



NEWSY NOTES

USES OF THE ELDERBERRY TREE

John Evelyn, that wise old historian and silviculturist, once wrote: "The medicinal properties of the leaves, bark, berries, etc., were thoroughly known, I cannot tell what our countrymen could find a remedy from every hedge, for sickness or wound."

The elderberry of England (Sambucus nigra) is a small tree of the hesperides and thickets, round which many legends and superstitions have grown up.

In those simpler days the tree was prized for its fruit, for elderberry wine was a very palatable beverage with soporific properties.

From the blossoms (and possibly from the leaves and buds) was prepared an ointment which proved its worth in the healing of wounds and the soothing of pain.

From the northern villager found still in use for this accommodating plant. The juice of the berries provided a dye for fabrics, while the bark was used for tanning.

One of our local names for the plant was the boretree or burnt-ree, because the branches were hollow, and filled only with a spongy, flaky substance.

Another medicinal use of the elderberry was in the form of a tincture, which was used for various ailments.

It is interesting to note that the elderberry was used in the treatment of various ailments in ancient times.

The elderberry has been used in the treatment of various ailments in ancient times, and its medicinal properties were well known.

Weekly Livestock Market Review

OTTAWA, Canada, December 5, 1940.

Heavy snowfalls and blocked roads in many parts of the country resulted in sharply reduced deliveries of live stock and served to boost prices to higher levels.

In another dietetical revelation W. L. Dawson wrote, naively serious: "If we had to be a duck, we would elect to have golden eyes and to chase mischievous water bugs through limpid icy pools, while nodding little fir trees looked on and applauded."

This handsome waterfowl is reported as wintering in other parts of the state all along the Missouri from Three Forks to Great Falls on the Yellowstone above Livingston.

The brave spirit of their swimming, diving, frolicking and breasting the current, is one of the rare wonders a river can share with you and to me and if we do not see them, study them, and protect them, we are not exercising the rights of our ownership.

Occupying the same winter quarters with a general line of retreat no farther south than the latitude of central Montana, is the Barrow's or Rocky Mountain golden-eye.

Delicacies to his palate, like water weeds and vegetation, water bugs, mussels and crustaceans, he is a grebe-like diver, an expert navigator of watery trails, and a courageous pilot of the airways of a frozen and ice-choked stream.

Exports to the United States were considerably below those of the previous week. A few small lots of steers and bulls were trucked from Toronto to Buffalo and Detroit packing plants.

Export shipments to the United States during the week totalled 881 beef cattle, 280 dairy and 470 calves, making the totals to date this year 123,451 beef, 14,148 dairy and 69,384 calves.

Four times in the year the Newcastle Co-operators held a full meeting at which the Directors reported progress, and received directions (by resolution) for future action.

In Newcastle, any member might examine the books of his own account with the Society, provided he applied in office hours, and any ten members could notify the Registrar and appoint their own auditor to examine all the books of the Society if they thought it necessary.

CONSERVATION

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

choice of food of this class of birds is so largely governed by availability that in most waters they will get only a small proportion of game and commercial fishes as is in small proportions that these fishes occur.

"Anglers wondering what becomes of the immense number of trout fry that are planted in streams" the Bureau states in its reports on these studies, "naturally attribute their disappearance to the enemies that are most obvious and they are particularly likely to blame the larger fish-eating birds."

A discussion by the Biological Survey class with the opinion that the feeding habits of fish-eating birds, and that this results as a rule in the birds preying largely upon game fishes but upon the non-game fish of game fish, which constitute the greatest obstacle to restocking operations.

From overhead as we turn away from the bank comes the hoarse creak of a raven. Whether in flight or seen atop some wooded crest surveying his domain, the American raven lends a note of dignity not entirely in keeping with his profession.

Where winter lies upon the land a scavenger must trust to luck, for he is truly a bird of good fortune. He is a bird of good fortune because he can find to eat. Yet he is a wagsish fellow, this entertaining wisecracker, who, if we are to judge by his astute remarks, has never been out of a very bad cold.

"Fish-eating ducks" is a term certain to arouse antagonisms in the average angler, and it is quite misleading as to the true economic status of these web-footed fisher folk. Their work in capturing spawn-eating fishes, predaceous diving beetles, giant waterbugs, aquatic larvae that are destructive to fish, and crayfish and other crustaceans, is directly in the interests of fish conservation, and more than balances in most areas such catch as they are able to make of the willow and maple.

A proud handsome bird, the ruffed grouse, whose fine woodcraft enables him to defy the cold and thwart the many dangers of the northern winter. He is of the nobility of our woodlands.

Similar food habits are followed by the blue grouse, which, in addition, relishes the buds of spruces and tamaracs. The common name of foot hen often is applied by those of the same mentality who persist in his extermination.

Richardson's, a form of the dusky locally known as the blue grouse, has unlocked a strange storehouse. As an old prospector he marked to say: "They set up in the trees and fill up fir needles."

