

ARIZONA'S STOCK JUDGING TEAM

By IRWIN INGRAM, '26

A History of the First Stock Judging Team That Represented Arizona in the International and American Royal Livestock Shows

DURING the fall of 1924, a movement was started by the Animal Husbandry Department and the students of that department toward sending a livestock judging team from the University to compete in the inter-collegiate classic shows, namely; the American Royal held at Kansas City and the International Livestock Show at Chicago.

During the spring semester of 1925, the Aggie Club voted to back the project and contributed \$500.00 toward defraying the expenses of the team. By means of the annual "Aggie Dance," concessions at the University week, manufacture and sale of ice cream, the sale of dates grown at the Tempe date orchard and a contribution from the Aggie Magazine, "The Arizona Agriculturist," the money was raised. Contributions from cattlemen, sheepmen, packing industries and personal donations netted \$200.

Competing for Places on the Team

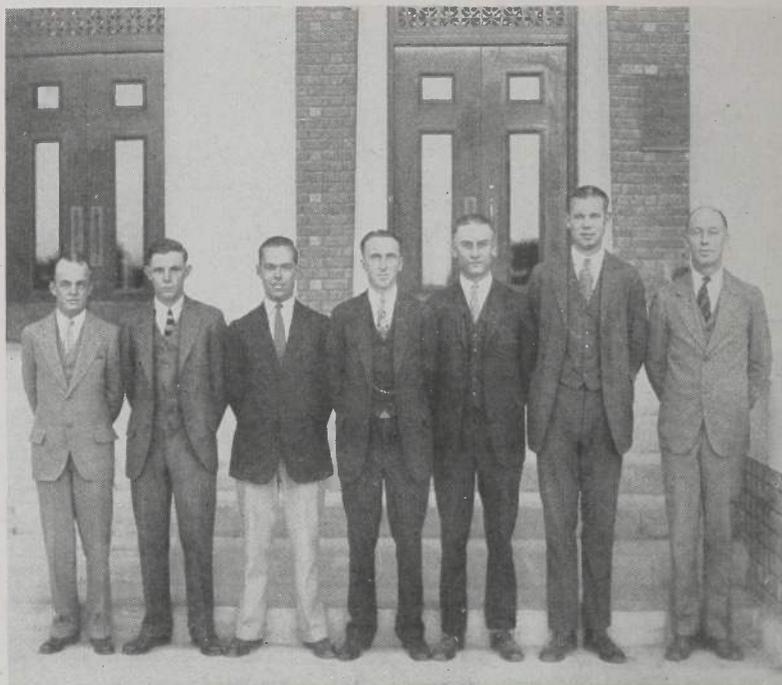
At the beginning of the fall term 1925 judging practice was started in earnest and competition for "making" the team was keen. By the first of November six men had been picked for the team and were judging every day at the University farm and the surrounding ranches where stock was available.

First Lap of the Trip

On November sixth, the team composed of H. J. Shouse, J. McInnis, O. Knox, F. Manley, M. Mundhenke and I. Ingram with Professor E. B. Stanley left Tucson for Wichita, Kansas, where the Kansas National Livestock Show was being held. Here the men had their first experience judging show stock of the various classes and seeing the Professional judges of the show place and explain the placing of the animals. The team remained here and practiced judging until November 12 and then left for Kansas City.

The American Royal at Kansas City

The team arrived in Kansas City on the 13th and motored out to the Sni-a-bar farms where experiments are being conducted on the breeding of pure bred bulls with grade cows. The team was conducted to the different farms where the first, second, third and fourth crosses were observed and the nature of the work explained



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From left to right: H. Shouse, O. Knox, F. Manley, I. Ingram, M. Mundhenke, J. McInnes, Coach Stanley

by one of the herdsman. The team returned to Kansas City that evening.

On the morning of November 14th the team assembled at the American Royal building where the contest was to be held. The following men were picked to enter the contest: Manley, Knox, Mundhenke, McInnis and Ingram.

Eleven other teams were entered in the contest. Twelve rings of livestock were judged, which were as follows: Three rings of mutton sheep, three rings of beef cattle, two rings of draft horses and one ring of mules. The judging was completed by 1 o'clock and at 1:30 the Livestock Exchange Commission served a dinner for the teams. The afternoon and evening was spent in giving reasons. No one was allowed to leave the hall except to give a set of reasons on a ring of stock.

The scores of the competing teams and the individual scores of Arizona's team is given below.

1 Texas	4386
2 Iowa	4355
3 Colorado	4295
4 Kansas	4284
5 Illinois	4263
6 Oklahoma	4261
7 N. Dakota	4195
8 Wyoming	4156

9 Missouri	4139
10 Nebraska	4113
11 Wisconsin	4095
12 Arizona	4005

Individual Record

Ingram	830
Mundhenke	819
McInnis	803
Knox	784
Manley	769

The possible team and individual scores were 500 and 1000 respectively.

The next morning the Official Judges gave their placing on the rings and reasons for doing so.

The team made a tour of inspection thru the stock yards and practiced judging until Thursday, November 19th, when they left for Ames, Iowa.

Enroute to Chicago

Ames, Iowa, is the home of the Iowa State Agriculture College. At this place the team received a hearty welcome and were given the best training available. Heads of the different departments provided the various rings of livestock to be judged and explained each ring pointing out the desirable and undesirable parts of the animals.

