

TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox, And Mink Farming

The Associated Fur Industries of Chicago, Inc. in probably the largest fur promotional program ever directed at the teen-age and college girl level, will sponsor a "Fur Princess" contest this summer...

"Mink has been promoted to the exclusion of other furs," declared Paul Majerus, the association's executive secretary. "We feel this campaign is a natural to put vitality and prestige into popular furs by offering styling for the younger set to an age group which can afford such garments."

Forty girls will be selected from among the applicants by a board of fashion editors and consultants. From this group 20 will be chosen to model furs on a half-hour television show over WGN-TV, according to fashion consultant, Mabel Ritchie. Association members are each designing and contributing one fur for the younger set.

active throughout the sale mainly for European accounts and bidding was very spirited in some cases.

Selected silvers (727 skins) full silvery sold between \$6.50 and \$10; silvery from \$7 to \$11.50. Regular and inferior silvers (1,625 skins) were as follows: full silvery \$3.50 to \$5; silvery \$3.75 to \$9, and three-quarter \$5 to \$5.50. Three-quarter silvers (39) ranged up to \$14.75. Platinum foxes (610 skins) were sold in fair quantities at the following prices: light \$6.75 to \$9.50; medium \$7 to \$11.75; extra light \$5.50 to \$7; and dark \$7 to \$11.50. Pearl platinum (544 skins) sold at prices varying from 5.50 to \$17 for dark; \$6.50 to \$16.50 for light; and \$5 to \$21 for medium. While the prices realized would not anything like equal the cost of production yet it is gratifying to see quantities of fox furs being sold.

Oslo fur auctions continued with mink sales; 94 per cent of 10,000 standard mink offered sold at average price of 109 kroner with top price 202 kroner (\$28.) for males and 97 kroner (\$13.58) females. Mutation mink was mainly poor quality and color and little interest was shown. Of 2,600 platinum mink skins offered only one quarter were sold and only 50 per cent pastel mink skins were sold. Auction continues with blue fox sales.

At the New York Auction Company's sale Thursday, May 27th, Royal Pastels continued to maintain strength. The offering consisted of 45,000. The Stewarts drew terrific competition with 99 per cent moving at a 5 per cent advance in price. Highest were \$68 for males and \$30 for females. Only change in the standard royal pastel picture was a slight advance in the female, high going from Tuesday's top of \$25 to \$25.50. Percentage sold continued at around 98 per cent. Strength of the sale was apparently predicated on optimism held in the trade about fall prospects. The large purchasers, it was felt, could not afford to be caught later in the season with insufficient second stocks. Our comment on the above is that it shows not only a very optimistic feeling with regard to future demand for mink but it also evidences on the part of the very astute buyers who handle these expensive skins in large quantities belief in the continued prosperity of the United States.

In the May number of the Black Fox Magazine and Modern Mink Breeder published in New York, there is a page entitled Twenty-five Years Ago - Items and Headlines From The Black Fox Magazine. These are some items: "Fromm Bros., Nieman ranches sent a shipment of 7,665 pelts to New York in a special car with an armoured guard.... Dr. W. A. Young, Boonville, N.Y., advertises superior fox breeding stock.... The American Fox Institute of Washington has awarded the top prize for silver foxes to McLure and MacKinnon Silver Fox Farms of Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.... Perlman, Redman, Columbus, Ohio, report that they sold over \$500,000 worth of breeding foxes in less than a year.... Canadians reported 5,700 live foxes sold during 1928. They went mostly to Scandinavian countries and to Germany.... Sir Charles Dalton, the founder of the fur farming industry, will be paid honor and tribute at the annual meeting of the Canadian National Silver Fox Breeders' Association at Summerside on July 10th.... The top price for silver fox at the May auction of Frederick Huth & Co., N.Y., was \$70.... Crown Prince Olaf opened the Norwegian fur show in Oslo, about 12,000 persons attended the last day.

