

SMALL STOCK

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america's

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read

rabbit

magazine



Hotel St. Paul, headquarters hotel for the 33rd National Convention of the American Rabbit Breeders Association at St. Paul, Minnesota, October 13-16.

October 1956

NATIONAL TRADE JOURNAL

for the Fancy and Commercial Rabbit Industry

"Mr. Showman"

By DON GUTHRIE

The man who shows a large string of rabbits and competes nationally for sweepstakes honors is a source of wonderment to many breeders. How can he get the quantity of show rabbits from a backyard rabbitry, how can he make a large show herd pay expenses and when can he find time to condition and exhibit at so many shows, are a few of the questions asked.

Lou Slavens of Bloomington, Illinois, is perhaps typical of the breeders who exhibit in a big way. He averages 50 head per show at about 20 to 25 shows a year and has exhibited as many as 132 rabbits at one show. Lou says, "You have to love rabbits, enjoy competition and like people to make a go of a show herd." Showing a large string of rabbits at the shows takes a lot of time and you have to win a fair percentage of the time to make expenses. If you can't win pleasantly and lose graciously, the whole business will soon become tiresome. He believes that many who exhibit large strings for a year or two and then go out of business are those who do not have a real liking for competition and can't stand the gaff when they lose a few close ones.

Started in 1945

The Slavens' success story started in 1945 when Lou obtained a few Dutch, and he and his son Jerry named their enterprise the "Jerry-Lou Rabbitry." The rabbitry expanded and they took on several additional breeds — Standard Chins, Red Satins and English. They specialized in Dutch the first few years and built a name for themselves around the show circuits. They won the American Dutch Club Sweepstakes series in 1948. Jerry has since dropped out of the rabbit game, but the name "Jerry-Lou Rabbitry" has remained.

Lou's admiration for the attractive English grew until this has been the big breed in his rabbitry for the past several years. He had best of breed at the '53 All-English Show, best opposite sex at the '54 All-English Show, best junior and best Tortoise at the '55 All-English Show and best of breed and best opposite sex at the '56 All-English Show.

When he exhibits a breed of rabbits, he promotes this breed at every opportunity. He sponsors sweepstakes, donates specials, supports the shows with large entries and starts interested breeders even if he has to give them a pair to get

them started. Lou's industriousness is certainly instrumental in the rising popularity of English the past few years. An Illinois breeder once said, "If you want your breed to catch on and become prominent in our area, get Lou Slavens to raise them." It would seem that this is true, as English have grown from a few entries in 1948 to the largest entry at the Illinois State Fair in 1956.

Imported First Chocolate English

In 1951 he imported a trio of Chocolate English from England. To the best of his knowledge, every Chocolate in the country comes from this original trio. This is quite an achievement when you understand that Chocolates are quite often the largest variety here in the Middle-West.

Lou originated the Lilac variety of English and has been a main force behind its promotion. The Lilacs now have an ARBA working Standard.

There is an old adage that

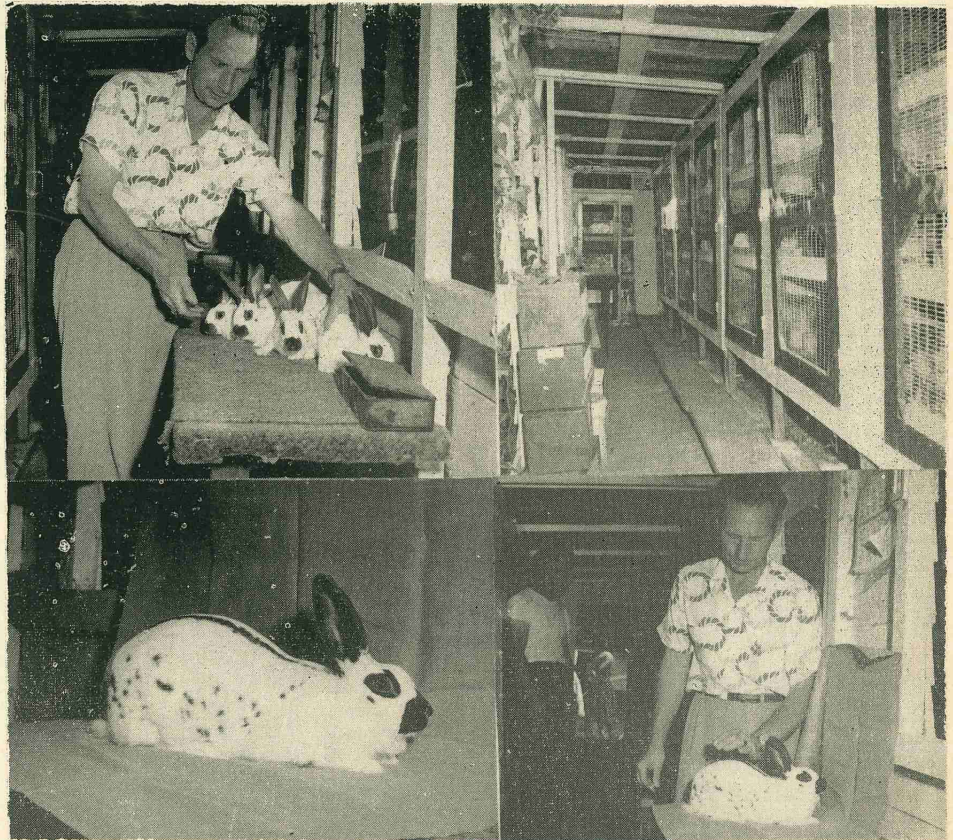
says, "When you want something done, go to a busy man." It appears that the rabbit breeders have done just this as far as Lou is concerned. He is vice-president of the Bloomington local club, director of Illinois State RBA, director of Satin Federation, vice-

president of Creme D'Argent Club, director of Standard Chinchilla Club and president of the American English Rabbit Club. Besides this, he and Roger Fitchorn put out the Illinois-State News, which many believe to be the best

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Lou holds a large trophy won for best of breed at the Bloomington All-English Show.



Top left: Lou looks over four promising youngsters from a litter of Chocolates. Top right: Partial view of Slavens' Rabbitry. Bottom left: Black senior doe that was best of breed at '56 All-English Show. Bottom right: Lou enjoys bringing out his sharp show winners and going over them with visitors.

33rd National ARBA Convention News

By WM. CHANCE, Publicity Director

The National Convention is now upon us. The catalogs have been sent out by Don Guthrie, Mount Ayr, Iowa, our catalog chairman. The judges have all been selected, and the revised list appears at the end of this article.

Two words of warning for Convention guests should be emphasized. First, all breeders should prepare to dress for temperature extremes, as cool evenings and warm days can be expected. However, temperature changes for the rabbits in the showroom are out of the question, due to the protection of many tons of concrete used in construction of the exhibition hall. Our second word of warning concerns the Saturday night banquet. Everyone should register Friday evening in the Hotel St. Paul and purchase tickets for the four evenings of banquets and smorgasbords. Saturday's banquet reservations close at noon, so if your arrival will be too late in the day, you may send your check to "Upper Midwest Rabbit Shows, Inc." for \$10 to obtain the set of four tickets, or send \$3.50 each for tickets

for the Saturday banquet only, and they will be held for you. Address your reservations to "Upper Midwest Rabbit Shows, Inc., 99 South Fairview Avenue, St. Paul 5, Minnesota."

Attractive Tours

Special attention is being given to the tours of the Twin City area so that the Convention visitors will not get stock tourist trips of Minneapolis and Saint Paul. Arrangements are being made for civic, business and political leaders to welcome our guests at some of the interesting stops. Those who admire fine buildings will probably return for a second inspection of the city hall, because just one look at the unusual woods so lavishly used there will not be enough. East Indian rosewood, Hawaiian koa, Minnesota butternut, Australian blackwood, Indian laurel, African avodire, as well as 19 other beautiful and exotic woods will leave a lasting picture in your memories. The city hall offers not only this study in woods, but also Memorial Hall, 85 feet long, 21 feet wide and 41 feet high. This hall has walls of black

marble, a ceiling of gold-etched mirror, and at one end stands the towering, 60 ton, white Mexican onyx Indian God of Peace, designed by the late Carl Milles of Sweden.

Minnesota is not to be outdone by the host city, and it offers the state capitol building, the work of the late Cass Gilbert, internationally famed architect of many state capitols and other public buildings.

