

TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox and Mink Farming

Hopeful signs for the revival of silver fox is seen in re-produced ads which appear in Women's Wear Daily, New York. I. Magntin and Co., with branches in California, is one of the many stores that are encouraging the return of fox as a fashion fur. Two illustrations showing the straight stole in natural silver black or platin are featured, also a cape stole in natural silver or black fox. They are recommended to be worn as an evening or daytime fur and copy reads: "Designed with enormous flattery by day or evening. In any season anywhere. We predict a brilliant fashion future for this most feminine of all furs."

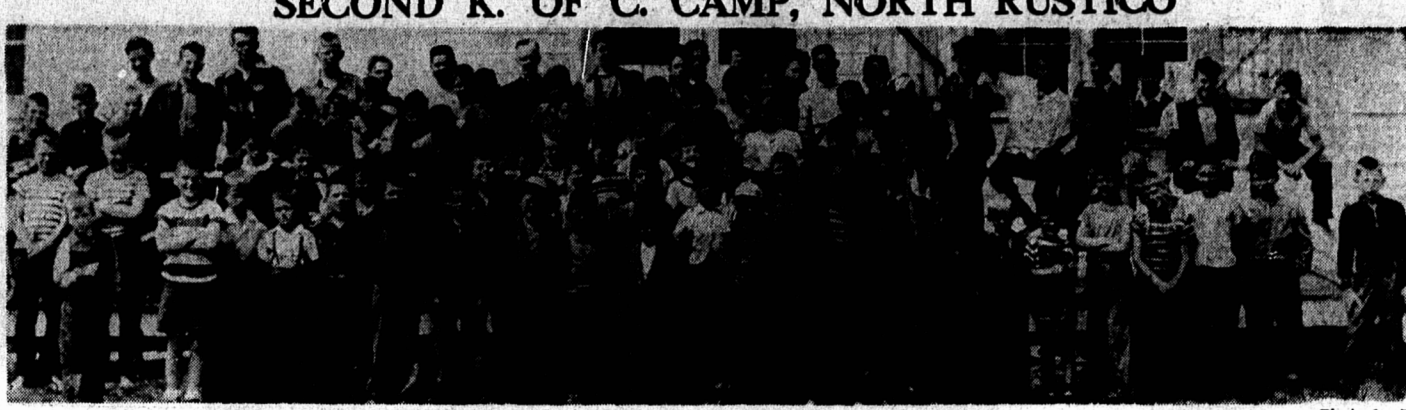
A cable from Copenhagen, Denmark, states that the prospects for the Danish fur trade are viewed with optimism. A generally higher standard of living in Europe is expected to contribute substantially to increased export demand for Danish goods. About one-third of the 1949 exports went to the United States with Britain the second largest customer. Next came Italy, Belgium, Switzerland, Hungary and France. Exports to America consisted mainly of mink while exports to European countries included both fox and mink.

Mink breeding has come to dominate the industry in Denmark largely because during the war food for mink could be more easily obtained than food for fox. Nevertheless, fox breeders display a keen interest in producing first class quality products. Since the market has called for progressively lighter skins the breeders have adjusted their plans accordingly. The current product is a uniform extra light skin but there are already signs that the market is changing again, especially in Europe and darker furs are coming back into fashion.

Denmark's mink came originally from Canada and Sweden. The current standard Danish mink is not very dark, the color being close to wild mink which commands higher prices today. Breeders may freely market their furs where they like but experience has shown that the best method is through fur auction and about 90% of the furs produced in Denmark are disposed of through such auctions.

A very beautiful display of fox furs was shown in Holman's Ltd. windows in Summerside, last week consisting of silver fox and its mutations made up as a double scarf, jacket, stoles and other styles. We understand they were placed there through the efforts of the fur advertising committee of the Canadian National Silver Fox Breeders' Association, of which D. O. Stewart is chairman. Our information about this display came from two Charlottetown ladies who were delighted with the attractive designs and the quality of the skins shown, and are hopeful of some day possessing a cape, jacket or stole similar to those exhibited. There is no question that display advertising would increase the sale of silver fox materially. We have been hiding our light too much under a bushel. In this world it is the one who pushes out into the limelight who gets the attention of the masses. We are hopeful that this attractive exhibition can be shown in Charlottetown and thereby help to create interest in this locality.

