

### TIMELY NOTES ON FUR FARMING

The four day general auction of the Canadian Fur Auction Sales Company (Quebec) Ltd. saw advances if from 10 to 30 per cent in foxes compared to last year's opening levels. Quality-wise white marked and lower grades of platinum and regular full silvers were best sellers registering clearances of between 70 and 90 per cent. Blue, red and cross types sold rather well. In the miscellaneous fur, offering whites and selected full silvers were mostly with drawn white pearl, half and three-quarter types were only partly cleared. In spite of price advances in a few silver fox colors Mr. Arthur Prentice, the manager thought that the general picture for these longhair furs far from encouraging. The supply has gone down considerably over the past years. This constant selective demand for quality silvers has discouraged production so that the annual supply here in Canada now stands at some 5,000 skins.

Miscellaneous foxes, blue, red and cross types mostly sold, whites with drawn. Silver foxes, platinum, 45 per cent sold, advanced 25 per cent compared to January, 1955; Inferiors 90 per cent sold, advanced 30 per cent; pearls, small, percentage old, unchanged. White marked 75 per cent sold, advanced 10 per cent; half and three-quarter, 35 per cent sold, declined 10 per cent. Selected, full, mostly with drawn, regular full silvers, 45 per cent sold, declined 10 per cent; inferior silvers 70 per cent sold, advanced 30 per cent, and low grade silvers 90 per cent cleared. Platinum (230 skins) sold with \$11-\$12 at top, pearls (899) were between \$8.50-\$15; white marked (292) \$5-\$8; and half and three-quarter silvers \$7.50-\$10. Regular full silvers (1,431) were from \$4-\$9; blue foxes (214) sold \$2.50-\$12, while reds (1,011) were between 60 cents and \$1.50; and cross foxes (288) 40 cents to \$1.25.

#### PRICES WERE FIRM

At Hudson's Bay Company's fur sales in New York last week a very ordinary collection of standard ranch mink was 79 per cent sold. The turnover considering the quality and the quantity—63,108—was rated "gratifying" in the official report which stated: "Prices firm to Jan. 5 sale. The sale was gratifying considering the quality of merchandise offered. The amount of interest generated by this very ordinary collection was surprising." Top males went for \$37; females \$19.75. Both lots were from Section 1. The sales-room provided several reasons for the comparative strength of the sale. First, it was noted that prices on cheaper merchandise were competitive with price levels in Scandinavia during the past few months. In fact, several buyers claimed the quality for low-priced domestic standard mink was far superior.

"Take the females, for example," one buyer pointed out. "We can pick them up at this sale for around \$11, and some bundles have dipped to \$8 (although they might be buy-backs). Nevertheless, females in Scandinavia, with shipping changes, would come to about \$12 when delivered, and this merchandise is superior in quality, on an over-all evaluation." Similarly, males were going for \$18-\$21, which made them a fair value compared with their Scandinavian counterparts. Included in the offering were an estimated 10,000 pelts rated average-to-good by buyers, several big purchasers were interested in the comparatively better lots on a "futures" basis, figuring that with slack competition goods of some quality might be available for use much later in the season. These people were not disappointed.

#### SPLIT SKIN FIELD

Most of the merchandise, however, was meat for dealers and manufacturers interested in goods for split-skin mink garments. The expansion of the split-skin field during the past year no doubt increased purchasing interest in ordinary merchandise at yesterday's sale. Merchandise was said to come from many sources, although none was described as "local" in origin. In other words, the entire offering was held to be made up of fresh goods. Observers noted a very good turnout in view of the quality of the offering. Much of the merchandise, it was said, was part-lotted as ranchers culled their offering of less desirable skins.

Last week at the American Fur Auction Sales in New York close to 30,000 raw and dressed EMBA Autumn Haze types were 75 to 80 per cent sold with regulars bringing highest of \$42 for males and \$21 for females and Stewards bringing \$38.50 for males and \$30 for females.

The subject of this sketch by Ed Gold which appeared in a recent Women's Wear Daily—Paul Reinhardt of Burlington, Wis.—is well known to silver fox and mink farmers in this province. He has been one of the busiest workers and most enthusiastic for the return to popularity of silver fox. It was Paul's persuasive manner that helped in the Canadian National Silver Fox Breeders' Association spending some \$50 to \$75 thousand for making up garments, creating displays, paying fur designers and showing exhibits of silver fox in Europe, Canada and the United



States. Like many others Paul probably is now of the opinion that silver fox is pretty dead. "Paul Reinhardt, of Burlington, Wis., has discovered that pioneering in the fur field has its complications, and the rewards are few, far between and long coming. Mr. Reinhardt has been disappointed before, so he considers himself well-fortified for the trials he must face in producing ranches stone marten.

#### FOXES, TOO

"Mr. Reinhardt has been for diversification for a long time. Just as with produce, he says, you can't put all your eggs in one crop, or all your cash in one fur. He went along with the mink trend but decided to be different and began raising foxes as well. Women sort of out-foxed him on that latter effort—by turning their backs on long-hair furs—and Mr. Reinhardt had to come up with another effort. He had long looked with favor on the sable, a most luxurious fur which the Russians have been raising for many years. Unfortunately, the Russians have not been very gracious about parting with any of their ranch-raised sables. Once, some trade sources claim, the Russians sold sables to a non-Russian purchaser who hoped to raise a flock by letting nature take its course. The Soviets, however, had tampered with the breeders so that nature couldn't. Mr. Reinhardt was not to be daunted. Martens, he felt, were close enough to sables to warrant the gamble. Of one thing he was fairly certain: Martens had had a very consistent fashion market, which was more than could be said for foxes.

