



# WINTER FARMER



## NEWSY NOTES

### Slovenly English

Not long ago we were told, in the Guardian, not to use such expressions as "all of the men were there"; it was better to omit the "of" in the interests of good English. This ruling might be extended to poetry—particularly scriptural poetry—but for everyday use "all of the men" is justifiable. There are words which, when I went to school, were called indefinite numeral adjectives, a nicely descriptive term which is still extant. These adjectives are: all, more, most, some, many, few, none, and perhaps others which may have been forgotten. Each may be used as the subject of a sentence with a qualifying phrase after it, commencing with "of". "None of the seeds grew"; "few of the company survived"; "all of the men were there." Try omitting the "of" in these sentences!

While I am at it I must notice two slovenly usages that are creeping into the language. "Plenty money" should be "plenty of money". "Plenty is not an adjective and should not be used as one: we have 'plentiful' and 'plentifully' for that purpose. 'Couple' is also used in a loose way. 'Give me a couple stamps.' 'A couple of stamps' would be grammatically correct but 'two stamps' would be better, since couple implies 'pair'. I suppose this usage first arose by contracting 'of' into 'o' and then missing it out altogether.

### The Academic Naturalist

The "Academic Naturalist" for January, 1946, is of special interest to us for (1) a biological rediscovery of the ponds in the National Park; and for (2) an account of green-gilled clam and other bivalves, which were found here at scattered points, late in 1946.

The ponds are those at Dalry: Long Pond a little farther to the west; Chills Pond; and the Pond in Rustico Bay; the well-known "Lake of Shining Waters"; and lastly Clark Pond, nearer New London.

The survey was conducted by M. W. Smith of the Atlantic Biological Station, St. Andrews, N. B., and its object was "to secure information upon the character of the waters and their fish and shellfish possibilities." This involved an examination of the plants, algae, seaweeds, insects and fishes, and the results are given in various informative appendices.

Amongst the plants, I notice Potamogeton, P. longus, Wiltonia, and P. filiformis. Person, the latter being an addition to our flora. I have not seen any of these plants recorded for the Island, and I would have been glad to see them. I notice also that the green-gilled clam, which is a native species, is found in the ponds, and to them I recommend a close study of the survey.

The green-gilled clam, Williamsia, is a species of Potamogeton, and is a native species. It is found in the ponds, and to them I recommend a close study of the survey.

Dr. R. P. Gorham, of New Brunswick, contributes an abstract of his researches on potato-infesting aphids in the three Maritime Provinces. There were twenty traps set up in P. E. I. under the supervision of Prof. F. M. Cannon, the resident entomologist, and over 17,000 insects were captured. Several important deductions were made from these captures, and form an appendix to Dr. Gorham's abstract.

**The Floral Emblem**

"I see you people are going after a floral emblem, what's the matter with the potato flowers? It would be a great advertisement for Spud Island as they used to call it," said a friend the other day. "Well, now that's quite an idea," said I, with a grin, "but then the potato is not a native plant. It was brought here long enough to become naturalized, anyway," he said. "That's true," I said, "furthermore, as a flower it once enjoyed royal favor. A King of France selected it for war in his label, not once but many times, for he wanted to in-

duce his people to cultivate the plant. However, I have nothing to do with choosing the emblem, and I don't know who has; but I can put your suggestion before the folks generally." So we let it go at that.

Studying the emblems of the other Provinces one notes that (with one exception) the flowers are large and very distinctive: the rose, the anemone, the prairie lily, the violet, the trillium, are all "photogenic" and easy to draw or paint. The Mayflower, Nova Scotia's emblem, is a sweet little flower, the herald of spring; but its smallness makes it troublesome to draw or paint. I submitted the Marsh Cinquefoil because it also is "photogenic" and rejected the Golden-rod because the flowers are too minute individually.

Who is to do the choosing? With due diffidence, I suggest that the best of the body of the P. W. C. be empowered to choose our emblem by vote.

### Marshal Stalin's Seven Words

Some weeks ago, Spectator of "The Irish Independent" wrote: "Stalin does not know any other language but Russian. He knows only seven words of English."

