



THIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox Farming

Women's Wear Daily, New York continues to be very strong and large and extra large skins of the better types are now bringing \$3.00 in the country, with prices for run-of-mine assortment comparatively lower. Despite these prices the demand is holding up and active trading is going on throughout the market with British firms showing great interest in this article.

Mayor William O'Dwyer gave an address before the New York fashion industries last week and pledged his co-operation in making New York City the world's fashion centre. He told the 300 guests that the city had a great pride in the industry and gave his assurance of support to uphold its fashion influence in the post-war period.

The Russian Government is planning to sell their furs in London, probably through Annin, Chadwick and Kiver who are waiting word from Moscow regarding the terms of sale. The amount of the consignments would total about \$500,000. Recently about \$3,000,000 worth of fur from Russia has been sold in New York.

Muskat proved to be the most popular fur in the United States in 1945. The season's sales for coats ranging from \$300 to \$400, but at the last of the season prices were ranging from \$400 to \$500. Mouton lamb was given second place at prices ranging from \$175 to around \$300. This was the fur most selected by the college and business girl. Black dyed Persian lamb was third in line, opening at prices from \$400 to \$500 and closing at \$1,000 and at the last of the season was up to \$1,300.

This is the season for fur auction sales and we note advertisements from Vancouver, Edmonton, Saskatoon, Winnipeg, Toronto, with two firms in Montreal completing the list. The fur trade in Canada is concerned. During the next three months many millions of dollars worth of various types of furs will find new owners. These have been gathered by trappers from the far north, yes and by the Eskimos in the north. The furs of other trappers who have endured the bitter rigors of winter climate and risked their lives many times to secure the precious furs.

Canada wild-caught furs have been among the world's most precious since the time when Jacques Cartier established a trading post at Stadacona, in what is now known as Montreal. As the population became built up in northern Canada the furs of the beaver, mink, martens and other furs. Their return to Montreal as a signal for winter celebrations. Later, at the beginning of the 19th century, great operators like James McGill made Montreal their headquarters and the money made by this famous Scotman founded McGill University. The Hudson's Bay Company's charter, given in 1670, to Rupert's Land, owned practically all the west and their trading posts were scattered from the northernmost parts of Canada to Vancouver and Seattle in the west and to Newfoundland, Labrador and other points in the east. Around the 1820's the Northwestern Fur Co. became such a keen competitor and the war between the companies was so bitterly carried on that they finally fused and the Hudson's Bay Company's name was carried on. Great names like Donald MacKenzie, who discovered the Mackenzie River, Sir George Simpson, Donald Smith, afterwards Lord Strathcona, are associated with the history of the Bay, as the company was familiarly known. The factors of the company received a share of the profits and Donald Smith, who married an Indian woman, was so successful that when the time came for Sir John A. MacDonnell to carry out his promise to build a railway through to the Pacific, Smith, George Stephens of Montreal and a few others put up the largest amount of financial aid. Lord Strathcona eventually became a governor of the Hudson's Bay Co. and later Canada's first High Commissioner to Great Britain.

The first report we have of an auction sale in Sweden appears in Women's Wear Daily of Jan. 10 as follows:

We have to thank our good friend, Peter G. Clark of the Prince Edward Island Fur Pool, Ltd., for sending us a very beautiful and

Stockholm Jan. 9.—Brisik trading and a steady tone in the market featured the first three days of the Nordiska skin auction here. The main part of the 7,000 silver foxes offered and more than 2,000 blue foxes were sold. Top prices were 280 kroner (\$70) for silver fox, compared with 245 kroner (\$61) last December. Between 300 and 350 blue foxes changed hands at that quotation. A few days later 1,000 platinum foxes, 15,000 mink will be auctioned and prices for these types are expected to be above December. Foreign buyers, particularly Americans, expressed favorable interest in the manner in which Swedish breeders have progressed during the war. They declared that Swedish mink especially was of high quality.

New York, Jan. 14.—An active demand for the first important collection of color phase silver foxes offered here this season was noted at the New York Auction Company's sale at the week-end where 90 per cent of the 1,847 skins were sold at prices 10 per cent above current market levels, 30 per cent higher than the corresponding sale a year ago, according to both the Auction Company and the buyers in the sales room. This strength was due, the buyers said, to a small lot of manufacturers who competed keenly for top lots. The competition boosted the top price to \$205 for platinum, said to have been purchased by a local manufacturer. The pelts were considered by the Progressive Color Phase Association, the Associated M. and M. Fur Farms and independent shippers. White-faced foxes, the top grade, were sold at \$150, 5,000 standard silvers was put up following the mutation foxes. The top grade was \$76 and the Auction Company said 80 per cent was sold.

