

# Ida's Notebook

by  
Ida Risser



It is difficult for me to realize how much the world has changed in the last 50 years.

When we flew to Indiana and had our schedules changed due to bad weather, cellular phones popped out everywhere. It seemed as though half of the people were walking around with a

phone held to their ear. It certainly made it easier for other people to know about their change of plans.

We did not even have a phone in our house when our barn burned down in the 1940s. So, a hired man drove over a mile to find a phone to call the fire com-

pany. Later we paid the phone company to have poles put in for that distance.

Another area of change is in the field of exercise. People pay for a private instructor to help their children get enough exercise and adults go to gyms. When I was a youngster, we surely got our exercise. We chased cows to a distant pasture and brought them home again at night. We used a hand pump to fill an iron trough with water for the steers and six horses. Those animals could surely empty a trough in no time. We worked in the fields beside our father and ran many errands for our mother.

The other Saturday morning I decided to go to our grandson's last football game. It was a cold and windy day to sit outside

from 8:30 to 11:30. Here again, the cell phones were put into use — "Bring a blue coat along for me when you come," said a woman to her husband. The good part about the day was that our team won, but the bad part was that I did not get to see our grandson play as he had previously hurt his leg and was not allowed to play.

There were so many little boys on the field suited-up in expensive gear. To even join the team is costly, but they did get their exercise. Now our grandson didn't really need that as he lives on a farm and helps with the farm work. Although, he was probably the only one who lives on a farm as our township has many suburbs.

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