

# Machinery Exhibits Top All Past Performances

## AT INDIANA STATE FAIR

By MAYNARD BERTSCH

INDIANA'S 1953 fair has become history and has been recorded as one of the best during the past 101 years. Attendance did not reach the figure of last year's Centennial record of 659,454, but 592,143 paid admissions passed through the gates.

However, both open class and 4-H exhibitors broke records of last year as entries in practically every department were higher than in 1952.

Commercial exhibitors, too, had a greater display than last year. Implementation manufacturers and dealers had the largest display of agricultural tools ever displayed at a state fair.

### 14-Year-Old Champion

There were too many highlights to cover in one report on the state fair, but one that will long be remembered was the auction sale of 4-H beef calves. Ted Hunt, a 14-year-old youngster from West Lafayette, Ind., exhibited the grand champion 4-H beef steer. His steer was a 904-pound Hereford. Reserve champion, a 1,055-pound Angus, was shown by Robert Bennett, Montgomery county.

Ted spent the last hour, before the sale, currying his prized animal. As he neared the auction ring tears began to moisten his eyes. But, as buyers began placing their bids his face began to brighten. When the auctioneer "knocked off" the prized

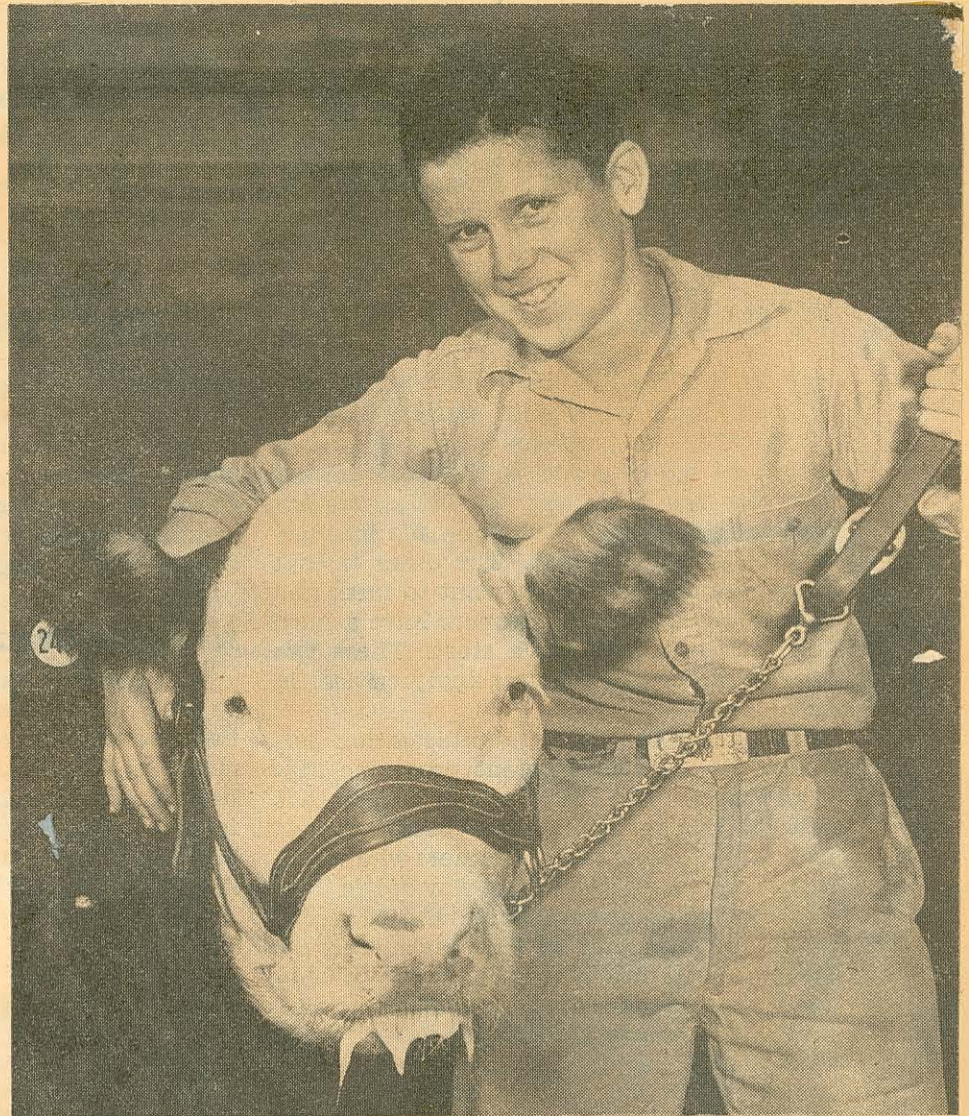
county. She had to leave for nurse's training in Chicago before the auction sale and did not see her grand champion bring \$7 a pound. Starke & Wetzel made the purchase.

In all, club members sold 181 calves. The calves averaged 1,111 pounds and brought an average of \$29.03 without the champion calf. Buyers were Kroger, Starke & Wetzel, Kingan, Grassey Creek Locker, Indiana Cattle company, Wabnits & Deeter, Hoosier Market, Emgee, and Producers Marketing Association.

The poultry judging team from Porter county, coached by Walter Lippert, won the state contest as a part of the state fair. The team came from Kouts and included Harold Fritz, Ronald Sommers, Jack Nuest, and Gene Nuest.

A team of judges from Clinton county won the livestock judging contest. This team, coached by Ralph Acord, included Dale Long, Rolland Crow, Jess Shively, and Maurice Oglesby. The champion dairy judging team came from Hamilton county with Nelson Jay as coach. Members of the team were Dale McCullough, Jerry Ottinger, Robert Hines, and Don Billingsley.

One of the impressive sessions of the fair was the Sunday morning worship hour in the huge coliseum. Boys and girls attending the youth camps



WALTER, THE GRAND CHAMPION STEER in the 4-H beef show, is being hugged by his owner, Ted Hunt of Tippecanoe county, Ind. Ted, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herschel Hunt of West Lafayette, showed his Hereford for the first time at the state fair and went home with the coveted championship ribbon. Starke and Wetzel bought Ted's calf for Stop and Shop in Indianapolis, paying \$5.25 a pound for the animal.

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Hereford for \$5.25 a pound Ted's face fairly beamed. During the fair the calf gained 34 pounds, bringing the Tippecanoe county boy a return of \$4,924.50. The calf was purchased by Starke and Wetzel for the Stop and Shop market.

The grand champion 4-H fat barrow, a 271-pound Duroc, was shown by Betty Mae Welsch of Morgan

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in connection with the fair, and Sunday visitors packed the coliseum for the Hour of Worship. Bishop Raines delivered the sermon. The combined voices of nearly 2,000 members of the Indiana Home Demonstration chorus was an added feature of the Worship Hour, making this choir the largest in Indiana.