

### TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox And Mink Farming

Slowly but surely more mutation mink will be marketed in the raw state and in larger bundles, according to John Kindred, New York representative of the New York Mink Breeders' Association. There are many reasons why this method of selling at auction may come about, Mr. Kindred explained. One is that it has been proven in the past that just as satisfactory prices have been obtained for raw pelts as for dressed pelts, or for putting up more pelts raw than in bundles can be presented which will help to make for more orderly marketing. That is definitely one of the ranchers' main objectives. This will also help to shorten the length of time needed for selling and inspection, thus Mr. Kindred stated the position of the Mutation Mink Breeders' Association in the discussion of dressed vs. raw pelts.

A two day fur sale opened at Danish Fur Sales, Copenhagen, last week with very strong competition especially from the United States, Great Britain and Italy. Buying interest centered mainly in male mink. There was only a small demand for females with buyers apparently postponing purchases of these types until spring. Some 72 per cent of the standard ranch mink offered was sold with the average price for males unchanged from the April sale at 104 kroner (14.56). Females averaged a little less than 62 kroner (\$8.68). Top price for males was 144 kroner (\$20.16). The value of the sale was put at about \$400,000.

Standard ranch mink was easier and platinum mink unchanged at the final day of the Oslo standard international fur auctions. An offering of 30,000 standards was reported 99 per cent sold, averaging 110 kroner for males (\$15.40) and 72 for females (\$10.08). A total of 36 per cent of the 5,000 platinum was sold at an average of 155 kroner (\$22.70) for males and 102 for females (\$14.28); top prices, males, 210 kroner (\$29.40), females, 117.50, a turn over of 3,000 pelts was 93 per cent sold with males averaging 173 kroner (\$24.22) and females 102 kroner (\$14.28). Top price for males was 230 kroner (\$32.50).

The New York Auction Company's sale at Minneapolis, Minnesota, held last week found an eager demand for a fine collection of excellent quality mink. A total of 25,000 standard mink was 87 per cent sold. Standard darks reached a top of \$34.50 for males, \$17 for females, with numerous good quality mink bringing tops from \$31.50 to \$33.50. Keen competition was noted for the fine qualities of platinum and silver sections which totalled 15,250 pelts and which were 95 per cent sold. Top prices for males were \$33.50 on standard platinum, \$48. Breath of Spring, \$37.50 for Stewarts. Top price Royal Pastel, males was \$45, females, \$22.50. Good quality collection of Sapphire Ocellular reached top prices of \$65. for breath of

### Back Street

Continued from page 6

Morgan stallion, made 35 starts this season and won five of them including his last which was trotted in 2:07 4/5 at Hollywood Park, California. His winnings for the year passed the \$4,000 mark and his lifetime winnings are nearly \$35,000. His record of 2:05 makes him the fastest of the Morgan line of trotters—not bad for a horse whose family made most of their headlines nearly a century ago with horses like Ethan Allen. Morgan blood, however, is carried to some extent by many of our best performers and there is a remote Morgan cross in the pedigree of the world's champion trotter Greyhound 1:55.

Good blacksmiths are in great demand now at the larger raceways and make big money. Just recently Malcolm Hicks of Guelph, Ont., was a favorite in Lexington and he is thinking of locating there to ply his trade. Locally we are fortunate to have such a capable shoer—and such a good-natured one—as Emmett Gallant. Emmett was busy from eight o'clock until late afternoon all summer for local races and fitting them he also had many orders from the mainland. Now he is busy making them up so he is ready for 1954, while brother Ott is making carts for horsemen or repairing sulkeys. We don't know what racing would do if they stopped plying their trades.

