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TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox And Mink Farming

Spring buying with advances in most goods over the April offering was reported from the Suddack Fur Auction held in Winnipeg last week. The 6,500 ranch mink were sold out. On the average prices advanced 20 per cent over the previous sale. Males went from \$16 to \$28, females, \$9 to \$13.50. Pastel males brought \$20 to \$33.50, females, \$12 to \$17.50. The 100,000 muskrats were 90 per cent sold, advancing 5 to 10 per cent. Extra large and large better quality averaged \$1.75 to \$2.15 and reached a top of \$2.70. Extra large and large ordinary quality ranged in price from \$1.50 to \$1.70.

The New York Auction Company reports that the 30,000 select ranch standard ranch mink of the Great Lakes Mink Association brought prices up to 15 per cent above January levels. The offering was 97 per cent sold. Top price for males was \$42.50 for a lot produced by R. W. Manzell of Petersburg, Mich. The same rancher received the top for females which brought \$21. A good many in the sales room were surprised at the strength of the sale considering the number of recent bankruptcies in the New York market which have tended to undermine morale. However, the confident bidding which was observable was indicative of the remaining strength and optimism of the majority of the mink buyers. Some 67 per cent of the males brought from \$20 to \$28 and about 25 per cent brought from \$28 up. About 70 per cent of the females fell within the \$10 to \$14 bracket and about 27 per cent went over the \$14 mark.

Three days after the above sale the New York Auction Company held a two day sale of Starlight and other ranch mink sections for the Great Lakes Mink Association. Some 16,500 Starlights were 95 per cent sold and 95 per cent of the 10,500 ranch mink were sold, also 100 per cent of the low grade ranch mink. In the Starlights, top price for males was \$25.50 and females reached \$14.50. The bulk of the males ranged from \$20 to \$24. Most males moved at \$10.50 to \$12.50. The continued strength of the mink market was explained by some observers as due to the movement of merchandise from auction house to dealer to manufacturer which has been more rapid and in volume this than any previous year with little of the crop beginning to be disposed of. Dealers and manufacturers find themselves facing a full six month period in which little fresh mink will be offered. Handlers of the mink are banking on the hope that the retail level will remain at a high pitch.

White fox and beaver led the regular May sale at the Seattle Fur Exchange. Only a small collection numbering 700, white fox, was 100 per cent sold at increases in prices. One's and two's brought \$14 to \$19, low two's, \$10 to \$13.

According to Adolph Langenfeld of the Associated Fur Farms, Wis., the mink ranching industry has reached the point where all the basic colors of mink are in production and ranchers should concentrate now on perfecting these colors. He added that in his opinion split and let-out mink represent no threat to let-out mink.

In Washington last week fur Union and industry leaders told the House Ways and Means Committee that the ban on the seven furs produced in the iron curtain countries should be lifted and also asked for the removal of the excise tax on furs which he claimed is paralyzing business. Another speaker, Raymond H. Papernow of the Silberman Fur Cor-

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-NEWSY NOTES-

By J. A. Clark, D.Sc. VICTORIA, B.C.

We arrived in Victoria the evening of March 26, 1953, after a beautiful five hour sail from Seattle on the Princess Joan, through many channels, and past islands, large and small, most of them covered with coniferous forests to their rocky shores. When the sun neared the horizon we were in the larger sea area of Juan de Fuca Strait with the glorious sunset showing from behind the mountains, back of Port Angeles. The observation lounge that seated another hundred was filled throughout the trip, as were the deck chairs and seats on the several decks. There was a line-up for the dining room until we reached port.

As we were landing we met Dr. and Mrs. E. S. Archibald, the former Director of the Dominion Experimental Farms, who were on their way home from Ethiopia via New Zealand. Dr. Archibald had spent two years in the service of F.A.O. of the United Nations. Our baggage checks were picked up as we landed and our bags were in our room at the Empress Hotel almost as soon as we got there.

We were particularly impressed with the light showers which prevailed for the first three days of our visit, for we had just come from a part of southern California where they had only had one shower in the previous two months.

