

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 07-26-1948)

SOUTHWEST GEORGIA FAIR OFFICIALS SLATE MEETING

Ralph Allison, director of the Southwest Georgia Fair slated for Albany October 25-30, said today that an important meeting of all committee chairmen, and the executive and finance committee of the Fair will be held tomorrow at 5 PM at the Chamber of Commerce. All officials are urged to be present.

Mr. Allison and others planning the gala event Saturday announced that the Fair premium book has been completed and copies are ready for distribution. All FFA, 4-H Club members and home economics students were urged to contact proper officials at once in order that they can prepare for participation in the Fair.

The committees shaping the Fair and the members of the committees were announced as follows:

Fair Director: Ralph Allison

Executive and Finance: Charles M. Jones, Chairman: Lyman Hart, Hudson Malone, Wallace Crouch, Whitfield Gunnels, Mallory Lippitt, and A. E. Moncrief, committee members.

Publicity: Don Kimsey, Chairman: John Crouch, and Joe Meyer committee members.

Midway and Carnival: Whitfield Gunnels, Chairman: Meyer Rosenberg, and Sam Yarborough committee members.

Concession: Hudson Malone, Chairman: Wallace Crouch, and Lyman Hart committee members.

Tickets: Hal Wightman, Chairman.

Athletics: Billy Smith, Chairman: Archie Taylor, Harold McNabb and Bob Sperry committee members.

Horse Racing Events: Jim Moore, Chairman: Dooley Culbertson and Inman Owens, Sr. committee members.

Hog Calling Event: Hudson Malone, Chairman: Taxi Smith and DeLacey Allen committee members.

Girls Club and Home Demonstration Activities: Mrs. Fannie Mae Griner, Mrs. Sue Crews of Camilla, Miss Joyce Ingram of Leesburg, Miss Elizabeth Zellner of Dawson, Miss Marie Hall of Newton, and Miss Annie Newton of Morgan.

Poultry: Dr. David M. Wolfe, Chairman: Frank Bennett, and Frank Faulk committee member.

Commercial Exhibits and Displays: Hamp Clark, Chairman: Bill McAfee, Ben McKinney, and Ieland Ferrell committee members.

Building: Allen Davis, Chairman: C. R. Hodges, Ed Hirsch, Charles Heinemann, Jr., and E. E. Clark committee members.

Grounds: Mallory Lippitt, Chairman: Rock Howard, Earl Cline, R. F. Bethea, Harry Lutz, Pat Feingold, R. Q. Wise and Roy Barnes, committee members.

Premium List and Book: A. E. Moncrief, Chairman: Mrs. Fannie Mae Griner, Jeff Davis, Billy Smith, M. H. Story, Inman Owens, Sr., Dooley Culbertson, Hudson Malone, Mrs. J. H. Milward, L. H. Nelson, Miss Joyce Ingram, W. D. Drennon, Miss Marie Hall,

Dr. David Wolfe, Garth Brooks, E. G. Ford, George I. Martin, Miss Elizabeth Zellner, N. D. McRainey, and J. A. Mauldin, committee members.

Boys Clubs, Agricultural and Livestock: Jeff Davis, Chairman: M. H. Story, Frank Bennett, Edward Bland, Allen Davis, Frank Moreland, Joe Stocks, C. M. Pippin, T. B. McDowell, J. A. Mauldin of Camilla, L. H. Nelson of Leesburg, N. D. McRainey of Dawson, W. D. Drennon of Newton, P. D. Griffin of Morgan, J. M. Warnock of Sylvester, Garth Brooks of Leesburg, R. C. Campbell of Bridgeborough, E. B. West of Doerun, J. T. Moss of Sylvester, H. S. Spence of Warwick, G. A. Scruggs of Pelham, E. G. Ford of Camilla, M. E. Davis of Camilla, J. F. Downer of Dawson and M. C. Harrison of Morgan.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 09-16-1948)

SOWEGA FAIR PLANS PROGRESS, 'OUTSTANDING SUCCESS' SEEN

Southwest Georgia Fair Chairman Ralph Allison said today that plans are progressing satisfactorily for the gala event to be held at Albany Airport October 25-30 and that indications are that the fair will be an outstanding success.

Mr. Allison complimented the diligence displayed by members of the various committees in planning the many phases of the fair. He said the Grounds Committee would start soon the work of putting the fairgrounds in condition, including the leveling of some high areas, the grading of driveways, mowing of grass and other work.

