



Captain Napoleon Bequer receiving trophy from Royal Bank manager R.K. Mennell, Camagüey, 1959

Ramón Castro Ruz with Canadian Commercial Counsellor Christian Lapointe, Bahía de Nipe, 1988

**Few businesses** seem to inspire as much genuine enthusiasm among people as cattle breeding. The Royal Bank magazine for July/August 1959 records the fascinating photo of a Cattle Fair in Guaimaro, Camagüey, in which the manager of the bank's Camagüey branch, Mr. R.K. Mennell is presenting a trophy to the representative of Cuba's new revolutionary government, Captain Napoleon Bequer, in honour of the prize Cuban bull Cesar. Ramón Castro's devotion to promoting Cuba's cattle herds and the warmth of his hospitality in receiving Canadian cattle breeders over the years is legendary. A picture from the Canadian Embassy archives from 1988

shows two great raconteurs, Ramón Castro himself and the Embassy's Commercial Counsellor at the time, Christian Lapointe, apparently swapping a few cow stories on the deck of a boat cruising in the Bahía de Nipe.

