

## Linn County Shows Record Farm Returns

By LILLIE L. MADSEN  
Farm Editor, The Statesman

While Marion is my home county, I, like most of the rest of us who live to the north, have to admit that Linn county, our neighbor to the south, "has got something."

And I mean something besides Lebanon, at the growth of which we are all gazing in utter amazement. Just now I am referring to the huge agricultural income. Not that Linn county hasn't always been a fair agricultural county, but many of us recall the talk of "white land down Linn county way," "poor soil compared to Marion county" and similar remarks of our older farm friends, some of which were made, of course, because we lived in Marion county. In the meantime, Linn county has gone quietly and merrily on its way to agricultural improvement.

When I heard that farm marketings were estimated to have exceeded \$16,000,000 for all Linn county agricultural products in 1946, I thought perhaps O. E. Mikesell, county agent, was responsible for the improvement in farming. But he denies it firmly, saying he "was just there," and that the farmers themselves are entirely responsible. This is an all-time high agricultural record for Linn.

The brightest spot in the county's agricultural year was the small seed enterprise with an estimated income well in excess of \$4,250,000. Common ryegrass headed the list with 48,500 acres producing in excess of 29,000,000 pounds. Perennial ryegrass returned approximately one-half million dollars from 9,000 acres. Lespedeza seeds on 27,000 acres accounted for the balance of the seed income. Linn county accounts for 16,380 acres of Oregon's record 90,000 acres of certified seed produced in 1946.

Mike-sell points out that some unrest exists in the seed industry because of the removal of the support prices on common ryegrass and vetch. The Willamette vetch acreage certification in 1947 is expected to drop very sharply as the AAA price support has been dropped. Some farmers are expressing a slight worry and puzzlement as to what to do in this line. However, I found some growers in the county eager to see what these crops will really do on their own. Support prices will be in effect in 1947 on hairy vetch and crimson clover only. With the exception of the vetch, acreages of certified crops are expected to remain about the same.

Poultry enterprises showed a sharp reduction in Linn county in 1946. This was particularly true of turkeys. The 1946 production is estimated as being 185,000 head compared to 275,000 head in 1945. This sharp reduction was due to the seriousness of the feed situation at brooding time. Mikesell thought, "Many turkey producers are just breaking even because of the sudden drop in the turkey market at the time of the removal of restrictions on red meat. The chicken hen population dropped to 220,000 in 1946."

Strawberry, cane fruit and tree fruit producers enjoyed good crops and general good prices in Linn county. The strawberry acreage has increased to 450 harvested acres with prospects for further increase in 1947. The county produced 15 1/2 acres of certified strawberries from which 735,000 plants will be sold this spring. Fruit prices are expected to be lower in 1947 but other things may offset this. The walnut and fig crop were good, but the figlet market broke sharply because of imports.

