

bread or baking-powder biscuits. Buttermilk was a by-product of the churning, and Dad looked forward to that treat.

We soon finished the evening chores. As we entered the house, we were met with the aroma of rich beef soup that had been simmering much of the day with carrots, onions, potatoes, and whatever vegetables were available—mmm! On those cold winter evenings, as we gathered around the table, we relished Mom's vegetable-beef soup and flaky biscuits. We ate to our heart's content, sharing stories of the day's fun, and laughing at another one of Grandpa's tales.

A MEMORY OF MARGARET

By John Adair

One time we all were sitting around the dinner table in the dining room with Margaret sitting on the northeast side. Mom had made a meringue pie for dessert (the one Dad liked to put cream on...of course he liked to put cream on everything). The pie was passed around the table.

The first one took a piece and they noticed a strange odor. Well, everyone had to smell the pie as it was passed. It was started at the southwest corner of the table where I sat. This gave me enough time to slip around to Margaret's side and when she leaned over to check the smell...I pushed her face in the pie. I thought it was funny and right now I can't remember how she got even with me, but she did.

Now for the rest of the story. We couldn't for the life of us find out what caused the smell. Finally we traced it back to the corn starch. We took the box to "Charles the Butch" where we got the starch. He was surprised and went to get another box. Sure enough we found the trouble; he had placed the starch next to the *Lifebuoy soap*. Lifebuoy soap had a fragrance of its own and didn't help the pie or set well with Margaret, either.

A YEAR OF CELEBRATIONS

Living on a farm meant that there was always work to be done; duties from dawn till after dusk 365 days a year. This sounds dull and boring; however I remember that we always had something exciting to look forward to. We anticipated gatherings of family and neighbors to celebrate birthdays and holidays,