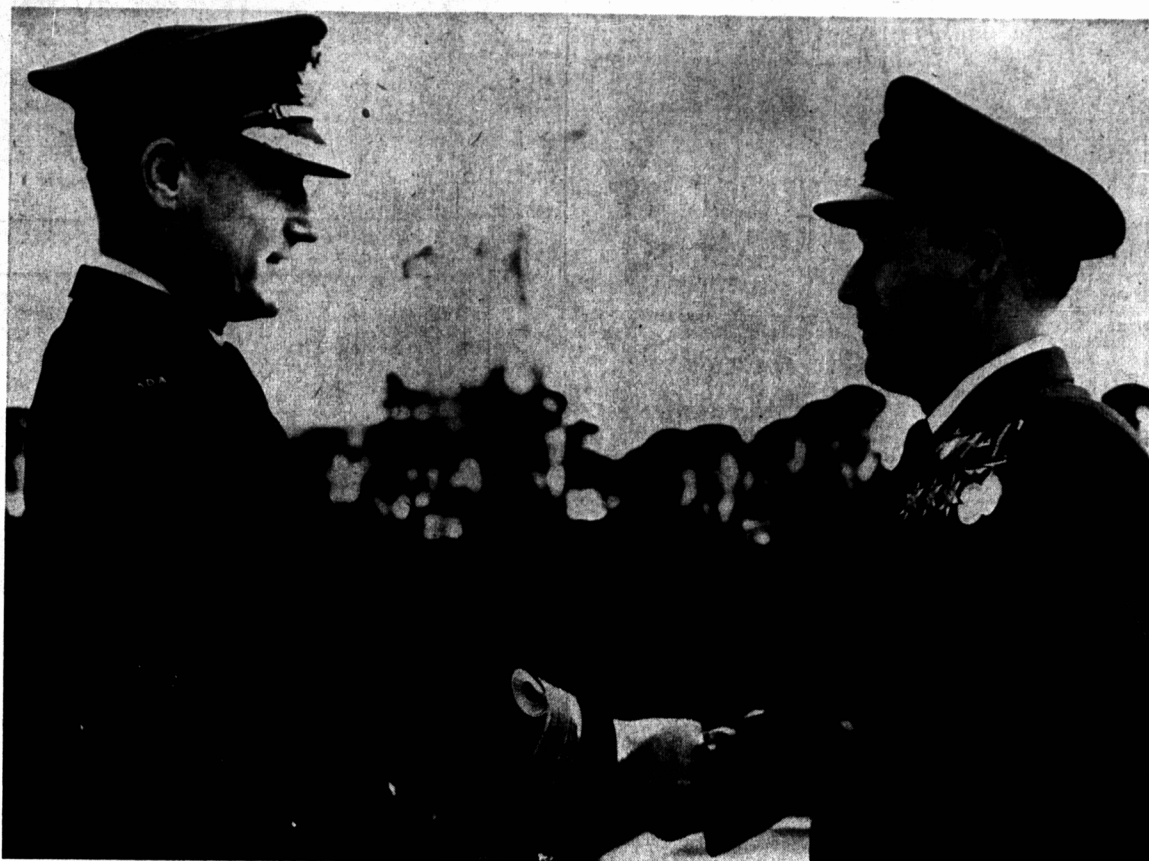
By the way, we are glad to be able to present to our fox farmers a very good account of the recent Hudson Bay auction in Montreal where a large number of silver fox and mink mutations were offered and a large percentage sold.... A continued rising interest in silver foxes was the highlight at the closing of the Hudson's Bay Co. three-day auction here at the week-end. The company reported 62 per cent sold of a total offering of 4,281 skins, of which platinum and pearl platinum encountered good interest. Buyers were

IN THE HOME WORKSHOP... LAWN CHAIR AND TABLE... PATTERN 316

This matching table and chair set has several members that are interchangeable so one pattern will serve for making both pieces. They are of simple design to be suitable for outdoor use and easy for the week-end carpenter to make. Note the wheels and handles for moving the pieces about wherever needed. The weather resistant cushion for the chair is bought ready-made and is available in various colors. The price of pattern 316 for making both pieces is 25c. The Lawn and Garden Furniture Packet contains patterns for five different designs that are easy for the home handy-man to make with either hand or power tools at price of \$1.50 postpaid. Apply Workshop Department, The Guardian.

TEACH RESPECT... Tin cans will train cows to respect electric fences. A cow has no curiosity about the wire, but does about the can on the wire. Device has been used successfully for three years at U. D. Great Plains Field Station in Woodward, Oklahoma.

P.E.I. Officer R eceives Decoration



CPO. Willard C. Carruthers (right) of Cape Wolfe, P. E. I., and Dartmouth, N. S., receives the Canadian Forces Decoration from Commodore H. S. Rayner, commanding officer of the aircraft carrier HMCS Magnificent. The award was presented to CPO. Carruthers during a ceremony held on the ship's flight deck while she was at Portsmouth, England. — (National Defence Photo).

