

FOR FARMERS, STOCK BREEDERS AND GARDENERS

TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox Farming

A rancher in the vicinity of Hampshire a few mornings ago noticed one of his female foxes coming out of the den with a pup in her mouth and running around the pen apparently looking for a place to bury it. He took the pup away from her and put it on a cat that had three kittens, two white ones and a black one. The cat mother did not resent the extra burden placed upon her food resources, became attached to the little thing almost instantly, licked it and made quite a fuss over it and soon it was nursing.

In the afternoon when the rancher went into the ranch to feed he found the female fox very much disturbed, running around barking and crying for her little one. Afraid that she might disturb other mothers he brought out the black kitten, drove the female into her nest and placed the kitten in with her. She seemed perfectly contented. Two days afterwards he opened up the cover of the den and the kitten was nursing the fox foster mother as happy as could be. So it will now mean a fox raised on a cat and a kitten raised on a fox.

Years ago when Ray Clark was caretaker of the J. Stanley Wedlock ranch, Union Road, he brought up a fox pup on a cat that had two kittens. The four got along famously and we remember seeing them out in a small pen in the ranch during the latter part of the summer.

The mounties get their man. Fox stealing which was so prevalent throughout Canada a few years ago has been comparatively unheard of the past season, due largely to fear of the mounties. In this province the signal punishment meted out to perpetrators through the efforts of the R. C. M. P. has frightened those who had a flair for that sort of thing into pursuing the straight and narrow path.

A case was reported at Endcliffe, Manitoba, last December where a ranch was broken into on the night of the 11th and six foxes slaughtered. It was again raided the end of December but the night watchman woke up and frightened off the would be robbers but not before they had killed a dozen foxes. The mounties were soon hot on the trail and apprehended the thieves, one of whom turned state's evidence, receiving a sentence of eighteen months, his two companions each getting five years.

Liberty Magazine in its write up of the Four Star picture Roberta, states that Miss Irene Dunne the leading lady, appears in it wearing a Silver Fox fur super-tippet (cape) which cost the producers \$6,000. Whew ! ! !

One of the most successful fox breeders in the vicinity of Charlottetown, if not in the entire province, this season, is Lt. Colonel F. I. Andrew, M. M., and he well deserves that success. Colonel Fred enlisted as a private in the early spring of 1916 at the age of eighteen. It was not very long before he saw service on the Western Front and he continued right through until the end of the war. In the meantime he had been promoted to commissioned rank and decorated with the M.M. for bravery. After the war he took up fox farming on his own account, and notwithstanding a great many difficulties has steadily forged ahead. Three years ago he assumed command of the P. E. I. Light Horse and was also made an Aide de Camp to His Excellency the Governor General.

Now for his fox news. Fred has 72 females in his ranch. Fifty-two litters counted have 260 living pups. There is one litter of ten, one of eight and five of seven. Three sisters, pups of 1934, have 22 pups. The litter of ten and the litter of eight were sired by two full brothers born in 1934. They were out of a litter of seven and their parents were out of litters of five and six.

Fred looks at pups when they are four or five days old, never considers there is any danger looking at them after the second day. When he opens the cover he lets the female run out. He does not handle the pups, just sees that everything is O. K.

Asked about pilling for worms he said that he had been used to pill every week. If they seem pot-bellied he doses them at three weeks old. If not he leaves them until they are four weeks old. He weans the pups when they are seven weeks old.

His feeding system is much the same as outlined by us some time ago except that he does not use any milk or milk powder in the feed given to the pregnant female. Females that have litters are fed milk in the mornings with cereals of course, and meat in the evenings.

Colonel Andrew reports a rather unusual occurrence this year. It was his first experience of the kind. A male that had been used polygamously quite a lot, was left with the last female he mated. A couple of days after the pups were born he noticed him running out of the house with a pup in his mouth and on examination found other dead ones in the house. He had always previously taken away polygamous males. This may be useful information to other ranchers who will probably find it the wise thing to keep polygamous males by themselves.

Ernest Coffin, grocer of Charlottetown, is receiving the congratulations of many friends on having the highest priced pelt of the entire London March sales—\$33. It was sold through the Canadian National Silver Fox Breeders Association by Anning and Cobb.

Major Robertson who saw the pelt says that it was a beautiful clear pale silver, of good size wonderful texture and had a wealth of fur.

