

NEWSY NOTES -

By J. A. Clark, D.Sc.

The Soils of P. E. Island

The soils of Prince Edward Island were formed from sandstone, shale, conglomerate and limestone rocks. These rocks, during the glacial period, were striated by glaciers that moved across the island carrying with them the soft-er deposits and leaving ridges of the harder beds of sandstone, conglomerate and limestone. The gently undulating hills and broad valleys of the province were thus formed. The glaciers moved in two definite directions, probably at different periods of time; viz. north-east and south-west; and north-west and south-east. There is also evidence in Prince County of a movement from west to east. They having partially denuded the area, which was later to be the Island of soil previously formed, brought later drift deposits and redeposited the valleys and naked ridges with fragments of sandstone, shale, conglomerate and limestone mixed with deposits of boulder clay.

Island in 1752, describing the soil near the site that later became Charlottetown, wrote: "The soil is light, somewhat sandy and suitable for cultivation."

Soil Notes by Geologist Sir J. William Dawson, in a report published in 1871, describes our soils as follows: "The great wealth of Prince Edward Island consists in its fertile soil, and the preservation of this in a productive state is an object of imperative importance. The ordinary soil of the Island is a bright red loam, passing into a stiff clay on the one hand, and a sandy loam on the other. Naturally it contains all the mineral requisites for cultivated crops, while its abounding in peroxide of iron enables it rapidly to digest organic manures and also to retain well their ammoniacal products."

Description by the Dominion Chemist Dr. Frank T. Shutt, in his bulletin No 100, "The Soils of Prince Edward Island, Their Nature and Composition" published in 1928 states: "In respect to texture, color and physical character, generally, the soils of this series are very similar; they are soils for the most part which have been derived from the soft red sandstones and other representatives of the Triassic formation. According to accepted classifications, practically all these soils would be classed as 'sandy or fine sandy loams' only two or three contain sufficient silt or clay to class them as loams."

Notes by the Soil Chemist at Charlottetown In unpublished "Notes on Soils of P. E. I." Mr. G. B. Whiteside wrote: "The Soil Survey (Reconnaissance type) has classified the soils into 11 groups or soil series with three miscellaneous soils — Salt Marsh, Dune Sand and Peat, which do not fit into a recognized soil series." "In respect to texture the surface soils range from fine sand, through fine sandy loam to clay loam, with fine sandy loam predominating. The greater proportion of the subsoils are fine sandy loam to clay loam, although locally they are usually referred to as Erick clay. Broadly speaking, the soils of the Province are medium textured. Fine and very fine sand forms a high percentage of the mineral fraction — from 20 to 40 per cent. The silt content is relatively high while the clay fraction forms a small percentage."

Soil Changes The soils analyzed by Dr. Shutt had in most cases been cultivated for over 100 years. With the loss of the clay and silt particles, through wind and water erosion many of our soils, have changed.

TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox and Mink Farming



The annual meeting of the Canadian National Fox Breeders Association will be held in the Laurentien Hotel Montreal on Monday June 18th. All those who were present at the last annual meeting, held there, will agree with us that it is an ideal place.

Women's Wear Daily has this to say re the increased tax on Furs. The increase in the Canadian fur excise from 15 to 25 per cent at the dressing and dyeing level, and the similar increase in the tax of imported fur garments, announced in the Canadian budget will temporarily cut down the amount of buying here by Canadians, market sources believe.

Canadians, anticipating the tax boost, bought heavily here and elsewhere during the early months of the year. Therefore, it is said they are presently well stocked in fur skins and garments. Last week, however, at the Eastwood and Holt, Inc., persian lamb sale, Canadians bought very few bales, due partially to the uncertainty of the extent of increases. In addition, the continued strength of persian prices restrained some Canadians from buying their normal amounts. Usually, they take about 15 to 18 per cent of a persian lamb collection. At the Eastwood sale, they took only a few per cent of the total.

