FOR FARMERS, STOCK BREEDERS and GARDENERS

- NEWSY NOTES -

By AGRICOLA

A Juvenile Handicraft

An article in a recent issue of The Guardian, entitled "Lampwick Crochetting," recalls to mind the rural school which the present writer attended. The scholars there had regular seasons for most of their games or recreations. These amusements generally coincided with some peculiarity of the weather: in winter those who could afford to make their own skates, skated; those who couldn't, slid in long procession on the ice, to the annoyance of the skaters and the ruination of their own boots; while the more boisterous played "shinney," a rough unscientific kind of hockey. Then when the winds of March blew, kites were hunted up or made (for we were great craftsmen) and nothing but kite-flying was talked of. And so on for every month of the school year.

Cutting across these regular pursuits there often came "epidemics" of more uncertain and curious gaits and handicrafts, and strange to say it was always the boys who originated them. The girls seldom took part even in such sports as skating; but I noticed they would stand apart in clusters and look on, whether the attraction was a game or a fight! The particular "epidemic" I have in mind was a kind of Lampwick Knitting—I can give it no other name—which had a very successful run for a time. The first requisite was a good big empty spool, an article then known as a "bobbin". Close to the central hole and on one end only, four straight shoe-tacks or "sprigs" were driven firmly into the wood; they were equidistant, and projected about one-quarter of an inch. Next a suitable needle was bought: it was like a fair-sized darning-needle but the point was slightly barbed; if I remember rightly it was called a "tatting-needle". The next step was to secure the "wool" (yarn), and this, if one was very persistent might be done at home, for boys can usually talk their mothers over! If there was no domestic supply, the shopkeepers had a gorgeous kind called "Dolly Varden," which had all the colors of the rainbow, intimately mixed.

The operator began by passing his wool through the "sprigged" hole of the bobbin, so that the end of the wool projected a couple of inches; this made a tag with which to pull the "lampwick" through the hole in the bobbin. To commence the actual work a loop was cast round each of the four sprigs, just as in knitting; then the wool was carried around to sprig No. 1, when the first loop was slipped off with the barbed needle, which left a new loop in its place. Then the wool was carried around to Sprig No. 2, where the new loop was again formed; and every now and then the operator would give the tag a twitch to prevent the wick from clogging his machine.

This operation would be carried on till the worker had several yards of wick, which he rolled into a ball and kept as clean as he could. The wick was round in section, and soft or hard, as determined by the pull on the tag. The Dolly Varden wick was gaily colored, and was destined to form a mat for table use, to stand a lamp or vase on. The wick was coiled round and round like a target for archery, and sewed together as it lay flat. At this point it was mother, or big sister, who was cajoled (or worried) into doing the sewing.

There was another and more pleasing use for the wick. When made of thick black wool it could be sewed to form a regular "Tam o' Shanter" cap; one of the most comfortable of headgears.

Dolly Varden must have been a glamor girl of those prehistoric times: there was a rig-out called a "Dolly Varden costume", but I've forgotten what it looked like—if ever I knew. Anyway, the masculine mind always goes flop when asked to describe such garments!

Random Readings and Reflections

Two books lately put on the market, are calculated to give the most ardent optimist the shock of his life. The first is "The Fate of Homo Sapiens," by H.G. Wells. We know Mr. Wells; like Dickens's Fat Boy, he delights to make us shudder. That is all right in its place; if a healthy reaction follows; but unhappily Mr. Wells keeps us shuddering to the very end. After this war is over "the light of free science will have sunken and gone out." We cannot blame anyone for that, for the present mental equipment of our species is entirely insufficient to control the situation, that is to say, we have no brains. Granting this, it is to be regretted that Mr. Wells did not give us more of the constructive, and less of the hypercritical, mood in his book.