Botulism in Mink, is the title of an article which appeared in The



-Photo by Burke

SECOND K. OF C. CAMP, NORTH RUSTICO

NEWSY NOTES

By Agricolo

THE BOHEMIAN WAXWING

The Bohemian Waxwing is in a way related to the ancient Kingdom of Bohemia. The Gypsies, a wandering race, were thought by the French and others, to hail from that Kingdom, and the term Bohemian soon became synonymous with an irresponsible, wandering person. Some poetic soul on this side of the Atlantic, applied the term—and not without reason—to the Waxwing. It nests within the Arctic Circle only casually leaving its nesting-place in the winter, to wander as far south as Pennsylvania and California. Usually these birds travel in flocks but in the winter of 1915-6 I saw a solitary "Bohemian",—the only one I ever saw. They resemble the well known Cedar Waxwing, but have white and yellow markings on the wings and are larger. Another distinction is that the plumage is "grayer" than that of the Cedar Waxwing.

The name Waxwing takes its rise from the red wax-like tag attached to the tips of the secondary wing coverts. Since the bird is so rare in this Province one may at once conclude these notes with its description.

Bohemian Waxwing. AOU, 618. Rare winter visitor. Plumage: forehead, chin, and a line through the eye, velvety black; a conspicuous crest, and front of crown, chestnut brown; upper parts rich grayish brown; rump and tail grayish, the latter broadly tipped with yellow; wings brownish primary coverts and secondaries tipped white, the latter with narrow "sealing-wax" tips, (sometimes wanting); all the outer primaries tipped yellow or white on the outer web. Breast grayish brown, under tail coverts rich chestnut. Length of adult 8.0 inches.

THE SHORT FINNER SQUID

In last week's account of this Squid I took no particular notice of its uses, economic or otherwise. "It is the best bait for cod known to the fisherman," says Ganot,

as in a warm room, enough toxin may be produced to kill the animals. Since the organisms are found in the intestinal contents of domestic animals and in the soil, be careful when slaughtering ground and not to puncture the intestines when removing the viscera. Rats and mice may carry this organism and contaminate cereals and meat. Therefore precautions should be taken to keep them out of the feed room.

In this Island we have been comparatively free from the effects of botulism because we have not had excessively warm weather. It has been more good luck than good management. However, the above article will serve as a warning to ranchers either of boar or fox that more care should be taken by all of us than we at present exhibit.

writing at the close of last century and he notes that the value of the Squid taken in the Maritimes in 1887 was \$124,096.—the highest value up till that time. Squids were taken by means of a "jig", a leaden weight, with an "eye" for a cord at one end, and a circle of unbaited hooks points upward at the other. This was "jigged" up and down in the midst of schools of Squids and when one was hooked it was quickly pulled up by the cord. Where possible the Squid is used fresh, cut into three parts, to bait three hooks. For longer voyages the Squids were put into barrels and salted. Such was the procedure in Ganong's day, and it was so simple it is not likely to have changed.

At times great masses of Squids were thrown on beaches by storms. In such cases the farmers were inclined to collect them for fertilizer, but this was discouraged by the respective Governments, who considered their value as bait. There was a time, not too long ago, when colored illustrations in books were all painted by hand. It was the day, too, of sepia painting, when one could admire illustrations of scenery done in a rich black-brown tint. This paint, sepia, was the product of an allied Squid, the Cuttle-fish. The ink-sac of a Chinese Squid is also the source of the Indian Ink of commerce—called India Ink in Canada.

