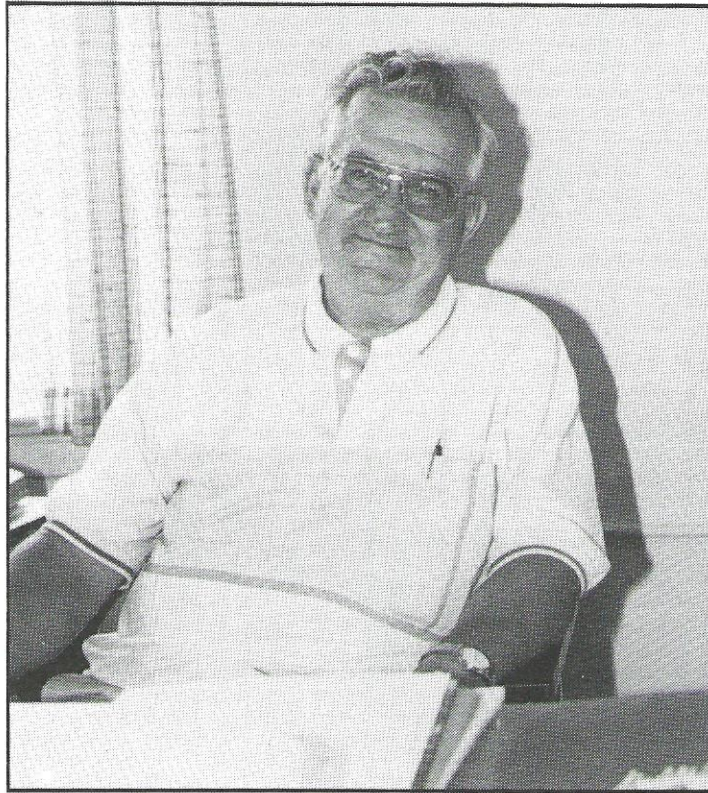


*The 1993 Otsego County Fair Premium Book
Is Dedicated To*
Les Howard



Les is a very familiar face around the county fair. His interest in fairs perhaps began when Les had a calf project at the fair in East Jordan. Les went on to become a vocational agriculture teacher at Cheboygan after he graduated from Wisconsin State University.

Les took a position with MSU Extension in the mid 60's and accepted the position of Extension Director in Otsego County in 1969. The move to Gaylord was the beginning of 23 years working with people in the community and with organizations like the county fair.

For twenty years, Les has worked with the fair board and as a member of the board, to expand the grounds and to upgrade facilities so the community would have a fair that met their needs. He worked to make the fair a community event and to increase participation through exhibits and special events. Who could ever forget Les' "Chicken Flying Contest"?

When asked what he thought the future would bring for all fairs, Les shared some thoughts with us. He stressed the importance of keeping the fair for the family and as a showcase for exhibitors, where their accomplishments could be recognized by the community. Fairs will struggle in the future to compete with other forms of entertainment but there is no other place in most communities where young and old, rural residents and urban residents, can come together to exhibit their workmanship, be recognized for their efforts, and to have fun.

Thank you Les for all you have done for us.