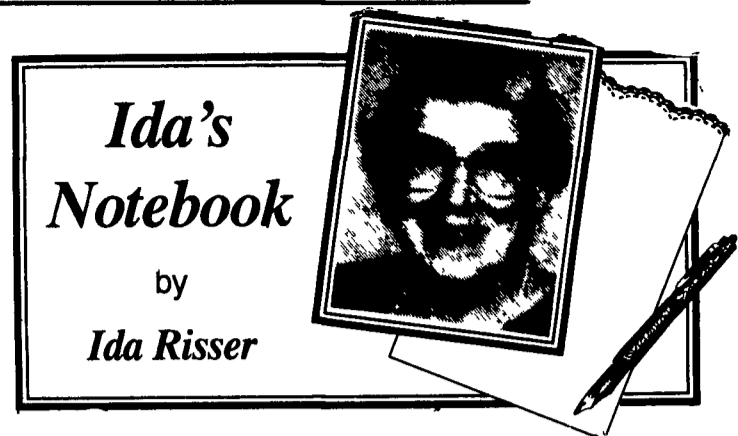


Administration Questioned On Export, Market Promotion



*Ida's
Notebook*
by
Ida Risser

I'm thinking that you get tired of reading about the 75 quarts of strawberries that we picked and the buckets and buckets of sugar peas, so I will write about something different.

My great uncle, Emery Sheibly, was an unusual man. He was an only child and when he married he had no children. Thus, he was free to pursue many hobbies. He collected stamps and walked to the post office everyday to buy new issues. He also collected coins and had a valuable collection. He also saved everything.

For a number of years, he was a farmer, but at age 50, he retired to a village a few miles from his farm. This farm had been in his family ever since it was deeded to them by the

Penns. They owned a considerable amount of land and a nearby mill.

In a very old, large Bible of one of his ancestors, I found a handwritten page pasted on an inside cover of the leather bound book. It is dated July 18, 1850 and it tells about a flood. After raining for three days, the Conestoga rose and carried away "shocks of wheat, fences, trees, and driftwood."

Then on September 2, 1850, it rained "half of the time of the former rain." Yet, the Conestoga rose rapidly and in three hours had risen 18 feet. He says

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The House Committee on Agriculture convened Wednesday to hear testimony from U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman regarding various USDA export and market promotion programs and the extent to which they are used to assist U.S. farmers and ranchers.

that "Wolf and Bitzers bridges were carried off and cornfields ruined." He saw hay stacks, barrels of flour, grain, and buildings floating down the stream.

My father often talked of the 1936 flood when the Conestoga River overflowed its banks. My husband and I shall always remember the flood of June 22, 1972 even if we did not paste the account inside a big Bible.

The hearing also provided a venue to compare expenditures on U.S. programs to those of other countries.

During the hearing, members questioned Glickman as to whether the USDA is maximizing use of programs such as the Export Enhancement Program (EEP) and the Dairy Export Incentive Program (DEIP). Chairman Larry Combest, R-Texas, raised his concern that while a total of \$2 billion was authorized for EEP from 1996 through 2000, less than \$10 million of those funds have been used.

"Our agricultural export programs are a great way to leverage scarce federal resources to create or enhance overseas markets and to address the continued negative impact of low demand overseas," said Rank-

ing Committee Member Charlie Stenholm, D-Texas. "We were all disappointed in Seattle last December with the failure to reach a framework agreement for new negotiations on agriculture. Until we begin to see more meaningful progress toward the further reform promised in the Uruguay Round, we must ensure that our export programs are adequately funded and that the secretary has the necessary tools to keep our farmers and ranchers competitive."

Members, led by Chairman Combest, also expressed concern regarding the wide disparity between U.S. support programs for domestic agriculture and those of other nations.

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Having stopped my farming operation, I will sell the following at the JEFFERSON COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS. From Martinsburg, WV take Rt. 9 East to Kearneysville Light, turn Right, proceed to Leetown. Take first left after Fish Hatchery. From Rt. 340, take Charles Town bypass to Ranson. Turn onto Leetown Pike at Guy's Buick. Watch for signs.

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JUNE

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MON JUNE 26 - 10AM Restaurant Equipment Auction Pizza Etc

I-81 Exit 20 Wertzville Rd Enola, Pa Mark Baranowski, auct
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