Several rule changes were made at the meeting of the United States Trotting Association held at Columbus, Ohio, recently. An addition to the stimulation rule requires that at least 25 per cent of all horses given saliva tests at pari-mutuel and Grand Circuit tracks shall be given urine tests. The rules for elimination heat races have been changed as follows: In races with more than 12 on a half-mile track or more than 16 on a mile track, the field will be divided by lot into two divisions, each division to race two heats, 40 per cent of the purse, all heat winners shall return to race a third heat for 20 per cent of the purse, winner take all. . . . If any horse races out of his class due to the negligence of the race secretary the track shall reimburse the owner for a resultant loss of earnings. The pari-mutuel rule which we understand will be put into effect is that when the wire is less than 200 feet from the turn the horses will get the word Go a proportionate distance further back from the wire. This rule is an endeavor to prevent accidents at the first turn because of a quick getting away later. The time will be taken from the wire as before.

It seems very early to be reporting training news but David "Piggy" Friedman writes to the *Harness Horse* from Orlando, Florida, under date of December 11th. . . . A number of juveniles have been already showing plenty promise. There are 19 trainers here with coming two-year-olds and ten others to make this the largest winter training colony in the U. S. A. In the Del Miller stable most of the colts have taken nicely to their first lessons. The total number of two-year-old trotters and pacers trained by Del is 24. Johnny Simpson has 15, Harry Pownall 8; Billy Haughton's youngsters are the farthest advanced and there are some very likely looking ones among them; Other trainers here are Ben White, Ralph Baldwin, Ward Storum, Henry Thomas, Dave Smith, Ben Walker, Cleo Pownall, Ben Michaels, Fred Egan and others with smaller stables. Edgar Leonard has just shipped in from Springfield, Ill., with 29 head including 16 yearlings. He expects four more in the near future.

Another Florida Raceway, Ponce de Leon, is open for business. The half-mile track has been widened and re-surfaced and the jog track widened and various other improvements have been made. An enlarged ranch restaurant has been opened with an experienced restaurant man in charge. Two blacksmiths will be on hand to look after the shoeing. It is expected that 45 day race meet will be held beginning sometime after the first of the year. Already over 100 horses are on the grounds and the Saunders Mills stable of Toledo, Ohio, are shipping 12 head direct from California.

Among the Canadians there is Vere Irving of Shediac, N. B., who has two head, both by Fast Train 2:05. The Train is out of Etta Scott and Miss Train is out of June Evans 2:09 1/2, that was a popular trotting mare on Maritime tracks some years ago in the Joe O'Brien stable. Rankin McLaine's friend, Del McTavish of Quebec, has a public stable of 18 and it certainly will be a big change for Del from the rigors of the north to the balmy climate of Florida.

### Awarded Coronation Medal



Her Majesty's Coronation Medal is received by CPO J. R. Paquet of Charlottetown, P. E. I. (left) now serving at H. M. C. S. Shearwater, the Naval Air Station near Dartmouth, N. S. CPO Paquet was presented with the Medal by Rear Admiral R. E. S. Bidwell, Flag Officer Atlantic Coast, at a ceremony held at the air station recently. —(National Defence Photo).

### Savage Harbour and Vicinity

\*Mrs. Clarence Murphy of Savage Harbour was a recent visitor to Charlottetown.

Mr. Carol Coffin of Savage Harbour was a visitor to Charlottetown recently.

Mrs. Catherine Doyle of St. Andrews has returned from a pleasant visit to Elliotville where she was the guest of friends.

Mr. Dan Bradley of Bedford has completed threshing in this area and has moved his modern outfit back to his home district. The many friends of Mrs. Lester Gunn, Savage Harbour, will be happy to learn that she has fully recovered from her recent illness and is able to be about again as usual.

Mrs. James MacKay of Savage Harbour, and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Doyle of Mt. Stewart, were guests over the week-end of Mrs. MacKay's mother, Mrs. Eddie MacQuillan, Afton Road.

Messrs. Art Doyle and Cyrene McDonald of Mt. Stewart, were engaged during the week in unloading a car of coal and delivering same at the factory of the Savage Harbour Packing Company.

Miss Hattie Pigott, now of Charlottetown but formerly of Savage Harbour, was a visitor to her old home on Friday. Miss Pigott has a host of friends here who are always happy to have her visit them.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Campbell and daughter Shirley, who for the past two months have been residing at Glenwilliam, a community in the vicinity of Montague, have returned to Savage Harbour where they will in future reside. Mr. Campbell purchased the house in which he had been living at Glenwilliam and moved it by float to

sornia and more than 20 from the Ohio farm.

