

**TIMELY NOTES ON FUR TOPICS**

A despatch from Washington to Women's Wear Daily has the following: Mink is still a magic word to local customers and particularly if it is under the \$1,000 price line, most fur buyers here agree. An estimated 10 to 60 per cent of business done by furriers here is in the mink catalogue with the more exclusive shops figuring mink business in the higher bracket catalogue. Those buyers catering to the low and low medium groups reported mink sales constitute 10 to 18 per cent of their business. Dark mink continues most popular at stores with the exception of the very exclusive salons where pastel and wild mink sales are strong, also in areas where the upper middle income group buy, silverblu mink sales are very strong.

The scale of mink sales run something like this: Scarfs \$100 to \$200, a set of four: full coat \$3,000 to \$4,000; jackets 28 inches lengths, \$1,500 to \$2,000; cape stoles \$700 to \$2,200; cape jackets \$1,200 to \$2,500; stoles \$1,000 to \$2,500, biggest business done at about \$1,200 to \$1,800.

Forty thousand mutation mink were 95 per cent sold at the Dominion Fur Auction Sales. Top price for Sapphires was \$46 to \$70, for pastels \$43. Breath of Spring blue \$36 to \$50, Breath of Spring whites \$44.50. Average price for Aleutian males was \$58 to \$65. The 10,000 Majestic dark mink was 80 per cent sold. Average for males was \$23 to \$29, for females \$13 to \$15.50.

**DEMAND IS STRONG**  
At the Canadian Fur Auction Sales Co. (Quebec) Ltd. sale, Montreal, demand was very strong with the result that 90 per cent of the entire catalogue was cleared. United States buyers dominated the sale with Canadian and European interests well represented. Majestic dark mink was 80 per cent sold. Better qualities advanced 10 per cent compared with last year's opening levels, other 5 per cent. EMBA Autumn Haze 95 per cent sold, advanced 15 per cent. Unlabelled pastels 98 per cent sold, advanced 15 per cent. Cerulean 95 per cent sold, advanced 15 per cent. Sapphires unlabelled, 100 per cent sold, no comparison. Argenta 98 per cent sold. Silverblu unlabelled, 96 per cent sold, no comparison.

Copenhagen, Denmark, Dec. 12... The first auction of the season opened here today with good buying interest from the United States, Italy, Great Britain, Germany and France. Pastel mink averaged \$37 for males with a top of \$42, females averaged \$21 with a top of \$25; silverblu males averaged \$27 with a top of \$38; females averaged \$23; silverblu males averaged \$28 and females averaged \$18.

**"MEMBERS ONLY"**  
Only members of the Fur Trade Association of Canada are to be permitted to take part in next year's fur fashion award show to be held for the first time in Quebec City, April 22 to 25... Official mink quantities for Hudson's Bay Company's sale in London last Monday were as follows: Approximately 50,000 Scandinavian standard and mutation mink together with 2,500 wild mink... Four of the first six federal reserve districts in the United States have reports from department

store fur sales showing gains over 1954 figures... Pastel has come to the fore as the most popular mink color in Buffalo, N. Y. This has been learned by a survey of leading mink outlets. Dark ranch holds down the second place position in the color picture, followed by the midway shades in pastels and sapphires.

Ed Gould, reporting in Women's Wear Daily gives some figures regarding the Hudson's Bay Company fur sales in New York. We quote: "A total of 20,520 raw Autumn Haze pelts went to the starting gate in an obviously strong opening. The report revealed that 92 per cent of the collection was turned over and it stated prices were strong and attendance was excellent with competition good throughout. Top males brought \$47, females \$26.50. The top male bundle was purchased by Spring Lake Mink Farm. Unofficially, most buyers estimated an over all increase from last year's opener of 10 per cent with males possibly a shade stronger than females. There was also the feeling that cheaper quality merchandise had accounted for much of the increase. Autumn Haze females were stronger at \$21 to \$23 than was the case a year ago. A total of 52 of the first 117 females bundles sold from \$21 to \$23.

