A Page for the MODERN FARMER

- NEWSY NOTES -

By AGRICOLA

WHERE THE TROUBLE LIES

Dr. Charles C. Morrison, Editor of the Christian Century, Chicago, recently published an arresting article, which we must all face up to if the Christian religion is to survive. So pressing is the need that a condensation of Dr. Morrison's paper is subjoined:

For more than three quarters of a century the spirit of secularization has been engaged in turning our children into "religious liberates," if not atheists. Already this has placed our democracy in danger, because democracy is an offshoot of Christianity; therefore if we think democracy is worth preserving we must take steps to strengthen its bulwark —the Christian religion.

(The totalitarian rulers are well aware of the logic behind this, and attack the Christian Churches first).

There is only one way to remedy this: we must restore religion to its rightful place in our educational system. The trouble commenced when the burden of general education was shifted from the Church to the State, under the public school system. The churches did not intend to give up their responsibility, for they believed they could still effectively carry on religious instructions by means of the home and the Sunday School.

Unhappily this was a delusion. The public school has the child five days a week, often with homework added. "It deals with him on a basis of strict discipline, and confronts him with a system characterized by traditional prestige, professional skill and scientific method." In its curriculum he comes into contact with every major interest —save religion.

The result of all this is to cheapen religion in his mind. It must be without social significance he thinks, or it would be taught in the curriculum. And if he goes to church his mind is so completely secularized that the brief weekly effort of the clergy to recast his mind in religious mould, is completely fruitless. It cannot be done.

(To see the pagan trend of such secularization one has only to look at Modern Europe. The unbelievable horrors now taking place are due to this negation of Christianity.)

The guilt for our "anomalous plight," Dr. Morrison avers, lies at the door of the churches. "Their sectarianism is responsible." Each sect believes religion to be identical with its own creed or cult, and rather than permit any other interpretation to be taught in the school, it insits that religion be discarded from the curriculum. To this must be added that the rulers of the state, anxious to please the people (as of old), have consented to this line of action.

We have come to a point, however, when in order to save the churches (or sects) themselves it is possible and necessary to transcend the sectarian rivalry which has inhibited religious instruction in public education. Two developments are encouraging: the steady liberalizing of the churches and the development of an objective technique in education.

By liberalization of the churches is meant that they are coming to recognize that their differences are inconsequential when compared with the great body of truth which is accepted without question by all. Obviously, nobody has the right to demand that his sectarian beliefs be taught in the public schools, yet such schools do not exclude civics when a community is divided into Republicans, Democrats, Socialists and others. Nor do they exclude economics because there are capitalists and New Dealers in the community. If these can be taught without stirring up partisan prejudices, thinks Dr. Morrison, religion can be taught without stirring up sectarian prejudices. The task is to sift the common subject matter of religious faith from its sectarian variations; not an impossible task, if enlightened educators insist that the leaders of the churches undertake it. (And here one may interject that all history shows that when any large body of nationals is allowed to grow up without any religious belief, they finish by attacking and destroying the churches themselves).

The teaching profession can, and should, do more than merely exhort the churches: they can indicate to timid churchmen how through a proper technique, it is possible to give the children a knowledge of the Bible, of religious history, and of the power of religion in sustaining democracy —and all this without prejudice to the peculiarities of any particular sect.

"With the solving of **this problem**" (which he thinks can be done in a manner alike acceptable to the two great churches and the Jews)" the steady crumbling of the inner citadel of American democracy —Christianity —will cease. And the churches which have been running on the momentum of their fathers' faith, —or their grandfathers' faith —will begin to generate their own power by a great faith of their own."

(In Britain where the danger is most apparent, there has been a notable rapproachment of these "three religions." This is bound in

OTHER BOTANICALS (5)

I note that the wholesale dealers are stocked up with juniper berries and are not purchasing further supplies at present. This was to be expected for the berries are plentiful on the N. A. continent, since the plant is abundant everywhere. (I have a hazy recollection of seeing a box of juniper berries at my grandfather's house, which must have been two or three years old; they were quite dry and of a blackish-brown color It would be an experiment to see if our berries can be kept). The diuretic property of the berries lies in a sort of resinous turpentine.

Resuming the list, we find that the garden parsley, whole, is worth 65 cts per lb., as an aromatic and stomachic. The seed is worth 30 cts. as an aromatic and emmenagogue.

the long run to affect their relations in other parts of the world.