The following is the official list of offerings to be sold in Montreal, commencing Jan. 26, George Clark, president of the Canadian National Fur Breeders' Association and Peter G. Clark of the Prince Edward Island Fur Pool, Ltd., both of Summerside, will be there to look after their large consignments.

Montreal, Jan. 13.—Canadian Fur Auction Sales Co. (Quebec), Ltd., announced the following quantities for sale at the week-end: 1,000 silver fox, beginning Jan. 26, and following a four-day general sale together representing the largest lot ever offered. Jan. 28: 3,000 silver fox, CFAS special, 5,200 silver fox, first selection, 8,000 silver fox, second selection of Canadian National Silver Fox Breeders' Association, and 7,500 silver fox, third section. Jan. 31: 3,000 CFAS special, and 5,200 silver fox, fourth section. Feb. 1: 8,000 silver fox, fifth section. Part of the collection will go on show Thursday, Jan. 24, at the Prince Edward Island Fur Pool catalog on Saturday, Jan. 26.

In a phone conversation with Mr. Calbeck, yesterday we learned that the first auction sale of the Hudson's Bay Co., which was held in Montreal, was a signal for winter interest. The sale of fox pelts was going very well, considering that last season's holders had been kept in cold storage in Norway and Sweden. The opening of the market was a signal for activities had been so curtailed during the war years. It is confidently expected that before this year is over the Hudson's Bay Company auctions will be back largely to normal and London will be again, as of yore, the great fur trading centre.

Mr. Calbeck, asked with reference to the coming sale in Montreal, Jan. 26, said that his association would have upwards of 1,130 new type pelts as a special show collection. 245 of these would be platinum and the balance white marked, platinum silvers and platinum. They comprise a large part of the show collections of Prince Edward Island and Ontario. Interesting in this regard is the fact that Ontario, whose pelt show was held considerably later than ours, outdid our record of 943 show pelts by placing on display 975. Mr. Calbeck informed us that the standard silvers of both shows would not be placed on auction until March. The total number of pelts, he thought, in this January sale would approximate 42,000. He said indications were that interest would be great and that many buyers from the United States and far away points would be in attendance.

We have to thank our good friend, Peter G. Clark of the Prince Edward Island Fur Pool, Ltd., for sending us a very beautiful and

Photogenic Champs advertisement featuring a photograph of a person and text describing the product's benefits for photography.

Order Fertilizer and Take Delivery

There are several reasons at the present time why farmers should accept immediate delivery of chemical fertilizers in order to ensure an adequate supply for the spring. For some time manufacturers have not storage space in their plants to build up supplies to meet the needs of all farmers at one time, so that it is wise precaution to take delivery now, instead of waiting for the spring. Through war necessity many farmers have demonstrated the practicability of storing chemical fertilizers on the farm during the winter months and still more farmers are doing that at the present time. For the farmers who take delivery now, the Fertilizers Administration of the Agriculture Supplies Board make the following suggestions:

- (1) Store fertilizers in any dry building with floor above the ground. Do not store in a stable or in space directly above or on a concrete or dirt floor. Plank placed on 2x4's make an ideal base on which to pile the bags. When possible, cover with dry hay or straw. (2) Stack bags closely together to reduce circulation of air from which fertilizers absorb moisture. (3) Do not store higher than 8 to 10 sacks deep and cover if necessary with such materials as dry hay or straw. (4) Keep broken bags separate from the main pile. Loose fertilizer is likely to absorb moisture and damage the good bags. (5) Make separate stacks of mixed fertilizers and each fertilizer material. This makes it easier to clean up any spilled fertilizer and keep it separate. (6) Keep ammonium nitrate and nitrate of soda away from hay, feeds, and organic meals to prevent fire. For the same reason, keep all empty paper bags from which sodium nitrate and ammonium nitrate have been emptied. (7) Keep farm animals away from the storage pile. (8) Fertilizer cakes hard enough so that ordinary handling does not break it, drop the bag on each edge and both sides from waist height and roll it over a few times. The extra fertilizer the farmer can get for next spring's crops by ordering and accepting delivery now will more than pay for the trouble of storing it over winter.