Lamb prices were up 25c at Toronto at \$9.75 to \$10 for good ewes and wethers and Montreal was firm at \$10. Winnipeg sales made good headway and top lambs reached \$9, while Calgary paid up to \$8.60, Edmonton \$8.25, Prince Albert \$7, Saskatoon \$7.35, and Moose Jaw and Regina \$7.50.

TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox Farming

W. Harry Tidmarsh yesterday purchased a very fine platinum male pup from Wellington McNeill & Son, Southport.

Clarence Sampson, who was rancher with Arthur Mutch, Southport, for several years, has accepted the province of Wellington McNeill & Son, where he will have charge of the valuable herd of platinum.

A. K. "Ollie" McNeill, Fort Qu'Appelle, Sask., left for Denver, Col., a few days ago, where he will spend two weeks. The day previously he had superintended the shipping of 200 live platinum foxes to C. F. Eckstrom, of Denver, who is Mr. McNeill's exclusive agent in the United States for McNeill platinum and white face silvers.

An auction sale of silver fox and mink will be held today by the Montreal Fur Sales Company, Ltd., Montreal, Quebec, who hold a licence to sell silver fox and mink. The auction sale will be held at the Montreal Fur Sales Company, Ltd., Montreal, Quebec, who hold a licence to sell silver fox and mink.

Sales of silver fox pelts were freely made during the past week with prices up over the week previous and a general feeling of confidence and hope running through the minds of silver fox ranchers. As mentioned in the Guardian a breeder near Charlottetown disposed of over 100 pelts at an average within a few cents of \$26.00.

At the same time the consignments to Charlottetown and Summerside were kept quite busy receiving pelts, but the news from everywhere, buyers, consignments, houses and bear on the statements made in these columns for months past, that the silver fox pelt crop of 1940 will not be one-half of 1939.

Keep the Provincial Pelt Show in mind—the date is the week commencing January 6th and the place, Summerside. The High School assembly hall will be the place of display and no more suitable accommodation could be found anywhere in the province.

If you have a good medium or dark medium pelt, adult male or female or pup male or female, remember there will be a market for it. The price list is quite as good as for the pale or extra pale silvers. There are also classes for the new types.

The following letter from Peter G. Clark, manager of the Prince Edward Island Fur Pool, Ltd., will be of interest to fur ranchers. It confirms what we have been telling our friends through this column for some time—that silver fox pelts are definitely in demand at higher prices. What we have contributed and what has appeared on the Guardian front pages regarding the western winter when the common mink and the western belted kingfisher.

As we return across the fields the brief day is hurried away by the enveloping dark. Short indeed are the daylight hours in which to garner a livelihood, while the hours of darkness, when each of these feathered friends must be hidden away from the hard-predator of the night, last twice as long. Yes, to be of winter's wildfowl one must have enduring fortitude.

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1 at \$85.50. Mrs. M. J. Robichaud, Meteharian, N.S. 1 at \$53.00; 1 at \$65.00. John M. Quigg, Meteharian, N.S. 1 at \$53.00; 1 at \$65.00. Charles Howatt, Victoria, P. E. I. 1 at \$35.00.

The list will be of interest from several standpoints. For instance, the location of the ranches on which these pelts were grown is practically Canada-wide embracing every and no attempt has been made to arrange them by provinces or alphabetically, nor to sort out the pelts in order of value.

The New York Auction Company has approximately 10,000 silver fox pelts for its silver fox sale which commences Monday. Of these 3,500 are from Herbert A. Nieman and Company, Lamson, Fraser & Huth, Inc., whose sale of silver fox takes place next Thursday in New York.

At the Stockholm, Sweden, sale of blues and silvers held December 3, blue fox skins were very popular, 97 per cent. of the entire volume being sold.

Nicholson's Fox Health (3 FEEDS FOR 1 CENT)

Special Breeding Powder fed to your Foxes and Mink will assure stronger, larger and healthier litters. Based on early research, as Political Managers have a way of saying, one large rancher fed it to his breeders through the mating and gestation period.

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Live Foxes For Sale—Reasonable Prices One hundred per cent full silver fox pups sired by 84S and his sons who are full silver males. 84S is from a father and daughter mating and a grandson of the famous Byng 30H. The brother of the father of 84S was a pale silver whose pelt as a pup brought the highest price out of 80,000 pelts on one of Lamson's London sales.

COOPERATIVE BYE-LAWS I spent a profitable hour the other night in reading cooperative literature: the bye-laws of the Newcastle Co-op Society in particular. "The possible cause" of the fact that Co-operative Societies is the stock downward," says an authority; and this rather cryptic statement means that the Co-operative movement is being founded on a precarious foundation. If they are "sleeping partners" and in a "sleeping" state, the only motive power, the prosperity is likely to be short-lived. I recollect a case in which, when difficulties began to gather, a member asked the cause of the "sleeping" partners. In a properly constituted Co-operative there could have been no such thing.