



NOVEMBER FARMER



NEWSY NOTES

BY AGRICOLA

BEFORE THE DELUGE

A British explorer and archaeologist, H. T. Wilkins, put forth a new theory of the Biblical "Flood," and it must be said, supports it by a variety of evidence as interesting as it is novel. Mr. Wilkins has explored those ruined cities which are to be found in Brazil and other countries of South America, and believes that the cause of their ruin was not a pestilence as some have thought, but a terrific inundation that drove out the inhabitants, afterwards drowning them. Human bones are almost indestructible, yet none have been found in the ruined chambers; though inscriptions, statuary, treasure, and so on have all been recovered. It was no news to me, to be told that legends of a universal deluge were once current in South America, wherein a "Noah" with an unpronounceable name was saved while all else perished. My grandfather's library had a book about the Mexican Aztecs, and it gave a picture of a Mexican "Noah" sitting in a square outlining the ark, and with a parrot sitting on the roof instead of a dove.

A deluge of that kind requires a stupendous amount of water, of course. Here is where Mr. Wilkin's theory comes in. The earth (he says) was originally so near the planet Venus that its year was 250 days long, instead of 365 as at present. Subject to the same influences as Venus, the Earth was surrounded by a cloudy firmament of considerable density. Under the tropical heat at this time felt all over the Earth, those lush forests flourished, which have laid down beds of coal from the North to the South Pole. As further evidence, Mr. Wilkins points to the mammoth whose remains have several times come down to our own era preserved in Siberian ice: such an animal could easily have consumed half a ton of green food daily, and must have lived when Siberia supplied it. Something changed that climate so quickly that these great creatures had no chance to escape being entombed in eternal ice. What was it? The archaeologist supposes that a wandering asteroid, side-swiping the Earth, shifting its axis, and causing it to move further out into space. The shock and the resulting colder climate brought down "the waters above the firmaments" and produced the historic Deluge. But, I question, what of that huge prehistoric meteor that once fell in Arizona, making a crater a mile across and 600 feet deep? Was it responsible for all the disturbance? Most large meteors consist of limestone, magnesia, or siliceous stones, with globules of iron: a few consist of pure iron. When drilling for this meteor, iron rust was found at 1200 feet, and at 1375 feet the drill struck something so solid that it could go no further. Some of the blocks tossed out of the crater by the impact have astonishing proportions, says the National Geographic magazine; the largest is estimated to weigh more than 7000 tons. It must have been a tremendous shock!

All the legends of the Deluge bring in the rainbow, not however as a promise of future immunity as in the Scriptural narrative, but as a phenomenon sufficiently striking to mean that it had not been seen before, on account of the clouded watery sky which ever lowered over the antediluvian peoples. The rainbow tradition was as familiar to the dwellers in ancient Mesopotamia as to the savage tribes of Boga.

Incidentally Mr. Wilkins believes that the shorter year (of 250 days) helps us to understand the ages ascribed to the antediluvians. Each season (Spring, Summer etc.) was called a year he says; and with the Earth taking only 250 days to circle round the sun, even Methuselah's age is scaled down to modern figures; not much exceeding the longevity of Old Parr, who died in the reign of Charles II at the age of 169 years.

In the shifting of the Earth's orbit, there must have been a great change in the appearance of the constellations, and it is interesting to mention that Venus was one of the six constellations that fell from the sky (an over-statement!) at the time of the Deluge.

Whether we agree with these conclusions or not, they are new and ingenious; and the present writer could wish they had been presented in book form rather than in that of a magazine article which at its best ends to be ephemeral.

Weekly Live Stock Market Report

SUMMARY

Liberal exports to the United States and a fairly broad demand on domestic account resulting in a firm cattle market during the past week. A heavier supply was handled at strong rates with an occasional sale made at advanced prices. Indications point to a reasonably brisk cattle trade for the immediate future, provided offerings do not become burdensome. Calves were also good sellers, particularly on Eastern markets where gains of 50 cents were made on late sales. Hogs showed further easiness declining generally from 10 cents to 25 cents, while lamb prices were variable, selling steady to stronger in the East and at Winnipeg and lower at most other markets.

