

TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox Farming



Elmer Hammer, General Manager of the Wisconsin Horse-Meat Company, Superior, Wisconsin, packer of horse meat for foxes and mink, who has been in the meat packing business for thirty years, has written an article in the Black Fox Magazine for May entitled "There Be Enough Horse Meat?" in which he discusses the probabilities of there being sufficient horse meat to supply the fox and mink ranchers of the United States during the coming years. As this is something all fox farmers are interested in we are giving the pertinent facts from it.

"Whenever our fur ranchers get together sooner or later on the subject of horse meat, how much horse meat to pack, where did you get it, how much did it cost you and the like, this is not surprising, in fact it would be more surprising if horse meat were not the subject of much discussion among fur ranchers since it is the most important single element in the cost of raising mink and fox. What is the horse meat situation today? To those of us engaged in the production of horse meat the supply and prospect this summer and fall promises to be much smaller in relation to the demand than it was last year and a rise in the price of horse meat appears inevitable.

For one thing the demand for horse meat is substantially larger this year than it was last year. This increase has been brought about first by a tremendous increase in demand for horse meat for human consumption and second by an increase in the number of fox and mink ranches. An article of diet among certain population groups, particularly among the people of Belgium and French extraction living along the Atlantic coast and more recently among people on the Pacific coast. The demand for horse meat for human consumption has pushed upward by leaps and bounds during the last several months because of the shortage of beef and pork in the metropolitan areas.

There are no figures available to measure the increase in the price of horse meat as a food for man. It is estimated by good judges to be about 25 per cent higher on the part of mink ranchers and from 5 to 10 per cent higher on the part of fox ranchers than it was a year ago. The demand for horse meat is decreasing seasonal, being relatively low from the peaking season until kits and pups are born. From that point the demand for meat expands four to five times and continues at that rate until the next peaking. The full effect of the increase in demand will not be felt until next summer when we look forward to a pronounced increase in the demand for horse meat.

Many fur ranchers have their own freezers capable of holding anywhere from a few days' supply to the entire season's requirements. Other ranchers make use of commercial cold storage warehouses for the storage of horse meat. It has been the custom of fur farmers to fill their freezers as soon as possible in the fall in order to secure for themselves an adequate supply of horse meat for the following summer when it is usually scarce and the need for it is greatest. It may be safely estimated that the private storage plants were filled to capacity during last fall and that there is at least as much meat in private storage today as there was at this time a year earlier.

The amount of horse meat and other animal food in commercial cold storage was about 25 per cent larger on April 1st than it was a year ago, but although the stocks of animal food are larger than those in storage a year ago the surplus is not large enough to take care of the increase in demand for meat. The question then becomes, what will be the trend of horse meat production in the period ahead? The number of horses to be slaughtered on farms and ranches and in packing plants will be much smaller during the next six months than were slaughtered during the past six months. During the year 1944, 23,062 horses were slaughtered under inspection. Now most of the meat being produced under Federal inspection is going into human consumption or into the production of dog food, as sales on those markets are relatively more profitable than sales to fur ranchers.

Considerable horse meat is being exported but the quantity is not known as the government has refused to release export figures. Most of the meat produced in plants without inspection is available to fur ranchers. There are only a few plants of this type and no figures are available as to their production. The packing plant with which an associated is a plant of this kind and the number of horses slaughtered in it will be about 200 per cent more than was slaughtered last year. This figure is probably higher than the increase in other such plants but it is reasonable to assume that all packing plants will slaughter more horses this year than last year.

With the reduced supply of horses in prospect and an increasing demand for horses the pressure is almost certain to push the price of horses higher in the months ahead. This conclusion is based on a study of conditions and is supported by the opinion of our buying agents in the west and in Canada who are in close contact with buying conditions. The supply of horses is steadily declining every year the number of horses killed or lost exceeds by half a million head the number that are foaled. There were on January 1st about exactly half as many horses as there were twenty years ago. This trend is fairly uniform in all sections of the country.