"This fair does not belong to any one group," Mr. Allison stressed, stating that "it is Albany's fair and every citizen and business person in Albany should get behind this project and help make it a success so that it will become a permanent attraction here."

The fair official said the exhibits and displays committee has formed charts showing display spaces available inside the large hangar, which will be used, and the spaces, which will be used for outside displays.

He said there still are some choice spaces available both inside and outside and that reservations for these spaces can be made at the Chamber of Commerce.

Albany businessmen will sponsor 10 booths to house adjoining county exhibits, Mr. Allison said.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 10-10-1948)

FAIR COMMITTEE TO MEET MONDAY

With only two weeks remaining until opening time for the Southwest Georgia Fair which will be held at Albany Airport Oct. 25-30, General Chairman Ralph Allison has called a meeting of fair committee chairmen at the fair grounds Monday at 10 a.m.

“This will be an important meeting,” Mr. Allison said, “and we urge a full attendance of the officials.” He said the committee heads would gather at the hangar in which part of the fair’s exhibits will be housed.

Mr. Allison said he desired that all committee chairmen and members know the “lay of the land” in regard to the placement of booths, concessions, exhibits, and the colorful midway.

He pointed out in view of the fact that thousands of Southwest Georgians coming from counties throughout this section will visit here for the gala event, that special parking lots will be created and city buses will run special schedules from downtown Albany to the airport.

Meanwhile county agent J. D. Davis and other officials compiling the list of entries in the livestock and poultry divisions reported that the “lists are growing longer and some of the section’s best-farm animals and fowl will be on display.”

The fair officials also announced that the Albany Order of the Eastern Star would be in charge of the ticket taking throughout the run of the fair. O.E.S. officials said enough persons would be available to work all shifts day and night.

One of the highlights of the fair announced recently is a free aerial display of fireworks to be held at 10 p.m. nightly, which the fair will offer as a free attraction.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 10-17-1948)

KEENAN URGES SUPPORT OF FAIR OPENING OCT. 25

Chamber of Commerce President P. A. Keenan, Sr., urged Albanians and Southwest Georgians Saturday, to turn out and support the Southwest Georgia Fair, which opens Oct. 25 and runs through Oct. 30.

“For years we have wanted a fair”, said Mr. Keenan, “and we’re going to have a fair this year. The committees in charge have worked hard to bring an outstanding fair to the city; it is up to every citizen to support it in order that it can be made permanent.”

Meanwhile, officials reported that final preparations are being made for the gala event, which will have among its features a free aerial fireworks show nightly, a gigantic midway with 15 rides and 15 shows, free aerial acts, commercial exhibits, agricultural exhibits, a livestock show, a country horse race, a sectional Boy Scout field day, and many other exhibits, shows, and attractions.

The Chamber of Commerce in its “newsletter” Saturday carried the following information: “For several years there has been considerable talk in Albany regarding a county fair. This has now become a reality. The fair is a result of the work of a committee appointed by President Keenan under the chairmanship of Ralph E. Allison. This committee has been working for a long time in organizing and setting up the details for the fair, and all indications point to this being an outstanding event. The county agents and home demonstration agents of seven counties are co-operating and a large number of exhibits, including livestock, poultry, handicraft, canned goods, etc., will be on display.

The 4-H and FFA Boys and Girls Clubs are entering heartily into the fair and will have excellent exhibits.

The fair will be held at the Albany Airport and the north hangar will be used to house county exhibits, the county booths being sponsored by the local merchants. Space in this building is also being set up for commercial exhibits for merchants, producers and distributors in this area. An area outside the hangar has also been set up for exhibit space for machinery and equipment. A few spaces are still available and can be secured by contacting Hamp Clark, phone 3200 or Miss Nadine Olson, Chamber of Commerce, phone 1001.

The fair is an Albany product and a local committee is doing all the work. Endy Brothers shows will be on the midway with 15 rides and 15 shows. Each night there will be an outstanding fireworks display. It is hoped that Albany and Southwest Georgia will support the fair so that it will be held each year. We urge everyone to set aside Oct. 25-30 for Fair Week and let's support the committees who are working hard to make this an outstanding event.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 10-19-1948)

PARADE OF NEW CARS, HORSES, BANDS, SET TO HERALD OPENING OF SOWEGA FAIR HERE

A gala parade through city streets featuring floats, gaily decorated new model automobiles, thoroughbred horses, bands, school children and other attractions, will be held here Monday to herald the opening of the Southwest Georgia Fair.

