

## Timely Notes On Fur Farming

**MINK FARMING**

"Doc" Collins, editor of the National Fur News, has a short article entitled "The Coming Flood" in the latest issue of his magazine. The Doctor is getting a bit apprehensive regarding the number of mink being farmed in various countries as a portent of lower prices if some attempt is not made to regulate the supply. This is a quotation from "The Coming Flood": About three months from now most of those kits running around in pens will be rolling to market in the shape of pelts. Every indication points to another good marketing season. If predictions come true this will be the fourth consecutive season in which mink has been top fur. The supremacy of mink has been built primarily on these three things: 1 Production of world's most beautiful fur. 2 Effective advertising and promotion. And 3, keeping mink in the rare fur category.

So long as these three elements are strongly in force and fickle Dame Fashion continues to smile on us, mink prices should continue profitable to the rancher.

Of the three elements necessary for the continuance of the present high position of mink, the most important is the one over which we have no control. That is, too many mink. When mink loses its exclusiveness, when everybody gets to wearing mink, it will be the fox story all over again. And that's exactly where we're headed.

According to figures released by the National Board of Fur Farm Organizations, the Canadian Statistics Bureau and Scandinavian production figures, world production of ranch raised mink increased in 1954-55 season to an estimated 4,800,000 pelts. U. S. production with a kit average of 3.2 but with more females bred is expected to be about the same as last season, just under 3,000,000. Canadian production will approximately 750,000 pelts. Scandinavian production is estimated at about 1,133,000 skins a rise of about 1 percent.

This past season 65 per cent of Canada's mink production was marketed in the United States. Scandinavia sold over 70 per cent of its crop on U. S. Markets. Canadian and U. S. production costs are about the same. But Scandinavia produces a mink pelt at about half our cost. Although European buying is rising, it is reasonable to anticipate about the same percentages of mink pelt imports here the coming season.

its appeal of being a rare, exclusive fur—and we will have started on the downhill slide.

There is only one way to prevent this impending calamity: Enact a quota. In fairness to our Canadian neighbors, we think Mr. Mulhern's suggestion to fix the Canadian quota on the average of pelts shipped into this country during the past five years a sound one. An influx of foreign mink pelts into this country, eventually destroying U. S. markets, will hurt Canadian ranchers as much as it will ranchers on this side of the border.

With Norway, for example, increasing its mink production 252 per cent from 1951 to 1954, an 80 per cent increase last year—and shipping 70 per cent of its pelts to the United States—and with untold millions of pelts waiting to come in from Russia—it's easy to say we ought to have the protection of a quota on mink pelts as well as on white and Norwegian blue foxes. But it won't be easy to get. World-wide freer trade goes hand in hand with world peace. Now's the time for U. S. ranchers to forget their differences and stand shoulder to shoulder in the fight to save their industry from the coming flood.

Our friend "Doc" Collins has painted a picture which we do not think will cause alarm for the next few years, but that it will eventually do so is, we believe, inescapable. To our mind the most alarming foreign competition will come from Japan where great quantities of mink for breeding purposes have been shipped by a wealthy New York brokers firm and where feed and labor is so cheap that mink can be raised for one-third of the cost to an American rancher or Canadian. This does not take in Newfoundland where a large colony of mink ranches figure to be producing 100,000 mink annually in a few years time. The advantage there is largely low-cost feed because of the plentiful supply of small whales that flock around the coastline. Labor is also cheaper than in other parts of Canada, or the United States and a very clever mink rancher who recently moved over 2,000 mink by air stated that he can feed them for one-half the cost of other parts of Canada.

There is another factor, though, that may offset a decline in price and that is the desire of almost everyone to own some bit of mink apparel. And we see featured in all the magazines various small, or types of mink in addition to the larger pieces and sometimes mink

coats. Then there is the mutation angle. Breeders in Norway, Sweden also in Japan have not studied genetics to the extent that United States and Canadian ranchers have and it will take them years to change into the new colorings and make a success of breeding them. So we would postpone the evil day for quite a long time providing no financial disturbances of magnitude occurs in the United States or elsewhere.