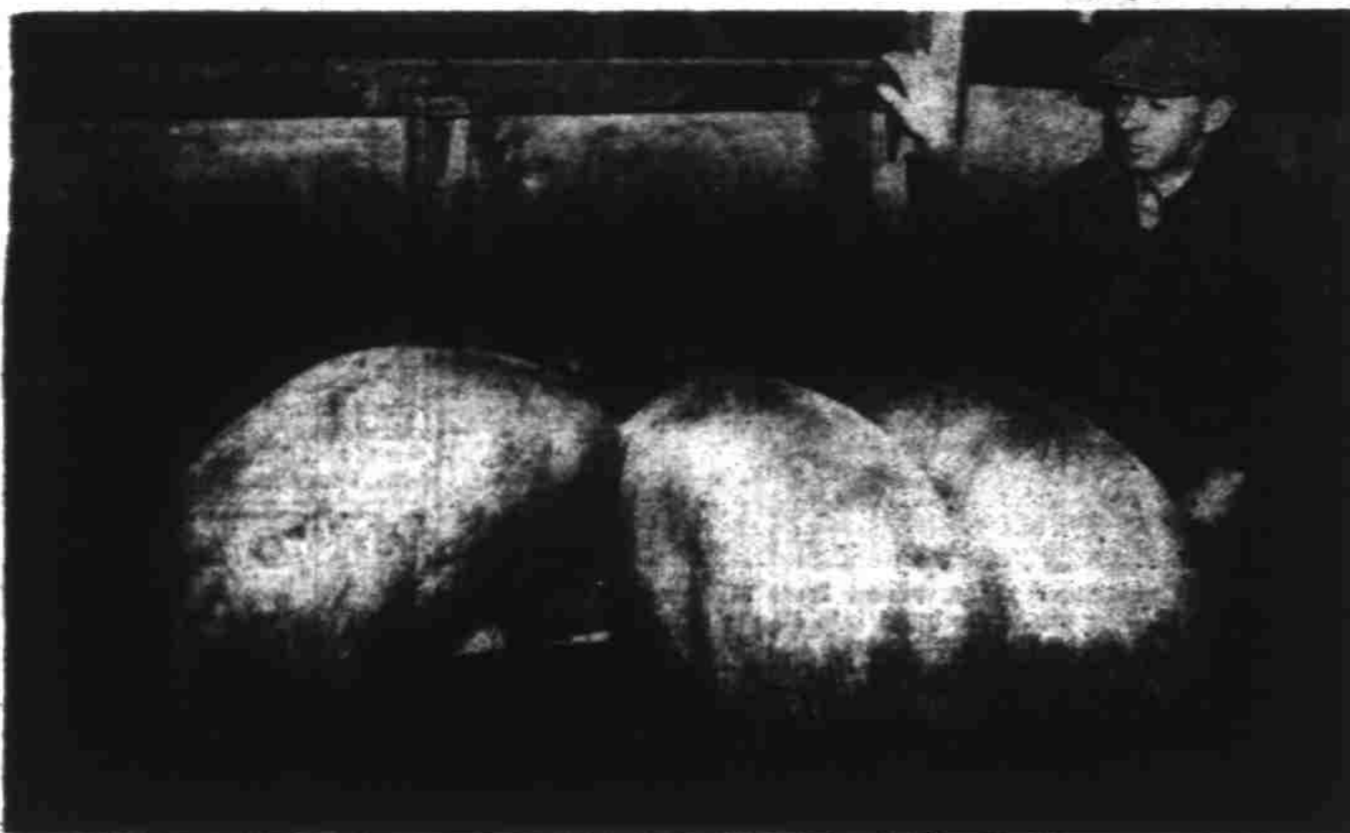
Dairy cow numbers remained at approximately 14,000 head with prices considered fairly good. A further impetus to the dairy industry was supplied by the organization of the Linn-Benton Dairy Breeders' association with its 175 members owning 1200 cows.

Sheep numbers remained about the same as in 1945 with an estimated 45,000 head of ewes. Hog numbers approximated 10,000 which is 8000 less than in prewar years.

The county's vegetable acreage reached 3240 acres in 1946, which was an increase of close to 500

## Willamette Valley Farmer

News and Views of Farm and Garden—By LILLIE L. MADSEN



A. A. Nafziger, Silverton, is shown here making his selection for the February 8 Oregon Swine Growers' bred gilt sale to be held on the state fair grounds. Nafziger doesn't believe that pigs are pigs in the usually accepted meaning. Pigs can be a clean, well groomed animal if given a chance. And some of the well groomed Oregon pigs will be at the sale, swine growers promise.

acres over the previous high year, 1943. The increase was due to an expansion of the sweet corn enterprise which reached 1350 acres. A surplus of carrots exists at present, with growers offering them for livestock feed—a situation similar to most Willamette valley counties this season.

Outstanding progress was made by Linn county farmers during 1946 in the use of nitrogen fertilizers on grasses, the use of phosphate and lime, construction of drainage ditches, seeding permanent pastures, weed control, control of the Blind seed disease of perennial ryegrass and seed certification. Expansion of the practices rather than expansion of acreages is the plan for 1947.

## Oregon Wool Growers Plan Eugene Meet

The Oregon Wool Growers association, traditionally an eastern Oregon organization, is holding its 51st annual meeting in Eugene January 22, 23 and 24.

Walter A. Holt, former county agent at Pendleton, now manager of the Pacific International Livestock exposition, explains the western Oregon meeting place in part as follows:

"Just south of Eugene is Douglas county with the most sheep of all counties in the state. The Western Oregon Livestock association also has a large number of sheep owners who will thus be given an opportunity to know more about the state and national wool growers association. The Eugene chamber of commerce has arranged a fine meeting place. Several nationally prominent persons in the wool industry have arranged to stop at Eugene for the Oregon meeting en route to San Francisco for the national convention to be held there January 26 to 30, Holt announces.

