

Fair Weather Forecast All Wet—So Are Fans On First Day of Fair

Brisk Rain Turns Into Drizzle, Smashing
Hopes for Record Opening Attendance

By VICTOR PETERSON

Early spectators at the Indiana State Fair got a damp reception this morning.

A sunny sky forecast turned into a brisk rain and then a drizzle, slowing attendance.

Only a trickle of people made their way through the gates. Hopes for a record-breaking opening day attendance waned.

At dawn however, it was a toss-up whether rain would strike the first day of the 92d Fair.

The gates were open at 6 a. m. Unofficially they hadn't been closed all night.

But either the farmer doesn't get up at a traditionally early hour when he is fair-going or he refuses to compromise himself with daylight saving time.

Finds Sleepy Guards

It was dark when I pulled up at the gate at 5:30 a. m. expecting to see a throng surging about the entrance.

Except for three sleepy guards I was the only person surging at the gate. The guard was grumpy. A lone car cruised along 38th St.

"Move along. You're blocking traffic," he said.

Stock owners, who had placed their beds alongside their animals, still were asleep, despite the barnyard chorus of restless livestock.

Lunch Stands Open

Lunch stands were open for business, but there was no business.

The midway was asleep. The flaps were down on the big tents and the wood shavings scattered over the ground were undisturbed.

Sideshow performers slept. They were resting up for another grinding day.

Gradually a few streaks of dawn brightened the grounds. Life began to stir. Guards awoke to their posts. One was mumble.

The poultry barn? Where's the poultry barn?

Water the Stock

Farmers tumbled off their cots or rolled out of their blankets and spread on straw. They began to mix feed, water the stock and clean the stalls.

After the stock was cared for, they headed toward the lunch counters. The smell of frying bacon and eggs and flapjacks filled the air.

Then came the first official announcement over the fair's loudspeaker.

"Will the owner of the gray Plymouth coupe parked outside the main entrance please move his car."

Carpenters Busy

Carpenters went to work. The feverish, last-minute pecking of hammers sounded. The last strokes of paint brushes livened dreary signs. Concessionaires turned up tent sides.

This was the prelude to the fair—Hoosierland's greatest agricultural spectacle.

Tonight the midway will be a fairyland of lights. Thousands of foot-weary people will troop from building to building. Tired youngsters will drag along back of tired parents.

This is an institution.

This is the State Fair.

Thief Grabs \$45 From Woman in Lobby of Bank

AS MRS. MARY BEARD, 1503 N. Arsenal Ave., walked through the lobby of the Merchants National Bank yesterday, a man grabbed \$45 from her hand, she told police.

She started after him, but another man detained her, asserting he knew the thief and promising to call police.

THEN THE second man disappeared. She later learned he had never reported the theft. Police theorized the two were partners.

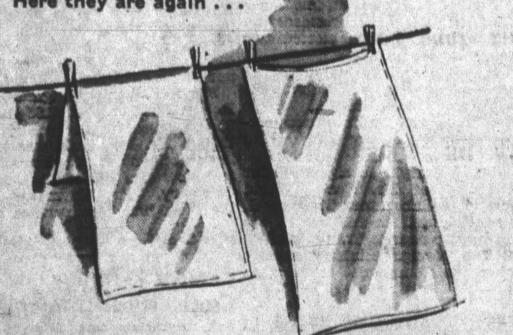
Mrs. Beard said one of the men had stood in line behind her as she cashed her pay check at a bank teller's window.

Schuman Gives Up

PARIS, Sept. 3 (UPI)—Robert Schuman resigned today as premier-designate and advised President Vincent Auriol that he has been unable in four days of desperate negotiation to form a new French government.

L. S. Ayres & Co.

Here they are again . . .



Bestex absorbent

Sacking Kitchen Towels

6 for 1.49

Hemmed and laundered kitchen towels . . . the real "old-fashioned" highly absorbent kind. Pre-shrunk, sturdy. Leave no lint . . . makes glassware sparkle.

Linen Department, Fifth Floor



HIT THE DECK—Farmers exhibiting prized stock at the Fair never will wander far from the stalls. At night they sleep by the valuable animals. Lloyd Nickless, Pimento, sleepily ties a lace while Verlin Boyll, R. R. 2, Terre Haute, catches that last wink.



HONEST MEASURE—Mrs. Mary Farris, 921 S. State Ave., reliably proves the foot-long hot dogs she will sell at the Fair are at least a "foot" long by actual comparison.

L. S. Ayres & Co. FRanklin 4411

Off to Kindergarten!

Here are a few from our complete collection of clothes

for your youngsters . . . everything they'll need for

Fall, for Winter, for year 'round—at budget-wise prices!



A. Snowsuit 12.95

With laskin lamb collar, zippered front, knitted anklets and wristlets, and adjustable waist. Brown or green with matching helmet included. Sizes 4 to 6x.

B. Corduroy Slacks 3.95

sizes 3 to 7.

Sport Jacket, Zelar* treated for water repellency, sizes 3 to 6. 2.95

C. Cotton Dress 2.95

From a wide selection of back-to-school dresses, in many colors and styles. Sizes 3 to 6x.

Beret, navy, brown or red, 1.95

D. Imported Wool Plaid Coat 25.00

Beautifully detailed, with stitched velvet collar and pockets. Sizes 3 to 6.

Scottie Hat, 2.95

E. Shirt 1.95

Sanforized* fine quality broadcloth, with long or short sleeves. White, sizes 3 to 6x.

F. Raincoat 2.50

Of wearable, non-stick plastic, with matching hood. Sizes 3 to 6.

G. Cotton Knit Trousers 1.00

Washable, wearable, sturdy. Brown or navy, sizes 3 to 6 included. With cotton knit polo shirt in open, navy or red stripes, 1.15

H. Broadcloth Blouse 1.95

From a selection in Sanforized* white broadcloth, sizes 3 to 6x.

I. School Bag 1.00

J. Scarf, of spun rayon, from a selection in gay prints, 1.00

FRIDAY, SEPT. 3, 1948

Farm Prices

Drop Slightly

State Reports 2% Decline in August

LAFAYETTE, Sept. 3 (UPI)—Prices received by Indiana farmers in August fell 2 per cent from the July level.

A report issued today by Purdue University and Federal statisticians said the August price index stood at 286 when compared with the 1938-39 average.

All grains dropped for the second consecutive month. Soybeans fell from \$3.64 to \$2.90, and corn sold for \$1.90.

Hogs rose slightly more than seasonally to \$27.50. Cattle declined to \$25.20 during the month, but still were sharply higher than last year's price.

The report said that farmers remained in a "favorable economic position."

USED AS AROMATIC

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