EASTERN CATTLE MARKETS

A steady to strong cattle market prevailed at TORONTO on a liberal run, although about 500 plain killers and stockers were left unsold. Weighty steers had a range of \$8.25 to \$9.50, with one choice 1300 lb. load at \$9.65. Butcher steers and heifers were \$7.50 to \$9 and good stockers sold readily at \$7.50 to \$8.25. Prices were about steady at MONTREAL with good steers \$8.75 to \$9.25 and good cows \$9.50 to \$10. Cattle prices showed a strong undertone, particularly on good and choice, in the MARITIME and the best of the steer offering cleared at \$8.50 to \$9.50.

WESTERN CATTLE MARKETS

It was a sellers market all the way at WINNIPEG with demand sufficiently good to allow of a satisfactory clearance. Reports from the south were improved and quite a number of good steers moved out at \$8.25 to \$9.50. Feeder steers were \$7.25 to \$8.25. Other western markets were active and prices steady to strong with little change noted from last week. CALGARY had good to choice dry-fed steers at \$8.75 to \$9.25 and EDMONTON paid a practical top of \$8.75 although the extreme high was \$9.25, while PRINCE ALBERT paid up to \$8.50 for top quality steers. MOOSE JAW and REGINA \$8, SASKATOON \$8.75 and VANCOUVER \$9.

UNITED STATES MARKET

The Buffalo market looked a little better this week and some Canadian steers were sold early at \$10.50 to \$10.85 for loads in the 1250 lb., to 1260 lb., class. Late quotations from St. Paul on bulls were \$8 to \$8.75, cows \$7.50 to \$8.50 and veal calves \$11 to \$13.

EASTERN CALVES HIGHER

Calf prices were again stronger on Eastern markets, with Toronto paying \$12 to \$12.50 for choice and an occasional \$13, while at Montreal prices also gained and were close to \$12 for best veals, with a couple at \$12.50. Winnipeg was firm with best veals at \$9.50 to \$10 and tops at Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver were \$9. Prince

Albert \$8, Moose Jaw \$8.50 and Saskatoon and Regina \$10.

HOG MARKET EASIER

There was a further easing off in hog prices. Toronto was about steady to 10c lower, with a range of \$14.50 to \$14.60 and a few sales down to \$14.40 for grade B-1 dressed. Montreal was down 25c at \$14.75, while Winnipeg declined to \$13.50. Calgary closed at \$13.15 to \$13.25, Edmonton \$13.15 to \$13.30, Prince Albert \$13.10 to \$13.35, Moose Jaw \$13.05, Regina \$13.20, Saskatoon \$13 to \$13.15 and Vancouver \$14 to \$14.35.

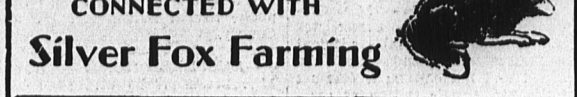
LAMB PRICE TREND VARIABLE

The trend on lamb prices was inconsistent. Toronto was steady at \$12 for good ewes and wethers and Montreal gained 25 cents after Monday to close up to \$11.50. Winnipeg staged a good recovery and best lambs sold at high \$10.50. Other markets were steady to easier with Calgary and Edmonton paying a high of \$10, Prince Albert, Saskatoon and Regina \$9, Moose Jaw \$8.75 and Vancouver 11.

THE WOOL MARKET

There has been little, if any, change in the wool market during the past week. Western Domestic wool is still moving from authorized wool warehouses at the following prices: Medium Staple 25 cents per lb., Low Medium Staple 25 1-2 to 29 cents; Low Staple 26 cents; Grey and Black 20 cents to 22 cents; Seedy and Burry 17 cents to 18 cents. Markets for range wool also remained about steady with prices being paid direct to buyers and ranchers for average quality the same as last week; Fine Staple 24 to 25 cents per lb., Fine Medium Staple 25 cents to 26 cents; Medium Staple 25 cents to 27 cents; Low Staple 27 cents to 28 cents; Fine Grey & Black 20 cents to 21 cents; Fine Seedy and Burry 16 cents to 17 cents. Clips grading choice quality brought from 1-2 cents to 1 cent per lb., above the price paid for average quality. Little activity was reported in Ontario wool. Seizable sales were reported from Nova Scotia with prices for Eastern Domestic nominally the same as last week. Sales from warehouses to manufacturers are quoted at: Medium Staple 29 cents to 30 cents per lb., Low Medium Staple 30 cents to 31 cents; Low Staple 30 cents to 31 cents; Black 20 cents to 21 cents; Seedy 18 cents to 19 cents; Cotls 20 cents to 21 cents.

TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox Farming



A friend of ours told us the other day that he was having a little trouble with his fox pups. They seemed to be weak in the hind legs. The trouble looked to us like a vitamin B1 deficiency and we recommended Brewer's yeast fed in teaspoonful doses per fox for two weeks then cut down to half-teaspoonful doses.

Montague Fox Field Day which will be under the auspices of the Silver Fox Breeders' Association will be held on Wednesday, September 3rd, instead of the 10th. The date was changed so that it would not coincide with the exhibition which will be held the 10th. Lloyd Lockerby, who is working in the vicinity of Montague, is arranging the details of the Field Day in co-operation with Montague foxmen. Next week we hope to publish the program.

Roland Tuplin, noted silver fox breeder of Comstock, Michigan, is visiting his former home near Summerside. Roland is a son of Frank Tuplin and was born on a farm at New Annan where his father made such a success in the pioneer days of the industry. Frank Tuplin was probably the first man to breed live foxes, bringing the formula on how to grow good pelts available to thousands where previously it had been confined to a few. On or about 1915 he sold out his ranch and breeding stock with the exception of a few pairs to the Tuplin Fox Corporation with headquarters at Halifax, and moved to the U. S. A., locating in Michigan.

Roland has carried on there ever since until illness about a year ago forced him to discontinue ranching until his health improves. He has put a great deal of thought and effort into producing high class foxes and for several years he had the Grand Champion of the United States. No one probably in the country can or did produce finer pelts than Mr. Tuplin. In the early part of the year we published an article by Mr. Tuplin with feed formula on how to grow good pelts. It was widely read and widely commented upon. We are sure all fox ranchers will welcome a visit from Mr. Tuplin.

The breeders of the United States are endeavoring to bring about co-operation and coordination of ranchers interested in producing white-face silvers, pearl platinaums and platinum and lavender. One of these color phases will be contacted before August 1941 and this month a meeting will be held at some centrally located city and definite plans will be laid for a permanent foundation of this committee.

Breeders of these types are asked to make known to the committee the number they may as well as the date they fall as well as the total number they have of these types at the present time. Sales will be made either through one outlet or through various outlets. The rancher can designate his selling agent and his pelts will be sold by that group or auction company with

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With The Foxes During August

(Victor Fox feeds, Monthly Bulletin)

Sterling Boates, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Boates of Summerside, up and coming ranch superintendent of All Star Ranch of Winnipeg, is an experienced fox man. Since a youngster he has spent his waking hours with Monsieur and Madame Reynard. For many years he worked on George Callbeck's ranch at Summerside, P.E.I., where he gained a lot of useful fox lore. He has now been with the All Star for almost one year. He says he likes the friendliness of the Westerners; it is however, easy to be friendly with Sterling, because he is that way himself. Art Doyle is the All Star boss. Art needs no introduction to our readers. His unremitting work in the interest of the industry has made him a well-known and popular figure to Western Fur Farmers. There are better than 4500 foxes and minks on the All Star this year. Let Sterling speak his piece.

Activities on the fox ranch during August do not differ in any essentials from those of July. Hot weather makes it very important that the rancher keep a sharp lookout for earmites, fleas and worms, all foes of profitable fur farming. By this time most ranches should have finished pelting and treating for earmites. Foxes who are troubled with fleas in their ranch I would advise spraying all sheds with fuel oil. The results are excellent and the odor insubstantial. Spray both sheds and kennels; dose your foxes with flea powder and I think your flea problems will be over for another year.

