



# MODERN FARMER



## NEWSY NOTES

By AGROCOLA

### ANGLO ISRAEL A MENACE

A visitor to the Island brought me a western paper containing an attack on those who profess and call themselves Anglo-Israelites. Readers have already been made familiar with the theory that the Anglo-Saxons are the remnants of "the lost ten tribes" which laboriously battled their way across Europe, from the vicinity of the Caspian Sea, and finally settled in Britain. These tribes must have changed their names, their language their physiognomy, their customs and their habits, if the supposition is correct.

The theory is not new, says the paper, having been first advanced by a writer in the time of Oliver Cromwell, and it further gives the names of two books that have been written in ridicule of the belief. The latter information is of little importance, since such things have been ridiculed at times; Doubtless readers will recollect Colonel Ingersoll's attacks on the Bible years ago; they are almost forgotten now while the Bible is still the best seller of all books. We may pass up the two books as irrelevant to the issue.

Where does the Anglo-Israelite get his evidence? The answer is from the book of Isaiah mostly, supported by extracts from other scriptural passages. The prophet begins by warning Israel (and other nations) against disobedience to God, foretells the advent of a Savior, and concludes by portraying a favored nation, from the 48th chapter to the end.

The chapter most frequently referred to by the Anglo-Israelites to prove that Britain is that favored nation, is the 49th; and indeed many of the verses might truly be applied to Britain today. There is, however, a hitch at one point; the Authorized (or King James) version of the Bible makes the British verse say: "The children which thou shalt have, after thou hast lost the other, shall say again in thine ears: 'The child which Britain lost is, the United States, we are told; and the other children who found the Motherland too small, emigrated and founded the Colonies. But then, after thou hast lost the other' is not to be found, in any form, in Coverdale's Bible, nor (if I remember) in the Douai version, and certainly not in my old Latin Bible. So the Anglo-Israelites have a point to clear up here.

This theory is supposed to be in the way of becoming a menace to Canada's war effort; the reasoning is that if Canadians believed that they would become a mess in their efforts to win the war by relying altogether on divine protection. We may dismiss that reasoning too, for a great many English people believe in Anglo-Israel, but are all out to defeat Hitler.

In this writer's view the evidence for the theory is altogether circumstantial and there will consequently be as much argued against it as for it. But in itself it is perfectly harmless; and it must be remarked that God's favor was only extended to the Israelites conditionally, a fact which their modern representatives sometimes overlook.

**WILD YEAST**

An attempt to make home-made wine has come to a bad end, as a failure; and the winemaker is said to believe that this is due to absence of sunshine. There was, I

think, much more native wine made a quarter of a century ago, and "sarsaparilla" berries and rhubarb were the principal flavorings. The berries together with water and sugar were placed in a bottle which was then stood in a sunny window. After a time fermentation took place, the active agent in which was some species of wild yeast, always present on the skin of the berries. The yeast splits up the sugar into carbon dioxide gas most of which escaped and into alcohol which mingled with water; thus making a weak faciliated kind of wine as an old recipe book says it is likely that the best years for making wine are the sunny ones, for rain will wash of the wild yeast from the berries so that fermentation will not take place.

To the question what is meant by a wild yeast, the answer is that it is a small microscopic plant, declared by de La Tour in 1837, to be a "globule that multiplied by budding." The structure of the yeasts or ferments is very simple, said Dr. E. L. Trouessart, half a century later. The plant is generally composed of a single cell, spherical, elliptical or cylindrical, formed of a thin cell-wall, containing a granular substance called protoplasm, which is the essential part of the plant. The multiplication by budding is exceedingly rapid; Engelmann states that a single cell had produced 35,000 others in the course of 48 hours; in this case they formed a white scum on the liquid. A good number of yeasts have been classified, the principal being those which produce grape wine and barley beer.

How do the ferments or yeasts winter? Brefeld found the answer on the dungheap. This revelation is not a pleasing one, but the fact remains that he isolated several wild yeasts from the excrement of herbivorous animals. In the spring they are dispersed by the wind, and as they may become perfectly dry or may even be subjected to a very high temperature without injury, they remain dormant until conditions are again favorable for their multiplication.

In breweries extraordinary precautions are taken to ensure that only the right kind of yeast is admitted to the vats and an expert chemist or bacteriologist is employed to examine the ferment before it is added to the "wort." The yeast collected from the vats was formerly compressed into small sacks, (about the size of 25 lb flour bag) and sold to the retailers as brewer's yeast. In this state it looked like putty, and the housewife, before baking, bought a small chunk for a penny or so.

