

## Behind The Scenes

### The Cowboys and the Animals Are the Stars, the Obvious Centers of Attention.

But the stars of rodeo would never shine if it were not for the work of a large supporting cast, a cast that includes announcers, stock contractors, rodeo secretaries, timers, pickup men, chute laborers, specialty-act personnel, and rodeo producers.

The announcers inform and entertain the audience, provide contestant background and scores, and generally lend atmosphere to the event.

Stock contractors supply the animals and often serve as producers. The producer is responsible for every aspect of the event, from hiring laborers to promoting the rodeo to producing opening ceremonies. Timers keep the official time of the timed events and sound the buzzer after eight seconds in the roughstock events. The rodeo secretary records the times, figures the payoff, and pays the winning cowboys.

Specialty acts entertain the audience with vaudeville routines, animal acts and trick riding. Pickup men assist the saddle bronc and bareback riders to dismount after their rides, and to help free cowboys who get hung up in their rigging.

Chute laborers aid the cowboys in mounting and adjusting their equipment and open the chute gate when the cowboy indicates he is ready to ride.

Behind the scenes at the California Rodeo, you'll find announcers Wayne Brooks and Will Rasmussen calling the action in the arena and on the track, while top PRCA stock contractors buck out their world-class stock in the arena.