Another hot weather headache is keeping your foxes supplied with plenty of clean fresh water. I do not mean, maybe, when I say, that proper and plentiful watering is of utmost importance. Most ranches have the experience of dry water pans ten minutes after having watered. At present we are trying out a drinking vessel which we think will prove quite satisfactory. The main body of the drinking pan is on the outside of the pen wire, the dimensions are 12" long x 6" wide x 3" deep with a spout, or lip, extending through the wire to the inside of the pen, the spout being wide enough to fit the mouth of the fox. This pan holds a considerable amount of water and eliminates the spilling nuisance. So far this pan has proven successful.

At this time of the year we feed the pups all they will eat or about 22 ounces. The adults are fed about 12 to 14 ounces; that is, when they are not being fed cubes. At the time of writing our fox ration consists of 55 per cent meats and fish, Victor Cube Meal a little better than 25 per cent (dry weight), 10 per cent green bane, 5 per cent fresh ground green bane. The balance consists of eggs, fruits, etc., and a small amount of salt. The Victor Cube

CONSERVATION

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

The Federal Government alone could solve the difficulty in regard to winged migrants. Congress passed a law assuming supervising authority for the protection of migratory wild fowl, and finally a treaty was concluded between the United States and Great Britain whereby both Canada and the United States agreed upon uniform regulations.

Still it has been a difficult problem to keep many of our migratory game birds from growing less and less in number. The increase of hunters throughout the land, the improvement of firearms, the disregard for game laws and the lack of adequate warden service in enforcing them, have been mainly instrumental in lessening the number of birds. These causes, however, have been supplemented by other reasons why ducks, geese and wading birds have grown less in number. In order to exist and increase birds must have places to nest and rear their young. They must have resting and feeding places along

Meal in the ration is being gradually increased and before long it will form 35 per cent, or thereabouts, of the ration. Up till now we have fed the whole ranch Cubes at least once a week (usually Sundays), but from now on we will gradually increase the number of Cube feeding days.

We have the various types of sheds in our ranch. We have found the wire bottom pens the most satisfactory. By placing your foxes on proper and plentiful watering is of utmost importance. Most ranches have the experience of dry water pans ten minutes after having watered. At present we are trying out a drinking vessel which we think will prove quite satisfactory. The main body of the drinking pan is on the outside of the pen wire, the dimensions are 12" long x 6" wide x 3" deep with a spout, or lip, extending through the wire to the inside of the pen, the spout being wide enough to fit the mouth of the fox. This pan holds a considerable amount of water and eliminates the spilling nuisance. So far this pan has proven successful.

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Another very important factor during the hot months is sanitation. Ranchers using feed boards should scrape the old feed off at least twice or three times weekly and spray them with a good non-toxic disinfectant. Also, keep your feeding room clean and well disinfected.

Where raised wire bottomed pens are in use, after cleaning underneath the pens, pour dry ice shavings to dust the sill with clean lard. It leaves the ground clean and sweet smelling, as well as being an efficient disinfectant.

Sterling Boates, ranch superintendent of the All Star Ranch at Winnipeg, is in the St. Boniface hospital where he has undergone an operation for a rupture. He is doing fine and will soon be up and about. By the way, All Star reports 128 pups from 19 Greenland and Greenland-Alaska Blue females. Of the 19 females one missed, two lost their litters and one litter has not as yet been examined so there will be more. These blues must be prolific, eh?

WE respect AGE IN ANYTHING BUT FEED

FRESHNESS in feed is of the utmost importance at any time of year. Right now, and until pelting; it is imperative.

Most "feed off-color" is caused by rancidity in the feed. Too high contents of red meat or fatty fish are also detrimental. Play safe this year and use MASTER PELTING RATIOS. We only build PELTING RATIOS during one short period of the year—from now till pelting.

This is an ironclad guarantee that Master Pelting Ratios are fresh. These pelting ratios are the result of experimental findings on the growth and proper development of the coat. They contain ingredients designed to produce the volume color and gloss of fur the market requires.

MASTER FEEDS ARE PRICED TO ENABLE RANCHERS TO OPERATE AT A PROFIT.

Distributors Prince Edward Island Fur Pool Limited Summerside

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