The Peony is in the list, it is the **Paeonia officinalis**, which is the wild parent of some garden varieties, particularly the old-fashioned crimson kinds. The root peeled is 78 cts per lb. and the flowers $2.75. Said to be anti-spasmodic and Cathartic. (This is a European plant, unknown here).

Peppermint does not grow native here, but there is no difficulty in cultivating it. The whole herb is only 10 cts per lb., but the leaves and tops are worth 48 cts if American, and 75 cts if foreign! Aromatic and carminative. However, if I were growing pepper-mint. (**Mentha piperita**) it would be to produce the oil for flavoring. It is extremely profitable since the oil is used in confectionery, etc.

The Prince's Pine (which is nothing like a pine) is worth 25 cts per lb whole, while the leaves are worth 40 cts. This plant, I think, is not common for I've only come across it once. The Indian name is Pipissewa and botanically it is **Chimaphila umbellata.** Like many of our plants it is diuretic.

The Pitcher Plant (**Sarracenia**) is well known, but it is not generally known that it is diuretic and stomachic. Whole it is worth 22 cts. per lb.

Another well-known herb is the Common Plantain (**Plantago major**) whose broad oval leaves disfigure our laws. It has its use as a "cutaneus stimulent," worth 12 cts per lb.

And actually the wholesalers are willing to pay 18 cts. per lb. for Poison Ivy leaves (Rhus toxicodendron.) They are wanted for a "vesicant"—which they most certainly are!

It is too bad that Queen of the Meadow (**Spiraea Ulmaria**) leaves shou'd be only 7 cts per lb. and the root 10 cts; for there is a big bed of this plant in the neighborhood of Rustico, near the golf course. This also is diuretic.

Ragweed or Hoyweed (**Ambrosia artemisifolia**), whole, is worth 12 cts per lb as an astringent. There is a colored plate of this plant in "Farm Weeds of Canada" (Public Library).

Dried Black Raspberries (Rubus accidentalis) are laxative and are worth 70 cts. Bain was first to record this Raspberry in the Province. The leaves of our Red wild Raspberry are astringent but are only worth 20 cts per lb.

St. John's-wort (Hypericum perforatum) is fairly common in certain localities, preferring moist soil. It is a low shrub with deep yellow flowers, black-dotted along the margin of the petals. It has long been used as a vulnerary, and in catarrhal conditions. The herb (whole) is worth 45 cts pe. lb. (See "Farm Weeds," plate 41).

The season for gathering botanicals in now over, but for reasons previous, stated, it will be wise for "pickers" to presserve these lists. There will be at least one more instalment.

SOLOMON NOSTRADAMUS

In time of stress one notes a greater interest in prophecy, astrology, and those practices which are commonly called the Black Arts. From the earliest times both the Scriptures and the Classics have made us familiar with seers —men whose eyes were opened to visions of the future— and there have been some noteworthy examples in later times The Huddersfiled (England) "Daily Examiner" devotes an article to the prophecies of Solomon Nostradamus, a French astrologer of great repute in his day.

"Nearly 400 years ago, a grey-bearded astrologer known as Nostradamus, shut himself up behind locked doors in Paris and tried to see into the future. Night after night he studied books of ancient Egyptian lore, and hurriedly burned the yellowed pages as soon as he had committed the contents to memory." The outcome of these studies is said to have been a great book of prophecies which he published under the title of "The Centuries." If the half of what is told of this book is true, it would explain why Nostradamus has always been such an enigma in the minds of men.

For, according to "The Centuries," from his vantage point of 1555 he foresaw the Great Fire of London, the French Revolution, the rise and overthrow of Napoleon, and the Franco-Prussian War of 1870. Coming to our own times we find that Nostradamus not only foresaw but actually named Hitler, only he calls him Hister, for he was not strong in spelling. "This Hister," he foretold, "shall in 1940 lead Germany to invade France, after feigning friendship for her." "France by a neglect shall be assaulted on five sdies. Tunis, Algeria shall be moved."

Great destruction was to be caused and Paris captured, yet even so Hister would eventually end in an "iron cage," whatever that means. Looking ahead a few more months he sees a German invasion of Switzerland and Italy, the Pope in flight from Rome, and the end of the war in 1944, with an ultimate victory for the French under a newly-risen "King" at Poitiers.

The "Examiner" concludes: "Will time prove Nostradamus right yet again? His prophecies, numerous as they were, have rarely failed."