One of the so-called native wines was "Ginger Wine," commonly accepted as a teetotal beverage in England. It was very sweet—a usual fault in home-made wines—and was undoubtedly fortified with pure alcohol before being bottled for sale. Ginger Beer was altogether different, it was made by adding brewer's yeast to a simple mixture of water, sugar and ginger. Such beer was made and sold in all Northumbrian villages, generally by some old dame who kept a little shop. The sign in the window read "Ginger Beer: Sold here" and the price was the equivalent of 3 cts for a 30 oz. bottle. This was, of course, before the day of the "acrated beverages."

**NOTES ON ISLAND PLANTS**

The Compositae (I)  
Our list of this extensive Family

## TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox Farming

All fox ranchers are invited to attend the second Fox Field Day sponsored by the P. E. I. Fox Breeders' Association in co-operation with the P. E. I. Department of Agriculture, which will be held at Montague, next Wednesday, September 3rd, at 1.00 P. M. (Standard Time, 2.00 P. M. D.S.T.) Foxmen will meet at the ranch of Harry Davidson. An inspection of the ranch and discussion of ranching methods will take place. Speakers, L. W. Hancock, President P. E. I. F. B. A., and Walter Shaw, Secretary and Deputy Minister of Agriculture, 2.40 P. M. Foxmen will visit ranch of George McIntyre, inspection will take place and discussion of ranching methods. Speaker, George A. Callbeck, Chief Inspector Registration C. N. S. F. B. A. Demonstration and discussion of relative values of color phases with a table of foxes which go towards advancement of fox farming and the improvement of the rancher's methods of feeding and care. He has a great deal to do with the promotion of fox shows in collaboration with other live wires in Ontario. This year five regional shows will be held, at Owen Sound, Guelph, St. Mary's, West Falls and Fort William, St. Mary's is for milk exclusively. From these regional shows the top foxes will go to Barrie, Ontario, where the Provincial silver fox show will be held on the 13th and 14th of November. The biggest regional fox show is at Guelph, where top ranchers like the O. W. Thompson Company, Bill Ruthven, J. J. McCague, Tom McGill and others whose names are so familiarly known in the show ring, will meet in battle array. It will be a tremendous test and a great preliminary to the final show at Barrie, where all the best ranchers in Ontario will exhibit. Not only will silver fox be shown there but all kinds of foxes including the newest types of platinum. The best of the platinum will then go to Winnipeg where a fine show will be held the following week.

We asked Dr. Bowness his opinion regarding wire bottom pens and he stated that they had advantages for live stock and foxes. A free hand was given him and he had access to the celebrated Connaught laboratories, Toronto, for nutritional experiments. The company maintain a large farm where live stock of various kinds, poultry and silver foxes are fed diets for experimental and production purposes. As a result of these experiments Master Feeds have evolved formulas that are recognized by breeders everywhere throughout the Dominion as being among the best.

Besides attending to his regular employment Dr. Bowness has given on a helping hand much the same as our friend Lowell Hancock, Summerside, does in this Province. In fact he has been a leading figure in the promotion for all that goes towards advancement of fox farming and the improvement of the rancher's methods of feeding and care. He has a great deal to do with the promotion of fox shows in collaboration with other live wires in Ontario. This year five regional shows will be held, at Owen Sound, Guelph, St. Mary's, West Falls and Fort William, St. Mary's is for milk exclusively. From these regional shows the top foxes will go to Barrie, Ontario, where the Provincial silver fox show will be held on the 13th and 14th of November. The biggest regional fox show is at Guelph, where top ranchers like the O. W. Thompson Company, Bill Ruthven, J. J. McCague, Tom McGill and others whose names are so familiarly known in the show ring, will meet in battle array. It will be a tremendous test and a great preliminary to the final show at Barrie, where all the best ranchers in Ontario will exhibit. Not only will silver fox be shown there but all kinds of foxes including the newest types of platinum. The best of the platinum will then go to Winnipeg where a fine show will be held the following week.

3.30 P. M. Standard—A visit will be paid to the ranch of Captain A. A. Mosher. An inspection of ranch and ranching methods will be carried on. Speaker, Dr. C. K. Gunn, Superintendent, Experimental Farm, Summerside. His address will be followed by a quiz period in which anyone can throw a question. Then refreshments. It is scarcely necessary to comment upon the above splendid program.

