


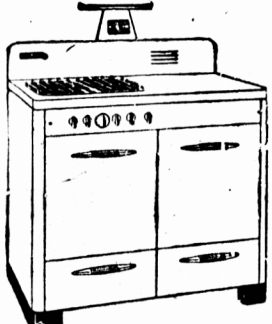
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THAT'S AS TOUGH AN ORDER AS TRYING TO FIND A SPARE PART FOR A STANLEY STEAMER, MARTHA! BUT I'LL DIG AROUND—I DON'T SUPPOSE HE'D TAKE ANYTHING THAT SMACKED OF MUSCULAR MOTION, EH?

MARTHA'S BROTHER IS NOT ONE OF THE MAJOR'S PALS

- NEWSY NOTES -
By J. A. Clark, D.Sc.

Gooseberries And Currants
These two bush fruits are closely related and were formerly grouped in the same genus, Ribes. Gooseberries are now grouped under the genus Grossularia and hybrids between the two have produced sterile seedlings. They are both native to the northern countries of Europe, North America and Asia.
The histories of these two fruits in Europe are similar. Their early cultivation was started near the end of the fifteenth century in the Low Countries of Europe and around the Baltic Sea. A German writer described cultivated currants about the time that Columbus discovered America. They are both referred to as garden bush fruits in English writings about the middle of the sixteenth century.
The origin of the names of these fruits seems to be in doubt. Currants were apparently named because of their resemblance to the berry of the dried "currants" of commerce; these are small seedless Corinth grapes and not in any way related to the genus Ribes. The name gooseberry is thought by some to have originated because this fruit was generally served as a relish with geese. Others think it more probable that it is derived from the Dutch name for this fruit which translated into English is "cross-berry."

Eradication Of These Fruits
The importation of white pine seedlings from Europe, at the beginning of the twentieth century, brought the white pine blister rust to North America. This rust produced an epidemic that injured all species of white pine (five needle pine) and threatened the destruction of one of our most valuable timber trees. It was found that the disease could not spread from tree to tree, but that one stage of the blister rust's development was on the leaves of currant and gooseberry bushes, and from them to other pine trees.
Governments have spent millions of dollars since, in protecting the pine forests by eradicating the native species of currants and gooseberries. They have also passed laws prohibiting the cultivation of these bush fruits in areas where pine is of commercial value. Protective measures mention at least 900 feet as a safe distance from white pine trees, where these bush fruits might be planted.
Gooseberries and currants vary greatly in their susceptibility to this disease. The European black currant, Ribes nigrum, is blamed for the very rapid spread of the blister rust in the northern United States. Some cultivated varieties are very resistant and the Vikings, a red currant, introduced from Norway is said to be immune.

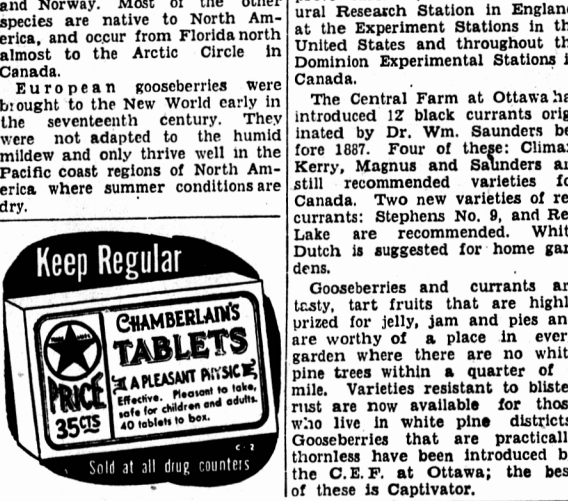
Gooseberries
There are some 50 species of gooseberries, but the cultivated gooseberries of Europe trace their parentage to one species, Grossularia reclinata (L.) Mill. This species occurs from Northern Africa through Spain, France, the Low Countries, Germany and south in Russia to the Caucasus mountains and north into Sweden and Norway. Most of the other species are native to North America, and occur from Florida north almost to the Arctic Circle in Canada.
European gooseberries were brought to the New World early in the seventeenth century. They were not adapted to the humid mildew and only thrive well in the Pacific coast regions of North America where summer conditions are dry.