Do you remember Longfellow's Hiawatha and Minnehaha Falls? You will find the falls in Minneapolis, sometimes a mere trickle, sometimes a raging torrent, and the old Minnehaha Creek winds through wooded hills which are covered with well-tended lawns and expensive homes. On your tours you will notice something strikingly different about Minneapolis and Saint Paul, but we leave that for your own comment, as the residents of those cities reportedly become violent and incoherent when comparison is made. However, when the smoke has cleared away, you will find that although the distribution may be uneven, that each has a fair share of lakes, mansions, flour mills, breweries, colleges, art centers, churches, factories, department stores, hotels and—rabbits.

Enjoyment Is Assured

The Minnesota State Fair's Agriculture-Horticulture Build-



60-ton white onyx statue that is St. Paul's official insignia stands in State Capitol at St. Paul. The statue is called "God of Peace." The insignia "God of Peace" and the well-known phrase "Come to the Land of Sky Blue Water" have been designated as the theme of the 1956 Convention.



Top: The Agriculture-Horticulture Building on the Minnesota State Fairgrounds, site of the 33rd National Convention. Bottom: A skyline view of the city of St. Paul.

ing will make a strong bid for honors among the many buildings where national shows have been staged, and we know that you will find it one of the most unusual in design. Comment on the advantages of the building are numerous, but perhaps we should answer that question which so directly concerns the Convention visitors themselves. Will you have the evenings to enjoy talking with your many old and new friends, and how much money and time will be wasted drifting about trying to find a restaurant? We have the answers! You will have all four evenings covered by the most far-sighted plan that a

Convention can possibly set up.

Saturday evening we will have the banquet in the Continental Room of the Hotel Saint Paul, and one of the Northwest's finest bands has been engaged for the evening. Sunday evening is slated for the Hotel Saint Paul's smorgasbord, and the first ARBA meeting will be held immediately afterward. On Monday evening we move to the American Legion Club for our second banquet, but we are cutting the speeches, which shackle banquets, and we are substituting an hors d'oeuvre tray complete to spiced mushrooms and smoked oysters. The Open Forum will follow, and Vincent Hunter will be the moderator. Tuesday evening we return to the American Legion Club for another of those eat-all-you-can Minnesota style smorgasbords which will launch the Farewell Party. The local facilities and music already under contract assure us a fitting close

to a successful Convention.

Four evenings of food and fun will leave your budget intact, and you may as well plan on a few days of fishing in the "land of the sky blue waters" before you head back home.

Judges for the 1956 ARBA Convention

St. Paul, Minn., Oct. 13-16

Californians: Henry Zimmerman, Dubuque, Iowa.

Champagne D'Argents & Creme D'Argents: William Robinson, Anna, Ill.

Checked Giants, Angoras & Angora Wool: Wayne Willmann, Parma, Ohio.

Dutch: Don Guthrie, Mount Ayr, Iowa, and Jerry Leisenring, Postoria, Ohio.

English Spots & Beverens: Ivan Miller, Elmwood, Ill.

Flemish Giants — Whites, Grays, Blacks, and Blues: Keith Forbush, Inkster, Mich.

Flemish Giants—Fawn and Sandy; Giant Chinchillas, & Standard Chinchillas: Kermit

Dreher, Allentown, Pa.

White New Zealands, White Fur: Orlan Onkst, Rivera, Calif., and Ed Beamer, Bedford, Ohio.

Polish & Silver Martens: Carlton Gaddis, Winchester, Ind.

Rex, Rex Fur, Belgian Hares, & Tans: Charles Wade, Little Rock, Ark.

Satins & Satin Fur: Benny Hill, Amarillo, Texas.

American Chinchillas & Himalayans: Joe Godsey, Chattanooga, Tenn.

Red New Zealands, Colored Fur: Harry Rice, Portsmouth, O. **Cavies, Havanas, American Blues & Whites, & Lops:** A. O. Kelley, Creve Coeur, Mo.

Commercial Pens, Sables, Liliacs, Silvers, Silver Fox, & Vinnas: Dan Law, Portland, Ore.

Junior Division: Marvin Langeland, Grandville, Mich.

Program of ARBA's 33rd National Convention & Show Minnesota State Fairgrounds, St. Paul, Minn.

THURSDAY, October 11, 1956

10:00 A. M.—ARBA Board Meeting—Hotel St. Paul

FRIDAY, October 12, 1956

10:00 A. M.—ARBA Board Meeting—Hotel St. Paul

3:00 P. M. to 10:00 P. M.—Registration—Hotel St. Paul

SATURDAY, October 13, 1956

Daytime events at State Fairgrounds

8:15 A. M.—Judges and Secretaries will meet with General Superintendent and General Secretary.

8:45 A. M.—Official opening of 33rd National Convention by President P. M. Leeuwenburg. Posting of colors by American Legion Fourth District Color Guard. Star Spangled Banner—Miss Violet Gould, Saint Paul Civic Opera. Invocation—The Reverend Denzil A. Carty, Chaplain, the American Legion, Department of Minnesota. Introduction of General Chairman, Superintendent, Secretary and Treasurer.

9:00 A. M.—Judging begins at 17 tables.

Noon to 1:00 P. M.—Lunchtime.

1:00 P. M.—Judging resumes.

5:00 P. M.—Judging ceases for the day.

7:00 P. M.—Convention Banquet—Hotel Saint Paul, Continental Room. Invocation by the Reverend Wayne Willmann.

9:30 P. M.—Open House—Music by Hal Garven.

SUNDAY, October 14, 1956

9:00 A. M.—Judging resumes.

10:00 A. M. to 11:30 A. M.—Meeting of local club presidents with P. M. Leeuwenburg, ARBA President, in charge, and Meeting of local club secretaries with James Blyth, ARBA Secretary, in charge.

Noon to 1:00 P. M.—Lunchtime.

1:00 P. M.—Resume unfinished judging.

1:00 P. M.—ARBA State Representatives Meeting with President Leeuwenburg.

2:30 P. M.—ARBA Committee Meetings: Commercial, Publicity, Advertising-Promotion, Youth, Membership Service, Committee at Washington, National Rabbit Week.

6:30 P. M.—Smorgasbord—Hotel St. Paul, Casino Room.

8:00 P. M.—First ARBA Meeting—Hotel St. Paul, Continental Room.

MONDAY, October 15, 1956

7:30 A. M.—Breakfast Meeting, ARBA Committee Chairmen, Hotel Saint Paul.

9:00 A. M. to Noon—Commercial Department—Showroom Auditorium. Panel Discussion, Paul Bowlin, Chairman.

Noon to 1:30 P. M.—Lunchtime.

1:30 P. M.—Second ARBA Meeting—Showroom Auditorium.

6:30 P. M.—Open Forum Banquet—American Legion Bldg.

8:00 P. M.—Open Forum—American Legion Building, Vincent Hunter, Moderator.

TUESDAY, October 16, 1956

9:00 A. M. to Noon—Judges Conference—Showroom Auditorium, Judge Dick Parker, Chairman.

Noon to 1:00 P. M.—Lunchtime.

1:00 P. M.—Resume Judges Conference.

3:30 P. M.—Final ARBA Board Meeting—Hotel Saint Paul.

7:00 P. M.—Farewell Smorgasbord—American Legion Building. Farewell Party after smorgasbord.

Tours will be posted in the Hotel St. Paul and in the showroom.

Absolutely no rabbits released from the showroom until after the Farewell Party. General release of all rabbits at 7:00 A. M. Wednesday morning.



Top: The Driftwood Room, famous dining spot of the Hotel Lowry in St. Paul. This dining room is just one block from the Hotel St. Paul. Bottom: The salad section only of the smorgasbord featured at the Hotel St. Paul.

October 1956

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ask SMALL STOCK

This is a breeders' department devoted to answering questions relating to rabbits and the rabbit industry. If you have a problem, send in your question and one of our six qualified specialists will answer it for you. Address: Ask Small Stock, Small Stock Magazine, Lamoni, Iowa.

QUESTION: I am writing this letter to see if anyone can help me decide and understand why my young rabbits never make the 4-pound fryer weight at 8 weeks. I raise Checkered Giants and, as this is a large breed, I should think they would easily reach the correct weight, but they never do. They don't even make one-half the correct weight. I feed them a quality rabbit feed, and greens.

