

**Ida's
Notebook**
by
Ida Risser



This article is written 10 days before Christmas while I'm still baking cookies and decorating the house. Yet you will be reading it after Christmas is over and decorations are being put away.

The past week has been one that had an entry on every day on the calendar. Allen has developed a new problem which demanded a visit to the doctor and then an early trip to the hospital for tests. I do not enjoy driving on busy highways at rush hour but some things have to be done.

There is always the weekly vis-

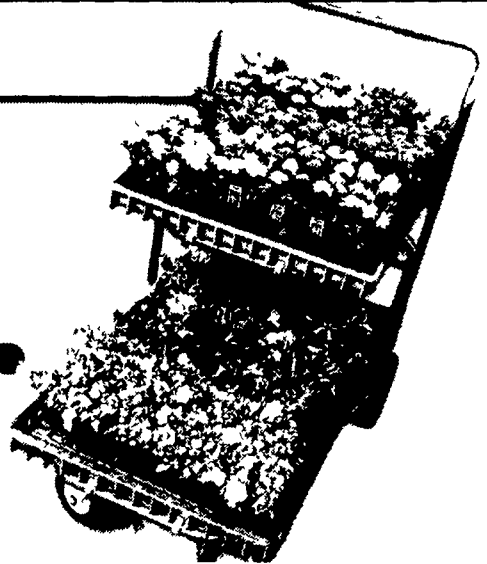
its to the grocery store as we no longer have our own cows and chickens. So, milk, butter, and eggs, and lots of other things must be purchased at the store. At one time I would not have bought soup in tin cans. But, now it certainly is convenient for a meal for just two people. It is hard for me to remember how much food eight people consumed every day. Now when I invite a family to eat with us I must fill the kettles with food.

Three ladies in our community organized a Christmas party at

one of their homes. There were about 25 ladies from a nearby development attending the gathering. They exchange "white elephant" gifts and had a lot of fun. We had name tags, which helped to identify each other. Many in the group were young women with children and they could relate to each other.

We are hoping for good weather on the 27th as we are planning an open house for our relatives. I was surprised that some of our children who live in Georgia told us that they might drive here on that day.

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