**BEAVER IS HELPED**  
Quebec beaver quality is expected to be helped by the early winter. J. A. Tremblay, director of Quebec Fur Service, states: "Reports from our inspectors indicate that the cold weather without any let-up has helped considerably to improve pelt quality. This is evident not only in Beaver but likewise in wild mink and other in those preserves."

Approximately 96,000 mink were offered and mostly sold at the New York Auction Company sale in Minneapolis last week. There was strong bidding for all color phases and for better quality ranch mink throughout the sale. Standard ranch mink sold at unchanged levels. Top and standard males brought \$41.50, females \$22.50 and good quality males sold from \$30.50 to \$36.50, females \$15 to \$17.50. A total of 5,100 EMBA argenta and 13,200 silverblu mink were 98 per cent sold at an advance of 15 per cent. Top silverblu male bundles reached \$37.50 and top females \$20.50. Stewart argenta males sold \$41 top with females \$21. Breath of Spring male silverblu sold to a high of \$48.50 and \$24 for females. A total of 44,200 pastels and EMBA Autumn Haze provided the most active session of the sale. Standard pastel types sold 96 per cent.

Stewarts were 84 per cent sold and Breath of Spring 74 per cent. Stewart and better pastel types showed no change from last year's opening, but good and ordinary types advanced fully 10 per cent. Top price for pastel males was \$54 and \$28 for females. Stewart Autumn Haze reached a top of \$53 for males and \$30 for females. A total of 9,100 sapphire and cerulean mink sold 94 per cent. Top male price was \$57 and Stewart cerulean males reached \$60, females \$28.50. Top Breath of Spring cerulean males brought \$71 and females \$32.

A gourde in Haiti is a unit of currency, equal to 20 cents American.



**BEST POTENTIAL VET**

L. Roberts, Winsloe Station, P. E. I. (right), fifth year student at the Ontario Veterinary College, Guelph, Ontario, receives the Holstein-Friesian Award at the semi-

annual prize-giving banquet held on the Ontario Agricultural College campus on December 12. The prize, a sum of \$50, is awarded to the Fifth Year student which the Department of Medicine and Surgery

deems to be the best potential cattle practitioner in the class. Making the presentation is George Dennen, of the Holstein-Friesian Association of Canada, Brantford, Ontario.

**NEWSY NOTES**

By J. A. Clark, D.Sc.

**THE 1955 APHID ATTACK ON GRAIN**

There have been aphids in abundance throughout the years that have infested practically every farm and garden crop. There are hundreds of different types of aphids that attack different plants. In former years the most serious damage to farm crops in this province has been from the attack of aphids on turnips and potatoes. The greatest damage credited to them in the past has been that they were vectors and carried virus diseases from one area to another. The 1955 aphid attack was very different from the past. It was caused much more by the injury due to the aphids feeding on the plants.

Aphids multiply at an incredible rate during hot weather. They are sucking insects, so that the application of dusts and other poisons to the surface of plants does not give any control against these sap suckers. D. D. T. and many insecticides were useless against the 1955 aphids that attacked the grain crops throughout Canada last summer. The grain that was seeded early in this province escaped serious damage. The later sown fields of oats were quite heavily infested in many districts. The greatest damage, however, occurred in the later sown fields of barley; many of these were seriously damaged and some destroyed so that they were

**POTENT WEAPON**

not worth harvesting. Fortunately a new potent weapon had been discovered that is deadly to aphids, it can be applied with emergency equipment with very little danger to the persons applying it by dusts, ground sprayers or from airplanes. The name of this material is malathion.

Unfortunately the supply of malathion that was available was woefully inadequate, not only in P.E. Island but throughout Canada. Insecticide distributors had stocked only a normal supply and this was very quickly exhausted when the aphid invasion became known. The Entomological Division of Science Service said they never had anything like the number of long distance calls for help as when the farmers realized that the aphids were attacking the grain in overwhelming numbers.

The Experimental Station Cereals at Charlottetown, by using the emulsion form of malathion and a light spraying outfit with hose attachment, were able to save all their barley test plots, as this treatment proved quite adequate. We have learned that the Station at Fredericton, N.B. lost their barley test lots due to damage from aphids.

