

3 Pages for the MODERN FARMER



TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox Farming



The 13th annual Provincial Live Fox Show was the centre of interest for a great many breeders the past week. The some 400 entries were pretty representative of most sections of the province. There were a number of new breeders exhibiting—and that is newcomers to the Exhibition—and most of the old standbys were on hand with their wares. Some, like W. H. Tidmarsh, Charlottetown, who has not exhibited for ten years, came through with flying colors as the prize list will show.

A feature of the Exhibition was the presence of a representative of Dr. J. A. LaForest, Quebec, with five foxes of the LaForest strain. There were a great many who wanted to see the original or rather the home ranch product, and it was not to be wondered at, that the booth which these foxes occupied held the attention of many visitors. They are certainly a very unique type, so different from anything we conceived of years ago that it would be difficult to describe them. One known as a platinum light blue was very large with a tremendous bush and at least a ten-inch tip. The fur was very thick, could almost be described as woolly, fully an inch thick, with only a medium covering of guard fur. This in the light from the electric lamp above showed a bluish cast which made that type of fur appealing to ladies for evening wear.

One of the adults was a real scroob and it took the caretaker and an assistant sometimes ten minutes to capture him ten times. He would dodge his head



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Charlottetown, P. E. I.
11-12-51.

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Farmer's Wife, Welder, Christens Ship She Helped To Build



WIVES of Nova Scotia farmers and fishermen with their husbands dropped their peacetime pursuits to become builders of ships for Canada's merchant navy. One of these ships launched at the new Pictou, N.S., shipyard was christened "S.S. Victoria Park" by Mrs. Robert Fraser, a farm woman from nearby Sylvester, who, with her husband, had worked on this ship from the laying of the keel. Mrs. Fraser won the honor of sponsoring the ship in a drawing from tickets held by the shipyard workers. She is a welder in the shipyard and "boss" of the first band of women workers who took up shipbuilding duties this Fall. She and her husband drive back and forth from their farm daily. Within a short time of the launching, Mrs. Fraser

got back into her overalls working clothes to start work on a sister ship. The "Victoria Park" was the first steel ship built in Nova Scotia since 1919 and the first built in Pictou, all material for the construction of this and other vessels in the "Park" series being transported to the yards by Canadian National Railway.

At the launching, Premier A. S. McMillan told the guests there that ships "constructed by Nova Scotians, out of material largely processed in Nova Scotia and practically all from Empire material," would be launched at the rate of one each month.

As the newly-launched "Victoria Park" lay in the stream ready for the cutters, the first plate for the keel of her successor was placed. Photographs show (upper right)

George D. Warren of Howland had an exhibit of his platinum foxes and they were very good types. Mr. Warren has been a successful breeder of cattle. Possessing intelligence away above the average anything he puts his hand to is a success. Years ago he followed the horses and was an expert shoe of high-class campaigners. One of the pleasantest of his memories is when it harks back to the memorable trotting duel between Lee Axworthy, world's champion four-year-old trotter and afterwards, world's champion trotter, and Hamburg Belle 2:01 1-4, which was won by Lee Axworthy on her day. George made the shoes that she wore in that great match race which was witnessed by one of the largest crowds that ever attended a Grand Circuit meeting. There was a big side bet and tremendous pools and Hamburg Belle triumphed.

One of the foxmen absent from the show was Brent Howatt of Ebe Roy, who is now managing a ranch in Stratford, Ontario. The Mall can be addressed in care of Wilson Tourist House, where he will all miss Brent with his genial ways yet we are sure the company which secured his services will benefit as he understands fox ranching as well as anyone we know of and has bred and exhibited many high-class prize winners.

It was a pleasure to see W. E. MacArthur again exhibiting and while he did not take in very many foxes yet if you look through the list you will find that they made their presence felt in no uncertain way. This season he had 80 pups from 20 females which you will admit is a mighty fine average.

His exhibit was next door neighbor to that of his son-in-law Roy Tanton of St. Eleanors. Roy kept three males and 11 females and raised 53 pups which is a still better average production. Roy had some lovely foxes on display and we notice buyers from Quebec bid on them, also on the Bud Mountain foxes that were in the same section and under Roy's care.

W. Harry Tidmarsh, as mentioned in the Guardian, had a rather unique happening when he won in the same class with sire and son, the sire winning the adult male section and the son the male pup section. Both are beautiful specimens. With seven foxes Harry won 3 firsts, four championships including Grand Champion fox in show.

It was with great regret that we learned of the death of Dr. J. A. Stewart, Tyne Valley, last week. The Doctor ministered to the medical wants of hundreds of people and occupied a niche in the community which will be difficult to fill. He was always interested in fox ranching and up to the time of his death was Secretary of the Trout River Fox Company. They specialized in Alaska foxes and next to Milligan and Morrison were the largest breeders of these types. We personally saw many fine pelts come from the Trout River ranch, evidence of the skill in selection of breeding stock of Dr. Stewart and his fellow directors. To his sorrowing relatives and friends the writer of this column extends deep sympathy.