One matter that I forgot to mention last week, was the "Cuttlefish bone". This is really the internal shell of a kind of Squid. It may be had at pet-shops, and is placed or hung in the cages containing canaries or other birds. It is supposed to be good for them to pick at, but it may be that its beneficial effects is due to its providing something to work at, in an otherwise monotonous life. The bone is mainly calcium and a little salt.

THE SKY IN AUGUST

The year is wearing on, and the Sun which rose bright and early in June at 4:21, now rises on August 1st at 4:54. The nights are closing in too, and the Autumn constellations are coming into view. The Moon is in its Last-Quarter August 5, 1950, and next day it is in Apogee, distant from the Earth, 251,200 miles.

These are two conjunctions of the Moon and planets on Aug. 9th and 10, but, other Stragglers are not likely to see them, the time is unsuitable.

On Aug. 12, the Perseid Meteors should be visible if conditions are good; and on Aug. 13 it is New Moon.

There are several conjunctions which we pass over since they occur in the day time, but on Aug. 18, the Moon and Mars are in conjunction about 11 p.m. When visible this is always a good show. On Aug. 20, the Moon is in its First Quarter, and also in Perigee, 229,800 miles away. On Sunday, Aug. 27, it is Full Moon, which is in conjunction with Jupiter at 6:31 a.m., and perhaps not visible in the daylight.

SPHAGNUM MOSS

A reader, who lives on the mainland, writes for information on Sphagnum Moss. He says it does not appear in the botanical "Manuals" and wishes to have a description. The reason for its omission from the Manuals is, that they deal with flowering plants principally but make an exception in the case of ferns and Horsetails, but not of the true mosses, which in any case are so numerous that they need a Manual to themselves. In the "Manual of British Mosses" these are forty-one genera comprising a very large number of species. The genus Sphagnum has 4 species in Britain, but to the general observer they all look alike. Judging from a picture of Sphagnum capillare in "Canadian Nature" magazine, May 1945, it is about the same as the British species. If one took short lengths of knitting wool, light gray-green in color, and arranged them in a circle, with a central stalk, one would have a passable imitation of the Sphagnum.

Masses grow under many different conditions. Sphagnum prefers water, and will encroach upon a pond or even a lake till in the course of time it forms a solid mat-like mass. When Sphagnum dies it does not decay, as most other vegetation does. So the pond fills up and the mass becomes peat. If pressure could be applied the peat would become coal. In many parts of Great Britain, and in Eire peat is still used as fuel though it is not as effective and lasting as coal. It has one advantage though: you can dig it yourself, and that is something, in these days of strikes and high costs!

