

# Timely Notes On Fur Farming

Approximately 21,000 standard mink was sold at the recent sale of the New York Auction Company in New York. The collection contained 15,000 pelts from Olympic Fur Breeders Association and 6,000 from Independent Shippers. Males brought \$1 and females \$24.50 for top bundles. One reason for the good showing salesmen sources explained, was the wide range of values covered by the collection. Both commercial and better mink users were attracted by the offering which contained a fair selection of males at \$18 to \$22 as well as quite a few lots of \$20 to \$25. Sales room opinion was unanimous that prices were very firm with the top bundles drawing particularly heavy bidding power from the larger houses.

At Hudson's Bay Company's Auction in Montreal April 4, good clearances and firm price levels were obtained. Wild mink was 84 per cent sold with United States buyers taking most of it. Musk-rat was 50 per cent sold. Wild mink (6,574 skins) reached a ceiling of \$50.50. Lower grades sold down to \$28.50. Highest price in muskrat (\$4,494 skins) was \$2.40. Other prices ranged from \$1.56 to \$2.35.

A collection of 12 ranch and mutation mink garments, made up in Montreal by Holt Renfrew & Co., Ltd., specialty store, has just been shipped abroad for display this spring in three European centers. The garments were shown at the Canadian Fur Display organized by the Canadian Department of Trade and Commerce at the International Trade Fair in Milan, April 12 to 27. They will then go to the Paris fair May 14 to 30, likewise for display on the Government booth there. Subsequently, they will be included in the earlier reported Brussels show of Canadian fur and Canadian courtiers designed garments to be held there early in June. The collection comprises full-length coats as well as jackets, capes and stoles, in both EMBA mutations and Canada natural dark mink in pelts from Canada Mink Breeders. They include several garments made to Christian Dior, Paris, patterns, which in Canada are exclusive to Holt Renfrew.

Some 52 manufacturers of fur garments from Montreal and Toronto have now signed for participation in the annual fur fashion awards show of the Fur Trade Association of Canada, to be held in Toronto, April 24 to 27 at the Royal York Hotel.

A one million dollar ten-year program to increase production of beaver islands in Quebec Province through the establishment of additional preserves is to start next month. On May 1st a territory of 140,000 square miles comprising all of northern Quebec and Saguenay as far as the 55th parallel, will be declared a beaver preserve. This area is nearly one-quarter of the whole of Quebec province, or three times the size of the State of New York. This ten-year plan, aiming to double production of beaver pelts to more than 60,000 within the next ten years has been developed by the Department of Game and Fisheries of Quebec Province. Initial step of this long-term program will be to take a complete inventory of existing beaver colonies through the so-called "tally-man system." Local Indian tribes will be allotted hereditary land parcels on which they report the number of beaver families present. In cases where there is a lack of beavers the Game and Fisheries Department will restock the areas with specimens from existing preserves. J. A. Tremblay, director of the Quebec fur service department says: "We plan to keep beaver colonies in healthy equilibrium and at the same time teach Indians how to prepare the skins so as to get the best prices. The whole scheme is expected to meet with all around enthusiasm."

territory is to start this August by the transfer of some 200 beavers from other preserves to the southern Saguenay region. This is to be done entirely by plane and has to be completed before September, when weather conditions deteriorate. As it takes from one to three years before a colony has doubled in size, local Indian trappers are to be subsidized until pelting is allowed. This is done in co-operation with the Department of Indian Affairs. Indian agents are to be paid \$50 wages and advances until they become independent. The entire project which aims to increase the total beaver production of 1965 to at least 60,000 skins per year, is to be completed by stages. Total production of the 11 existing preserves comprising some 200,000 square miles, is estimated to reach 32,000 skins this year. This represents an increase of \$800,000 in value based on an average of \$25 per skin.