Dublin Opinion with a strongly satirical twist, prints a dialogue in which the Marshal uses all the seven English words he knows.

Diplomat: "But, Marshal, will you agree—"

Stalin: "No."

Diplomat: "But surely you will agree—"

Stalin: "No, no."

Diplomat: "Then, will you permit—"

Stalin: "No! No! No! No!"

This was written long before the Iran imbroglio arose, but it pretty well illustrates the Russian way of handling it. Iran may bring the matter before the Council if she will, but for anything else, she will handle this ourselves!

The Iranian may make up their minds to now under Russian influence, and will soon be under Russian law. It is an ominous beginning for the United Nations.

It is a belief in some quarters that the Soviet ideology is the same as that of the early Christian church. The one great teaching of that church was unselfishness. Christ continually made it his theme and Paul has told of it in that marvelous chapter on the north-west corner of his letter to the Romans. Part of Turkey is also a kind of North's vineyard whose produce is, as the old and true saying is, to be taken his choice—"Believe it or die!"

We ourselves have not lived up to the tenets of the Christian church; we praise them but substitute a cold acquisitiveness for the love and the sword in the other and told the world to take his choice—"Believe it or die!"

The Soviet is bringing forth the fruits of the spirit of acquisitiveness even now. Iran must leave the north-west corner of his territory to Russian influence. Part of Turkey is also a kind of North's vineyard whose produce is, as the old and true saying is, to be taken his choice—"Believe it or die!"

Our younger naturalists will find much to interest them in these ponds, and to them I recommend a close study of the survey.

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**No Hornets?**

"What is it a sign of, when wasps build their nests close to the ground?" asked a visitor the other day. Now it is not long since I had been asked the very same question only the nests were said to have been on the ground. The answer in both cases was that it was not a sign (omen) of anything.

The common Hornet attaches its nest to the limb of a tree, while the Yellow-jacket (Vespa dia-bolica) nests among the stumps, like many other forms of animal life vary in abundance from year to year. Often they increase for a period of years till they become a nuisance or a threat; then nature interposes by disease or

famine and they disappear. The Hornets had been decimated by something or other, and their nests were few or none; while the Yellow-jackets were not affected and built near or on the ground, as usual. The mistake my friends made was in thinking that both kind of nests were built by the same insect at different levels.

The wasps make an interesting study; I notice from my records that I was doing a lot of wasp-collecting from 1918 to 1920. Some-where about that time F. W. L. Sledon, then Dominion Agriculturist, published a "key to the Genus Vespa in Canada," which I still have at hand. By its means I have been enabled to identify six or seven species of these irascible insects.

## Livestock

### SUMMARY

Cattle deliveries to stock yards and packing plants continued fairly light during the past week, due in large part to weather conditions and blocked roads. Prices at nearly all markets were strong to 25c or more higher. There was, however, a little easier feeling developing toward the close and some of the early gains were wiped out. Only slight fluctuations occurred in prices paid for calves, hogs, lambs and sheep.

**Eastern Cattle Markets**

Cattle supplies were light at Toronto and trading brisk at an advance of 25c on better grades of butchers and 50c on medium quality. Weighty steers sold to a top of \$13.50, a few choice \$13, and butchers cows at \$8 to \$10. Small lots of stocker cattle moved out at \$8.50 to \$10. There was a good demand at strong prices for all cattle offered at Montreal and the best of the steers crossed the scales at \$12.50 to \$13.25, good heavy cows at \$8 to \$10, with some choice at \$10 to \$11.

**Western Cattle Markets**

Strong market prevailed throughout western Canada, with restricted deliveries due to weather and road conditions, and many markets advanced. Winnipeg had early sales of heavyweight steers at \$13 to \$13.25, good handweight butchers at \$12 to \$12.75, but after mid-week buyers succeeded in wiping out the early gains and few steers sold above \$12.50 at the close. Calgary was an active centre on all cattle with prices 25c up in spots, good heavy cows at \$11.75 to \$12, and an odd \$12.25, Regina up to \$12.25, Vancouver \$11.75 to \$12 and an odd \$12.15.