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Although only a fair crowd sat in at the auction forty-five game at the Savage Harbour School on Thursday evening yet those present represented a wide area of both King's and Queen's Counties. Those present were offered a fine evening's entertainment with the needs of the inner man fully attended to by the delicious lunch

and Mrs. Cyril MacLean. Miss Barbara Doyle of St. Andrews won top honors among the ladies while that grand old sportsman, Mr. Daniel Bradley of Bedford topped the scores of all gentlemen. This is the last of the card games at Savage Harbour until after the New Year when the Women's Institute plan on continuing bigger and better than ever. With full co-operation of all residents those weekly get-togethers could prove to be a worthwhile community venture. The proceeds earmarked for school improvements should be an added impetus if such be needed.

If the success of the venture of incorporating into a village rests solely on the caliber and character of its first Commissioners then the good people of Mt. Stewart will never regret their decision to seek incorporation. Word has been received that the commissioners named by the Government to manage the affairs of the village until the civic elections in February are Messrs. D. L. Mullins, Wendell Glover and Warren McGuirk. No more popular or fitting selections could have been made. Mr. Mullins a former resident of Tracadie, moved to Mt. Stewart some seventeen or eighteen years ago and set up a garage. During the intervening years through the honorable and progressive efforts of its owner this business has grown and expanded until today Mullins's Motors is a catchword among motorists who desire reliable and dependable service. Mr. Glover, a native born son, has commanded the respect and admiration of his fellow citizens throughout the years. He is manager of the Savage Harbour Packing Co., an inspector with the Department of Fisheries and also deals extensively in smelts. Honesty, fair dealing and progressiveness are synonymous of the name Wendell Glover. Mr. McGuirk, the third member of the trio, hails Fort Augustus as the home of his birth. For the past number of years he has been principal of Mt. Stewart School, a position which he has filled to the utmost satisfaction of parents and children. Because of the nature of his work Mr. McGuirk will very naturally be a staunch supporter of any and all progressive ventures that have as their ultimate aim the making of Mt. Stewart a more interesting, attractive and pleasing place to the young men and women of the community. All in all no happier choice could have been made than the three gentlemen named. So with a long pull and a strong pull and a pull all together let us move forward to make Mt. Stewart the most outstanding village in this very outstanding Province.

Whether the man you are looking for be a farmer or fisherman you will not find him at home during daylight hours those days. For the essential cogs of both Island primary industries are expanding their superfluous energy in the wood lots right now. The farmer gathering his year's firewood. The fisherman selecting the material for his bows and stils. No wonder this Island is such a wonderful spot when more than half its population list their occupation as that of farmer or fisherman. Potatoes may be a wretched price and many other products of the soil selling below cost of production yet the farmer continues on seeing not the disappointments of the past season, but dreaming only of the next harvest and the profitable returns that will be his. So too, the fisherman, storms may visit his stamping grounds, wiping out his traps and gear, but he does not let the misfortunes of the present mar or bar his visions of another season when the catches will be good and the prices high. Great fellows those tillers of the soil and those provlers of the deep. Truly they are the salt of the earth.

Longest single-span bridge in the world, the Golden Gate Bridge at San Francisco is 4,200 feet long.

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### CARLETON MISSION BAND

The regular meeting of the Happy Sunbeam Mission Band met at the home of Margaret and Raymond Cairns on December 4 with 28 members and two visitors present. The meeting opened with hymns "Silent Night, Holy Night" and "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night." The different passages of Scripture were read by Harley Harper, Lloyd Muttart, Margaret LaVoie, Joyce Lord and Marianne Johnston followed by the Mission Band Purpose, and Ariene Sturdy led in prayer. Offering, which amounted to \$152, was taken by Margaret Cairns and dedicated by Mrs. MacCallum. The chapter "Only A Stable" of the study book was read, Brenda Quigley and Anne MacMicken had a birthday in December. The birthday book was opened and found to contain \$174. Dianne Sturdy sang a solo, "Away In A Manger."

