

NEWSY NOTES

BY AGRICOLA

THE MAP OF ERIN (2)

The next group of invaders was the Milesians or Scots. The historians tell us that the name Milesians is a Latin translation of the name of a leader, one Galam: "gal" meaning "valor," and being best expressed by the Latin term "miles," a knight. This Galam had a pedigree (carried back to Noah) in which some significant names occur; Bregan (grandfather to Galam or Milesius), Eber Scot, Goedal Glas, Fenius Farsaid, and others. Bregan, it is said, was the founder of Brigantia in Spain; but there is little doubt amongst antiquaries that the clans of Bregan and the Scots also were closely related to the great and powerful tribe of the Brigantes in Britain. When the Romans were pushing their conquests in the latter country, there were great displacements of population, and these tribes migrated, as invaders, to Ireland. "The clan of Lugaid, grandson of Bregan, is almost certainly that which used the Ogam inscribed stones, the last that came into the country, and with which originated the story of the migration from Spain." The legends of these invaders are indeed confusing.

When the Milesians had roughly partitioned out the land of Erin, certain adventurous spirits turned to warlike expeditions overseas to "Alba." The Irish hero Cuchulaind visits the Isle of Man and carries off the King's daughter Blathnat. This legendary warrior was called Selanta before he took the name of Cuchulaind or "Hound of Cuail"; and it is worth recalling that the tribe of the Brigantes was a sub-tribe of the Brigantes whose location was on the West coast of Britain.

Even before the Roman power declined there were "Irish settlements in Wales and Cornwall; and the National Museum at Cardiff, Wales, has several sepulchral stones with bilingual inscriptions (Ogam and Latin) which attest this fact. These Ogam stones express sonship by "Mac" which is put into Latin characters as "Mac," which, as an Irish writer points out, is the same as the British "Map." Much more might be said to argue that the Milesians were British and not Spanish, but space forbids, nor perhaps is the subject of vital interest. The map of Erin says that the "O" was also a mark of the Milesian chiefs; this prefix means "grandson of" and seems to have been prefixed to most Irish names, though now for the most part discarded. This word appears again in Scotland as "oe" or "oye," a grandchild, from the Gaelic "ogha."

The most constant warfare between the Irish "Kingdoms" up to the year 795 A.D. reminds one of the Anglo-Saxons under the so-called Heptarchy. In the year mentioned new invaders, the Find-gall ("fair foreigners"), attacked the Irish sea-coast towns. These were Norwegians whose object was plunder and captives for slavery; the former ran thus: "No freedom to them is attributed the man, merchant or villain (laborer)

breaking up of the Irish "schools" which were at their best just then, under priestly supervision. In the year 852, the Dub-gall ("Black foreigners, that is, Danes") arrived on the scene. At first these fought the Find-gall, as well as the Irish, but ultimately the Scandinavians made common cause against the Milesians. There was great intermingling of all these races and much fighting, and on Good Friday, 1014, the Irish combined to attack the Dan-Norwegian army at Clontarf, and gained a complete victory.

Then followed a long period of internecine strife, which was interrupted by the Norman invasion in 1170. The Irish historian calls the invaders Saxons: "Earl Strong-bow came into Erin with Dermot Mc'Morrough to avenge his expulsion by Roderick, son of Turlogh O'Connor; and Dermot gave him his own daughter and a part of his patrimony, and Saxon foreigners have been in Erin since then." And as this brings us to the modern historical period, we will take our leave of the Emerald Isle.

TRIAL BY EQUALS

A few days ago, by a vote of that august Chamber, the British House of Lords, abrogated a privilege which had been theirs since the year 1215. The occasion was this: a member of the House had been involved in a motor accident, in which a man was killed, and an action-at-law had been brought against him. He thereupon applied for a trial before his "peers," instead of going before a police magistrate. This of course was in accordance with the law as it then stood, and the offender was tried by the House of Lords. An acquittal followed, and then the Lords voted away the privilege of "trial by peers," which it felt to be out of date.

The basis for trial by peers is to be found in the thirty-ninth article of Magna Charta: "No freeman shall be arrested or imprisoned, or disseised of his house, or outlawed, or exiled, or in any way proceeded against except by the legal judgment of his equals, or by the law of the land." This is one of three vital articles of Magna Charta, and it will be seen that this clause (as also others) of the celebrated Charter is not altogether good, because all men, even all freemen, were not made equal in the eyes of the law, since they could claim to be judged only by their peers or equals. Thus princes could claim to be tried by princes, barons by barons, and freemen by freemen, instead of being under one common law interpreted by independent judges. To the credit of the Lords it was very seldom that they took advantage of clause 39 during the reigns which I remember; and now they have done away with the privilege altogether.