It seemed strange not to see George Calbeck stepping around with his white coat and very healthy complexion, placing the foxes in their proper positions on the prize list, but George cannot be in two places at once. He is his year for carrying out his inspectorial duties all over Canada. The position of judge was very worthily filled by Brenton Clark of Summerside. We took particular notice of Mr. Clark's placings and in our humble opinion we believe he did a first-class job. Due credit must be given to the classifiers, Parvin Cass, Beecher who were efficient and conscientious, and to Font Kennedy who assisted reading the ear markings and in other helpful ways.

"I may say," said Harry, "that the blue ruin signals which were some time ago have to a considerable extent disappeared and there is a greater feeling of optimism all over America among the fur dealers. Restrictions, price ceilings and other depressing influences have been discounted and the decks cleared away for action. I don't want to give the impression, however, that things will be any big upturn or run away market, but I believe the coming year will see a healthy sale of silver fox pelts which better prices realized than have been since last June."

Harry says that quite a number of large ranchers are going to put their pelts in cold storage and take them out when the market firmers. This, together with stabilizing influences exercised by the fur pools and co-operative pools will prevent undue glut which is always the cause of downward prices.

As evidence that Harry was not talking through his hat, we here quote an item which his own writer read on Thursday afternoon at the Fox Show. It is taken to say that in the epidemic of 1931, Dave looked ill and well carrying his years very lightly. I am sure he enjoyed the show and hundreds he met enjoyed seeing him.

Harry Rich, President and Manager of the Maritime Fur Pool, Ltd., has been here for the past several days and was a regular attendant at the Fox Show. We had the pleasure of an interview with him and his idea of the present situation: "One of the causes that is holding up the sale of silver fox pelts is the difficulty the manufacturers are having securing good quality English cloth to make up coats to be trimmed with silver fox. With that cloth available silver fox now in the market would disappear almost overnight. Canadian manufacturers are turning out cloth but it has not the finish of the English cloth and therefore cannot be utilized in the same way. There is a chance that after the first of the year more cloth will be released both in the United States



and Canada and if so the demand for pelts will increase.

extra pale silver male pups from Fox Tanton Wednesday afternoon, and dickered on several other foxes including H. G. Mutart's champion male pup. They are good judges of foxes and may have made other purchases.

Among the many friends who met at the Fox Show was Dave, the former Ed Urch ranch, whose place is the former Ed Urch ranch, so well known to many of us. Few farmers have a longer and more successful experience in raising foxes than the same Dave. We remember meeting him on the show table at the Charlottetown show in 1930. Each of us had an excellent specimen and it took the judges some time to decide which should be first, but finally the honor went to Dave and his fox became a champion and ours a reserve champion. Font Kennedy, who had been casting a very covetous eye on Dave's fox, then arrived and asked a price. While Dave was hesitating Font says, "I'll give you \$1,400 for your fox. That was awful temptation and it was hard to say no, but the word was uttered. The fox returned to the home ranch and sad the ubiquitous Mr. Angler. In that way, borrowed from Jim Pendergast and we think there is nothing that can fill the bill better. Walter R. Shaw was equal unqualified in his role of Secretary-Manager. No details were left undone and the whole show moved along with a snap and a few realize the amount of energy friend Walter possesses. During the week in addition to carrying on at the Fox Show, he gave two half-hour addresses over the radio, from morning until late afternoon saw officials from abroad, contacted businessmen and performed many other duties.

Quebec buyers bought fifth prize November 9th. Approximately 8,000 silver fox were 100 per cent sold on Thursday and Friday by the New York Auction Co., Inc., for the account of Herbert A. Nieman & Co., Thiensville, Wis. Full silvers average 10 per cent over last month's level. Top price received for the full grown silver fox for the three-quarters \$38. Most of the buying was by manufacturers for immediate production needs.

Hillard G. Mutart, Summerside, has disposed of his champion pup of the show to Quebec parties for a sum reminiscent of the good old days. The fox was a real beauty, a worthy champion if ever there was one. He had about 10 per cent blue black neck, very clear bright silver, was a large fox, heavily brushed, excellent fur with perfect burn and tip. (Lower right) the ceremony ended, Mrs. Fraser ready to return to her welding job.

NEWSY NOTES

BY AGRICULTURIST

THE MOLLUSCA OF P.E.I.

From "Report on the Geological Structure and Mineral Resources of P.E.I., 1911" — a booklet in the Public Library, Charlottetown.

