

Argentina, whose seasons are exactly opposite to ours, is planning on having a number of mink ranches located there. To this end Jose Feldman, Argentine furrier, visited the United States and purchased a total of 1,100 mutation mink breeders, which he sent to his Bataan ranch at Mar Del Plata. This will bring the number of animals at the ranch to some 600. About 500 have been pelted this year. He plans to purchase an additional 1,500 mink in the United States next December and ship them by air to Argentina. Discussing the business situation, he said that the retail fur business in Argentina has been only fair this season, however, marred by the Argentine revolution.

Each source except little or no increase in the total output of American ranch and mutation mink this season. One of the causes is said to be a lower production of kits per female among such mutations as sapphire and gunmetal.

A total of 60,000 muskrat was of the offering... The auction August 5th. This was 75 per cent of the offering... The auction dates for London fur sales have been established as General Furs winter sale February 13, 1956, spring sale May 7, summer sale July 3 and fall sale October 1. Special mink sales January 10 and 11.

The United States and Canada took on about 25 per cent of over 400,000 black Persian lamb sold at the Leningrad annual fur auction. Prices were generally above those of the first of May contracts. This means that ladies buying a Persian lamb coat this fall or early next spring will have to pay considerably more for it.

August fur sales are in full swing across the United States and some of the cities of Canada. Typical of this is the wide publicity given to new developments in color. Johnson's of Pittsburg, who are famous for their unique advertising, have the following: "Color comes to the fore in new fur fashions." Illustrated are a banker's grey sheared raccoon at \$495, a sapphire dyed beaver at \$695 and a natural grey Persian lamb at \$450.

Mr. Sam Gottesfeld, one of the top authorities in the United States on furs, has a lead article in Women's Wear Daily in which he states that chances are that the production of ranch raised mink in the United States will be no greater than last season. Some in fact go so far as to predict a decline in total output. In 1954-55 seven American ranchers set a new record in production, breeding an estimated three million mink kits but demanding out-logged production, and the result was a high price structure of last auction season. Mink continued to be one of the fur industry leading in retail volume by a tremendous margin. This it would appear should have caused mink ranchers to strike out for even greater production in 1955-56. Reports indicate that an increased number of female breeders were indeed held back for future production in order to take advantage of the very strong market for mink all over the world.

From the look of things, however, nature has stepped in to cut down production below the national goal. Apparently the prolonging of breeding of mink to produce desired color phases has caused lower production per female, particularly in such mutations as sapphire and gunmetal, two of the most wanted types. The experts believe this is a problem of genetics, the strain of sapphire and gunmetal being weakened in the breeding and re-breeding process. Pastel production seems likely to reach at least last season's level, a sharp increase appearing doubtful because many ranchers pooled out many of their pastels to make room for new color phases such as buff, palomino, etc.

Dark mink production may show an increase, it is felt, but again, not a great one. Dark mink, it is pointed out, remains one of the most difficult colors to produce in quantity. All in all, many fur farm experts look for mink output to be no greater than last season. Some expect a slight decline. The most optimistic believe that national production will be no more than 10 per cent greater than last season at best. Reports on current production indicate spotty results. Some areas of the nation are equalling last year's output, while others are falling short. In some areas, loss of kits within 24 to 48 hours after birth—always a crucial period—increased this year. There is some feeling that this alone will curtail the 1955-56 crop. In fact, a number of ranchers are calling for increased research to cut down or prevent such losses in the future. Diet is generally regarded as the immediate cause of such losses.

Other reports indicate that heat losses, usually common in the summer months, have generally been under control thus far this year. But the summer is only half over, and the heat problem will continue to plague ranchers

for many weeks to come. An authoritative estimate on 1955-1956 mink production is expected to be released late this summer or early in the fall by the National Board of Fur Farm Organizations, which annually publishes official statistics on mink production.