Once king of Canada's fur farms, the fox today runs a poor third to the mink and chinchilla as a source of revenue to the Canadian fur farmer. In its latest report, determined on farm returns for the first of the year 1954, the Statistics Bureau at Ottawa shows that only 5,345 foxes were on the farms at that time as compared to 299,433 mink, 15,899 chinchillas and 290 other fur-bearing animals. At the start of 1939 there were 141,000 foxes, 106,299 mink, 60 chinchillas and 23,038 other types. The 321,057 animals on Canadian fur farms at the start of 1954 were valued at \$10,835,709, down from \$15,412,758 at the start of 1939 when the total was \$20,381. The number of fur farms in Canada has been decreasing for many years. In 1938 there were 10,454. In 1945, 6,590 and in 1953, 2,513. In 1953 for the first time, chinchilla accounted for the largest share of the total value of live animals sales \$577,282 vs \$500,810 for mink and \$1,539 for foxes. In the preceding year live mink sales totalled \$541,516, chinchilla sales \$326,122 and fox sales \$443,2. Exports of live animals (mink and fox) fell to \$52,662 in 1953 from \$75,718 in 1945 and \$85,123 in 1938, while imports (also mink and fox) rose to \$133,290 from \$10,767 in 1945 and \$4,820 in 1938.

The large number of chinchilla which must have been sold to realize the above figures is rather astonishing considering that the chinchilla pelt has not made a definite impression on the fur markets of the world. Women's Wear Daily, New York, has the following: "A public auction this Spring of Empire chinchilla is unlikely despite earlier expectations that such an auction would be held. This is indicated by Farmers Chinchilla Co-operative of America, Inc., in a bulletin to its membership. Instead of public auction FCCA will offer chinchilla in private treaty through New York Auction Company and fur dealers. Not mentioned in the bulletin, but learned in the market, is the fact that approximately 3,000 chinchilla pelts fairly evenly divided between New York Auction and Mecutan Fur Corporation, will be offered through private treaty beginning early next week. The FCCA bulletin said prices would be established in line with levels realized at the June, 1954, auction, adjusted from time to time in accordance with demand for specific levels of quality. FCCA expects its pelts of bring \$30 to \$75 with some of the very top quality if good enough, being priced around \$100.

**SPORTSWOMAN DIES**

MONTREAL (CP) — Mrs. Edward Ashworth Whitehead, 83, who died Saturday was buried Monday. The former Ella May Scoble, she was a former president of the ladies sections of the Royal Montreal Golf and the Royal Montreal Curling clubs. She also was first president of the ladies committee of the Royal Montreal Regiment.

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# Farm Prices And Products

**DAIRYING**

There is no change in the price of butter in the Maritimes since of last report. The wholesale price on the Halifax-St. John markets continues at 63c f.o.b., with local jobbing still at 65c. In this Province the local jobbing price is also 65c, and the wholesale price is the same as that of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Less freight and handling charges.

There is no quotation at present on Montreal current receipts, and the wholesale price is quoted at 58 1/2c. Toronto butter is at 57 1/2c-58 1/2c, which shows that there is a considerable decrease in price taking place on these markets.

The production in this Province for the week ending April 9th was 52,332 pounds, compared with 64,911 pounds for the same week last year. This is a decrease of 12,579 pounds, or 19.3%.

**POTATOES**

The potato market has eased considerably since the first of this week, as I understand in at least one case the carload was shipped earlier in the week at \$4.50 per bag. The quotations over the island to-day range from \$3.00 to \$3.25 for the contents of a 75 pound bag delivered to the car. The demand at the present time is much easier, and the markets continue to be very unsettled. Since last Thursday 46,385 bushels of seed have left the Province.

Turnips to-day are being quoted at \$1.00 to \$1.05, which again is easier than they were earlier in the week, as some were loaded at a higher price than that being quoted now. My information is that there are considerable turnips on track to-day, which will account for a lowering in price.

**THE EGG MARKET**

The egg market has a weak undertone with a slower demand than last week. The product is moving in part to other Atlantic Provinces but not in sufficient quantity to clear all receipts. Production is nearing its peak and the quality of the product is good.