P. W. C. Entrance Examinations

Continued from page 11

- Irene MacKinnon, Miscouche. Joan MacKinnon, Prince Street. William A. MacKinnon, Prince St. Blanche MacLean, Brudenell. Kenneth MacLean, West Kent. Marina MacLean, North Wiltshire. Maxie MacLean, North Wiltshire. Robert MacLean, St. Peter's South. Vernon MacLean, Murray River. Winsor MacLean, Victoria. Urban J. MacLellan, Indian River. Christie MacLeod, South Granville. Clair MacLeod, Bonshaw. Jean MacLeod, New Glasgow. Phyllis C. MacLeod, Grandview. Lorraine MacLure, Montague High. Wilma MacLure, Montague High. Emma MacMahon, Kensington. Florine MacMillan, Belle River. Ian MacMurdo, Kensington. Winsor MacNally, St. Mary's Academy. Marion MacNeil, St. Peter's South. Claire MacNeill, Knutsford. Donald MacNeill, West Kent. Ella MacNeill, Kinkora. Norma MacNeill, Miscouche. Rena MacNeill, Canoe Cove. Wanda MacNeill, Bonshaw. Isabel MacNeill, Cardigan. Jessie MacRae, Rochford Square. Barbara Ann Mabon, Montague High. Kenneth Mallard, Souris High. Lucille, Martin, Miscouche. Gordon Matheson, Heatherdale. Colette Matters, Kelly's Cross. James Matters, Kelly's Cross. Mary Matters, Kelly's Cross. Blanche Matthews, O'Leary. Margaret Matthews, Elmsdale. Freda Mayhew, Kensington. Katherine Miller, Murray Harbour North. Sadie Millar, Murray Harbour North. Wyman Millar, Summerside High School. Robert Moase, Summerside High School. Mary Mollison, Summerside High School. Elaine Monkley, Central, Lot 16. Eugene Mooney, Montague East. Evola Moore, High Bank. Sterling Moore, Fredericton. Dulcinea Morrison, Fowal. Claire Moran, St. Teresa's. Howard Morrison, Alberton. Irene Mountain, Darnley. Joseph Muise, Southport. Teresa Mullally, St. Peter's South. Nancy Mullen, Tignish Convent. Edward Mullins, Queen Square School. Betty Murphy, Cape Traverse. Faber Murphy, Souris High School. Jean Murphy, Parkdale. Ruth Murray, Notre Dame Academy. Wellington Murray, Bradabane Village. Vera Newton, Brackley. John Nicholson, Mt. Buchanan. Leona Noonan, Albany Village. John R. Norton, Annandale. Bernetta O'Brien, Tignish Convent. Patsy Ogden, Summerside High School. Martha O'Halloran, Montague High School. Pearl Oliver, Alberton. Elmer Palmer, St. Peter's South. Lloyd Palmer, West Kent School. Louis Paoli, Queen Square School. Keith Paynter, Summerside High School. Hedley Penny, Beach Point. Kenneth Perry, Summerside High School. Marjory Perry, Miscouche. Elizabeth Peters, St. Mary's Academy. Frances Peters, Stella Maris. Carlyle Phillips, Summerside High School. June Phippey, Southport. Shirley Poole, Summerside High School. Nan Pope, Summerside High School. Fabiola Power, Newtown Cross. F. Proctor, West Kent School. James Profit, Alberton. Sammy Prowse, Murray Harbour. Betty Ramsay, Arlington. Ailda Raymer, Tignish Convent. David Reardon, West Kent School. George Rees, Kensington. Gerald Richard, Tignish Convent. Freda Richards, Mt. Mellick. Marjorie Roach, Rochford Square School. Anna Robbins, Morell Village. Electa Roberts, Rochford Square School. Jean Robertson, Dunstaffnage. June Robertson, Southport. Marlene Roper, Notre Dame Academy. Joan Sark, Notre Dame Academy. Alan Scales, Kensington. Thomas Scantlebury, West Kent School. Marjorie Scott, Marshfield. Merwyn Scott, Meadowbank. Marina Shaw, Lorne Valley. Noreen Shaw, Notre Dame Academy. Dorothy Simmonds, West Kent School. Lydia Sims, Parkdale. Phyllis Sinnott, Morell Village. Rita Sinnott, Sinnott Road. Betty Smith, Notre Dame Academy. Doreen Smith, Central Royalty. Dorothy Smith, East Royalty. Glenn Smith, Bloomfield Station.

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Shorthorn Breeders. A banquet will be held at SANDY'S RESTAURANT on Wednesday, the 16th, at 6:30 P.M., after the Shorthorn Show. Mr. H. R. White, secretary of the Canadian Shorthorn Association, will be one of the guest speakers. The silver trophies will be presented to the winners during the evening. Get your ticket before August the 10th at R. R. Bell's office, Richmond St. Price \$1.25. Organized by The P. E. I. SHORTHORN ASSOCIATION.

REGISTERED Scotch Shorthorns. We are looking forward to the Provincial Exhibition to meet our old friends and make new ones. Come and inspect our entries and drive to the farm and see our herd. Visitors Always Welcome. Long Valley Shorthorns castrer to buy than beat. JOHN AND MARY DU PASQUIER, St. Peter's Bay.

