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TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS
CONNECTED WITH
Silver Fox Farming



Mrs. Gertrude E. Fox, Editor of the Black Fox Magazine, has a very interesting article in the May number entitled "Fur Style Show Draws Huge Crowds". Following are extracts from it: "Advance styles of silver fox and mink scarves, coats and capes were presented recently in a twice-daily show on the main floor of the massive Grand Central Palace, New York City, by the American National Fox and Fur Breeders' Association. It was an outstanding success. Crowds of men and women from the metropolitan area as well as from the middle west and New England attended. Altogether, nearly 100,000 visitors passed through the doors during the week. More than \$200,000 worth of furs were exhibited at each of the Association's shows through the co-operation of many of New York's most prominent retailers and manufacturers.

An interesting aspect of the event was a survey conducted by the Association aimed at discovering the preferences of the consumer as to color phase in a one or two skin silver fox scarf. The survey was based on free opinions of the consumers themselves, unswayed by sales talk, advertising, or other influences on the part of breeders, manufacturers or retailers.

Four pelts equally good in color, texture and size were displayed in a glass case, each under a daylight lamp. Under number one a dark full was shown, under number two a clear three-quarter and under number four a pale full silver.

The clear three-quarter proved to be by far the most popular of all. Of the 2,153 opinions recorded, this fur polled 1,428 preferences. The pale full silver was a poor second with 384 votes, the dark full was favored by 230 persons, while the half-silver trailed behind them all with only 111 votes. It is interesting to note that practically all who registered in favor of the very bright full silver were young girls or women under thirty."

Every month the New York Auction Company have a page ad in the Black Fox Magazine headed "Do You Know That". It follows with interesting items and illustrations of wild fur life. These are typical. Muskrats build huts composed of fruit, vegetables and roots... hence the muskrat's hut is in reality a storehouse which he devours piecemeal as the winter advances... During the olden times in Russia minks were esteemed so highly that it was forbidden to slaughter them on pain of death... Superstitious peasants of Austria place a skunk's tail on the door of their homes to bring the dwellers good luck and keep devils away... When a chipmunk is frightened it utters a shriek whistle of alarm much like a human being.

Ray D. Harman has an article in the May Black Fox Magazine on "Why Barren Vixens?" Some of the conclusions reached are quite different from generally accepted ideas prevalent in this Province, so I am going to give it in part.

"Of all the adversities that reduce the fur farmers' profits, perhaps the greatest one and the least understood is the large percentage of females that fail to raise litters each year. Large or medium sized ranches that get by with no more than one miss in six vixens are doing well. The great majority have more misses than that. I believe on all ranches the percentages of vixens that fail to raise litters each year will average thirty to forty per cent. The percentage will be higher on ranches doing plural mating than on those operating straight pairs.

The average percentage of misses is considerably greater than with domesticated livestock, cattle, sheep or hogs. The fox is still a wild animal in captivity, temperamental and nervous, confined to a limited area and given food that by necessity is not just what he would select in the wild. Causes of other troubles like fox deaths or pelts going off color can be quite definitely traced and steps taken to eliminate the trouble. Causes of barren females are more numerous and difficult to analyze.

"Perfection will never be reached; that is production each year from all females; but the condition can be materially improved. On my ranch with several hundred vixens, we have given this matter a lot of study and have the percentage of misses reasonably low, but there is still room for improvement. Of the various types of blanks, I believe the percentages below represent about the percentages of total blank females from different causes:

1. Failure to mate—20 per cent.
2. Mate, but do not conceive—10 per cent.
3. Premature birth or abortion—10 per cent.
4. Pups dead at birth or die shortly after—60 per cent."

What to do about the great quantities of silver fox catalogued on the auction sales has many people thinking. When it is advertised that such and such a sale has 30,000 silvers the effect on the buyer is not apt to raise his enthusiasm. On the other hand the quantities force him to the conclusion that the average price will not be very high.

Review Of Collegiate Club Activities

Another term is about to close in the annals of Collegiate life, and it is interesting to cast a glance over the program which the Catholic Collegiate Club has carried out, according to the plan formulated at the beginning of the term. At the organization meeting in September the following were elected to office: President, Stephen McMillan; vice Pres., Blanche Griffith; Secy., Grace Campbell; Treasurer, Florence Dalton; Moderator, Rev. Wilfrid McCordle.

Following the plan of the previous year, Thursday afternoons have been devoted to meetings, alternately featuring an address, with musical program and a class in Christian Doctrine conducted by the Chaplain. Having in mind the fact that there can be no ideal-ly perfect education, which is not based on education. Rev. Father McCordle has been untiring in his zeal to impart to the students, through a series of instructions in morals and dogma, a solid foundation in ethics, thus preparing them to take their places in the community, as worthy citizens in the coming year.

The literary meetings were of a high educational value, and Rev. Dr. McMahon was the first speaker. The aims and objects of the C. C. Club were explained to the students by the Reverend speaker, who in his inspiring and helpful manner urged the young people to obtain this objective, by their earnest co-operation. Addresses along patriotic lines were given by Prof. W. J. McDonald of P. W. College and by Edmund Heenan, who kindly consented to speak on two occasions. During the visit to Charlottetown of Rev. Fr. Morrison, Missionary, the students were honored with his presence at one of their meetings. Of great interest, was his telling of the progress made to Christianize pagan China, during the short time in which he had labored there; and in hearing the "Our Father" recited in the Chinese language by the learned missionary.