At a meeting of the Midwest Fur Producers Association held in Minneapolis, Minn. last week they were told that the gross sales of their organization amounted to one \$1,810,481 last season, an increase of more than \$250,000 over the record of the previous year. More than \$1,500,000 of these sales were made through New York auction companies and two-thirds of the pelts were mutation mink. Dr. Kinley T. Orr, secretary, stated that dark mink production has continued to decrease and is not expected to amount to more than 15 per cent of all mink produced. He added that pastel and sapphire mink will continue to be most popular in demand. It is expected that jackets, stoles and other small pieces will continue to be popular with expected increased interest in full coats also. Members were told that between 3,000,000 and 3,500,000 mink will be produced by fur farmers in the United States this year. This is approximately a five per cent increase over last year's production. Among the speakers at the meeting, which was highlighted by a mink style show, was Edward Schamp. He presented a collection of mink coats, jackets, capes and stoles in all colors. A highlight was the showing of a homozygous azure mink cowled classic stole.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa, has released figures stating that 13 per cent more mink was produced in Canada this season than the previous one but there were nine per cent fewer farmed foxes. The higher mink yield will result in an expected increase of five per cent in standard pelts, and one per cent in silverblue, 20 per cent in pastel pelts and 39 per cent in other mutations.

Expected production of standard mink pelts is placed at 269,500 against 257,600 in 1954-5. Silverblues are expected to total 140,000 against 139,300; pastels 243,400 against 204,600, and other mutations 131,600 against 94,800. Total 784,900 pelts against 696,300.

Lower fox yield will result from fewer of both standard silver and new type pelts, the bureau states. Estimated production of standard silver fox is put at 3,900 against 4,400 in the previous year, and new type pelts at 2,300 against 2,400.

## In Memoriam

**HARRY HOWATT**

Residents of Crapaud, P. E. Island and surrounding communities were saddened on hearing of the death of Harry Howatt on Wednesday afternoon, June 29th, 1955. The late Mr. Howatt had suffered a heart attack on the evening of June 3rd, 1955.

He was born at Tryon, P. E. Island, seventy-seven years ago, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Warren Howatt (nee Jeanette Rogerson) and was married to the former Minnie E. Sturdy, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. John L. Sturdy. Crapaud, who predeceased him almost nine years ago, December 28th, 1946.

He moved to Massachusetts, U. S. A. when only a young man and took up the trade of carpentry, at which he worked for over fifty-two years, and upon retirement in 1951, moved back to his native province and former home at Crapaud.

He leaves to mourn his passing an only daughter, Elsie, Mrs. Russell Greene of Arlington, Massachusetts, U. S. A. and two loving grandchildren, Bruce and Cheryl Greene, and a son-in-law, Russell E. Greene, who were all able to spend a month with him before he passed on; one brother, Albro Howatt of Tryon, and one sister, Jet, Mrs. John H. Lee of Los Angeles, California.

The funeral service which was largely attended was held from his late residence in Crapaud, July 1st, 1955, at 3:30 p.m. and was conducted by the Rev. Lloyd Archer of Tryon. The hymns that were sung were "Abide With Me" and "Rock Of Ages".

The pallbearers were all nephews of the late Mr. Howatt, namely, Ashe Howatt, Everett Howatt and Heath Howatt of Tryon and LeRoy Howatt, Chester Sturdy and Stedford Sturdy of Crapaud.

All that remained of a kind and loving father was laid to rest in the family plot at Crapaud cemetery by the side of his late wife and infant son. The following are the floral tributes:

**BLANKET OF RED ROSES AND WHITE CARNATIONS**  
Elsie, Russ and children

**SPRAYS**  
**YELLOW ROSES**  
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Greene  
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Babineau of Somerville, Mass.

**YELLOW ROSES AND YELLOW CARNATIONS**  
Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Greene, of Winchester, Mass.