During the stay here a great deal of pep and enthusiasm was displayed by the Ames students because of the

annual football game with their ancient rivals, Drake University of Des Moines. Part of the team took advantage of this opportunity and witnessed a real football game, ending in favor of Ames.

Preparation For the Big Contest

The next point of interest on this trip was Illinois University, the home of "Red Grange." After viewing the immense campus and the palatial buildings even down to the judging pavilion, the team received their finishing touches before entering the International.

The equipment at this school was of the very latest and separate farms housed the different classes of livestock. The livestock judged here was of the type that were shown at the stock shows and special attention was given to the visiting teams in having rings ready to be judged.

International Livestock Show at Chicago

The team entrained for Chicago November 27th and after arriving there spent the rest of the day resting. The team stayed at the Stock Yards Inn which is noted for its accommodations and for housing so many noted people connected with Agriculture.

On the morning of November 28th the same men that entered the contest at Kansas City, assembled at the International and there in competition with twenty-one other teams judged the following rings of livestock: yearling shropshire ewes, yearling southdown ewes, fat yearling Percheeron mares, Poland China gilts, wethers, two-year-old Belgian mares, two-year-old Percheron stallions, aged Duroc jersey gilts, Chester White fat barrows, junior yearling Hereford heifers, junior yearling shorthorn heifers, and junior yearling angus steers.

In the afternoon reasons were given on eight of the twelve rings. The official placing came out about 1 o'clock the following morning, which was as follows

Team Record

1 Oklahoma	4459
2 Illinois	4434
3 Ontario	4416
4 Iowa	4393
5 Texas	4362
6 Perdue	4349
7 Kansas	4326
8 Colorado	4292
9 Nebraska	4279
10 Missouri	4247
11 Minnesota	4232
12 Wisconsin	4227

13 N. Dakota	4216
14 W. Virginia	4177
15 Ohio	4120
16 California	4089
17 Arizona	4072
18 Pennsylvania	3988
19 Wyoming	3975
20 Michigan	3893
21 S. Dakota	3841
22 Massachusetts	3443

Individual Record

Knox	834
Ingram	830
McInnis	814
Manley	809
Mundhenke	785

At this contest Knox was 11th in cattle and Ingram was 12th in swine out of 110 contestants entered. When it is taken into consideration that the team was composed of three sophomores, one junior and one senior the record made at both contests would be a credit to any institution. A score of over 4000 is considered to be exceptionally good and the team scoring the highest number of points at Kansas City was only 381 points higher than the Arizona team; which if rated in percentage would be 80% for Arizona and 87% for the winning team. At Chicago the winning team was only 387 points higher which in percentage would be 81% for Arizona and 89% for the winning team. The Arizona team was 429 points above the lowest team, which would give the lowest team a rating of 68%. Considering the fact that the team had the three youngest men that had competed in either contest and these three only having one-half a year's training, in contrast with older men having four years training, which made up the other teams. Other schools have excellent equipment to train their students while the equipment at the University was not sufficient to provide adequate training for the team. Only a few head of Hereford cattle, a few Duroc jersey and Poland China hogs and a small number of sheep were available. No horses, mules, Southdown sheep, shorthorn or Angus cattle, Chester White or Berkshire hogs nor any fat stock of any class were available at the University farms. Altho the team had done considerable work in judging fine wool sheep, this class of stock was not entered in either of the two contests.

Special Features at the International

One of the most interesting exhibits at the International was the

meat demonstration, sponsored by the National Livestock and Meat Board. One exhibit was carcasses of calves used in experimental work carried on at the Sni-a-bar farms to determine the best methods of handling beef calves. Another exhibit included two-year-old feeder steer carcasses. The cuts of good and common steers were exhibited to show the stockman the value of breeding and feeding a good grade of livestock. The third exhibit consisted of the championship carcasses which were sold at auction. For the first time in the history of the International the champion beef, pork, and mutton carcasses were exhibited within the show grounds where the visitors could see them.

Car lots of steers were shown and judged at both contests. These were of interest to the team as they showed what good breeding, feeding and handling will do to any class of livestock.

One class of Hereford heifers had twenty-seven entries which required about an hour and a half for the judge to determine the placing.

Homeward Bound

The team started on their three-day journey home December the second and arrived in due time.

While on this trip the team judged approximately five hundred head of livestock and had the privilege of seeing the official judges place approximately one thousand head.

While the placing of the team was not as high as some of the other teams, or as high as perhaps the most critical would expect, the scores are above criticism, and show the result of hard, concentrated effort. But the score, low or high, is not the big thing—it is the value of such a trip to the men—value which cannot be measured in dollars and cents. The men were in contact with the nationally known stockmen, with students and faculty members of Universities thruout the land, and with officials of the largest judging contests. Classes and breeds of livestock, the best in the world, were viewed and judged, and valuable information was obtained first hand in modern methods of breeding and handling livestock from some of America's leading stockmen.

Yes, it was a great trip; a trip well worth the work and money.

The team wishes to thank the Aggie Club for their unselfish and loyal support, also the "AG," Faculty, stockmen and others who aided in making this trip possible.