BETTER HOMES & GARDENS

Awards

\$1,000 SWEEPSTAKES PRIZE

\$2,000 more, in 115 checks, and 95 Better Homes & Gardens Certificates of Merit are presented to other 1933 Better Homes Contest winners in 42 states



By John Normile

Architect-Editor of Better Homes & Gardens Member, American Institute of Architects

ERE they are, the prizewinners in Better Homes & Gardens' 1933\$3,000 Better Homes Contest which we announced in the magazine just a year ago this month! We're proud of them and pleased and delighted with them because they show that Better Homes & Gardens families have remarkably good taste, judgment, and resource-fulness.

To be awarded even a *Better Homes & Gardens* Certificate of Merit is a mark of distinction of which any family may well be proud, for there were 18,706 entries, from 42 states, including the District of Columbia, and 176 newspapers serving 4,448,000 co-operated with us in sponsoring Better Homes Contests in their cities.

Judging the entries was a long and arduous but pleasant task, for we spared no effort to base the awards strictly on their merits and to give each entry thoro consideration. Contest entries were inspected many times by Elmer Peterson, editor of Better Homes & Gardens, by Frank McDonough, associate edi-

tor, and by me, assisted by a number of architects, until we had determined a final group in each class for submission to a national jury composed of three well-known architects, selected for their prominence in home design. All of them—H. Roy Kelley, of Los Angeles; Penrose V. Stout, of New York; and Ben F. McMurry, of Knoxville, Tennessee—have won national recognition thru the outstanding merit of their work and are conceded small-home authorities.

Their ratings of the entries we submitted to them have been arrived at independently, and the final awards which we here enthusiastically present are made on a point basis, representing accurately the combined judgment of the three, in which equal weight was given to the three standards of judgment enumerated in the original contest announcement, as follows:

"No matter how great or minor a change, if your better home project makes your home more comfortable, or better serves the convenience of your family, or improves the architecture of your home, it is eligible in this National Better Homes Contest."

And now the winners-

Winner of the \$1,000 national sweepstakes prize and of the \$200 first

prize in Class 4 (home improvements costing more than \$1,000) is Dr. M. C. Del Manzo, New Hope, Pennsylvania. Here is his fascinating story:

The Years Ahead By Dr. M. C. Del Manzo

SEVENTY-THREE years before the American Revolution, William Penn deeded a portion of his original holdings in eastern Pennsylvania to his secretary, James Logan. In 1747, one Jonas Ingham, purchased this tract from Logan to establish a fulling mil at the Great Spring near Aque-

tong on the property. In the same year Jonas Ingham built his home on an elevation north of the spring. It was known as "Inghamdale," the name it still bears, and is on Old York Road, near New Hope, not far from Washington's Crossing.

Samuel Dulusuma Ingham, a greatgrandson of Jonas, was born here and made it his home the greater part of his life. He became Secretary of the United States Treasury under Andrew Jackson. His father, Jonathan Ingham, was a strong partisan of the cause of the Colonies during the Revolution. His home served as headquarters for officers and also as a hospital

after the Battle of Trenton. Until 1860 the property remained in the Ingham

family.

The old home has had numerous additions. In 1864 it was almost demolished, when the second owner added a huge Victorian addition. Fortunately, the main part of the home—the portion that interests us today—remained undisturbed.

Our first step in restoration was to remove the Victorian wing. Then followed several years of roaming over the countryside to study old homes of this period. Many evenings were spent in libraries and frequent trips to both the Brooklyn Museum and the Ameri-

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can Wing of the Metropolitan Museum aided in the final plans and authenticity of details. Fortunately, too, we had the services of an architect who had a fine feeling for beauty and correctness in tradition. Our aim has been to make this home of two hundred years ago comfortable and livable without destroying any of the old lines or detracting from the beauty and simplicity of the Dutch-Colonial architecture of 1750. An old stone wall inclosing the barn lot afforded colorful, well-aged stones which were used in the addition and exactly match those of the main home.

The interior trim and panels were all hand-made. We have carefully carried out the same detail for all replacements and new work. Quite to our delight, we discovered that the panels

over the fireplace are identical in disposition and dimensions to those of the Washington Headquarters House at Valley Forge. The original floors of old pine and hemlock were used in the entire second floor. With very few exceptions, the original hand-wrought hardware is in place. Any additional items were either secured from antique dealers or copies made of original pieces.

The home has a most pleasing and homelike appearance, both from within and without. It is compact and its design simple and beautiful. The years that lie ahead promise many delightful hours cultivating an old-fashioned garden and spending the evening hours before the fireplace. The project has been one of utmost joy in anticipation and execution—a venture that we feel has been well worth the time and effort.

THE CONTEST JURY'S COM-MENT: Doctor Del Manzo not only showed vision and imagination in detecting the hidden beauty and potentialities of this home but also excellent judgment and intelligence in carrying out its restoration and enlargement.

He might very easily have had the restoration done in a very mediocre manner and thereby utterly lost the charm and imposing character which now mark his efforts.

It is apparent, however, that he went about the alterations in a very studious and intelligent manner, and altho he apparently possesses excellent taste and appreciation, he nevertheless did not make the mistake of attempting to carry out the details of alterations himself, but had the good judgment to procure competent professional assistance to execute

The success in remodeling this home consisted largely in "taking away" and simplifying rather than "adding to" and elaborating.