Sees Fisherman Forgotten Man

OTTAWA (CP)—The fisherman is the forgotten man in a government plan for additional help to veterans under the Veterans Land Act, the Commons veteran affairs committee was told Thursday.

Maj.-Gen. G. R. Peakes, VC (PC—Esquimaux—Saarich) said he supports the government's plan to make loans up to \$3,000 to increase the productivity of farms established by veterans under VLA. But he thought was given to helping the veteran who had become a fisherman.

The fisherman might be able to build an addition to his home under the legislation but he couldn't make a permanent improvement in his fishing gear by buying new nets or improving his boat. However, the farmer-veteran could greatly improve his farm's productivity with the help of a loan.

Brig. T. J. Rutherford, VLA director, said companies supplying fishing gear have been helpful in extending credit to fishermen-veterans. In addition, provincial fishermen's loan boards in some provinces had helped fill this need.

In considering the question of buying equipment with the proposed new loans, it had to be remembered that often the fishing gear was lost in a short time. However, the matter would be investigated.

During consideration of the five-per-cent interest rate to be charged on the loans, Lt.-Col. Douglas Harkness (PC—Calgary North) and Victor Quelch (SC—Acadia) urged that it be reduced to 3 1/2 or four per cent.

However, Colin F. Bennet, parliamentary assistant to Veterans Minister Lapointe, said the cost of obtaining money for the loans is higher than those figures. The five-per-cent rate was picked to conform with the interest rates in other farm loan legislation.

on Saturday in protest over the action of the federal government in refusing consideration of amending the War Veterans' Allowance Act.

"We are not going to accept the callous attitude toward the needs of veterans," said Mr. MacLennan. The veterans seek allowance increases for needy former servicemen from \$50 for single persons and \$90 for married to \$60 and \$120 a month.

NEWSY NOTES

By J. A. Clark, D.Sc.

FOREST PATROL AND FIRE FIGHTING AIR SERVICE

The world's largest forest patrol and fire air fleet has its headquarters at Sault Ste. Marie. It is under the direction of the Air Service Division of the Department of Lands and Mines. For thirty years this Ontario Air Service (formerly known as the Provincial Air Service), whose scope of aircraft work has grown from detecting fires, which was its original work to the transportation of equipment and fire fighting crews for the suppression of forest fires, and the more recently developed use of water bombing methods to hold fires in check until the ground crew arrives through the bush to take over control measures.

A glance at the map will indicate that there are thousands of lakes scattered throughout the vast forest areas of Northern Ontario, which provide excellent facilities for the landing of fire crews and equipment within a reasonable distance of almost any fire outbreak. In travelling through that country by train, many sections were seen where, having passed a lake on one side, a glance out the opposite window presented a view of another forest enclosed lake. At times we seemed to travel miles and miles without being out of sight of water. In addition to lakes, the north country has almost countless streams and rivers, that flow either into the Great Lakes or the James and Hudson Bays.

A road map of the Dominion of Canada shows about fourteen rivers flowing into Lake Superior, and more than a dozen into Georgian Bay. The five large branches of the Albany River, which is about 500 miles long, and the eight named branches of the Moose River that are mentioned on the map, all flow north into James Bay. Many of these provide smooth water at many places where aircraft landings could be made throughout most of their length.

The fleet of 40 planes has 32 pilots, and a total staff of 103, including maintenance and clerical personnel; under the direction of Division Chief George Ponsford, with District Superintendent J. B. Culliton, located at the western division headquarters of Sioux Lookout. The air service is the fastest and most spectacular part of the whole system of the Fire Protection Division, when on patrol they are known as "Smoke Chasers." Each pilot then has with him a crew of three fire fighters, with equipment including a light pump, hose and tools. Each plane has a two-way radio, so that the pilot can talk to the fire ranger's headquarters as soon as smoke has been sighted. He then lands his crew at a lake as near as possible to the fire, and tells the fire ranger how serious the fire is, and advises, when needed, that more men and equipment be sent.

While his crew are getting from the lake to the fire the pilot may water-bomb and help check the edges of the fire from spreading. Then his aircraft may be used to transport more fire fighters and equipment, or he may bring the chief fire ranger to direct the fire fighting operations by radio to the ground crew, who carry with them walkie-talkie equipment, or by "The Voice from the Sky," a loud speaker that the maintenance department has developed as one of many devices for service to increase the value of aircraft in fighting forest fires.

