

## Mrs. Mark Hatfield's Warmth, Witness Welcomed at Farm Women Convention

By Sally Bair  
Feature Writer

Exuding warmth and graciousness, Mrs. Mark O. Hatfield won the admiration of Lancaster County's Farm Women on Saturday when she spoke about the opportunities for Christian witness through "Food for Fellowship".

Speaking to their 56th annual convention at Lancaster Bible College, Antoinette Kuzmanich Hatfield, wife of the senior senator from Oregon, said, "As Christian women we have a faith, hope and love that can carry us through trials and tribulations." "But we aren't always ready and prepared to tell the story of salvation, and that's why I wrote Food for Fellowship." She added that Food for Fellowship is a "product of my commitment to the Lord."

In discussing her deep-seated

religious philosophy Mrs. Hatfield said, "God has given each of us a unique talent and a unique position" to use in His service. "God gave me a particular talent for cooking - I come from a long line of good cooks." She credited her grandmother, her father who was a cook on a commercial fishing boat, and her mother with having taught her.

When her husband was Oregon's governor, she related, she was provided with neither a mansion nor a staff. "But the one thing people always asked me for was my recipes. They didn't ask my opinion on political issues, because Mark kept me pregnant, barefoot and in the kitchen."

As a result of her talent for cooking, Mrs. Hatfield wrote ReMARKable Recipes, More ReMARKable Recipes, Food for Fellowship, and her latest, a joint effort with Peggy Smeeton

Stanton, Help! My Child Won't Eat Right.

Lancaster's Farm Women already felt a warm bond with Mrs. Hatfield having become acquainted with her during a Provident Bookstore promotion of her Food for Fellowship cookbook early in the year. The bond and kinship deepened with Mrs. Hatfield's appearance Saturday. Although her publishers had suggested to her that she write a book giving testimony of her Christianity, she said she would not because "I was a Christian from the day I was born. They thought I was going to die so they baptized me. It was only in the later years in my life that Christ has been a personal friend."

She said God talks to each person in times of "joy and happiness and in times of trial. We may not always hear, but He is always saying something to us. People can disappoint us, but Christ never will."

"I believe as Christian women we have the opportunity to tell others that we are his disciples. Today as we face trials and tribulations the common ingredient of love is the most important of all. You have support always from the Lord you call Christ."

Explaining her reasons for writing the book Food for Fellowship, she said that fellowship in the early church was important for "sharing and sustaining the members in their common belief in Jesus Christ." She said sometimes she feels that the church has become so formalized today that the "fellowship which sustained the



The Hatfield's pose with their eight year old son Visko. The Senator and Visko visited the Farm Museum at Landis Valley while Mrs. Hatfield spoke at the convention.



Mrs. Hatfield seemed to thrive on the opportunity to meet and speak with the Farm Women. She signed endless copies of her latest cookbook, "Help! My Child Won't Eat Right". Even Senator Hatfield was persuaded to come out of the background and autograph a few cookbooks for admirers.

early church has been lost." Quoting from the forward to her book she asked, "Are we really helping one another grow spiritually as individuals and as a body of believers?"

Part of the purpose of the book is to help homemakers "plan Christ-centered meals, in order to uphold the common belief in

salvation through Christ." She pointed out that Christ often used meals to teach stories as the Wedding Feast at Cana, the Sermon on the Mount and the Last Supper.

Mrs. Hatfield quoted further from the book, "The early church members needed to have nourishment not only for the body but more importantly for the spirit. Although the band of followers has grown through the years, the idea of sustaining each other seems to have diminished. It is now time to renew our commitment to our Lord and Savior and to provide Food for Fellowship for others who now believe or who would believe."

In conclusion she offered a bit of her own "homespun philosophy:" "Treat your family like company and your company like family and you will never fail."

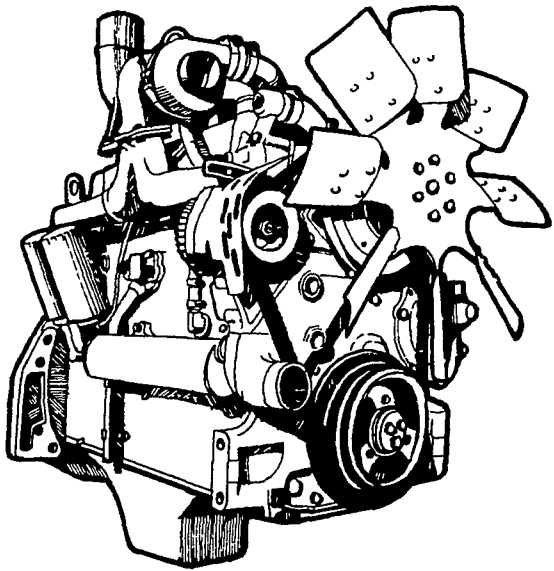
Senator Hatfield and their eight-year old son Visko accompanied Mrs. Hatfield from Washington, but the Senator insisted that it was "her day," and stayed quietly in the background. Copies of her latest cookbook were available and she very graciously autographed the books and talked with the farm women at the conclusion of the meeting. Senator Hatfield

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The bazaar tables did a booming business as convention-goers bought food, craft items and flowers as quickly as they were brought in.

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