A good friend once gave us all the facts known about Mother Shipton, the reputed author of many prophecies. Would he (or she for no name was appended) earn our thanks by telling what is known of Nostradamus's career? The "Examiner" says he correctly foretold the date of his own death —which is remarkable, for soothsayers know least about themselves, it has been found.

The late Stanley Weyman, novelist, wrote "The Man in Black," a story written round Nostradamus. There he is made out to be a charlatan and poisoner, who poisons himself rather than face justice.

TREES NEED FEEDING

R. W. Oliver, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, gives a timely reminder to all cities with shade trees. The average shade tree gets its nourishment from a very limited space, and as all leaves and grass clippings are raked off and taken away, the soil becomes exhausted. Mr. Oliver recommends the use of a commercial fertilizer to feed the trees at intervals of a few years. The composition of the fertilizer and the mode of applying it may be learned by writing the C. E. Farms.

- CONSERVATION -

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

C. N. E. NOTES

Quoting from letters written to the A. P. F. A., by G. Hunt Stanford, Manager, Mfrs. Department Canadian National Exhibition—"We were very glad to supply accomodations for this display and have certainly to congratulate you upon making such an attractive and interesting showing. We are of the opinion that the work you do is deserving of the widest publicity and from our observation it appears that your exhibit did attract a great deal of attention."

Now we know that all those hectic weeks of planning in the humid, breathless heat of a late summer were indeed worth while.

An interesting aspect of this year's exhibit was the interest of the "Man in Uniform"—some of whom had been guides and trappers in civilian life. None disputed our evidence and one, a forthright little man, roundly denounced the steel trap. "The suffering is fearful," he said, "I served in the last war but saw nothing there to compare with it." As to the actual construction of the exhibit, too much credit cannot be given to the husband of one of the committee members who designed and built (at cost, and with only occasional help) a display which Eaton's man later estimated as a $350.00 job, even without cost of materials and the show cards. If you did not visit the C. N. E., and wish to see a photo of the exhibit, kindly so advise the Secretary.

Those members who responded to the appeal for donation of time or money for this activity are warmly thanked by the committee.

Summarizing, we would report that this piece of publicity has resulted in various mink ranchers intimating their desire to co-operate with the Association; has given Woven Fur, as also the humane Verball trap, much favorable publicity; has brought before thousands of people, for the first time the startling truth as regards the taking of our fur animals; has increased our membership and given us 150 names of genuinely interested people, some of these from Hamilton and Montreal, centres where we hope soon to establish branches of the Asociation.

SALES HELP

A member has suggested a few "sales helps" in each of the Bulletins. We think this a very good idea. After all, we are salesmen for an idea—an entirely new idea to the majority, but, nevertheless, a practicable one. What is one of the most common arguments you meet in trying to interest a "prospect"? Let up have it, as someone else has no doubt encountered that same retort. An almost invariable exclamation of some folk is: "But what about the Humane Society—surely they look after such things!" To which we respond: "The Humane Society has more than it can handle in trying to lessen the suffering imposed on domestic animals in Toronto and vicinity. Also, in attacking the trapping industry we are striking at what is erroneously considered a vital industry in this country and therefore our task is enormous and requires singleness of aim. 100 years ago domestic animals were treated with as little compunction as are wild animals today, yet consider what humanitarians have done for the former; may we not also awaken the compassion of mankind for the furbearer even though the profit motive will offer strong opposition?"

TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox Farming

Monday morning at nine o'clock the 12th Prince Edward Island Live Fox show will be ushered in at the Provincial Exhibition grounds. All morning and afternoon will be occupied with receiving and placing foxes and classifying them. The classifying committee is a good one but they will have their hands full with silvers, registered and unregistered, marked silvers, standard platinum silvers, standard platinums and standard silver pearl blues. There are 60 sections, or in other words 60 classes of foxes and it would not be surprising if the all-time record of 710 is exceeded. All signs point to its being one of the greatest shows of all time in quantity, quality and variety of exhibits Our advice is to see it if you possibly can.

In the mail last evening we received from Robert G. Hodgson, proprietor of the Fur Trade Journal of Canada, a copy of Breeding and Reproduction in Fur Bearing Animals, by E. E. LaBerge. We have gone over it hurriedly but sufficiently to pronounce it a really marvelous book, one that every breeder should have in his possession because it gives in very clear and easily understood language what is more or less technical knowledge.

