

Ida's Notebook

by
Ida Risser



Every few weeks my husband decides that he wants to go to his camper in Jack's Mountain. So, we drop everything and get ready. The baskets of pears and tomatoes have to wait until we come home again.

He puts the heavy-duty battery in the back of his station wagon for the electric boat motor. He untangles the fishing lines and stacks the tackle boxes. My job is to prepare food for several meals. We pack our own overnight bags and

we are off to the mountains. Always there are a few reminders such as, "Do you have your fishing license?"

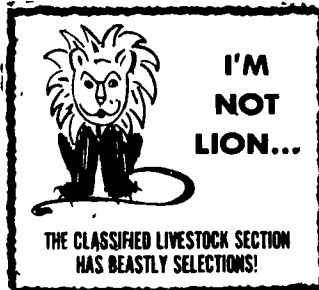
My wish would be for a magic carpet that would do away with the hours of driving through heavy traffic. But, we finally arrive and find everything in place, just as we left it the month before.

As I take a short walk, I find some conical-shaped blackberries. And, then I also pick some beautiful elderberries to use for a pie when we get home. That evening

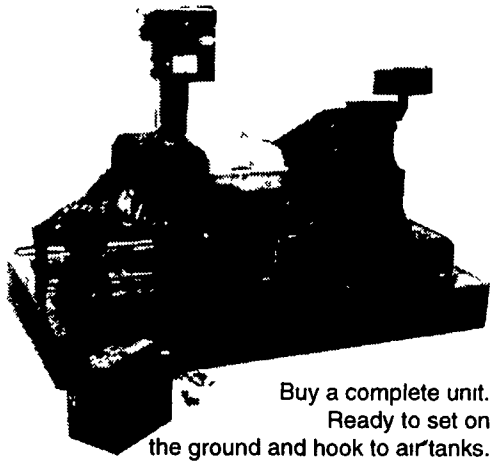
we fish on a nearby lake but don't have much luck.

The next morning the inside and the outside thermometers register 50 degrees. But, heating water on the stove soon warms our small camper. This morning we head for Bald Eagle State Park and another long drive. Here the water is very choppy as there is a strong wind blowing and our boat rocks continually. We try several spots and catch a few nice-sized perch. After hours of sitting quietly, we head for shore and lunch.

However, we approach the wharf too rapidly and when the boat stops with a big thud, I fly backwards off of my seat and land in the bottom of the boat with my feet in the air. What a humiliating experience.



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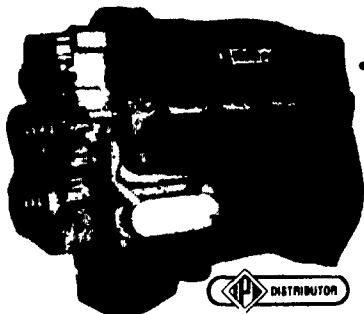
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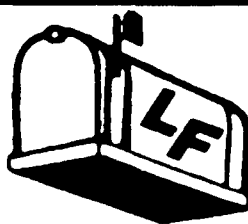
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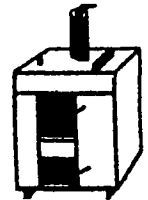
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