I read so much about other people's rabbits getting up to 4-lb. weight, and I wonder why mine don't. We seem to feed them what everyone else does. As I am comparatively

new at this business, I would appreciate any help you could give me.

Anne Moore
117 Mia Ave.
Dayton, Ohio

ANSWER by Carl Kroboth:

Judging from your letter, your prime purpose in raising rabbits is meat production.

Just why your Checkered Giant youngsters should not make 4-5 lb. fryers (live weight), when 8 weeks old, is hard to understand. The feed you are using is one of the best feeds and should give better results. Small amounts of green feed may be fed, but should not replace any part of the regular amount of pellets the doe and litter need. Personally, I believe that does and litters should be fed twice



Carl Kroboth

daily and be given all the pellets they will clean up from one feeding to the next. It is also very important that the rabbits always have plenty of fresh water available.

If all this is being done and the youngsters still fail to make 4-5 lbs. at 8 weeks, the blame would have to be taken by the doe for being a poor milker. For the first 3 weeks after the doe kindles, the young rabbits develop entirely on the milk they get from the doe. If the doe is a good milker, the youngsters should, at the age of 3 weeks, be plump, well filled out and should grow into proper size readily. If the youngsters try to come out of the nest box as soon as they have their eyes open and are starved looking, it is a sure sign that the doe is not giving sufficient milk and the youngsters will also develop slowly after they start eating pellets.

If I am correct in my assumption that you are raising rabbits for meat production, it seems to me that you would consider raising a breed that is primarily suited for commercial meat production, such as New Zealands, Californians, Champagne D'Argents or Chinchillas. These breeds have the proper type for maximum dress-out and most does are good producers and milkers. I don't mean to take anything away from Checkered Giants, as they are a fine breed. Their type, however, is everything that is not wanted in a meat-producing, commercial rabbitry.

QUESTION: I am just getting started in the rabbit business, but have had rabbits as pets. I have one problem in that as my rabbits reach the age of 2 years old, their teeth get too big and have to be cut; and after the teeth are cut, the rabbits seem to die. I would like to know what's what here, for I have lost two rabbits already and do not want to lose my good breeding stock which I am raising.

Frank Kernozek
788 Poq. Rd.
Groton, Conn.

Answer by Doris Leibel:

There are so many factors that enter into this question of buck teeth. To be perfectly



Doris Leibel

frank, I am still trying to figure it out also. I am going to pass on a few observations that are gleaned strictly from my own experience. I believe that buck teeth in fryers are hereditary and the animals involved should be disposed of. When they reach 2 years of age that might be something else again; it could be environmental. I had an experience on a feeding program. After feeding this particular feed about 7 months I checked through the herd thoroughly and found one out of three animals had abnormal teeth growth. I clipped the teeth, evened them up, changed feed and the matter straightened out. In checking into the matter at the university, they told me that it could not be; but, by golly, it was.

It could also be a weakness in the strain, again a hereditary thing, that would cause them to develop this way after 2 years. There are raisers who keep a block of wood in all-wire pens, for the rabbits to chew upon, giving the animal a chance to indulge in its normal habit of gnawing. It is this gnawing or chewing of food, etc., that keeps the teeth worn down to evenness. Also, if one tooth is injured in some manner, thus destroying the balance of the teeth, it could cause the remaining teeth to grow out of bounds.

Why the animal should die after the teeth are clipped I don't know, unless it would be of malnutrition (not being able to eat properly) or from some other cause. Have you autopsied them? It might be worth while to take them to a veterinarian and find out if there is possibly another reason for death.

I sincerely hope that this matter straightens out for you. It might be a good idea to read up on this subject, using the ARBA Guide Book (you receive this free with your membership in the American), the Government booklet No. 1730 (available from your county agent) or any other good refer-

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Good News Two Important Announcements

1. Rabbit pelt prices rapidly rising.
2. To all our friends and shippers note our new location:

365 Grant Ave., Cliffside Park, New Jersey

Send for our free pamphlet on skinning, stretching and grading, also free shipping tags.

Fifth generation in Rabbit business—Still going strong.

Vandeweghe Trading Corp.

365 Grant Ave., Cliffside Park, New Jersey

FOR TOPS IN PRICE AND SERVICE

California Dept. —

(Continued from Page 29)

represented, but the big surprise of the show was the nice entry of Silver Martens, largest entry of this breed seen at any show this season. Let's hope this breed comes back to take the place it so rightly deserves.

"Dear Mrs. Murgatroyd" was there in person, dressed for the usual warm Hemet weather, but the last day proved to be unusual weather, becoming quite chilly in the evening. She was caught begging wearing apparel from any source available.

Commercial News & Views of San Diego County

By Mrs. Charles Nielsen
Box 472, Del Mar, Calif.

The rabbit industry as a whole is made up of every breed, every kind, many types, some with no type to fit any breed. It makes no difference what rabbit we have, we should know if it is any good to us. Is it making us money, or is it costing us money?

The only way we will ever know is to keep records. Our Farm Bureau Rabbit Commodity Group meeting this month had an open discussion on the reasons for keeping records on our rabbits. Be it a small backyard breeder or large commercial herd, your records are the very foundation of your herd.

Several of the growers are cross-breeding; for instance, New Zealand Whites to Chinchillas to improve their herd of New Zealands, then breed back to the New Zealand Whites to regain the white fur. Personally, I am for keeping our New Zealands a pure breed. If in need of new blood, get New Zealand pure blood from a different strain, with the characteristics you want.

Keeping records is more than keeping the doe's or buck's name, date mated, number kindled and number sold. We need a complete record of the doe's and buck's performance from the time born until their progeny is marketed or chosen for replacements in the herd.

A goal should be set to work forward to, not too high at first. When you reach that goal, there still is room for improvement. No rabbit or any

Pima County Fair

TUCSON, ARIZONA

OCT. 25 thru 28, 1956

Sweepstakes: Californians, Dutch, Satins, Champagnes and New Zealands

Write Pima Co. Fair Commission
105 N. Court St., Tucson, Arizona

other animal is perfect. There are always improvements to be made in any breed.

The California State School is to be held at the American Legion Hall, Vista, Calif., Oct. 26 & 27; banquet is on the 27th. Many topics will be discussed by speakers who know their subjects. Everyone is cordially invited. You and I can always learn something new.

Ask Small Stock —

(Continued from Page 16)

ence book advertised on rabbit raising.

QUESTION: I have a few questions to ask. This is all new business to me, but I'm determined to learn.

I intend to raise meat rabbits and have looked at some self-cleaning pens size 24"x24"x27". They look kind of small. I am planning on keeping these rabbits in a basement home which is dry, cool in summer and warm in winter. I've got good air all the time. What is your idea on this kind of a setup? I can carry about 90 does in the basement. If you have any hints to give me, I sure would like to hear them.

Oh, by the way, this is my second month for your Small Stock and do I ever enjoy it!

Edward Schnoor
Box 61
Toston, Mont.

ANSWER by Gray Webster:

The pens you mention sound too small; we use and find satisfactory pens 30"x36" and about 20" in height. I would hesitate to suggest that you put rabbits in a basement. It doesn't sound good to me but I can't tell much about it from your description. Most rabbit raisers agree that the



Gray Webster

nearer you can get the rabbits to be outside, with protection from dampness and drafts, generally the less trouble you will have. Plenty of fresh air is essential at all times, and keep them cool. If the basement has a concrete floor, it very soon will become saturated with urine and the ammonia fumes will give your rabbits eye and respiratory troubles. Without knowing a great deal more about it, I would say no.

If there are experienced rabbit raisers in your area, perhaps it would be wise to see how they are handling their herds and get their suggestions as to how best to house them.



Top left: Mrs. E. J. Grimes and Lyle Neubauer have the gifted touch when it comes to managing a show. Top right: P. M. Leeuwenburg, Cyril Lowit and L. A. Hambrick look at the four first-place does that "Ham" cleaned up with. Bottom left: Mrs. Howard Galloway, Leslie Earles and Mrs. Jack Vaughn working the table of Judge Guthrie. Bottom right: Mrs. Leslie Earles, Mae Grimes and Mrs. Forrest Pedigo check a class for Judge Lowit.

Colorado State Fair —

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kept the program on a light and cheerful note.

