

BANDSMAN AT FAIR 43 YEARS



Floyd E. Ruff

FAIR NOTES

(by Ruth Fuller)

The Ohio Sesquicentennial theme stands out in nearly every exhibit at the Lancaster Fair this year, a fact which not only delights the hearts of the Fairfield County Sesqui committee and the Fair Board but provides fascinating displays for fair visitors. Greeting the crowds streaming in thru the Broad St. entrance is the major Sesqui fairgrounds project, the authentic rebuilt log cabin furnished with old-fashioned furniture. Yesterday afternoon the line waiting to get inside stretched far down the pathway, as William Woodward, Sesqui chairman, hustled in and out of the structure. Last evening, Mrs. Paul Parker, pretty in her brightly-colored homespun costume, could be seen weaving at her large loom set up in the cabin. In the year which she's been practicing this pioneer art, she's woven 100 yards of material, including table mats, towels, scarves, and men's suiting.

If you see an extremely handsome, dark-haired, brown-eyed young man about the fairgrounds who looks like a movie star, he's probably Antonio Amici of Argentina, South America, an International Farm Youth Exchange delegate who's spending this month with Mr. and Mrs. David Robinson on their farm east of Millersport. Incidentally the Robinsons' daughter, Lucille was an IFYE delegate to Finland this year. "Everybody tells me the Fairfield County Fair is the best in the country," he smiled. "Now I am convinced it is so, even tho I've seen several other fairs in the U. S. this summer." Tony, who makes friends easily, was busy yesterday snapping pictures on the grounds to take back home with him next month.

He made it. We're referring to Harold Thayer, county agricultural agent, who broke his back Aug. 3 in a fall at Tar Hollow 4-H Club Camp, but who vowed he'd be at the 1953 Fair. Practically the first person the news reporter met in the new Junior Fair cattle barn Tuesday was Harold, who had in tow the new associate agent, Joe Brooks. Thayer, who is wearing a brace now instead of an all over cast, was out on the grounds again yesterday. You just can't keep an extension agent away from a fair.

Joe Brooks, who will take over his duties as associate agent in Fairfield next Jan. 1, is still in Uncle Sam's service but was able to get a week's furlough for a pre-workout at the Lancaster Fair. He's had some previous experience at the Carroll County and Coshocton Fairs where he served as assistant agent before

(Turn Page 13, Sec. B, Col. 3)

Band's Saturday March Familiar Route To Floyd

When the Adelphi Band heads the livestock parade at the fairgrounds here Saturday morning, one of its members, Floyd E. Ruff 60, Amanda Rt. 1, will be marching as a bandsman at the Fairfield County Fair for the 43rd consecutive year.

Mr. Ruff started his band career with the Citizens Band of Lancaster when he was 17 years old. During the years he has played with every band that has been organized in the county. He plays all instruments except clarinet. He claims to be the oldest active professional bandsman now residing in Fairfield County.

The Adelphi Band, from Ross County will play for the livestock parade Saturday morning and for the harness racing program that afternoon. This will be the fourth fair at which it has appeared this year.

Mr. Ruff, a farmer, was born about a mile west of Lancaster on Rt. 22. Mr. and Mrs. Ruff have two children: Robert, 37, heads the office department of North American Aviation Corp. at Columbus, and their daughter, Mrs. Betty Bowman, lives on Amanda Rt. 1.

VAN LEAKS GASOLINE

The fire department flushed N. High St. between E. Sixth Ave. and Allen St. after being called at 12:52 p.m. today when a moving van leaked gasoline while the driver was evidently at the fair. Name of the driver or owner was not obtained.

First Day

Lancaster's 103rd Fair today moved toward the "two big ones"—tomorrow and Saturday—with a new opening day attendance mark already in the books and fortified by a possibility of another record-shattering throng on its second day.

The weatherman's forecast for tomorrow mentioned no change in the fair and warm that has prevailed yesterday and today, altho 80-degree temperatures were advanced, indicating it would be warm and dry on Friday. Fair and cool tonight was also predicted.

The outlook is in line with the weatherman's advance five-day prospectus he issued Tuesday in which he said no rain was expected until Sunday thus giving the 1953 edition of the Fair a real "lift."

Total paid attendance at the Fair yesterday doubled the amount received from admissions on the opening day of the 1952 show, said Emerson French,

A full page of Fair pictures by Armand Romano, Eagle-Gazette photographer, will be found on Page 3, Section B of this issue.

Pickerington, Fair Board treasurer.

Fair Board Secretary Russell Alt estimated that between 20,000 and 25,000 persons were on the grounds yesterday.

On the Fair's opening day last year, the estimated grounds turnout was between 12,000 and 15,000.

Veteran Fair Board directors guessed today's crowd might surpass the 1952 Fair's second day mark of 20,000 and 25,000. Gatekeepers were swamped toward noon as thousands began to stream in for the late morning and afternoon events which included the annual Ohio Hereford Assn. sale, the harness races, and feature events in the ever-popular Junior Fair.

Judging Reaches Climax
Judging in the Ohio Hereford Breeders Ass'n. show reached a climax at noon in the big show

(Turn Page 13, Sec. B, Col. 2)

Late Agreement Averts Bus Strike Today In Canton

CANTON, Ohio — A bus strike was averted today when Canton City lines and the AFL bus drivers local reached agreement for a 12½¢ hourly increase for the company's 120 drivers and mechanics.

Rank and file union members ratified the agreement, which must be approved by the AFL's international officers, before a contract can be signed. Such action is expected early next week.

Early morning riders said many buses were nearly empty because many persons anticipated a walk-out today.

The agreement gives drivers a base pay of \$1.77 an hour for 48 working hours and mechanics up to \$1.97 an hour based on the type of work performed.

In the settlement the union gave up a previous contract provision which called for drivers to be paid for a 15-minute period at the end of the day during which they turned in receipts.

FAIR PROGRAM

THURSDAY

HARVEST-HOME DAY

8:00 P. M.—Hoaglan's Hippodrome Headliners

FRIDAY

PIONEERS DAY

9:00 A. M.—Judging of Polled Herefords, Shorthorns, Guernsey Cattle

1:00 P. M.—Harness Races

1:30 P. M.—Judging of 4-H Guernsey Cattle

3:00 P. M.—4-H Club, Vocational Agriculture Dairy Showmanship Contest

8:00 P. M.—Hoaglan's Hippodrome Headliners

8:00 P. M.—4-H Club Auction Sale of Fat Steers, Hogs Lambs (Round Cattle Barn).

SATURDAY

HOMECOMING DAY

9:00 A. M.—Judging of Saddle Horses, Ponies

10:30 A. M.—Mammoth Livestock "Parade of Champions"

1:00 P. M.—Harness Races

8:00 P. M.—Hoaglan's Hippodrome Headliners