

FOR FARMERS, STOCK BREEDERS and GARDENERS

NEWSY NOTES

BY AGRICOLA

Soybeans in Canada

An authoritative article on the prospects, cultivation, and uses of the soybean in Canada appears in the April 19th issue of the "Family Herald," above the signature of Prof. F. Dimmock, of the Dominion Experimental Farm. It is well illustrated, and its letter-press will prove interesting to many of our farmers who have wondered whether this crop would succeed in Prince Edward Island. In southwestern Ontario the AK soybean has been grown for many years; farther northward the Mandarin variety has been grown for almost the same period, and now comes Manitoba Brown, an earlier ripening strain, to carry soybeans farther north.

as salad in Europe.

The Teton Indians of Dakota steeped the catkins to make a drink to allay fevers and intestinal pain. Parts of the roots, three or four feet down, was chewed, and applied as a remedy to wounds. The stems were sometimes used in baskets. The third member of our urticae is the slender Nettie, Urtica gracilis. The plant is well named for the Latin word "urere" were—whence Urtica—means to burn; and who has not incautiously handled the urticae broom is a medicine against influenza, as well as a good food," says a note made about half a century ago, and possibly from some rustic source. Another note says that the tender tops of nettles are boiled and eaten, in Spring, in some European countries. Among the American Indians the use of the nettle as a food is recorded. The dried stalks were crumpled in the hands or pounded with a stone to separate the fibre from the woody part; then the fibre was dried, and the stalks were used to hobble horses, and cloth was woven from the finer fibres. The fibre was also used by the Indian children as a "pop-gun."

NOTES ON ISLAND PLANTS

The Urticaceae

This title means "the Nettie Family," but it covers a great many genera and species of very different habits. All however agree in the disposition of the stinging hairs, which it is scarcely necessary to say, are the important organs of classification. An account of this diversity of habit among nettles has divided this family into three, but we will stick to the classification adopted by Asa Gray in his Manual.

First on the list is the American Elm, Ulmus americana.

Also as the white or water elm. This is a large and well-known tree, often planted as an ornamental, but sometimes found in moist soil, along the borders of streams, as far north as Newfoundland. The leaves have a pinnately; one half of the blade comes a little further down the petiole than the other half, giving the leaf an oblong shape. The trunk often forked, with the branches greatly divided, twining, at the tips. The wood is valuable, being used for the hubs of wheels, in boat-building, and for heavy beams and tubular beams. According to Pennell, by the sordidness of this continent the forked trunks of the White Elm were used as posts supporting the roof-frames of the houses of the Indians. The wood also supplied them with excellent fuel. Sections of elm logs made huge corn mortars, with elm wedges to match. Lesser mortars were used for grinding perfumes and medicines.

The Common Hop (Humulus Lupulus L.)

is an introduction, often escaping from cultivation and maintaining itself in thickets, on rocky banks and tubular banks. This is a rough, twining, perennial vine, almost prickly with rough hairs downwards, and with the leaves variable, most being 5-7 cleft. The fruiting stems like ascents (catkins) owe their bitterness and aroma to the yellow resinous glands of lupulin, with which they are bespangled. Hops are employed in the brewing process. This plant was well-known to the ancient Romans and Pliny, the Roman naturalist, calls it Lupulus salicarius. Modern French names for it are the easily understood "Viene du Nord," and "Houblon," which I confess is beyond me! The young shoots were formerly eaten

as salad in Europe. The Teton Indians of Dakota steeped the catkins to make a drink to allay fevers and intestinal pain. Parts of the roots, three or four feet down, was chewed, and applied as a remedy to wounds. The stems were sometimes used in baskets. The third member of our urticae is the slender Nettie, Urtica gracilis. The plant is well named for the Latin word "urere" were—whence Urtica—means to burn; and who has not incautiously handled the urticae broom is a medicine against influenza, as well as a good food," says a note made about half a century ago, and possibly from some rustic source. Another note says that the tender tops of nettles are boiled and eaten, in Spring, in some European countries. Among the American Indians the use of the nettle as a food is recorded. The dried stalks were crumpled in the hands or pounded with a stone to separate the fibre from the woody part; then the fibre was dried, and the stalks were used to hobble horses, and cloth was woven from the finer fibres. The fibre was also used by the Indian children as a "pop-gun."

KEROL disinfectant advertisement with product image and text describing its uses for various disinfection purposes.

CONSERVATION

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

A FEW MORE DUCKS

The Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Assoc. Magazine. The E. C. O. reiterates its demand for a closed season on waterfowl. The shortened season, reduced bag-limits, abolition of live decoys and other reforms which the E. C. O. had the honor to fight for under the battle banner of Dr. Hornaday have preserved the wildfowl from further decrease. We congratulate the Biological Survey upon the courage with which it tells to the sportsmen the facts about the present status of the waterfowl.

histories of living species.