William A. Schoenfeld, dean and director of agriculture, OSC, who recently returned from an official inspection of agriculture in Great Britain, and Dr. J. N. Show, head of veterinary medicine, are listed as speakers.

**BUYING EGGS BY SIZES**  
Any time large eggs sell for 64 cents a dozen, medium eggs are a bargain at less than 56 cents, and small eggs a good buy at less than 48 cents, says the United States department of agriculture. If the prices are 64, 56 and 46 cents exactly, you pay your money and take your choice, for the values are even all around. This is figuring food value according to weight, the department explains.

World diamond production in 1945 reached an all-time peak of some 14,250,000 carats.

## Farm Calendar

January 9 — Freezer locker meeting, McMinnville.  
January 9 — State production market association, Portland.  
January 9 — Oregon Purebred Sheep Breeders' association, 1:30, Corvallis.  
January 9-11 — Oregon Fairs association, Portland. Herman Chindgren, Molalla, president.  
January 10 — Upper Willamette valley parliamentary contest of Future Farmers of America, Silverton, 1 p.m.  
January 10 — State USDA council, Portland.  
January 14 — Freezer locker meeting, Dallas.

January 14 — Annual meeting of Northwest livestock production credit association, Portland.  
January 14 — District meeting of county and state AAA committees for Hood River, Multnomah, Clackamas, Washington, Yamhill, Polk and Marion, Salem.  
January 15 — Last day for reporting 1946 conservation performance program, AAA county offices.  
January 17-18 — Annual wild life conference, Corvallis.  
January 19 — Annual meeting of Marion County Jersey Cattle club, Salem.

January 20 — Willamette Production Credit association, Salem.  
January 20 — Annual meeting Yamhill Dairy Breeders' association, McMinnville.  
January 22-24 — Oregon Wool Growers association, Walter Holt, secretary, Eugene.  
January 24 — Annual animal nutrition conference sponsored by the Oregon Feed and Seed Dealers association, Corvallis.  
January 29 — Annual 4-H club leaders conference, Corvallis.  
February 6-7 — Western weed control conference, Multnomah hotel, Portland.  
February 8 — Oregon Swine Growers bred gilt sale, state fair grounds, Salem.

## Meat and Cattle From Mexico Now Under Quarantine

The United States department of agriculture has imposed a quarantine order on importation of all livestock and meats into the United States from Mexico.

This action was taken because an official investigation revealed evidence of foot-and-mouth disease in Mexican herds. Findings made were concurred in by Mexican veterinarians, and were reported at once to the USDA.

One official stated that the border will be closed "until the disease is stamped out," but many believe that it is impossible to eradicate the disease under conditions existing in Mexico.

It is said to be a severe blow to beef cattle men, but also a

## Fertilizers Still Short Farm Demand

The supplies of commercial fertilizer available to Oregon farmers in 1947 will not meet the demand, says Arthur King, soils specialist at the state college.

The apparent shortage is caused by greatly increased use on the part of farmers not only in Oregon but all over the country, King explains. Even though production of fertilizer materials in the United States right now is double the pre-war level, purchasers feel that the shortage is becoming increasingly acute each year.

Exports  
There is a popular impression that the present shortage is caused by the export of fertilizer from this country for relief purposes. Some material is being exported, yet the quantity amounts to only one third of the materials imported and is substantially less than the quantity exported a year ago.

The nitrogen supply situation in Oregon and in the Pacific Northwest presents local evidence that shortages are caused by increased use. During the past 12 months, 30,000 tons of ammonium sulphate were produced as emergency measure at the Salem Aluminum plant and distributed throughout the northwest.

More Used  
This quantity which is much more than the total quantity of ammonium sulphate distributed in the same area in 1941 was an addition to supplies available from previously established sources. Even though a major portion of this tonnage is stored on Northwest farms for next season's use, it is already apparent that there still will be a nitrogen shortage for the 1947 growing season.