Astounding Premium Checks

The pay-back at this show is one of the best in the country. The state of Colorado offers \$2 for every 50c entry paid. Some of the premium checks that the exhibitors take home are astounding. As an example, L. A. Hambrick entered about 70 rabbits in approximately 130 classes for a entry fee of about \$65. His check totaled nearly \$500. He had four New Zealand White does which placed 1st pre-junior, 1st junior, 1st 6-8 and 1st senior, and the senior doe went on to win best normal fur, best breed fur, best of breed and best roaster. These four does earned nearly \$350 for him.

The people in this section of the country look forward to this show from year to year. They plan for it as their sectional convention and spend the week at the fair and show. People like the Howard Galloways of Lubbock, Texas, Benny Hill of Amarillo, Texas, Stan Robinsons of Albuquerque, N. Mex., Gerald Fast of Hutchinson, Kan., and many others make this an annual must.

No matter how you look at it, the Colorado State Fair Rabbit Show is a good show—

big in every detail and good in every respect.

American Chinchilla Rabbit Breeders Assn.

O. H. Greene, Sec.-Treas.
Babelay Rd., RR 5,
Knoxville, Tenn.

Have you written for your catalog and reservations for the National Convention Show? And are those bunnies in top condition? Joe H. Godsey has been selected to judge our American Chins. Congratulations, Joe.

At the Columbus Convention resolution No. 2 did not carry, but an amendment was passed for the resolution to be put on the nomination ballot and, if carried, will go into effect at the Convention of 1956. The resolution was on the ballots and carried. Let me urge all members who have moved to forward me your new address. Some of the ballots came back.

We wish to thank Mr. Dickinson for his article in the Small Stock Magazine. Come on, Chin breeders, let's hear from some of you; express your views and give us some new suggestions.

Our sweepstakes for the month of October are: Oct. 1-6, Alabama RBA; Oct. 16-20, North Carolina RBA; Oct. 19-21, Webster County RBA; Oct. 26-28, Shawnee County R&CBA. November are: Nov. 2-4, Indianapolis RFS; Nov. 3-4, Eastern R&CFA; Nov. 4, Winnebago Forest Rabbit Club; Nov. 16-18, South Central Missouri RBA; Nov. 17-18, Decatur County R&CBA; Nov. 18, Vermilion County RBA.

"Mr. Showman" —

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state news bulletin in the country. Lou owns and operates a collection agency in Bloomington and I suspect that the office staff helps with the stencils, but his neighbors will attest to the fact that he and Roger burn the basement lights until the wee hours in the morning at least once a month, putting out the Illinois-State News.

Lou has some pretty definite ideas about how rabbits should be raised. To attain the necessary time needed to handle the rabbitry, cull the litters and tattoo, you must reduce the feeding, watering and cleaning time to a minimum. The Jerry-Lou Rabbitry consists of about 120 three-tier hutches arranged in a horse-shoe-shaped pattern. The inside has an enclosed walkway and is latticed. This allows plenty of fresh air and sunshine, with protection for the rabbits and owner. The pen floors are all-wire, and dump to the outside, which makes cleaning easier.

Lou likes to exhibit a large entry, for he thinks it's a great deal more fun to show several rabbits than just a few. To do this, with a medium-sized backyard herd, you have to develop a breeding program. First of all, you have to raise litters and as many as possible to stay in the game. You have to have juniors to replace the stock in your show string that is old enough to breed. If you don't raise juniors, you have to cut your entries or keep your older rabbits out of production. Either way, you are through as a sweepstakes competitor. If you don't raise juniors, you have nothing to sell, and what's the use of advertising extensively if you can't fill the demands for breeding stock?

Production Important for Fancier, Too

Lou believes that the biggest weakness among backyard breeders is the failure to recognize the importance of production. Being a fancier, it isn't wise to put production ahead of every consideration, for the main goal isn't meat rabbits. But production should be taken into consideration along with type, color, markings and the other goals that we are striving to achieve. Lou believes that you should

ONE-DAY TABLE SHOW

Clarinda R.B.A.

OCTOBER 21, 1956
Trophies & Rosettes
DON COZAD, Secretary
920 E. Lincoln St.

Clarinda

Iowa

have a thorough understanding of the goal and develop a program toward it. He favors a line-breeding schedule with the following basic principles: Never breed two animals with like weaknesses or faults. Never keep an animal for a breeder that isn't up to par with the herd. Keep animals for breeders only when their parents are proven to be good producers. Keep the correct body type in mind at all times. Besides these, he follows a couple of other rules with his English. Never use an animal with stray spots on the body or a dirty head for a breeder. He also likes to breed opposites; that is, one that is a little too heavily marked to one that is a little too lightly marked. He believes he gets a better percentage of good results this way. The secret of a good program is the ability to cull selectively and ruthlessly. A good breeding program and culling system can keep the good juniors coming, and that's the secret of a large show herd. Lou states, "I can look at an exhibitor's junior entries and tell just how stiff a competitor he is going to be. You can't show seniors forever."

Rabbitry Pays Its Way

The Jerry-Lou Rabbitry pays its way and has since the beginning. A laboratory contract takes care of the butchers, and Lou's breeding stock sales are very good, due to his excellent show record. Although a large show herd would appear to be an expensive thing, Lou believes it's just as easy to make a large entry pay off as a small entry. Also, it's much easier to sell breeding stock when you can offer the prospective buyer a choice of many rather than just one rabbit.

It does take a great deal of time to exhibit a large entry, but this is the part that Lou enjoys the most. He loves to indulge in friendly gab-fests with fellow breeders over the merits of their respective animals. When he believes that he is right, he will stand firm, but he will be the first to recognize the other man's point. Lou Slavens' opinion is highly respected in rabbit circles, for he is everything that the word "sportsmanship" brings to mind.

In this section of the country we like to see Lou and his large entry arrive at our showrooms. For he exhibits where the competition is the keenest and his entry is practically a guarantee of a successful show. He promotes his breeds of rabbits, the shows, the ARBA and good sportsmanship. The title "MR. SHOW-MAN" fits Lou Slavens perfectly.

Where Is Moses?

(Continued from Page 5)

Marketing methods have changed so radically in most areas that a rabbit would hardly be recognized in most stores, if one were looking for the old type products that used to appear in the store cases. There are some of the old-fashioned products to be found today, that is sure, but the percentage of these undesirable products is very low.

Every good rabbit producer has adopted the new, proven methods of rabbit production, or usually wants to adopt these methods as soon as possible. These rabbit producers today feed different feeds, developed over the years by experience and research of individuals and the feed millers. These producers do not raise the same breeds of rabbits they did years ago. They do not breed on the same old-fashioned schedules, they do not use the old-type nest boxes, old-type hutches, waterers, cooling systems, etc. We have progressed a long, long way in the last several years and will steadily continue to do so, as we are all striving to do the job better day by day.

This research has been done by thousands of persons, and the benefits of this development are available to all for the asking.

Processors Have Made Great Strides

The processors who are in business today usually have found that they do not use old-style methods, and equipment, but have, for the most part, adopted new methods and equipment that have been proven profitable by someone else in the industry. This development is shared by processors one with another, as most of us feel it a privilege to help someone else to do a better job if we can render this aid. There can be tremendous changes made yet, but most of these changes hinge upon one factor, and that is increased volume. What good is modern equipment, fast lines, better methods, etc., unless there is a supply of rabbits available for the processor to buy? Most all of the processing plants in the nation today can easily handle many, many more rabbits per day, but the supply of rabbits is not available 12 months of the year. All the research in the world will not help very much until there is something to process, yet we are working on these new methods all the time, hoping for the day when rabbits will be produced in volume.

Now, we have seen that pro-

duction today is greatly improved and much more efficient, and that processing become much more adept to handle the rabbits, but we must then stop and consider what happens from this point forward.

Just why are not more rabbits produced today? In most every case it is 100% due to the fact that production is not profitable 12 months a year. We know how to produce rabbits, as research has taught us how. We know how to process much greater quantities than we do today, yet something is still holding us back. What is it?

The Summer Slump

Can it be that there is no market for our products? Can it be that we are actually producing more rabbits today than we can sell profitably? Is our market inadequate to handle our production year around? Can it be that we have forgotten that the easiest thing in the world to do is to produce a product and that the hardest thing to do is to sell it at a profit?

