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Carcass Contests May Outshine **Live Animal Competition at Shows**

Red meats have partially lost

tion last year was at a record of

83.5 pounds per capita, it is

significant that red meat con-

compared to 78 per cent for

"It is logical and desirable

that each industry improve its

products, their presentations on

the market and, therefore, their

sales and the industry's economic

Poultry raisers have made vast

strides in the improvement of

product and its processing,

packaging, marketing and mer-

The homemaker who buys 75

per cent of all fodd and 73 per

cent of all beef for home con-

sumption and has clearly shown

a preference for lean meat has

established the goal for those

industry leaders "who know

that it is impossible to breed,

feed process and merchandise

beef, pork and lamb that pro-

vide large rib and loint eyes of

lean meat that are tender, well-

marbled, juicy and of the desir-

ed texture, color and flavor, and

with a minimum of 'bark' or ex-

Carcass contests spotlight the

need for improved breeding and

feeding to meat consumer wants The need is apparent in dis-

crepancies between on-hoof judg-

ing of contest animals and final

carcass judging. Kildee noted

greatest improvement in swine

judging in recent years, while

lamb judging has done nearly as

The primary purpose of these

contests is to increase the yield

and to improve the quality of

beef, pork, and lamb in order to

measure up to consumer preference They give convincing evi-

dence of marked variations in

carcass quality among the breeds

in each species and also within

The International Live Stock

Exposition has had a carcass

contest since its first show in

1900 Last year it increased cash

prizes, expanded classifications,

revised the rules and spotlighted

the contest by auctioning the champion carcasses in the main

arena before Horse Show crowds

nently through the week in a

Yard and Transit Company Other prize winners were dis-

refrigerated, glass-enclosed er, made possible by William

each of the breeds.

poultry.

well-being"

chandising

ternal fat"

and wethers, according to a prediction made by Dr H. H. Kildee, Dean Emeritus of the College of Agriculture, Iowa State College, and vice-president of the International Live Stock Exposi-

The prediction was made in a recent speech at the University of Florida Dean Kildee is director in charge of the carcass contest of the International show. Kildee based his view on live-

stock research findings that point the way to breeding and feeding livestock that produces carcasses that cut out the great-

Economical



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finished animals The "fills" of animals varies, and it as difficult to give proper credit to major by-products of animals.

The major criteria of the International are as follows: 1. loin eye area in square inches (this varied in the 1956 contest Carcass contest grand cham-pionships may soon overshadow years due largely to the present the grand championships in consumer reaction against fat shows for live steers, barrows on meats While beef consumpfrom nine to more than 16 square on meats While beef consump- 1 to 10

The speaker believed a good goal for market steers is provided by Dr L. E Kunkle of sumption has only increased 29 Ohio State University — steers per cent since World War II that in conformation, natural flashing and degree of finish provide the following

> 1. An edible portion of 80 per cent of carcass weight

2 Trimmable fat not in excess of 14 per cent of carcass weight 4 Rib eye of about 13 square inches and a texture and marbling that indicates tenderness, juiciness and desired flavor and to the point of picturing the car-

high and limited external fat or inspirational value to the breed-

dispels a widely accepted idea sumers of red meat" that small bone in animals is correlated to a large proportion of lean meat Weighing and measurng every individual muscle and bone in many thousands of slaughtered animals, the investigator concludes.

"It is not possible to get a carcass with a really great wealth of flashing without having associated with that flesh a heavy weight of bone

Muscles are tred to the bone; they are there to operate the bone; so their size and shape must, for mechanical reasons, be associated with the size and shape of the bone"

This study indicates that it is possible to breed cattle that are markedly deficient in lean meat and having excessive fat by selecting breeding animals with fine bone. The shorter and thicker the bone the greater depth or thickness of muscle over that bone. Studies in this country substantiate these conclusions

Doctor Kildee also cited recent discoveries by Department of Agriculture research that flavor in meats is 68 per cent heritable.

"It is not difficult," he concluded, "to project one's thinking cass contests of the future with 5 A degree of finish not too a much greater educational and ers of purebreed seed stock, pro-Research in Europe and New ducers of market beef cattle, Zealand by Dr C P McKeekan swine and lambs and to all con-

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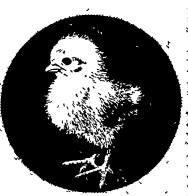
tinuous "open house" In the beef cattle contest, separate classes for senior calves, summer yearlings, and junior yearlings are now provided for and purebreds, grades and crosses of other breeds Entries are ing, slaughtered that afternoon, and carcasses judged on Monday so that prize-winning carcasses are displayed for study by breeders and feeders through the week Stated Doctor Kildee "The fact that there are variations within each breed is a major reason why carcass contests

they are now receiving" Dressing percentage is not a factor in the placing of the International contest. Dr R W. Bray, associate professor of animal husbandry at the University of Wisconsin and superintendent of the contest, points out that high yield is sometimes associat-

merit the greater emphasis and

increased participation which





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