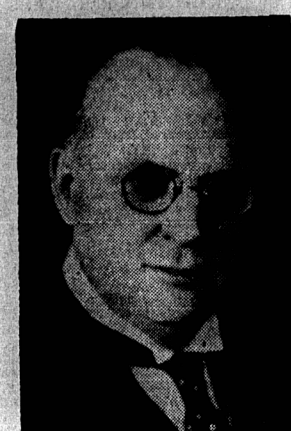
As war industries turn to the production of armamentized equipment after the war still more horses will be disposed of from the farm and the downward trend in horse production will probably continue for several years. The number of horses in Canada also has declined. Canada may prove an ultimate source of supply but at present the high freight rate and importation restrictions make that country a poor place to go for horses.

If the fur ranchers have good reason to believe that the prices of horses and therefore horse meat is going to increase in the next few months they can hedge against this possibility by putting horse meat into storage before prices rise further or by placing orders now for future delivery with reputable packing plants. If he hedges, putting meat into storage he must take into consideration the cost of storage and the loss in weight of meat stored any length of time. In my opinion the best method would be to book orders for future delivery with good sound reliable meat packers. Most packers will accept bookings up to three months in advance and will guarantee meat delivery. By doing so you will have other advantages such as receiving fresher meat, and care-free packers cannot afford to process sick or dead horses. You are thus assured of your meat supply when you need it and you have no storage charges.

In conclusion I would say that firm orders will be an increased demand for horse meat, second, the stocks of animal food are larger than last year, third, the increased demands for meat, third, slaughter on farms and ranches will decline, fourth, there will be increased demand for meat production in packing plants, fifth, the price of horses and horse meat undoubtedly will advance.

The above article does not apply fully to Canadian ranchers

1930 - REMEMBER ? - 1945



R. B. BENNETT

I Promise You Words and Music by R. B. BENNETT

Copyright 1930

- 1 I will blast my way into the markets of the world.
2 I will end unemployment or perish in the attempt.
3 I will build a National Highway at Federal Expense.
4 C.N.R.-C.P.R. Amalgamation Never - Competition Ever.
5 A Full Dinner Pail for all Workers.
The Record
1 He blasted his way into the House of Lords.
2 He perished.
3 P. E. I. had to pay half the cost.
4 This was a myth.
5 We had soup kitchens in P. E. I. for the first time.



PREMIER KING

I Stand on My RECORD of Performance

THIS OR THIS

I Promise If



JOHN BRACKEN

The Modern Swing Version Arrangement by J. BRACKEN

Copyright 1945

- 1 I will build a highway Charlottetown-Borden at Federal Expense.
2 I will build the Brighton Bridge at Federal Expense.
3 I will build the West River Bridge at Federal Expense.
4 I will give you an EXTRA Car Ferry at Borden.
5 I will spend more and REDUCE TAXES.
What It Means
1 Bracken can PROMISE ANYTHING because
2 He holds no seat in Parliament.
3 He is not responsible to the people.
4 He has no hope of a majority.
5 He has no hope of winning.



JOHN BRACKEN

Vote Liberal The Song is Ended But the Melody Lingers On Vote Liberal

INSERTED BY PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND LIBERAL ASSOCIATION

MCA MONCTON SUMMERSIDE SAINT JOHN FREDERICTON NEW GLASGOW MAGADAN ISLANDS For Reservations - Tickets PHONE Rogers Agency 540 Airport 2061-2062

MARITIME CENTRAL AIRWAYS LETTER From Dr. T. V. Grant To The Electors of King's County Dear Friends: Owing to the shortness of the federal election campaign, and the unfavourable weather, it has been impossible for me to make a personal canvass of the whole constituency. I, therefore, take this means of asking all electors, who feel that the King Government should be returned in office for the next five years of post-war reconstruction, to vote for me on June 11th. Thanking you all for your generous support in the past. Faithfully yours, THOS. V. GRANT, Liberal Candidate for King's

principally because most of them buy their horse meat either in December or January. February is available for a supply that will carry them through until the end of the season. If cold storage is available for a supply that will carry them through until the end of the season, the price of horse meat will be lower than it is at present. The long view for a large fox or mink population in Canada is not encouraging because the cost of production will likely be higher than that of Norway or Sweden and world prices will be determined largely by what prices will bring in London.