The other two clauses worthy of special notice are nos. 20 and 40. The former ran thus: "No freeman and to them is attributed the man, merchant or villain (laborer)

DRI-KIL

SURE DEATH TO PARASITES

Kills lice, mites and ticks and prevents immediate reinfestation.



Full information from your local Cooper dealer, or druggist.

Canadian Distributors: CANADIAN CO-OPERATIVE WOOL GROWERS LIMITED Toronto-Weston-Regina-Leamoxville

shall be excessively fined for a small offence; the freeman shall not be deprived of his means of livelihood, the merchant of his merchandise, or the working man of his tools." And No. 40 went on: "To none will we sell, to none will we refuse, to none will we delay right and justice."

These pronouncements were sound and right, and have since been expressed clearly in our laws, but, at the time, they did not define how justice was to be secured; nor did they establish popular government, as many suppose. That was the work of later centuries, and the House of Lords has just added another link to the long chain of improvements.

THE SCILLAS

The second plot to herald the Spring year is the patch of Scilla Siberica that began to bloom on March 26th. It is a lowly little flower, as a rule not above three inches tall, and of a light "sky-blue" color. It increases rapidly both by offsets and seedlings if left undisturbed. The Scillas are in the main botanical species; that is, they have not yet been taken in hand by plant breeders and subjected to an evolutionary process which would turn them into horticultural forms or varieties. They are still "as Nature made them."

In floral structure the Scillas resemble the lilies, but the leaves are all radical and the bulb is coated. The genus is an extensive one, with representatives in Britain, West and South Europe, the Levant, North and South Africa, Siberia and Peru, and all these countries contribute species to be garden or the greenhouse. The commonest species in Britain is S. nutans, locally known as the English Bluebell, or Wild Hyacinth. The flower scaps in this species is tall and stout, with six to twelve drooping campanulate, fragrant flowers. The usual color is blue, as the name indicates; but there are purple, pink and white forms found occasionally. The Bluebell blooms from April to June, and is a prime favourite in juvenile bouquets. There are also two Squills with spreading flowers (not bell-like) in Britain: S. verna, resembling S. Siberica, and found on the West coast of England and Wales; and S. autumnalis, with reddish purple flowers, found from Kent to Cornwall. These are not nearly as attractive as S. nutans.

On the sea coasts of Spain, Sicily and Syria, grows the S. maritima, the root or bulb of which has for long been employed as a medicine. This is the "Squills" of the drug-store. One of its later uses is as a rat-poison, when reduced to powder and it has the advantage of being comparatively harmless to other animals. This powder is sold under various trade names, in Canada.

THE STONE OF DESTINY

In Westminster Abbey is a queer old chair or throne, with a shelf under the seat; and on that shelf a big boulder-like stone, roughly squared. That is the Lia Fall or Stone of Destiny, about which a perfect network of legends has gathered. Before relating them we must notice that the authentic history of the stone commences when Edward I in 1298 visited the Abbey of Scone, where he was told of an old Irish prophecy that ran: "Unless the fixed decrees of Fate give way, The Scots shall govern and the Angles away, Where'er this stone they find and the dread sounds obey."

Edward at once shipped the stone to London, where it was at first used as a seat for the priest celebrant in the Confessor's Chapel. Afterwards it was enclosed in the oaken chair in which it still remains; and it has never left the Abbey but once, and that was when Oliver Cromwell had it carried to Westminster Hall, for his installation as Lord Protector.

Now let us look over the "legendary history." All the legends agree that the stone is that mentioned in Genesis 28, 18; and that it was taken charge of by the patriarch's descendants in their migrations. Along with the Ark of the Covenant it was carried through the wilderness by the Israelites, and in later days it found a place in Solomon's Temple.

In the eighth century B.C. the Israelites were taken captive to Babylon, but Jeremiah and a royal princess of Judah escaped, and carried off the Stone, the Ark and the Tables of the Law, to Ireland. The princess married a chief or King of Ulster, and Jeremiah crowned the royal pair on the Stone, which was henceforth kept solely as a coronation stone. When the princess died the Ark, the Tables of the Law and Aaron's Rod were buried with her in the hill of Tara. The ceremonial Stone was carried by the Scots (an Irish tribe) to Iona, thence to Dunstaffnage and thence to Scone, where Edward I found it. This, in its broad outlines, is the story accepted by the "Anglo-Israelites," who trace the genealogy of the British sovereigns back through the Stuarts and the early Celtic Kings to the Jewish princes and

TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS

CONNECTED WITH

Silver Fox Farming



With the strong competition in silver fox furs produced in countries where cost of production is lower than ours, it is important that the best local brains be enlisted in an effort to explore lower cost food sources other than those at present used.

