

TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox and Mink Farming

Good news for all ranchers and furriers is the recent decision of the Fur Dressers and Local of the Fur Dressers and Dyers Union, New York, reaching an agreement last week. This brings to an end a five week tie-up in the dressing of mink and other fancy furs. Only a few firms were able to continue production during the period between late December and the past week. As a result most buyers of mink were unable to get their raw pelts processed. Effective at once the workers will receive a 3 per cent increase on all fancy fur dressing. By March 27th the balance of the increase will be granted. The increase will be 14.6 per cent. However, deducted from the total increase will be the raises granted to the workers in August, 1950. The current price for dressing a mink is \$1.20 and this will likely go up to \$1.20.

In terms of total increased cost of dressing mink based on an estimated 3 million skins another ten per cent per skin would mean roughly \$300,000 added to the trade's dressing bill. Our readers will remember the explanation given by the Canadian Fur Auction Company for their smaller quantities of mink and other furs purchased at their recent auction in Montreal, was the inability of the buyers to get the skins previously bought, dressed. However, we understand now that the industry has got back to work they will rapidly clean up the overhang and that will no doubt mean a boost in prices, or at least a bigger demand for wanted furs such as mink.

A despatch from Paris, France, states: "Because of an epidemic of anthrax at several mink farms last year—conquered by the use of penicillin, Dr. Jean Verge of the French Academy of Medicine has issued a warning that anthrax suffered by living mink may be transferred to those who wear the furs later. Paris furriers claim that any trace of anthrax is eliminated by processing of the skins.

The summary of their comment on Dr. Verge's statement is—"Ridiculous!" Anthrax is most prevalent in Europe and Asia, particularly in Siberia, China and India. In the United States animal anthrax usually is well controlled but frequent outbreaks still occur in South Dakota, northwestern Nebraska, the Mississippi delta region and along the Texas Gulf coast. Human anthrax is rare in the United States except in years with such outbreaks.



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THROAT SORE? For common ordinary sore throat JUST RUB ON MINARD'S 'KING OF PAIN' LINIMENT

New Convertible By Studebaker

HAMILTON, Ont.—The "Starliner", a five-passenger, hard-top convertible, is the pace car for Studebaker's 1952 models announced today. This newest body style by Studebaker is offered in both the Champion and Commander lines, and is available in eleven different two-tone colour combinations and two upholstery options. The "Starliner" typifies, both outside and inside, the striking design and appointments of the company's entire series of new models. Dealers are scheduled to begin their local showings of the new cars early in January, according to D. C. Gaskin Vice President and General Manager.

Externally, the '52 Studebakers reveal entirely new front-end treatment and substantial re-styling in the rear. Hoods are longer and lower, with new emblems and ornaments. Grilles embody wrap-around styling and stand out as the most distinctive front-end features of the new models. The massive wrap-around front bumpers are equipped with four vertical guards: two, located under the headlamps, to protect the vehicles from the customary bumps encountered in day-to-day driving, and two smaller guards to protect the license plate from damage. Headlamp rims have been re-designed and the parking lights, also of new design, are larger. The most significant changes in the rear are found in the taillights and trunk lid handles. The taillights which appear to be integral parts of the rear fenders rather than "added-on" assemblies, give the effect of extending the sweep of the fenders and thus a corresponding increase in body length. Their design, however, does not sacrifice any of the increased area of illumination which proved so popular on the '51 models. Trunk lid handles incorporate new styling on all but the lowest price Commander model. New hood and fender ornaments, along with re-designed stainless steel gravel mats on State Commander, Land Cruiser, convertible and "Starliner" models complete the more prominent exterior alterations.

Sturdier, yet softer and easier-brake action has been achieved by changes in the brake pedal linings. For the motorist this means a minimum of maintenance worry coupled with braking safety. Other innovations include instrument panel push button starting on all models equipped with automatic drive a new type of starter for the Commander which is held in positive engagement until the engine is fully operating, moisture-proof ignition systems, and a boost in the generator output to 45 amperes on both the Champion and Commander.

Studebaker's much-talked-about V-8 power plant introduced with such success a year ago on the Commander and Land Cruiser remains essentially unchanged. The efficient and economical 6-cylinder engine which powers the popular Champion series likewise reflects no basic changes. Rear view visibility on convertibles has been greatly increased by enlarging the rear window area by 266 square inches. Nine solid colour choices are available in addition to the eleven two-tone combinations offered for the "Starliner". These include five new hues: Cuban red, nocturne blue, Tahoe green, Piedmont gray, and Rio green. Steering wheels are Windsor gray in colour. Horn half rings and horn emblems are new on all Commanders and on the regal Champion.

Breath of Spring platinum showed particularly strong for the better types with a top of \$47.50. Platinum mink which was 53 per cent sold had a decline of 5 per cent from late December levels. The same percentage of decline was registered on pastels with fairly good types of males selling from \$20 to \$39 and females from \$18 to \$22. Muskrat was 75 per cent sold. U. S. Government rats from Wisconsin topped at \$1.90 for XL and L. Minnesota muskrat average collection sold from \$1.30 to \$1.35. A silver fox collection of 35,000 fresh pelts was 80 per cent sold. Standard fox brought from \$18 to \$20; lower grade average lots from \$12 to \$15. Platinum fox reached a top of \$20 with good average culls ranging from \$13 to \$17. The greatest interest in fox appeared from European customers.