Chapter 1, entitled Breeding, is sub-divided into ...Grading, Standards. History of Cells. Chapter 2—BREEDING —Sex Determination, Inbreeding. Chapter 3—BREEDING—Mendelism, Mutations, Sex-linkage, Inbreeding. Chapter 4—REPRODUCTION—The Male Organ, The Female Organ. Chapter 5—REPRODUCTION—The Mating Period. Chapter 6 — REPRODUCTION—Mating Periods of Fur Animals. Chapter 7 —REPRODUCTION — Birth. Chapter 8 —REPRODUCTION—Male Sterility, Female Sterility, Artificial Mating, Forced Mating, Telegony, Free-martins, Health of Parents, Uterine Death, Fatness, Age of Puberty. Chapter 9—FUNDAMENTALS OF LINE BREEDING—Inbreeding, Fundamental Requirements of Line Breeding, System of Selection, Establishing Strains. Chapter 10 —APPENDIX—contains the latest information on the use of hormones which some of our fox breeders made a limited try-out with last season with considerable success. More particulars regarding the book can be procured by writing the Fur Trade Journal of Canada, Box 31, Toronto 2, Canada.

Lack of fertility in animals has been generally ascribed to lack of vitamin E and no doubt with considerable truth, but recent experiments by scientists in the University of Wisconsin have also found that old bulls have been brought back to vigor with injections of ascorbutic acid or vitamin C. It appears that in certain sections there is a deficiency of this vitamin in the grasses or feeds which these animals are fed and the deficiency being made up they return again to vigor. The experiments have been so numerous and conducted with such excellent results that there cannot be any doubt as to the efficacy of the treatment.

Lack of ascorbutic acid or vitamin C should not be a prevalent factor for non-breeding success in this country, as the common variety of turnip is quite well fortified with vitamin C., and most of our fur bearing animals are fed turnips.

No doubt our male foxes if sexually inert would probably suffer from the same cause by their lack of vitamin E or lack of vitamin C. In our own ranch we have been feeding turnips all fall and will continue all winter in the proportion of about a quarter of an ounce of turnip per fox. It is a cheap vegetable and good.

Another reason for failure of mares to raise foals or even produce, has been found in the western United States, particularly in Oregon, to be a lack of iodine. Small doses of iodine fed to the mother when carrying the foal have yielded remarkable results.

Our readers will remember that Dr. G. Ennis Smith was the first to point out the need of iodine on our fox farms, and year after year stressed that necessity. Somehow or other we have forgotten about it, although most of us have fed some form of iodine either as kelp meal or perhaps in the cereal ration used. Maybe the tremendous losses of litters which occurs in some ranches is due to a lack of iodine. Anyhow it would be a good thing the coming breeding season if each rancher would fortify his diet with a small quantity of iodine. Potassium iodide can be obtained from your druggist and dissolved in water. It should be fed in the proportion of about one-twentieth of a grain daily for each fox during the breeding season. It can be used throughout the year without detriment and no doubt with very considerable benefit in many cases.

We are prone perhaps to scoff a little too much at the scientific side of things, salving our lack of knowledge with the statement that, well, we have always had a very good production. But there is no doubt that a good production can be made better and by study and careful observation combined with that study better results can be obtained in any field of endeavor. Just take for instance the wonderful work that has been accomplished in Wisconsin in improvement of breeding herds. Scientists there have found a method whereby artifically procured semen from high-class bulls can be diluted with a mixture of phosphates in salt solution and the semen kept potent for many weeks, so that 25 cows can be inseminated. The past season some 25,00) calves of outstanding heredity have been produced in the state of Wisconsin by that method, and as a result in a few years the milk production of Wisconsin—which is already the greatest in the world—will have been improved still further.

Artificial insemination of foxes has not arrived—that is it has not successfully arrived—but no doubt it is on the way and will be the means of great breed improvement. Of course such a system of production is much more easily accomplished with large tractable animals than it is with highly sensitive small animals such as a fox. Our reason for acquainting our readers with these latest doings by scientists is that they will be au fait with that which is new and interesting. It will be the purpose of this column from time to time to publish the latest facts on breeding, nutrition and anything having a bearing on silver fox farming.