Stewart MacEachern of Mount Stewart, was in town Tuesday and Wednesday. He reports very good success this season so far and hopes to have the usual good turnout. Years ago we made an annual pilgrimage to Stewart's ranch and purchased breeding stock from him. Stewart had the faculty of raising the largest pups that we found in our travels. We remember particularly one pale silver male that we bought from him that afterwards won first prize as an adult at the Royal Winter Fair, Toronto.

Lowell Hancock writes us that the Sun Glo Fox Breeders Club meetings have been discontinued as the roads are not good and quite a number of the members were from outlying rural sections. They will be resumed again when the roads open. Members will be notified through the press.

Roy Hayes, Tyne Valley, is calling on fox ranchers as representative of Royal Fox Food and Cubes. His father, Clifford Hayes, is laid up from the effects of an attack of flu which he contracted a few weeks ago. Roy is a popular young man and we feel confident he will capably fill his Dad's shoes until the latter becomes well enough to take up his salesmanship duties.

George Calbeck, President of the Canadian Silver Fox Breeders' Association, is strongly advising members to grow large foxes. To do so it will be necessary to feed well from the word GO. It is our experience with foxes that if they have not attained size in the first few months, they very seldom do so later on. We are therefore going to keep the feed box well filled up this season.

We had the pleasure of a short conversation over the phone yesterday morning with Mr. Brenton Clark well known fox rancher in the vicinity of Summerside. Mr. Clark has 39 litters with 197 pups, a very wonderful production. Among them are five litters of seven and seven litters of six. As his stock is high class he can confidently look forward to a very successful year.

To Herbert Platts, Charlottetown, goes the honor, we think, of large production from a single female over a number of years. In seven years this vixen has had fifty pups consisting of two litters of six, two litters of seven and three litters of eight. Can you trot out a record to that, boys?

We cannot believe all we read

Scabiosa, The Old Time Pincushion

Mourning brides, an ancient common name for the scabiosa of the botanists are among the most popular of easy garden annuals for cutting because of their long and wiry stems. The original name came from the very dark, almost black, varieties studded with white anthers. They were also known as pincushion flowers. The dark sorts have given way in popular favor to



SCABIOSA (MOURNING BRIDE)

the lighter tones much more decorative in the garden and valuable for bouquets.

The lavender, blue pink and rose shades are now most liked and there are few finer annuals. Added to the long wiry stems the flowers have good keeping qualities and will last a week when cut. They make handsome groups in the garden. They will produce bloom all summer if the seed heads are removed.

The perennial varieties have come into new popularity because of the development of size and varying shades of blue and lavender. They are somewhat larger than the annual varieties but no finer garden material.

The scabiosa is a most obliging annual, very hardy, a vigorous grower and not at all fussy as to soil. It likes an open position in the sun. The plant develops into good sized bushy specimens if given room and a foot apart is needed to give them their best chance. Seed started early may be transplanted readily into permanent quarters, as it is a plant that can be readily handled. The flesh, rose

in the newspapers regarding the marvels of science etc., but there may be something in the statement that young cereals, grasses, etc., contain wheat, barley and rye, cut before they have formed their first joints are very rich in vitamins. The statement of C. F. Schnabel of Kansas City, who made the report to the American Chemical Society, is that eating such grasses is better than eating carrots, spinach, lettuce or a dozen other well known vegetable greens. He said that one pound of this grass contained as much vitamins and "greens" value as fifty pounds of lettuce.

Mr. Schnabel's method is to dry the grass and grind it. He suggests using it in baked cookies, pancakes and chocolate candy, and claims it will improve the flavor of these edibles. Hens fed the grass meal developed their egg production and the Vitamin A content of their eggs rises 500 per cent. We are cutting young oats this summer! We expect to have 25 acres of it, so what ho for big production next year ! !

The Hudson Bay Company's spring sale of furs (other that Silver Fox) will be held at the Company's auction room Wednesday the first of May. On the list we notice 3,700 blue fox, 11,000 cross, 55,000 red, 35,000 white, 85,000 marten, 45,500 mink, 240,000 ermine, 1,800 fisher, 100 Russian sable, 4,000 otter, 18 sea otter and various other furs.

The number of Russian sable offered is the largest we have noticed for many years and must mean that the Russian government is once more placing them on the market. Eighteen sea otter is also out of the ordinary, as for years not more than one or two of these very valuable pelts would be on sale.

