

**Ida's
Notebook**
by
Ida Risser



It really looks like spring around here. Maple trees are covered with green leaves and

other trees are also beginning to show new leaves.

The row of rhubarb is ready

to pull and the lilacs are finished blooming. I've really enjoyed the row of white and pink tulips around our big mailbox. The rose bed has been pruned again and weeded. No amount of plastic or mulch is enough to keep all of the weeds away. My two large iris beds get quite weedy if I do not constantly keep after them.

My onions, the ones that stay out all winter, simply have to grow up through the grass. Encroaching on the onions is the patch of yellow raspberries as they expand their territory. They have certainly spread in

the last five years.

My husband has worked to keep his asparagus bed clear of weeds. And, it has paid off as he brings me a large bag full of green stems every morning. The strawberry rows are also looking very nice as he has rototilled between the rows.

We took our grandchildren to

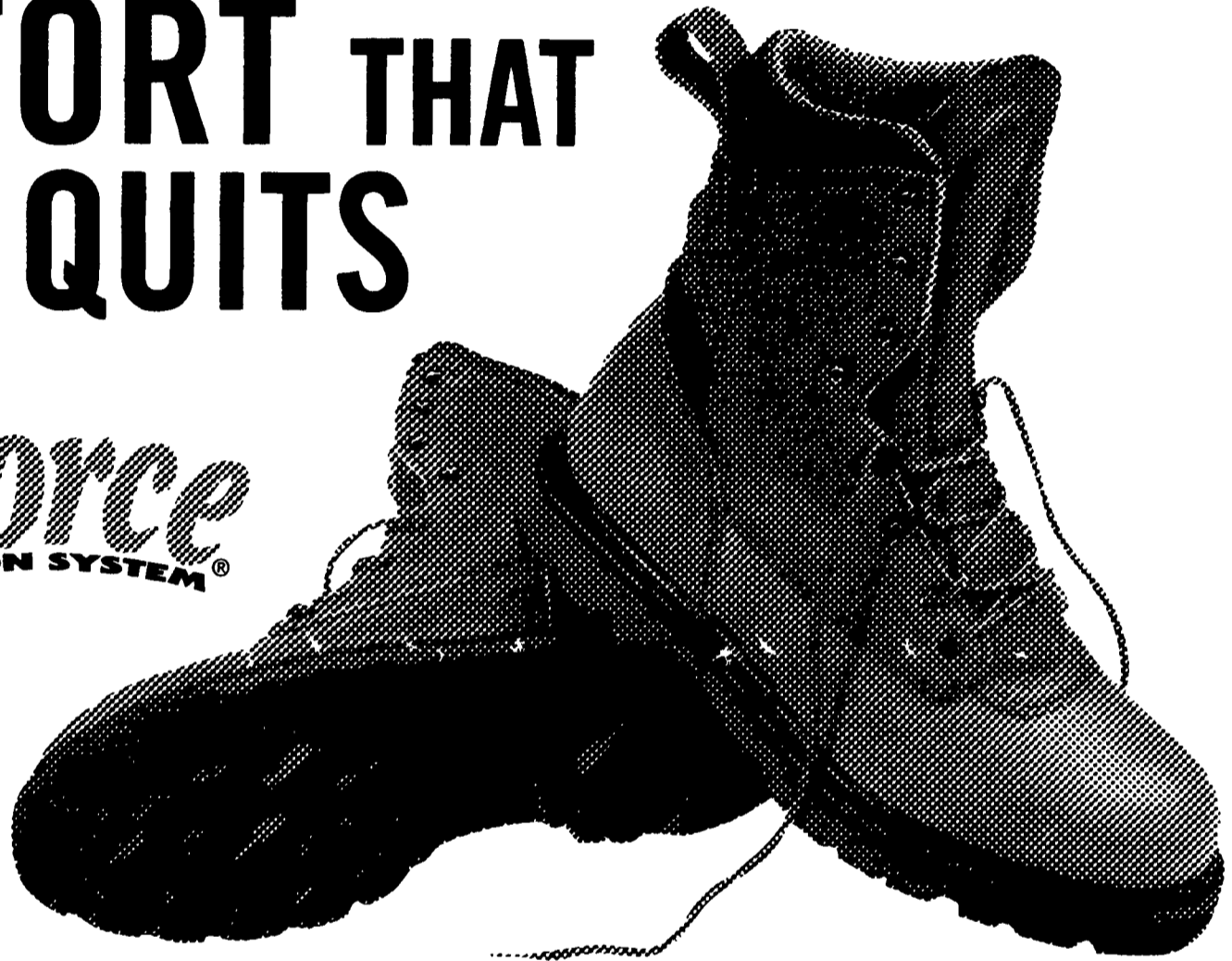
a program in which a juggler performed his act. Not only did he use balls and nine pins but also hats and knives. The seven-year-old paid rapt attention but the four-year-old lost interest. He kept asking when they would serve the ice cream. He was anxious to make his own sundae. The years make a big difference in their attention span.

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