hershey Chocolate plant as it appeared in 1932. Ms.

Cassidy will give background information on the film and the reasons why the piece was produced.

The exhibit "Who's in Charge" delves into the relationships of workers and managers in the United States from the 1800's through the present. Case studies such as the cigar making industry and the New England mills, as well as contemporary industries are used as examples of varying industrial management practices and how they affected workers.

The program is free with museum admission. For information, call (717) 534-3439.

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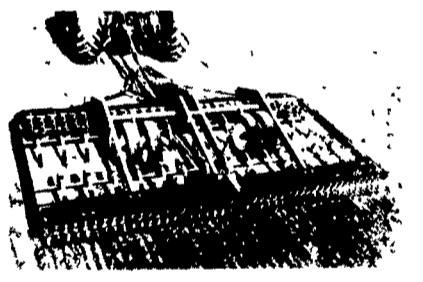
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