A letter was received last evening from our valued friend Ollie McNeill. It was dated Regina, where Ollie is visiting for a few days. At time of writing 23 kennels had been opened and 137 pups counted. He still had 160 to look at. Ollie has been the most successful fox rancher in the province of Saskatchewan and his stock has been the foundation for many ranches that have made good the past few years.

Faster Fishmeal

Fox men, please note! It has been shown that a pound of protein fed as fish meal has a growth promoting effect greater than the same amount of protein obtained from any other source. The reason for this remarkable effect is not only the protein itself, but the traces of stimulating minerals such as iodine, manganese, zinc, per, fluorine and others which are always present in fish meal.

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and pink tones are the most delicate. Scabiosa with a border of annual gypsophila forms a popular garden planting with bouquet material immediately at hand. Sow them in the open ground as soon as it can be worked for later blooming.

Plant seed of the perennial sorts, scabiosa caucasica, particularly the supply in the garden. The perennial types demand a sweet soil for success, and if the soil is neutral or acid the quarters for perennial scabiosa should be given a dressing of lime. They will not bloom freely except in lime soils.

Try a new vegetable this year. You can't improve the garden without a few experiments.

You need tape lines, stakes, plant labels for garden operations. Get them in and have them ready.

The Savoy is a good variety of cabbage for the home garden. It is the finest quality and least often seen in the market.

Oil up and sharpen the lawn mower.

Protect Canadian Plants

The elm tree is regarded as one of the five most important shade trees on the North American continent, and at the present moment the suppression of the imported Dutch elm disease is an important question. This disease is a menace to these stately trees. On the one hand, there have been several outbreaks in the United States where active campaigns of suppression are being carried out. On the other hand, the disease has not yet made its appearance in Canada where there is increasing vigilance. For several years the Dominion Department of Agriculture has taken active steps to prevent the introduction of the disease into Canada. Since 1928 elm trees and elm logs have been prohibited from entry, and an endeavor was made to re-inspect all elms imported into Canada since the inauguration of the permit system in 1923. The work devolves on the Entomological Branch of the Department and inspectors are constantly on the alert for disease-carrying insects and the suspicious signs of the disease either in the nursery or in the planted or the native elms. All suspected material is forwarded to the plant pathological laboratories for culturing and testing. As showing the thorough work of the inspectors, adults and living larvae of bark beetles were found at Toronto recently under the bark of split ash poles used as supports in containers for shipping china. Had not these crates been destroyed, they possibly would have been used in some way and thus an extended infestation of this destructive insect might have followed.

Since the sun was up in morning tide, giantic light, glad over grounds, God's candle bright, Eternal Lord!—Hill the noble creature sat in the western main; there lay many of the Northern heroes under a shower of arrows shot over slades; and Scotland's boast, a Scythian race, they left behind them raw to devour, the sorrow king, the swarthy raven with horny nib, and that grey beast of the wolf of the weald.

This remarkable poem, the first of the rhymes in the "Chronicle," runs to about 150 lines; for an extended (and better translation) the reader is referred to the works of Alfred Lord Tennyson. The remains of Anglo-Saxon poetic literature are few indeed; with the coming of the Danes a sort of blight passed over the genius of the people. For all nations (however it may be with individuals) must have basis of material prosperity upon which their social and literary structure is built.

ODDS AND ENDS
Early Ovens. Last flial, just be-



Here is a garden costume which Hollywood designers say will be popular this spring. It is worn by Gertrude Michael, popular cinema star, and amateur gardener.

FOX WIRE

We have just received, direct from England, a large shipment of highest quality Fox Wire. It will pay you to get our prices before purchasing.

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NEWSY NOTES

THE ANGLO SAXON CHRONICLE (4)

The Chronicle has now reached a most disastrous period in the Saxon history. Every year the host of invading Danes grew larger, and by 878 A.D. they had overrun all England north of the Thames. "They drove many of the people over the sea; and of the rest the greater part they rode down and subdued to their will—all but Alfred the King. He with a little band, unceasingly sought the woods and fastnesses of the moors." But in the seventh week after Easter 878, Alfred emerged from this barren retreat and suddenly fell on the village of Heddington (anciently Ethingunde) in Wiltshire. Inflicting a severe defeat on the marauders, Alfred rode after the survivors and besieged them in their earthworks. After a three week's siege King Godrum (or Guthrum) attended by thirty Danish nobles, surrendered to Alfred and received baptism; and after being entertained for twelve days as guests they departed, laden with presents.

