

ALBERT B. CRAIG

(Remarks by Scott Meyer on the presentation of the Past-President's Pin to Mr. Craig, at the banquet of the 72nd annual convention of The Holstein-Friesian Association of America, in Indianapolis, Indiana, June 5, 1957.)

"MR. TOASTMASTER, GOVERNOR HANDLEY, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS AND HOLSTEIN FRIENDS:"

"WE COME TO A PART OF THE PROGRAM IN WHICH I FEEL HIGHLY HONORED TO PARTICIPATE, THE PRESENTATION OF THE PAST-PRESIDENT'S PIN TO OUR GOOD FRIEND, ALBERT B. CRAIG. ALBERT HAS ALWAYS INSISTED UPON BREVITY AND COMING TO THE POINT. IF WE FOLLOW THAT PATTERN AND LIMIT OUR WORDS TO WHAT MIGHT APPEAR UNDER THE SPACE LIMITATIONS OF A SMALL PLAQUE OR SCROLL, I PRESUME THE VERY BRIEFEST BIBLIOGRAPHY OF HIS HOLSTEIN ACTIVITIES WOULD HAVE TO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING MILESTONES:

- 6-4-20.....FIRST REGISTERED PUREBRED PURCHASE.
- 1-19-21.....FIRST REGISTRATION, A SON OF HIS FIRST COW.
- 5-30-21.....BECAME MEMBER OF THE HOLSTEIN-FRIESIAN ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA.
- 2-27-25.....RESERVED "CRAOLA" PREFIX. 193 FEMALES, 57 MALES HAVE BORNE THIS PREFIX.
- 1934.....ELECTED DIRECTOR OF THE HOLSTEIN-FRIESIAN ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA.
- 1936.....ELECTED MEMBER OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.
- 1937.....ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE, AND CONTINUING IN THAT CAPACITY TO 1950.
- 1946-1950...MEMBER OF THE RULES COMMITTEE, ALSO A MEMBER 1953-1955.
- 1953-1955...VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE HOLSTEIN-FRIESIAN ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA.
- 1955-1957...PRESIDENT OF THE HOLSTEIN-FRIESIAN ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA.

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"BUT TEN DATE LINES GIVE BUT SCANT COVERAGE TO THIRTY-SEVEN YEARS OF INTENSE INTEREST IN OUR BREED, AND ALMOST A QUARTER OF A CENTURY OF DEDICATED EFFORT IN BEHALF OF OUR ASSOCIATION. ALBERT CAME ONTO OUR BOARD IN THE VERY DEPTH OF OUR GREATEST NATIONAL DEPRESSION. PROMOTIONAL EFFORTS HAD PRACTICALLY CEASED AND THE ANNUAL COST HAD DWINDLED TO \$25,000 WHICH COULD BE ILL AFFORDED. UNDER HIS SKILLFUL GUIDANCE, FOR WHICH, INCIDENTALLY, HE REFUSED ALL REMUNERATION, WE HAVE SEEN THAT FIGURE GROW TEN FOLD.....MANY OF OUR PROCEDURES, EVEN OUR BY-LAWS, BEAR THE UNQUESTIONED STAMP OF HIS SOUND THINKING AND OFTEN OF HIS VERY WORDS.....AS PRESIDENT OF OUR ASSOCIATION HE HAS GUIDED US THRU THE YEARS OF OUR GREATEST GROWTH AND OF THE BREED'S GREATEST POPULARITY AND ACCEPTANCE."

"FOR ONE WHOSE FAME MIGHT SEEM TO REST UPON HIS ORGANIZATIONAL EFFORTS, A VISITOR FROM MARS MIGHT INQUIRE, 'YES, BUT WHAT HAS HE DONE AS A BREEDER IN HIS OWN HERD?' WE ARE WILLING TO LET THE RECORD SPEAK FOR ITSELF.....THE TWO GREATEST TOOLS OF BREED IMPROVEMENT HAVE BEEN HERD IMPROVEMENT REGISTRY AND HERD CLASSIFICATION, THE FORMER RECORDING FOR PRODUCTION OF MILK AND FAT WHAT THE LATTER DOES FOR BODY TYPE. WHAT HAVE BEEN HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS HERE? ALBERT HAS BEEN ON HERD IMPROVEMENT REGISTRY TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS. THE PROGRAM, ITSELF, HAS BEEN IN EFFECT ONLY TWENTY-NINE YEARS, SO HE HAS FEW CONTEMPORARIES. HIS LATEST PUBLISHED HERD AVERAGE IS: 14048 LBS. MILK, 4% TEST, 564.4 LBS. FAT. IN THE FIELD OF CLASSIFICATION HIS LATEST PUBLISHED SCORE SHOWS: 2 EXCELLENT; 13 VERY GOOD; 9 GOOD PLUS; 2 GOOD, FOR AN OUTSTANDING CLASSIFICATION SCORE, ALL THE MORE REMARKABLE BECAUSE FOR TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OR MORE, ALL ANIMALS WITH THE EXCEPTION OF CERTAIN SIRES HAVE BEEN STRICTLY HOME-BRED. LARGELY AS A

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RESULT OF THESE TWO OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENTS ALBERT HAS RECEIVED THE HIGHEST AWARD OUR ASSOCIATION CAN CONFER ON A BREEDER, PROGRESSIVE BREEDER'S REGISTRY, A TOTAL OF THIRTEEN TIMES. IN OUR TYPE AND PRODUCTION BOOK ALMOST 9000 HERDS HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED HERD NUMBERS, INDICATING CLASSIFIED AND TESTED ANIMALS. ONLY THREE OF THESE HERDS HAVE RECEIVED THE PROGRESSIVE BREEDER'S REGISTRY AWARD A GREATER NUMBER OF TIMES. TO BE ONE OF THE TOP FOUR AMONG SO MANY IS SOMETHING FOR WHICH ALBERT MUST BE TREMENDOUSLY PROUD."

(Here while Mrs. Robert H. (Jean) Rumler attached the Past-President's Pin to Mr. Craig's coat lapel, sealing the bargain with a spontaneous kiss, Mr. Meyer continued):--

"FIFTY THOUSAND MEMBERS ARE DEEPLY GRATEFUL TO YOU, ALBERT, FOR ALL YOUR MANY BENEFACCTIONS, FOR THE SOUNDNESS OF YOUR JUDGMENT AND YOUR YEARS OF UNFLAGGING INTEREST AND HELP. I CAN THINK OF NO ONE WHO CAN WEAR THE PAST-PRESIDENT'S PIN WITH GREATER OR MORE PARDONABLE PRIDE. ACCEPT IT AS A TOKEN OF OUR APPRECIATION AND OF OUR AFFECTION. WERE WE TO TRY TO MAKE IT A MEASURE OF IT, I AM SURE IT WOULD BE QUITE BEYOND OUR ABILITY. CONGRATULATIONS, ALBERT, AND GOD BLESS YOU."

(Signed) Scott Meyer

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