Homo Sapiens in at least two countries finds no flattering portrait in this volume. Soviet Russia has failed "to produce a constellation of first-rate men" to make an impression on the world: and Mr. Wells thinks that the combined intelligence of the Marxist Party is about equal to the brain of a newt. The U.S.A. fares better; its I. Q. test would show about the same level as that of a horse. "It has a cerebrum all right; it remembers almost too well within a limited range, it shies at shadows, it stampedes very readily and has no particular zest for learning new things." Several times, in this book the contempt for Marxism is only equalled by that for Christianity. In conclusion, "more and more the world will be for the tough, for the secretive, the treacherous and the ruthless."

The title of the other book is equally engaging: It is "The Twilight of Man," by Dr. Albert Hooton, of Harvard University. Dr. Hooton looks at H. sapiens from the biological standpoint and finds him definitely on the skids. One of thet tests of mentality, applied usually to rats, is to see how quickly an individual will work his way through a maze on the further side of which lies a store of food. Rats with any bodily affliction, they say, are much more stupid at finding their way to the abundance awaiting them. Consequently, if one could get hold of a race of rats with fallen arches, varicose veins, stomach ulcers, hernia, poor circulation, decayed teeth, sacro-iliac trouble, etc., etc., one would conclude they were heading to extinction, rather than to the Promised Land. So it is with H. sapiens, and he'd better find out what to do about it, and pronto, thinks Dr. Hooton; but apparently he is not very sanguine that his warning will be heeded.

Here he presents a thumb-nail sketch of modern Germany: "(It) repeatedly threatens the ruin of Western civilization because this nation is composed of organic blends which, for some unknown genetic reasons, combine marvelous understanding of mechanical techniques with utter obtusity in human relations, and which are of a suggestibility so extreme that they are more easily possessed by devils than were the Gadarene swine."

In review, the present writer cannot see that Christianity is chargeable with the ills which the world at large, and Mr. Wells in particular, as his rather autobiographical book suggests), are called upon to endure. No matter the externals with which we have garbed it, the essential principle of Christianity lies in few words; "to love God... and to love thy neighbor as thyself." It is the neglect of this simple but sublime duty that is responsible for all the ills complained of, and there will never be a harmonious world till all men comprehend this. As to man being on the skids and destined to an evolutionary dead-end by reason of the terrible catalogue of maladies to which he is subject, is it not true that civilization has encountered all these things—and worse—in the past, and yet held on its upward way?

More Bird Notes (2)

Continuing the supplementary notes of last week:—

494—Bobolink: reported as seen and heard at Pownal, 1937. (M.J.)

516—Pine Grosbeak. One observed on Scottish Pine in the lane, March 17, 1939. (B.H.)

533—Pine Finch, Pine Siskin. Seen, Pownal, April 1, 1939. (M.J.)

542.2—Savannah Sparrow. One killed by cat, Oct. 28, 1936. (B.H.) The first authentic record since 1916.

554—White-Crowned Sparrow. Noted at Pownal, May 1, 1939. (M.J.)

558—White-throated Sparrow. One killed by cat, Oct. 6, 1936. (B.H.)

584—Swamp Sparrow. Recorded in list of 1916. (Nothing later.)

585—Fox Sparrow. One killed by cat, Oct. 30, 1937. (B.H.). One seen at Pownal April 12, 1939 (M.J.)

624—Red-eyed Vireo. Found nest of this bird at T.B. Woodman's, near Charlottetown, June 18, 1936: also saw male Vireo on North River Road. (T.W.S.)

648.2—The Northern Parula is our bird, but no authentic record since 1916.

661—Black-poll Warbler. Noted at Souris, summer of 1936. (J.F.S.)

662—Blackburnian Warbler. At Pownal, 1936. (M.J.). First record since 1916.

667—Black-throated Green Warbler. Several at Pownal, 1936. (M.J.). Saw a flock of 6 or 7 at Victoria Park, Charlottetown Aug. 21, 1936 (T.W.S.). At Pownal, June 22, 1939. (M.J.)