Apparently something is wrong somewhere. During the months of July and August 1956, we have been contacted by many persons begging us to help them market their production. The trouble, therefore, apparently is not lack of the ability to produce. What is the trouble? It is simply a LACK OF AN ADEQUATE MARKET!

Where do these appeals for help come from? One came from Colorado, one from the Fort Worth area of Texas, one from northern Missouri, two from Iowa, one from Nebraska, one from North Carolina, one from Louisiana, one from the St. Louis area, one from Illinois, one from Indiana, etc. We are not exaggerating, we can give you the full names and addresses of these processors who admit they need help, and need it badly. They all have more in the summertime than they can market. They have tried to cut their buying prices, have cut their selling prices, and still there are too many rabbits. This is a real problem facing us every summer, year in and year out, yet practically nothing has ever been done about it.

We Will Have to Solve Our Problems

When we take into consideration all the problems of the rabbit industry today, I believe that if we go to work on one of the main problems soon, we will have automatically solved many of the lesser problems by the solution of the one larger condition. IF WE CREATE A BETTER MARKET FOR RABBIT MEAT, WE

SMALL STOCK

magazine

*america's
most
read
rabbit
magazine*



When the third graders from the Tilden School found out that there was a rabbit convention just two blocks from the school, teacher Marilyn Jensen had a problem. She solved it by taking the class to see the rabbits, and the kids took the Small Stock booth by storm. Each youngster, a potential rabbit breeder, got a copy of SSM.

November 1956

NATIONAL TRADE JOURNAL
for the Fancy and Commercial Rabbit Industry

St. Paul Stages Outstanding ARBA Convention

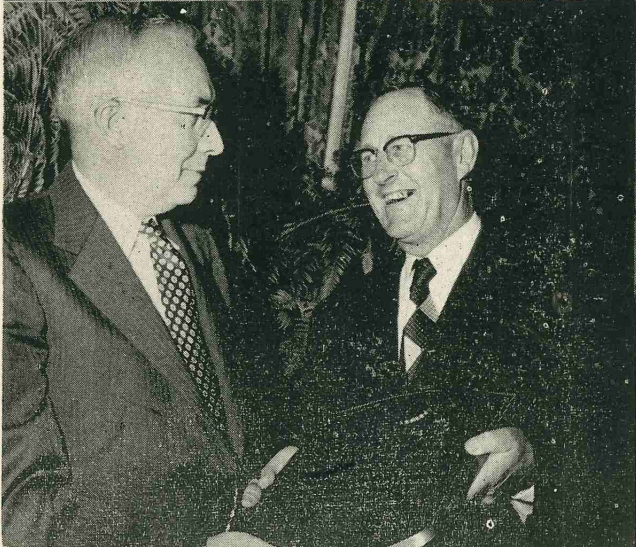
By VINCE HUNTER and DON GUTHRIE

Any way you look at it, the 33rd ARBA Annual Convention and show held at St. Paul, Minnesota, October 13 to 16 was one of the most outstanding and clean-cut Conventions that the faithful have ever attended.

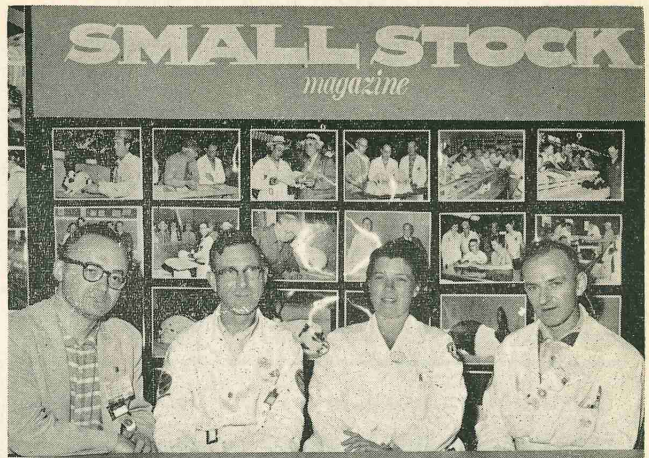
A Job Well Done

There are a lot of people around St. Paul who today are feeling a solid sense of satisfaction that comes from a job well done. General Convention Chairman Clyde Merilatt, General Secretary Doris Leibel, General Treasurer Harry

Sleeth and General Superintendent Clarence Lohse were all quick to pass along the credit they so richly deserved to the many St. Paul people who went out to prove that the folks who thought it couldn't be done were wrong. And they certainly did. The entire Convention committee and all those who worked behind the scenes in less publicized but nevertheless important tasks can take a bow from the American members who attended the Convention. Probably in no instance of an



TOP: Director Vern Ashton was presented a wristwatch at the St. Paul ARBA Convention in recognition of his years of untiring work for the American. Jim Blyth made the presentation and is holding the framed scroll which records the names of the donors of the watch. **BOTTOM:** Jim gets his trophy! Jim Blyth, secretary of the ARBA, was honored by the presentation of a plaque in recognition of his years of outstanding service to the organization. Presentation was made by ARBA Director Ellis Murray at the annual banquet at the St. Paul Convention.



TOP: Four Convention officials are photographed in the Small Stock booth. L to R: Harry Sleeth, general treasurer; Clyde Merilatt, general Convention chairman; Doris Leibel, general secretary, and Clarence Lohse, general superintendent. **BOTTOM:** These are the Convention mainsprings at St. Paul. L to R and from the top down: Darrell Bramhall, asst. sec.; Arnold Johnson, asst. supt.; Pete Leeuwenburg, president ARBA; Don Guthrie, catalog chairman; E. Nelson, asst. supt.; Wes Ehlers, commercial supt.; Clyde Merilatt, general chairman; Harry Sleeth, general treas.; Don Morgan, asst. sec.; Clarence Lohse, general supt.; Doris Leibel, general sec.; Olga Kennedy, youth chairman; Mrs. Clyde Merilatt, Mrs. Clarence Lohse.

American Convention have such a small group staged such a good Convention, but they made up in industry and activity what they lacked in numbers and support. Let it be so recorded.

As usual, the directors of the American met for the 2 days preceding the actual opening of the Convention. During this period breeders from afar came drifting into St. Paul. Out at the Minnesota State Fair Grounds the place was a beehive of activity. All the coops were set up and the decorating of booths was well under way. On the night preceding the Convention opening, the big building on North Snelling was a blaze of lights and more new arrivals kept arriving from all the far corners of the country. Some folks worked nearly all night that their

booths could be ready when the Convention opened the next morning.

The Convention Layout

Maybe this would be a good place to stop and give you a word picture of the Convention and show layout. The Hotel St. Paul in downtown St. Paul was the Convention hotel and here was held the banquet and also one of the smorgasbords. The first ARBA meeting was also held in the Hotel St. Paul ballroom. With the exception of two other functions, the balance of the Convention affairs were carried out at the agricultural buildings at the Minnesota State Fair Grounds. It would be hard to imagine a finer place for us to hold a rabbit show—or for that matter a Convention. We had excellent auditorium facilities

(Continued on Page 34)

California Dept. —

(Continued from Page 29)

represented, but the big surprise of the show was the nice entry of Silver Martens, largest entry of this breed seen at any show this season. Let's hope this breed comes back to take the place it so rightly deserves.

"Dear Mrs. Murgatroyd" was there in person, dressed for the usual warm Hemet weather, but the last day proved to be unusual weather, becoming quite chilly in the evening. She was caught begging wearing apparel from any source available.

Commercial News & Views of San Diego County

By Mrs. Charles Nielsen
Box 472, Del Mar, Calif.

The rabbit industry as a whole is made up of every breed, every kind, many types, some with no type to fit any breed. It makes no difference what rabbit we have, we should know if it is any good to us. Is it making us money, or is it costing us money?

The only way we will ever know is to keep records. Our Farm Bureau Rabbit Commodity Group meeting this month had an open discussion on the reasons for keeping records on our rabbits. Be it a small backyard breeder or large commercial herd, your records are the very foundation of your herd.

Several of the growers are cross-breeding; for instance, New Zealand Whites to Chinchillas to improve their herd of New Zealands, then breed back to the New Zealand Whites to regain the white fur. Personally, I am for keeping our New Zealands a pure breed. If in need of new blood, get New Zealand pure blood from a different strain, with the characteristics you want.

Keeping records is more than keeping the doe's or buck's name, date mated, number kindled and number sold. We need a complete record of the doe's and buck's performance from the time born until their progeny is marketed or chosen for replacements in the herd.