IODINE FOR LIVE STOCK

There is no area in the province of Manitoba where iodine may be found in nature. The iodine of farm live stock. At the Dominion Experimental Farm at Brandon, iodized salt in granular form is used regularly. For broodstock, an additional allowance of potassium iodide is supplied in the feed daily during the winter months. Two ounces of potassium iodide are dissolved in a gallon of water, and a teaspoonful of this solution is added to the feed or drink for each brood sow daily. The allowance given brood sows is double that amount daily. For breeding ewes, the addition of two ounces of potassium iodide dissolved in a gallon of water and mixed with one hundred pounds of salt, meets their needs. All over Canada, winter is a breeding time when the feeding of potassium iodide to breeding animals should be commenced.

artistic calendar entitled "Forever England." The English home depicted we have seen replicas of, and in June we do not think there is anything more beautiful or restful or peaceful. No wonder the Englishman loves his land!

We also have to thank the Canadian National Silver Fox Breeders' Association, Summerside, for a calendar with a photo reproduction of a grand champion white face rinpneck. We believe it is the finest white face rinpneck ever seen. The possession of that calendar fires us with an ambition to absorb as a breeder to duplicate Dr. Russell's achievement.

Miracle Feeds advertisement featuring an image of a product container and text describing its benefits for livestock feeding.

Old Faithfuls



In their Sunday best a retired farm team poses for the camera. After giving more than 25 years of faithful service to their owners, these farm plodders have well earned retirement to green pastures. Next to the dog, they deserve the title of man's best friend.

Experimental Farms Rations for Poultry A Great Contribution And Effect on Eggs

The various ways the Dominion Experimental Farms help not only flock prior to and during the breeding season are important in determining the hatchability of eggs. To obtain the best results the essential feeds for good hatchability should be fed four to six weeks before the eggs are to be incubated. It is the protein and vitamin content of the feed that influences hatchability. Rations that promote high egg production are not necessarily suited to the needs of breeding birds, says R. M. Hopper, Dominion Experimental Farm, Brandon, Man.

One of two plans may be followed by the poultry keeper in supplying suitable feeds to the breeding birds. A mixture of six parts of fish meal, four parts of commercial hatching concentrate and four parts of mash is satisfactory. The amount of protein supplied is important in the ration. The vitamins of milk should be supplied either in liquid or powder form.

Milk powder, fish meal, and meat meal, if used, are superior feeds for supplying protein to breeding birds. A mixture of six parts of fish meal, four parts of commercial hatching concentrate and four parts of mash is satisfactory. The amount of protein supplied is important in the ration. The vitamins of milk should be supplied either in liquid or powder form.

Green feed and fish oil are the common sources of the other vitamins. Green feed, such as alfalfa, clover, and timothy, are excellent for supplying protein to breeding birds. Feeding oils derived from fish contain both vitamin A and D. Oils of guaranteed vitamin content are most dependable. Green feed in the form of well cured alfalfa or clover leaves, sprouted, is recommended. Vegetables that cause too much water action should be fed sparingly.

The density or texture of the shell has an influence upon the hatchability of eggs. A constant supply of oyster shell or other suitable, high-calcium mineral should be received from the breeder, and in addition it is sometimes necessary to include two or three pounds of powdered oyster shell in each 100 pounds of dry mash. The use of fish oil, as mentioned above, aids in the formation of good egg shells. The addition of a small amount of manganese sulphate to the mash has been found to improve the quality of the shell and increase the hatchability. Four ounces to each 100 pounds of mash is recommended. To insure a uniform distribution the manganese sulphate should be mixed with the mash immediately before the mixing of the mash is undertaken.

output and 7,693,000 bushels below the five-year average. Orders for Canadian Certified Seed Potatoes amounting to about two million bushels have already been received from the United States, Cuba, South Africa, Venezuela, Argentina, Mexico, Uruguay, Brazil, France, Belgium, Surinam, and the British West Indies and Aquilines have been received from Brazil, France, Belgium, Surinam and the British West Indies and Aquilines are the first received from that country since 1941. Shipping difficulties, due to the war, prevented the Argentine from buying Certified Seed Potatoes from Canada for three years.

Foreign countries buy Canadian Certified Seed Potatoes because of their high productive qualities and freedom from disease.

Hardy Prairie Roses Seed Potatoes

To secure more satisfactory hardy prairie roses hybridizing has been under way for 17 years. (Continued on Page 14)

Strawberry Guava advertisement featuring an image of the fruit and text describing its taste and health benefits.

Now Long Does Soil Retain Fertilizer?

The question of how long do the effects of fertilizer last in the soil is a perennial topic among Canadian, American, and British farmers. In this connection, considerable interest has been aroused by an informal comparison being made in 'New Agriculture', at the instance of the research scientists of Missouri University. In Great Britain, it is common agreement between landlord and tenant to consider the effect of a fertilizer as lasting for three years. Accordingly, if a tenant moves off the farm before three years have elapsed after applying the fertilizer, the landlord reimburses him according to the fertilizer value still left in the soil.