627.2—Yellow Palm Warbler. Pownal, Aug. 27, 1936. (M.J.). First record since 1892!

679—Mourning Warbler. One seen at Bonshaw, July 17, 1936. (T.W.S.)

681. d—northern fellow throat. Records plentiful. Common at Stanhope in thickets behind dunes, June 24, 1936. (T.W.S.) Several observed, July 4, 1937. (J.F.S.) Saw a pair of Yellowthroats at Pownal July 17, 1937. (M.J.). Again on June 22, 1939. (M.J.)

687—American Redstart. Not rare, but few records sent in. One from Pownal, June 24, 1939. (M.J.)

728—Red-breasted Nuthatch. Saw a pair of these birds at T.B. Woodman's near Charlottetown, Aug. 27, 1936. (T.W.S.). Pair of R.B. Nuthatches seen many times in summer of 1937. (M.J.)

749—Ruby-crowned Kinglet. Said to be rare in 1916. Several records the last few years: probably increasing. Add: Pownal May 24, 1939. (M.J.)

Students of bird life are asked to preserve this and last week's records, as it is not likely that another list will be published in the near future. There are still a few birds said to have been found here previous to the year 1916, of which we have no later records.

Botanical Notes

The writer has often been puzzled as to why Linnaeus put a capital letter to some specific names, while in general they commence with a small letter. For instance, here in the creek flourish two British plants: the Iris Pseud-acorus Linn. and the Iris foetidissima Linn. Why should the second (or specific) name of one have a capital and the other not? In the rules drawn up for the guidance of botanists it is laid down that all specific names, no matter what their origin should not begin with a capital, so that we find names like Ulmus americana, and Cornus canadensis. The idea is that these names being in Latin, dont conform to the English rules for capitalization, though it must be noted that American botanists in their haste to be original break the rule if the specific name is given in honor of another botanist, as in Viola Selkirkii.

In "The Botanic Garden" a most interesting book published in London (1827) and kindly lent to me by a reader, occurs the answer to my puzzle. "It has been the custom of most botanists, where a trivial (or specific) name has been adopted, which was formerly a principal (generic) name for the same plant, to distinguish such a word by a capital letter"... ...So it appears that the plant in question was once called Psued-acorus instead of Iris, and this accounts for Linnaeus leaving the capital in place.

Once in a while one comes across a specific name ending in—oides, as in Saponaria Ocymoides. The termination comes from the Greek word "eidos," meaning a likeness or resemblance, and ocymoides means that the plant looks like the herb Basil (Ocymum). How to pronounce it? The "oi" should not be pronounced as in toil, but each letter should be sounded separately, as "oh-eye" if one follows the English usage, or "oh-ee," if the Latin is preferred.

Leaving such abstract questions for the time, let us look at the rockery. The first cold snap killed all the Sanvitalia, which had been in bloom for ten weeks; a most useful annual for brightening a newly-made rock garden. Two cold snaps however, failed to discourage the Bluebells of Scotland, and the Sea-pink (Thrift), which are still gally blooming. The various Sedums still lend a spot of color by their fading foliage, and the Bittersweet (Solanum) berries still look tempting. They are, however, poisonous.

- CONSERVATION -

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

STATE POLICE COOPERATION

Address by Captain C.J. Scarvada, Michigan State Police, Before Michigan Humane Federation and Midwest Conference.

(The National Humane Review)

The American Humane Association and the Michigan State Police share in a common cause—justice and protection for man and beast. It is true, indeed, that whatever humane societies have done for animals, they have done vastly more for the people of our nation by their influence upon human relations. We are all agreed, that to lessen cruelty is to lessen crime.

The Michigan State Police organization was born of World War emergency, as was the Red Star Animal Relief unit of the American Humane Association. It was organized primarily to protect the people of Michigan and their property. However, it is now and always has been deeply concerned with the well-being of our dumb animals, both wild and domestic.