A goal should be set to work forward to, not too high at first. When you reach that goal, there still is room for improvement. No rabbit or any

Pima County Fair

TUCSON, ARIZONA

OCT. 25 thru 28, 1956

Sweepstakes: Californians, Dutch, Satins, Champagnes and New Zealands

Write Pima Co. Fair Commission
105 N. Court St., Tucson, Arizona

other animal is perfect. There are always improvements to be made in any breed.

The California State School is to be held at the American Legion Hall, Vista, Calif., Oct. 26 & 27; banquet is on the 27th. Many topics will be discussed by speakers who know their subjects. Everyone is cordially invited. You and I can always learn something new.

Ask Small Stock —

(Continued from Page 16)

ence book advertised on rabbit raising.

QUESTION: I have a few questions to ask. This is all new business to me, but I'm determined to learn.

I intend to raise meat rabbits and have looked at some self-cleaning pens size 24"x24"x27". They look kind of small. I am planning on keeping these rabbits in a basement home which is dry, cool in summer and warm in winter. I've got good air all the time. What is your idea on this kind of a setup? I can carry about 90 does in the basement. If you have any hints to give me, I sure would like to hear them.

Oh, by the way, this is my second month for your Small Stock and do I ever enjoy it!

Edward Schnoor
Box 61
Toston, Mont.

ANSWER by Gray Webster:

The pens you mention sound too small; we use and find satisfactory pens 30"x36" and about 20" in height. I would hesitate to suggest that you put rabbits in a basement. It doesn't sound good to me but I can't tell much about it from your description. Most rabbit raisers agree that the



Gray Webster

nearer you can get the rabbits to be outside, with protection from dampness and drafts, generally the less trouble you will have. Plenty of fresh air is essential at all times, and keep them cool. If the basement has a concrete floor, it very soon will become saturated with urine and the ammonia fumes will give your rabbits eye and respiratory troubles. Without knowing a great deal more about it, I would say no.

If there are experienced rabbit raisers in your area, perhaps it would be wise to see how they are handling their herds and get their suggestions as to how best to house them.



Top left: Mrs. E. J. Grimes and Lyle Neubauer have the gifted touch when it comes to managing a show. Top right: P. M. Leeuwenburg, Cyril Lowit and L. A. Hambrick look at the four first-place does that "Ham" cleaned up with. Bottom left: Mrs. Howard Galloway, Leslie Earles and Mrs. Jack Vaughn working the table of Judge Guthrie. Bottom right: Mrs. Leslie Earles, Mae Grimes and Mrs. Forrest Pedigo check a class for Judge Lowit.

Colorado State Fair —

(Continued from Page 9)

kept the program on a light and cheerful note.

Astounding Premium Checks

The pay-back at this show is one of the best in the country. The state of Colorado offers \$2 for every 50c entry paid. Some of the premium checks that the exhibitors take home are astounding. As an example, L. A. Hambrick entered about 70 rabbits in approximately 130 classes for a entry fee of about \$65. His check totaled nearly \$500. He had four New Zealand White does which placed 1st pre-junior, 1st junior, 1st 6-8 and 1st senior, and the senior doe went on to win best normal fur, best breed fur, best of breed and best roaster. These four does earned nearly \$350 for him.

The people in this section of the country look forward to this show from year to year. They plan for it as their sectional convention and spend the week at the fair and show. People like the Howard Galloways of Lubbock, Texas, Benny Hill of Amarillo, Texas, Stan Robinsons of Albuquerque, N. Mex., Gerald Fast of Hutchinson, Kan., and many others make this an annual must.

No matter how you look at it, the Colorado State Fair Rabbit Show is a good show—

big in every detail and good in every respect.

American Chinchilla Rabbit Breeders Assn.

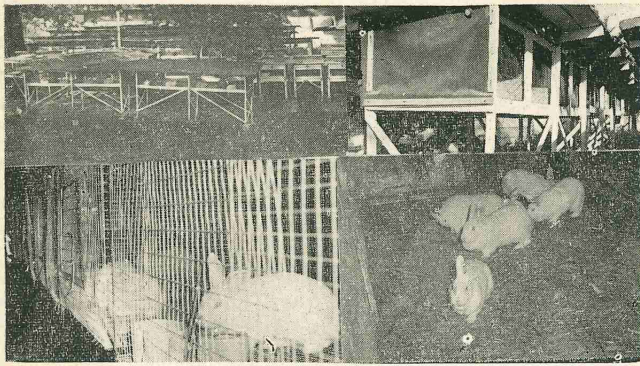
O. H. Greene, Sec.-Treas.
Babelay Rd., RR 5,
Knoxville, Tenn.

Have you written for your catalog and reservations for the National Convention Show? And are those bunnies in top condition? Joe H. Godsey has been selected to judge our American Chins. Congratulations, Joe.

At the Columbus Convention resolution No. 2 did not carry, but an amendment was passed for the resolution to be put on the nomination ballot and, if carried, will go into effect at the Convention of 1956. The resolution was on the ballots and carried. Let me urge all members who have moved to forward me your new address. Some of the ballots came back.

We wish to thank Mr. Dickinson for his article in the Small Stock Magazine. Come on, Chin breeders, let's hear from some of you; express your views and give us some new suggestions.

Our sweepstakes for the month of October are: Oct. 1-6, Alabama RBA; Oct. 16-20, North Carolina RBA; Oct. 19-21, Webster County RBA; Oct. 26-28, Shawnee County R&CBA. November are: Nov. 2-4, Indianapolis RFS; Nov. 3-4, Eastern R&CFA; Nov. 4, Winnebago Forest Rabbit Club; Nov. 16-18, South Central Missouri RBA; Nov. 17-18, Decatur County R&CBA; Nov. 18, Vermilion County RBA.



Top left: Outside developing pen in which Claire Barclay houses his young stock year-round. Top right: Close-up showing developing pens after being winterized with tar paper. Bottom left: View of all-wire breeding hutches at Barclay Rabbitry. Bottom right: View showing colony breeding pen.

A Consistent Winner

(Continued from Page 5)

Claire Barclay believes that a good show record is his best means of advertising and attracting potential customers. His record at shows throughout the Middle West has been exceptional for many years. He has placed in the top 10 in the American Federation of New Zealand Breeders sweep-stake series every year since it was inaugurated in 1947. The Barclays attended their

first Convention in Columbus, Ohio, in 1938 and have only missed three since. They won best opposite sex New Zealand at the '48 Convention in Atlanta, and best of breed, best normal fur and best show display at the '51 Convention in Springfield. They established their most enviable record this year at the St. Paul Convention, winning three firsts, best of breed, best opposite sex and best display. Previous to the Convention, at the past seven shows Barclay's Whites have won 36 of a possible 42 firsts

Corn Belt Bred White New Zealands Win Again

At the 1956 National Convention Show

Oct. 13-16, 1956

They Placed

5th Senior Doe (28)	4th Senior Buck (34)
2nd 6-8 Doe (48)	1st 6-8 Buck (25)
1st Junior Doe (45)	5th 6-8 Buck (25)
5th Junior Doe (45)	1st Junior Buck (44)
2nd, 5th Breed Fur (21)	2nd Junior Buck (44)
2nd, 5th Normal White Fur (33)	

Best of Breed **Best Opposite Sex**
Best Display

A limited number of 5 to 9 month Red, White and Blue seal stock for sale. Price, \$15.00 and up.
P.S. We raise Californians, too.

Barclay's Rabbitry

RFD 3

Waterloo, Iowa

and have won seven best of breeds and six best opposite sex. Claire says, "In order for a show record to be effective advertising, it must be consistent. Even if you happen to hit at a couple of shows, you aren't swamped with orders; it must be on a year-around basis. Of course, if you do reasonably well year after year, your inquiries will be practically guaranteed. About once a year Claire places an ad in Small Stock Magazine to acquaint the breeders of the fact that he has stock for sale. Other than this, his show record is his advertising medium.

Have to Know Worth of Stock

Besides breeding a better rabbit and advertising, the Barclays stress the importance of properly evaluating the worth of your stock. Grade stock should never be priced at show stock prices, nor should good animals be sold too cheaply. Claire believes that a breeder who spends several years and much money developing a good herd of animals should be expected to request more for an animal than a breeder who is just starting a program or who hasn't a clearly defined program. Stock from a breeder should be of more value than animals from a broker. Selling rabbits too cheaply is detrimental to the entire breed.

