

May 1st! Some folks think of fieldwork, some of gardening

and others of wild flowers. By this time, many are already fin-

ished blooming. The bloodroot with it's bleeding stems and the liverleaf of hepatica bloomed in March. Indians dyed their clothes and blankets with the orange-red juice from the bloodroot plant. Today it's roots are used in making cough medi-

The other Sunday afternoon, a group from our church, visited Shenk's Wildflower Preserve in the lower end of Lancaster county. Here one can not only see a variety of woodland flowers but a vast quantity of wild flowers. There are hillsides covered with Virginia bluebells. These often have pink buds before they open. There were large quantities s of Dutchman's Breeches whose flowers resemble clothes worn by Hollanders.

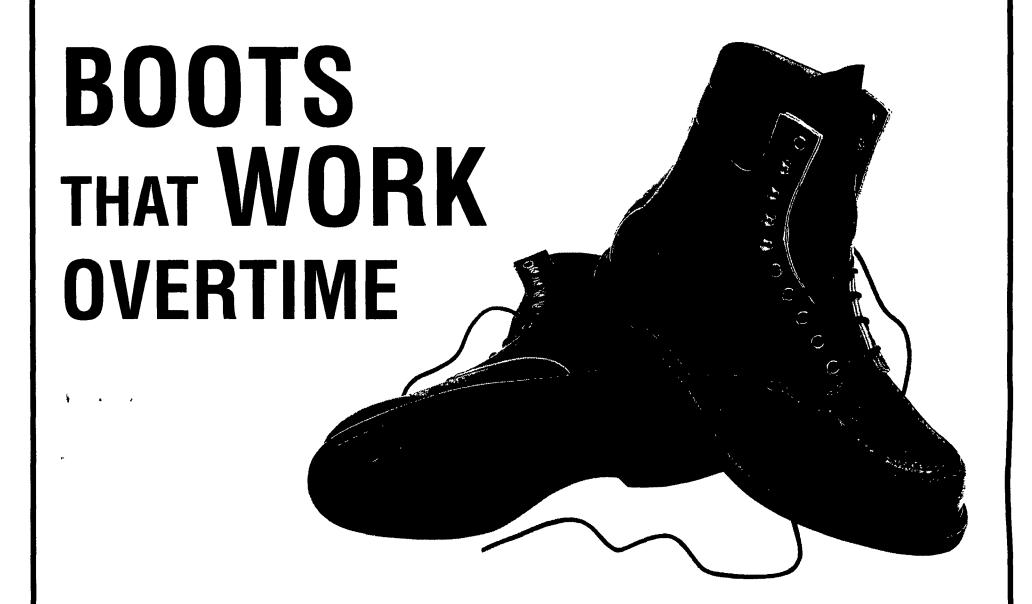
As we walked along the wide paths, with many other people, we saw a few Jack-in-the-pulpit plants and quite a few yellow Adder's Tongue sometimes called dogtooth violet. There were also Solomon's Seal and blue phlox.

The meadow where our house is located contains some of these

wild flowers but not as many as years ago when I took my younger sisters for spring walks. My father's sheep destroyed some plants but they could not reach the wild columbines that grew anchored in rock crevices.

May first also reminds me of the special day when we were told to wash our faces in the dew if we wanted to get rid of our freckles. Of course, we did not dare to speak to anyone before we crept outside to rub our faces in the grass. What a silly routine that was.

RED WING SHOES



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