Without doubt, King believes, it will be several years before the fertilizer supply equals the demand. It will take several years for industry to develop the necessary production capacity and until production meets the demand, a yearly scramble for the national supply can be anticipated. Northwest farmers can hold their own with those in other sections only by anticipating each season's demand and placing orders with dealers well in advance of their needs. This will make it possible for the fertilizer dealer to obtain a general share of the short national supply.

## Scotch Cattle Sale Promoted in Oregon

Plans for an Ayrshire consignment sale to promote interest in the Scotch breed on the Pacific slope are being made by the Oregon-Columbia Valley Ayrshire association with George Gessford, Corvallis, president.

Selection of cattle for the sale is already under way, with association members pledged to abide by the choice of a committee composed of Floyd Wolberg, professor of dairy husbandry at OSC; G. L. Daniel, Ayrshire breeder, Boardman, and Walter Andereg of Portland. This will be the first major Ayrshire sale to be held on the Pacific coast.

## Hog Growers Plan To Increase Pork

With the price ration between feed grain and pork now favorable to hog production, Western Oregon Livestock association, swine production committee is advocating some increase in Oregon production.

The committee also suggests that every farm family can profitably keep one hog to consume garbage, one to each cow from which skim milk is available, and one to each 20 acres of grain if good legume pasture is provided.

"The population of Oregon is increasing so more pork is needed to feed the people," says H. A. Barnes, Silverton, chairman of the committee. "To have the same amount of pork per capita as in

the 1936-41 period we would need to produce about 360,000 hogs, or double the number we now have."

The committee points out that the hog population in Oregon for 1946 was only 187,000 on January 1, compared with a five-year pre-war average of 274,000. The reduction was because of the price of 6 1/2 pounds of grain cost more than the price of the pound of pork it would produce.

## Watch Farm Goals To Guard Against Over Production

Limited demand will exist for some farm commodities in 1947, says E. H. Miller, chairman of the state production-market association, although, he adds, "farmers are asked for another year of total high production in 1947."

"All milk and sugar that can be produced is needed, but the goal for potatoes is at the top limit of requirements. Close cooperation with the suggested goals is needed to avoid overproduction of some commodities, with resultant marketing and price difficulties," Miller says.

Newly announced Oregon crop goals show oats up 4 per cent from last year; corn up 5 per cent; barley up 8 per cent; flaxseed, no change; tame hay up 4 per cent; alfalfa seed up 30 per cent; red clover seed, no change; alsike clover up 60 per cent.

Other spring crop goals are dry peas down 19 per cent; potatoes down 13 per cent; sugar beets up 10 per cent.

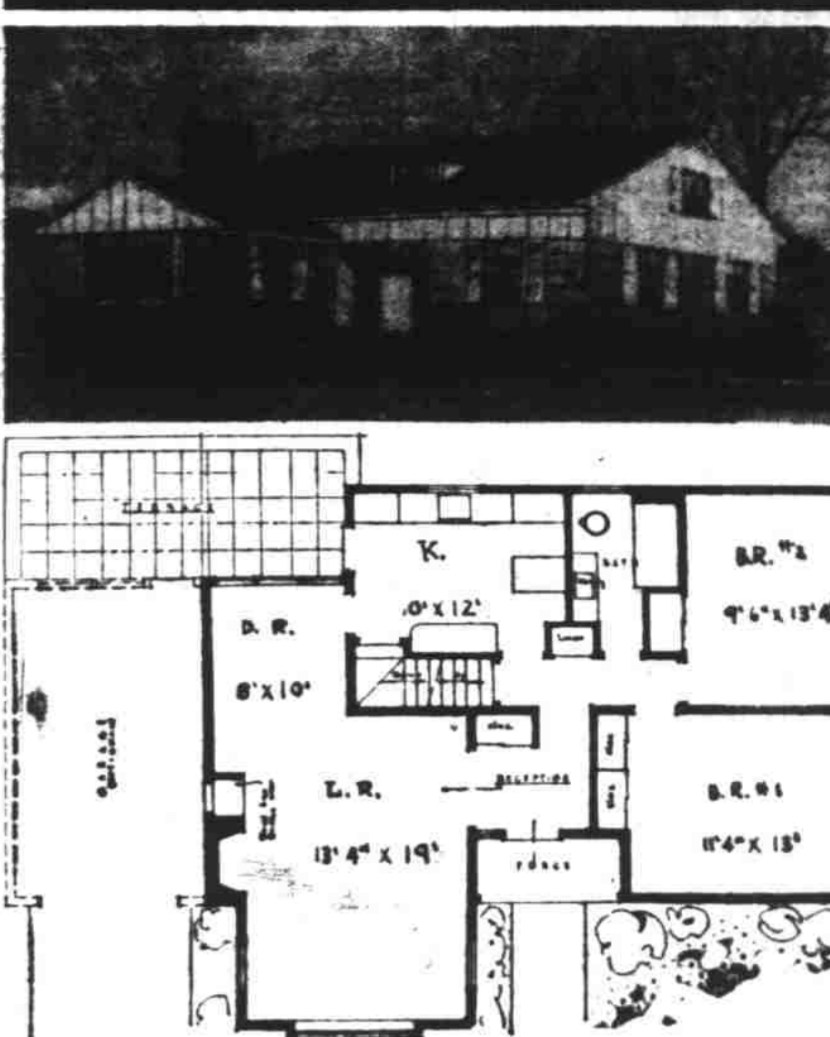
Some increase is asked for sheep and lambs, while beef cows are held the same. Nine per cent higher production is asked in spring pigs; requests for chickens raised on farms up 28 per cent; for turkeys, same as in 1946.

