

NEWSY NOTES

By J. A. Clark, D.S.

RICE

For centuries rice has been the basic food for more than half of the human race. It is the most important food for hundreds of millions in the Orient, and because of religious beliefs in India, which consider all animal life sacred, it is virtually the only food used by millions of people in that country.

annual ceremony instituted by the Chinese Emperor in 2800 B. C., and because he considered it the most important, he sowed it himself, while the other kinds were sown by the princes of his realm. Rice was not known to the early Egyptians. It was not until the 15th century that it was introduced into Europe, where it was grown in Pisa, Italy, in 1483, and about the same time it was taken to Spain by the Saracens. Rice was first brought to America by Sir William Berkeley, who had it planted at a high altitude in Virginia in 1647. The seed was probably a lowland type of rice, and its introduction proved a failure.

The fact that rice could be suc-

cessfully grown in the southern colonies of North America was discovered by chance. A ship loaded with rough rice bound for Madagascar, encountered a storm in which she sustained damage, and which carried her far out of her course, so that she put into Charleston, Carolina, for repairs. When Governor L. Thomas Smith visited the ship, the captain presented him with a small package of rough rice. This was planted in low land, under suitable conditions of soil and moisture. It multiplied so that in a few years enough rice was produced to supply the colony.

Rice is now cultivated on all the continents, wherever conditions of moisture, temperature and soil are suitable. It has long, smooth, hairless leaves, and a compound head or branch spike that stands erect until the single grains in each spikelet develop and load the head so that the many branches bend gracefully as they mature. The rice plants vary in height from two to six feet, and usually are from four to five feet tall, depending on the soil and moisture conditions. It tillers freely when conditions are favourable, and may have a dozen, or more stalks from a single plant. There are varieties, however, that produce more than fifty tillers per plant.

Early seeding is preferred in the southern United States; and in order to get uniformity in ripening, the depth of water used in flooding should be uniform. It requires from four to six months to mature. The rice is harvested while the straw is still green, and the grain in the stiff dough stage. The harvest months are from August to October in the United States; where the thrashing is done with an ordinary thrashing machine. The grain is enveloped in a husk, which is not removed in thrashing. Rice in the husk, or chaff, is called rough rice, and is generally known as "paddy".

Special machines are used to husk this rough rice. The embryo, which is not embedded in the kernel, is easily rubbed off in a further milling process that removes the cuticle layer which corresponds to the bran in wheat. The grain is then polished with sheenskins, to produce the white rice for the trade.

Types Of Rice

Among the five types of cultivated rice there are some which are lowland and others which are upland. The latter may be grown on land suitable for cotton or corn, and cultural methods are similar to those for other cereals. Climatic requirements for rice are similar to those for cotton. There are a great number of varieties, but only a few of these are generally grown in America. White rice, because of its early maturity, is grown in the South Atlantic States. Two varieties of Gold Seed rice are popular there, because of their quality and high yields. In the Gulf States, three types of rice have been recognized by names according to their place of origin: Japan, Honduras and Carolina. The Honduras type was at one time most generally grown, but has been superseded by the Japan type, which has a thinner hull, and develops a great many tillers.

Red rice is an undesirable type that frequently contaminates commercial rice. It is harder and a stronger grower than white rice, and is distinguished by the colour of the grains. It is practically a wild type, and wherever it gets a foothold, it supersedes white rice, lowering the commercial grade, so that rice planters consider it the worst weed that infests rice.

Rice growing spread rapidly in the South Atlantic colonies from

TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox And Mink Farming



New types of foxes are adding interest to the fur. Just recently there was the Golden Glory of Fromm's, which will have more about later in these notes and now a famous furrier of New York and one of the best buyers of high-priced furs in the world, announces that he is going to produce a new type of fox.