The following officers were appointed for the coming year. President, Gail Quigley; vice-president, Joyce Lord; 2nd vice-president, Darryl Robertson; secretary, Elizabeth MacCallum; treasurer, Lloyed Campbell; World friend secretary, Earl MacWilliams, (re-elected); membership committee, Wendy Johnston, Lloyd Muttart, Dale Morrison, Billy MacMicken, Margaret Cairns, Bobby LaVoie and Jeanne Campbell. World friends were distributed by Earl MacWilliams. A vote of thanks was extended to Mrs. Cairns for entertaining the band. Next meeting will be at the home of Albert Haslam. Hymn "Infant Lowly, Infant Holy" and the Mizpah Benediction, brought the meeting to a close.

### -NEWSY NOTES-

By J. A. Clark, D.S.A.

#### SILKWORMS

Silkworms, because they produce an outstanding fibre, silk, are among the most valuable insects, and have great commercial value in world trade. Very few of us who use this product know that silk is made from the spittle of the caterpillar, or that the parent of this caterpillar is a tree-cricket moth (Bombyx mori, Linnaeus), whose wings, when spread open, measure about two inches across. This moth scarcely ever flies; it has feeble wings and a very fat body, and does not take any food during the two or three days in which it matures, lays from three to four hundred eggs and dies.

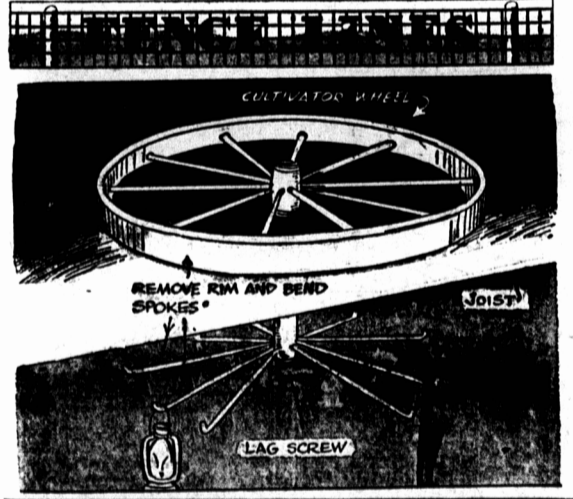
This domesticated insect has been a slave to man for many centuries, probably even in prehistoric times. There is a story that its usefulness was discovered by Lotzu, Empress of Kwang-Ti, China, about 2697 B.C. Others believe that the Tussur silk of India was the earliest silk fibre used. The larvae of this moth, or silkworms as they are called, hatch from an egg, and eat the mulberry leaves provided for them during their larval growth, then spin their silken cocoons, in which they are killed, to provide adornment for the human race.

The Chinese, who knew the value of silk and how to secure it, held a monopoly of this trade for over 2,000 years. It is said that at one time silk was valued at its weight in gold and that anyone who tried to take across the eggs of the moth, or silkworms out of China, was punished with death. It was in 565 A.D. that two monks, who went as spies to China, found out the nature of silk and how it was collected. They succeeded in taking back to Constantinople the eggs of the silkworm moth concealed in the staff they carried. It was thus that the culture of silkworms came to Europe.

There are other species of silkworms than those that feed on the leaves of the mulberry tree, some of these are subject to more or less domestication. The silk produced by these is known in commerce as "Wild Silk." Many of these wild silkworms are Asiatic. The best known are those of India, but some are raised in Assam, and there are a few species that live in both North and South America, and in the West Indies. There is a Japanese species that feeds on oak leaves. The largest species, Attacus Atlas, is a native of India, and this moth has a wing spread of ten inches, its silk worms make very large cocoons, but the silk obtained is coarse.

An attempt was made in 1530 A.D. to start silk production in America, and mulberry trees and silkworms were imported into Mexico. The industry which did not succeed, had died out in 1600 A.D. An attempt made in Virginia met with a similar fate during the eighteenth century. The highest cost of American labor has been the chief reason that silk production in America could not compete with that grown in the Orient. The manufacture of silk, however, began in New England early in the eighteenth century, and eventually Paterson, New Jersey, became famous as the American seat of silk manufacture, with 300 mills.