## Poison Oak Control Assured by Chemical

Three most effective materials for controlling poison oak in Oregon are ammonium sulphamate, sold under trade name, Ammate; sodium chlorate and 2-4-D, results of three years of testing at the state college show.

The first named was the most effective in the tests reported on in a new brief extension bulletin, 672, just issued as a revision of an earlier one. For best results the chemical is applied before the last of June, though it may be applied as late as early October. Where 2-4-D is used, application before July 1 is essential.

## HOMES FOR AMERICANS



AP Newsfeatures  
A STORY AND A HALF house in contemporary style, designed by Walter T. Aulick, Ann Arbor, Mich., architect, as his plan No. 705. In addition to the first floor plan shown here, space is provided upstairs for two more bedrooms and a bath to be finished later. The exterior is a combination of dark gray shingles and vertical siding with roof of asphalt shingles. Cost without land is estimated between \$7000 and \$9000, depending on local building costs.

## Put on Expansion Brakes, Is Warning

Some of the farm smash-ups in the early 20's were the result of farmers going ahead into the post war period with the gas on full and the brakes off, as if wartime prices and demand for farm products would never let up, Farm Journal reminds.

Further, says the Journal, some of the young farmers do not remember this period and should be reminded that the smart thing to do now is get ready for the deflation, which will come in more or less degree. This means, paying off debts, practicing thrift, stopping expansion and weeding out the poorer crops and acres, and putting land and plant in shape to produce high yields at low costs.

## Farmers to Sign For 1946 Reports

Oregon farmers will go to the polls in November or December to elect committeemen to administer national farm program in their communities and counties during 1947.

Elections will be held during the period November 11 to December 21, with the date and place for the election meetings in each community being set by county AAA committees.

In each of the state's 300 farm communities, a committee of three local farmers and two alternates will be chosen, who with the delegates from other communities, will elect a three-member county agricultural conservation committee.

Any person who is participating in the 1946 agricultural conservation program, or any person who has a contract with the federal crop insurance corporation, is eligible to vote in the elections. This includes owners, operators and tenants on participating farms.

## MELOTT'S GET TOGETHER

Quinlan Melott has sold his well known farm near Tigard and is now in partnership with his twin brother Kenneth, and father, S. W. Melott, widely known Jersey breeders, at the home dairy in Portland. The Melotts have sold two male descendants of their tested superior sire, Barnpton Kabul Pinnacle, to new breeders — one to Emma Corning of Richland and the other to Fred Murray, Forest Grove.

