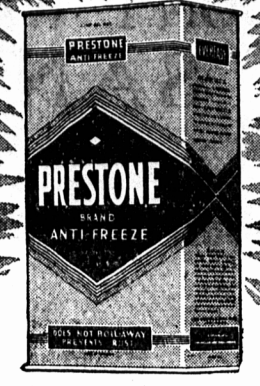


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All wts.	44c	42c	25c	

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TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox and Mink Farming



The two most famous companies that have ever been organized are the East India Company and the Hudson's Bay Company. The former had the sole trading rights to the British possessions in India until shortly after the Sepoy Rebellion in 1857. The governors of the company and the soldiers they sent out were among the greatest men that Britain ever produced — Lord Clive being the most outstanding. The other company referred to is the Hudson's Bay Company founded in 1670, years before the East India Company. It is still going strong, in fact in the past twenty years it has taken on a new lease of life with great stores built in Winnipeg, Vancouver and other cities of the west, and new vitality infused into the whole structure.

The latest building to be erected is a warehouse in Montreal where its first sale took place on Thursday and Friday of this week. It was exclusively mink. Similar sales will be held at regular intervals, the next one being the 16th of January, and it will be general furs including mink and mutations. The Hudson's Bay Company still maintains its posts in the northlands and the following account of them and the way they are supplied is quite interesting.

Like the old gray mare, the Hudson's Bay Company fur trading post "ain't what it used to be." No longer are these posts, dotting Canada's northland, in the log cabin category. Time has brought about a great change in the way of life of the factor, or post manager as he now is called, and his family. Today's average fur trading post boasts an up-to-date house with four bedrooms, well-furnished and equipped with nearly all the conveniences of an urban dwelling. Set down on a city lot it would probably cost in the neighborhood of \$12,000, that's including the furnishings, which would boost the price another couple of thousand. It's from the job of fulfilling the needs of the 226 company posts and the 1,000 people living in them that Scottish-born Jessie Bacon, a trim, dark-haired woman in her mid-30's, likeable and easy to talk to, has earned for herself the unofficial title of "Canada's Biggest House-keeper."

Officially on the Hudson's Bay Company's payroll as Supervisor of Household Furnishings, Jessie Bacon has become accustomed in the four years she has held the position to dealing in large quantities. Shipping out household goods by the ton is no novelty to her.

She wasn't the least bit taken aback recently when she was commissioned to furnish and stock with all the necessary equipment, right down to an ice pick, a new, wonder ship called the Fort Hearne is to ply the frigid waters of the western Arctic. Built in Nova Scotia and diesel-powered, this vessel was constructed of wood because timber is plentiful under the pressure of ice whereas steel would buckle. Capable of carrying about 400 tons of freight, the Fort Hearne is 150 feet long with a beam of 30 feet. She is operated either out of Akivik or Tuktuak in the Northwest Territories.

"So far as outfitting it is concerned, it's really a fairly simple job, not anywhere near as difficult as it might seem at first thought," says the woman who will serve as ship's chandler. "The food list presents no problem. As for the kitchenware, well, that will be similar to what you'd find in a hotel, sturdy stuff that will stand up under heavy going. Then for the bunks, it's merely a matter of good mattresses, sheets and blankets. Oh—there'll be a few odds and ends that I don't know about at present but I shouldn't imagine there'll be any big problems."

Jessie Bacon herself has made five trips into the north country in the last four years, visiting 52 of the company posts. Not all of the 226 posts devote themselves to the fur trade; rather, some of them are merchandise outlets and at least two handle fish.

They are wearing mink and fox capes in New York...A variety of New York events, plus the tingling cold weather, encouraged New Yorkers to seek their warm fur coats — whether this season's or last — and wear them comfortably.

ably this past week. A surprising amount of fox was worn around town—to the theatre and smart restaurants and hotels in the up-town area. At last week's final performance of the National Horse Show and at the Sadler Well's ballet many in attendance chose the plating and Norwegian blue joxes, fashioned into capes and stoles to wear over decollete cocktail dresses. The most conspicuous pattern is the cape-stole with shaped back and rounded pocket. A popular variation is the cape back and square stole pockets set on the straight patch panels.

