



NEWSY NOTES

By AGRICOLA

Bannockburn (3)

It was Sunday morning, June 23rd, 1314, when the two armies sighted each other. While the Scots gazed upon the immense array of their foes, who were clad in bright armor and brilliant surcoats, a body of three hundred horsemen under the leadership of Sir Robert Clifford, detached itself from the English main army and sped to the relief of Stirling. "Here they are," Randolph exclaimed, "see there, Randolph!" exclaimed King Robert to the Earl of Moray, "a force has fallen from your camp!" Randolph did not answer this remark, but he was slung into action. Hurrying five hundred men into the path of the English, he formed them into "children" of hollow squares, breathing with him spears. Here the horsemen were at a disadvantage, the steeds being wounded or killed before their riders could strike a blow. In their rage the English threw their spears and even knives at the Scots, they charged them on foot. The fight now grew fierce, and for a moment Randolph's position seemed desperate.

Douglas, observing this, asked King Robert for permission to go to his friend's assistance and this was granted. Seeing Douglas advance, Randolph's men made an impetuous charge to pin the English squadron in the field. It broke and fled from the field.

Meanwhile the action was becoming general. The English advance guard under the Earl of Hereford and Gloucester, was ordered forward to attack the Scots. In the front rank rode Henry de Bohun, a valiant knight, nephew of the Earl of Hereford, and commander of a force of Welshmen. Seeing King Robert, armed only with a battle-axe, well ahead of his army, which was marshalling, Bohun thought to end the war at a blow by killing the King out of hand.

King Robert was mounted on a small grey pony, and Bohun paced his lance in rest, hurled down upon the monarch. But the wily Bruce rode to meet him and at the critical moment jerked his pony aside, and as Bohun passed, the King rode up and delivered a mighty blow that clove the helmet and skull of his foe. The handle of the weapon was "shivered in his gauntlet's grasp." From the King's reins, and he charged the English vanguard with fury. It was forced back and the Earl of Gloucester had his horse killed under him, but was rescued by his men. He gathered while the Scottish leaders gathered round the King and reproved him for risking a life so valuable to them; he only smiled, as he drew out of his scabbard a sword and said, "This is a blow I have broken my good battle-axe," said he.

Randolph returned, elated at his success. The Scots so far had been successful in their attacks, and men felt their superiority; but both sides had become weary and hastened to take up quarters for the night. In this the English made an error that lost them the battle. They camped on a marshy ground in the angle formed by the junction of the River Forth and the Bannock Burn. They did not know it yet, but they were in a death-trap.

In this narrow space, about three miles in depth, and with a frontage of two miles, the English passed an anxious night, standing in the wind by the side of the horses. They had not slept much for several nights, had marched twenty miles that morning, had fought, and now were constrained to watch against a night attack. One can imagine their condition when the sun rose on Monday, June 24th.

That sunrise found Edward II in a very bad temper. He refused to take any advice from his captains, and even accused the Earl of Gloucester of falsehood and treachery. To his amazement, he saw the Scots march boldly out of the woods which they had passed the night, and descend into the plain. "What will you Scots fight?" he cried.

Yes, truly, replied Sir Ingram de Umfraville, Norman baron who knew the Scots well, having estates both in Scotland and England.

"But they kneel for mercy!" exclaimed Edward, who the Scottish army engaged in prayer.

"They kneel for mercy," said Umfraville, "but it is from God and not from you. Believe me, you men will win the day." "So be it," cried Edward, angered at this reply. "Sound the trumpets for the charge!"

With lance in rest all the mounted men of the English army charged forward at full gallop. But the Scots had learned a lesson from the previous day's fighting, and their skirmishers, bristling again with long spears, moved forward too. The armies met with a furious shock, which, an old writer says, was heard miles away. "The hammering of swords and axes upon the armor of the combatants sounded like the clangor from a thousand anvils," as the English charged and forth. Early in the charge the young Earl of Gloucester, who had neglected to wear his identifying insignia, was slain, to the great regret of the Scots, who had wished to spare him.

