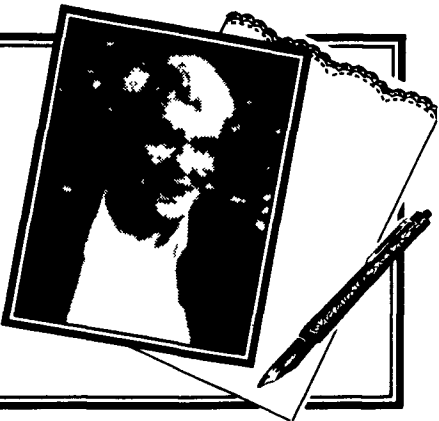


Ida's Notebook

by
Ida Risser



By this time of year most of my activities are indoors. There are lots of things to do indoors. I have many letters to sort and old

papers to look over. Soon I hope to embroider some pillowcases. And, of course, there is always cleaning to do.

I did manage to plant a number of tulips and crocus bulbs in the yard and flower beds. The evening of the day that I planted them there were two deer near the kitchen window sniffing around. They finished all of the rhubarb chard that I had planted in the garden.

There are a number of summer cottages on our farm and one of them was badly damaged by a very large tree that fell across it.

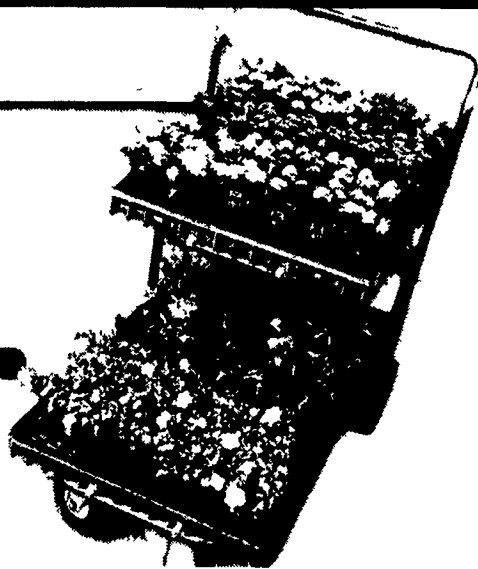
When I went fishing, one last time before winter, I noticed the damage and doubt that it can be repaired. There are many secluded places along the Conestoga River.

The grandchildren have been staying here every now and then. They are well behaved and like to look at some of my old things. Gregory asked to try his hand at using a pen with a bottle of ink. He decided that a ball point pen was much easier to use. I shall have to find a better pen for him. When they sleep here, we can have breakfast together.

My family members have to travel quite a bit on business. Their companies send them to faraway places. One is in Japan for a week, another spends a month in Seattle, and another spends a few days in Indianapolis.

I think my time for flying off to such places is in the past. I'm not even anxious to drive out of state. But, at one time I thought nothing of traveling across the United States by car or by train. Even flying to Hawaii was considered to be a lot of fun and adventurous. Now home seems pretty nice.

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