

PFA outlines convention program

GETTYSBURG, Pa. - Farming has become more than just a way of life. It's a business and more than 1,000 farmers will be here this week to take care of the business end of farming.

The 26th annual meeting and convention of the Pennsylvania Farmers' Association (PFA) will be held here at the Sheraton International Inn, starting Sunday (Nov. 7) and closing Wednesday (Nov. 10) with the adoption of policy positions and election of officers. The state association has 20,313 family members.

"Farmers are not able to just stay at home and farm," says PFA President John R. Pitzer, an Aspers fruit grower. "Too many things outside the realm of farming affect the ways and means by which the farmer produces food and fiber for the consumers."

The farm leader said that one of the major issues that seems to be surfacing in the policy development sessions is government regulations. "What we should call it is over-regulation," Pitzer said.

"One of the suggestions is putting the U. S. Congress

and the Pennsylvania General Assembly back in control of agency regulations," he remarked. "Too often laws are passed by a legislative body and forgotten while some government agencies outline the rules for administering the law. These rules are called regulations and seem to go way beyond the intentions of the lawmakers who passed the law in the first place. We want legislative control over the regulation process."

Pitzer has been president of the state's largest general farm organization for eight years. His term as president expires this year and he'll need to run for re-election if he wants to continue as the association's leader.

The convention officially opens tomorrow evening (7:30 p.m.) with the traditional vespers service with the Rev. Lawrence

Lykens, pastor of the Camp Curtin Memorial United Methodist Church, Harrisburg, as the speaker.

The student ensemble from Gettysburg Seminary will also participate in this service.

The 150-member delegate body will hold their first session Monday at 8:30 p.m. The delegates will be going over suggested policies from 53 county associations, and the policies will be presented Wednesday afternoon for approval at the group's annual business session.

Murray Miles, information director, Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation, will be the keynote speaker at a noon luncheon Monday.

Later in the (2 p.m.) an affiliate service conference will be held featuring Charles R. Dull, manager, Pennsylvania Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association; William Deeds,

manager, PFA Insurance Service; Charles H. Mohn, manager, PFA Supply Division; Richard E. Denison, manager, Farm Management and Business Analysis Service; Jack Armstrong, deputy administrator, USDA Farmers' Cooperative Service, and Noel Stuckman, manager, Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Association.

A talent contest and square dance will be featured at 6:45 p.m. Monday.

President John Pitzer will give his annual report at 7:40 a.m. Tuesday, followed by group tours to the fruit industry area and the Gettysburg battle field.

At a membership luncheon (12 noon) counties with membership goal will be recognized for outstanding achievement.

The PFA women's conference will be held at 3 p.m. PFA Women's Committee chairman, Mrs. Charles Benner, will give her annual report.

Miss Jean Werts, women's activities director, Ohio Farm Bureau Federation, will conduct a workshop on how to organize and operate a successful women's program.

The PFA Member Service Corp., an affiliate of the membership organization, will hold its annual meeting Tuesday at 4:30 p.m.

Allan Grant, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, will be the speaker at the annual awards banquet at 6:45 p.m.

Tuesday, County associations will be presented plaques and cash awards for outstanding performance in different program areas.

Wednesday will conclude the four-day convention with an annual report from Charles R. Ord, PFA administrative secretary, at 7:40 a.m.

Following Ord's report, the PFA Women's Committee will hold its annual business meeting at 9:30 a.m.

The annual business meeting will commence at 12:30 p.m. climaxing in the election of officers and adoption of policies for 1977.

Here are the major activities for each day:

Sunday, November 7 - 7:30

p.m. vespers service, with the Rev. Lawrence Lykens, pastor, Camp Curtin Memorial United Methodist Church, Harrisburg, as the speaker.

Monday, November 8 - 8:30 a.m. voting delegate session; 12 noon, opening luncheon with Murray Miles, information director, Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation, as the speaker; 2 p.m. affiliate service conference with addresses by Charles R. Dull, manager, Pennsylvania Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association; William Deeds, manager, PFA Insurance Service; Charles H. Mohn, manager, PFA Supply Division; Richard E. Denison, manager, Farm Management and Business Analysis Service; Jack Armstrong, deputy administrator, USDA Farmers' Cooperative Service; and Noel Stuckman, manager, Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association.

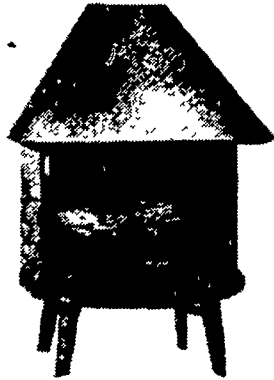
Tuesday, November 9 - 7 a.m., report by John R. Pitzer, PFA president; 12 noon, membership luncheon; 3 p.m. women's conference with Mrs. Charles Benner, PFA women's committee chairman, and Miss Jean Werts, women's activities director, Ohio Farm Bureau Federation as the speakers; 4:30 p.m., county presidents' conference, 6:45 p.m., awards banquet with Allan Grant, president, American Farm Bureau Federation as the speaker.

Wednesday, November 10 - 7:40 a.m., report by Charles R. Ord, PFA administrative secretary; 9 a.m., voting delegate session; 9:30 a.m., PFA women's committee meeting; 12:30 p.m., PFA annual Business meeting.

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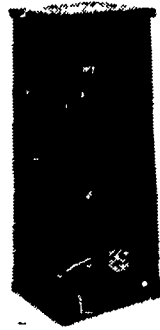


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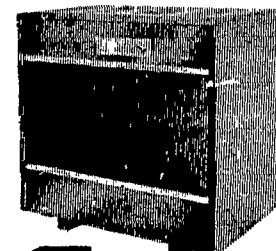
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