**Exports to United States**

Dairy cattle shipments to the United States totalled 730 head during the week as against 539 in the same week of 1945. Exports that since January 1st amount to 2,787 compared with 2,012 in the same period of last year.

**Calf Market Variable**

While prices as a rule were undisturbed and the feeling was strong in the calf market, there were one or two sharp reverses. Toronto held steady at \$16 to \$17 for best veal calves, but Montreal looked higher up to \$16 and some choice calves made a top of \$16.50. Winnipeg opened strong but dropped a full \$1.00, to close at \$14 to \$15. Calgary placed best vealers at \$10.50 to \$11.50, Edmonton \$11.50 to \$12.50, Prince Albert \$11.50, Moose Jaw \$11 to \$11.50, Saskatoon up to a high of \$15.50, Regina \$15.00.

**Strong Hog Market**

Firm prices were paid for hogs at all grading stations. Toronto had B1 hogs at \$19.10; Montreal \$19.35 to \$19.60, with odd early sales as high as \$20.10; Winnipeg \$18.35 to \$18.85, Calgary \$18.50 to \$18.70; Edmonton \$18.10 to \$18.70; Prince Albert \$18.00; Moose Jaw and Regina \$18.10; Saskatoon \$18 to \$18.10, and Vancouver \$17.10 to \$17.40.

The above prices do not include the Dominion Government premiums of \$3 per head on Grade A hogs and \$2 on Grade B1.

**Lambs Mostly Steady**

Aside from a decline of 25c at Toronto, lamb prices were generally unchanged. Toronto paid \$15.50 to \$15.75 for good lambs; Montreal up to \$14 for a mixed offering; Albany \$12.75; Winnipeg up to \$13.50; Calgary \$12.50; Edmonton \$12.75; Prince Albert \$11.50; Moose Jaw \$11.75; Saskatoon \$11.50; Regina \$12.50; and Vancouver \$12 to \$13.

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## TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox Farming

Following the January auctions in Montreal the Canadian Fur Markets have been comparatively quiet. The large quantity—42,500 pelts particularly Silvers despatched to the buyers, has been so large that only about 50 per cent of the offering was disposed of. It was in our opinion a tactical mistake for the new management to place so many skins on one scale. Last January (1945) about 30,000 were catalogued quite enough to satisfy the demand. Had the number been the same no doubt a more successful sale would have resulted.

Probably another depressing influence was the poor reception accorded the Norwegian and Swedish offerings at the Hudson Bay Co. Sale Jan. 14th to 16th in London, England. Perhaps it is to early to look for any really good demand there—certain it is that thro' time London will find its place again.

We are indebted to the Canadian Fur Auction Sales Association, Summerdale for the following excellent report on the Montreal January sale.

The January Sale, held by Canadian Fur Auction Sales Association (Quebec) Ltd., Montreal, concluded on Friday, Feb. 1. The sale opened on Tuesday, Jan. 22, with sundry furs being offered. On Wednesday, mink were offered, and on Thursday and Friday, C. F. A. S. Specials 578 58, White-marked 689 68, 1-2 - 3-4 Silvers 938 68, Selected Fells 3415 55, Inferiors 16219 50, Low Grades 1611 57, Total 40880 49.

From the above it will be noted that the price level in the various classifications was on practically the same basis as that of a year ago. In the selected full silvers, inferior types and 1/2 to 3/4 silvers.

It is the intention of this Association to offer another Special Collection on the March sale.

**Report On Special Show**

Following our policy of keeping our shippers informed in regard to the popularity with the fur trade of various types of fox furs, we give the following analysis of our Special Collection, offered on Tuesday, Jan. 22, at Canadian Fur Auction Sales Co. (Quebec) Ltd., Montreal.

The collection contained 1132 skins consisting of medium and Platinum Silvers, Pearl Platins and White-marked.

The following descriptions are large size. These were extra large given to indicate the general quality of the skins contained in the top priced lots.

Lot No. 1 3 Platinum skins, (Quebec type) graded A, medium color blue large size, clear color, having bluish caste. They were firm skins, with medium to heavy volume of fur, strongly marked. These had only slight white markings, and were slightly darker through the back than on the sides, the coloring being well blended to give a finished appearance. Lot sold at \$146.00.