Charlottetown prices, ungraded, AL 36; AM 34; AS 22; B 22; C 15. Graded Pack, AL 42; AM 40; AS 29; C 21. To retailers AL 46-7; AM 44; AS 32; B 32; C 26.

Wellington prices ungraded, AL 36; AM 34; B 22; C 15.

Yermont River prices ungraded, AL 36; AM 34; B 22; C 15.

Murray Harbour prices ungraded, AL 36; AM 34; B 22; C 15.

Morell prices ungraded, AL 36; AM 32; B 18; C 12.

**LICESTOCK**

The report from Montreal states that there were insufficient steers sold to give any quotations. Good beef type cows were being moved at from 13.00 to 14.00, with good dairy type 12.00 to 13.00, and medium 10.00, and Medium 10.00 to 11.50. The sale of calves was also slow with good and choice vealers 16.00 to 18.00, with medium 13.00 to 16.00.

In the Maritime markets hog prices are up 50c, and sows are down \$1.00 at both Moncton and Charlottetown.

I would like to draw the attention of our listeners to a change in the manner of reporting the prices on live cattle. This week we are reporting the actual prices paid during the previous week.

Hog prices at Moncton: Grade A 24.50; B1 23.50; No. 1 sows 18.00; No. 2 sows 17.00; hot dressed weight delivered.

Hog prices at Charlottetown: Grade A 23.50; B1 22.50; No. 1 sows 17.00; No. 2 sows 16.00; F.O.B. country points.

The Maritime cattle prices, live grades, F.O.B. country points, for last week were: Steers: Good 17.00 to 18.50; medium 15.50 to 17.50; common 13.50 to 15.50. Heifers: Good 16.75 to 18.00; medium 15.50 to 16.75; common 11.75 to 15.00.

# NEWSY NOTES

**FLORIDA VEGETABLES**

208,000 bushels of lima beans from 2,400 acres that sold for \$631,000.

Potatoes are seldom thought of as one of the large vegetable crops of Florida, which is known for its citrus fruits and tender vegetables; however, potatoes which had remained in the lower brackets of Florida's farm income for nine years, suddenly passed the ten million mark reaching third place among the state's vegetable crops and bidding fair to retain their position. In 1953-54 the potato growers dug 9,700,000 bushels from 31,700 acres that were worth \$15,009,000.

The fertile soils of Palm Beach County, in the region of Lake Okeechobee have outdistanced the country of Seminole in the production of celery; but these two counties produce three-quarters of Florida's celery crop. The 1953-54 crop occupied 10,700 acres, an increase of 600 acres over the previous year, and sold for \$1.73 per acre that yielded \$1,463,000. The record crop was in 1945-46 when 6,288,000 crates averaged \$3.47 and had a value of \$18,553,000.

**Sweet Corn**

Reports from the Florida State Marketing Bureau indicate that sweet corn has rapidly increased in the last seven years, from an acreage of 6,000 and a return of \$1,320,000 to the growers to 39,300 acres that yielded 5,147,000 crates in 1953-54 worth \$12,000,000. The yield of 80 crates per acre in the early years reached a high of 145 crates per acre in 1952-53. Palm Beach and Orange counties had the largest acreage.

**Watermelons**

Watermelons have been a favorite moneymaking crop for years in Florida. They have increased from a \$5,095,000 crop ten years ago, to one of \$14,310,000 in 1952-53 when melons were worth \$520.00 per thousand. The yield was up again in 1953-54, but the melons were only worth \$325.00 per thousand and the value of that crop was down to \$9,613,000. Watermelons do best on newly cleared land and the large areas cleared in the South and Central parts of the state have greatly increased this crop.

**Bell Peppers**

Bell peppers last season gave an average yield of 284 bushels per

# Record Year For New Glasgow Dairy

The annual meeting of the New Glasgow Dairying Company was held Wednesday, March 9th in the hall with a large crowd in attendance. The president, Mr. Herbert Stevenson opened the meeting with the secretary reading minutes and auditors report. A short address by the president followed reporting the best year in the Company's records having made 495,148 lbs. butter from cream supplied by 379 patrons and a profit after taxes of \$5,873.08.