The report taken as an example of the 31 Dominion experimental farms, stations, and sub-stations, a system of farms, the most comprehensive system of kind in the world is that of W. R. Leslie, Superintendent, at Morden, and reads as follows: 'Vegetable breeding to develop early maturing varieties resistant to disease is a major activity. Promising new selections from tomato, pepper, egg-plant, melon, lima beans and pea crosses are being made. Some peppers are early, fleshy in pod and of excellent quality. Bush type habit is emphasized. Tomatoes. Some new strains yielded 14 tons per acre despite adverse winds and cold in early June and an outbreak of leaf mold in August. New varieties more adaptable to prairie conditions are being segregated. In vegetable gardens at least one during midsummer even in seasons of drought. Some peppers are early, fleshy in pod and of excellent quality. Bush type habit is emphasized. Tomatoes. Some new strains yielded 14 tons per acre despite adverse winds and cold in early June and an outbreak of leaf mold in August. New varieties more adaptable to prairie conditions are being segregated.

Green feed and fish oil are the common sources of the other vitamins. Green feed, such as alfalfa, clover, and timothy, are excellent for supplying protein to breeding birds. Feeding oils derived from fish contain both vitamin A and D. Oils of guaranteed vitamin content are most dependable. Green feed in the form of well cured alfalfa or clover leaves, sprouted, is recommended. Vegetables that cause too much water action should be fed sparingly.

PASTURE FOR POULTRY

The value of pasture for poultry is becoming increasingly appreciated, and for some time past the Dominion Department of Agriculture has been carrying out research in determining the most satisfactory of the common forage crops when fed to laying hens. Among the most palatable were red clover, fall rye, an alkali-timothy mixture, Ladino clover, alfalfa and bromegrass. Timothy, Kentucky blue grass, reed canary grass, and red fescue were not so satisfactory.

MADE FROM PETROLEUM

Benzine is a distilled colorless liquid made from crude petroleum.

NEWSY NOTES

A Golden-Crowned Kinglet January 9th was a day of brilliant sunshine here, with the thermometer at 18 degrees F. The cat had been down to the creek to see if anything was stirring, and had caught a small bird, which died just as I rescued it. It was a Golden-crowned Kinglet, and here are the particulars: Golden-crowned Kinglet (A.O.U. 746). Adult (female, Jan. 9, 1946). Bill short, sharp, slender, black. Head: centre of crown yellow, bordered black, then a whitish line above the eye and a shorter one below it. Rest of upper parts olivaceous (dull yellowish green). Tail dusky, feathers margined greenish yellow. Underparts sooty white. Wings dusky with a whitish crossbar; primary feathers uncleanly webbed, the wide web dusky, the very narrow web yellowish green. Tarsi and toes pale, slender, fine-boned. Length 4 inches. The adult male is much the same in color, but has the centre of the crown reddish-orange, bordered yellow, then black, etc., as above.

We have the Ruby-crowned Kinglets here, as well, but these are easily diagnosed; the black border to the crown is entirely absent in this species.

Next to the Hummingbird, the Golden-crowned Kinglet is our smallest feathered visitor. It usually travels in little troops, frequenting groves of overgreens. At times it will permit an observer to approach rather closely, and this confiding attitude is a deplorable result when the observers are foolish! Luckily these birds are prolific; eight to ten eggs make up the clutch.

FLORAL EMBLEM FOR P. E. I.

I noticed, with pleasure, a proposal to select a floral emblem for P. E. Island (see The Educational Horizon Dec. 29, 1945). Such emblems have been in vogue elsewhere for a very long time indeed, and the classic example is the Rose of Sharon, and the emblem of the once United Kingdom. The Leek of Gallant Little Wales just falls short of being a floral emblem.

In old-world Scotland, each clan (as you know) had its distinguishing tartan; but then many clans had attached to them, numerous families who owed allegiance to the chief, and wore his tartan, but did not bear his name. As a distinction among themselves, the members of these families wore badges, usually a small twig of some tree or shrub. Thus, the badge of the MacDonnells was a sprig of heather; that of the Forbes family was a spray of Cytisus or Broom.

Instance of such badges might be multiplied indefinitely, for every country when it has attained a certain degree of culture appropriates its own emblem. Six out of the nine Canadian Provinces, have already made their choice, through their Legislatures. The Mayflower was chosen by Nova Scotia in 1901. The Anemone by Manitoba in 1906. The Trillium Ontario, 1927. Wild

(Continued on Page 14)

Maritimer's Success in B.C. advertisement featuring a large photograph of a man and text describing his success in the fruit and vegetable business.