In so far as the laws of our state will permit us, you may be assured we will give protection to those defenseless creatures over which mankind was given authority. You, who represent the various organizations which are making such a noble effort to reduce the barbarity that is practiced upon animals have our solemn promise that the Michigan State Police will go all the way with you in enforcing the law against violators of this type in Michigan.

In the files of our record bureau are to be found complaints of cruelty to animals—some founded and some unfounded. And in connection with the unfounded reports I want to say that disgruntled neighbors do have a habit of giving vent to some real or fancied grievance by rushing to the police with a complaint about the "man next door."

Some case histories, however, do show acts of cruelty perpetrated against dumb animals that warrant greater punishment than is provided for by our present statutes. To add impetus to a recommendation I shall make, I should like to quote from our files a case history which I am sure will interest you.

"February 28, 1930, received complaint from Deputy Sheriff Lapp of Grand Ledge, to the effect that there were 28 sheep, 4 calves and 3 horses all lying dead on a nearby farm. I resepectfully submit the following results of my investigation on February 28 and on March 1, 1930.

"Left the post on February 28 at 1:30 P.M., enroute to Grand Ledge. Picked up Deputy Sheriff Lapp and proceeded to the farm. After arriving there investigated and found 48 sheep, 7 calves and 5 horses dead around one field. I then counted 91 sheep and 6 horses that appeared to be very badly in need of food. In the barn I found one-half mow of hay and a bin of about 50 bushels of oats, all out of reach of the stock.

"I then left the farm and stopped at a nearby neighbor's to inquire about how long such a condition had existed. I was told that no one had taken care of the stock all winter and that this same condition had existed for the past four or five years. I also learned that no one would make a complaint due to the fact that the owner is a justice of the peace and everybody was afraid.

"I then left that vicinity and went to the prosecuting attorney's office at Charlotte where I stated the conditions to him. He requested that I have a photographer take pictures and also that I have three veterinarians examine the dead stock before he would issue a warrant.

"March 1, 1930. In company with Fred VanCampen, department photographer, I went to the farm and took pictures of the dead stock lying around on the ground. At the time, three veterinarians were there for the purpose of examining the animals. They were ordered to state their findings to the prosecutor.

"After taking the pictures, Van Campen and I went to the prosecutors' office in Charlotte. He stated that after the pictures were finished and he had received a report from the veterinarians, he would issue a warrant for the farmer charging him with cruelty to animals. Respectfully submitted. (Signed) Trooper Earl E. Secrist."

To make a long story short, on March 6, the farmer and his assistant, a man who was supposed to be caring for the stock, were arrested and arraigned on a charge of failing to provide food, water and proper shelter for live stock. Both plead guilty, and bond was fixed at $100.00.

What punishment did they get for such wanton cruelty—such utter disregard for the laws of Him who entrusted animals into our keeping, or the laws of the state! The case against one was dismissed and the other was given a fine of $100.00 and costs or 60 days in jail. I believe you will agree this was not commensurate with the long suffering inflicted upon those helpless creatures.

I would like to recite briefly a few other cases picked at random from our files.

A complaint was received that a farmer was starving his cattle. Two of our officers made an investigation, and here is their report, in part:

"Cattle in very poor condition. Did not have a proper shelter. One animal was dead as the result of starvation and exposure. The entire ground which was used as a pasture for this stock was covered with water. There was a small cock of hay which was water-soaked and musty. This hay consisted of foxtail grass and weeds. The cattle in their movements about appeared exhausted."

A warrant was obtained on a charge of cruelty to animals. He plead guilty and was given three months' probation.

Another case. Our officers found cows, sheep, horses, chickens and hogs all forced to forage for sustenance during winter months. The animals were in a deplorable condition—some dying. Officers fed the stock and then arrested the farmer, lodging him in the county jail after arranging with the neighbors to take care of the stock during his absence. What was the penalty? Ten days in jail and a fine of $15.00.