Mink appeared to be the most glamorous fur seen chosen by young and mature in a variety of silhouettes. Many women wore their full length mink coats, the newest looking were those that had luxurious sweeps, small collars and huge cuffs. By order of count though, the smaller pieces outnumbered the longer ones seen this far. In particular, those easy-to-wear capes and sling capes, which most fashionably dressed women find so convenient to wear over suits or evening gowns.

The chinchilla breeders have about ten times the amount of pup and goatheadness that we silver fox farmers have, despite the fact that there has not been an auction sale of chinchilla furs that we have knowledge of for years, and the last one that was held in New York only disposed of a very small percentage, yet they go ahead boasting chinchilla having style shows and live shows and now we note where the first international chinchilla show will be held in Denver, Colorado, January 21-23.

Over twenty years ago we were intrigued with the possibility of chinchilla farming, not here but high up in the Andes in Peru, Chili. A very enterprising Marl-timer who had started a silver fox ranch in Great Britain was the author of the scheme. He made a trip to South America and was convinced of the feasibility of chinchilla farming there. We, however, after learning of it, we could about the matter, could not figure out that it would be a safe investment proposition and anyhow what funds we had were tied up in fox farming and other enterprises here. We believe some sort of company was formed and whether they were the people who brought chinchilla to California and started chinchilla farming there from where it spread through the United States, Western Canada, Ontario and Quebec we are not certain of, but the pioneering spirit of the ex-Marl-timer no doubt had a good deal to do with it.

In the long ago we have seen a few pieces of chinchilla fur that had its origin in the faraway places of South America and it was of considerable beauty but it passed off the world's markets some twenty-five or thirty years ago. Whether the famed chinchilla came to the place of the chilla can or not we cannot say, but the promoters certainly deserve commendation for the tremendous amount of effort and energy as well as cash resources they are putting into an endeavor to popularize the fur.

The results of the sale of mink and silver foxes held by Lampson, Fraser & Huth, New York, on Tuesday were received by the Canadian National Fox Breeders' Association, Summerside, P. E. I. as follows:— Ranch mink offered, 14,200; sold 92%; advanced 30% compared with December, 1948. Top price \$31.00 for half-blood males; \$27.00 standard Yukon males; \$15.25 for standard Yukon females. Silver foxes offered, 8,752 color phase and silvers; sold 33%; top price, \$21.00 for Platinums, \$14.00 for Silvers. Unchanged as compared with October, 1949.

The foxes sold were from the Associated Fur Farms, one of the oldest and largest producers in the U.S.A. They have cut down their breeding foxes to 10% of last year's and will specialize almost entirely in the production of mink.

There is going to be doings over the ice this winter—Bert Younker and Al Cutcliffe have brought in the pacer Bob Dale 2.18 by Lauderdale. This horse started racing in 1947 and had winnings of \$183.66 and in 1948 had run his money winnings up to \$1,905.65. Last spring he was purchased by parties in New Brunswick and showed sensational flashes of speed, pacing halves in 1.02 and just simply running away from his opposition. He should be a bearcat in ice. Right now Bert Younker is jogging him daily so this is serving notice on Sam Kennedy who has Jean Henley 2.08 1-4 and all the other fast pacers in the Province.

For the slower classes Rollie Wood is prepping Gingerbread

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WET SUMMER
Rainfall in East Pakistan is heavy during the months of June to September, and in some places averages as much as 100 inches.