Dr. R. G. Green, noted authority on fox distemper, who discovered a virus capable of immunizing a fox with one injection against this dread disease, lectures this week to the fur farmers of Ontario at their short course. Secretary Thomas D. Carruthers of Canadian National Silver Fox Breeders' Association, Summerside, informed us yesterday that Dr. Green will visit this province the early part of the coming week. He will spend two or more days in Summerside and vicinity and then come to Charlottetown. Meetings will be arranged in both Summerside and Charlottetown and these will give every fox rancher, mink rancher and dog owner, for that matter, an opportunity of being present and hearing an interesting discourse from Dr. Green. Further information will appear in the newspapers and on the radio and we would ask our fox farmer friends to be present at these meetings in force.

WHALES THE BIGGEST The biggest sea animals on the globe are whales.

Yesterday's Market Eggs, per doz. 42c Hay 75c Straw 50c Potatoes, 75 lb. bag 2.00 Butter, dairy 40c Roast beef 28c-40c Steak, per lb. 37c-45c Chickens \$1.50-\$2.25 Fresh lettuce head 28c Celery 25-30c Corned beef 48c Oranges, doz. 38c Tomatoes, lb. 10c New cabbage, lb. 10c New beets, 5 lb. \$1.25-\$2.00 Fresh Cod, lb. 15c Apples, doz. 25-45c Apples pk 8c Turnips, lb. 2c Carrots, 10 lb. 8c Parsnips, lb. 35c Mushrooms, box 25c Spinach, lb. 20c Beans, lb. 10c Radish, bunch House plants 50c up Pineapple 10c New Carrots lb. 40c Broccoli, bunch 40c Onions, lb. 7c 4 lbs. 25c Artichokes 4 lbs. 25c Radish 10c

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Out Our Way By J. R. Williams STOP THAT! BY SOME MIRACLE HE SLEPT THERE ALL NIGHT WITHOUT FALLING OFF! IF YOU THROW THAT COLD WATER ON HIM HE'LL JUMP OFF! WHY MOTHERS GET GRAY

Our Boarding House With Major Hoople I NOTICED A FEW STREAKS AND SPLOTCHES ON ONE SIDE OF THE HOUSE - IS THE MANAGEMENT GILDING OUR RUSTY CAGE? THE SMEARS ONLY EXPAND A COUPLE OF INCHES EVERY DAY - IT COULDN'T BE PAINTERS, UNLESS THEY'RE PUTTING IT ON WITH PERFUME ATOMIZERS! WHY DON'T YOU ZOO REFUGEES DO THE ANIMAL KINGDOM A FAVOR BY SLAMMING IN THE CRICK? YOU MUST BE HYENAS, GOIN' AROUND LAUGHIN' AT US SOLID CITIZENS' BLOOD, SWEAT AN' TEARS! LOOK HOW LONG IT TOOK TO DIG THE PANAMA CANAL

JOE PALOOKA YOU WOULD DENY A HAVEN TO HIM? WE HAVE OURSELVES TO PINK ABOUT IN DANGER IF WE CONQUER THE WORLD - LATER? RIGHT. AN HOUR LATER. HOLLO - I GUESS YOU SEE DER CHARANEES AIR BLANE. YES WE SAW IT. SO? I HOPE VE ARE NOD GOING TO BE ADDACKED AT LAST, DEY WAS BROBD MAKE LOOK-SEE, AH-H-I VISH AMERICANS WOULD HURRY UP. THEY WILL DONT WORRY, WELL, GUESS JERRY AN I WILL GO FOR A SWIM. JERRY, GET THE GUNS - MAYBE WELL SHOOT FISH. KETCH? I KETCH

KETCH? BY HAM FISHER