A number of very valuable dogs died in a series of dog poisonings in Nashville. Some of them had been given the poison while they were tied on their master's property, and others picked it up while they were being taken out on the leash. An examination disclosed that they had all been fed strychnine mixed with salmon.

After an officer from the Detective Bureau of the State Police had run down a lot of clues, he made an arrest and the prisoner was taken before a justice of the peace where he pleaded guilty. He was given a sentence of 30 days or a fine of $75.00. He paid the fine.

I have recited these cases for the purpose of calling your attention to the penalty imposed. To my way of thinking, the punishment as provided by our present statutes is not severe enough for such crimes as come under the classification of cruelty to animals.

Here are a few figures that may be of interest. Of seven arrests made during 1938 for cruelty to animals, four were convicted, three were discharged, one sentenced and one put on probation. This shows the difficulties encountered in getting a conviction.

Speaking for my brother officers as well as for myself, the recommendation I should like to make is this:

That your various organizations work out some new legislation that will put the officer in a position to really, as we say, put the heat on those who are guilty of beating starving or otherwise mistreating our defenseless animals.

Here's another obstacle the officers run into with regularity. We get anonymous complaints daily, through the mail and on the telephone. When we ask who is speaking, we are told, "Oh, I would not want my name used," or "I would not want to sign a complaint."

In such cases, here's what invariably happens. On the 4th of last month we received a report that a man had brutally beaten a horse with an iron bar. Officers immediately went to the farm and there found a young colt tied in the barn. Its head was badly beaten and the blood was still dripping from its wounds. The officers talked with the owner about the colt. He claimed it had struck him in the face with one of its feet and that he in turn had struck the colt with a broom-handle.

The officers went to the prosecutor and stated the case. He told them there was not much that could be done about it unless someone would sign the complaint who could testify that he had seen the animal struck. The officers were unable to find out who had reported the case and could find no one who would take the responsibility of signing the complaint.

Our officers answer all calls, anonymous or otherwise, involving animals. When it is necessary to restroy an animal, which is often the case with dogs that have been injured on the highway, they are shot and buried.

I want to say that in the years I have been engaged in law-enforcement, I have noticed the change that is being wrought by the educational activities carried on by your organizations. This influence is being felt the length and breadth of our land.

TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox Farming

A committee representing the fox breeders and other fur farmers of the United States conferred with a committee for reciprocity information at Washington recently and explained that the farmers of the United States find their existence menaced by the possibility of the dumping of huge quantities of silver fox skins in the United States from Canada and Norway during the coming year. The fur breeders asked that the Government if possible protect them against the dumping of silver fox skins into their market and thereby the depreciation of pelt values. The committee stated that they were sympathetic and realized fully the position of the American fox breeders but could not hold out much hope to the breeders that anything could be done at present to curtail heavy fox skin imports from these "favored nations." The foxmen had asked that a quota system be applied to imports and it appears that this idea could not be put into effect.

The above is rather cheering news to our fur farmers of this Province, particularly those that have bright colored skins which find a ready market in the great Republic to the south. It appears that there are two sides to a bargain and if the United States breaks part of the reciprocity agreement with Canada and asks to have part of it changed, then the structure as a whole might be endangered. It would appear that for the coming year at least there will be a market for some of our pelts in the U. S. A. at the lowered duty of 37 1-2 per cent.

Milton Schreiber, one of New York's leading fur merchants, has issued the first raw fur price list of the season in the U. S. A. The list shows higher prices quoted as compared with November 1st of last year on skunk, grey fox, muskrat, red fox, and lower opening prices on silver fox, cross fox and badger. Quotations on other articles remain about the same. Muskrat top price is quoted at $1.35 for extra and $1.10 for large fall New York and New England pelttries. Red fox is quoted at $5.50 for extra large, $4.50 for large and $3.50 for medium number ones from New England, Michigan and Eastern Canada.