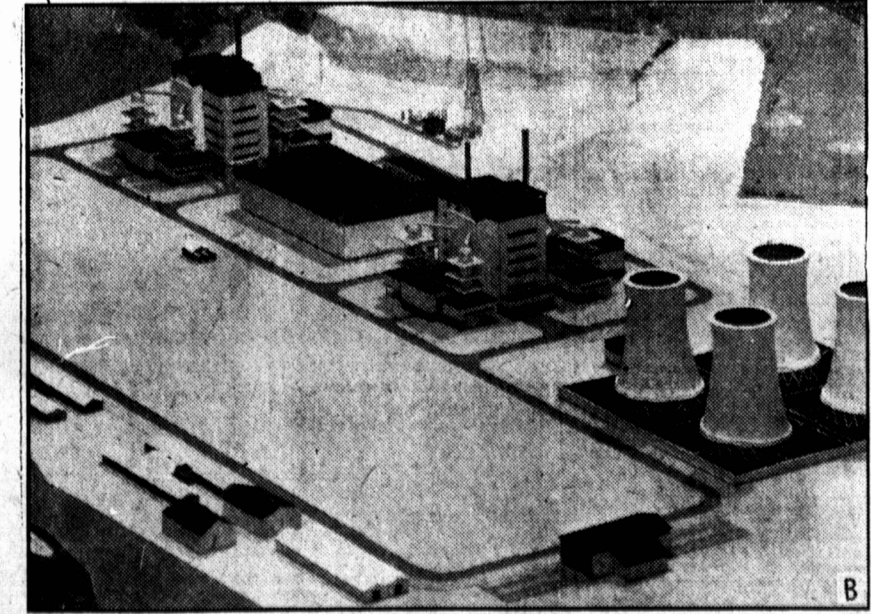
Much of the following information was secured from one who visited the Tussur silk producing area in Kashmir, India. There were quite a number of buildings used by the native operators, and the first one entered had its rooms where the eggs were hatched into silkworms underground, to maintain constant temperatures. The eggs of the silkworm moth used in Kashmir were all imported from France. The guide had them close all doors as soon as they passed through, as he said that the least draught might kill many of the young silkworms. The fresh branches of mulberry leaves were piled high in the centre of the room. On these, great numbers of silkworms were feeding.



OUR BOARDING HOUSE

Major Hoopie

### World's First Atomic Power Station



DESTRUCTION is not the only use to which man can devote the atom. Pictured is a scale model of the world's first atomic power station, now under construction in Cumberland, England. In about 18 months' time the British expect the completed plant to have an output of enough electricity for a fair-sized town. Top left is the low turbine house, flanked on either side by two reactors where heat will be generated in moderated uranium piles to make steam. The steam will drive four turbo-generator sets in the turbine house. Four towers on the right are coolers.



### TIP OF THE WEEK FROM YOUR MASTER DEALERS

- Charlottetown ..... L. J. Rossiter
- Summerside ..... Prince Edward Island Fur Pool Ltd.
- O'Leary ..... H. B. Willis Inc.
- French River ..... Arthur A. Campbell
- Central Beauce ..... Dunk River Dairying Co.
- Albany ..... L. D. McLeod & Sons
- Victoria ..... L. D. McLeod & Sons
- Stanley Bridge ..... Reid's Feed Service
- Wheatley River ..... Preston Rackham
- Morell ..... Dingwell & Rossiter
- Kilmuir ..... McGowan's Ltd.
- Murray River ..... D. M. McKinnon
- Brookfield ..... Cruwys Bros.
- Mount Stewart ..... Clark's Feed Service

**TIP NO. 18**

Little pigs will start eating Master Pig Starter Pellets at two or three weeks of age. This helps the sow retain condition and get the little pigs off to a good start.

Let's Discuss Your Feeding Plan With Your Island's MASTER Man

**IVAN KERRY**  
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60 Green St. - Ch'town

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