Canada's production of raw furs during the twelve month period ending June, 1940, is officially valued at $16,668,348, an increase over the preceding season of $2,381,411. It is estimated that approximately 30 per cent of this value may be credited to farm pelts. Silver fox led in point of view of value with a total of $4,385,977, followed by muskrat with $3,928,318, and mink at $3,100,502. Practically the entire production of silver fox pelts and nearly half the mink pelts are from the fur farms. Ontario was first among the provinces in order of value of fur production with a total of $3,229,446, Alberta second at $2,514,877 and Quebec third at $2,333,392. The percentages of the total for the various provinces of Canada is as follows: Ontario 19.4 per cent, Alberta 15.1 per cent, Quebec 14 per cent, Manitoba 11.3 per cent, Saskatchewan 9.5 per cent, British Columbia 7.4 per cent, North West Territories 7.4 per cent, New Brunswick 6.6 per cent, Prince Edward Island 4.9 per cent, Nova Scotia 2.7 per cent.

Dyed white foxes as well as natural foxes will be featured for the southern resort season in Florida and other sections. All-over gray dyed with a bluish undertone and white tips is one of the colors that is introduced. "Streamlined" dyes ranging from light beige to a light brown and from a light gray to a deep gray will be continued. The lighter tones are made into jackets to be worn around the shoulders. "Labrador" dyed white fox has been a leading fur in New York for fall and will be continued. It is selling best in the 25 inch jacket length and is also well liked in the 32 inch coat length.

L. B. Burroughs, Chaplin, Saskatchewan, paid this province a visit the latter part of last week and in company with George A Callbeck called at several ranches. We understand that Mr Burroughs was the purchaser of some high-class silver fox female pups which he will use to mate with his standard white marked silvers and platinums. Mr. Burroughs has had great success in breeding high-class foxes, being tops both in the show ring and with pelts. With foxes purchased from A. K. "Ollie" McNeill, he developed the Burroughs strain of platinums, represented in the Callbeck and Stewart & Lewis ranches locally. We confess that it was a great disappointment to us when we learned that Mr Burroughs was here and we did not have an opportunity of meeting him.

We understand that Dr. J. A. LaForest, originator of the LaForest strain of platinums, also purchased a number of silver fox female pups from a breeder in Hamilton, P. E. I. These were choice specimens and will no doubt be used to mate up with LaForest platinums.

The opening sale of silver fox pelts of the Canadian Fur Auction Company takes place the week of Monday, December 15th. with last receiving date December 6th. Montreal Fur Sales, Limited, will hold an auction sale the week previous—December 9th — with last receiving date December 1st. Following that they will have an auction on December 22nd with last receiving date December 14th, and again on January 26th, 1942, with last receiving date January 16th. The Montreal Fur Sales Limited, address is 1078 Bleury Street, Montreal.

Los Angeles—Live baby foxes were used in an effective Pelta Furs window here recently, tied in with the Los Angeles opening of the Bette Davis picture "The Little Foxes." Crowds gathered around the store's island window at 437 West Seventh street both day and evening to watch the small animals. "Be smart like the smart little foxes—wear Pelta furs to look smart" read a sign hung at the top of the window. Sawdust covered the floor, while clumps of greenery gave the display an outdoor look. Red meat and water were also set out in the window for the pair of American gray foxes, which were between eight and nine months old, according to Jack De Gorter of Pelta Furs.

The above clipping is from Women's Wear Daily, New York, November 1st. I am sure breeders of the platinum foxes will take exception to the designation "American gray foxes" which the pair in the window were described as above.

Hundreds of friends throughout the Province will be delighted to learn that E. H. Rayner is here on a visit. Mr. Rayner is a son of one of the great founders of our industry, the late Silas Rayner, and a brother of B. I. Rayner. For many years he was a fox farmer and contributed in a great measure to enlarging our markets for silver fox furs. We are glad also to know that his health has returned to normal and we hope that before he leaves the Province he will visit Charlottetown.

Keep Minard's in the home.

RAW FURS

We guarantee the highest market prices for your pelts at the old reliable——Raw Fur Dealers, 53 Queen St. Established 1912, our buying rooms are especially well lighted for selecting furs.

WE BUY AND PAY CASH FOR

Mink, Muskrat, Silver, Cross, and Red Fox Pelts

THE FUR MART

B. R. HOLMAN, Mgr.

53 QUEEN STREET

PHONE 655

Montreal Exchange

MONTREAL, Nov. 7—(CP)—The stock market, after a firm opening, passed through a weak spell today but finished fairly strong behind a push by industrials.

Utilities were on the upgrade in early deals but Bell Telephone switched from the gain to the loss column and Shawinigan ceded a rise, Gatineau 5 1-2 per cent preferred turned soft and B.C. Power "A" was weaker Montreal Power clung to a fractional increase.

