

The same Navajo boys rode over and over again in event after event. As this was the first year of the Fair, this is probably not surprising, and it seems reasonable to expect that next year a larger number of Indians will participate.

The exhibits consisted of livestock, handicrafts, agricultural produce, and exhibits arranged by the Soil Conservation Service.

The animals were poor as compared with types that would be seen at a State Fair. However, they represented a class of livestock that any Navajo could reasonably expect to acquire, and which are suitable for Reservation work and range conditions.

The arts and crafts exhibits were small but very good, especially the silver and weaving. I was surprised at the evident interest that the Indians took in these. The hall was usually crowded and individuals took a long time to examine the pieces on display. The same was true of the Soil Conservation exhibits, particularly the dioramas which included moving models of any kind.

Agricultural products were interesting in that they showed what can be grown by the Navajos under irrigation, but they did not seem to attract the interest of the crowd in the same way as the other exhibits. Although there had been some protest before the Fair in regard to the holding of the Fire Dance during the Fair, it seemed to me that this ceremonial was a great attraction to the Indians. It was entirely free from white influence, as far as I could judge, and was beautifully put on.

A few suggestions have occurred to me that might be put into effect next year: 1) Either the AAAA or the NAAA should arrange a loan exhibit of old rugs and silver. There was so much interest in the weaving that I feel certain ~~than~~ an exhibit of old rugs would create a great deal of excitement among the weavers. 2) That the CCC exhibits be explained in Navajo several times each day, or that someone qualified to explain them in Navajo be on hand continuously. 3) That prizes for work teams be awarded in the arena as is done in horse shows.

These are minor suggestions and made only with the hope of helping to build up the Fair and of creating even greater interest among the Navajos.