

Tops off Kountry Kitchen tour

Ladies Day Out luncheon held in Strasburg

BY PAT KAUFFMAN
STRASBURG — The long calico dresses and white pinafores worn by the waitresses swirled quickly around the room serving a warming menu of Turkey Divan and continuing the Kountry Kitchen theme through luncheon at the PFA Ladies Day Out.

The event held Wednesday at Historic Strasburg topped off a rainy morning of touring 5 kitchens and 1 mill. But it was evident from the full house that the rain had not dampened anyone's spirits. Both the luncheon and the tour which preceded it were part of the PFA Ladies Day Out celebration of Farm City Day.

Among the distinguished guests present were: Mrs. Kenneth Brandt, Mrs. Clarence Manbeck, Mrs. Earl Smith and Mrs. Noah Wenger. Senator Ralph Hess was also on hand and served as pinch-hitter for regional organizational director Ed Taczanowsky in handing out appreciation gifts to the hostesses from the tour.

Hostesses honored for opening their homes on the tour were: Svea Hoover, Esther Landis, Evelyn Rohrer, Joy Haas, Joyce Hershey and Sue Groff.

Earl Newcomer, county association president commented he was glad for the rain. Without it, he stated, he'd be planting corn. He urged the group to get their husbands involved in policy development. And he poked fun at Senator Hess for his stand on the milk security fund.

Speaker for the gathering was Lettie Schedler. She outlined for the group where families are spending their food dollars and who is getting that dollar.

Lettie used statistics like \$239 billion dollars on retail food spent last year up \$27 billion from the previous year to impress upon the group the scope of the expenditure. Of this \$239 billion she stated, \$76.8 billion represents payment to the farmer, and \$162 billion represents marketing costs. In addition, of the \$27 billion increase over the year before, roughly two-thirds was from marketing costs. Only one-third was an increase in payments to the farmer.

She outlined briefly for the



Hostesses for the morning tour are shown from left: Esther Landis, R2 Ronks; Evelyn Rohrer, Lancaster; Sue Groff, Lancaster; Svea Hoover, R1 Gap; Joy Haas, R6 Lancaster; Mary Louise Landis, R2 Ronks; and Joyce Hershey, R1 Millersville.

group marketing tactics used to persuade the families to use more processed food and eat away from home more often. Already, she noted, American families eat away from home for one-third of all meals. Fast food commercials aimed at kids by the major chain food services are geared to raise the younger generation to a life of fast food existence. 35 percent of the food dollar is eaten away from home now with the increase in families where two people are working constantly pushing that figure upward.

"One of the best things you can do for both your sons and daughters is to teach them to make things from scratch," she stated. "Many people feel that this is rapidly becoming a lost art."

Additionally, she cautioned the group to keep an eye always to energy costs in food handling. Armed with statistics stating that the average family shops 150 times per year for food or roughly 3 times per week, she noted that convenience stores must charge more for convenience and that gas costs make organizing the family shopping even more critical. Freezing she noted may be less desirable in terms of

energy costs than home canning.

Coupon clipping and refunding have reached epidemic proportions, Lettie noted. She stated, "Families caught in the rising costs of goods are looking for ways to offset fixed monthly bills such as energy costs. Therefore they're clipping more coupons than ever before."

One bright spot in the food marketing picture she noted was the emergence of tailgate markets. She noted

that at one such market surveyed recently, the growers were receiving 33-45 percent more for their goods than they normally would and the consumers were getting fresher goods for an average of 29 percent less money. The gardening boom she noted has created a taste in the consumer for fresh produce.

The dried flower centerpieces for the luncheon were presented to ladies with specially marked programs.



Helen Wivell, left, receives a farm safety plaque from Doris Thomas at the Ladies Day Out Luncheon. While Helen received her award in earlier ceremonies, the plaque was a late arrival.

Now Is The Time

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become re-certified exists in order to purchase pesticides in the future.

TO CONTROL WEEDS IN NEW ALFALFA SEEDINGS

Farmers who were fortunate enough to get their new alfalfa seeding made by this time should be giving some attention to weed control. Straight seedings of alfalfa are very popular and

record holdings last year, but nine percent above the stocks held on April 1, 1978.

Disappearance of the 1979 fall crop to April 1, 1980 totaled 200 million cwt.

are giving excellent stands; however, the weeds must be controlled. If a herbicide was not applied before the seeding was made, then spraying with a weed killer such as 2,4-DB is suggested; this should be done when the plants are only one to two inches high. If the weeds are not controlled when small, they will be difficult to kill without harming the small alfalfa plants. Alfalfa is an excellent forage crop; well planned seedings cost money; we urge that proper weed control be an important part in getting the stand started.

Potatoes in storage drop

HARRISBURG — Potatoes held in storage by growers, local dealers and processors on April 1 were estimated at 1,200,000 cwt., down 23 percent from April 1, 1979 estimates, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service.

Disappearance during March this year totaled 450,000 cwt. compared with 650,000 cwt. disappearance in the same period last year.

The seven eastern potato producing states had 14.6 million cwt. on hand. This was 29 percent above a year ago and 16 percent higher than the 1978 figure.

Nationally, an estimated 96.8 million cwt. of fall potatoes for all uses were held on April 1, 1980 by growers, dealers and processors in the fall producing areas. This was three percent less than the

Farm Calendar

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 Apple queen crowned 2:30 p.m.

Monday, May 5

Lancaster City Milk Promotion Committee meets 8 p.m.; basement of Farm and Home Center.

PA Farm Equipment Manufacturers meet at Sunnyside Restaurant, Carlisle, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 6

Lancaster County FFA land judging contest; rescheduled, Roy Eager Farm, Peach Bottom; 1-2:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 7

FFA agronomy contest, Manheim; 1 p.m.

Thursday, May 8

MD State FFA judging contest, University of Maryland. Chambersburg Regional

FFA parliamentary procedure.

Friday, May 9

Egg marketing meeting; Sheraton-Conestoga Lancaster; 7 p.m.

Dauphin County Dairy Princess Contest; 8 p.m.; Colonial Park Shopping Center.

Saturday, May 10

Adams County sheep clinic; 10 a.m.; at the farm of Dr. and Mrs. Charles Platt.

Montgomery County sheep clinic; 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Souderton.

6th Annual Western PA All-breed Sheep and club lamb sale; 7 p.m.; Mercer County 4-H Park, Mercer.

Hunterdon County 4-H day at the mall; 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Flemington Mall, New Jersey.





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