

Farm Women Societies hold 64th convention

BY DEBBIE KOONTZ
FARM SHOW — The Farm Women Societies of Pennsylvania, a state-organized group consisting of smaller branch organizations in 17 counties and dedicated to contributing to the power and influence of the farm and home, met for their 64th annual convention, Monday and Tuesday.

The organization, comprising of 186 Societies, met for a day of reports and entertainment, Monday, at the Forum Building in downtown Harrisburg. Speaker for the afternoon session was Dr. Donald Barnhouse discussing, "Women in a world of crisis."

That evening, the women met for their annual banquet in the ballroom of the Penn Harris Motor Inn. Entertainment consisted of music by "The Farmer's Daughters" of York County and guest speaker Joan Austin describing "Life, liberty and the pursuit of what?"

On Tuesday, the women convened in Room E of the Farm Show Complex for their annual business meeting.

At this meeting, the more than 300 representatives present voted for a new state treasurer and state director.

Filling the position of treasurer this year will be Frances Ross of Somerset County.

Frances is a member of Society 4 of her county and is married to Kenneth Ross, a dairy farmer.

Frances is a past president of her society and past state secretary, as well as a member of the Church of the Brethren.

The organization's new state director is Marie Steinmetz of Lebanon County. She has been a member for 40 years and has served as a county president and county treasurer. She is a member of the United Methodist Church and enjoys baking, reading, and crocheting.

Also, during the morning session, 13 Societies reported 100 percent participation in the organization's safety program.

In new business, Marie Baughman, state president from Franklin County, told members that two books are now available to



Marie Baughman, state Farm Women Society president, left, and Helen Hess, former president and current director of the nominating committee, right, stand with two new officers elected, Tuesday morning, at their annual business meeting. Second left is Frances Ross of Somerset County newly elected treasurer, and right is Marie Steinmetz of Lebanon County, new state director.

fill with names of deceased members and that these books will serve as a lasting memorial to these individuals.

Baughman also reported being pleased with the attendance at this

year's convention, reminding members that such an attendance is hoped for at their annual Spring Rally, scheduled for May 25, at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center in Hershey.

The program for the Farm Women Convention reports York County as sporting the most Societies - 35; and Lancaster County with the most members - a whopping 1018.



Saturday, Jan. 15
 Lancaster Society 3 meets at the Cloister Restaurant in Ephrata
 Tuesday, Jan. 18
 Berks Society 6 meets with Jane

Hauseman
 Thursday, Jan. 20
 Lancaster Society 15 meets for state convention reports


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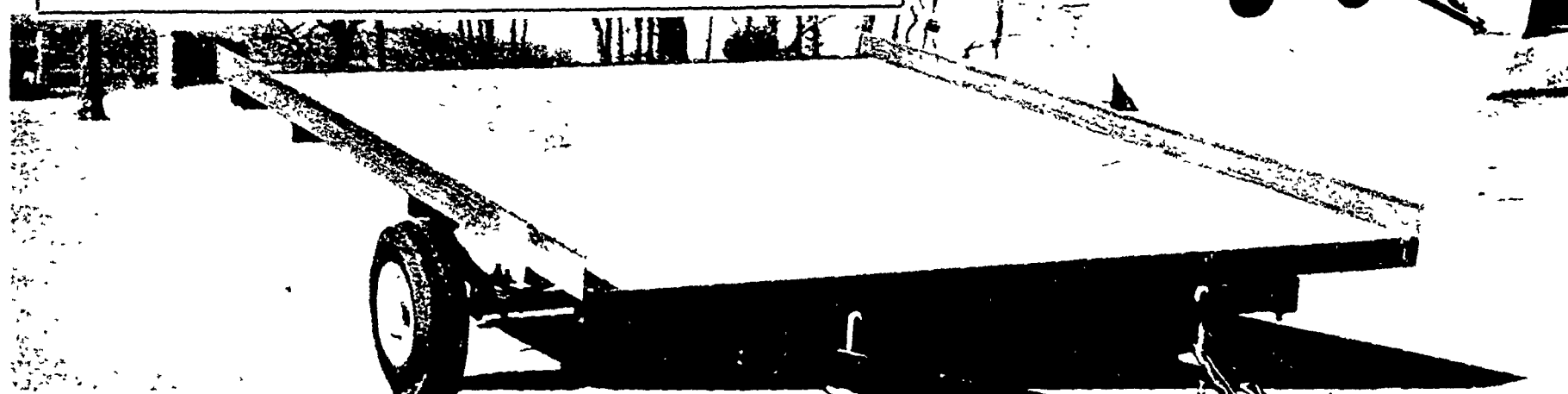
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