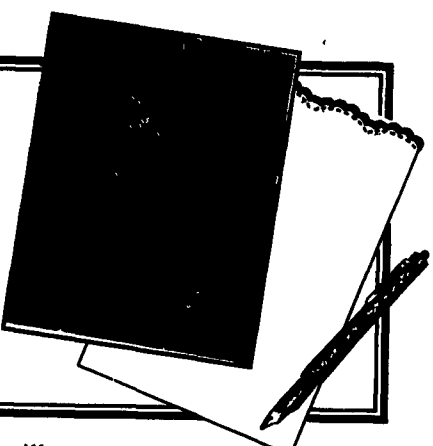


Ida's Notebook

by
Ida Risser



This year most of you will receive your Lancaster Farming newspaper on Christmas eve or earlier in the day. I'm sure that many papers will lay unread as last minute preparations are being taken care of before bedtime.

Some folks open gifts Christmas eve while others have a tradition of doing it right after breakfast the 25th. Somehow, my mother was always so busy with seven girls that she never wrapped gifts. Her small presents were given in the brown bag that she purchased

them in. We did not mind as we knew no better.

Recently, I attended a birthday party for two grandsons. Their pile of gifts was high and each box had beautiful paper which was simply ripped off in a hurry. Now I would have saved the biggest pieces to wrap other gifts in the future. In fact, I have a big plastic bag of used ribbons and bows. When I was in a store, I saw a bag just like mine for sale.

Our daughter in Texas tells me that she bought ingredients and

will make 20 kinds of cookies. I'm not planning on putting more than 15 kinds in the boxes that I pack for my Amish neighbors. It is nice to visit and see how their children have grown. Our son, Philip, who lives on the dairy farm is attending an agricultural engineers meeting in Atlanta, Georgia for four days. This took some planning as he took his four-year-old son along and stopped in Virginia to visit his brother, Kenneth. Then on to Atlanta where he has a brother and sister to stay with and to care for his boy. While here on the farm his wife, Lisa, will have some 60 cows to milk and as many or more heifers to tend. My husband will help with feeding and bedding. My contribution to this effort is to care for one-year-old Gregory. Surely hope nothing breaks down with the farmer away.



Berks Society 4

Wendy Lingle, president of Berks County Society of Farm Women, installed the new officers of Group 4 in the Hereford home of Virginia Taylor. They are president Virginia Taylor, vice president Barbara Shanes, treasurer Georgeanna Fullerton, and secretary Ferne Kulp.

A copy of the proposed changes in the by-laws to be acted on at the State convention in Harrisburg was given to each member.

A Christmas quiz, gift exchange and caroling was enjoyed by all.

The next meeting January 3 will be at the home of Charlotte Mauger, Bechtelsville.

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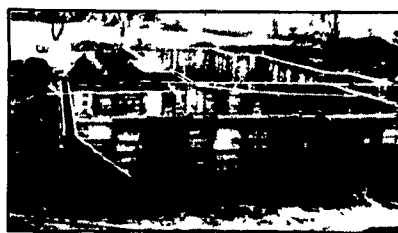
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