On August 11, 1979, a motley crew of folklorists descended upon the Immaculate Conception Convent (bottom left) in Ferdinand. Here they are shown at one of their favorite pursuits, canvassing the cemetery.

Bottom right: the monastery at St. Meinrad.
Dr. Roberts demonstrates the flax brake - a contraption used to separate the seeds from the stalks of flax.

Lincoln boyhood Home
< A Schmitzelbank - a bench a wood-carver sat at while using a draw-knife.

Lincoln Boyhood Home.

Re-roofing the barn.

Lincoln Boyhood Home.
Mr. L. A. DeWitt of Birdseye grows his own broomcorn and makes brooms. Here, he demonstrates some of the steps in making a broom.

The stalks are bent to make a kind of table and the broomstraws are cut off.

The broomstraws are laid on the "table" to dry.
Two of the tools used. (Back) A "hurl stemmer" to separate fine from non-fine straws. (Foreground) A contraption used to separate the seeds from the straws.

Mr. De Witt places the broom in a vise and sews through the straws to hold them in place.