Mink this year is quoted at $12.00 for extra large, $10 00 for large, $8.00 for medium, $6 00 for small number ones. These are New York and New England peltries. Last year's opening prices were $15.00 for extra large, $12 00 for large, $9 00 for medium and $6.00 for small. Price quotations on all the other articles remain the same as November 1st last year except on silver fox which has a top price of $100 compared with $150 last year. Cross fox top price of $25.00 compared with $50.00 and badger with a top price of $5.00 compared with $10.00 a year ago.

The writer whistled with surprise when I read the above big cut in cross fox prices, from $50.00 top price to $25.00, which means the average will be considerably less than $15.00. What on earth has happened to cross fox? It is an attractive skin, in fact many of them are beautiful, and it is hard to realize that it has taken such a flop. Mink prices do not appear to be too hot either, although they are only down 30 per cent from last year.

The latest from Hollywood in fur fashions is a silver fox muff with silver fox "off the face" hat. It is highly decorative and some say will be quite the rage. Our fox breeder friends will render no objections we presume.

Some twenty years ago when the writer returned from overseas the fad was all for silver fox neckpiece and silver fox muff, each of one skin. It was a very attractive combination and when good pelts were used certainly made one take notice of the wearer. With the advent of the motor car muffs passed out, but they are in again thanks to the style fashioners who find a new utility for our product just when we begin to get in a desparing mood, as it is said that capes are becoming a bit passe.

Col. U. G. Dawson of the Charlottetown Fur Pool will be the speaker at the meeting of the Charlottetawn Fox Club on Monday evening next. The subject is not announced, but one can be sure that the genial Colonel will give an interesting talk that will be well worth going a long distance to hear.

Women's Wear Daily, New York, in a recent issue has the following despatch from Montreal. "Virtual disappearance of European buying from the new fur market remains the most important factor influencing the trend of prices as the opening of the new season approaches, but it is partly offset by continued improvement in general business which has increased buying power of this continent, according to Louis F. O'Bryan, head of the raw fur department of Holt Renfrew & Company, Ltd., Montreal. Canadian fur experts are agreed that ranch bred silver fox and mink will be offered in increased quantity, and lacking the inspiration of European demand are certain to decline. The same factor will weaken prices for medium and small muskrats, Mr. O'Bryan remarked, whereas wild furs on the other hand are likely to maintain and in some cases increase prices over the level of last season's opening.

Mr. O'Bryan expressed the opinion that the catch of wild furs would in the main be about the same as last year, while the production of ranch bred furs would be greater. He epitomized his views on individual furs as follows:—Beaver —At last year's levels this article should be in good demand. Silver Fox —Quantities are likely to be larger than last year and owing to conditions in Europe they are likely to sell 10 to 20 per cent lower. Ranch Mink —An increase of 35 to 50 per cent in quantities is expected. As Europe will not be buying prices will probably decline from 10 to 25 per cent. The remaining furs are expected by Mr. O'Bryan to remain at approximately last year's levels."

The first of the season's silver fox sales in Europe will open almost simultaneously in London and Oslo, Hudson's Bay Company starting the ball in London, November 21st, and the official Norwegian government sale being at Oslo November 20. Oslo dates have been set for December 7th and January 12. London silver fox dates in these same months are December 11th and January 8th. London auction brokers are expected to receive silver fox supplies from Norway and Sweden in plenty of time for the November sale although the quantities will be more limited than they usually are at the opening of the selling season because of the hazard of naval warfare in the North Sea. Efforts have been made to organize a government marketing monopoly on silver fox for the Scandinavian countries, but the latest advice is that it will not come to anything.

In this column we have given from time to time some particulars regarding a proposed scheme of marketing with Government aid or at least under the control of the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa. The assumption generally was that it would be in conformity with the co-operative marketing act which fixes an average value for a product assumed by adding three years average of prices and dividing by three. For silver fox the seasons of 1937-38-39 that figure would approximate $25.00, and a 60 per cent advance on $25 00 average would mean $15.00 average per pelt to the rancher.