Here are the details:—B. Wollman & Bros., Inc., manufacturers, is making plans to arrange for breeding in this country of which is said to be a new type of mutation fox imported from Norway. The firm claims it now controls production of the fox through an arrangement with the Norwegian rancher. Originally advertised in this newspaper as Chinchilla fox by Wollman, name of the fur has been changed to Nor-Chilla fox to avoid conflict with the Fur Products Labelling Act. The fur is substantially lighter than the Norwegian blue fox, and is said to resemble the coloring of chinchilla pelts. Wollman is presently beginning production of a line in the new mutation.

A. K. "Ollie" MacNeill, Fort Qu'Appelle, Sask., noted fox and mink rancher, is quite interested in the new mutation—Golden Glory fox, that Fromm's are promoting and he has very kindly forwarded us a catalogue of the first auction sale of Fromm's Golden Glory foxes that were sold by the American Fur Auction, New York. The cover of the catalogue is a reproduction of a full color, full page ad. in the January issue of Vogue magazine. On the front page is a model wearing a Golden Glory wrap around scarf. To be honest, it looks to us more like a good dark red fox than any very new mutation. However, probably the reproduction did not bring out the extreme beauty which the fur is supposed to possess.

Here is what the editors say:—"You are seeing something for the first time. A new fur mutation: tawny and golden, perfected by Fromm of Wisconsin after 15 years of experiments. Fromm's name for it, Golden Glory. As yet there are only a few skins, but we think, coming in with the wave of long haired fur, this wildly becoming new fur has a long life before it." Vogue's editors are America's foremost fashion authorities. To discriminating women who value individuality and the right to leadership in dress, Vogue's forecast and style carry great weight. Fromm's Golden Glory foxes are the newest, most exclusive and luxurious of all furs. To only a few women of distinction will come the privilege of leadership with these "wildly becoming new foxes."

The above which is after all a really good ad. for which no doubt Fromm Bros. paid out a few thousand dollars, must have had quite an effect because at the Carolina, which in 1707 exported 17 shiploads of rice; and during the ten years, 1730-1739, over 223 million pounds were shipped from that colony. Rice growing moved west after the American Civil War, and was centred in the Gulf States, from Alabama to Texas, with large areas in Arkansas and California. It was found that cleared cypress swamps and tide-water lands along the Gulf of Mexico produced a splendid quality of white rice. Many of these areas along the tidal rivers could be flooded at high tide with the fresh water backed up by the tide, and they could be drained at low tide. The land was dyked to prevent the incoming of salt water during storm tides, which would destroy the rice.

Rice, while a good food, has not been popular in the West. There is no record of any civilized country discarding other cereals to make rice its main food. Rice that has been parboiled before the skin is removed, fixes and retains the vitamin of the cuticle in the rice berry, so that such rice is not harmful. Highly polished, white rice, eaten as the main source of food for persons, has produced a malady, "beriberi", common in India, Japan and in other parts of the Orient, and in Africa. It has been found that by mixing peas, beans or other protein foods with rice, this serious malady can be avoided.

Rice has been largely used in the production of starch; as a food it is usually eaten whole, or in soup. Of the 4.44 million bushels produced annually, about 35 million bushels are grown in the United States. In Louisiana and other states, mechanized methods are replacing much of the labour. Large contoured areas are now prepared and flooded; they are then seeded by airplanes; and later drained, so that tractor harvesting equipment can be used.

first auction of these Golden Glory foxes a couple of weeks ago most of the 350 skins were sold at an average close to \$100. On the back page is a very beautiful red-haired girl wearing a lighter type of Golden Glory. It would look like a crossing of a platinum and red fox, and is certainly does make a hit. The writer was always partial to red foxes and cross foxes of good quality and thought them very becoming. This particular new type is certain to be popular and it will help to give a boost to other types of foxes such as platinum and silver. Ollie has very kindly marked the prices paid for the various skins, quite a number of which brought \$100, one \$170, one \$150, one \$110, one \$105, three at \$125, one \$120, one \$115 and others quite good prices.