Earlier this year, Canadians bought heavily of persian, muskrat, mink, squirrel and other items, to get them processed on the 15 per cent tax basis. Since the early settlement, from "bright red loam, passing into a stiff clay on the one hand, and a sandy loam on the other," to "sandy or fine sandy loams." The staff at the Charlottetown Experimental Station made two land surface surveys with instruments, of the same area and using the same bench marks, in 1910 for underdrainage work and in 1929 in laying out a soil conservation project. These indicated that where row crops had been cultivated up and down a ten per cent slope, the loss of soil was about six inches, or the entire top soil, while on the land below with a two per cent slope, four inches of fertile soil had been deposited.

Prince Edward Island is blessed with the five essential gifts of nature that nourishes plant life and supports all animal and human life, namely: soil, water, heat, air and sunlight. Of these the soil is the one we can improve or waste. "SAVE AND IMPROVE OUR SOILS" is recommended as a good slogan for 1951.

Although American merchants look for a temporary slowdown in Canadian interest, they feel that after they get straightened out and adjusted to the new tax and after they dispose of some of the merchandise they accumulated, buying will again return to normal. How long this will take is anyone's guess, those questioned asserted. They also feel that had this tax increase occurred in the midst of a "hot" market, there would have been little effect. However, the market here has been sluggish and that is why Americans expect this slowdown in demand.

Canadian Comment. MONTREAL, April 11—The increase in the Canadian excise tax on furs from 15 to 25 per cent, which is levied at the dressing and dyeing stage, is not expected in itself to hurt retail fur business. Higher personal income taxes effective July 1 together with other tax boosts announced in last night's budget speech in Ottawa probably will curtail consumer spending and in that sense fur sales may be hit, particularly when August sales begin, trade factors here suggest.

The fur industry generally is relieved that the so-called "luxury" tax on furs has not been reimposed. Imported fur garments now will pay 25 instead of 15 per cent excise tax on importation, to counter-balance the increase in the levy at dressing and dyeing stage. The excise tax on furs produced in the past fiscal year, of \$2,937,000 for the Canadian Exchange in the past fiscal year, official figure show. Finance Minister Abbott expects the fur tax this year will yield \$4,300,000. A champagne color Mutation Mink Coat claimed to be the last one in existence is being shown at Kent and Francis Fur Model House in London, England. The color of the skins purchased in Copenhagen is described by Major Cyril Kent managing director as "Champagne with slight Honey Stripe." All those procurable have been used in the coat which is loose style with tuxedo fronts of dark blue, brown mink. Export price which means that the tax is not included is 3,900 pounds—\$9,000 in Canadian Money.

Older fox breeders will learn with regret of the passing of Dr. Sair Charles Moore of Michigan. He was for many years a prominent breeder and fox farming authority also President American Fox Breeders Association. Experiments undertaken in the

'Y' Boys' Work Secretary



The National Boys' Work Secretary of the Canadian Y.M.C.A.'s, Les Vipond, will visit the Charlottetown Association on April 23 and 24. While in the city Mr. Vipond will address a joint supper meeting of all H-Y Clubs at the Y.M.C.A. on Monday evening and will also meet the Y.M.C.A. Program Committee and confer with local staff and Board members. He will also meet with the P. E. I. Camping Association on Monday afternoon.

Mr. Vipond is a former General Secretary of the Halifax Y.M.C.A. where he served for six years until 1947, having joined the Association's staff as Program Secretary in 1941. He is a native of Hamilton, Ontario, and a graduate of the University of Toronto. While in the Maritimes, Mr. Vipond will meet with Y.M.C.A. groups concerned with advising boys working in Y.M.C.A. program. As Secretary of the National Fellowship of H-Y Clubs, he will also meet with these Clubs in several Maritime centres. Some Maritime communities without Y.M.C.A. facilities will also be visited in the interests of extending boys' work to those centres under the new Maritime Y.M.C.A. Boys' Work Extension project which is chaired by Mr. Lew Tibert of Saint John. Mr. James McConnell of Truro, is Secretary of this new extension project and will visit certain "non-Y.M.C.A. communities" with Mr. Vipond.

United States prove positively the value of Hog liver in the feeding of Mink during gestation. Kits thrive much more where it is part of the diet. Yellow Fat disease is another problem U. S. A. mink farms are encountering. It is best coped with by feeding liver. Editorial in the American Fur and Market Journal stresses the need for "Clean Pure Water" for foxes and mink.

