

FOR FARMERS, STOCK BREEDERS AND GARDENERS

HORSE MEMOIRS

ISLAND WINNERS IN 1886

(G. E. MacKenzie)
Away back in the eighties our Island bred horses were making a name for themselves and Prince Edward Island as the 'Crowing account of a race run off on the no. 62 Mystic Park, Boston, Mass.'

The 2.23 class was a cracking good contest and George Lee, the winner, proved himself to be a great race horse.
He had the veteran trotter Scredriver, the speedy Bljou, another Island production, and the reliable trotter George A. pitted against him.

Lee won in straight heats but had to exert himself to win, as Scredriver and Bljou gave him all he could attend to.
The driver of George A. possibly made a mistake in holding up in the first heat, but this really had nothing to do with the outcome.

The heat was very large attendance at the track and they were all pleased with the result.
Scredriver was the favorite in the first heat and had Archie Smuggler's daughter, George Lee, Bljou and George A. as competitors.

This was a hard field to pick from for the horses were very evenly matched. In the first heat Smuggler's daughter drew the pole but the veteran Scredriver got the best end off and although on the outside he carried the field to the turn where he captured the pole with Bljou at his saddle. Here the nimble Bljou had to give place to George Lee. Down the back stretch they went at a terrific pace. Golden again had a try but it was useless as Lee had speed to burn. He won the heat with plenty to spare in the excellent time of 2.25 1-4. Bljou an easy second, Scredriver third, George A. fourth. Smuggler's daughter fifth and Archie last.

Canada Garden Service 1936

By Gordon Lindsay Smith

A brilliant garden of flowers, even the kind that the neighbors will regard with envy, is not a difficult creation. True there are some of the rarer varieties of roses, lilies, gladioli and similar things that require skill and not a little luck. But for the average man or woman, with only a limited amount of time, space and money, there is really a wide range of variety, color and height. Many of these things are almost as easily grown as weeds. Once planted, and possibly thinned they will flourish despite neglect and insects.

Easily Grown Flowers

Take such things as the cosmos. Seed of this flower can be sown outside almost as soon as the soil is fit to work. It grows quickly, is tall and graceful, and will begin to bloom from early July on. Cosmos come in two or three colors, but are mostly pink or red. In recent years a double type has been added to the selection offered.

Zinnias, giant or dwarf size are another flower that the busy person can plant with certain satisfaction of a big display of bloom. These except for the tiny affair with close button like flowers, are also large plants. The bigger ones will make a height of 18 inches to two feet or more. Colors cover a wide range from dull red, bronze and yellow to bright reds and pinks. Blooms somewhat resemble the rose.

Small Flowers

In the smaller types of easily grown flowers are alyssum, white and dainty and useful for edging. These will grow in partial shade and make an excellent edging plant. Portulaca is a spreading plant with bright yellow red and pink wax like flowers. It thrives in bright sunshine and dry soil. Nasturtiums, marigolds, calendulas and petunias will complete a good garden of easily grown annual flowers.

Vegetables for Small Gardens

Those householders with only a little land to spare should concentrate on those vegetables which give the biggest returns for the smallest space occupied. Among such kinds are beans, carrots, onions, lettuce, swiss chard spinach, cucumbers and beets. In the lesser-known vegetables are: leeks, eggs and pepper plants, broad beans and anchored. Bljou then went after George A. caught and headed him in a twinkling but George A. was dead game and when his driver Meehan touched him with the whip he shot out at a slashing pace, three times he and Bljou changed places but finally the bay son of Abdullah disposed of George A. and now at the head of the stretch. As soon as he got fairly straightened out for home, Bljou began to open and came along like a cloud of dust in a March gale. Yapp saw his danger and kept his whip arm busy. Lee responded at every call and kept his feet nice and reached the wire first by a length in the fast time of 2.23 1-4, Bljou a good second, Scredriver and George A. third.

Thus finished one of the most exciting races that had ever been held at Mystic Park in which our Prince Edward Island horses, George Lee and Bljou clearly demonstrated their ability as race horses.
The following is the summary:
George Lee, br. g. (C. Yapp) 1 1 1
Bljou, br. g. (J. Golden) 2 2 2
George A. b.g. (F. Meehan) 4 2 4
Scredriver, ro.g. (T. Marsh) 3 3 3
Archie, br. s. (J. Trout) 6 5 5
Smuggler's daughter, b.m. (A. Strauss) 5 5 5
Time 2.25 1-4, 2.25 1-4, 2.23 1-4.

TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox Farming



holland Muttart, Summeride, is having splendid success in his fox ranch this spring, rearing a litter of nine and a litter of eight from among his show stock. The Muttart ranch was a frequent winner at the Provincial Fox Show last fall. It will be pleasing news to Mr. Muttart's numerous friends to learn that things are going so nicely with his fox breeding operations.

