

## THE SCAMBLER HUNTER

Let me have a Scarlet Maple  
For I am always after my head,  
With the pains that are behind it.  
In the years when I am dead;

Let me have it for a shield,  
Where the long winds stream and  
stream; Crosses the dim blue distance,  
Like a horn blown in a dream.

Beauties when the April vanguard  
Bubbles up the laggard spring;  
Beauties when the bannered Autumn  
Marches by unawering.

It will comfort you with song  
When the winter comes and snows,  
And across the purple valley  
And bring back the forest flowers.

It will be my leaf cabin,  
Large enough when June returns,  
And I hear the golden thrushes  
Pleas and heralds by turns.

—Hilda Cartman

Chronicles of  
Ginger Farm

Written Specially for  
The Free Press by  
JUDY O'GRADY

A lady said to me the other day  
she had nothing to write about, nothing  
in the country? "Think why I don't  
have to sit down and eudge my brains  
for something to write about?" she said.  
Well, I said, all the time—but if we  
strike an uneventful period then it gives  
one a chance to indulge in a little  
mental house-cleaning—twist things  
up a bit, turn them over, turn them  
over a day or two, from a different angle.

One can get a lot of kick out of life  
by indulging in a few mental gymnastics  
which will serve the purpose of think-  
ing. I fall into this category myself.  
To town and city readers, don't be  
sorry for your farmer cousins—we are  
not likely to die of emus—no sir no  
and we mean it. I add, however,  
we do do a lot of spinning, but we  
tell the truth it's more a matter of prin-  
ciple than anything else. We are jealous  
of our profession, but we are just as  
proud as the day is long.

Once in a while we would all turn  
farmers and then where should we go?  
Even the feline family cause quite a  
disturbance in the country. A squirrel  
has nine lives but ours have eight.  
One day this week I was helping Part-  
ner, back the wagon out of the barn.  
I took a little rest on the way. We  
could see the sun rising and the world  
went over it and the poor little thing  
turned over and breathed its last. I  
put it on one side intending to bury  
it later, but when I got back to town  
it was busy drinking at the kitchen.

Well there is no need for me to tell  
you it has rained—I guess everyone has  
realized it by this time. Perhaps many  
have shared my experience for it just  
seems as if the clouds and rain had  
like a dried out harp-churn—leaking  
every joint. One could almost fancy the  
elements had held a conference over the  
weather and the rain had been called  
over to their aid.

Well, I guess we'll have to make  
the best of it. Partner, who has  
a lot of two-legged little atoms down  
on the earth who are making a terrible  
trouble because everything has dried  
up. The females are working because  
there is no water in their systems and  
it appears the males have put something  
into the girls which they call wheat  
and it won't grow. After we have  
worked so hard last spring to please  
them and to make assurance doubly  
sure I gave them all the rain they could  
possibly want in that zone, but they  
grumbled so I got quite peevish. I thought  
well, if you can't get along without me  
then where would I go?

Well, I guess they've had their medicine  
so we have to wait and see what we can  
do for them.

So for a whole day the rain  
and east wind, in frolicsome mood,  
blasted and blew and whistled with glee  
but during the night the rain came  
again along and a difference arose be-  
tween them but the west wind woe out  
and started the rain the next day.

On the third day the rain was getting  
rather worn out and also received its  
venement so he begged the west wind  
and implored King Sol to shed  
his warm rays upon the uplands.

Well, he had not been asked to the  
conference so he would only linger over  
the earth for just a little while and  
then he would go back again.

Well, he did go back again and  
that's that and now all we have to  
do is to get on with the next job  
and that's to cut for men as plough-  
ing and we must do it.

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