A radar indicator has been developed by the engineering and maintenance personnel, to assist pilots when they have to land on smooth, glassy water, where it is exceedingly dangerous and difficult to determine where the water surface meets the air. With the radar altimeter, the pilot has safe guidance through visual marks which show the distance from the plane to the water surface. They have also designed and built an all-purpose ski for difficult winter landing conditions; and for use by ground crews a pack actor that can haul 700 pounds of equipment through the bush, and may be carried in the cabin of a Beaver plane.

While the air service has for its main duty the detection and suppression of forest fires, it is closely integrated with the Department's Forest Protection Division for these purposes, though it is a separate division, and the aircraft, in all matters pertaining to maintenance and flights, are under the direction of the Air Service personnel, however, the selection of strategic bases for fire fighting is made by the District Forester. The District Forest Protection Supervisors have authority to direct flights, to assist areas and patrols menaced by fire. The pilots, once they are in the air, have the responsibility of selecting routes for their planes and lakes for landing, etc.

The air service in addition to its work as described, serves all the other Ontario departments of government, especially those of Health, Mines, Education and the Provincial Police. Their service in this connection with mercy flights in cases of sickness and accidents, is now a tradition in Northern Ontario.

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Sask. Doctors Describe Operation Of Provincial Hospital Insurance Plan

QUEBEC (CP)—Four Saskatchewan doctors Monday described in a preliminary report some of the changes that occurred when a government hospital insurance plan went into effect in their province.

F. B. Roth, deputy minister of health in Saskatchewan, who read the report at the 42nd annual meeting of the Canadian Public Health Association, said that when the plan went into effect in 1947, there were 156 hospital discharges per 1,000 of population. This rate increased to 200 per 1,000 and it remained at about that level since.

The survey revealed that hospital services are used more widely by rural than urban residents, said Dr. Roth. He told the 500 delegates from all parts of Canada that lesser revenues and isolation of rural districts were factors in the greater use of hospitals by rural residents.

Other possible causes were housing conditions, larger families, and younger physicians established in rural districts who might use the hospital more frequently than their seniors established in the cities.

The report was prepared by Dr. M. S. Acker, Dr. M. I. Roemer, Dr. G. W. Myers and Dr. Roth.

93 PER CENT COVERED

Saskatchewan's provincial government health plan covers 93 per cent of the population and its establishment coincided with a program calling for doubling of hospital bed facilities. The report said the fact that the number of hospital beds has been increased may be a factor in greater use of hospitals.

There is a tendency, the report noted, for patients to be admitted to hospital for illness of lesser seriousness than a surgical operation. "It is obvious that the factors found in this study are associated with conditions of universal hospital insurance in which economic barriers are removed," the report said.

Bruce R. Power of Toronto, secretary of the Canadian Life Insurance Officers Association, told the convention the public does not yet understand fully how health insurance plans work. Health insurance costs were paid from premiums. When someone was getting more than his share, rates would increase.

However, it was recognized that voluntary health insurance combined with government services had largely solved for Canadians the problem of financing hospital and sickness costs.

Knowles Going After Divorce Problem Again

OTTAWA (CP)—Stanley Knowles, chief CCF whip and leading exponent of riding parliament of Quebec - Newfoundland divorce cases, says he will introduce legislation to transfer these cases to the federal exchequer court.

Mr. Knowles has been introducing his measure unsuccessfully in the Commons for five years and had decided not to try it again at this session until he got unexpected Liberal support on a motion concerning a divorce bill Tuesday.

Four Liberals - including three from Quebec - helped carry Mr. Knowles' motion to send a divorce petition back to a house committee for further study on the ground the evidence appeared unsatisfactory.

Mr. Knowles' perennial bill, which he proposes to put on Thursday's order paper, has met various fates in the last few years. On occasion, it has been defeated on a vote. At other times, it has been talked out. It proposes that the exchequer court have full jurisdiction over Quebec-Newfoundland divorces and that all hearings from these provinces—the only two that do not have their own divorce courts—be held by the court at Ottawa.

Grounds for divorce—adultery—would not be changed.

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GAY'S PLANTS June is the month to plant Annual Bedding Flower plants. We still have a limited supply of perennials, including those magnificent Pansy, in so many brilliant colors. In vegetable plants we have Early Cabbage, Cauliflower, Tomato, Celery, Peppers, Lettuce, Cucumber, Melon, Lettuce, etc. The Halifax Seed Store have our plants for sale, the same plants and price, as from our gardens. We supply them with plants daily. J. S. GAY & SONS.

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