Randolph again threw his men into the thickest part of the English host, and he seemed lost in that sea of steel. The monarch, already heavily wounded, since they were the men of Moray, the pick of the Scottish army. And now the English archers took a hand. They had been badly placed on the flank of Edward's camp, but they poured such a volley of arrows upon the Scots as took instant and serious effect. King Robert knew their deadly aim, and thereupon threw upon his feet five hundred horsemen under Sir Robert Keith, Marshal of Scotland. The archers were immediately cut up and dispersed, and in fleeing threw the monarch and his men into confusion. They had no chance to the much less skill-

CONSERVATION

A WEEKLY COLUMN OF PRACTICAL OPINIONS OF THE VARIOUS ISSUES AFFECTING THE USES AND ABUSES OF NATURAL RESOURCES BY MR. LUDLOW JENKINS, MARSHFIELD.

PROFIT IN PRESERVATION

(By Stephen Hawes in Nature Magazine)

Napoleon said the English were a "nation of shopkeepers." He did not add, as he might have done, "very good shopkeepers." The game laws of England are notoriously severe upon poachers, and while sport, or the slaughter of wild animals, is organized and widespread, circumstances make it possible there to forbid anybody to kill game that he does not also preserve and pay for. Between the purchase of a gun, and the right to kill anything except vermin with it, is quite a step. Sport in England is also restricted to a very small proportion of the population, a condition that is impossible in the United States. But in England's colonies—branch business—other arrangements are made to fit conditions and, like good shopkeepers, the English frequently take stock, and notice when they begin to run out of certain commodities.

The improvement of firearms during the past hundred years has inspired wholesale slaughter of both men and animals. Whole species have been exterminated. South Africa decided many years ago that it was poor business to let that continue. South Africa leads the world in game preservation. In 1898 the Transvaal Voorkraad, under President Kruger, set aside a large tract along the Sabie River with the idea of preserving wildlife and stemming the tide of unthinking destruction. Eight thousand square miles of the Park now protect nearly every species of animal in South Africa, and today, within twenty minutes of comfortable rest camps, anybody may be obliged to give down his lion, or a leopard that has no fear of man, and little respect for people who go about on wheels tooting their horns. In 1934 about six thousand and cats entered the Park and twenty thousand visitors spent days and weeks watching the wild, and were content with watching. It is possible to enjoy Nature without committing unprovoked murder, and it is being realized so well that Nature alive pays better than sport that dozens of other game reserves are coming into existence. Kruger Park is the largest, but Kalamah Park, in the Gordonia district of the Cape, comes a respectable second, with its two million acres, in which the Government supplements the nature supply with wells and windmills. There was, of course the usual yep that the protection of animals was silly sentimentality, that animals enjoyed being hunted and increased far more than were healthier when thousands of them were shot.

It is possible to compare with the Leguminosae, in size, in distribution or in economic value. We are indebted to it for nutritious foods like peas and beans; excellent fodder for cattle and horses; and hundreds of drugs, dyes, poisons, oils, not to mention valuable woods. And not least, the roots of many, if not all, its members are eaten by man and many insects which enrich the soil and benefit the succeeding crops. Many again are highly ornamental, adding charm to our gardens.

In 1934 the bontebok club membership had increased from thirteen to twenty-four. In 1935 they were in the thirties and had already divided themselves into three troops that keep strictly to themselves. The reason for the subdivision is probably a matter of morals for one party is as wild as the other is, reprehensibly tame! The largest of the troops is the tamest; a horseman can approach its bucks within twenty or thirty yards, but the second largest troop is inordinately timid and cannot be approached at all without an immediate stampede. The third group is probably socially inferior in some way not noticeable to man.

That, briefly, is the story of one animal saved, just as, through the energy and foresight of a few, the American bison were saved. These stories give us hope that American antelope, sheep, eagles and even ducks will be saved for posterity.

"But what good are they, to posterity or anybody else, if you don't shoot 'em?" we hear. John Bull knows, and the vast national game reserves of his empire are a good part of the answer.

TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox Farming

The 20th annual general meeting of the Canadian National Silver Fox Breeders' Association will be held in the Hotel Charlottetown, Charlottetown, P. E. I., commencing at eleven a. m., Tuesday, January 16th, 1940. There are several amendments that have been proposed to the Constitution of the Canadian National Silver Fox Breeders' Association that will come up for discussion.