Northumbria had become almost entirely Danish, the exception being the northern portion, now known as Northumberland. The Northumberland territory of the Danes stretched north from the Fumber almost to the Tyne; and the present writer recollects, as a boy, noticing the great difference between the dialects of the localities divided by a stream called the Stanley Burn. This had been the boundary—however settled—between the Saxons and the Danish invaders, and after the lapse of ten centuries it still could be traced in the language of the people.

"A.D. 901. This year died Alfred, the son of Ethelwulf, six nights before the feast of St. John the Baptist. He held the government one year and a half less than thirty winters; and then Edward his son took to the government." Alfred's life was one long struggle against the roving hordes who landed on the south coast. Both by land and sea he won victories that kept the territory south of the Thames "English."

Edward was successful in his government and after many conflicts, was acknowledged by Danes as well as Saxons. In 924 "the King of Scotland chose him as father and lord; as did . . . all that dwell in Northumbria, both English and Saxon." Edward died in 925, and the Mercians, chose Athelstan as his successor. The Kings of Wales and Scotland renewed their agreements with their new overlord, but for some reason we find the Scottish King Constantine invading Lincolnshire in 938. This led to the battle of Brunan (Brunnaburg) in which the Scots were defeated by Athelstan and his brother Edmund. The Chronicle records this in a poem characteristically Saxon in its short lines and alliteration, though the latter is not well shown in Ingram's translation:

A.D. 938.
Athelstan King
Of earls the lord,
Rewarder of heroes
And his brother eke,
Edmund Atheling,
Elder of ancient race,
Slew in the fight,
With the edge of their swords
The foe at Brunby!

Since the sun was up in morning tide, giantic light, glad over grounds, God's candle bright, Eternal Lord!—Hill the noble creature sat in the western main; there lay many of the Northern heroes under a shower of arrows shot over slades; and Scotland's boast, a Scythian race, they left behind them raw to devour, the sorrow king, the swarthy raven with horny nib, and that grey beast of the wolf of the weald.

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ODDS AND ENDS
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fore the freeze-up, I planted a selection of bulbs from Holland. They were mostly of the early varieties and one, a yellow crocus, was especially early. When the snow cleared off the garden the crocus was showing its flower-buds, and by April 17th they were fully expanded. This variety is called "Cloth of Gold" and is a light butercup yellow inside; while the outside of each petal is marked with a black "feather." Crocus Cloth of Gold is not the largest of the genus in point of size, but it is a profuse bloomer and well worth a place in the garden. Another good point is that crocuses increase rapidly, and the "clump" becomes more attractive year by year.

Dick Whittington: The other night I heard some young people singing a "Round," and doing it well, too. "Turn again, Whittington" it commenced, and the male, sliding down the octave, was evidently intended to imitate the sound of church bells. We were taught at school that this old Round had a story. Dick Whittington, we learned, was a poor boy who made his way to London to "seek his fortune." Dismayed at the first glimpse of the huge city, his heart failed him and he was about to go back when the sound of Bow Bells seemed to invite him to "turn again." He decided to go forward, and in the course of time became Lord Mayor of London. The moral drawn from the tale was that every boy was on the way to success if he was persevering and diligent.

Now this story really had a foundation in fact. Dick was not exactly a poor boy, for he was a son of Sir William Whittington of Pauntley in Gloucestershire; but being the third son, and not the eldest, it was necessary for him to go out into the world and make his way.

Accordingly in 1371, when he was 13 years old, he was sent up to London as apprentice to a mercer. A wise man once wrote these memorable words: "Seest thou a man diligent in his business? He shall stand before kings." So it was with our hero; twenty-five years later he was elected Lord Mayor of London (1398). Next year he was re-elected, and again 1406. He had by diligence and successful trading ventures amassed a great fortune and hence he was able to make considerable loans to Richard II, Henry IV and Henry V.

The legend that a cat was instrumental in making his fortune, has been explained in different ways: one historian avers that the Cat was the name of one of his trading ships. However that may be, "Dick Whittington and his cat" were the heroes of many a Christmas pantomime in the old days.

Earthquake, but where? April 19 was peculiarly fitted to be the date of an earthquake. The moon was opposite to the sun, i.e., in its "full" phase; moreover, it was in the neighborhood of the planet Jupiter. The earth, whose position was between the sun and these planets, like other interlopers, was made the victim of its circumstances. The seismograph at West Bromwich, London, Eng., reported a severe earthquake, lasting for two hours, and apparently centered in Asia Minor. Communications are very primitive in some districts of that region, and it may be a considerable time before we know what actually happened, and where.

