

The rapid growth of the industry in Utah after WWII was due to the leadership of a few individuals, among them William A. Barlocker. He developed a thriving turkey business during the 1950s in St. George and Enterprise, one of the largest in the nation at the time. On two occasions he won the National Turkey Federation's prize for raising the largest turkey in the country; his 1961 winner weighed over fifty-eight pounds. In addition to his turkey enterprise, Barlocker was actively involved in Utah politics. Yet his career also illustrated the risks involved in the turkey business: he lost an average of a half million dollars each year from 1961 to 1965 and was forced to liquidate many of his assets, including his turkey businesses.

---