Patrons were paid \$253,116.73. The four highest patrons for the year were:

Nicholson Bros.	— — — — \$2762.50
Clive MacNeil	— — — — 2572.50
Elmer MacDonald	— — — — 2304.66
Walter Reid	— — — — 2259.37

A hearty vote of thanks was

acred. They produced 3,718,000 bushels worth \$9,100.00 at \$2.61 per bushel. Peppers formerly were in the ten million dollar class of vegetables, but have had to yield place to other vegetables.

**Cucumbers**

Cucumbers have been a staple item in Florida's vegetable fields for years. In the last six years portions of the crop have been used for pickles which last year took 144,000 bushels worth \$187,400. The 1953-54 crop brought the growers \$8,505,000 from 2,980,000 bushels grown on 19,600 acres.

**Cabbage**

The acreage and value of cabbage has fluctuated greatly in the last ten years. Last season's crop was worth slightly less than four million dollars. Three years ago cabbage sold for \$62.50 per ton and gave a gross return of \$9,644.00 for the season. The average yield per acre has varied from four tons in 1935-36 to eleven tons per acre in 1950-51. The price has ranged from \$76.00 per ton to \$33.69 in 1954, with what was used for Kraut bringing only \$10.00 per ton.

**Lettuce**

Last seasons crop of lettuce was grown on 2,900 acres, an increase of 500 acres over the previous year. It yielded 130 crates per acre worth \$2.90 each and had a FOB value of \$1,093,000.

Unreported crops were listed as: butterbeans, field peas, radishes, broccoli, orka, onions, carrots, turnips, mustard, beets, collards, parsley, spinach, watercress and English peas; their total value was given as \$7,528,000.

# Less Maple Sugar

QUEBEC (CP) — Maple syrup and sugar production in the Montreal and Eastern Townships regions will not be as high as expected this year due to unfavorable weather conditions, agricultural department sources said Thursday.

They said a warm spell is causing snow to melt too rapidly to allow a full-scale flow of sap. Conditions in the Quebec City and lower St. Lawrence river regions were excellent and a bumper yield was expected.

Demand for maple syrup and sugar continues to exceed the supply, authorities said, and the overall provincial yield should be high in value. Some 22,000,000 trees have been tapped.

Conditions in the Montreal and Eastern Townships regions were not serious enough to mean a poor production year, but should reduce the record \$8,000,000 production figure predicted last week by Dr. Georges Gauthier, director of research and information in the department.

Maple syrup sold for \$7 a gallon in Quebec City Wednesday, but the figure was expected to drop later when syrup became more plentiful.

**DEATH**

RAT-MOUSE EXTERMINATOR

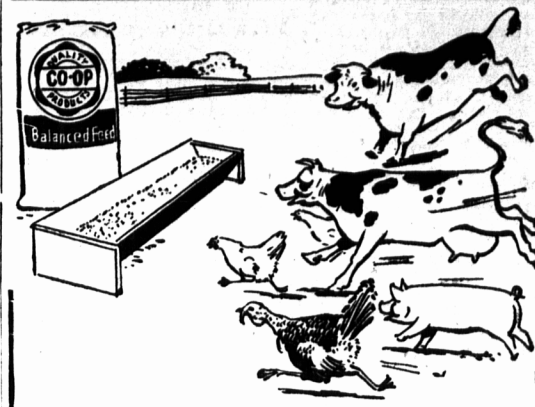
At YOUR STORE or DRUGGIST

# The Guardian Page 11 Saturday, April 16, 1955

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt "welcomes" the recent appeal by Maj. Gen. E. L. M. Burns, Canadian chief of the United Nations truce organization in Palestine, to Israel and Egypt to maintain firm control of troops in the Gaza strip area, a government spokesman said Monday night. It was announced here Tuesday that Burns has held an emergency meeting with Gen. Ahmed Salem, commander of Egyptian troops in the Gaza strip, on arrangements to ease border tensions.

# COASTAL ISLAND

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