

# A Special Day Out For Farmers Wives

By Sally Bair  
Feature Writer

Fashions and creative crafts were the highlights of the annual Ladies Day Out sponsored by the women's committee of the Lancaster County Farmers Association held last Tuesday.

It was a day when chores were set aside and the farmers' wives

enjoyed fun, food and fellowship.

But there was a serious note, too, for the nearly 175 women attending. There were speakers and reports, and the topic which kept recurring was the recent meat boycott.

The only man on the program was Donald Hershey, Manheim RD2 president of the Lancaster County Farmers' Association. He told the women that "farmers are only catching up" finally to earning an equitable living. Hershey said, "We are entitled to a little more."

He gave statistics of the percentages of income which consumers in other countries pay for food, from a high of 52 percent in Russia to a low of 17 percent in the United States, and said, "Food is the best bargain you can get anywhere."

Hershey also urged all the women to vote yes on the referendum which will appear on the May primary ballot. If the referendum vote is favorable, it will allow the constitution to be changed so that farm land can be assessed according to its value as farmland rather than its speculative market value.

He showed the importance of maintaining farm land with the example that one acre of fertilized corn will allow 170 people to breathe for a year, as opposed to putting that farmland into concrete.

Mrs. Jesse Wood, Kirks Mill, who will represent Lancaster County in the Mrs. Pennsylvania Farmers' Association contest, gave a talk on public relations for agriculture. She said, "It's about time we receive a fair price for our product." While other industries can establish a price for their product on the basis of the costs of production, Mrs. Wood said, "We're at the mercy of the buyer." She added, "Farmers wives have the responsibility to educate friends and neighbors. Food is the greatest bargain ever. Please tell your neighbors, ladies!"

Reporting from the state



By special request, Mrs. Connie Rutt, Quarryville, agreed to model her wedding dress, which she made.

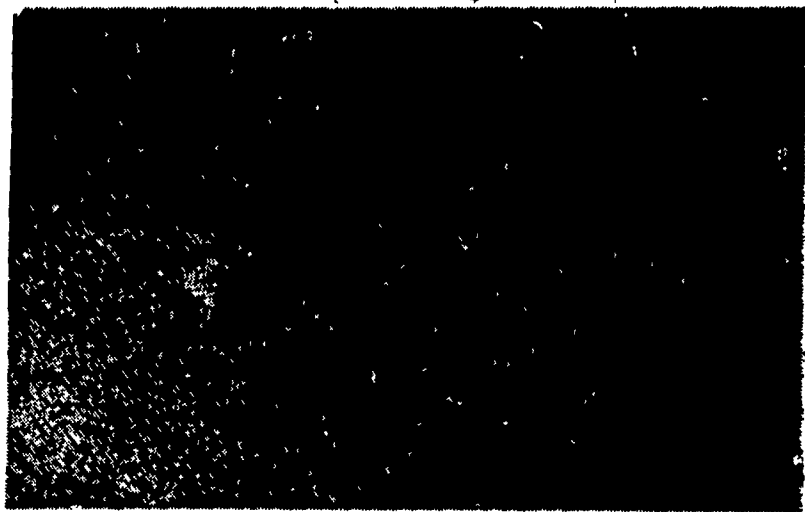
women's committee, Mrs. Helen Wivell also urged the women to vote yes on the referendum in the May primary to insure preservation of farm land. She spoke on the theme of the national convention which was, "Two million women using four million hands to strengthen and preserve our country." She said farm women should provide moral leadership and take responsibility in areas of strengthening family units, staying informed on local problems, legislative activities



Steve Kauffman, Elizabethtown RD1, models a double knit jacket which his mother, Mrs. Miriam Kauffman, made for him.



Workshop participants try their hand at decorating ceramic eggs.



Patti Hershey, whose father is president of the Lancaster County Farmers' Association, is wearing a navy floor-length dress featuring a white pinafore, which her mother sewed.

and promoting consumer understanding.

The morning program featured workshops on candy making, taught by Mrs. Marian Lefever; decorating ceramic eggs, by Mrs. Barbara Mowrer; decorating the inside of eggs, by Mrs. Janet Buchen; and making candle rings from scraps, by Mrs. Kathy Bucher.

Following the noon luncheon about 35 women, men and children modeled clothing which had been sewn by members. Mrs.

Miriam Kauffman, Elizabethtown RD1, coordinator for the fashion show, encouraged more women to try home sewing. She stressed that the home seamstress can enjoy the satisfaction of having her very own, unique fashions, and said, "Home sewing is easier on the family budget."

Winner of the talent contest was Glenn Hough, Peach Bottom RD2, who played a selection on the piano and organ.

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