The following is taken from the U.S. Fur Rancher, Merrill, Wis.—"It was not the ladies who re-

ceived that second glance in New York around the middle of January. It was Henry J. Morlock, well known mink rancher of Jordan, Minnesota. He was wearing a Sapphire mink cap and caused quite a sensation in stores, on the streets and at the fur auctions." It is the only one of its kind in existence but the cap is sure to lose its exclusiveness during the coming year for ranchers who see it will have an inclination to own one themselves. Manufacturers were enthusiastic in playing up the luxury effect of fur on the male sex.

Quite a lot of money in advertising is being expended in the United States on the necessity of feeding antibiotics to mink. Here is an editorial written by Doc Collins of the National Fur News entitled "Use With Caution." "If a little is good, more ought to be better. This time-worn axiom of the amateur might work out all right in some cases. But as mink ranchers are beginning to find out, it can be dangerous practice in the feeding of antibiotics.

"Antibiotics are drugs whose full potentialities in mink feed are not yet known, for the simple reason that they have been put to practical use on ranches only about two years. At present, the feeding of antibiotics to mink is a

controversial issue which requires conversation on the part of the rancher until more complete results have been obtained. Raisers of poultry and livestock, with several years' experience in the use of antibiotics, have learned to follow a more or less definite pattern.

"When a manufacturer incorporates antibiotics with his feed, you can depend on his experienced judgment based on all available scientific knowledge pertaining to this particular operation. He knows how many milligrams of a certain antibiotic should be used to a ton of feed; you don't. For the most part, manufacturers incorporate antibiotics in feed (1) to keep perishable meat and fish products fresher on the food boards a few hours longer, and (2) because their customers have demanded it, or would add the supplements themselves were it not in the feed. This, the average rancher should never do.

"Much good can undoubtedly come from the proper use of antibiotics as a mink feed supplement. Danger signals, however, are already rising. Overdosages of antibiotics, it has been discovered on some ranches, can produce results opposite to those intended; that is, by taking the animal's appetite, decrease its size. Cutting off antibiotics in certain seasons

is indicated here. Even more serious is the possibility that improper use of antibiotics can reduce the bacterial activity to where the Vitamin K contest is lowered sufficiently to cause fatal hemorrhages. Some ranchers have recently suffered losses that began with nose bleeding and ended with internal hemorrhage. Injection of Vitamin K, at the first sign of nose bleeding, saved some absolutely, however, if the bleeding was caused by antibiotics. No authority has yet gone on record with complete evidence as to the possible ill effects of antibiotics in mink feed.

"With so much yet to be learned, the purpose of this message is simply to advise caution in the feeding of antibiotics to mink. Your livelihood is tied up in your mink. Don't jeopardize it by experimenting with unproven products of any kind. Let those whose business it is to experiment, and who have the scientific equipment and skilled personnel, do this highly specialized kind of work."

TORONTO, (CP)—The Toronto Telegram said Wednesday that six Great Lakes shipping companies are completing negotiations on a 10-year contract to haul millions of tons of iron ore annually from Sept. 1, 1954, to Great Lake

TIP OF THE WEEK FROM YOUR MASTER DEALERS

- Charlottetown L. J. Rossiter
Summerside Prince Edward Island Fur Pool Ltd.
O'Leary H. B. Willis Inc.
French River Arthur A. Campbell
Central Bedeque Dunk River Dairying Co.
Albany L. D. McLeod & Sons
Victoria L. D. McLeod & Sons
Stanley Bridge Reid's Feed Service
Wheatley River Preston Rackham
Morell Dingwell & Rossiter
Kilmuir McGowan Ltd.
Murray River D. M. McKinnon
Brookfield Cruwys Bros.
Mount Stewart Clark's Feed Service

TIP NO. 29 Master Chick Starter Krums grows strong, sturdy chicks. They are well feathered and because of the grain base of Master Chick Starter, the chicks have plenty of solid flesh. Let's Discuss Your Feeding Plan With Your Island's MASTER MAN IVAN KERRY Dial 5455 60 Green St. - Ch'town