Gooseberry Improvement
The European gooseberry is very highly esteemed in England. Varieties described as red, green and blue were grown in English gardens in 1629. A list of 722 varieties was published in 1831. There were 171 gooseberry shows held in England in 1845 and prizes were awarded for the largest fruit. Mention is made of fruit shown that was eight times the size of wild fruit.
European gooseberries and American species cross readily. The hybrids, though rarely as large as the English sorts, are very much harder and they have better colour and flavor than any of the native species. The Houghton variety was originated by A. Houghton of Lynn, Mass. in 1833 from such hybrid seed. It proved to be resistant to mildew. Charles Downing of Newburgh, N.Y. produced the Downing variety from seed of the Houghton. These two mildew resistant sorts were the basis of the gooseberry industry in America.
William Saunders of London, Ontario, used these two in crosses he made between them and Red Warrington and originated Pearl and Red Jacket, disease resistant varieties that were of good quality and prolific. Dr. William Saunders organized the Dominion Experimental Farms, and at the Central Farm at Ottawa, his Pearl gooseberry, for many years a leading variety, averaged 12,402 pounds per acre and in one peak year produced at the rate of 13 tons of fruit per acre.
A cross between Houghton and Downing, made by W. H. Craighead of Bingham City, Utah, produced Poorman, a vigorous variety with attractive fruit. The flesh of Poorman is tender, juicy and sweet. It with Clark and Silvia, another variety originated by Dr. Saunders, are listed as the three best commercial varieties in Canada today.

Currants
Most of the 100 species of currants are distributed over North America. They are hardy, and if given wind-break shelter will withstand extremely low temperatures.
The European black currants are vigorous and hardy, and are grown extensively throughout northern Europe and in central and northern Asia. The plants of this species, Ribes nigrum, have a characteristic aroma. The American black currant, Ribes americanum, also has an aroma and the fruit of both, a flavour that is objectionable to some.
Many of us can remember having to take a hot black currant drink, for a cold, whether we liked it or not. Black currants were said to be good for us. They have long been considered as having medicinal value. Research has shown that they have a high nutritive value and that they are extremely rich in vitamin "C", proving that our mothers knew what was good for us.

Improved Varieties
A great deal of careful scientific work has been conducted to improve currants; at the Horticultural Research Station in England, at the Experiment Stations in the United States and throughout the Dominion Experimental Stations in Canada.
The Central Farm at Ottawa has introduced 12 black currants originated by Dr. Wm. Saunders before 1887. Four of these: Climax, Kerry, Magnus and Saunders are still recommended varieties for Canada. Two new varieties of red currants: Stephens No. 9, and Red Lake are recommended. White Dutch is suggested for home gardens.
Gooseberries and currants are tasty, tart fruits that are highly nutritious for jelly, jam and pies and are worthy of a place in every garden where there are no white pine trees within a quarter of a mile. Varieties resistant to blister rust are now available for those who live in white pine districts. Gooseberries that are practically thornless have been introduced by the C.E.F. at Ottawa; the best of these is Captivator.

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Major Hoople



HERE'S WHAT I CALLED YOU ABOUT, TOM. I KNOW IT'S LIKE TRYING TO FAN A DEAD EMBER WITH A HAT, BUT IS THERE ANY CHANCE OF FINDING THE MAJOR A JOB? HE'S GETTING TO BE AN EYE-SORE AROUND THE HOUSE, LIKE A SPRING SOFA!