Mink dealers in the market tend to discount the reports of pell production coming from rancher sources. They claim it is to the advantage of the fur farmers to cry "shortage" in an effort to get the rate to buy mink more rapidly and thereby to build up competitive pressure on prices. Some of the dealers, therefore, look for at least a 10 per cent increase in the new ranch mink crop—regardless of what the ranchers say now. Authoritative estimates on last season's crop were that mutation mink accounted for some 75 per cent of national production. Little change in that figure is expected for the coming season, which begins in December. In terms of units, it was figured that mutations totaled about 2.1 million skins, and ranch mink about 700,000. This marketing figure of 2.8 million compares with the estimate of 3 million kits produced last season. Indicative of the relative production of the various color phases are Mutation Mink Breeders Association figures, based on last season's sales through mid-March, by which time all but 350,000 EMBA pelts had been marketed. Royal pastel (Autumn Haze) over 560,000; Gerdan, about 200,000; silverblu (Argentina), about 270,000; Lutetia, less than 50,000; Jasmine, about 40,000; others, about 110,000. Nationally, pastel kits were estimated at others, about 110,000. Nationally, above one million last season—a ten-fold increase since 1948. Sapphire kits were figured at around 375,000.

Canada-Wide Campaign On Conservation Planned By The Audubon Society

TORONTO, (CP)—Canada's only national-wide conservation society is planning an all-out campaign to make Canadians more conscious of their heritage in wild life. The Audubon Society of Canada through lecture tours, films and radio broadcasts to drive home its point that conservation is everybody's business, and that the need for it was never greater than at this time.

Jack Livingston, newly appointed executive director of the society, plans a cross-country tour this autumn and winter through schools, natural history groups and other organizations that can help a conservation education, the society's basic aim.

John James Audubon, the American naturalist for whom the society was named, is best known for his bird paintings but his career embraced much wider fields of botany and natural history, and the society's program is equally broad. Mr. Livingston feels the schools are the best places to start. Since the Canadian society, a counterpart of the United States body, was organized in the late 1940s, it has helped form Audubon Junior clubs in classrooms across the country and publishes the magazine Canadian Nature to keep abreast of club news and Nature notes.

Between them, the two societies have enrolled 10,000,000 school children throughout North America since the junior club scheme started. Because of limited revenue to date—its funds are derived almost entirely from membership subscriptions and donations—the Canadian society hasn't engaged in any projects such as field camps but Mr. Livingston said it is hoped to include these in the program for the future.

Everyone's interest. Meanwhile, it has been working hard to gain public support by convincing the private citizen that conservation is in his own interest and his help is vital. It provides films and lecture materials to interested groups.

One of its most vigorous campaigns in recent years has been to protect the almost-extinct whooping crane in its fight for survival as it migrates between its summer nesting grounds in northern Saskatchewan and its winter range in Texas.

"When they head south in the fall we supply radio and television stations and newspapers along the flight path with pictures and descriptive material to help the public identify them," Mr. Livingston said. After they've crossed the border the U. S. Audubon Society takes over. In the spring we do it the other way around.

Mr. Livingston, a former Toronto advertising executive, is the society's first full-time director. Dr. Bruce Murray, chairman of the board of directors, said the appointment is in line with a general policy of expansion to meet Canadian needs.



WARMER THAN BACK HOME These five scouts found temperatures a bit different from back home as they panted into Ontario's 85-degree heat to attend the World Scout Jamboree at Niagara-on-the-Lake. They are part of a troop of eight, including three Eskimos, representing the Northwest Territories. (Left back row), Frank Rivet, Aklavik; (front row), Patrick Steen, Frank Stefansson and Elias Aviugana, all of Aklavik. (CP Photo) 1955

Toronto Student Defeats Chess Master In Tourney

OTTAWA, (CP)—Ross Siemms, a 19-year-old Toronto student of actuarial science, Friday night defeated a 63-year-old international chess master to take undisputed possession of first place at the end of fourth round play in the 52nd national chess tournament.

Siemms, who combines study with employment in a Toronto insurance company office, defeated Dr. Fedor Bohatirchuk, Ottawa University professor of radiology, who played the white, in 31 moves.