W.C.T.U. NOTES

OBJECTIVE OF THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC

(As stated by themselves) "Leisure moments should be inextricably intertwined with beer. Beer during golf, beer during the vacation trip, beer while taking the long business or pleasure ride, beer when viewing the magazine, beer when sitting at home listening to the radio. "The wives of the nation should be impressed with the domestic qualities of beer. They should be convinced that they, together with their husbands may properly drink beer under any and all circumstances."

BUT Look at the results of drinking on family life! "The sociological effect of drinking in the home is shown by the fact that 77 per cent of the women patients at the Keeley Institute in 1935 were housewives." —The Christian Advocate. "The director of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children in Great Britain said: "It is no exaggeration to say that 90% of the cases of cruelty were due to drink." C. C. Weeks, Alcohol and Human Life. The Judge Baker Foundation reported 392 fathers failing to support or deserting their families. found that 79% were alcoholic. DOES DRINKING HELP OR HINDER THE HOME? THE DEMON PLAGUE "Oh God that man should put an enemy in his mouth to steal away his brain."—Shakespeare. Oh could I strike a mortal blow at thee, As Lincoln did for slaves to set them free; Like him I'd strike, this demon to retard, God helping me, I'd hit it good and hard. The little children raise their plaintive cry, Oft cry for bread, while mothers faint and die. Regardless of the sorrow, pain and fear That children suffer, men will quaff their beer, And scoff at women's cry, and heedless pass— Will waste good, precious time, and drain the glass. Alas for self, no thought for others' woe, They stagger on, unheeding where they go. Oh cruel drink, with full seductive power, For luring mortals in temptation's hour. Oh Brother Man, for God's sake

think awhile; You may be strong to drink your glass and smile, And pass along your way, yet none the worse, But see, your weaker brother dreads the curse, And, struggling to resist it, vainly tries And falls within his tracks, and gasping dies. array, And, like the British lion, strong and bold, Or English bulldog, "What We Have We Hold." James MacGregor "The Gies Warbler." HISTORIC RITES More traditional ceremonies are re-enacted yearly in London than in any other city in the world. God give us victory, for this we pray; We stand as brother man in stern

INVITATION ACCEPTED Our meeting of North Side Poll Workers scheduled for New Glasgow Hall Monday evening April 23rd, has been postponed until WEDNESDAY EVENING, APRIL 25th. We hereby accept the invitation of the Conservative Candidates to participate in their meeting at North Rustico on April 23rd. Signed: W. R. LePAGE, GEO. KITSON.

POLITICAL MEETINGS The undersigned will address the Electors of 2nd King's at the following places and dates:— ST. THERESA HALL, April 23rd at 8 P. M. Opposition candidates are invited to attend and will be given half the time. HARVEY DOUGLAS, THOMAS CULLEN, Liberal Candidates.

PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE BROADCAST PROGRAM C. J. R. W. Friday 20—Foster Sharp—1.00-1.15 p.m. Friday 20—Major MacDonald—5.45—6.00 p.m. Saturday 21—Mrs. Donald Lidstone—11.45-12.00 a.m. Saturday 21—Robert B. Dewar—5.45—6.00 p.m. Monday 23—J. Augustine Gallant—1.00-1.15 p.m. Monday 23—Col. E. H. Strong—8.30—8.45.

JUST A MINUTE, Mr. BELL!

The pictures of muddy Tory roads in Ontario, appearing recently in these columns, hit Mr. R. R. Bell on the raw. The Conservative Leader lashed out over the radio that the pictures were only of new sections in Ontario where no roads had previously existed.



MUD CLOSES HIGHWAY—Because of its swamp-like surface, Highway 24 between Shelburne and Collingwood has been closed 20 miles south from Singhampton to intersection with Highway 10. Residents from Singhampton north are "going south" by way of Owen Sound or Barrie. One man travels 100 miles to reach No. 10 Highway intersection just east of Shelburne. Two cars shown above in distance are parked on end of pavement about two miles north of Hornings Mills.

Conservative Roads

In Ontario

Mr. Bell is invited to examine the above picture, taken from a more recent issue of the Globe And Mail of Toronto (Conservative), showing Highway 24 in Canada's only Tory Province—a picture of a road which successive Conservative Governments in Ontario have had charge of almost since Confederation.