ATTENTION REGISTERED LIVE STOCK BREEDERS. This being our sixtieth JUBILEE we would ask for your sincere co-operation in making this the most outstanding year of the show, both in numbers and quality. Your awards will be placed this year by men who have judged at the Royal Winter Fair and many of the outstanding Class A shows. New cattle, sheep and hog barns have been erected with concrete foundation and floors. Entries for all livestock close July 29th. All cattle must be tested for BANGS DISEASE. Send applications immediately to the Dominion Department of Agriculture, Charlottetown.

ATTENTION ALL BREEDERS OF SHORTHORN (Registered). The P. E. I. Shorthorn Association is offering the sum of \$300.00 in Special Prizes distributed in the following classes: 1-Pair Males-2 year old and under. 2-Cow-any age with calf at foot. 3-Fair Females-any age-new exhibitor only. 4-Fair Dual Purpose Females-2 years and under. 5-Female-2 years old and under-Boys and Girls under 15 years of age only. 6-Showmanship Contest-Boys and Girls under 15 years of age only. Bonus paid on trucking expenses 15 miles from Charlottetown and over. All animals to be shown previously in the regular classes of the Provincial Exhibition. Entries for above classes to be forwarded before August the 1st to: A. R. MUTCH, Secretary, Earscliffe.

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Boar Bonus Policy

- The following bonus will be paid on bacon type boars which are in active service at time of inspection. Boar from dams qualified in Advanced Registry. All boars born after December 1st, 1947, must be out of a dam qualified in Advanced Registry to be eligible. Class A \$12.00 Class B 8.00 Boars born previous to December 1st, 1947, from dams not qualified in Advanced Registry. Class A \$9.00 Class B 6.00
- All boars must be in breeding condition, sound and serviceable.
- A Class A boar is one which in the opinion of the inspector is good enough to sire registered breeding stock.
- A Class B boar is one which although useful as a sire of commercial market hogs may carry slightly objectionable features of conformation.
- Boars must be registered and transferred to the party making application for inspection.
- REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE MUST BE AVAILABLE TO THE INSPECTOR AT TIME OF INSPECTION.
- Any boar showing evidence of hog lice at time of inspection will not be eligible for a bonus.
- No boar shall receive inspection under 7 months of age.
- No boar shall pass inspection unless he is kept in sanitary and reasonably clean quarters. Preference will be given to boars which are on pasture at time of inspection.
- All reports of Boar Inspection shall be submitted for final approval to a Board composed of three members of the Federal and Provincial Departments of Agriculture and approved by the Minister of Agriculture.
- In cases where boars have been purchased by Farmers' Institutes or other similar organizations which have received a grant to assist in such purchase, no bonus will be paid on such boars in any year in which such grants have been paid.
- All applications for inspection must be made on the forms supplied by the Provincial Department of Agriculture.
- Applications will be received up to August 15th but boar owners are asked to apply for inspection immediately. Inspection may be made any time before October 31st.

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CHANCERY SALE

Of Farm on the West side of Colville Road in Lot Thirty-one in Queen's County, being the lands of the late John A. MacLeod. NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to the Order of the Court of Chancery, made in the Vice-Chancellor's Court thereof on the 21st day of July, 1950, in a suit therein pending between LENA YOUNKER, Administratrix, as Complainant, and GORDON R. HOLMES, Committee, and Others as Defendants, number 670, there will be set up and sold by Public Auction on the premises aforesaid on MONDAY, 21st DAY OF AUGUST, 1950, AT THE HOUR OF 2:00 O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON. All that tract, piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in Lot 31 in Queen's County, bounded and described as follows: COMMENCING on the West side of the Colville Road, at the Northeast angle of a plot of land in possession of Angus MacLeod, thence West seventy-eight Chains or to land in possession of John R. MacDonald, thence North nine Chains, thence East to the said Road, thence Southwest along the said road to the place of Commencement, containing seventy-seven acres of land a little more or less. The above lands will be sold free and discharged from all encumbrances. DATED this 24th day of July, 1950. Such sale shall be subject to the approval of the Court of Chancery. R. H. ROGERS, Master in Chancery. GERALD R. FOSTER, Complainant's Solicitor. W. H. BEATON, Auctioneer.

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