"A MOVING" LIFE

Gertrude B. Paschall

(Here is a note from Mrs. Gertrude B. Paschall, wife of A.H. Paschall, Soil Scientist, Upper Darby Office, Pennsylvania. The note gives a wife's-eye view of the career of a soil scientist--Ed.)

I am looking back over thirty-nine years of life with a SOILS man. Scenes of people and places appear and disappear like a Home Movie.

Starting out working for the State of Ohio--living in furnished apartments--in Wooster, Ohio in the winter months and some county seat the rest of the year... We had fun and lots of laughs. There was the apartment where all the pots and pans were rusted: the coffee pot had a large hole in it. We signed a statement, with a detailed count, that all these things were present and would still be there when we left. Another had orange crates with a lace draw curtain as a cupboard. The one with a six foot bathtub and very little hot water wasn't so funny.

Then we acquired three rooms of furniture and lived on a much grander scale. Moving began to be more painful though.

Now there was an office with other people with the same interests and I found "Soils People" were wonderful friends.

Our family became three, we bought a house and life was really good.

We have bought five houses in five different states and sold four--but only the first one was loved and tears shed when moving time came...

Among the annoyances of a life like this were getting new driver's licenses. Some of the examiners didn't go along with my idea of a good driver. I have had six...