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-NEWSY NOTES-

By J. A. Clark, D.Sc.

The Land Valuator's Manual The introduction to the Prince Edward Island Land Valuator's Manual states: "Values set by the Land Valuation Board form the basis on which schools, larger adjoined units, towns and villages, in accordance with the law, set their assessments to meet the cost of community services. It is therefore, important that every means be taken to assure equity and the highest possible uniformity in valuing all real property. "This manual of standard unit values has been devised for the specific purpose of equity and uniformity. This manual is a guide only. It may be necessary for the valuator to deviate from its standards; if such is the case, then the only requirement is that sufficient reason for so deviating must be noted on the appraisal card. Methods, rules and standards pertaining to valuation are at best guides. Common sense and good judgment are the prime requisites of a good valuator."

The equalization of values is the most important factor in valuing real property. When this is done by trained valuers, who use standard unit values and who measure and examine the land and buildings, and record the information sympathetically, they render a very valuable service to the school district or community. When building costs are abnormal, as they have been for a number of years, it has been customary in valuating property, to use some level of value other than current or up to the minute, actual value. When the Valuator's Manual for the Island was prepared in 1949, the year 1940 was taken as a basis for building and replacement costs, conforming with the usage in a number of Canadian Provinces. Buildings are a commercial product and in general all buildings bear a relation to their cost of reproduction. From this starting point, it is necessary to make allowances for the physical condition of the structure, wear and tear, and also for adverse influences which bring about obsolescence. It is possible, however, to classify buildings into types, and through determining the cost of construction of each type, standard units have been set, which may apply to buildings of that type, with whatever variations are found in each individual case.

The Valuator's Manual has twenty-one divisions in connection with the twelve classified types of buildings. Division two has twelve grades of residences, from frame shack to a high grade modern frame house. Additional grades were added as the work progressed, giving detailed descriptions of the various types of buildings, and

DAILY CROSSWORD ACROSS 1. Asiatic peninsula 2. Song for two people 3. Tavern 4. To muddle 5. Sculptured likenesses 6. Children's game 7. Curable emanation 8. Hastened 9. Pay attention 10. Portion of a curved line 11. Must 12. Exclamation 13. Stops 14. Notions 15. A barrel timer 16. Weight certifier 17. Lower corner of square sail 18. Guide line for an animal 19. Mimic 20. Definite article 21. Miscellaneous 22. Extend 23. Strength 24. Come forth 25. Appearing as if eaten 26. Lavished extreme fondness 27. Storms DOWN 1. Persia 2. City (Alaska) DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE—Here's how to work it: AXYDLBAAXR LONGFELLOW One letter simply stands for another. In this example A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different. A Cryptogram Quotation ISV DBLITZSE, OTFF ORL MLZC ZUK BID VZC, BTOR UIORD UK FUML—DRIWLDGLIZL Yesterday's Cryptogram: HOPE KNOWS NOT IF FEAR SPEAK TRUTH, NOR FEAR WHETHER HOPE BE NOT BLIND AS SHE—SWINBURNE.

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The 1952 Studebaker Land Cruiser. Principal exterior changes of Studebaker's new models include entirely new front-end treatment, new wrap-around grilles and bumpers, re-designed trunk lid handles and tail lights. The latter, by appearing to be integral parts of the fenders rather than "added-on" assemblies, give the effect of extending the sweep of the fenders and the impression of a corresponding increase in body length. Gravel pads on the Land Cruiser, as well as on the State Commander, convertible and "Starliner," are of new design.

giving the year built, kind of foundation, the number of stories, the material used in the construction of each building, regarding both the basement to the interior, the system is used, whereby details can be quickly checked re. each room, and the method of heating, lighting, water supply, etc., shown. The back of the appraisal cards are arranged to provide census data, regarding ownership, school age or occupation of all children and others in the residence. A part of the back is ruled as sectional paper, where a drawing is made to show the size of the building lot, and the location and size of all buildings in connection with the homestead or business premises. The valuers have met with splendid cooperation from our citizens. Some have wondered why so many questions have to be asked. The valuation cards are based on the experience of valuers who have been doing similar work for years. They will be revised and

improved as necessary. The Land Valuation Board are doing a difficult, necessary job, and greatly appreciate the assistance they have received from our people.

VOCATIONAL SCHOOL Egg & Poultry Grading Short Course

If sufficient numbers apply, a short course in Egg and Poultry Grading will start on February 25 at the Vocational School.

This course is carried on under Vocational Training, a joint project of Federal and Provincial Governments, and instruction will be given by Mr. F. M. Nash and his staff. For those who must live away from home, assistance towards living expenses to the amount of \$6.00 per week is available upon satisfactory completion of the course.

Send applications immediately to the Supervisor of the School, Grafton Street, Charlottetown.

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Led Cockshutt Dealers

The Cockshutt Farm Equipment, Truro (Maritime Branch) were pleased to be informed by Mr. Jos. J. Hill of Head Office, Brantford, Ontario, that Weeks Farm Equipment, Ch'town, dealer for Cockshutt Machinery (operated by Walter S. Weeks), had the highest volume of Cockshutt business in Canada in 1951, also the largest cash business. This is the first time this coveted honor has been won by a Maritime Cockshutt Dealer and probably the first time by any Maritime farm machine dealer. By Weeks Farm Equipment having the largest (Cockshutt) cash business speaks very highly of the prosperity of the farmers of P. E. Island.

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