The Barclay rabbitry has worked hard to become known as a consistent producer of quality rabbits and they offer proof that if you provide a good product in an attractive manner, you will find buyers at your door.

St. Paul Stages—

(Continued from Page 7)

and adequate space for specialty club meetings. The main building resembled a great wheel. Imagine, if you can, that the spokes of this wheel radiate out and are spacious, so that six or eight rows of coops could be accommodated in each "spoke." There was an abundance of room for the entire show, and the judging layouts were all located at the hub of the wheel on the outside of the great circle. The entire layout was clean, bright and airy, and the weather, with the exception of Saturday evening, was ideal. Just before banquet time on Saturday night we were treated to a real Minnesota thunderstorm and the rain came down in buckets.

Promptly at 9 o'clock Saturday morning the opening strains of the national anthem, sung by Miss Violet Gould of the St. Paul Civic Opera, signaled the start of the 33rd ARBA Convention. As the

opening ceremony concluded with the invocation, the judging swung into action and things went into high gear. Although there was a great crowd in attendance at the opening ceremonies, it was swelled by new arrivals all day long. All day Saturday the showroom was jammed with people. It was also evident that there were many visitors in the showrooms. This went on all day Saturday and Sunday, which, of course, were expected to be the heaviest days from an attendance and visitor standpoint.

Showroom Scenes

The showroom setup, as far as the judging tables and coops were concerned, was perhaps the best of any past Conventions. The holding coops were placed in the spokes of the building, with the judging tables at the opening as mentioned previously. This made an ideal arrangement for the judging, as the rabbits were located conveniently, to minimize the work in moving them to and from the tables. There was plenty of room around the tables to allow spectators and exhibitors a chance to watch the judging and "kibitz" a bit. The judging tables were a sufficient distance apart to prevent any confusion. All in all, showroom facilities and arrangements were above reproach.

The judging on all breeds started on Saturday morning and progressed very rapidly. The schedule had been arranged to prevent any meetings or program from hampering the progress of the placements. As a result of the planning, the judging was completed on most breeds on Saturday evening and the rest by noon on Sunday. Once the judging was completed, everyone was at liberty to see and enjoy the Convention. The expedient manner in which the judging was handled made it possible to squeeze the Convention into 4 days with a minimum amount of confusion.

The carefully planned show report sheets, plus the capable breed secretaries, made the work of the judges much easier. The 335 exhibitors are assured that their complete show returns will be in the mail to them within 2 weeks, and probably sooner; this, perhaps, is a record.

There were 2,326 paid entries, with the breeds with the largest entries as follows: New Zealands, 292; Dutch, 280; Californians, 177; Checkered Giants, 148; Flemish Giants, 142; English, 126; Rex, 124; Champagne D'Argents, 115; Satins, 102; American Chinchillas 101; Polish, 93; Silver

Martens, 73; Giant Chinchillas, 62; Havanas, 53; English Angoras, 46; Standard Chinchillas, 35.

Banquet Pleased All

Everything was set up by the end of the day Saturday for the big banquet at the Hotel St. Paul. Late in the afternoon, however, some big black clouds rolled over the sky and we were treated to a real Minnesota thunderstorm. It appeared that everybody attended the banquet who wanted to, but some did get in late due to the storm. Along one side of the ballroom the speakers' table was set, and there were plenty of tables for the approximately 400 people who came to dine, meet old friends and listen to some brief speeches.

It is worth recording here that the banqueters were treated to some of the finest rabbit ever prepared for a banquet anywhere. Wonderful quality rabbit meat cooked to a turn and cooked ENOUGH! More than one person was heard to remark, "Best rabbit I ever ate away from home!"

The other point to be recorded is that the speeches and presentations were brief. General Treasurer Harry Sleeth acted as master of ceremonies and did a fine job of keeping things rolling. Convention officials were introduced and after a brief talk by President Leeuwenburg the officers and directors of the American were introduced for a bow. Jim Blyth was presented with a plaque in recognition of his years of service to the organization. Ellis Murray made the presentation. Blyth in turn handled the presentation of a watch to Vern Ashton from his many friends. As everyone said about the Ashton presentation, "It could not have happened to a nicer man."

After the banquet the rugs were figuratively rolled back for those who wished to dance. Other groups visited in rooms or around the lobby to the wee small hours. Thus ended the first day of the 33rd Convention.

Club and Specialty Club Meetings

Sunday morning saw the continuation of the judging. During the morning, local club presidents from all over the country met with Pete Leeuwenburg, while local club secretaries met with Jim Blyth. These meetings are designed to bring the American and its affiliated clubs closer together and enable the national organization to improve its service to the locals.

Specialty club meetings received more than ordinary emphasis at this Convention. The unsung hero of the ARBA in

many instances is the specialty club setup. These clubs provide the opportunity for sweepstake competition, meetings and comradeship toward the purpose of furthering the fancy. These specialty clubs provide much of the color at our Conventions. The specialty club booths offer the visiting exhibitors a place to gather and "steam up" over their respective entries. The booths also provide much of the promotional and interesting exhibits at the Convention. The Satin and Angora booths with all the garments drew much attention from all.

I hope we never get to the point of taking our specialty clubs for granted, for the job they do for us is wonderful. These specialty clubs are constantly on the alert to improve and strengthen the standards that guide us. This willingness to recognize a weakness was brought to light very dramatically at St. Paul. A weakness in the Dutch standard was brought to light and the Dutch breeders and American Dutch Rabbit Club accepted the challenge with determination. Meetings were called and the matter was ironed out most efficiently, until the Dutch breeders are now guaranteed of a better and clear standard for the near future. Most of these specialty club officers work diligently for their breed for no monetary returns, and the job they do is absolutely amazing.

In the afternoon, ARBA state representatives met with the president, and the ARBA standing committees held their meetings.

Smorgasbord Made Big Hit

At 6:30 the first smorgasbord was scheduled at the Hotel St. Paul. This is a regular Sunday night feature at the hotel and they know how to handle it. The only hitch was that a whole lot of people besides rabbit breeders had smorgasbord ideas that Sunday evening, consequently the public was not out of the dining room when hungry ARBA'ers were lining the stairs that lead to the "smorgasbord room."

In addition to providing great quantities of some mighty tasty food, this occasion provided a little insight into the eating habits of rabbit breeders. Be it recorded here that the day of the mighty trencherman is not entirely in the past. Diamond Jim Brady might have stirred faintly in his grave as some of those heavily laden plates were piled even higher. Techniques varied. Some breeders charged right through the line with mammoth servings, on the basis of "getting it while

the getting is good." Others took a more moderate approach with small initial helping, on the basis that a slow start means a great finish. At any rate you can rest assured that no one went hungry. It was great.

The American meeting filled out the rest of the evening. Pete Leeuwenburg made what might be termed a farewell speech. He reviewed the accomplishments of the association during the past 2 years when he was president. One point that was particularly emphasized was the improved financial position of the organization during the last 2 years. Concluding his talk, Pete thanked all the members of the American for their wholehearted work and cooperation. He then introduced President-elect Dick Parker, who read a prepared speech setting forth his plans and general philosophy for the American for the next couple of years. A short talk by George Templeton, director of the Rabbit Experiment Station, U. S. Department of Agriculture, concluded the program.

Monday Devoted to Meetings

First on the program on Monday was a breakfast for the ARBA committee chairmen with President Leeuwenburg at the Hotel St. Paul. Later in the morning Leeuwenburg was chairman of a Commercial

Department panel discussion at the showroom auditorium. In the afternoon the second ARBA meeting was held at the same auditorium. This meeting was well handled and went off like clockwork. The various resolutions that were submitted during the year were voted on and it was noteworthy that the only resolution that was passed was resolution No. 1. All others were defeated or in some cases were ruled out of order. Many American members expressed satisfaction with the conduct of the meeting and the general spirit of cooperation that was evident.