His victory over the Russian-born master, his fourth win of the tournament, left him the only undefeated and untied player of the round-robin tournament. Play lasts until Aug. 26.

Little Sands

Mr. William H. Spencer and daughter Marian of Oberlin, Ohio, are guests of his sister-in-law Mrs. Alex Blue of Little Sands, having made the trip by auto in three days. They arrived on Tuesday, Aug. 16.

The sudden electrical storm which struck Little Sands about midnight on Wednesday, was quite heavy and unexpected. It did some damage to the telephone wires and installations of Mr. Carleton Hume, Little Sands.

A child's sense of touch is present almost at birth any progress rapidly.

**Jristol**

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Kane, Boston, Mass., have been spending their vacation around Mr. Kane's old home here and at Mrs. Kane's old home at Richmond. While here Mr. and Mrs. Kane were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Walsh.

Mr. Frank O'Brien, a former resident here who is making her home in New York, now has returned to that city again after a short vacation with members of her family here and in Charlotte-town.

Mr. Pius McInnis and Mr. Joe Coffin were recent visitors to Lot 7 along with Rev. Eric Robbin, P.P. Father Robbin was pastor at Lot 7 for some years some time ago.

Miss Laura Hogan, Boston, Mass., who has been visiting her old home after more than 30 years absence left last week on return to her home in that city.

The balance of the schools here that remained closed for the full vacation will open for registration on Friday with classes starting

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**CANADIAN NATIONAL**

Tuesday, Aug. 23, 1955 The Guardian Page 7

again on August 28. More worry for parents with books, school bags and uniforms. The days of bare feet and torn overalls is gone from the schools as is the old slates. Scores of scribblers are required now.

Mr. John O'Brien, who was here for three weeks' vacation, left on Monday for Halifax, N. S. to resume his duties at Camp Hill Hospital.

Miss Agatha MacDonald, who has been here on vacation for two months, leaves next week for Montreal to resume her duties.

Raymond Jay of the R. C. A. F., Halifax, and Mrs. Jay are on vacation at their former homes here.

Miss Thelma Ryan has returned

to her duties in Montreal following her vacation with her parents here. N.

**CANADIAN BANDS**

EDINBURGH (CP)—Pipes and drums of the 1st and 2nd Battalions, Black Watch of Canada, were to take part in the Edinburgh highland games and the Edinburgh which opened Aug. 21. Other Commonwealth bands from Pakistan and India also were scheduled to play.

**OLD-AGE PENSIONS**

Old-age pensions were introduced in Norway in 1936 to citizens over 70 or to married couples with one spouse over that age.

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German History Being Rewritten On Both Sides Of The "Iron Curtain"

By Reinhold G. Ensz

BERLIN, AP—History is being rewritten in Germany. The result is like a two-headed calf.

The biggest job of rewriting is being done on the Soviet side of the line that splits Germany into Communist East and capitalist West.

The urge is still under fairly tight rein in West Germany, but even so books have already appeared which cause a foreigner to look twice.

**BETTER WORKOUT**

Take the chapters which try to explain why Germany entered the First World War. Historians in Communist East Germany simply blame "imperialists" on both sides. West German and West Berlin historians give themselves a better workout.

**RUSSIAN CONQUEROR**

Catherine II of Russia, who ruled the country from 1762-1796, successfully carried on wars against Turkey, Persia, Poland and Sweden.

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**CHRIST UNMENTIONED**

Although the East German books are filled with pictures and accounts of the lives of Marx, Lenin, Stalin and other Soviet prophets, there is no mention of the birth of Christ.

Although Christ is ignored, "Christianity and its effect on the Roman Empire, are noted. The book says many early Christians were converted because they were promised proper burials in a graveyard, and because free meals sometimes accompanied religious services.

The East German books say "The use of the atom bomb on Japan was designed not so much to bring a rapid end to the war, but rather to frighten the people and make them plant to the will of the U.S.

There is no mention of the 1948-

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