The silver fox pelt show put on by the Silver Fox Breeders' and Exhibitors' Association of P. E. I. in the Hotel Charlottetown, Wednesday and Thursday of this week attracted considerable attention. Over 200 pelts were on display and they were without question a very attractive lot with some high class animals ready for delivery to the Hotel Charlottetown on Tuesday. The color was good and almost all skins were prime and full furred. The fact that W. Fred Burke affixed the seal of the Department of Agriculture to the majority of pelts is evidence that they were of a good standard.

The pelts will be marketed through the Canadian National Silver Fox Breeders' Association, Summerside, who received them on Monday with Messrs. Fred Burke and George Calbeck officiating, had them graded, judged and tagged ready for delivery to the Hotel Charlottetown on Tuesday. It was certainly good work and the awards met with the approval of practically everyone who went over the pelts.

In connection with the Exhibition we wish to congratulate the Exhibitors' Association for staging the show and the show committee who worked so hard to make it a success, and more particularly Walter R. Shaw, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, who took a major part of the burden on his broad shoulders of seeing the proposal through to a successful conclusion. In this connection it may be well to point out that for versatility and endurance Walter certainly is worthy of grand commendation.

Week after week something new seems to be popping up where he is master of ceremonies or dynamo director of operations. But for his energy and enthusiasm, coupled with the collaboration of W. Fred Burke, it is doubtful whether the live fox show or the pet show would have been held. Both carried on during the most difficult times in the industry have ever seen or in a prophetic mood I will say the most difficult time it ever will see, and by carrying on encouragement and better morale resulted.

It takes a silver fox pelt show to bring into the limelight some rancher who has probably never before known that he was entitled to play a part in the hall of fame. So with pleasure that we trot out as exhibit number one Fred Hushes, Brackley Beach, whose magnificent pelts won the cup donated by the St. John Milling Company, pelt show of the Ontario Fur Farmers Association held at the King Edward Hotel, Toronto, Monday to Thursday this week. Frank Pringle of the Canadian Fur Auction Sales Company, Ltd., Montreal, judged the silver fox at the same show. Fox ranchers in this Province will remember Mr. Levin as a large purchaser of pelts for several years here, operating in the office of B. Roy Holman.

Major George McIntyre of Montague, who is a live wire in all activities in connection with his business, was here on Wednesday and informed us that he has disposed of all his silver fox pelts and has no intention of quitting the business.

The Fur Trade Review of New York States that Canada and the United States may arrange a quota on silver fox, that American breeders will be willing to accept a proposition which would limit silver fox skin imports to 100,000 skins during a twelve month period. They are of the opinion that if there goes into effect silver fox prices will not depreciate any more but are looking forward to enhanced prices.

If the above goes into effect we wonder when the quota will be determined from. Will it be from the first of December or the first of January? If from the first of December Canada's 49,000 under the quota of 100,000 must be largely taken up now as buyers have been active for American interests since the first of November not only through the Maritime Provinces but all over Canada. We note where they are also buying extensively in Norway and a Calloway paper publishes an ad for Norwegian silver fox, stating that it is "only three weeks since they 'bit Norway, beautiful prime silver beauties."

The prevalent impression is that there is from 25 per cent to 35-1-3 per cent less pelts being marketed this season from this Province than last season notwithstanding the fact that ranchers are cutting down and some doing better together. All over the world it is the same cry.

WEEKLY LIVESTOCK MARKET REPORT

OTTAWA, December 14, SUMMARY

Light receipts again served the market well and resulted in prices holding generally steady throughout the week, except at Toronto where an early gain of 25c was lost before the close on a dull market. Calves held unchanged and firm throughout. Hogs were shaded slightly in price, while lambs were steady to former especially at Toronto where a gain of 50c was marked up.