Lot No. 2 3 Platinum silver pelts, (Quebec type) graded A, light color, large size, uniform throughout, with very slight markings. The lot was sound in color, with clean, bluish underfur. Sold at \$135.00.

Lot No. 3 5 Pearl Platinum skins, graded A, extra light color, large size, medium volume of fur, densely silvery, having medium to wide bar, with a clear blue underfur being well guarded to give a finished appearance. Lot sold for \$98.00.

Lot No. 4 3 White-marked silver skins, graded A, extra light color.

day. Ranched mink were 65 per cent sold at an average price of \$25.40, a decline of 5 per cent on December sale levels, while wild mink were 83 per cent sold, averaging \$37.75, showing an advance of 30 per cent. Blue Fox was 63 per cent sold, at a decline of 20 per cent on December price levels, and 80 per cent sold at a decline of 10 per cent, while red fox was 80 per cent sold at a decline of 15 per cent, 80 per cent of the general catalogue was sold.

On Monday, Jan. 28th, the selling of the fox catalogue began, with a record offering of 42,000 skins, consisting of silver and imitation types, which were 40 per cent sold at an average price of \$34.77. A special collection of 1132 skins was offered by this Association, with 80 per cent sold at an average of \$36.78.

A good attendance was present, with buying orders from U. S. A., Mexico, South America, London, England, and the Canadian trade. On the whole, however, buying was somewhat limited, compared to the December sale, but prices remained relatively firm.

The following tabulation summarizes the sale results of the fox catalogue. Our "Special Collection" is not included in this summary, as a more detailed description of this is given in the enclosed supplementary letter. A comparison is made with the Jan. 1945 offering.

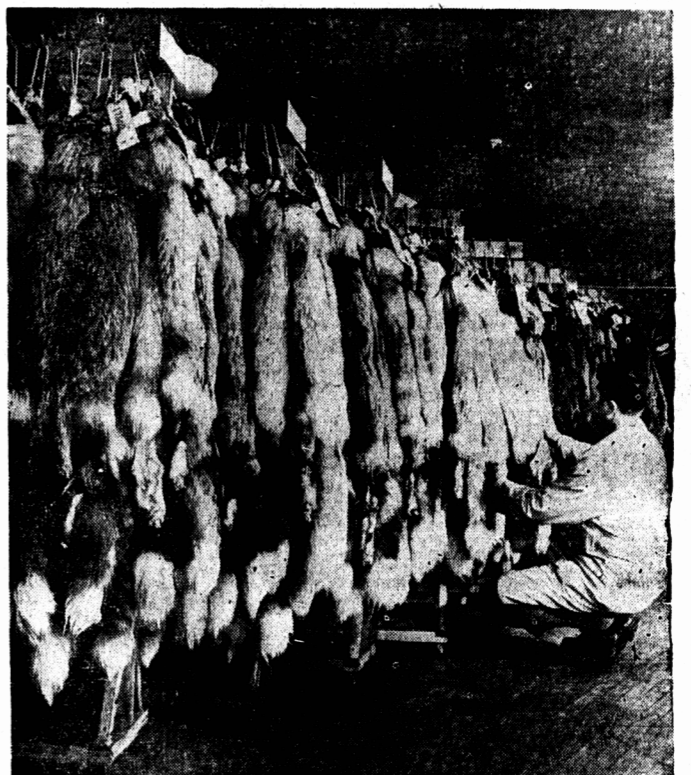
The average quality of the collection in general was on a similar basis to that of our January 1945 collection, and contained pelts of all grades except Inferiors and Specials.

The following tabulation summarizes the number of skins offered, sold, and prices realized with an average price compared with our Jan. 1945 collection:

	1946	Highest	1945
	No. Offered	pr. lots	No. Offered
Platinum	363	110.78	145.00
Pearl Platins	262	106.02	135.00
Pearl Platins	188	73.47	98.00
White-marked	46	82.76	100.00
White-marked	261	71.48	105.00

Extra light and whitish platinum types were not in as strong demand as those having more color and character. Large clean colored skins, closely guarded and well supported with underfur appeared to be more desirable in all types. White collars did not appear to add to or detract from the value of the skins. One lot of Norwegian type platinum, similar to Lot No. 1 above, but all pelts having full collars, sold for \$140.00, and two other lots having full collars sold at \$135.00. In white-marked silvers, the light bluish type of pelt brought higher prices, and in these, light underfur blending with the top seemed more desirable.