A possible substitute for beef products is whale meat and seal meat, and at present these are under consideration. Their suitability was brought to the fore through a letter of inquiry from W. O. Douglas of the Department of Natural Resources, Saint John's, Newfoundland, containing the following questions:

- 1. Is whale meat a suitable food for ranch foxes?
2. Is seal meat a suitable food for ranch foxes?

Mr. Douglas went on to state that the seal fisheries of Newfoundland is one of the major industries of that country, and only that day the ships at the ice had taken in the neighborhood of 100,000 seals, very few of the carcasses of which are brought to port. Further Mr. Douglas writes: "The whaling industry is carried on by a company operating at different points, and could if required, supply a large amount of meat. The Norwegians, today large contributors to the world's silver fox pelt markets, are very big users of whale meat. Sales catalogues prove that they are marketing average pelts and I have heard from some of the leading London fur auction managers that the uniformity in good colored pelts is very high among the Norwegian offerings."

I take it that you, in common with other leading ranchers of today have before you always the problem of securing a reasonably priced meat supply. The rib bones of a seal will pass through a meat grinder or are readily masticated. The liver is exceptionally high in vitamin content. On Mingan Fur Farms they are feeding cold storage seal meat that was put up last summer, and so far the reports are most encouraging.

With no advance in the price of pelts and the cost of meat soaring all the time, it would appear that unless a cheaper meat supply can be found, fox ranchers are facing a very difficult future. It is possible that whale meat and seal meat may be the solution."

Immediately on receipt of Mr. Douglas's communication the writer called up Peter G. Clark of the P. E. I. Fur Pool, Summerside, to find out his opinion of the suitability of whale meat and seal meat. Mr. Clark said that he understands that dehydrated (dried and concentrated) whale meat is an important feature of a well known fox and dog biscuit. Further that he believes Norwegians are using whale meat with good results.

B. Graham Rogers said that some years ago he purchased from the Hall Manufacturing Company, Summerside, a quantity of seal

her Irish husband and so to King David.

Another story takes the Stone to Egypt; thither came Gathelus, son of Cecrops, King of Athens, and married Scota, daughter of Pharaoh. To escape the disasters brought upon Egypt by Moses, the pair fled, taking the stone to Slieve, thence to Spain. From Brigantia in Spain it was taken by Simon Brech, the son of Milesius the Scot, to Ireland, and there on the sacred hill of Tara, it became the Lia Fall, the Stone of Fate.

In a footnote in The Guardian's map of Erin, another legend is mentioned. In this case the "Tuatha De Danann" bring the Stone from "Greece" to Tara. There are iron rings let into the battered surface of the Stone, which doubtless assisted the carriers—wherever they were. It is conjectured however that this Tuatha de Danaan (Tribe of the God Dan) is one of the tribes of Israel which fought its way from Babylon, across Europe, to the British Isles. The tribe of Dan, according to Judges 19, 29, lacked the name of their "father," on to the city of Leth and it is suggested that the various place-names such as Don, Danube, "Danmark" and many others, mark the track of their migration.

Several years ago some excavations were made into the sacred hill of Tara, with the object of discovering the tomb of the Jewish princess, but as the work was done in a very careless manner, there was such a public protest that the search was dropped.

meat which they kept in cold storage for him. He fed 24 foxes from about the first of September until mid-December, using seal meat in place of other meats. In October the fur seemed matted and he very nearly quit, then decided to go on with it. When pelting time came every one of the foxes was well furred and of a beautiful color and sheen. Two of them were coal blacks and they were among the handsomest blacks Mr. Rogers ever had.

Last summer the writer received a sample of dehydrated whale meat. It was in small brown granules, a little larger than coarse white sugar crystals, and almost odorless. It was prepared from whole meat from which the water had been driven off by evaporation and the remaining product ground fine and then again dried. One pound of it was supposed to equal in protein and food value about five pounds of whale meat. The price was quite reasonable.

I should have ordered a small quantity for experimentation, but neglected to do so and threw away the sample. However, I intend taking the matter up with the Canadian Trade Commissioner at Oslo, Norway. Perhaps this product, either obtained from Norway or Newfoundland, may prove a help in cutting down our feed prices.

By the way, the United States Government nutritional experts at the U. S. Fur Animal Experimental Station, Saratoga Springs, N. Y., have carried out experiments with dehydrated meat as a ration for their foxes, and the following is from a report by Charles F. Bassett, a director of the Experimental Station.