Not so many months ago one of our daily papers gave space to a picture of a policeman in New York City holding back traffic while a mother cat carried her kitten across a busy street.

At Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, homage was paid to a war hero pigeon, "Mocker." This twenty-year-old carrier pigeon, which lost an eye while helping to smash the Hindenburg lines, and which was wounded twice in the St. Mihiel and Argonne drives, was accorded a military funeral when last June he went to join his feathered buddies that long ago had preceded him.

From Oakland, California, comes the story of a full military funeral for a dog, mascot of the Oakland Airport. He was cremated and his ashes scattered from a plane over the field where he had so faithfully served. 'Contact," as he was called, would race to the signal stand, grab the flag and scamper to the field attendant when the roar of approaching motors was heard over the field. He was run down and killed by a big trimotored plane while he was flagging for a clear field.

"A man may smile and bid you hail
Yet wish you with the devil;
But when a good dog wags his tail
You know he's on the level."

These stories of men pausing in this busy, work-a-day world to pay their respects to members of the animal kingdom can have but one meaning, an awakening to their responsibility toward all sentient life.

In the training schools of the Michigan State Police our officers are instructed to give as quick response and as thorough investigation to a complaint involving the mistreatment of an animal as to any other complaint. You may be assured that we are putting forth every effort possible to enshrine in the minds of our officers the philosophy that to lessen cruelty is to lessen crime.

Strong committees from our fur marketing organizations made repeated trips to Ottawa and urged this scheme on the Federal Government and it looked for a time as though it would be put in operation, but it hit a snag somewhere and we understand the average on which advances would be made if the scheme went into effect would be $15.00, not $25.00, and only 50 per cent advance allowed on that figure with other strings attached. We note that at the Fredericton fox show Mr. Reagh Tinney, and at the Summerside Demonstration Week, Mr. Peter G. Clark, of the P. E. I. Fur Pool, both stated definitely that their fur consignment house would have nothing to do with the scheme, and others have told us the same. At present we learn that the fur consignment houses are carrying on the same as other years making advances and obtaining their funds from chartered banks.

The King's County Educational Fox Show opens at Montague on Tuesday and will be completed on Wednesday. The Exhibition will be open to the public at 1.30 p. m. Tuesday, the morning being spent in receiving and classifying foxes. Classes are dark silver, medium silver, light medium, pale silver and extra pale silver. The President is George McIntyre and the Secretary W. A. McLaggan. They have a strong body of Directors and good committees to assist so you can be sure that the King's County fox show next week will be a well conducted and successful affair.

During the year 1939, 34,625 silver fox pelts were imported into the United States with a value of almost $700,000, while Norway shipped 19,966 skins valued at $500,000, to the United States in the same period. The average value of silver foxes imported from Canada to the United States was $17.02 and the average value for the year 1939 $121.45. The total imports of silver fox pelts brought into the United States from all countries during 1939 was 86,500 skins valued at $1,850,000.

Women's Wear, New York, speaking of this largely increased importation over other years says: — "The coming season on account of the European war there is some talk that as high as 300,000 skins may be brought in but this is belittled in more conservative quarters. However, even most conservative silver fox circles seem to feel that 125,000 skins will be brought in. Such an increase would be an approximate 50 per cent increase over the current year. During

(Continued on Page 12, Col 1

R. O. P. Poultry Notes

Many items appear from time to time about the R.O.P. records of dairy cows, but not often do records appearfrom R.O.P. poultry Mrs. J.F. Easton of New Wiltshire has almost completed her records for the year, and she reports her best year, both for number of eggs and egg production. Her highest hen has laid 290 egg, averaging 25 oz. to the dozen, and is still laying. Her year is up on Nov. 19th.

