

TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox and Mink Farming

A sharp advance in muskrat together with the recovery in prices for mink was a feature of the Canadian Fur Auction Sales Company Ltd., September sale of furs which was completed last week.

Most of the interest in silver fox today has been inspired by Paris couturiers who have, despite what others think, maintained their faith in it as a beautiful fur.

Prices in the various sections were: Quebec Springs, \$1.60 to \$4.12; Eastern Ontario, \$2.50 to \$4.05; Northern Ontario, \$1.45 to \$3.90; Northern Quebec, \$2.90 to \$3.20; Labrador, \$1.85 to \$3.15; Newfoundland, \$1.55 to \$2.85; British Columbia, \$2.65; Saskatchewan, \$2.65 and Manitoba \$2.15.

Wild mink with an offering of 1355 skins, came close to a sell-out with New York buyers leading the bidding and paying advanced prices for quality goods.

Ranch mink was good too. A catalogue of 7,035 skins was aggressively bid for, although the prices were relatively lower than those for the wild article.

White fox was 30% sold at a decline of 10%. Top price for white fox was \$20 for numbers one. Blue fox was 61% sold, the top price being \$21 for silver blue.

NEWSY NOTES

By Agricola

THE OLD SQUAW DUCK

This duck appears in the 1916 list of P. E. I. birds, but I have no records of its later appearance. This might be expected since the duck, because of its rather unpalatable flesh, is not a favorite with the gunner, and is only shot when nothing better happens along.

Bain's "Clans and Tartans of Scotland"

THE SURNAME WIGMORE

This is another island name and is derived from the name of a village in England. The village of Wigmore is situated a few miles from Knighton, Radnorshire, in what was formerly known as the "Marches of Wales", and is just inside the boundary of Herefordshire.

OLD SQUAW, LONG-TAILED DUCK

AOU, 164. Migrant, Nov. to April. Winter plumage, male. Most of head and neck, upper back, scapulars, flanks, and belly, white; side of back, of head, and of upper neck, wings, most of back, breast, and upper belly, black.

TOTEM POLES IN B. C.

I am in receipt of a pamphlet on the "Totem Poles" of British Columbia, sent me by an esteemed correspondent to whom my thanks are due.

THE CLAN MACCALLUM

"The name MacCallum means a follower of Columba," says Bain's "Clans and Tartans of Scotland." The Columba in question has earned the title of Saint for his work as a missionary who first brought Christianity to North Britain.

"Lanvin uses brilliant shocking pink crepe for the lining, a drapery of floor-length silver fox cape that is lined with midnight navy velvet. Silts for the arms are added to a 30-inch cape, by Balmain, that has a vented back and a Peter Pan collar.

"This firm reports many calls for 27 and 28-inch capes and packets in its regular collection of classic silver and blue fox designs. One of the highlight styles is a nine-skin 37-inch silver fox cape that carries a detachable gray crepe hood bordered with self-fur."

National Fur News, a very fine magazine published in Denver, Colorado, has this to say regarding the recent action of congress: "In the repeal of the excess tax on fur trimmed garments the board worked out a plan that was sound and fair and one that the American fur designer would listen to."

Corbarron was bequeathed by the late Reginald MacCallum of Pottaloch, in the 17th century. An anecdote of the family spirit is told of an earlier Zachary of Pottaloch, this MacCallum, a man of great strength, and a supporter of the Marquis of Argyll, was killed in a battle against Sir Alexander MacDonnell at Ederline in 1647.

Dugald MacCallum of Pottaloch, who succeeded to the estate in 1779 is believed to be the first who adopted the name Malcolm permanently. (This act may indicate that the clan has become very numerous.)

The clan tartan is a check of subdued colors, light green, dark green, and near black. The badge of the MacCallums was a sprig of mountain ash (rowanberry) and their crest tower proper, cupola and flag, gules—(a tower in its natural colors with a red dome and a red flag). For much of the foregoing I am indebted to Robert

ther declines. Added to the already unpopular position which fur furs hold in the market is the factor of restrictions effecting the importation of furs recently imposed by the Governments of some of the larger importing countries.

All foxes from registered ranches where no disease has existed during this year will be eligible to show at the Provincial Live Fox Exhibition. The entertainment committee will be Col. D. A. MacKinnon and Ernest Cudmore.

A resolution was passed recommending that the deduction for advertising purposes on pelts be one per cent instead of 25 cents as it has been. This will mean that shippers of lower priced pelts will not have to pay as large an amount towards the fund.

The following report prepared by George A. Callbeck, Manager Fur Marketing Department of C. N. S. F. E. A. Summerside, speaks for itself:

Since the time of issuing our last letter, the market for silver and mutation foxes has remained comparatively easy. Demand for the article has continued briskly with prices generally showing fur-

Table with columns: No. Pelts, % Sold, Av. Price, % Sold, Av. Price. Rows include Platinum (good quality), Platinum (inferior), Pearl Platinum, White-marked silver, 1-2 - 3-4 Silvers, Selected Fells, Regular Fells, Inferior, Low grades, and Totals.

While the above shows a total of 30443 skins catalogued, a report issued by the Company subsequent to the sale indicates that only 20996 of these were actually offered, the balance of the catalogue being withdrawn.

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WHOSE FAULT? DON'T GIVE UP TOO EASILY. This story is reputedly from an American source though personally I can scarcely credit that a native of the U. S. A. would speak so lightly of his country. In view of the large number of drowning fatalities that have been reported this year, the advice of Dr. Gordon Bates of the Health League of Canada is worth the attention of all. To often, Dr. Bates declares, artificial respiration has not been continued long enough to be certain that life is extinct.

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