Jim Moore, fair officials and Billy Smith, City Recreation Director, in charge of the parade, today invited anyone interested in entering a float, automobile or any other attraction to assemble with the parade group in the 400 block of Pine Avenue at 2:30 p.m. This is at the YMCA, the officials said.

Among bands slated to fill the air with music, to be accompanied by the strutting of shapely majorettes, are the Albany High School Band and the Junior High School Band.

School children in Monday's parade will be admitted to the fair free of charge Monday. Saturday of next week all children of this area will be admitted free of charge.

Another attraction of the parade will be a display of fine horseflesh, Jim Moore, a horse fancier of many years experience said. Mr. Moore predicted that the parade will get the fair off to a fine start and urged public co-operation in making the event a success.

Some of the city's merchants are planning to decorate their display windows on a "fair theme" this week, the officials stated.

Committee officials of the fair met at the Albany Airport yesterday, the site of the first post-war fair, and made plans for last minute details. Heading the group was Ralph Allison, general fair chairman.

The officials examined a huge hangar, which will house the indoor exhibits and attractions and inspected the grounds on which a midway, complete with rides and

sideshows will be located. A Boy Scout field day also will be held during the fair and a country horse race and other outstanding events are scheduled. One of the features of the fair, a free attraction, will be a nightly aerial fireworks display.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 10-22-1948)

AIRPORT BEEHIVE OF ACTIVITY AS SOWEGA FAIR OPENING NEARS

Albany Airport, scene of the Southwest Georgia Fair which opens here Monday, was a beehive of activity today as local officials and workmen of Endy Brothers Shows forwarded the job of making ready for booths, exhibits and the colorful midway.

The fair's opening Monday will be marked by a street parade in downtown Albany, beginning from the front of the YMCA on Pine Avenue at 3 p.m. Entries in the parade are requested to be at the starting point no later than 2:30 p.m.

"We're really going to have a fair this year-a show of shows," General Chairman, Ralph Allison, said. Mr. Allison, along with other fair officials and officials of the city and county, spent several hours at the airport yesterday supervising the work.

Seven counties in the immediate Albany area will actively participate in the event, while others throughout Southwest Georgia are expected to be represented in hundreds of men, women and children who have signified their intentions of attending the fair.

The Endy Brothers Shows, noted for a colorful midway of rides, shows and attractions, would come here following a stand at the Macon Fair. Joe Rowan, press agent said, "We are sure the people of this section will enjoy our presentations."

Fair-goers are reminded of the big "free" attraction of the event, a nightly aerial fireworks display that was contracted for by the fair officials. Plenty of parking spaces have been provided at and near the airport, and city buses will run special schedules from downtown Albany to the gates of the fair.

Hundreds of colorful, interesting exhibits will be on display in a huge hangar at the airport and on the surrounding grounds in tents erected for this purpose. A Boy Scout field day will be held under the direction of City Recreation Director Billy Smith and an old-fashioned country horse race will be seen under the supervision of an Albany horse fancier, Jim Moore. These and many more thrilling, enticing events, including a hog-calling contest will be offered for entertainment.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 10-23-1948)

FAIR WILL DRAW THOUSANDS HERE

The Southwest Georgia Fair opens here Monday with its glittering midway, special events, free acts, livestock, poultry and scores of up-to-date exhibits. Albany's first post-

war fair is expected to draw thousands of men, women and children from throughout the section.

Officially opening the huge fair will be a parade in downtown Albany Monday, starting at 3 p.m. from in front of the YMCA, the parade will proceed east along Pine Avenue, turn south on Washington Street, move to Broad Avenue and then west on Broad Avenue to past the Post Office.

Parade Chairman Jim Moore, Saturday urged persons with horses to ride them in the parade. Parade participants are asked to assemble at the YMCA at 2:30 p.m. School children participating in the parade will be given rides to Albany airport, the fairgrounds, where they will be admitted free.

All school children will be admitted free of charge Saturday and special prices will prevail from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. for the fair's attractions.

General Fair Chairman, Ralph Allison, Saturday urged Southwest Georgians to turn out for the fair, "Bring the whole family," said Mr. Allison, "no one can fail to have fun a plenty at this great event."

Admission prices will be 20 cents for children and 30 cents for adults. The fair's gates will open each day at 10 a.m.