The April number of the American Fur Breeder has a cut on the cover showing a dozen beautiful silver fox pelts. These are the cream of the crop of the Boston Silver Fox Ranch, Stevens Point, Wisconsin. The ten pelts in the centre averaged \$119.30. Mr. Boston, the Manager, reports an average of \$71.63 for 146 pelts, 77 of which were three-quarter silvers. They were marketed by the American National Fox and Fur Breeders Association in the January New York auction sale.

In 'Back Tracking Along Memory's Trail' in the April American Fur Breeder there are some fifty notes—little tid-bits of fox lore that bring one back into realms of long ago when what we now consider fantastic prices, prevailed. We quote a few . . . Peter G. Clark paid \$10,000 for Alberta, a wild medium silver fox caught in Northern Alberta. This fox mated to a back male bred by Charles Dalton was the foundation of the famous Pure Canadian herd . . . The first pair of foxes sold to a customer outside the 'Big Six' combination of pioneer breeders was purchased from George W. Robinson of Summerside from Frank Tuplin, Kensington, in 1910.

Permit: to the number of 11,265 were granted for the importation of live silver foxes from Canada to the United States in the years 1921 to 1934 inclusive . . . Do you remember when a specimen half-silver pelt brought 250 pounds, or about \$1,212 in a 1928 London auction?

Yes, the writer remembers that very distinctly. It was a pelt consigned by Milligan and Morrison, Northam, to the Hudson's Bay Company, London, England. Messrs. McLure & MacKinnon arrived in London one week prior to the sale and the first day they visited the Hudson's Bay Company warehouse they noticed carelessly thrown on the table some marvelous pelts. One was without doubt among the most beautiful ever seen. It turned out to be the 250 pound referred to above, which topped the sale by a large margin. The purchasers were Revillon Freres and a rumour said that it was to deck the graceful shoulders of the Queen of Holland.

It is a far cry to that fall day in 1910 when the late George W. Robinson drove out of Frank Tuplin's ranch at New Annan with a pair of silver foxes which he had sold \$5,000 for. Even in those days of fat bank accounts before the era of motor cars—where all our money seems to go now—the prices asked were sufficient to deter all but the boldest spirits. Mr. Robinson, however, had faith and courage and the investment proved profitable.

Years ago in company with Mr. McLure the writer visited Mr. Robinson's ranch at Summeride and was struck with the extreme care and success by which the silver foxes were bred. Those were the days when darks and mediums were thought to be the proper foundation for breeding stock and we were all a raid that if we bred pale foxes they would eventually lose their good fur qualities, a theory which has since been exploded.

Mr. Robinson's breeding operations were continued with good success by his son, now Major Brewer W. Robinson, who, however, met with an unfortunate reverse years ago during the epidemic, but

is now back in full strength. However, what brought Mr. Robinson particularly to the writer's mind was the fact that a pelt marketed through the Canadian National by the partnership of Marcus Calder and Roy Quigley, brought a sum well over the three figures at auction recently. It was from the original old Robinson strain, no doubt, very much like the silvers Mr. McLure and I looked at around 1924 or 1925. Perhaps it was an exact duplicate of one of those animals, and reader, don't think that that is impossible.

If one takes the trouble to wander through one of the baronial mansions of England and gaze at the paintings of scions of the noble family which had been domiciled within its walls, ever and anon, you will be struck with the resemblance exhibited by the host who conducts you through, to some illustrious progenitor of the dim and distant past. The genes—carriers of heritage—may skip several generations and reappear again with an exact counterpart of a relative of many generations ago.

It is the same in the animal world and hence the aphorism 'blood tells' or in other words, heredity tells. One cannot get something for nothing and the silver fox breeder who attempts or believes that by some method of feeding or care he can make up for pedigree is greatly mistaken. That pelt which Messrs. Calder and Quigley sold could not have been produced from inferior stock if nurtured by the most scientific diet in existence or handed by the best caretaker if it had not been for its blood lines.

In conversation with Councillor E. J. Foster yesterday we were told that the French Fox Remedy Company of Vancouver, B.C., whose fox worm capsules are used almost exclusively for young pups, have recently received a very large order from Japanese fur farms. Last year statistics stated that there were 10,000 breeding foxes in Japan so that the production this year will possibly run between ten and fifteen thousand so that would be a respectable order to receive if they are all to be dosed.

We often wonder just what affect a very cold spring has on fox production—many lost litters are blamed on a 'cold night.' This season we will not have that to put in our excuse book. Jack Frost is exercising himself in Western Canada with a vengeance. On Tuesday it was fifteen below zero in Winnipeg, and prior to that it had ranged from five to thirty below with only an occasional day above zero for several weeks. As their fox pup population usually arrives somewhat earlier than ours they are no doubt nearly all born now. Later on it is my intention to write responsible parties in Winnipeg and other parts of the West to find out if this extraordinary cold and unseasonable weather which they have experienced has been attended with many fox pup fatalities.

