

Ladies Day Out held by Farmers Association

By LAUREL SCHAEFFER
Staff Correspondent

KUTZTOWN — Continuing in a tradition of providing excellent programs, the Berks County Farmers' Association Women's Committee held their annual Ladies Day Out, March 20th at the Kutztown Grange, here. Highlighting this year's day long affair was Reverend Charles Fair, Pastor of Alsace Lutheran Church, Reading.

"We all have problems because we are alive," stated Fair, "because we are doing something."

"We are living in an age of changing times, a time of ups and downs," he explained. Fair advised the many women present, approximately 160, that he couldn't teach anyone how to solve their problems but did have a suggestion on how to handle them.

You have to first recognize the problem, he told the farm women. "Then," he continued, "borrow a formula Jesus used to handle his problems." The formula, the speaker continued was as follows; first analysis, then organize, spiritualize, deputize, and economize. "No matter what type of problem it may be, this formula can help to handle it," he assured the listeners.

Explaining, Fair elaborated on the five steps, using a biblical story in which Jesus fed thousands of hungry people with three fish and five loaves of bread to illustrate. Jesus recognized the problem, analysed his resources, organized his disciples which he later "deputized" to help distribute the food, he

prayed to his Father, and he economized by having just enough left over to feed the disciples, leaving no waste, Fair explained.

Many times a person has to take a good look at himself to find the real root of the problem. Fair continued. In nailing down the problem you are recognizing it. Then take note of the assets and liabilities or advantages and disadvantages, he advised, this is organizing.

The Reverend continued by telling his attentive audience to pray and say Grace. "America should be more of a prayerground, not a playground," he emphasized.

Fair also told the women to distribute the chores, "We are an interrelated society," he said. "We are all in it together." And in concluding he stressed the need to economize. This included making the best use of your time as well as resources. Sometimes it's all in the way you look at things, he added, "is the glass half full or half empty?"

Also addressing the women were three high school students who have been involved in many 4-H and/or FFA activities. The students were Darlene Dietrich, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Dietrich, Hamburg R1; Nancy Latshaw, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Latshaw, R1 Alburdis; and David Dietrich, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Dietrich, Lenhartsville R1. They briefly told how privileged they have been to be a part of the many activities and organizations they are members of.

Darlene, a member of the

Hamburg FFA for two years and 4-H for eight years, related how she has won and lost in many of the competitions she has entered. "It's not only the winner that wins," she said of her personal experiences, "but the loser who has gained knowledge and hopes to try again."

Nancy is a senior at Brandywine High School and has been in 4-H for eight years. She is a member of

the National Honor Society and has been in the top three of her class for several years. This young lady stated that she feels growing up is best on a farm but it should also be spread to city folks that farming is not all roses. "There are always a few thorns among them," she explained.

David also said it was a privilege to grow up on a farm, to work closely with livestock, produce, and God.

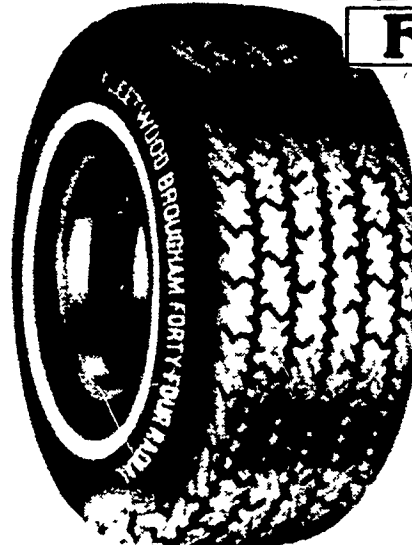
"I have learned at a young age that bills need to be paid and it takes hard work to pay them," he continued.

This young man, a member of the Kutztown FFA and 4-H added that he feels the major area of concern for farmers at the present should be in consumer education. "We need a more direct contact with the consumer," he stated. They need to be well informed about land use, and

regulating agriculture too much, he concluded.

Also addressing the meeting during the course of the day were, Berks County Farmers' Association President Jack Kooker; PACMA representative Gene McDowell and other PFA representatives.

Entertainment for the program was Dorothy Fitterling, Mohrsville. Mrs. Fitterling did a comedy and singing act.




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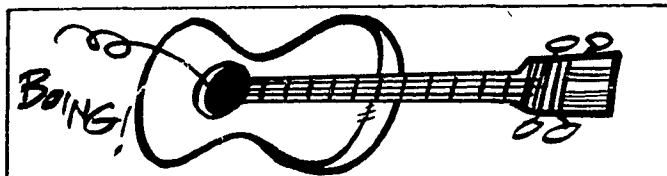


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