

## Ida's Notebook

Ida Risser

As I write this article, I am sitting in a hotel in Boston, Massachusetts. Allen and I have been on the road a few days with a group of some 30 people. We traveled through New Jersey, New York, Connecticut and Rhode Island to Newport.

Here we toured a colonial house built in 1748 and called the "Hunter House." Next we waited in a long line to visit the

"Breakers" which is the most splendid of Newports mansions. This was the summer home of Cornelius Vanderbilt and it was only used in July and August. The 70 rooms were elegantly furnished and the stairway to the second floor had 40 steps.

One day was spent in Plymouth where we boarded the Mayflower II. There were costumed guides who portrayed

the crew and passengers. Life on this ship in 1620 presented great hardships for the 102 passengers who landed at Plymouth Rock.

Our next stop was "Plymouth Plantation" which was an open air Pilgrim village. Here we saw how they lived in 1627. Their gardens were very interesting and contained red beets, spinach, turnips, beans and pumpkins. In a few short years they had prospered.

One of the highlights of this day was seeing the harvesting of cranberries. Our bus stopped at a large field that had been flooded and now as the berries floated on the surface they were being pumped up on a truck. Another smaller truck was loaded with debris and leaves. It was quite a production.

That evening at our hotel we were given keys to room 112. But when we unlocked the door, we found another couple there. All four of us were surprised! After a stop at the office we finally got a key to a room on the fifth floor. It had a king-size bed, a desk, television and

upholstered chairs.

After a visit to a nearby shopping mall for our evening meal we had a much needed rest. At least this meal had no mishap as the breakfast one did when a big glass of orange juice was dumped in a man's lap—luckily, he had dry clothes in a suitcase.

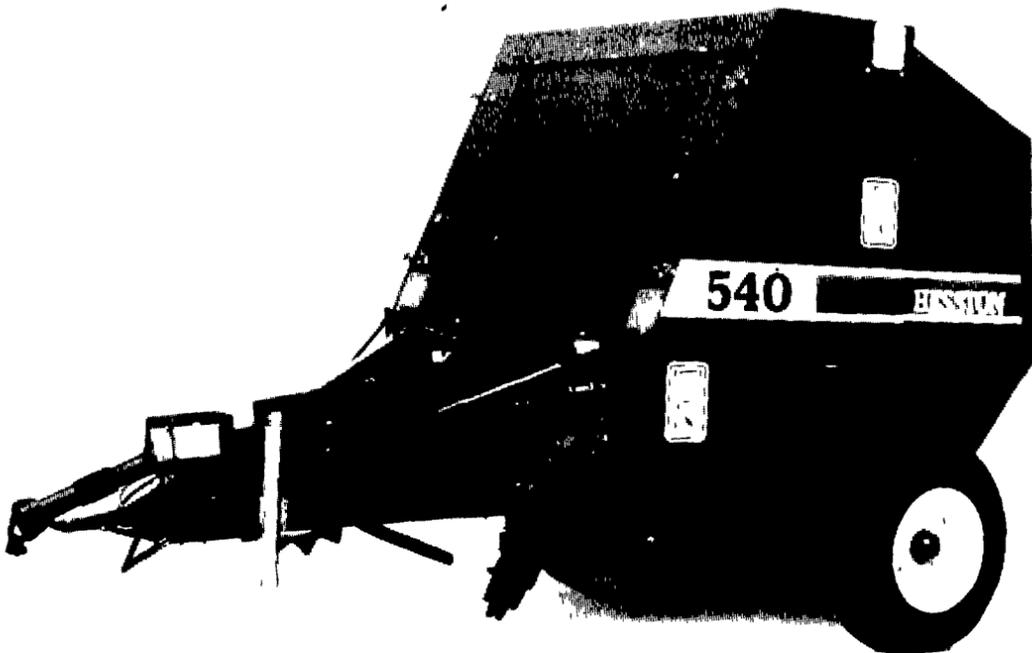
## Better Kid Care

WEST CHESTER (Chester Co.) — Better Kid Care Trainings, sponsored by Penn State Cooperative Extension, are designed for in-home day care providers, day care center staff, child care establishment administrators and teachers, babysitters, and those needing inservice credit toward licensing or registration. training sessions will be held at the Extension office, Government Services Center, Suite 370, 601

Westtown Road, West Chester, on Thursdays, October 27, November 17, and December 1, 7:00-9:00 p.m. The topics include creativity, lead alerts, and children and the library, building language skills.

To register or receive further information, contact Becky Scotland at the Extension office at (610)696-3500. The registration deadline for the October 27.

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