Few sportsmen sportsmen are seen in the field—today—and many of them are firm friends and contributors of the E. C. O. The gunners who demand a "right" of American citizenship the sad privilege of destroying the waterfowl and other creatures are an anachronism. No sportsman group has any right at all to destroy public property. Reasoning minds to-day refuse to accept such nonsense. Pennsylvania has declared a bounty of \$2 on the Great Horned Owl. The stupidity of this action, and the ignorance which it betrays deserve more than a passing notice. Pennsylvania got an ecological unit, and the destruction of a valuable species in Pennsylvania must be a matter of concern to surrounding states, and to the country at large.

TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH

Silver Fox Farming

In a recent issue of Purina Service Bulletin appears a note of Charles F. Willis, Covehead, P.E.I., holding a very beautiful fox. Mr. Willis writes: "Eric Cole, Milton, with a three-quarter silver which shows up in fine style. Eric raised 26 pups from six vixens. He sold two alive and pelts to a west-Island dealer. Eric in addition to being a successful fox rancher, is one of our best rifle shots and a Provincial rifle marksman at Ottawa. He is also a fine illustration of Carl Moffat, Manager of the O. C. Holman ranch at Moosejaw, Saskatchewan, holding a 32-day-old white fox freak pup, the first freak born on the ranch. Mr. Holman is proprietor of the ranch. He is a brother of Councillor B. Roy Holman, Charlottetown.

We received the following telegram yesterday from Messrs. W. P. Gunn, representing the Provincial Government, and George A. Calbeck, manager of the Fur Department of the Canadian National Silver Fox Farming Co. The telegram referred to the sale of silver fox pelts in New York which commenced last Monday. These were viewed by the gentlemen prior to the sale and we are looking forward to having a more complete report when they return home. "Lampson, Fraser & Huth's sale contain 35,000 pelts consigned by American National Breeder's Association and 3,000 by other shippers. Up until Wednesday night 85% were sold with bright full silvers in strong demand. This shows pelts met with competition. Burke and Calbeck."

That is good news from Fred and George and no doubt the sales will continue to be good in New York. There is a much brighter feeling there commercially because of the fact that visitors to the World's Fair are already dropping in in large numbers. The Breeder's Association and the Canadian National Silver Fox Farming Co. are generally resigned to their fate. At the March silver fox sale demand was quiet and merchandise of good quality was obtained at a quiet, but not a low price. Mr. Gunn purchased both Norwegian and Canadian silver fox pelts. Some of these have arrived in New York and have met with a declining price during the past year or more, said he, but in his opinion have reached a level now which will probably prove to be the lowest. Mr. Gunn's lower prices have brought a new demand from consumers who always wanted silver fox but could not obtain them at the prices they could afford until this year. His report states that he sold nearly twice the number of silvers this year than at the same date last year.

Winnipeg will hold a "Royal Visit Week" from May 20th to 27th, and the famous Canadian fur city will leave no stone unturned to celebrate the visit of their Majesty the King and Queen of England, May 24th. The Queen will be running from May 20th to 27th has been designated "Royal Welcome Week." One of the highlights of the week will be the payment of "rent" to the King by the Hudson's Bay Company, as set down in the Royal Charter granted to the Company in 1670. This rent is to be paid in silver and black beaver skins should a King or his heirs or successors visit Canada.

Two magnificent elk heads and two specimen beaver skins recently picked from the Company's collection of 16,000 pelts, have been prepared for gift purposes. A silver plate beneath each mounted and paid to His Majesty King George VI by the Governor and Company of Adventurers of England trading into Hudson's Bay. The terms of the Charter granted by King Charles 2nd, to their first Governor, Prince Rupert, second of May, 1670. Winnipeg, Canada, 24th May, 1939. The address to the Wildlife Society in Harrisburg in January, Mr. Gordon surely the frankest as he is the most courteous of men and a true friend of wild life technicians; congratulating them on their knowledge of biology and ecology. He recalled that in his youth no conservationist was known for his scientific research. This explains, in a measure, why Mr. Gordon's part in the bounty on the Great Horned Owl. But should not the wild life of Pennsylvania have the benefit of protection by scientists?

THE HEDGEHOG

Flourishing about on the by-ways of Britain goes a queer little animal with a turned-up snout faintly reminiscent of that of a pig. Its body is not large, perhaps nine or ten inches long, and its head is covered (as is its head) with grayish fur, its back has a complete, closely-set armament of thick iron-tipped "spikes" that present a problem to any foe. When in danger, the little beast draws in its feet, turns in its head against its stomach, and arches its hind-quarters inward over it. In this position it forms a spiky ball that dogs, foxes and other animals will not touch. The writer once disturbed a hedgehog at his meal—a large frog—and he promptly folded up; but a canful of water from the brook, applied at the right spot, got into his nostrils and he opened up and scuttled away. Later, I came across another hedgehog on the road, in the suburbs of Newcastle, putting my cap over the spiky ball I took him to the garden and imprisoned him in the greenhouse where he seemed quite happy. But one morning when I looked in the greenhouse, I found the hedgehog had got into the open water-tank and paid the little penalty. As I sadly fished him out, a visitor called at the greenhouse. "Barbarian! Barbarian! You have had an establishment in the City. He begged the defunct hedgehog, and afterwards told me he made a sort of flat-topped cap of him; the spikes on the top being the brim. He had round the sides. It sold at once, he said. Karl was a very decent fellow, and used to assure me "Charm your won't fight!" He was wrong.