Mr. George Gillespie, M.A., Prof. of English at St. Dunstan's University was the speaker at the final literary meeting of the term, and his address on "How reporters get news for their papers" was replete with interest to his audience. Through the medium of this program our students have had the opportunity of receiving the great benefits of the treasure house which lies in the realm of literature and are duly appreciative.

And in regard to the social life of the Club the necessary recreation has been provided in the very enjoyable socials which are held in the K. of C. Hall on Saturday evenings for the members. Attendance is regulated by membership and invitation cards, and the socials are under the supervision of the chaperone of the C.W.L. Committee on Education. A delightful program of choice music is supplied by the Misses M. Piquet and W. Gaudet and orchestra during the two hour recreational period of the students.

Canadian Scene Brought Romance

(By Tew Farah)
(Canadian Press Staff Writer)
TORONTO, May 21—A tall, blue-eyed Irishman who came to Canada in pursuit of a romance not only wedded the girl but fell in love with her country also.

That is the essence of the story of John Coulter, whose one-act play "The House in the Quiet Glen" won first prize in the fifth annual Dominion Drama Festival, just concluded at Ottawa. The play was performed by the Toronto Masquers.

Coulter met a Canadian girl in London a few years ago, and when she returned to her homeland he followed. He arrived in Toronto last June, married Olive Carl Primrose in July, passed part of the summer with her on Lake Joseph in Muskoka, and came to the conclusion that Canada is almost as intriguing as his women.

Mrs. Coulter is attractive, dark-haired, tall, and writes poems and short stories for Canadian and English publications under her maiden name. Her father is Dr. Alexander Primrose, former dean of the faculty of medicine at the University of Toronto. Dr. Primrose is related to the Earl of Rosebery and is a cousin of Lt.-Col. Primrose, late Lieutenant-governor of Alberta.

Best, moving to Dublin and then to London, a devotee of the theatre and fiction during much of his life, Coulter is interested in capturing a typically Canadian quality in his future writings. At present he is assembling material for a play covering life in the Dominion.

Coulter knows as well as anyone that getting what is characteristic of any nation down on paper, expressing it in dynamic drama, is not just as easy as talking about it. In Canada, where very little distinctive national spirit has yet crystallized, this is doubly difficult. But he intends to try. He believes a great deal can be done to advance the Dominion's cultural life through plays and stories.

So if the near future gives Coulter some indication that he can succeed in his purpose, he will stay and cast his literary lot with Canada. Otherwise, he returns to London with his Canadian wife.

Coulter has written a three-act

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2,500 Rotarians Of North America Sail For France

NEW YORK, May 21—The "flagship" of the fleet of fourteen ships carrying Rotarians of North America to the annual convention of Rotary International at Nice, France, June 6-11, the "S. S. Carinthia" sails at 5 o'clock this evening with a party of several hundred officers and their families.

Three ships have already started, and ten others are to follow, each with a large delegation of Rotarians. President Will R. Manier, Jr., of Nashville, Tennessee, heads the party on the "Carinthia" which includes most of those who have been chosen to be governors of the North American Rotary districts for the next year, starting July 1st.

These incoming governors, selected at conferences in their districts in the past few weeks, will meet the rest of the governors from other parts of the world at Montreux, Switzerland, on May 31st, for a week of consideration of Rotary affairs, preceding the convention in Nice.

Among the other large delegations organized for the trip to Nice are those of the British Isles, well over a thousand, and from continental Europe, about an equal number. Plans have been made by the Nice Rotarians and the municipality for an attendance of around 8,000.

The convention will be formally opened by the President of France, M. Albert Lebrun, at 11 o'clock Sunday morning, June 6. Business sessions will continue through Friday morning, after which most of the North Americans will scatter over Europe for sightseeing. Preparations for official receptions have been made for the post-convention travellers. One of these will be held in the London Guildhall, June 25th. The Duke of Kent, younger brother of the King, will attend this reception to Rotarians visiting England.

SEA VIEW SCHOOL

Standing of Sea View School for April:

Grade X Sr.—1. Vera Brander.
Grade X Jr.—1. Arnold Hiltz.
Grade IX Sr.—1. Fiorena Adams; 2. Buddy Brander.
Grade IX Jr.—1. Winnie Blakeney.
Grade VIII—1. Stewart Adams; 2. Ralph Duggan.
Grade VII—1. Doris Blakeney.
Grade VI—1. Ruby Adams.
Teacher—J. Weeks Murphy.
Grade V—1. Orville Adams; 2. Velda Duggan; 3. John Adams.
Grade IV Sr.—1. Ruth Burt; 2. Louis Adams; 3. Leigh Stewart.
Grade IV Jr.—1. Elmer Adams; 2. Sterling Murphy; 3. John Murphy.
Grade III—1. Allison MacLennan; 2. Arlie Graham; 3. Colin Burt.
Grade II Sr.—1. Audrey Adams; 2. Wallace Murphy; 3. Dorothy Murphy.
Grade II Jr.—1. Leroy Adams; 1 June Burt; 3. Walter Adams.
Grade I—1. Clarence Adams; 2 Ralph Burt.
Teacher—Louise M. Johnson.

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