RETRIBUTIVE JUSTICE (2)

The writers of the Jewish sacred Chronicles recognized that there was a connection between action and consequence; and they hastened to point it out for the guidance of their countrymen. When the king, the leader, or the nation, fulfilled law as laid down by God, they prospered; if they did evil in the sight of the Lord, evil overtook them.

Coming nearer to our own times, we note that the casualties of any period are amply explained. The excesses of the French Revolution, horrible as they were, were speeded by the deaths of thousands of Frenchmen in the Napoleonic wars. The slave trade took a frightful toll of the African natives; for every slave that survived to reach America soil, probably a dozen died at the Civil War to wipe out that stain. When the German ravaged Belgium our sympathies went out to the little nation; yet they suffered no more than the natives of the Congo State did, when Belgium took over its government. It is something of an advantage to have a long memory, and the writer can remember the precepts of the British parliament at the "Congo atrocities." Of late years the world has forgotten God and worshipped Mammon—and we see the result today.

What of Russia? Winston Churchill wrote a book on the aftermath of the Great War and showed that 1,770,737 persons were executed by the Soviet dictators to establish their government—these figures being from Russian statistics. What is in store for that unhappy country?



Spring Care Of The Lawn

The lawn is the most important part of your landscape. It is what you and your neighbors see most. Begin spring gardening operations this year by making sure that when warm weather comes and new green leaves begin to shoot out of the earth, your lawn grasses will be in condition to thrive and fight off weeds.

The notion that a lawn once made will continue to grow indefinitely is a mistaken one. In the first place, few soils are sufficiently rich to support even a poor matting of grass without feeding. Grass needs plant food, just like flowers and vegetables, and without a thorough feeding each spring with a complete plant food that dissolves will reach its maximum health and beauty.

It is a good idea to feed the lawn each spring with a complete plant food at the rate of 4 pounds for every 100 square feet, soaking it well into the soil. If growth is well started the soaking should be done as soon as the plant food is applied to prevent burning. Later in the spring, another feeding of

about one-half this amount is advisable. Lawns need to be rolled with a light roller early in the spring. Turf is shallow rooted; it lies like a blanket on top of the soil and the heaving action of the frost often lifts it, just as a space can lift sod. Turf so lifted by frost action will dry out and die unless contact with the soil beneath is restored early. This contact establishes capillary action and enables the grass roots to obtain the food and water stored in the ground. But rolling for this purpose can be done by rolling too often or by using too heavy a roller.

It is not beneficial to turf when it is compressed and crushed even though a smoother surface is produced thereby. Vigorous growth is checked in soil which is made too compact. It is always a problem for a greenskeeper to keep the soil loose enough to let water and air into it.

Lawns should not be rolled when the soil is wet and soft. Let the turf dry a little, but go over before they are dried out; and then retire the roller for the season.

Calendula Shaggy Glories In Remote Origin

This 1935 All American Prize Winner Harks Back To Shakespeare For Its Beginning. A Gorgeous Example of Modern Plant Breeding.

Shaggy Calendula, an All-American Prize Winner. That Will Be Welcome In Every Garden.

When Shakespeare sang of the "marrygold" he was not praising the marigold of modern times. The flower he knew by that name was the calendula; it seems strange that this ancient flower known to gardeners for many centuries should develop ambition in recent years and blossom out in improved forms. Calendula Orange Shaggy, awarded a gold medal in the All-American trials for 1935, is the latest model of this seasoned flower. It is distinctly a new break from the traditional form. The petals are long and deeply fringed. Row after row of these long fringed petals overlap each other in irregular fashion producing a blossom which resembles some chrysanthemum. Deep orange shading to pale orange in the center gives the flower a two-tone effect. The flowers have long stems, the plants growing two feet tall.

Calendulas are among the easiest of flowers to grow. Though of tropical origin, liking hot weather, it is remarkably hardy. In the southern states it will bloom most of the year. In the north it comes quickly to flower and bloom throughout the summer and often survives the first killing frosts.



But if your interest has been aroused in the calendula family look over these catalog and you will find there are many other excellent varieties besides the Orange Shaggy. You will not be disappointed in any of them.

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"IMPERIALS" fed during this season repay richly in generous results.

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