Of special interest was a visit to the Experimental Station, which is situated on Banza Bay, near Sidney on the Saanich Peninsula, about 18 miles north of Victoria, most directly reached by driving out Quadra Street to Royal Oak, and then along the East Saanich Road. At the station there were many beds of beautiful daffodils and tulips many of them grown from their own bulbs, this being one of the specialties of that Station. We also saw a magnificent bed of hydrangeas in full bloom, presumably being grown for but's. Also visited were the greenhouses, where the more tender plants are started. There was an exceptional display of carnations and chrysanthemums.

For the return trip we crossed to the west side of the Saanich Peninsula, near the airport, and returned by the West Saanich Road, past Brentwood from where a ferry crosses Saanich Inlet to the Island Highway that goes north to Nanaimo. This road also passes near the Butchart Gardens, famous for their roses, and Arbor Vitae. These outstanding cedar trees were planted by Mrs. Butchart in 1904.

The gardens have been beautifully landscaped and filled with bright perennials, rare rock plants, and handsome herbaceous borders. There are small streams tumbling over rock formations, and lily ponds filled with gold fish.

Since my first visit in 1922 there have been added: a Japanese Garden, Italian Garden, and an English Rose Garden; and the lawn now extends down a gentle slope to Tod Inlet, an arm of Brentwood Bay. Near Prospect Lake we passed the Dominion Observatory. We drove on into Victoria by Douglas Street.

Our driver pointed out where the motion picture "Lassie" had been filmed, and many other interesting events in connection with former days in and near Victoria. We visited the Parliament Buildings, the Connaught Library, the

CANADA PROVINCE OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND IN THE PROBATE COURT

The 28th day of May A.D. 1953 In Re Estate of Christina Catharine McKay late of Charlottetown in Queen's County in the said Province, widow, deceased, testate.

To the Sheriff of the County of Queens or any Constable or literate person within said County

GREETING:

WHEREAS upon reading the petition on file of Kenneth M. Martin of Charlottetown aforesaid, Solicitor, the sole Executor of the above named Estate, praying that a citation may be issued for the purpose hereinafter set forth: You are therefore hereby required to cite all persons interested in the said Estate to be and appear before the Judge present at a Probate Court to be held in the Court House in Charlottetown in Queen's County in the said Province, on Tuesday the 30th day of June next, coming, at the hour of eleven o'clock forenoon of the same day to shew cause if any they can why the Accounts of the said Estate should not be passed and the Estate closed as prayed for in said petition and on motion of Kenneth M. Martin Esquire, Proctor for said Petitioner.

AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that a true copy hereof be forthwith published in some newspaper published in Charlottetown aforesaid once in each week for at least four consecutive weeks from the date hereof and that a true copy hereof be forthwith posted in the following public places respectively, namely, in the hall of the Court House in Georgetown in King's County aforesaid, at or near the store of Clark Bros. in Montague aforesaid and at or near the store of Maynard F. McDonald in Montague aforesaid, so that all persons interested in the said Estate as aforesaid may have due notice thereof.

WITNESS His Honour Harold Leonard Palmer, Judge of the said Probate Court at Charlottetown in Queen's County, the day and year first above written.

By the Court.

(Sgd.) Frances B. Vinnicombe, Registrar.

AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that a true copy hereof be forthwith published in some newspaper published in Charlottetown aforesaid once in each week for at least four consecutive weeks from the date hereof and that a true copy hereof be forthwith posted in the following public places respectively, namely, in the hall of the Court House in Charlottetown aforesaid, at or near the Royal Bank of Canada building in Charlottetown aforesaid and at or near the Bank of Nova Scotia building in Charlottetown aforesaid, so that all persons interested in the said Estate as aforesaid may have due notice thereof.

WITNESS His Honour Harold Leonard Palmer, Judge of the said Probate Court at Charlottetown in Queen's County, the day and year first above written.

By the Court.

(Sgd.) Frances B. Vinnicombe, Registrar.

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