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 111-112 Grafton Street, Charlottetown, P.E.I.
 EDWIN C. JOHNSTONE, B.A., C.L.U., Provincial Manager

TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox and Mink Farming

The 1949 British Columbia Live Animal Fur Exposition will be held in the city market building New Westminster, B.C., November 14-16. Animals on exhibit will include mink, fox, chinchilla, marten and fisher. Manager Jackson expects about 1,200 animals will be in the show. Invitations have been sent out to United States fur farmers to exhibit in order to make the event an international one.

Seaboard & Western Airlines, Inc., 16 Liberty Street, New York 5, are advertising reliable and fast air shipments of all furs and pelts between New York and Europe on their "Seaboard & Western Air Traders." Shipping furs by air has become quite common.

The International Fur Animal Show will be held in Detroit, Michigan, December 2-4-5. It is sponsored by the Michigan Fur Breeders Association and it is expected that all the principal breeders of silver fox and its mutations, mink and its mutations, in the United States and also some from Ontario will exhibit. One of the features will be the showing of fur garments estimated at having a value of a quarter of a million dollars.

Roy D. Harmon, past president of the National Board of Fur Farmers, has this to say about the present situation of the fur farmers in the latest issue of the Black Fox Magazine, New York:—"Probably the chief cause of the collapse of the fur market in general since the War is the general disruption of commerce and trade between nations as a result of the War. Europe in particular found the finances of every combatant country strained to the limit after the War merely to provide the essentials of life. As a result until the past year, Europe has been nearly out of the fur market. Not only trade in furs has suffered but disruption of normal trade between nations in nearly all commodities has occurred."

"This breaking up of normal trade balances has hit nations like Argentina, Mexico, South Africa and Australia, some of them not in the War at all. These countries have by government orders ceased to import such commodities as are not essential to their economy. Unfortunately for us furs are considered in that category and several nations are now completely out of the world's fur markets. In recent months there has been considerable improvement in business in several countries of Europe, enabling them to step into the fur markets again on a moderate scale. But even where the market is recovering the fact remains that now, August, 1949, over half the fur wearing people of the world are cut off from wearing furs by government edict, by financial difficulties or by the fact that their currency is not acceptable to the nations that have the fur."

"With over half the fur wearing people out of the market those countries with fur to sell have sent it into the United States and Canada, the only countries where it can be sold at a price for cash, which can immediately be converted to purchase of any kind of goods desired. The furs sent into this country since the War have amounted each year to from two to five times the average annual pre-war imports. Even the economy of America cannot stand that. Our fur farmers are being forced out of business, our dealers going broke with huge inventories of ever declining values. Our trappers find it no longer pays to trap with the result that in many sections wild foxes, skunk and raccoons have multiplied until they are a nuisance.

"Business recovery in Europe is not likely to occur by bounds but when it does come it will do much to consume the great quantities of fur available. It should improve trade conditions in non-European nations so they will again buy furs. Recipients of our aid under the Marshall Plan state it is a de-

mand help in restoring prosperity abroad. There is no way to foresee how much time this process will require. In the meantime, the pressure of these vast quantities of furs on producers in America of both farm and wild furs will remain enormous.

"The National Board of Fur Farm Organizations is fully aware of these conditions and definite and determined steps are being taken to improve the situation. Bills are now before Congress to place restrictions or quotas on imports and to reduce the 20% Excise Tax. Passage of these acts will not be easy. Rebuffs have been encountered and will be met again. We continue to believe clean American business has enough friends in official Washington to bring about some aid before complete strangulation of the American fur producing industry occurs."

We notice in The American Fur Journal the death of Leo N. Silverman, owner of the Chicago Silver Fox Farms, Naperville, Ill. Mr. Silverman purchased fifty pairs of silver foxes from McJure & MacKinnon and the writer with Arthur Henderson, who became their caretaker, placed them in their pens the afternoon of December 10th, 1925. It was zero weather with a strong wind blowing and we never felt as cold in our lives. Mr. Henderson had good knowledge of foxes and the fact that the ranch is still in existence shows the quality of the breeding stock they received. Mr. Silverman was manager of the American Steel and Wire Company and held other important positions. We regret his passing.