What is claimed to be the earliest silver fox mating on record, according to the American Fur Breeder, took place on the fox ranch of Ambrose Eberle of St. Nazianz, Wis., December 12th, 1935, and the female gave birth to four pups on February 1st. In conversation with W. O. Douglas of the Hudson's Bay Company two years ago I was told of a litter that arrived at a Winnipeg ranch the 28th of January. The earliest litter reported in this province this season was born February 17th.

One of the heartening features of the silver fox trade this season is the good demand of foreign countries that have not hitherto been outstanding factors in the success by which the silver foxes of Holland, Czechoslovakia, Roumania, Austria, Brazil and Argentina. Just the other day a gentleman said to me, 'I believe from what I can learn that a good market for silver fox could be worked up in South Africa and Australia. The former country is more prosperous today than she has ever been in her history because of the production of vast quantities of gold, which has almost doubled in price, and diamonds which are now moving quite freely.

Australia has made a remarkable come back and as the population are a sporty lot, due to the climate, it should be a fine market. The ladies are great race goers and the grounds at the tracks are kept in magnificent order, fit settings for the ladies who parade around in beautiful costumes or sit down to afternoon tea in the club rooms between races.

Sable breeding, which started in a small way in Russia about the year 1926, has made rapid progress and bids fair to become a pronounced success. The true mating period for sable was first discovered by Dr. Karl B. Hansen, who died recently in Wisconsin. Dr. Hansen found that the sable was closely related to the North American marten, with identical breeding habits. The breeding season is in July or August and the young are born the following April or May. There is little if any embryonic development during the first six months of the gestation period. The germ cells seem to lie dormant until mid-winter and then growth starts and development is rapid. The best specimens of Labrador

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The amateur who grows vegetables as a recreation has it all over his fellow hobby riders, for his playtime hours at this avocation not only cost him nothing, but actually save him money. This economic feature of stable gardening is not the important one, of course, but it is satisfying none the less, and makes the hobby more interesting.

We think of fower growing, or photography more often as hobbies. They seem to have an ethereal quality entirely apart from the necessities of life, and by indulging in them, we feel we are getting spiritual benefits which we would not ordinarily get in the general run of things. The fact that we eat the vegetables we grow may dampen the enthusiasm of some and make it hurt instead of pleasure. But, the real gardener never thinks of this. He knows there is as much beauty in orderly rows of green and yellow vegetables as in flowers. Beauty in plants is a relative thing. All plants bloom when they come to maturity. Dahlias roots are good to eat when properly cooked, but we never grow them for that purpose, because we have other roots in the vegetable garden which we like better. Why then should we say that the brilliant green foliage of carrots, or the tender leaves of lettuce are not beautiful? Designing a vegetable garden should be as important, as your



A Beautiful Vegetable Garden May Be Made by Planting Annual Flowers in Rows and as Edging. They Can Be Used for Cutting

street front landscape. Make it a comfortable place to work in and play. Make use of flowers as borders and accents, trim the paths, and keep the rows clean and straight. Pools, bird baths, arbors and garden furniture will fit in the vegetable garden as well as anywhere, and make it more livable. The other feature of vegetable gardening which makes it a hobby instead of a job is the quality which can be grown with a little careful work and selection. Many of us look forward to the months when we can get tomatoes in season, because they are so much better. But tomatoes grown in your own garden and taken from the vine only when they are ripe are a half better. This is even more true of sweet corn and peas, and even string

SUNGLO

VIXEN AND PUPPY STARTER

should be fed to Vixens after pups are 10 days old and until weaned. Increase red meats after whelping date is 1 week past, and use:

SUNGLO VIXEN AND PUPPY STARTER—

RED MEATS 1/3 by weight

OFFAL 1/3 by weight

SOAK THE CEREAL IN WHOLE MILK, and 1 EGG PER 3 PUPS should be fed daily in addition to above, breaking them over the pans of feed.

FEED SHOULD BE INCREASED TO ALL VIXEN WILL EAT TWICE A DAY, TO INSURE WELL STARTED PUPS.

International Fox & Animal Foods Ltd.

beans deteriorate much in a few days on the way to market. Garden fresh vegetables are reserved for the amateur who grows them, and can gather a supply an hour before mealtime. Modern methods of storage and refrigeration have improved the market vegetables immeasurably, but still takes many hours or days to get them ready for the table, during which time they lose much of their sweetness and healthful qualities. On the other hand, the housewife can purchase only the standard and time-tried varieties on the market, whereas if she grows them herself, she has the choice of hundreds of types and varieties to fit in with her garden conditions and her fancy, and always have the newest and the best.