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Back Stretch
Continued from page 6

betters rushed to the pay-off booth. Art turned back and said—"What's this, a fire?" We assured him there would be a clear path in a few minutes, so we talked over horse and then he started out again to take a seat anywhere. Well, he finally ended up in the judges stand as there wasn't a single seat to be had and scarce a crowd when the trotters and pacers started to score that afternoon the track was half full of spectators. Mr. Hinrich wrote in Hoof Beats that he had been to all the great trotting meetings in the United States and that he had never seen anything like it. He certainly paid a lovely tribute to the Garden of the Gulf, its people and its horsemen.

Here is the summary of the Free For All Trot that day... Watchin (Hood) 2-1-1; Christie Budlong (Brookins) 1-3-3; Sunny-meade (J. O'Brien) 3-2-2; Lee McKillop (J. Hood) 4-4-5; Lee Brewer (Moreside) 6-5-4; Pagliacci (Miller) 5-6-6. Time, 2:09, 2:07 1-2, 2:09 3-4. The second heat was a new track trotting record and it still remains. Watchin was owned by Frank Adams, Halifax, and Christie Budlong by George Brookins, Kensington. Other winners that day were—2.25 Pace, Second Division—Mona Direct (Ringette) 4-1-1; Sister Henley (J. O'Brien) 1-2-2; Just Filicia (O'Meara) 2-3-4; Jim Todd (Miller) 3-4-5; Kerwin Hanover 7-8-3; Billy Bishop 5-6-7, two other starters. Time, 2:15 1-4, 2:13, 2:13.

Mona Direct was owned by A. F. Ringette, Green River, N. S. Sister Henley by Frank L. Holmes, Glace Bay. 2.14 Pace—Alycove (J. O'Brien) 1-1-4; Sandy D. (J. Conroy) 6-2-1; Sonaja (W. Hood) 3-3-2; The Baker (Mehan) 2-5-3; Giftine (Weir) 7-4-5; Jean Henley (Campbell) 4-6-6; Major Bowes (Kidney) 5-7-7. Time, 2:10 1-2, 2:11 1-4, 2:11 1-2. Alycove was owned by W. R. McGibbon, Moors Island, N.B.; Sandy D. by H. W. S. Allingham, Gagetown, N.B.

Hunters' Corner
Continued from page 6

Ions was due for work at 8.30, the other at 9 o'clock, so at 7.45 we began to gather up our decoys. We later learned that we had missed the boat — and how. At 9 o'clock over 100 geese piled into this stubble field within range of our pit. Later two farmers were alerted their way along a dyke until they got within range and shot them. Not bad work for single-barrelled guns.

In this connection any information regarding infractions of the Migratory Bird Regulations forwarded to the Game Officer, R. C. M. Police, Charlottetown, will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Two weeks later I heard that three geese had come to a 'rig' set out in a stubble field at Mount Albion and all three wound up in a roosting pan. Maybe they were the three that tantalized us that morning. Although there were a lot of geese shot I cannot truthfully say that I noticed any appreciable lessening of their numbers... not in some sections at least. As the season entered on its last hour of legal shooting I watched a flight of geese moving along the Flat River Pineke shoreline headed toward Point Prim. In 16 minutes approximately 200 geese passed a given point. The flocks were evenly spaced indicating they were headed for some specific goal. The largest held 40 birds and the smallest five but the average flock ran between 10 and 15.

Several have asked me why the geese stood so much punishment this fall without pulling out for parts unknown. To my way of

thinking there were two reasons. First: the goose season didn't open until October 20th — a departure from previous seasons when both geese and ducks opened together. Hundreds of geese arrived in September and the first few days of October this year and thus had several weeks, practically unmolested, in which to pluck out feeding centers and make themselves at home. They weren't fired at and hounded the minute their feet hit a stubble field or fresh water lake.

Secondly: Geese will take a chance of running the gauntlet of guns if food to their liking is abundant. This Province was blessed this past season with a heavy crop of oats and barley. Not only was there a rank growth of straw but the grains were plump and filled to the bursting point with rich meal. Furthermore a heavy storm, just as cutting was under way, battered down some heavy stands of oats and barley and in many fields the ground was literally covered with plump grains.