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TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox and Mink Farming



The New York Auction Company reported prices firm to 7 1/2 per cent off compared with September levels for their offerings of mink which included mutations and standard skins. Better grade merchandise was in good demand in the standard category but too much quality goods was available.
A fair percentage of the mutations changed hands. Royal Pastels also Breach of Spring and Green Eye brought a top of \$58 with 65 per cent sold. That was a decline of 5 per cent over September. Aleutians had a top of \$45 with 60 per cent sold, which was even with September. Silverblu including Breath of Spring brought a top for regulars of \$42. Breath of Spring \$42. These were off 5 per cent. The standard collection was mostly odds and late season's goods but with some good bundles.
Competition and prices good for the better goods but resistance to poorer merchandise off 7 1/2 per cent. Males sold much better than females. The reason why males have been of greater interest through the past several months especially in mutations, is there use in making stoles.
As explained by several manufacturers they are able to produce stoles with ten, twelve or fourteen male skins and to turn them out fairly rapidly. Besides the production factor the consumer has also shown preference for stoles of various sizes.
The South American chinchilla is now being bred successfully in Norway, according to the Norwegian press agency. A breeder there announces that contrary to the expectation of many experts chinchilla purchased four years ago have thrived and multiplied. He also says they have thoroughly acclimatized themselves to Norwegian conditions.
According to reports from various centres in the United States mink is having its best sale in capes and small pieces but some dealers have reported their coat business three times as good as in September, 1950. Most of the sales however, were in the better wild mink coats running from \$6,000 to \$8,000. One dealer said, "I have held mink promotion sales and use plenty of advertising but it is people with plenty of money that buy mink."
Black fox muffs are having a ready sale in a great many cities in the United States and fox and mink in little boas and wraps are featured for the formal touch with some designers. Fur colors are linked with fabric colors as for example the pearl platinum and a black fox tail boa and matching small barrel muff for a brilliant turquoise satin dress.
Furs produced in Quebec Province got a big boost at the Capitol Theatre there when they were displayed as part of the pageant of fashions presented before Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh with 50th anniversary celebrations of the Quebec Symphony Orchestra.
The group of fur garments were shown as part of a tableau of present day fashions by Henry Morgan and Co., Ltd. in collaboration with the Canadian Fur Advertising Committee. Of special interest was the Royal Sapphire fox cape stole made up for the Prince Edward Island government to be presented when the Princess visits Charlottetown on November 9th.
This particular cape is fashioned in two wings joined at the top back by the matching fallie lining. Other promotional garments sponsored by the Breeders Committee included a four-row tiered cape in Pearl Platinum fox, a fine

Production of mink pelts on Canadian fur farms in the 1951-52 season is expected to be slightly higher than in the preceding year, according to the Bureau of Statistics. At the same time the Bureau warned that there is an indication of an almost 20 per cent drop in the production of fox pelts.
Estimated production of mink pelts is placed at \$26,200 compared with \$15,500 last season. Fox pelts produced this season are expected to be 41,800 as compared to 52,000 last year.
The number of adult foxes on fur farms fell 18.9 per cent to 22,700 from 28,000 and the number of pups raised declined to 29,600 from 49,500. Adult mink on fur farms increased 3.3 per cent to 238,000 from 230,300 and the kits raised increased 1.9 per cent to 583,600 from 572,600.
The Hudson's Bay Company, Montreal, have announced the following auctions there . . . Dec. 7, mink, last receiving date, Dec. 20, mink, last receiving date, Dec. 12, 1952 — Jan. 14, general sale of furs, last receiving date, Dec. 24, 1951; Feb. 25, general sale of furs, last receiving date, Feb. 4.
The 21st Annual Live Fox Show and 4th Annual Mink Show of the Prince Edward Island Fur Breeders' Association will be held in Charlottetown November 20th to 23rd. Secretary W. R. Shaw is now sending out catalogues of the show and every breeder of fox or mink should if possible enter in this exhibition because of the educational value it affords.
There, laid out on the table, will be classes of silvers, from mediums to extra light also standard white marked silvers, standard platinum and pearl platinum. The mink classes will also afford opportunity for all those who have standards and also new types to exhibit. A few days spent at this show will be a paying investment to anyone engaged in the fox or mink industry.
The total number of fur-bearers raised on Alberta ranches was down more than 2,500 last year. The 201,671 animals were valued at \$4,300,972. The highest price paid for any pelt last year was \$250 for mutation mink.
No chinchillas or nutrias were pelted but they are still being raised for breeding purposes. Standard mink pelts brought an average of \$18 each, Mutation mink \$25, Standard fox \$16. Mutation fox, \$18, blue and white fox, \$7, marten \$30 and fisher \$35.
Springhill, N. S. Oct. 18th, 1951.
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Sincerely yours,
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Springhill, N. S.