Observance Of Navy Week Oct. 16-20

TORONTO, Oct. 15—Navy Week will be observed throughout Canada October 16 to 22. Navy League headquarters announced here today and will be inaugurated next Sunday with church parades in which the Navy and Army Cadets, sponsored by the Navy League, will participate. Special services will be held to honour those who served during the war, and in memory of those who did not return.

The purpose of Navy Week is to focus attention upon the Navy and Merchant Navy and their importance to Canada's security and prosperity. It is also an opportunity time for a number of Navy League Divisions to make their annual appeal for funds.

Navy Week will also be featured by the opening of a National Essay Contest similar to the one conducted jointly by the Navy and Navy League last year. It is for boys and girls ten to thirteen years of age and fourteen to eighteen years. The subject is "Our Canadian Navy." More than two-hundred prizes will be awarded according to Provinces and the writer of the best essay in each Province will be the guest of honor at a luncheon at the fleet either at Esquimaux, B. C., or Halifax, N. S. Should the winner be attending school, the principal of the school will be invited along as escort with all expenses paid. Other prizes will include wrist-watches, gold, silver and bronze medals and Certificates of Merit.

The Navy League's Diamond Medal will be awarded to the writer of the essay judged to be the best from all Canada, regardless of his or her age. Last year this grand prize was won by thirteen-year-old Kay Marshall of Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan.

Full details concerning the contest are contained in a handbook entitled "Our Canadian Navy" obtainable at schools, local Naval Divisions, any Division or Branch of the Navy League or by writing to the Navy League of Canada, Toronto.

LARGE FLOCKS of especially prairie chickens, are reported plentiful north of Edmonton.



To my fellow Canadians

On Monday, October 17th, for the fourth time, a new series of Canada Savings Bonds is being made available to the people of this country and I want to personally bring the merits of these popular bonds to everyone's attention.

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Douglas Abbott
 Minister of Finance.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION INQUIRY

MARITIME ELECTRIC COMPANY'S EARNINGS' BASE

Notice is hereby given that, in the matter of an inquiry to determine an Earnings' Base for the Maritime Electric Company Limited, within Prince Edward Island, a Public Hearing will be held in the Court Room in the Law Courts' Building in Charlottetown in Queen's County, on Monday, twenty-fourth day of October A.D. 1949, at the hour of ten-thirty o'clock in the forenoon, for the purpose of determining the following matters in advance of the main hearing, that is to say:

1. The manner of determining the accrued depreciation on the Company's property;
2. The manner of determining the annual depreciation on the Company's property;
3. The manner of determining the amount of money to be allowed to the Company as Working Capital;
4. The manner of determining the Earnings' Base from year to year;
5. The manner of accounting with respect to Capital expended in the purchase of properties.

Dated at Charlottetown this sixth day of October, A.D. 1949.
 L. B. MacMILLAN, Secretary,
 Public Utilities Commission.

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Commanding Officers Conference At Navy Headquarters

OTTAWA—The annual conference of commanding officers of the 21 Naval Divisions across Canada will be held at Naval Headquarters, Ottawa, October 17 to 21, it was announced today.

This will be the second meeting of its kind, the first having been held last Fall. Besides the commanding officers of the divisions, the sessions will be attended by the Reserve Training Commanders from the Atlantic and Pacific Commands and heads of various directorates at headquarters.

Delegates to the conference will be welcomed in short addresses by Defence Minister Brooke Claxton, Vice-Admiral H. T. W. Grant, C.B.E., D.S.O., R.C.N., Chief of the Naval Staff, and Acting Captain Howard L. Quinn, D.S.C., R.C.N., Director of Naval Reserves.

During the week-long meeting every phase of the Naval reserve picture will come under discussion. Items on the agenda have been placed mainly under the headings of plans and organization, training equipment and training generally, advancement, recruiting, pay and

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RECKLESS DRIVING

EDMUNDSTON, N. B., Oct. 13—(CP)—A coroner's jury found tonight that a collision resulting in the death of Melvin Plourde, Edmundston, was caused by the "reckless driving" of Gilbert Violette, Van Buren, Me. A third car involved in the collision was driven by Erwin N. Garrison, Lincoln, Me. The accident occurred near Edmundston last Sunday night. Violette has been remanded to Monday on a charge of reckless driving.

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