The 40 acre barley field at Flat River is an example. After being battered by a storm it was harvested by a combine. This method leaves a considerable amount of grain on the ground even if harvesting conditions are ideal. Under conditions as existed in this area with a combine. This means hundreds of bushels of barley were left on the ground. Geese are very fond of well filled barley and were loath to leave this bounteous feed table.

Hundreds of geese are still with us. Two days after the season closed I counted 170 in one field. Goose hunters had a full season's shooting and should be willing to call it a day and quit. If geese are allowed from now until winter sets in to feed unmolested, they'll be certain to return in greater numbers next fall. It's up to all interested sportsmen and farmers to see that hunters respect the closed season on geese and ducks.

Scout News and Notices

A meeting of Charlottetown Group Committee Chairmen was held at the home of Provincial Commissioner R. C. Parent the first of this week.

Mr. Parent carefully outlined the duties of the Group Committee and urged that these Committees support Scouters to their utmost. In attendance were: Mr. G. E. Proctor, Mrs. A. Affleck, Mr. W. Burns, Mrs. G. Beer, Mr. F. Burke, Mr. E. G. Kerr and Mr. B. MacDonald.

Attention—Scouters

Scouters are invited to send in any news or reports on their Troop or Pack activities for publication in this column.

Material should be passed into Boy Scout Headquarters before Friday of each week.

Jamboree!

Again this magic word resounds and to the thirty-five members of the 1949 Prince Edward Island Contingent to the Canadian Jamboree bring back many fond memories. The Boy Scouts Association of the United States of America have invited a contingent from Canada to attend their Jamboree to be held at Valley Forge, Pa., from June 30th to July 6th, 1950. It is estimated that 40,000 Scouts will be gathered there. Our quota is one Patrol with the standard of training the same as for the Canadian Jamboree, i.e., First Class Rank.

Annual Scouter—Glider Dance

The annual Scouter—Glider Dance was held in the hall of "The Charlottetown" Hotel on Friday evening, December 9th. Scouters and Gliders enjoyed dancing to the music of Al Blanchard's orchestra from 9 till 1. The dance concluded with a buffet supper. Novelty numbers included a Spot Dance, and old-time Square Dancing led by F.A. Driscoll.

Hockey League, says he plans to report to Truro the first of next week. Josey will turn out with the Abbies tonight in the opening of the Island Hockey League against Saint Dunstan's University.

Wally Sheppard, another local hockeyist who performed with the Abbies last season, is at present performing with the Truro club.

Ready for Christmas

FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING IT WILL PAY YOU TO VISIT OUR STORE, AND SEE THE LARGE ASSORTMENT OF GIFTS AND EVERY DAY NECESSITIES WE ARE OFFERING AT VERY REASONABLE PRICES.

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FOR HER—	THE KIDDIES—	THE HOME—	FOR HIM—
Nylons	Toys	Radios	Socks
Sweaters	Trikes	Gas & Electric Washers	Ties
Hankies	Waggons	Gas & Electric Irons	Gloves
Underwear	Sleds	Toasters	Suspenders
Slippers	Books	Hot Plates	Shirts
Chinaware	Tops	Blankets	Shaving Supplies
Stationery	Candy	Lamps	Wallets
Toilet Sets	Puzzles	Glassware	Pen Sets
Chocolates	Guns	Enamelware	Smokes
etc.	etc.	etc.	etc.

Get your Footwear needs from us — we carry the well known Goodrich line which we are selling at catalogue prices.

CHRISTMAS SPECIALS

Effective from today until Christmas we offer the following Specials:—

New Crop Fancy Grade Mplasses, Gal.	95c
New Crop Fresh Pitted Dates, 4 lb.	39c
Big Juicy Seeded Raisins, 2 lbs.	45c
Shortening, lb.	27c
Peaches, 2 tins	35c
Sugar, white or brown, 10 lbs.	89c
Soap Flakes, all kinds	35c
Christmas Candy, 2 lbs.	59c

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