**YELLOW ROSES AND CHRYS-ANTHEMUMS**  
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Burrell of Kentville, Nova Scotia

**YELLOW AND RED ROSES AND CARNATIONS**  
Frank Knight, Arlington, Mass.  
Mrs. Mabel Doull, Weston, Mass.

## Paris Gives Ultimatum To General In Morocco

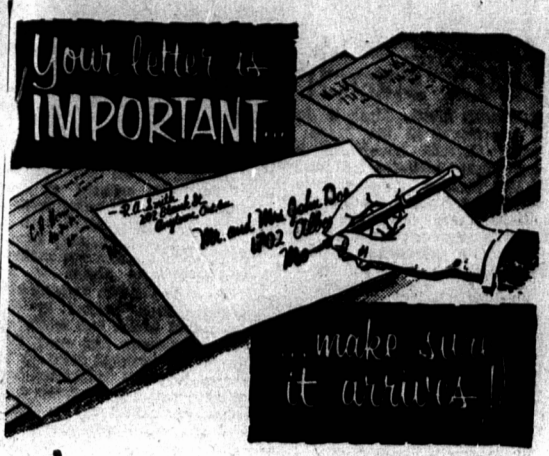
By HAROLD KING  
PARIS (Reuters)—Premier Edgar Faure Wednesday ordered Gen. Pierre Boyer de LaTour, France's resident-general in Morocco, to arrange for the replacement of Sultan Moulay Ben Arafa by a regency council by midnight today, or resign.

Ben Arafa's departure from the throne, and his replacement by a council of three, is the first step in the long-delayed French reform for the troubled protectorate.

An official close to Faure said: "If the resident-general finds himself unable to carry out the explicit instructions of the government, he must resign, and someone else will be appointed to carry out the government's decisions." The 16-day delay in giving effect to the autonomy plan, adopted and announced by the government Sept. 12, has undermined its prestige both among Moroccan Nationalists and in the French Parliament.

The national assembly reconvenes after its summer recess next Tuesday. The Faure government, constituted last Feb. 28, will find itself in serious difficulties and may even be overthrown.

Despite the government's latest instructions, few people in the French capital expect the sultan to have left his throne by tonight.



### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### NEW UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 2, 1955

Employers—Payroll deductions under Canada's New Unemployment Insurance Act will begin on October 2nd, 1955.

Employees—Although the new Act becomes effective on October 2, you must have contributed to the new rates for at least 8 weeks after that date to qualify for the new benefits. Minimum and maximum durations of benefit under the new Act are 15 weeks and 36 weeks respectively.

Here is how the new Act affects you:

Range of Earnings	Employer and Employee Contributions (each)	Weekly Benefit Rates		Weekly Allowable Earnings
		Single	Dependent	
Less than \$9.00 (1)	8¢	\$6	\$8	\$2
\$9 and under \$15	14¢	\$6	\$8	\$3
\$15 and under \$21	24¢	\$9	\$12	\$3
\$21 and under \$27	30¢	\$11	\$15	\$4
\$27 and under \$33	36¢	\$13	\$18	\$5
\$33 and under \$39	42¢	\$15	\$21	\$6
\$39 and under \$45	48¢	\$17	\$24	\$7
\$45 and under \$51	54¢	\$19	\$27	\$9
\$51 and under \$57	54¢	\$21	\$28	\$11
\$57 and over	60¢	\$23	\$30	\$13

(1) When earnings are less than \$9.00, the contribution (for benefit purposes) is counted as 1/2 week.

For full information, consult your local National Employment Office. Remember—insurance and employment go together—use your National Employment Service.

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COMMISSION**  
J. G. Dixon, Chief Commissioner  
R. J. Tallon, Commissioner  
G. A. L. Murdoch, Commissioner

When you write, be sure you address the letter clearly, correctly and completely. Use the initials or first name of the addressee and include the name of the province after the city. Where applicable, include zone numbers.

Do not forget to put your return address in the top, left hand corner.

Always affix adequate postage. When in doubt, check at your Post Office.

When you write... take time to be right!

## SPEED YOUR MAIL!

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## Card of Thanks

Mrs. Russell Greene and family wish to thank their many friends, relatives and neighbors who were so kind during the sickness and death of her father, Harry Howatt, also those who sent flowers and messages of sympathy; and a special thanks to Miss Lolita McVittie, Reg. Nurse, and Mrs. Leroy Howatt who so willingly took over and Dr. P. A. MacDonald.

**BABY ABANDONED**

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—A step-brother and sister were held Friday for investigation of murder after an abandoned baby they admitted was theirs died of exposure and ant bites. The two-day-old infant died in hospital less than a half an hour after 24-year-old Mary Louise White admitted abandoning it, police reported. Anthony Walgamotte, her 21-year-old foster brother, told officers that he was the father.

At this rate it's only a question of time when there will be more mink offered on the United States market than the buying public can absorb. Mink will then have lost

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