RAW FURS WANTED

Silver Fox skins, Muskrat and other raw furs required. Highest market prices. Trade demanding quantities. See us now. Pelting and cleaning done by our experienced men. Plant now in operation.

FOR SALE

Used fox wire, fox houses, cedar posts, lumber and electric motor.

G. R. MACQUARRIE

Summerside

L-359-11-5-tf.

Colpitts' Platinum Foxes

A limited number being offered for the first time.

Unlike the majority of the so called Platinum foxes being offered for breeding, the Colpitts' Platinum foxes have beautiful character and are extra heavily furred, having blue eyes and pink noses and we believe a Pure Platinum fox must have these characteristics, after 14 years of careful study and examination of every strain of so called Platinum Foxes on the North American Continent.

Breeders interested in honest to goodness Platinums, at a reasonable price, visit or communicate with

A. RUSSELL COLPITTS.

Salisbury, N. B.

L 318-11-1-8-1522

BRITAIN NEEDS MORE HOGS

Canada is asked to supply six hundred million pounds of pork products to the British Goverment by the end of September 1942. Canadians can do it if they will and they will.

Prince Edward Island farmers must assume their share of this vast responsibility. It is a challenge to every farmer individually, and indications are, our farmers are NOT GOING TO FAIL.

Consumers can help too—by eating less pork and pork products, thus leaving more for export purposes. We ship our weekly handling of hogs to packing plants where we believe that practically every suitable hog is processed for the export trade and British needs.

Every hog producer in the Province can join in this patriotic duty, and at the same time share in the benefits of expert marketing, now enjoyed by thousands of wide awake farmers, by SHIPPING CO-OPERATIVELY. Contact our shipping agent in your locality. Trucking service provided upon request. You can be PATRIOTIC by SHIPPING CO-OPERATIVELY.

LIVESTOCK MARKETING BOARD

L-154-11.1-5 8

TRAPPERS ATTENTION

We are buying daily Muskrat, Mink, Red Fox, Coon, etc., at full market prices. We have just received a large order for Muskrat and Mink from a New York Fur House and will pay a premium to fill this order. Bring or ship your furs to us immediately. Remittance mailed daily.

WE PAY SHIPPING CHARGES

Write for New Price List

P. E. I. FUR TRADERS

182 Queen Street

"The Best Place to Sell Your Furs"

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RAW FURS

THE SEASON IS NOW OPEN ON MINK, MUSKRAT, RED FOX, COON, ETC.

I AM AS USUAL PAYING THE VERY HIGHEST PRICES THE MARKET WILL ALLOW. MAIL OR BRING YOUR FURS TO

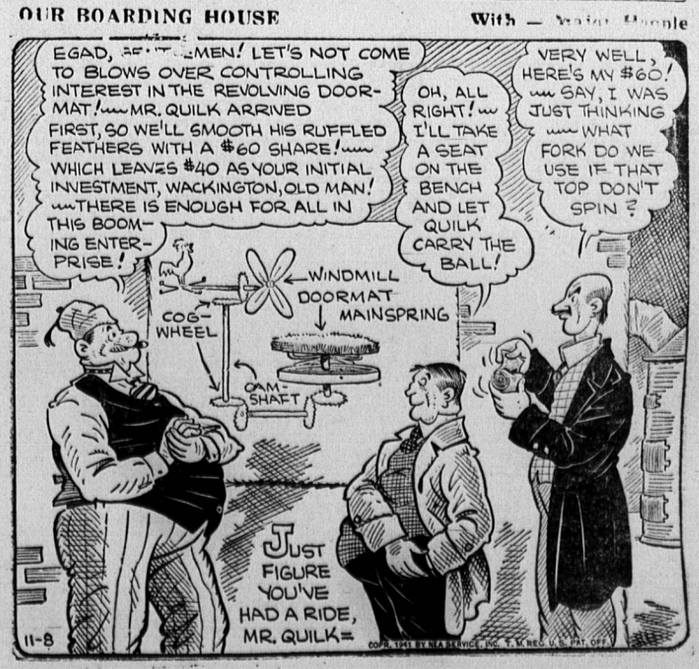
J. D. JENKINS

Grafton Street,

Charlottetown, P. E. I.

NOTE:—I will be in my office daily, and also each Saturday evening from seven to nine o'clock for the convenience of parties who want to bring their furs in then.

L-352-11-5-6i.

OUT OUR WAY By J. R. Williams

OUR BOARDING HOUSE With — Major Hoople