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Largest Attendance For Thursday Noted

Blessed by three days of perfect autumn clime coupled already with two record shattering attendances, the 101st Lancaster Fair today spun toward a hoped-for unblemished climax tomorrow.

The weatherman, somewhat of a perfectionist this week, today came up with a favorable forecast of more of the same fair and cool weather for Saturday.

The nationally recognized Fair, unusual for its size, was experiencing more of the unusual in that it was going thru this week without a drop of rain, which spoiled Fairs of the past several years.

Fair Board Secretary Russell Alt estimated Thursday's crowd at between 30,000 to 35,000, adding that this was the largest Thursday attendance in the Fair's history, now in its second century. Wednesday's total attendance was a new record.

Agricultural Society officials indicated today's throng may be even larger than yesterday because of the special Homecoming Day observance. Early this afternoon today the grounds parking lots were filling up fast, the midways were jammed, the exhibit halls and the livestock display areas hummed wtih humanity, under a brilliant sun.

The forecaster said today would be mostly sunny with a high temperature mark in the middle 60s, fair and cool tonight with the mercury due to slide to mid 30s or low 40s.

Generalissimo Alt said plans for tomorrow morning's colorful livestock event, "The Parade of Champions" on the racetrack probably will stamp this always major attraction as the biggest and best in the Fair's existence.

The parade of the livestock champions starts at 10:30 a. m. with the Adelphia band leading the column.

The 35 Adelphi musicians, directed by Rhoderick Shaw, Lancaster, are all farmers. It has played before various fairs and horse shows in Ohio, and played here for the Liberty Bell ceremony and the Sesquicentennial celebration last year.

Gov. Frank Lausche said the Adelphi band is the best community band in Ohio.

Cherokee Hammond presents his wild west rodeo and thrill show for two performances tonight on the track, the first at 7, the second at 9 o'clock, and a single finale tomorrow at 7:30 p.m.

Hammond was booked in here to replace the White Horse Troupe and Death Dodger show, which cancelled its appearance.

A four-day harness race program will wind up tomorrow starting at 1 p.m. with special events. Yesterday and today a packed amphitheater witnessed the classy trotters and pacers pound the half-mile oval.

Records were toppling everywhere at the Fair, particularly in Junior Fair and Ohio Hereford Breeders Ass'n show activities yesterday.

Concessionaires in both the upper and lower midways told Fair officials business yesterday was "real good", and looked forward to busy times today and the 'big one" tomorrow.

A special policeman was bruised and shaken up last night in an accident marring the final show of the Joie Chitwood Auto Daredevils on the racetrack.

Melvin Hollingshead, 43, Lancaster Route 2, was stunned when one of the daredevil drivers momentarily lost control of a car near the track's southeast turn, just east of the amphitheater, and the auto crashed into the picket fence.

This occurred in the first half of the second performance. Splintered pickets flew in all directions and boards were hurled high in the air as the car hurtled into the fence.

Spectators likewise scattered quickly just as the Chitwood auto hit the barrier, and none of them was injured.

Hollingshead was taken to Lancaster-Fairfield Hospital where a physician examined him and found him not severely injured, Fair officials said.

Approximately 70 feet of the picket fence was torn down in the accident. People lined the fences outside the amphitheater area to get a peek at the outstanding daredevil show.

The car was damaged, but not put out of service for the balance of the show. The fence was to be repaired for the Fair today.

Traffic Well Handled

Police were having little or no difficulty with traffic movement and parking in restricted areas outside the 63-acre show lot.

Tonight at 8 o'clock the annual 4-H club auction of livestock is to be held in the round cattle barn. This always draws spirited bidding for the prized steers.

Every nook and cranny in the reservation available for display space is being occupied, said Tom B. Cox, Lancaster, who is completing his 26th year as Fair concessionist.

Managers of other Ohio county fairs and several from other states were on the grounds today, and more were expected to come tomorrow.

Saturday's Races Bring Top Pacers

Two of the top pacers in the middle west will match strides tomorrow in the Free-For-All Pace, one of the feature events of the closing day's harness events at the Fairfield-co Fair.

Widower Cyrus, owned by Gilbert Shively, London, and driven by Doc McMillen, took a record at Lexington, Ky., earlier this year when he paced the mile in 1:59 1-5.

The other fine pacer in the event is Widow Worthy, bay mare owned by Cheney Brothers of Richwood. Widow Worthy covered the mile in 2:04 2-5 at the Wayne-co Fair in Wooster and 2:05 to win at the Coshocton Fair last week.

Saturday's entries:

Free-For-All Trot, Purse $700, Two Dashes—Nancy Grimm (driver not given), Helen Van (H. Miller), Red Chuck (Cartnal), Walton Stone (McMillen), My Souvenir (Douglas), McKee Grattan (McGahey), Clever M (Hague), Dewey Dean (H. Ford).

Free-For-All Pace, Purse $700, Two dashes—Castnet (McMillen) Widower Cyrus (McMillen), Roy's Lady (Vallery), Belwin Bunter (Huber), Student Prince (Grance), Twin May Song (Boyd), Widow Worthy (Cheney) Mickey Morris (J. Lighthill).

Pace for non-winners of $1000 in 1951, Purse $500, Two dashes—Doctor Farley (Tackett), Pawnee (R. Brown), Nelson (V. Butt) Flax Rose (W. Young), The Pike (Van Dyne), Josedale Main (Wolfe), Mary Morris (C. Myers) Blue Haez (VaVllery), Apex (Gaffin), Ronnie Spencer (Page), Alcia Pointer (Van Matre).

Trot for non-winners of $1500 in 1951, Purse $300, One dash—Dad's First (Sugg), Ebony Princess (Keys), Czarina Volo (Pack), Little Pat W (Wolfe), Black Win (J. France), Mary's Best (Haworth), Absorbine (Earl), McKee Grattan (McGahey), Starkey (Wolfe), Prissy Miss (Albert).

Pace for non-winners of $1500 in 1951, Purse $300—Janet Ann (K. Buel), Bud Abbe (R. Newhart), Betty Ann Abbedale (L. Huber), Pop's Primrose (E. Drumm), Mary Beth (Shilling), Supreme Counsel (Gaffin Tommy McElwyn (Butt).

AUTO CATCHES FIRE

The engine backfired and set fire last night to the carburetor of the auto driven by Mrs. Frances Bitzer, Circleville, in Route 22, west of Lancaster. Firemen extinguished the blaze without damage.

CALL FOR SCORE

Results of the Lancaster-Cambridge football game in Cambridge will be available at the Eagle-Gazette tonight AFTER 10:30 o'clock. The telephone number is 4600.

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