

**Ida's
Notebook**
by
Ida Risser



Time certainly does change a lot of things. Our attitude about work is one of them.

Recently, I attended a baby shower. Now of course most of the women were young. The gifts were very different than those that my children wore as babies. As newborns mine were wrapped in blankets — they often came apart as they were too small. Now I saw some infant wear made of denim instead of soft fabrics. There were overalls for

the baby that would make him look much older than he is.

We talked of many things as we sat around a table eating cake. One subject was school and the teachers that their children would have in September. In my school days we had the same teacher for several years as she taught several grades.

Another topic of conversation was wild animals. Especially the kind that damage our gardens. Most people can relate to rabbits,

chipmunks, and squirrels as they eat their flowers and dig up their bulbs. But when the subject of shooting them was mentioned they recoiled and said they could not possibly do that. When I said that I had shot a number of squirrels and then had my boys skin them, they were shocked. I added that we cooked and ate them too.

I really doubt that any of the young women had ever killed a chicken and then picked off the feathers and dressed it. They thought of this job as very disgusting. But, it was a necessary job, so I did it.

I'm sure that pioneer women did many jobs that I would not want to do. They did them because the work had to be done. The years have changed how we get our edibles. No wonder children think that the supermarkets is the source of their food rather than the farm.



Susquehanna County Dairy Royalty wear their milk mustaches. From left, Abbey Puzo, Alyssa Sprout, Alicia Roe, Dairy Princess Rebecca Place, Karin Mowry, Amanda Miner, Amy Roe, Jessica Roe and Abbey Hewitt.

Activities where they promoted dairy products include the Hallstead/Great Bend Library; the Dairy Farmers of America and Dairylea social; McDonald's in Montrose and the Forest Lake Fire Company Field Days.

**Quick Buying Tips For Fresh
Pennsylvania Snap Beans**

The Pennsylvania Vegetable Marketing and Research Program offers these tips when buying fresh grown snap beans:

- Look for long, slender pods that are free of scars.

- Refrigerate unwashed beans in a perforated plastic bag.
- Each pound of snap beans includes approximately four servings.
- Snap beans are best when steamed or microwaved. Boiling will cause beans to lose many of their nutrients.

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