"The recent high prices of meat have increased the feeding costs of the average fur rancher tremendously the past two years, and since meat generally constitutes a high percentage of the ration, many ranchers are searching for ways to lower their feeding costs. As a natural consequence the following trends have developed:

- 1. More of the cheaper meat products such as udder, tripe, hearts, plucks, etc., have been bought and fed almost to the exclusion of red muscle meat.
2. The amount of all kinds of meat and meat by-products fed has been greatly increased.
3. More thought is being given to the use of suitable high protein feeds made from animal and fish by-products for use as a partial or complete substitute for meat in the ration.

With these trends in mind experiments were conducted at our station during 1934 and 1935, to determine the advisability of using dehydrated beef-meat (5 parts) and liver-meal (1 part) as a complete substitute for raw meat in the fox ration.

Forty weaned fox pups whelped in the spring of 1934 were equally divided into two groups according to sex, age, weight at weaning, and at the beginning of the experiment all were confined in ground floor pens, 48 feet long, 12 feet wide and 8 feet high. We started our experiment at feeding June 26th and continued until pelting time.

In order that the results obtained might be comparable they were fed approximately the same amounts of their respective rations. They were handled alike. They were weighed at the same time. Their pelts and kennels were the same size and design in fact both groups were kept and handled under as nearly the same conditions as was humanly possible.

When the experiment ended and the results were compiled, we found that there was very little difference between either group except in food cost. Their growth as indicated by their average live weight was about the same. There was no apparent difference between the groups in general health, and there was no significant difference between them in regard to the clearness of their pelts.

When a comparison of feed costs was made, however, a significant difference was noted. We found that a fox pup could be fed from weaning to pelting on the beef-meal-liver meal ration for approximately two-thirds of what it would cost to feed 50 per cent raw meat. In other words, three pups could be fed on the beef-meal-liver meal ration from weaning to pelting for the same cost as two pups receiving fifty per cent raw meat.

Another point of interest in connection with the feed cost is the fact that sufficient water was added to the ration of each group so that the entire ration would be of a satisfactory consistency. For example 52 per cent of the ration fed the dehydrated beef-meal-liver meal group was water and 25 per cent was the dry mixture.

From the above results it was but reasonable that as far as animals intended for pelting were concerned it was more economical to feed the dehydrated beef-meal-liver meal than the raw meat, but we are not in a position to state whether such a ration would be desirable for the feeding of prospective breeders."

Concluding his interesting article Dr. Bassett says: "In plain every day language, these experiments tell us that dehydrated beef-meal-liver meal in all probability have a place in the average rancher's scheme of feeding. You can reduce your costs of feed approximately one-third by substituting beef-meal and liver meal for raw meat in the ration of weaned pups intended for pelting. You can likewise reduce your feedings costs considerably by feeding this dehydrated beef-meal-liver meal to your males from the end of the breeding season until approximately December 1st, a month or six weeks before the start of the next breeding season."

A discovery that might have appeared very strongly to silver fox ranchers some years ago when v. were selling live foxes, and female foxes were quoted at from \$100. to \$300. higher than males, has been announced by Dr. Benj. Williams, professor of zoology. It is no less than the extraction of the active principals of female sex hormones from cattle and it capable of making all potential chicks hatch as hens.

Sex hormones are derived from the ovarian organs of cattle and sheep obtained from slaughter houses, and the concentrated solution made from the active principals is injected into the egg white after the egg has been in the incubator about twenty-four hours. These injections have no effect upon the sex organs of female embryo chicks, but in the case of male embryos the organs assume the definite characteristics of those of the female chick.

Five scientists who co-operated in a series of experiments reported their results to the American Physiological Society at Washington last Saturday. The experiments which have not yet been applied to human beings, involved the feeding of thymus extract to several generations of rat parents. Investigators said they had been able to speed up development so that treated rats, at birth were at the normal fourteen day age. In human babies such development would correspond to eighteen months after birth. Experiments such as those already performed on rats, showed that if they could be applied successfully to human beings, babies would be born at what is now considered the eighteen month or two-year stage.

The baby rats that had been treated with the thymus extract weighed one-fifth more than normal rats. Similarly they showed a white coat of hair and opened their eyes within the first two days after birth, while normal rats do not have hair or open their eyes until at least fourteen days have elapsed.

The thymus extract is made from the thymus, a small ductless gland in the neck, which plays an important, but until now mysterious, part in infant development, and which disappears in adult life. For these experiments it was obtained from hundreds of young calves.

