# He's been at all Farm Shows since they began

By DIETER KRIEG

MYERSTOWN — Hubert Miller, a 79-year old Lebanon County dairyman, has had more to do with the Farm Show than win hundreds of trophies and ribbons. He was on the conmittee which was responsible to have the Complex built in the late 1920's. Over the last 50 years he has been an annual visitor and competitor, making a name for himself and his "Lime Rock Holsteins."

This year he and several younger members of the Miller family will be going with seven animals. Reminiscing over his past experiences and triumphs, the elderly showman said "it takes a lot of work to do it right, but I was ready." He told Lancaster Farming he wasn't beat very often, and has walls and boxes full of ribbons to prove it. Several years ago he showed an All-American heifer. He has also bred and developed junior and senior yearling bulls which have won All-American designation.

"I was still going strong

five or six years ago when I could work," Miller said, adding that he wasn't beat very often up until then. Things have gotten tougher over the years, however. According to Miller the competition is getting better and the number of entries pretty well assures that only top animals get into the ring. "You have to be on the job if you want to win — there's a lot to this show business," he commented.

An active breeder, Miller instrumental in organizing the Lebanon County Holstein Club, of which he, his sons, and grandsons are members. One of his grandsons, Carl Weaver, is doing much of the showing for "Lime Rock Holsteins" now. This year he had a reserve All-Pennsylvania calf which was sired by one of several bulls raised on the Miller farm.

Although the elder Miller believes the Farm Show today is better than it used to be, he insists that Winter is no time of year to show cows.



Hubert Miller, left, has been going to the Farm Show with his Holsteins ever since it started. Prior

to that he showed his animals in Harrisburg

He prefers to show cows during the summer.

Miller first began showing animals in 1916 — 60 years ago. His first experience was with pigeons, some of which he took to Madison Square Garden in New York City. Chickens and hogs also interested him, but it turned out to be the Holsteins which enthused him the most.

Prior to the Farm Show Complex having been built, farmers gathered in garages along Cameron Street (Harrisburg) to show their animals, Miller recalled. Unlike today, contestants were not limited in the number of animals they could bring to the show.

A farmer for all of his life, Miller purchased his "home

farm" in 1923 and has since then acquired two other properties. He and two younger generations of Millers now operate three farms consisting of 180 acres. The family owns 110 head of Holsteins, 54 of which are milking. Most recent DHIA statistics read: 14,123 pounds of milk and 570 pounds of butterfat. Their current classification score is: two Excellents, 19 Very Good, 29 Good Plus, and 6 Good.

Miller stresses that good feed, particularly beet pulp, has a lot to do with having an animal look good for the show. But there's more to it than that, like long hours, hard work, and a dedicated love for animals, he concluded.

garages which were temporarily rented for that purpose. The Lebanon County dairyman and his son, Roy, admire one of their two "Excellent" cows.

Farm Show Feature



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