Eastern Cattle Markets
Steers, heifers, and cows were up 15c to 25c on Monday at Toronto but the gain was lost on closing dull markets. Weighty steers had a top of \$7.75 with others from \$7.50 down, and butcher's sold between \$2.25 and \$7.50. Prices on steers were steady at Montreal but cows were inclined weaker in price after Monday. Steers ranged up to \$7.75, with most of the good ones from \$7.25 up, and good cows sold between \$5 and \$5.50. Good butcher's cattle were scarce in the Maritimes and all prices, held steady with steers making up to a top of \$7.50.

Western Cattle Markets
Sellers at Winnipeg were aided by well regulated receipts and, while selected handweight butcher material possibly looked a little stronger, the general trade held about steady. Light fleshed cattle are likely to be in poor demand and shippers are being advised to liquidate cautiously. Medium to good handweight killing steers not closed to better than \$8.75. A small supply of stockers, sold steady with good ones at \$6.75 to \$7, stock calves up to \$7.25 and common stockers downward to \$5. Tested milkers and springers were steady up to \$80 and \$90 for top quality.

MONTREAL sold 1,894 cattle with a good percentage of steers included but with nothing to merit special attention. Prices on steers were steady between \$1.00 and \$7.75 with good kinds at \$7.25 and above and mediums up to \$7. Most of the heifers were taken between \$4.25 and \$5.50, with a few at \$6 to \$6.25. Cows sold weaker after Monday. Good quality were \$5 to \$5.50, medium \$4 to \$4.75, common down to \$3.25 and canners and cutters \$2.50 to \$3.25.

MARITIMES. Good butcher cattle were scarce in the Maritimes and there was also a general easing up in receipts of canner and cutter varieties. All classes held steady, steers ranging from \$1 to \$7.50, heifers from \$3.50 to \$5, canners from \$2 to \$3, and bulks from \$2 to \$3.

CALF MARKETS
TORONTO veals were steady at \$10 to \$11 for choice with a few at \$11.50. Common veals sold downward to \$6 and grassers made \$5 and \$5.50.

MONTREAL had a good demand for veals with prices ranging from \$8 to \$11 and two calves making \$11.50. Grass calves were from \$4.50 to \$5.50.

HOG MARKETS
The Dominion hog run was 10,571, compared with 79,241 in the same week last year. Totals to date this year 3,482,578, last year 3,107,812.

TORONTO hogs opened lower at \$9.90 off trucks and \$11.75 for bulk, and held unchanged for the balance of the week.

Closing prices for direct deliveries to packing plants at Hamilton were \$11.75 to \$12 for the basic grade.

MONTREAL hogs were steady at \$9.25 f. & w. and \$9.35 off trucks. Rail grades were \$12.30. A few f. & w. sales were up to \$11.50. Feeders made \$9.25 to \$11, \$9.25.

"Impressions Gathered on Maritime Tour" Many of our stock breeders and ranchers would be interested in this as prominent names appear quite frequently in all in a hamper mood. I hope, so I take pleasure in conveying to the readers of this page my earnest wish for a very pleasant Christmas.

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basis of \$10, with a few sales, as high as 10.50. Winnipeg ruled firm up to \$9.45 and to \$9.45 in Calgary and Edmonton were \$9.00, Prince Albert \$7.75, Moose Jaw \$8, Saskatoon \$6.25, Regina \$8.25, and Vancouver \$9.50.

CATTLE MARKETS

TORONTO moved out 5,564 cattle and closed dull with some unsteady. An early gain of 15c to 25c on steers, heifers, and butcher cows was lost by the close. Weighty steers topped at \$7.75 for small lot, and others moved from \$7.50 down to \$6. Butcher steers and heifers sold at \$5.25 to \$7.50, and good cows closed at \$3.85 to \$4.75 after reaching \$5.25 on early tops. Bulls held steady at \$5 to \$5.50 for butchers and \$4.25 to \$4.75 for bolognas. Fed calves opened at \$9 for top quality but closed no better than \$8.75. A small supply of stockers, sold steady with good ones at \$6.75 to \$7, stock calves up to \$7.25 and common stockers downward to \$5. Tested milkers and springers were steady up to \$80 and \$90 for top quality.

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NOTES ON ISLAND PLANTS

The Leguminosae (1).

There are, as the botanists, two, or at most three, of the fami-

Mr. Fox Farmer

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