Her second highest laid 267 eggs averaging from 28 to 30 oz. per dozen. This is unusual, and certainly proves that the White Leghorn hen can produce plenty large eggs. Out of her entry of 50 birds, 22 hens qualified for R.O.P. certificates, with exceptionally large eggs.

It might be mentioned that these records were all made under ordinary farm conditions. There was no forcing whatever. All the laying mash used was home-mixed, and there were no lights used in the laying house.

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ARE YOU LUCKY

YOU GUESS WE PAY

This Contest is open to any person twenty years of age or older who is one of the household of any bona fide farmer of Prince Edward Island, provided one or more tons of fertilizer were bought and used by a member of the household during the Spring of 1939. No person who has been in our employ since August 1st, 1938, or has been in a position to obtain "inside" information is eligible. Only one prize will be awarded in any one household.

FOR 29 ANSWERS TO QUESTION 7 BELOW, IN ORDER OF NEARNESS TO THE CORRECT AMOUNT, WE PAY:

First	$50.00
Second	25.00
3rd & 4th	10.00 each
5th to 9th inclusive	5.00 each
10th to 29th inclusive	2.00 each

Cut out this coupon and, after answering all questions asked below, mail to THE ISLAND FERTILIZER COMPANY LIMITED, Charlottetown, on or before November 18th, 1939. WRITE PLAINLY.

1. Name in Full? _____
2. Address? _____
3. Name of the farmer of whose household you are a member? _____
4. Name of a member of your household who purchased one or more tons of fertilizer during the Spring of 1939? _____
5. Name of your local dealer from whom the purchase was made _____
6. How would you prefer to buy fertilizer—packed in bags the size of:
   (a) 75 lb. potato bags and each containing 100 lbs. of fertilizer? _____
   (b) 90 lb. potato bags and each containing 125 lbs. of fertilizer? _____
7. What quantity of fertilizer was sold by us and delivered from our factory during the year ending August 1st, 1939? _____ Tons, _____ Pounds.

For the purpose of this Contest the word "Fertilizer" means Cyanamid, Nitrate of Soda, Sulphate of Ammonia, Superphosphate, Potash, Borax and/or Factory Mixed Fertilizer.

This Contest is to help us decide which of two fertilizer bags the majority of the farmers in this Province prefer. Hence give question 6 your very careful consideration. The (a) bag contains a more suitable weight but the empty bag is not best suited for farm purposes. The (b) bag, on the other hand, contains a weight of fertilizer not always preferred, but the empty bag is more suitable for farm purposes.

The accuracy with which you answer question 7, provided all other questions are answered, determines your placing in this contest.

The Island Fertilizer Company Limited

A LARGE PUP CROP

Insure a large crop of healthy, vigorous pups this year by feeding

ROYAL FOX FEED

Results during former seasons shows that the use of Royal with a good meat ration is the most positive way known for the rancher to secure best breeding results.

Insist on Royal.

Ask your dealer today or write direct to

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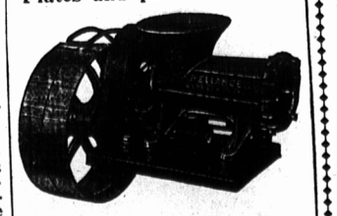

F.W. Lamplough & Co.

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—LIME—

For Bigger and Better crops Government experts recommend fall liming, and now is the time to buy while prices are low, but take no chances. BUY HIGH GRADE BROOKVILLE GROUND LIMESTONE for best results.

Special Fall Prices for P.E.I. up to December 31st, 1939:

Bulk — — — — — — — — $2.80 per ton
Bagged — — — — — — — — 3.55 per ton

Car lots 30 tons or more delivered nearest Railway Station

Don't Delay — Send your orders now to

Brookville Manufacturing Co., Ltd.

Brookville, Saint John Co., N. B.
MRS. H. G. S. ADAMS, Pres.