

When "Rodeo" originated and where.

Proving it out.
(Fact) finding research by Tom B. Saunders, authenticated by articles published in the old Daily Livestock Reporter, the ~~Star~~ ~~Telegram~~ ~~by~~ Ray McKinley and information furnished by John Birdsong, ~~the~~ 1918 Stock Show employees etc.)

The word Rodeo as applied to wild west events such as Bronc riding, steer and calf roping, bulldozing, bull riding etc. originated at Ft Worth in 1918 when the Stock Show officials of that day elected to hold for the first time a contest of such events rather than the wild west exhibition rides that had been ~~held~~ previously held each year since the beginning of the shows' 1908 indoor activities. (1908 was the year the Northside Coliseum was constructed)

When this transition of 1918 was made from exhibition rides to contest competition, the want of a name to call the Ft Worth contest ^{was} in order to distinguish it from other shows and to identify it individually as had Cheyenne with its "Frontier Days" and Pendleton with its "Roundup".

The name "Rodeo", a Spanish word meaning round-up, but pronounced "Rodee o" by the Texans, was voted by show officials to become its

Name and thus was born the addition - "and Rodeo" to the title, Southwestern Exposition and Fair Stock Show.

"Rodeo", has today become the descriptive by-word of all such contests held in every nook, cranny and crossroad of the country. Even the name is used now with reference to those early day shows which were held prior to this original indoor contest with the first ~~originated~~ name of Rodeo.

Many firsts have been originated by the Ft Worth Stock Show since its beginning in 1896, but the Cutting Horse Contest, as we know it today and the name Rodeo, stand out as its two greatest contributions to a show going public.