

Perry C. Greene



Perry C. Greene, Jackson County, was one of the most successful farmers in Western West Virginia and for many years used his knowledge to better the endeavors of his neighbors, his community, county and state.

An early booster of Hereford cattle in West Virginia, Mr. Greene helped organize the West Virginia Hereford Association, the first beef cattle breeds association in West Virginia, and was the manager of the first sale held in 1914, which averaged \$455 per head. He was also organizer and President of the Kenna Community Fair Association and, as a fair project, secured 25 feeder calves for showing and public auction. Thus, the first feeder calf shoe and sale in West Virginia was held in 1923.

In order to acquaint West Virginians with the Hereford breed, he not only talked Herefords continuously but as soon as he could make up an exhibit, he began showing at central and western West Virginia fairs about 1900. He was an exhibitor at the Chicago International Livestock Show during the period 1915-20.

His love for cattle was exceeded only by his love for the soil. He adopted all the new ideas he could learn concerning grasses, fertilizations, and cultivation. Mr. Greene personally organized and held Farmers Institutes in the late 1890's and then in association with the state Board of Agriculture which continued until West Virginia University began Extension work in 1907. He was a member of the West Virginia Farm Bureau for 25 years.

Mr. Greene was never too busy to help with the youth and community activities. He was active in school and his church, donating land and buildings. He was an active supporter of 4-H and FFA and donated animals on different occasions to each. He was a firm believer in fairs as a means to display products and progress. He was interested in better living conditions and standards for all people and he believed that the combination of land and cattle was the best way to achieve this.

Mr. Greene was proud of his community, his county, and West Virginia. He helped make West Virginia better by his stewardship of the resources available to him. He was a regular contributor to local, state, and national magazines and newspapers, including the American Hereford Journal, Breeders' Gazette, and the Pennsylvania Stockman-Farmer. He was also interested in good saddle horses and purebred Hampshire sheep.