TRACTOR OWNERS Check your front wheel bearings now, during the mucky season. Worn bearings can cause costly damage. We stock front wheel bearings to fit Allis Chalmers, International, Massey Harris, Cockshutt, John Deere, Ford and in fact all makes of tractors. Our prices are lower and in addition we offer a 10 per cent discount on front wheel bearings during March. Inspect, buy now and save at— HALL MANUFACTURING CO., LTD. Summerside

SHUR-GAIN ANNOUNCING the appointment of HERBERT PHILLIPS AS MANAGER SHUR-GAIN FEED WAREHOUSE 12 LOWER QUEEN ST. CHARLOTTETOWN MR. FARMER You cannot afford not to be feeding the new Formulated Shur-Gain Feeds PIG BOOSTER — CHICK STARTER — LAYING MASH Quality and Economy Combined. P. L. MORRIS SHUR-GAIN FEED SERVICE MILLS CHARLOTTETOWN DIAL 4642 SUMMERSIDE DIAL 2178 KINKORA PHONE 19

REFRIGERATION Household, walk-in meat counters, built-in coolers, display cases, etc. We service and repair any make of electrical refrigeration equipment. WIRING CONTRACTORS Contact us for any wiring job from installing a switch to wiring your home. Motors, Washers and Appliances — we repair them all. Storey Electric PHONE 3237 175 Grafton Street

look WHAT YOU CAN DO AT HOME WITH SYLVAPLY DOUGLAS FIR PLYWOOD You can carry out the home planning ideas you've admired in your favorite magazines, make smart furniture, or remodel an unused attic or basement. It's a pleasant spare-time pastime and you'll be proud of the professional-looking jobs you do with easy-to-work real-wood Sylvaply panels. DO-IT-YOURSELF or HAVE-IT-DONE you save either way! With Sylvaply, most projects are well within the average man's ability to handle a hammer and saw and when you "do-it-yourself" you save money. When you "have-it-done" for you, you're still ahead. Sylvaply's time and money saving qualities reduce costs too, when a professional carpenter or contractor does the job. YOU GET PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS Sylvaply is the real wood of a thousand uses. Its advantages are created advantages, engineered into the material during manufacture to make it better than wood has ever been before. Sylvaply lasts a housetime, indoors or out! Lift your kitchen out of the ordinary with Sylvaply. A smart breakfast nook as shown above is easy and fun for Do-It-Yourselfers. You can do it faster and better, with Sylvaply. Remodelling for needed extra rooms is easy and thrifty the Sylvaply Way. You'll be proud of the job you do. Get Sylvaply's Free Plans for remodelling your attic or basement at your dealer's. There's a new world of pleasure and savings for you in smart Do-It-Yourself furniture. Your dealer has simple, step-by-step Sylvaply Free Plans for good looking coffee tables, cabinets, and tables. help for the handyman! YOUR SYLVAPLY DEALER IS A GOOD MAN TO SEE Visit Handyman Headquarters in your neighborhood. Whether you're an old hand or a beginner, your dealer will be glad to give you advice that can save you money. Your dealer has Free How-To-Do-Its for spare-time projects. NOW "TAKE-HOME" PANELS Handy sizes for those small jobs and repairs... Makes "doing-it-yourself" easier than ever. You can now buy "Take Home" panels in more than 45 different sizes and thicknesses, from 12 by 36 inches up. Carry them home or slip them in your car trunk. You'll find these handy Take Home panels at your dealer's, each clearly marked with its thrifty price. TOUGH! LIGHT! EASY-TO-USE GENUINE WOOD PANELS SYLVAPLY DOUGLAS FIR MacMILLAN & BLOEDEL LIMITED SERVING LUMBER DEALERS FROM COAST TO COAST VANCOUVER CALGARY EDMONTON WINNIPEG LONDON WINDSOR TORONTO MONTREAL QUEBEC CITY CHANDLER BROS. CUSTOM WOODWORKERS Belmont St. Dial 6557 MacDONALD-ROWE WOODWORKING CO. LTD. 36 Lr. Water St. Dial 8575-8576 M. F. SCHURMAN Co. LIMITED KENSINGTON SUMMERSIDE CHARLOTTETOWN