

Timely Notes On Fur Farming

A despatch from Washington, D. C. dated February 22, appears in Women's Wear Daily, headed, U. S. May Cut Import Duty On Silver Fox. A pending three-country deal — involving the United States, Japan and probably Canada — threatens to cut import duties on silver and black fox furs and skins. The State Department has issued a supplemental list of import items which are being considered for tariff cuts being in trade agreement negotiations with Japan and other countries. Among the items are silver or black fox furs, dressed or undressed, not specially provided for as listed in paragraph 151(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930. Although the State Department named no countries nor any specific items, it indicated that a great many of the items had been placed on the list for three-way deals aimed at helping Japan boost its trade with other Western countries.

"Canadian fur groups have been urging repeal or lowering of the tariff on silver fox produced in Canada which carries a 37 1/2 per cent duty. This has been opposed by the United States ranchers. As Japan exports few, if any, silver or black fox furs to the United States, it is considered likely that the furs were placed on the list as the request in Canada and will be discussed as part of a three-nation deal. Public hearings on the supplemental list of articles to be considered for tariff cuts will be held here by both the U. S. Tariff Commission and the Committee for Reciprocity Information starting March 28 and ending April 1 at the latest, it was stated.

"The Tariff Commission hearings will be held in the morning and the afternoon in the afternoon. Requests to appear, at the hearings must be filed on or before March 18. Written statements may be filed until March 26. Negotiations opened yesterday at Geneva under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) on the original list issued in November. The State Department hopes negotiations will be completed by the end of May. A State Department official also made clear that when the United States grants any tariff concession to such countries in the afternoon, it will apply to similar articles imported from all other countries."

Half of the chinchilla pelts raised in Canada each year are burned by the breeders because they do not measure up to standards, the annual meeting of the National Chinchilla Breeders of Canada was told at the week-end. The NCBC sets these high standards for pelts to protect the buying public, a spokesman for the organization pointed out. Chief business of the meeting was to set minimum standards for grading and registering of animals, reversing the previous procedure under which animals were first registered, then graded. The advantage of this procedure is that now any animal can be graded and, providing it meets the minimum standard and pedigree qualifications, registered.

Ottawa, Feb. 23. Canadian prices of raw furs, particularly mink, beaver and muskrat, increased an average of 20 per cent this year owing to heavy demand from European markets. Fairchild News Service was told here today. W. M. Ritchie, chief of the fur inspection and grading section of Canada's Department of Agriculture, said that the increase likely will be reflected in the price of fur coats on the Canadian market by next fall. "Europe has the dollars now

and their buyers are over here for Canadian furs," Mr. Ritchie said. "The demand for mink, beaver and muskrat is very strong, and this demand is resulting in an increase in price." Mr. Ritchie could not forecast if this increased demand for Canadian furs will result in greater production by Canadian fur producers, but the 1955 business upturn will leave them with greater profits for their present production.

While the cost to Canadians of fur coats, jackets, capes and stoles has been high in recent years, this has been due mainly to high labor costs; the official pointed out. Long-hair furs such as silver, red, cross, and white fox, lynx and wolf, also are doing improved business, Mr. Ritchie said. Prior to the war Canada exported 85 per cent of her raw furs to Europe, and during the war had to try and find other markets. With the return of European buying power, government officials here believe that Canada will re-establish her former lucrative overseas fur trade.

B. G. Coward has been appointed as Executive Vice President of Hudson's Bay Company Fur Sales, Inc., it has been announced. Mr. Coward came to New York last summer. He was formerly assistant manager of the Hudson's Bay Company's fur department in London. His intimate knowledge of the European and International fur trade has been of special value in the Company's operations in New York this season owing to the greatly increased European interest in fine quality American mink, particularly mutation mink. This interest has led to sharp increase in the number of European buyers participating directly in the Company's sales in New York.

Lowell Hancock of Summerside was a visitor at the Milwaukee show and recalled that in 1924 he had had four fox pups entered in a Milwaukee show which was held in the Auditorium, the same building that housed the 1955 International Mink Show. Mr. Hancock was warmly greeted by the exhibitors and many other persons who remembered him or had heard of him.

Joseph H. Francis, who will be remembered by those who attended the International Fox Breeding Conference in Charlottetown some years ago, is now enjoying home life on his large ranch in Morgan, Utah, and attending to his personal business.

A half-blood buff mink owned by Walter Taylor, created great amount of interest at the Connecticut Mink Show. It was the largest mink that many had ever seen, weighed over six pounds and won the prize for the biggest mink in the show.

A. H. Leonard, Purina Mink Manager, has written an article entitled, What Is The Right Weight For Breeders? In part it is as follows: From our experience we think it best to keep both the males and females on the light side until a few weeks before the breeding season. This extra condition helps them remain healthier and they withstand the cold winter months better. The mink can lose weight quickly so it is easy to bring them up or down by changing the quantity of feed. The important thing to remember is that a reducing ration should contain all the essential vitamins, proteins and other nutrients. Simply reduce the quantity. At breeding time mink should be slightly on the light side with some gain in weight during the gestation period.



