

Convention held

(Continued from Page 61) which included spending time with people who couldn't get out of their home or rest home. Thirteen older citizens were taken out to eat and seven persons were invited to members' homes for a meal. Others were taken to the hairdresser, to visit relatives and other friends, and one member read to a blind person.

Second Place was won by Society 19 for a breakfast project they carried out for the special education class at Centerville Elementary School. They had 100 per cent participation. Once a week society members prepared breakfast for the students, and along with helping to make breakfast, they also learned such things as courtesy and manners. Their report said, "We

learned to enjoy the blessings we take for granted."

Third place went to Society 23 and fourth place was awarded to Society 23. A total of 12 Societies participated in the state project.

Attendance awards based on the highest percentage of members present at the convention were presented to Society 2. for first place, and Society 1, second place.

Lancaster County Extension Home Economist Doris Thomas painted a gloomy picture of the financial future of the cooperative extension service. She explained that the extension service operates on a formula which provides federal money and a combination of matching state and county funds. While Pennsylvania ranks fourth in the nation in the amount of money it receives from the federal government through the United States Department of Agriculture, it ranks fiftieth in the amount it receives from state and county sources. "This greatly impairs the quality of the work we can provide," she said.

While noting that 47 positions are frozen in the Extension service throughout the state, including one assistant home economist position in Lancaster County, she said the solution lies in creating a

grass roots response. "If you know any state legislators, and if you can find it in your hearts to write to them or talk to them please do, and let them know you are concerned with the amount of money allocated to the extension service."

Speaker for the afternoon was Bev Richards, hostess of "The Feminine Touch," a daily 15 minute radio program for women broadcast in the Philadelphia area. The program features a special guest, but emphasizes the importance of Christianity in a woman's life. Miss Richards is employed as a secretary for the Philadelphia Electric Company, and is a graduate of the Philadelphia College of Bible Evening School, and teaches two classes of teenagers on Sunday morning.

Miss Richards spoke of the many parables in the Bible which are related to farming, including the parable of the seed which points out that seeds dropped on poor ground wither and die, but those dropped on good soil take root and bring forth fruit. She said that as a youth the seed had been dropped on her every Sunday when she attended church, but when it took root, "I wasn't able to stand up to the problems. All of my problems were 'root'

problems, and I had to deal with rejecting who I was. So often we are not satisfied with who we are. We envy others and miss what we are."

She told the women they must follow rules in their life just as in farming. "Our bodies are not made for worry; our bodies are not made for anger; our bodies are not made for fear or guilt or bitterness. We must be changed on the inside to be the kind of person God wants us to be."

Miss Richards said that just as trees must be pruned to grow better and nicer, so people can benefit from pruning to help them grow. Many people need a "master weeding job" to bear fruit, she said.

She told the women "We should all try to be 'salty' people to add flavor wherever we go."

In other business, Cara Saylor told the Farm Women

about programs designed to encourage young medical students to return to medically deprived areas of the state to serve, and the strides which are being made specifically through M.D.P.A. Miss Saylor, formerly affiliated with Hahneman Hospital, told the women that medical schools are turning out food doctors in sufficient numbers, but the distribution following graduation is not sufficient to meet the medical needs in rural areas.

Special humor for Farm Women was provided by Mrs. Harold Saylor of Society 19, and music on the cordavox was presented by Mary Atzinger. Mrs. Wilbur Erb, state Farm Women president, installed the local officers. An inspiring worship was led by Mrs. Robert Kauffman, while Mrs. Sam Zurin served as song leader, accompanied by Mrs. Wilbur Hostetter.

Produce reparation award paid

NEW YORK, N.Y. - Frank Joseph Russo, of Brooklyn, N.Y., doing business as Frank Russo Bananas, has paid a reparation award of \$1,000 that had been set by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in favor of a New York wholesaler.

Officials of the USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service said that the award was for 700 boxes of bananas shipped in February, 1975.

Now that Russo has paid the award he is once again eligible to conduct business under the Perishable Agricultural Commodities

Act after he obtains a PACA license.

PACA established a code of good business conduct for the produce industry. Under it, all in fresh and frozen fruits and vegetables must be licensed by USDA. A trader's license can be suspended or revoked by USDA for violating the Act.



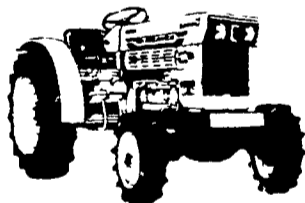
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