Last spring the writer corresponded with Dr. L. G. Rowntree, one of the five scientists, with a view of securing some of the extract for conducting experiments with silver foxes. The Doctor wrote in reply that he was not sufficiently advanced then with his experiments to give definite instructions for the administration of the thymus extract to foxes.

I then corresponded with Parke-Davis & Company, Walkersville, Ont. who are among the leading manufacturers of the newer medicinal and scientific discoveries. They had very little information to give on thymus extract and their literature was so vague on the subject that I did not follow it further. What I did conclude was that it would be useless to give the extract by mouth and that good results could only be obtained by hypodermic injection. For some of our silver fox ranchers who wish to produce super-super-animals here is a tip that you can follow up and carve a niche for yourself in the Hall of Fame if successful.

FUR (GOLD) STORAGE

Fur Coats
Cloth Coats
Small Furs

STORED

Phone or Write for Rates.

Island Gold Storage Co., Ltd



IMPERIAL PUPPY FOOD

The success, following the use of this popular "Imperial" product during past seasons, has clearly proven its merits to our experienced ranchers, who are planning on feeding liberally this year.

Our formula is specially suited to the needs of the young and growing foxes, is rich in vitamins, and a sure preventative of rickets.

Puppy Food may be order either "Fine Medium" or "Coarse" to suit the rancher's requirements.

Order early so as to be sure of receiving your supply in good time as a heavy demand is anticipated.

Imperial Biscuit Company Ltd.

Box 446 Charlottetown, P.E.I. Phone 721

C.M. Lampson & Co. Limited

64 Queen Street, London, E. C. 4, England

Public Auction Sales

of Raw Furs.

Sales Held

January . April . October

Special Silver Fox Sales

November 18 March 16

December 10 June 8

January 6 September 28

For full particulars regarding shipments apply to

Alfred Fraser, Inc.,

333 Seventh Avenue, New York

Fox Feed

- SUNGLO PRODUCTS
ROYAL CUBES & MEAL
PURINA CUBES AND CHOW
IMPERIAL BISCUITS; Medium and Fine ground.
SHREDDED WHEAT
B. B. BRAND.

SOLE DISTRIBUTORS CHARLOTTETOWN AND EAST

for "SPRATT'S WEETMEET"

Our stock is always fresh. Our prices are always fair. We deliver to all parts of city or via rail.

PHONE, WRITE OR CALL. COFFIN & CO. QUALITY GROCERS



CLUE: Volcanic action formed five-sided pillars. (301) Plains of Abraham, Quebec, Canada. (302) The Starry Stone, Ireland. (303) Sans Souci, Haiti. (304) Mount Pelee, Martinique. (305) Oberammergau, Bavaria. (306) Stanley Park, Vancouver, Canada. (307) Island of Sark. (308) Anker Vat, French Indo-China. (309) Plymouth Rock, Plymouth, Massachusetts, U.S.A. (310) Mt. Fujiyama.

What and Where is it? Indicate which scene you think the photograph shows, by placing its number in the square to the right. SAVE YOUR LIST OF POSSIBLE ANSWERS. THE CORRECT SOLUTION TO THE ABOVE IS SOMEWHERE IN THE LIST PUBLISHED UNDER PUZZLE PHOTOGRAPHS APPEARING UP TO AND INCLUDING TO-DAYS.

SUNGLO

BREEDING RATION to Foxes until mated, 1/3 Ration; 2/3 Meats

After Mating, feed GESTATION and WHELPING RATION 1/3; meats 2/3. Of meats, start red meats 1/2; Offal 1/2, and increase offal to 2/3 and reduce red meats to 1/3 by one week before first vixen is due to whelp.

A second feed a day of fish is good, feeding a light feed of 2 or 3 ozs.

International Fox & Animal Foods Ltd.

What is Silver Tip FOX Bread-Wheat?

It is a mixture of ingredients specially prepared and balanced for fox pup feed. It can be fed several ways. The most common way is by soaking in warm milk or water until it becomes quite soft and the milk is well taken up. Do not feed sloppy.

It can also be used mixed with ground meats or raw eggs.

It comprises genuine whole wheat flour, nothing added, nothing taken away; Fleischmanns Yeast, Barley Malt, Salt, Beef Meal, Bone Meal, Blood Meal, Alfalfa Meal and Dry Milk.

We recommend this as being the best and cheapest pup food we manufacture.

Manufactured by SILVER TIP BISCUIT CO. LTD.

Moncton, N. B. Mrs. of Fox, Animal and Poultry Feeds. First in Canada to manufacture Fox Cube Feeds. Established 1925.

BEST FOR FOXES