Public Utilities Commission Inquiry
APPLICATION FOR TARIFF REVISION OF THE ISLAND TELEPHONE COMPANY LIMITED
NOTICE is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held in the Council Chambers in the City Building in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, on Tuesday the 30th day of October, A.D., 1951, at the hour of ten-thirty o'clock in the forenoon, for the hearing of an application of The Island Telephone Company Limited for the approval of certain revisions of its General Tariff of rates, tolls and charges within Prince Edward Island. All persons interested may attend and be heard.
DATED this second day of October, A.D., 1951.
L. B. MacMILLAN,
Secretary,
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
NOTE: The date of the above hearing has been changed from 25 October, 1951, to 30 October, 1951.

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In The World of Books
With Will R. Bird

INUK by Roger Bullard; McClelland & Stewart; 322 pages.
One is impressed this year by the quality of the writing in a large number of the books being offered to the public. This one is remarkably well done. It is a different type of story, too, and one the average person will want to read for the sake of the information given if nothing else. The author was a Burgundian by birth and in boyhood had had the usual boyish dreams of high adventure. But when a few years had come along he felt the war had dimmed most adventure and that there was not very much left in the world to explore. Then he tells of what happened to him:
"Then one day in Besancon my eye was caught by the title of a book displayed in a shop window, a title that flashed before my eyes like a crusader's sword. L'Épopee Blanche. The White Epic. I fingered the few francs in my pocket, then entered the shop and bought the book, thus taking the first step on a road that was to lead to the Arctic and 15 years as a missionary to the Eskimos."
He had to put in seven years of study for the priesthood before he sailed as Father Bullard, an Oblate Missionary, and when he sailed for Canada and the north he bid goodbye to his native land for twelve years. He was a determined man, however, and that fact sticks out through his story. He was stationed at Coppermine and his first job was to learn the language, then how to fish, to build himself an igloo quickly and in any sort of weather, how to handle a team of dogs that would be quick to take advantage of a bungler. He was an apt scholar and one gathers that he felt, in time, that he could do any of the chores mentioned as well as a native.
Father Bullard found the Eskimo a born materialist and a hard man to change. But he got along with them and gained permission to establish a mission at King's Bay, farther north than any other mission. "We have to show them first that we can live like Eskimos," he writes, and one is sure that he has accomplished that, and much, much more.
THE SECOND SCROLL by A. M. Klein; McClelland & Stewart; 198 pages.
I have heard Mr. Klein speak and he is one of the most fluent orators I have enjoyed over many years. He won the Governor General's Award for his book of poems entitled "The Rocking Chair," and is easily one of the outstanding poets of Canada today. Anyone who has listened to him knows that he is above all things a scholar. So it is but natural that he should write a book, and natural, too, that he should choose such a topic. The whole business is the one that has tempted many writers of the pres-

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IT'S NO SECRET . . .

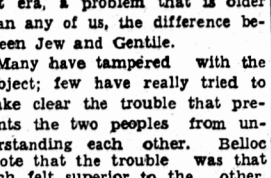
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