Distinguished Speaker

Monday evening was devoted to a dinner at the American Legion Club, followed by the open forum at the same place under moderator Vince Hunter. Speaker of the evening was Doctor Bill Rempel, associate professor, Department of Animal Husbandry, University of Minnesota, assisted by Dr. Lavon Sumption of Minnesota. Dr. Rempel talked off the cuff in an easy and informal manner about the science of genetics and its importance to the animal world and to humans. He talked at length on crossbreeding, which is rapidly coming to assume a new importance in many breeds of animals. His talk was illus-

(Continued on Page 39)

NORTH TEXAS RABBIT BREEDERS ASSOCIATION One-Day Show

Dallas, Texas

Dec. 2, 1956

Southland Feed Mills, 5225 Maple Ave.

SWEEPSTAKES: New Zealand Reds and Whites, Californians

Judge: R. B. (Hoppy) Hopkins

For Catalog and Entry Blanks, write to:

MRS. W. B. KINCAID

4020 Fernwood Ave.

Dallas, Texas

BALTIMORE COUNTY RABBIT & CAVY BREEDERS ASSOCIATION Annual Fall Show

Sunday, November 18, 1956

SWEEPSTAKES:

JUDGES:

Dutch

Henry Paruszewski

New Zealand

Andy Gregory

Giant Chinchilla

Marvin Godshall

Flemish

Lawrence Ritter

WARREN McNAMARA,

Show Secretary

5716 Second Ave.

Baltimore 27, Maryland

St. Paul Stages

(Continued from Page 35)
 treated in part by colored slides
 presented by Clyde Merilatt. After
 the talk Dr. Rempel and Dr.
 Sumption answered questions
 by breeders in the audience
 and many came forward at the
 conclusion of the affair to ask
 additional questions.

The open forum was per-
 haps the only part of the en-
 tire Convention program that
 did not go off without a hitch.
 A help shortage in the serving
 staff and difficulty in clearing
 out tables after dinner delayed
 the starting of the forum. It
 seemed obvious that the lesson
 learned from this affair is that
 meetings should be held in
 other locations rather than in
 the same room in which dinner
 is served.

Since this was a 4-day Con-
 vention in accordance with the
 new decree, Tuesday was the
 last day. Most of the day was
 given over to the judges' con-
 ference, which is a meeting of
 increasing importance. The
 conference followed the usual
 pattern and was held in the
 showroom auditorium under
 the able direction of chairman
 Dick Parker. Many people
 utilized the time between their
 favorite breeds at the judges'
 conference to visit with other
 breeders and make pictures of
 winning rabbits. There was a
 constant popping of flashbulbs
 at this Convention.

The booths at this Con-
 vention were excellent and well
 decorated, as a general rule.
 The commercial exhibits and
 those put on by the various
 milling companies were inter-
 esting and eye-catching. One
 of the most outstanding booths
 in the Convention was that of
 the ARBA Commercial Depart-
 ment. This booth was under
 the direction of Lirten Jones,
 member of the Commercial
 Committee, and Wes Ehlers,
 commercial superintendent for
 the Convention. The booth ex-
 hibited a wide variety of com-
 mercial equipment, meat cart-
 on display, processing equip-
 ment and a miniature com-
 mercial-type rabbit hutch com-
 plete with automatic watering,
 outside feeder and a worm bed
 underneath the hutch, which
 housed a small Californian.

The specialty club booths
 were of a small triangular
 shape which did not lend itself
 too well to displays, but most
 of the clubs did very well. One
 central gathering place was
 the Small Stock booth, which
 featured an educational dis-
 play of photographs. One set
 of large photos depicted the
 various steps in making toys
 from rabbit furs at the Domes-
 tic Rabbit Products, Thomast-
 on, Connecticut. The other
 display featured processing
 and packaging of rabbit meat

at Totem Farms, Edmonds,
 Washington. Various breed
 photographs were also on dis-
 play and attracted attention
 and comment.

During Tuesday several
 tours were scheduled around
 St. Paul and through the Betty
 Crocker Kitchens at General
 Mills.

One interesting feature at
 this Convention was the fact

that the entire Convention
 dined together each evening.
 This was something new and
 worked out very well. The
 breeders seemed to like the
 "package dinners" where you
 bought all the tickets at the
 ARBA booth at one time.

Concluding event on the pro-
 gram was the farewell party,
 which was held at the Ameri-
 can Legion Club and was

preceded by Harry Sleeth, who
 was in fine form. Everybody
 had a good time and this offi-
 cially concluded the 33rd
 ARBA Convention, with every-
 body saying farewell to St.
 Paul. In both the St. Paul and
 Lowry lobbies after the fare-
 well party concluded, you
 could hear breeders saying
 goodbye with the phrase: "See
 you next fall at Little Rock."

today's RABBIT MARKET

These quotations are reported to SSM between the 15th and 20th of the month prior to the publish-
 ing month and are subject to change. Since the cost of shipping is high, we suggest you contact
 the processor nearest you for further market information.

PROCESSOR	Weight	FRYERS		ROASTERS	
		Price	Weight	Price	Price
Intermountain Rabbit Industries 31 W. 21st So., Salt Lake City, Utah	White Colored	3½-4½ 3½-4½	.22-.24 .20-.22		.15
Rabbit Meat Co. (Price del.) 8917 S.E. Stark, Portland 16, Ore.	White Colored	3¾-4½ 3½-4½	.23-.25 .18-.21	all wght. Wht. 5-6	.10-.12 .16-.18
Jolley Wholesale Poultry Provo, Utah		4½	.21	6 lbs.	.16
Rainbow Rabbit Co. Box 2053 El Monte, Calif.	White lg. lots White sm. lots Colored	4-6 4-6 4-6	.25 .24 2c lb. or less	any quantity	.10
Tender-Sized Rabbit Farm (Price del.) 4571 S. 1900 West, Roy, Utah	White Colored	3½-4½ 3½-4½	.20-.22 .18	Over 6 lbs.	.10
Totem Farms (Price del.) Edmonds, Wash.	White Colored	4-5 4-5	.27 .23	bucks does	.10 .14
Dry's Rabbit Farm (col. & white) 601 N. Flora Rd., Veradale, Wash.		up to 5 lbs.	.27		.15
Pfir Haven, Milton, Wash.	White Colored	3¾-5 3¾-5	.27 .23		
Paul Dennis, 3737 E. Douglas, Des Moines, Iowa	White Colored Dutch & English	3½-4 3½-4 2½-3¾	.25 .23 .25		
Haskins' Rabbitry, Rt. 1, Box 887 Maryland Heights, Mo.	White Colored	3½-4½ 3½-4½	.26 .24		
J & B Rabbit Farms, 31609 York Rd. Fraser, Michigan (Price del.)	White Colored	4-5½ 4-5½	.27 .26		.16-.18
Parkside Rabbitry 6121 N. 2nd St., Rockford, Ill.	White	3¾-4½	.26-.28		
H. F. Peiphrey & Son Rogers, Ark. (FOB 125-mile radius)	White Colored	4-6 4-6	.23-.24½ .21-.22½	Over 6 lbs.	.08 .06
Wm. Prescott (Limited No., Price del.) 38580 Detroit Rd., Avon, Ohio	White Colored	4-6 4-6	.20 .18	lab. does 4-5 roasters 6-8	.25 .15
Rabbit Processors Corp. (Price del.) 3113 Dixie Hiway, Louisville, Ky.		3¾-5	.25-.26	Over 5 lbs.	.10-.12
L. Reese (Price del.) Swanton, Ohio		3-5	.28		\$1.00 each
Karl Schoenfelder 831 S. Walnut St., Seymour, Ind. (limited no., price del., write for order)	White White colored	4-5 2-3 2½-3¾	.32 .30 .28	Wht. 8-10	.18
Charlotte Domestic Rabbitoir C.M.R. 144 - Box 92 Charlotte 3, N. C. (Price del.)	White Colored	3½-4 Over 4 3½-4 Over 4	.26 .24 .24 .22		
R. F. Mitchell (F.O.B.) 2619 Jackson, Memphis, Tenn.	White Colors	3½-5 3½-5	.25 .22	limited number	.15
Virginia Rabbit Marketing Co-op. 1111 Orange Ave. N. E. (Price del.) Roanoke, Virginia	White Colored	3½-5 3½-5	.25 .23		.12
T-Bar-A Rabbitry (Price del.) 74 Terrace Drive, Shavertown, Pa.		4-7	.28	7 & up	.15
Wilson's Rabbitry Apalache Rd. Greer, S. C. (Price del.)	White Colored	3-4½ 3-4½	.25 .23		
Log Cabin Rabbitry Orlando, Florida		3½	.28		