"The Mollusca," says Bain, "are soft-bodied animals. Many of them, however, are protected by a hard shell, or testis, whence these are called Testacea. In our country species of Mollusca are found in our waters and damp woodlands."

The most curious examination of the Testacea reveals that some of them have two shells or valves, joined by a hinge, as in the Oysters and Clams, while others, like the Lamellibranchiata, and the Gastropoda, "The Lamellibranchiata or Bivalves, are without heads, have their gills in broad vesicles, and have no powers of locomotion. The Gastropods, or Univalves, have a distinct head, the gills in a central chamber, have one muscular foot by which the animal moves from one place to another."

The Report (mentioned above) gives a list of 42 molluscs, their scientific names, and the authorities for the same; but seldom remarks on the localities or abundance, etc. Such information is often supplied by Bain, and has been included in brackets under the species referred to.

(A) BIVALVES

(1) *Teredo norvegica*. In sunken timber. ("The Teredo has on its anterior part a pair of sharp valves by means of which it cuts into the solid wood. It lines its excavated burrow with a shell substance. The bottoms of vessels are perforated by these animals and the timber completely destroyed. It is found in the harbors of Charlottetown, and ravages that vessels are sheathed with copper. Two species inhabit our waters — the navalis and the norvegica. The former, the T. norvegica, is a pure white shell, but the Report gives the authority for the scientific names.

(2) *Zinea crispata* Linn. Boring into the hulls of ships. (There is no mention of this bivalve in any of the books in my possession.)

(3) *Solen americanus* Gould. This shell, common in Northumberland Strait, is regarded by Dr. P. P. Carpenter as certainly distinct from the *S. solen* (Bain) takes the same view when he says: "The Razor-Fish (*Solen americanus*) has a beautiful glossy, horn-colored sheen of a more elongated form and gaping at both extremities. It burrows in the sand at low-water mark."

(4) *Mya arenaria* Linn. Common and large. Some small specimens were found living in the burrows of Pholads — Report, 1871. ("The shells of *Clams* (*Mya*), is found in great numbers in the sands of all our rivers and bays. It is provided with two strong, muscular siphons, by one of which water is drawn in and by the other expelled. It is expelled with

great force, when the animal is suddenly disturbed and thrown in jet from the sand. The clams are used in large quantities for fish bait. *M. truncata* has a shorter shell. *Thracia conradi* — Clam and is a beautiful white shell" (Bain). The Sand Clam is the chief dish at the "Clam Bake" and is now canned in some districts.

(5) *Macra soldissima* Chemnitz. ("The *Macra* somewhat resembles the Quahog, but it is a larger shell, longer, flatter, smoother, and, in a fresh condition, bears some yellowish epidermis. It is a shell of the sea coast, burrowing in the sand reefs and leaving its great white valves to be ground up along the rocky cliffs.") — (Bain)

"The Bank Clam, *Cyrtodaria Siliqua*, with a dark epidermis, inhabits the fishing banks of the Gulf, and is a favorite food of the cod."

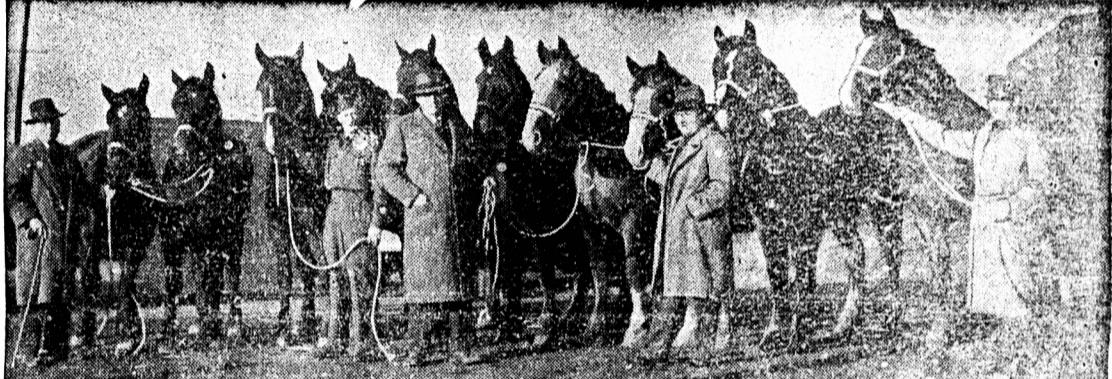
(6) *Cummingia tellinoides* Conrad. Only one specimen seen — Report. (No reference to this bivalve in other books consulted.)

(7) *Saxicava rugosa* Penn. Burrowing in reefs of red sandstone and shale. (No reference elsewhere.)