Two Men and a Hobby Every man should have a hobby, no matter how trivial it may appear to be. A hobby is the happy antidote to the tenacity of life, in much with which the world is too much concerned. It is the trivium of intellectual life, the better for its possessor. Physical hobbies, like hockey or golf, are transient; a time comes when there is no pleasure in them, but a hobby of the mind, ridden by the intellect, will last out the race. In the course of my sojourn I have been in contact with two men who had none of the advantages of education, in fact, could neither read nor write. The one had lived, as many of the old folk did, in rather primitive style, having no interests but the trivial local gossip of his day. The younger folk, even of his own household, looked on him as a back number, and rarely talked to him. Noticing the lonely old man, I essayed to hold a conversation with him, but once was enough, and I never repeated the attempt. And there the poor old fellow sat, unnoticed, and unnoticed. I became acquainted with the other at a meeting of The Vale of Derwent Field Naturalists' Club, in the year 1880. He had heard of me, and had been game-keeper to Lord Ravensworth, father and son, for sixty years. He had made bird-study his hobby, and made our outing a great success. He was a list (viva voce), for he could not read nor write) of 105 birds observed in his district together with numerous notes on their habits and nests. Such a man was a treasure, and two of us visited his home, and took down his list at leisure; it was afterwards printed in our "Transactions" and is at hand as I write! (No 81 was the Snow Bunting, our Snowbird, and he classes it as a regular winter visitor; just as it is here.) Which of these two, think you, was living the life?

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FACTS ABOUT FERTILIZERS

Plant food content alone does not determine the value of a fertilizer. Residual effect, Mechanical condition, and cost must be considered. LET US ILLUSTRATE—by comparing several different ways of compounding a fertilizer with the same amount of plant food, say 4—8—10.

Table comparing fertilizer formulas: A FARM MIXED, containing 400 lbs. Sulphate of Ammonia, 800 lbs. Superphosphate, 400 lbs. Muriate of Potash, Labor Mixing - Say \$23.30.

Table comparing fertilizer formulas: A FARM MIXED, containing 375 lbs. Nitrate of Soda, 100 lbs. Sulphate of Ammonia, 800 lbs. Superphosphate, 400 lbs. Muriate of Potash, Labor Mixing - Say \$28.73.

Table comparing fertilizer formulas: A FACTORY MIXED—2000 lbs. Neutralized 4-8-10, Cost reasonable. RESIDUAL EFFECT NON ACID FORMING. Result—No injury to plant roots—No reduction in crop yields of following years—No leaching of Nitrogen below plant root level. BEST VALUE.

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Charlottetown ST ANDREWS SCHOOL North Rustico Honor Roll for March: Senior Dept. Grade VIII—1. Eugene C. LeClair; 2. Edward L. LeClair; 3. Cornelius P. Doiron. Grade VII (Sr.)—1. Irene A. LeClair; 2. Alma M. LeClair; 3. Yvonne LeClair. Junior Dept. Grade VII (Jr.)—1. Marion Galt; 2. Freda Galt; 3. Beatrice Peters. Grade VI—1. Rosena Buote; 2. Evelyn Gauthier; 3. Adeline Poirier. Grade V—1. Regina Pineau; 2. Clara Pineau; 3. Eleanore Doiron. Grade IV—1. Edward LeClair; 2. Augustine Galt; 3. Helena Blaquiere. Intermediate Dept. Grade III (a)—1. Freda Galt; 2. Juliette LeClair; 3. Robert Doucet. Grade III (b)—1. Eric LeClair, Rose Gauthier (equal); 2. Arthur Buote; 3. Urban Blaquiere. Grade III (c)—1. Edna Gauthier; 2. Yvonne Galt; 3. Edgar LeClair. Primary Department Grade II—1. Lorraine Dou-

cette; 2. Eleanore Pineau; 3. Alyce Pineau. 2. Grade I (a)—1. Alyce Galt; 2. James MacDonald; 3. Alfred Blaquiere. 3. Grade I (b)—1. Hazel Galt; 2. Kathleen Galt; 3. Earl Galt. WILLIAM H. DOUCETTE, Principal YORKSHIRE PUDDING 2 cups milk 3 eggs 1 cup flour 1 teaspoon salt Method: Beat the eggs and add to the milk. Beat the flour with the salt and then add the milk and eggs, beating with a rotary egg beater until the mixture is light and foamy. Grease a large deep pan very thoroughly and heat it sizzling hot. Pour the batter into this and bake in a hot, 450 deg. F oven until the pudding is puffed up and a rich, golden brown.... about 30 minutes. Cut in squares and serve with the roux and plenty of gravy. This makes a very delicate pudding that falls if it is not served immediately. Some people increase the flour to even as much as 2 cups.

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