Our Province was honored this week by the visit of three noted authorities on fox farming, Roland Tuplin, Comstock, Michigan, Dr. E. Rendle Bowness, Toronto, and Ray Callaghan whose home is in the vicinity of Chicago, Illinois. Curiously, they all arrived about the same time and each was greeted by a large circle of relatives, friends and acquaintances, happy to see them back in the land of their forefathers, for all three are native sons of the Garden of the Gulf.

Roland Tuplin was born on his father's, Frank Tuplin's farm at New Annap about forty years ago. He grew up on a fox farm, and the industry when silver foxes were commanding fabulous prices. The writer remembers visiting the Tuplin ranch September 1st, 1913, bearing a certificate of foxes from Roland Mr. Tuplin, then President of the Tuplin Fox Corporation, delivered six pairs of silver black fox pups. These pups were to fill an order for a local fox ranch. Roland was very active in hunting up boxes, nails, hammer and saw—that I remember quite well. He would then be about twelve years of age. Later on he took a course in veterinary where he was a brilliant student, and in 1923 the family removed to Michigan where his father carried on fox farming for many years, later on moving to British Columbia, where he is now settled.

Roland branched out for himself with the original Tuplin foxes, which as our readers know were blue black quality of the fur. That excellent quality of clearness of color Roland maintained through the years with the result that when he stepped into the show ring in competition with the best in the United States he was at the top, or if not at the top knocking at the door. In the past four years he won the Grand Championship three times and also won Reserve Champion several times. So excellent was the quality of his breeding stock that ranchers from far and near trekked to his door and were not disappointed when he sold them. Last winter we had the privilege of publishing a letter from him giving a description of his feeding and ranching methods, which were to say the least, very interesting, and in other parts of the Dominion where the article was circulated.

Yesterday he favored us with "the hours of his time and we did everything we could to make the best use of it. We inquired as to his reaction to wire bottom pens and he gave us the good and bad points that go with the method. He told us the difficulties of raising foxes in Michigan where the heat in summer often runs to 115 degrees and where the soil is sandy and fleas abound. Notwithstanding these handicaps and a comparatively mild fall, brains and work overcame all difficulties and Tuplin pelts brought big figures and his live foxes topped the show ring.

He is a great believer in cleanliness, believes sanitation very high in the necessities, watches fleas and parasites very carefully and believes that it is necessary to spend a great deal of time and attention on foxes in order to arrive at the best results. On his visit here he was accompanied by Mrs. Tuplin, who is as keenly interested in silver foxes as her husband. Due to breakdown in health he had to give up fox farming last year and dispose of his foxes, but he cannot get away from it entirely and it is possible now that his health is improving he will start again in the business.

Dr. E. Rendle Bowness is another Island boy who has made good at what he has chosen to do among the veterinary scientists in Canada. He was educated in the public schools and after completing his veterinary course at the Ontario Veterinary College took post medical and scientific courses so as to fit him for his work. After employment by the Ontario government where he made a great success in advising fox farmers, he was engaged by Master Feeds Ltd., Toronto, to work out feed formulas

## EDWARD ISLAND

opens with the Joe Fry Weed (Saputarium purpureum.) The descriptions in Gray's and Britton's Manuals do not always coincide and are rather confusing to the amateur botanist, but I believe the plant is the variety maculatum of Gray characterized by a flat-topped cymose panicle of pale pink flowers, and a stem with striate maculations. Britton raises maculatum to specific rank, cutting it adrift purpureum altogether; so you may take your choice. "Strange that such difference should be made between the two varieties," writes Tweddell and Tweddell. "Applies here. This plant is sometimes called trumpet weed, Joe Frye was an Indian herb-doctor, who made extensive use of the plant, though I have no account of the diseases it was supposed to cure. MacSwain's list also carried the thoroughwort or Honesty (E. verifolium), which I have not come across yet. It has the lower leaves united at their bases so that the stem appears to come through them, hence the use of the old word "through" meaning "through." The upper leaves do not exhibit this peculiarity. Bain says "The root is valuable in medicine." We have not more than nine different species of Golden-rod familiarly called yellow-weed, in the Province. They are Solidago heterophylla, hispida, puberula, uliginosa, Sempervirens, rigida, nemoralis, canadensis and graminifolia. Students who feel interested in these latest daughters of the press, the "yellow-weed" was looked upon with great disfavor at one time and considered almost as great a pest as the "daisy"; but it has since fallen from that bad eminence, due to a change in methods of farming. The species canadensis is often grown as an ornamental in England where it grows much taller and more showy. The individual florets are small but very numerous; and its attractiveness is enhanced by its honeyed fragrance. 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