DeLaval Dealers and Superintendents Meet Here

Above is pictured a group of Prince Edward Island dealers of the DeLaval Company Limited who attended a two-day Sales and Service meeting held at the Queen Hotel, Charlottetown, this week. The meeting stressed service to be provided customers and dealt with the program designed to give more efficiency in the furtherance of expanded business in this Province.

Left to right seated, Ivan Turner, Charlottetown; James H. Campbell, Alliston; Walter D. MacDougall, Agency Superintendent; Bernard Mossey, Kingsboro; Albert Dennis, O'Leary; Roy Carter, Agency Superintendent. Back row, left to right, Neil Harris, Service Foreman, Moncton; Gerardo Comtois, Sales Manager Farm Lines, Montreal; A. S. MacSwain, Morell; J. O. Alston, Maritime Branch Manager; Murdock McGowan, Kilmuir; Lester MacLeod, Montague; Ivan Vaughan, Summerside; A. P. Foster, Buctouche, N. B., Block Superintendent; Gordon Winchester, Kentville, N. S., Block Superintendent, Merle Clark, Charlottetown.

of 40 minutes. They work in groups of two or three except for television performances when as many as four can be seen at one time in the water. The audiences at the spring up to 150 sit in two rows of seats; from either everyone can see or photograph the actors or fish that are constantly moving about in the clear water.

The upper part of the stage has a glass front and an air tight top so that when the water is forced out of it by compressed air the girls can breathe normally. During their various performances in the water, they hold their breath or expel from their lungs the air which rises in bubbles to the surface; and secure fresh air from an air hose, carried by each actor as they start on the stage to perform before their audiences, who sit in comfort in a compartment about six feet below the level of the river. The girls inhale air to rise or expel air to sink in the water; they also swim about and up and down with the aid of flippers attached to their feet.

In one act one girl abandons her air hose and depends upon her associate to exchange the use of her hose turn about. Finally the most experienced actor discards the hose entirely and does many very complicated manoeuvres, for what seems minutes, eventually swimming back into the stage to get her breath again. In another act one girl goes down out of sight in the spring where the water pressure is 50 lbs per square inch, and bubbles arising as she expels air are almost as fine as drops of rain. Her associate at a signal withdraws the hose and she swims up from the great depth into the stage again.

Turtles and some very large fish are seen from time to time. The so-called mermaids eat a lunch and drink from a bottle of pop while about 8 ft. under water. The fish take food out of their hands and quickly gather when the food is offered them.

We also went by boat a mile or more down the Weeki Wachee River which averaged more than three chains wide and about three or four feet deep. The water was clear. Most of the bottom was covered with sand. There was between the river and the highway

Hunter River Prayer Service

The World Day of Prayer was held in Hunter River United Church on February 25th. The meeting was conducted by Mrs. J. S. MacLeod, President of the United Church, W. M. S. and Mrs. J. S. Burns, President of the Presbyterian W. M. S. After playing quiet music of the hymn, "Holy, Holy, Holy", with Mrs. Orville Sellar at the organ. Mrs. MacLeod opened the meeting with these words: "Today let us be aware of our oneness with all Christians around the World. In the spirit of worship let us meditate on this service."

Scripture was read by Mrs. Seaman. Special prayers were offered by Miss Martha Large, Mrs. Patterson, Mrs. R. Andrews and Mrs. Montgomery. Hymns sung were: "Praise the Lord; ye heavens Adore Him," "Just as I am, without one plea," "I need Thee Every Hour," "The day Thou gavest, Lord is ended," by the C. G. I. T. girls.

This year's service was prepared by Rev. Jorgelina Lozada, The theme: "Abide in Me". The address was given by Mrs. MacLeod, in her message she said: I shall try to reflect the general significance of the day, and to remind you of the importance of the offering, which in the spirit of the day, — goes around the World to purchase and distribute Christian Literature. The offering was received by Miss Phyllis Craswell and Mrs. Bonita Sherrin and dedicated and will be sent to the Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada.

The meeting closed with Benediction.

MONTREAL (CP) — Trans-Canada Air Lines announced Monday that the third of the 22 Vickers Viscount propeller-turbine planes it has on order arrived from England, where the planes are manufactured. Several others will arrive before the Viscounts start regular service April 1 from Montreal to Winnipeg, with stops in Toronto and at the Lakehead.

FORT ERIE (CP) — The Association of International Border Agents recommended Monday that Canada streamline customs clearance of international truck shipments. It said that in the United States shipments are forwarded to bonded brokers after inspection with duty payable within 48 hours. In Canada, duty must be paid before shipments are released.

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Teachers Oppose Higher Pay For Breadwinners

TORONTO (CP) — Women teachers in suburban Leaside today were reported preparing to fight a plan to give married men teachers more money.

The women teachers, most of whom have no dependants, said they will ask equal pay for equal work in opposing a proposal by two Leaside trustees to grant extra pay to men teachers with dependants.

Trustees Edward Brisbois said: "We must keep our good male teachers when they have families. There are too many instances of male teachers leaving the profession for higher-paid jobs in industry. You cannot blame them. They want to provide the best for their families."

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