(8) *Petricola pholadiformis* Linn. Burrowing in reefs of red sandstone and shale — Report. (This *Petricola* is a pure white shell of limestone rock — Bain) oblong form, elegantly wrinkled at its anterior end. It burrows into sandstone reefs and drift fragments of limestone. (The Great Fire, has always been in the Crypt; it is the statue of John Donne who was Dean of St. Paul's, Isaac Walton ("the Compliant Angler") tells us that Donne, a week or two before his death (1631), caused to be made a wooden urn, and a board the just height of his body. Several charcoal fire be-

ing made in his large study (the library) he brought with him into that place his winding sheet (shroud), and having put off all his clothes, had this sheet put upon him and his hands so placed as dead bodies are usually fitted to be placed into their coffins. Several charcoal fire be-

WILL REPLACE GASOLINE BURNERS AT ARMY CAMP



This may be a mechanized war but the fear of gas and the shortages have decided Army authorities to experiment with horse drawn vehicles for general duty around camps. Here are pictures of the first horses purchased in this war by Munitions and Supply Department for the Army. They are now in service at Petawawa Military Camp and were purchased from Gilbert E. Arnold, Grenville, Que., one of the largest dealers in horses in Canada. All are grade draft bred in Ontario and Quebec.

Top picture shows the first group of 10 to go into service, posed with members of the purchasing board and the former owner left to right, Dr. A. C. Eurt, Sincere, Dominion Veterinary Inspector; Sgt.-Major T. Rodger, 4th P. L. D. G., a former cavalry unit; Gilbert Arnold, Arnoldworld Farms Grenville, Que.; L. K. Crabbe who represented the Department of Munitions and Supply on the purchasing board; Capt. Graham Maybury, 4th P. L. D. G., military representative on the purchasing board and well known Ottawa horseman.

Centre-a fine team of Pechebon grades, said to be the best in the group with Mr. Arnold and others of the purchasing board. Bottom, Captain Maybury looks over a Belgium grade mare.

PRODUCE

MONTREAL, Nov. 13 (CP)—Canadian Commodity Exchange. Butter spot; Que (92 score) 38B. Eggs spot; Eastern A-large 43—49; A-medium 47—48; A-pullets 45—46; E-B 45—46; E-C 33—39.

MONTREAL, Nov. 13 (CP)—Produce prices today as reported by the Dominion Department of Agriculture follow:—

CONSERVATION

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

WILDLIFE—SHOREBIRDS

About 40 kinds of shorebirds, one of which, the willet, has already been discussed here. Some of them seem to resort chiefly to the beach, others to the marsh, but a considerable change takes place. The shorebirds include many species of sea as a casual visitor farther north. It is grayish brown above and white below and about 15 inches long. The black-bellied the largest American plover, being 10 to 13 inches long, breeds on the Arctic coast of North America and winters as far south as Brazil. It occurs on the beaches, mud flats, and salt meadows during a rather long drawn-out migration season and is one of the species that from their rather extended migrations have been dubbed "globespanners." It is easily recognizable in breeding dress by the black under parts, but in other plumage it is nondescript, streaky gray. Under proper conditions a wisp of black feathers—the axillary patch—may be seen under the wing, and they serve positively to identify the species. The characteristic flight call is a clear, ringing pee-oo-ee.

Curlews are shorebirds with long or very long bills that have a decided downward curvature. A common murrelet, while rarely seen under the wing, tells how these birds are identified. The Eskimo curlew (*Pteropus borealis*), seems to be

Plovers seem to have necks and larger heads than most other shorebirds and to have a full-breasted, "chesty" appearance. Wilson's plover (*Pegela wilsonia*), largest of the "wing plovers" of the coast—species that have a dark band across the upper breast—breeds from southern Virginia southward but is the largest American plover, being 10 to 13 inches long, breeds on the Arctic coast of North America and winters as far south as Brazil. It occurs on the beaches, mud flats, and salt meadows during a rather long drawn-out migration season and is one of the species that from their rather extended migrations have been dubbed "globespanners." It is easily recognizable in breeding dress by the black under parts, but in other plumage it is nondescript, streaky gray. Under proper conditions a wisp of black feathers—the axillary patch—may be seen under the wing, and they serve positively to identify the species. The characteristic flight call is a clear, ringing pee-oo-ee.

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Continued on page 11. Continued on page 12.



Eggs: graded shipments selling A-large 50; A-medium 49 3-4; A-pullets 49 1-2; B 49.

Butter: first grade creamery prints, lobbing price 37 1-4—37 3-4; first grade solids, lobbing price 36 3-4—37 1-4; current receipts, Que No. 1 pasteurized 35 3-4, No. 2 34 3-4; wholesale, Que No. 1 storage and fresh 35—36 1-4.

Cheese: current receipts, western colored 19 7-8—20 FOB Montreal, western and Que white, 19 5-6 FOB Montreal, wholesale western white 20 first grade PAS Montreal.