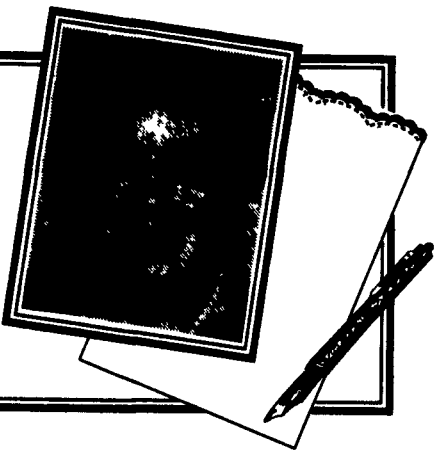


# Ida's Notebook

by  
Ida Risser



Everything is growing fine here on our farm, especially the weeds. I've been weeding my large iris beds and also the rhubarb. This year I expect to have more rhubarb than I can use. Of course, I'll freeze some and give some away. Soon our strawberries, on the hill behind our house, will be ready to pick. Allen has weeded them several times.

When we babysit our grandchildren, who live on the dairy farm, I feel as though I have returned to my youth. On a recent evening, Bradley suggested that we play hide-and-seek. It was almost like

playing with my six younger sisters many years ago. We were only allowed to play at dusk after we had all of our chores finished. Bradley and I hid in bushes, behind the car and under the porch. It really was a lot of fun for both of us.

While we were doing this, the younger boy was being pulled in the express wagon by his grandfather. They get along fine and both like to sit in a rocking chair and nap.

Recently, we were invited for

an evening meal by a couple who live in one of the most elegant retirement homes in Lancaster County. There are dozens of these communities in our area but this one outdid all of the rest. On our tour of the facilities, we saw not only big, big sitting rooms and a large swimming pool but also a post office, a pharmacy, a wood-working shop, a bank, a stock-market center, an enormous auditorium and several dining rooms.

It certainly was living in the lap of luxury and it was much more than I would ever want for myself.

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