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## GRANGERS SHAPE THE PATTERN of OREGON'S DEVELOPMENT

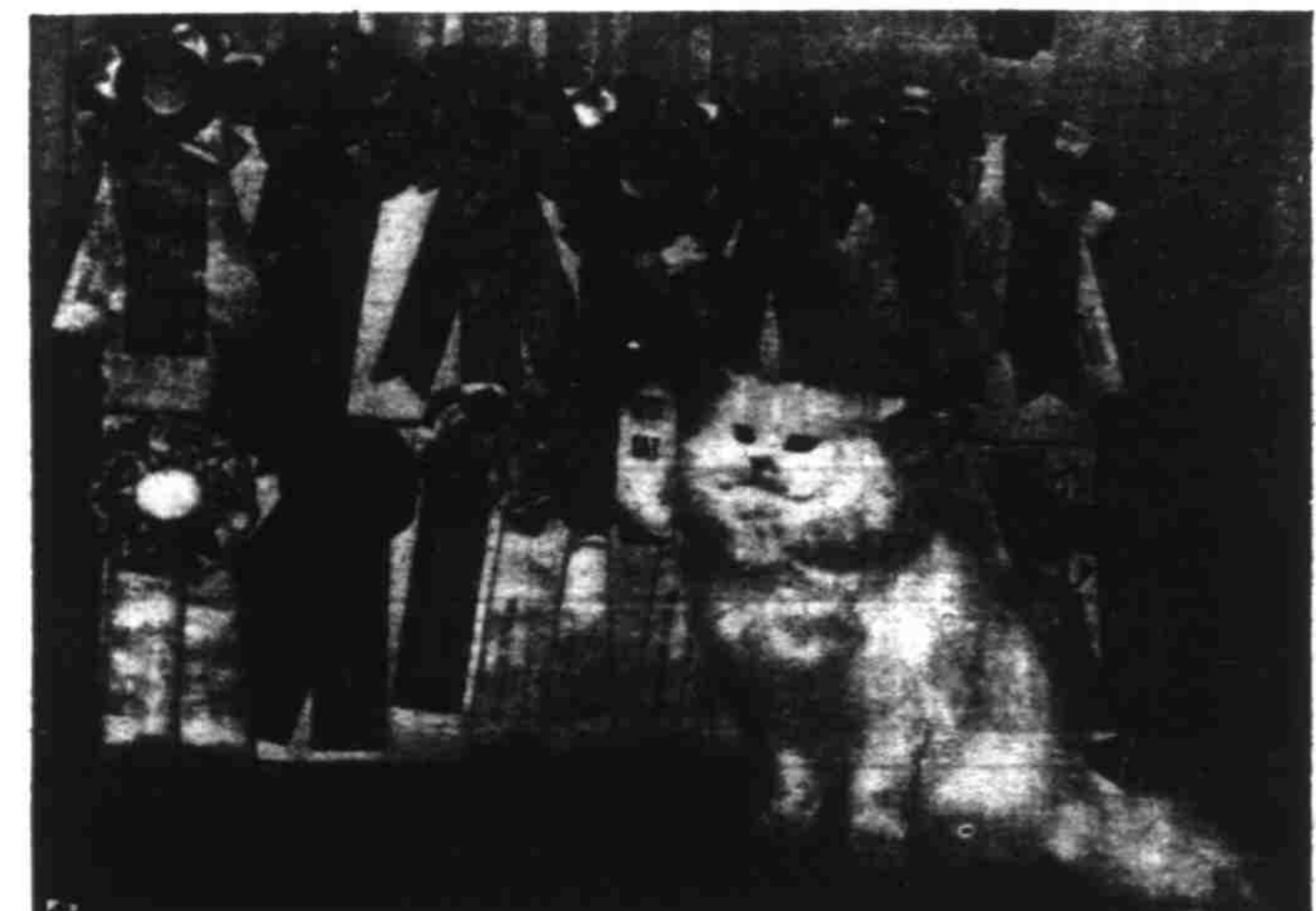
Thirty thousand people who know where they're going can do a lot of good for themselves and for the state in which they live.

There are 30,000 members of the Grange in Oregon. They and their families are members of some 400 local Granges throughout the state. They conduct regular, well-attended meetings. They own Grange halls. They have millions of dollars invested in farms and equipment. They are alert to social, agricultural and civic betterment.

They are members of their organization nearly as old as the state of Oregon. They work here, live here, dream here—for the constructive programs that shape the pattern of Oregon's development. Not just for their benefit, but for the good of all Oregonians.

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**CHAMPION FELINE**—Sunny, a white Persian cat owned by Casmir Mackiewicz of Milwaukee, poses at a Chicago show with some of the ribbon she has won in various contests.