The Endy Brothers Shows, veteran midway outfit playing for fairs, Saturday completed its stand at the Macon Fair and was arriving late Saturday night to "set up" at the airport. The shows will feature the latest in entertainment including 15 rides and numerous acts, the kids will have a huge ferris wheel and other "rides" for their particular benefit.

One of the outstanding features of the fair, brought here especially for fair-goers by the Southwest Georgia Fair Committee, will be a nightly free aerial display of fireworks, lasting 15 minutes each. The display will be "set off" at 10 p.m.

Expecting to draw hundreds of persons will be the old-fashioned country horse race, a genuine hog-calling contest and a Boy Scout field day, which will get under way Saturday.

The fair's attractions include a home-cured meat exhibit, county agricultural and educational displays, 4-H and FFA livestock and poultry exhibits, an industrial exhibit; 4-H and FFA agricultural exhibits, 4-H Club Girls' special exhibits, farmers' livestock exhibits and women's divisions of homemade items.

Some of the outstanding poultry and livestock of this section, tempting exhibits of canned fruits, vegetables and berries, home-cured hams and other meats, dresses, laces and tatting, and numerous other articles of handiwork and skill will be on display.

Dougherty and six adjoining counties; Worth, Lee, Terrell, Calhoun, Baker, and Mitchell, are actively participating in the fair, while persons from many more counties are expected to visit here during fair week.

Featured in today's Herald are articles concerning the agricultural, livestock and industrial growth in Southwest Georgia. County agents in 19 counties were invited to submit articles. These and accompanying photographs are in today's edition.

Dr. David M. Wolfe, chairman of the Poultry Committee and himself a poultry expert, reminded that separate classes will be held in the 4-H and FFA poultry judging and separate prizes will be awarded. There also will be an "open-class," he said, for standard and bantam strains and unusual breeds and varieties.

Dr. Wolfe said that Arthur Gannon, University of Georgia Extension Service Poultry Expert, would be the judge.

INVITATION EXTENDED TO SOUTHWEST GEORGIANS TO VISIT THEIR FAIR

“Welcome” was the greeting issued Saturday to people throughout Southwest Georgia by the Retail Trade Division of the Merchants Committee of the Albany Chamber of Commerce in connection with the Southwest Georgia Fair’s Monday opening.

Leon Rosenberg, committee chairman, said “on behalf of the Albany merchants and business people, we wish to extend a cordial invitation to Southwest Georgians to visit Albany and the Southwest Georgia Fair this week.

A large percentage of the retail merchants of the city actively co-operated in an effort to make the fair and “fairweek” in Albany successful. “We are gratified at the 100 percent response of the business people,” said Mr. Rosenberg.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 10-25-1948)

CITY ASSUMES CARNIVAL AIR AS FAIR WEEK OPENS

A carnival atmosphere reigned at Albany Airport this morning as the finishing touches were added to the huge Southwest Georgia Fair, which opened formally this afternoon.

More than 5,000 vehicles swarmed by the fairgrounds Sunday as Albany and Southwest Georgia citizens sought a preview glimpse of the exhibits and midway.

Fair Chairman Ralph Allison said this morning “we’re braced for a record attendance. We are gratified at the response the fair is getting.”

A parade was forming on Pine Avenue near the YMCA at 2:30 p.m. today, heralding the official opening of the fair. Included in the line of march were fine horses, floats, automobiles, and the Junior and Senior High School Bands. The parade marched through the downtown section. School children in the parade had buses waiting for them on Board Avenue for their transportation and free entrance to the fair.

“All is not gold that glitters on a midway,” an official of Endy Brothers Shows, operating during the fair, said this morning as crews doffed shirts and began the hard work of erecting the many rides, side shows, and other heavy props and machinery. The show will be in full swing this afternoon and tonight, following a stand at the Macon Fair.

In the big hangar at the east side of the airport, where industrial, FFA, 4-H Club and other exhibits were being completed, fair officials gathered to supervise the remaining work. Livestock and poultry entries in the various divisions were placed or being classified.

Another outstanding feature of the fair will be industrial exhibits depicting the latest trends and growth of industries in the area. Palate-tickling jams, jellies, marmalades, fruits, and other “farm” eatables composed an interesting part of the agriculture displays.

Miss Nadine Olson, Chamber of Commerce secretary assigned to the fair desk in the main exhibit hangar, said this morning that “entries still are coming in and everything points to an outstanding fair.”