**APHID VARIETIES**

Two varieties of aphids that were recognized as being destructive to

**Bride-elect Honored At Shower**

Miss Freda Mayhew was guest of honor at a pre-nuptial shower drums were loaded at the airport at Newark, New Jersey and "Airlift Aphid" quickly moved supplies to the centers nearest to the aphid invasion areas. Quantities of malathion also went forward to cities adjoining the Canadian Prairie provinces and where trucked to areas where required. Canadian firms in Winnipeg and at other western cities packaged the malathion concentrate so that in a few days thousands of acres of grain were being treated by plane and by ground sprayers. Weedkiller spraying equipment proved to be very useful in this work.

on December 17 at the home of her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. George Mayhew, Margate. She was attended by Barbara Woodside while Mary Kaye Mayhew played the Bridal Chorus. Others assisting in the presentation were Diane Mayhew, Molly Van Mayhew, Mona Mayhew, Frances Henderson, Carol Thompson, Shirley Henderson and Geraldine Woodside.

Refreshments were served when the hostess was assisted by Joan Caseley, Sheila Caseley, Carol Thompson, Mona Mayhew, Geraldine Woodside, Mary Kaye Mayhew and Mrs. Arthur Proffit. During the evening, piano selections were rendered by Mrs. Harold Woodside, Sheila Caseley, Andrea Johnston and Molly Van Bur.

**STEAL YULE TOYS**

TORONTO (CP)—Sunday school pupils at the Anglican Christ Church in suburban Scarborough township, undismayed at the theft of five cartons of toys collected started their collection campaign all over again Monday. Rev. A. G. Channen said the toys, to be distributed to needy children in the Parry Sound district, disappeared from the church vestry, for distribution to needy children.

Season's Greetings

At this time of the year, it is with deep appreciation that we say —

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO OUR MANY FRIENDS!

**THE WINDMILL**  
GRAFTON STREET

Hello!

Here's wishing you all a very merry, Merry Christmas!

**Semple's Pharmacy**

OFFICIALS COOPERATE  
Canadian Customs officials cooperated and facilitated the movement of malathion across the border into Canada. Within hours, supplies of malathion concentrate in

**Greetings**

With grateful hearts, we sing out to our many friends and customers, "MERRY CHRISTMAS!"

**ENTERPRISE BAKERY**  
208 GRAFTON ST.

Our Greetings to All — at this Merry Christmas Time!

**W. D. GILLIS CO. LTD.**

Merry Christmas to All!

Along with our sincere thanks for your patronage, our very best wishes go out to you for a 'bang-up,' jolly... CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY!

**LARTER BROS.**  
PASSMORE STREET

**NOEL**

The Christmas Bell rings out glad tidings to all our loyal friends and customers: wishing you a happy holiday.

**ISLAND BOOK ROOM**  
GREAT GEORGE STREET

Peace on Earth  
Good Will  
Toward men...

Each year we appreciate more fully the loyalty of friends. A Merry Christmas to all!

**FIT - RITE SHOE CO. LTD.**

**Merry Christmas**

Best wishes for a joyous holiday from our staff.

**CLARKE FRUIT CO.**

**TO OUR FRIENDS**

A MERRY YULETIDE

**JOHNSON & JOHNSON DRUGGISTS**

**FOR CHRISTMAS**

Some old song, but always new — Merry Christmas — to all of you!

**D. O. CLARK**  
WHITE ROSE SERVICE STATION  
WINSLOE

**NOEL**

Our Warmest Greetings to You!

May this happy Yuletide season find you with your dear ones around you... may peace and plenty be your portion now and in the year to come.

**SHAMA'S GROCERY**  
21 WEYMOUTH ST.

**TO OUR FRIENDS**

**Greetings**

It adds much to the enjoyment of the season to extend to our friends and customers our best wishes for a MERRY CHRISTMAS...

**S. A. McDONALD**  
QUEEN STREET CHARLOTTETOWN