## Pelt Industry Booms Again



Picture (above) shows a champion platinum three-day auction of the American National Fur Breeders' Co-operative. Prospective bidders make fur appraisals before the auction and place secret bids as the skins go under the auctioneer's hammer. Silent bidding will cut out haggling over values as 15,000 silver fox and 20,000 domestic mink furs, after a span of more than display in Milwaukee preparatory to a secret-bid a century.

In such container shall be deemed to be the Dominion Department to be misbranded. The charge ment of Agriculture.

**Second Export Bacon Show**  
Charlottetown, February 19th.

A second Export Bacon Show, sponsored by the P. E. I. Swine Breeders Association and supported by the Provincial and Dominion Departments of Agriculture will be held in the Market Building, Charlottetown, on Tuesday afternoon, February 19th. The annual meeting of the P. E. I. Swine Breeders Association will be held on the evening of the same day at eight o'clock.

All Island hog producers are invited to make entry in this Show with one hog constituting an entry by each producer. Each entry must be delivered to Davis & Fraser Limited on February 12th or February 15th. Truckers and loading agents are invited to solicit entries from their patrons. All hogs entered in this Show will be slaughtered promptly and the selection of twenty-five carcasses nearest the ideal export weight of 150 pounds will be made from the total entries. The twenty-five carcasses thus selected will be eligible to compete for prize money.

Producers intending to enter hogs at this Show should promptly secure application forms which should be completed and returned as soon as possible and preferably not later than February 9th.

This show is sponsored to present a clear picture of the suitability of Island hogs for the Export Market. This Show should be of distinct educational value and producers who have market hogs of suitable type and approaching desirable market weights are invited to support this important event.

Application entry blanks as well as additional details pertaining to this Show may be obtained by writing to S. D. Irvine, Secretary, P. E. I. Swine Breeders Association, Box 489, Charlottetown.

## Best Chicks in 20 Years

Yes, that is what all Tweedle buyers are saying. We have 20 breeds to choose from. Chicks as low as 4 cents each.

Send for Price List THOS. HUGHES 19 Stewart Street Charlottetown, P.E.I.

**Attention Farmers**

We want large quantities of live or dressed cows, bulls, steers, heifers, calves; also live and dressed poultry. Good prices, prompt returns.

**Eastern Packing Co.**  
SOURIS

**"MIRACLE"**  
FEEDS MAKE FARMERS  
"PROFIT HAPPY!"



CONTAIN FORTIFIED GROWTH FACTORS

## Seven Happy Hogs Get a Meal



Above: These little pigs are getting their daily homey scene was snapped by Mrs. Cecil Adams. Above: These little pigs are getting their daily homey scene was snapped by Mrs. Cecil Adams. Above: These little pigs are getting their daily homey scene was snapped by Mrs. Cecil Adams.

## SECOND EXPORT BACON SHOW CHARLOTTETOWN, FEBRUARY 19th.

In conjunction with the P. E. I. Swine Breeders Association's Second Export Bacon Show we are pleased to offer our facilities and assistance to make this show possible.

We believe that this Demonstration will give the farmer a clear picture of the type of hog that will return to him the highest market price, and we strongly recommend that you not only enter into this competition but that you come to our Plant and see these hogs slaughtered and handled.

As you know from the hogs entered in this show 25 carcasses closest to 150 lbs. hot dressed weight will be selected for final picing.

AS AN INDUCEMENT TO SWINE PRODUCERS TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS EVENT WE ARE PLEASED TO OFFER A SPECIAL PRIZE OF \$5.00 ON EACH OF THE 25 HOGS PLACED.

Since we believe that this show is of such great value to the Farmers in this community and the Hog Industry as a whole, we sincerely hope you will support this show.

For further information and entry forms contact your regular loader.

**DAVIS & FRASER LTD.**  
CHARLOTTETOWN P. E. I.