The Albany chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star will furnish “ticket-takers” for the fair. Admission prices are 20 cents for children and 30 cents for adults. All school children will be admitted to the fair free and special prices will prevail from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Saturday. On this day the old-fashioned country horse race, a hog-calling contest and a Boy Scout field day will be held.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 10-25-1948)
(Editorial)

SPIRIT OF SOWEGA’S FAIR

The chief importance of the first annual Southwest Georgia Fair, which opened today at Albany Airport, lies not in the fact that the best this rich and abundant area has to offer in the way of farm products, agricultural implements and industrial devices will be on display. Neither does it lie in the entertainment, which tens of thousands will procure at the exhibit booths and along the carnival midway. The most significant aspect of this ambitious undertaking, we feel, is that it will bring together Southwest Georgia citizens whose community of interest with Albany long has been recognized, but never before so formally.

Too, the fair will serve to remind Albanians that they are not citizens unto themselves, but that they depend for their very livelihoods upon the efforts of all Southwest Georgians, particularly the toiling farmers whose efforts produce many of the commodities, which Albanians eat, and the raw materials to provide the clothes they wear. This then is the spirit in which the Southwest Georgia Fair was born; to pay tribute to the people of Southwest Georgia who, in a co-operative effort are making this area the greatest in the state and one attracting widespread interest throughout the nation.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 10-26-1948)

AUTUMN CHILL FAILS TO COOL FAIRGOERS’ ENTHUSIASM ON OPENING NIGHT OF EVENT...EVEN GREATER TURNOUTS SEEN

A “chilly “ night failed to cool the spirits of thousands of Albany and Southwest Georgia citizens who attended the Southwest Georgia Fair last night.

Fair officials said today they were well pleased with the turnout for the first night stand, and predicted that even greater crowds would be recorded during the week.

The fair, Albany's first in many years, officially opened with a parade in the downtown section yesterday afternoon early. The crowds moved steadily into the fairgrounds at Albany Airport throughout the day and until late last night.

Loud explosions high in the air over the fairgrounds, the blossoming of brightly-colored, flowery patterns in the atmosphere, and a large number of rubber-necking fairgoers marked the free aerial fireworks display which will be held at 10 p.m. each day of the fair. The fireworks displays last 15 minutes or longer.

Stealing the show at the fair yesterday, or at least the "stomachs" of hundreds of visitors, was the Albany and Dougherty County PTA eating concession, which featured tempting slices of homemade cakes, pies, luscious hotdogs, steaming coffee and many other delightful morsels. The concession will operate all week.

In the main exhibit hangar most of the industrial farm and other displays were completed yesterday afternoon. A puppet show in one booth drew plaudits from the visitors, while the latest in radios and phonographs, playing in another booth, drew a continuous crowd. The picture was the same at many other exhibits, including the Army-Air Force booth, the poultry exhibits and those of the FFA, 4-H Clubs and various counties in the area.

Visitors also swarmed into the tents outside the hangar where the livestock exhibits were on display. Throughout the fair area leading from the hangar to the midway were the latest models of farm machinery, well-drilling outfits, new automobiles and many other "mechanical" attractions.

County and City Police officials were on duty throughout the opening day. The county authorities, officials said, did an "outstanding" job of directing and parking traffic. City buses were running a regular schedule from downtown Albany to the gates of the fair and return. The buses will operate throughout the week.

The fair's midway, Endy Brothers Shows, was operating all of its rides and shows last night.

Leading the parade yesterday were Jim Moore and Ralph Allison, fair officials astride horse, followed by other horses and riders, new automobiles, the Junior and Senior High School Bands, a Navy vehicle reminding Albanians of Navy Day this week, several industrial floats, and other attractions.

The parade was highlighted by P. A. Keenan Sr., President of the Chamber of Commerce, who drove an 1899 model of an old "chain buggy," powered by a two-cylinder motor. A Negro helper dashed up about every block to pour water into the steaming radiator.

School children participating in the parade were given free transportation to the fair where they were admitted free of charge. "School Day" will be held at the fair Saturday, with all children admitted free and special prices in effect on the midway from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 10-30-1948)

NEARLY 23,000 VISIT SOWEGA FAIR

The curtain rang down late Saturday night on the biggest and most successful Southwest Georgia Fair ever held in this area.

Fair officials estimated that between 22,000 and 23,000 persons from throughout a wide Southwest Georgia area attended this year's presentation...the first of its type held here in decades.

Said General Fair Chairman Ralph Allison: "The attendance was above the figure we expected. This assures us of a fair next year, which we hope will top even this one. The Fair Association wishes to thank all those who co-operated in making the event the success it was."

Saturday was the "star-studded" day of the fair, which opened here Monday at Albany Airport. A number of Scout and Cub Scout troops of this section and horse fanciers participated in grand finale events.

Winner of the old-fashioned country horse race, for which a special track was laid out and grandstand seats were erected, was Jimmy King of Albany riding a small pinto pony. He won \$50. Placing second was Tom Harris of Edison, riding a beautiful 900-pound bay mare, and third, Robert Slappey of Albany, riding a gray cow pony named "Smokey". Jim Moore, City Commissioner and horse expert, was in charge of the event.

Copping top laurels in the Boy Scout Field Day events was Troop 1 of Leary, winning a \$100 prize, with Troop 1 of Albany placing second and Troops three and four of Edison tying for third place. Prizes were awarded to troops on the basis of points amassed in the various events.

Eight Scout Troops participated in the events, with about 15 boys to the troop. Several Cub Scouts were inducted into the ranks of the "regulars", with Billy Smith, Albany City Recreation Director, in charge of the Scouting activities. Cub Scout Troop One of Albany won the display of events prize. Troop 80 of Leary won the tug-o-war, with Troop 72 of Sasser, Troop Five of Albany and Troop One of Albany placing second, third, and fourth.

In the water-boiling event, Troop 80 of Leary won first place. Troop 83 of Morgan second, Troop 15 of Albany third, and Troop 82 of Edison fourth. Troop 72 of Sasser won the chariot-racing contest, with Troop 80 of Leary, Troop One of Albany and Troop 36 of Terrell taking the other prizes, in that order. Troop One of Albany had the most new Scouts, with Troop 36 of Terrell second and Edison and Morgan tying for third place. The Leary Troop amassed a total of 19 points in the day's events to win top honors.

C.L. Wilder of Acree won the hog-calling event, with John Arthur of Albany taking the second prize. Hudson Malone was in charge of this event.

A large hangar at Albany Airport was secured to house many of this year's exhibits, both industrial and agricultural, with other...usually large...exhibits of farm and industrial equipment placed on a sawdust-covered field near the hangar. Tents were erected to house the livestock entries.

Fair officials reported “some confusion,” however, in the School Day planned, for the fair, at which time all children, according to the fair program, were supposed to have been granted special prices on the midway, operated by Endy Brothers Shows, from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. It was reported that this stipulation was not in the Show’s contract, after officials hurriedly checked on the matter following complaints.

“We are deeply sorry for any inconvenience this oversight might have caused,” a spokesman said, “and offer our sincere apologies.”

One of the most successful events of the fair was the PTA food concession booth, which featured sandwiches, homemade cakes, pies, and other delicious foods. Members of various PTA groups in the city took turns at working in the stand.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 11-06-1948)

FIRST SOUTHWEST GEORGIA FAIR IS ‘OVER THE TOP’

This city’s first Southwest Georgia Fair went “over the top” both from a financial and attendance standpoint, fair officials declared at a meeting Friday at the Chamber of Commerce. Albany is assured of another fair next year, the officials decided.

“We’re proud that the fair was, a success,” said Ralph Allison, General Chairman, “as we felt that the people of this area want an annual fair of this type.”

Although complete figures were not immediately available, it was disclosed that after all bills were paid, including several thousands of dollars worth of material which is considered “permanent” to be used in future fairs, the Fair Association realized about \$2500 which it can apply on next year’s event.

The officials thanked citizens of Albany and Southwest Georgia for their participation and co-operation, and pledged, if possible, to bring an even better fair to the city next year.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 12-30-1948)

’49 SOWEGA FAIR PLANS WILL BE DRAWN AT MEET

Preliminary plans for the 1949 Southwest Georgia Fair will be made at a meeting here next Tuesday night, and reports made by officials on this year’s fair held at Albany Airport. Fair Association President Ralph E. Allison and Chamber of Commerce President Paul A. Keenan announced today.

The fair held this year; the first in many years was termed “an outstanding success” by officials. Seven Southwest Georgia Counties participated.

Meeting Tuesday night will be the directors and committee chairman who will be feted at a dinner at the New Albany Hotel, beginning at 7 p.m. Officials are asked to telephone the Chamber of Commerce and make reservations.

“A bigger and better fair for 1949” was predicted by the Fair Association.