"In 1949 he bought a dozen live martens in Switzerland. Next problem was to learn how to raise them. Most of the more scientific approaches on the subject had been developed by the Russians—the same crew, no doubt, that allegedly pulled a fast one on the sable deal. Mr. Reinhardt made the acquaintance of a Professor Fritz Schmidt, an expert on zoology who had once managed a sable farm in Russia. It was the professor's theory that three factors prevented satisfactory development of a ranch marten industry, outside of Russia, that is: 1. People don't have enough patience to raise the beasts. 2. People won't put enough money into the operation. 3. People simply don't live long enough to see the full development of a flock. As might be expected, there are problems involved in marten development. For one thing, the animals don't reproduce at all until they are two and one-half to three and one-half years old. But more devastating to potential marten raisers is the comparatively small litters and the downright long-for-animals gestation period. Wild martens turn out 1½ kits per litter on the average, but Mr. Reinhardt's ranch animals have doubled that rate. More important, it takes a female marten nine months to produce a litter, a long time in a marten's life, not to mention a rancher's."

(Continued from page 3)

#### WIDENING

The Knights of St. John of Jerusalem (sometimes called the Knights of Malta) ruled it and defended it from Moslem attacks. Catacombs and passageways beneath the city have served as homes for the poor, supply depots, bomb shelters. Dotted the island are remains of prehistoric temples built long ago before the Roman reign of Nero, when St. Paul, shipwrecked on Malta, converted its people to Christianity.

#### CHANGES TO MALTA

The air-age has brought change-

es to Malta. Its location makes it a handy landing place for Europe-Asia air routes, but its people keep many links with the past.

Farming continues the chief occupation, supporting, directly or indirectly, about a quarter of the population. Olives, figs, and grapes have flourished in the mild climate for 30 centuries, but great scarcity of arable land is a major handicap. Scientific Agriculture was introduced after World War I, but most fields are too small for machinery. The Maltese farmer, a genius at taking advantage of every inch of precious soil, produces fruit, vegetables, or grain.

Malta's "Red Soil Law" requires anyone who builds a house to dig up the soil on the site and give it to the government so that it may be covered and lost to cultivation. The government kindly earts it away to use for crops.

Factories processing crops for export are part of a postwar program for developing industries to offset Malta's lack of natural resources. Canned fruit, tomato paste, and oranges team with long-famed laces and filigree silver on the growing export lists. Island potter's mold vases, jars, and dishes from local clay as the ancient Maltese did. Women have made a fine art of weaving delicate laces from home-grown cotton which also supplied sailcloth for the ships of Nelson's fleet. Hand looms turn out gay fabrics for table linen, blouses, and skirts. Flower and vegetable seeds are raised for United Kingdom farms and gardens.

Island fishing fleets still bob and curtsy off Malta's coast, but their red sails have almost disappeared. Throbbing deisels drive the bigger boats, well handled oars the smaller ones.

The number of goats on Malta equals the sum of all other livestock. Nearly 400,000 roam country pastures and city streets, mauling motor traffic. Iron-work gates bar them from the houses. Queen Victoria's statue, prominent in a Malta square, withstood the crash of wartime bombs. Courageous islanders who sat out the raids with the unscathed statue, feel a new bond with Britain as their request for union shows.

#### EXPEDITION TO STUDY

The first archeological project outside Canada to be undertaken by any Canadian institution will be sponsored by the Globe and Mail this winter and spring, January to March. Dr. A. Douglas Tushingham, head of the Royal Ontario Museum's Division of Art and Archeology disclosed that the museum will collaborate with the British School of Archeology in Jerusalem for excavation of the site of the Biblical City of Jericho, in Jordan. Funds for the expedition have been provided by the Globe and Mail.

A party of three archeologists and David Spurgeon, globe and Mail staff reporter, will set out soon to join the British expedition

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### NOTICE

The Department of Highways will not accept responsibility for damages to vehicles parked anywhere on highway right-of-way during snow clearing operations.

J. G. MacKAY,  
Minister of Highways.

Charlottetown,  
Prince Edward Island.  
16 February, 1956.

#### In the near East.

The expedition has a two-fold purpose: To illustrate and perhaps date the dramatic Old Testament account of Jericho's capture by the Israelites under Joshua, and to learn as much as possible about man's cultural beginnings from the mass of evidence that lies within layer upon layer of rubble at the famous site.

Jericho has been dug during the last four years by the British school with the collaboration for three of the four years of the American School of Oriental Research in Jerusalem.

The participation of the Royal Ontario Museum in this project is felt to be highly important to it and to this country. It is the only museum in Canada capable of doing such work, and its efforts will enhance its reputation and provide its staff with extra experience.

#### WORLD POWER

University and museum people feel, too, that Canada as a growing world power, should bear some of the responsibility and the cost of extending the bounds of knowledge, especially where the project has a direct bearing on her own culture. For Canada is the heir of the earliest civilizations known via the Greco-Roman world.

The Royal Ontario Museum party will be in charge of Dr. Tushingham who will also be associate director of the whole expedition. With him will be Winifred Needler, curator of the museum's Near Eastern Department; W.J.A. Power, post-graduate student in University of Toronto's Department of Oriental Languages, and Mr. Spurgeon.

Dr. Tushingham knows the Jericho site well. As director of the American School of Oriental Research in Jerusalem he was assist-

### IN MEMORIAM

JESSIE McLAREN

The death, occurred in the Charlottetown Hospital on November 7th, 1955, of Jessie McLaren formerly of Goose River, in her 77th year.

She resided in the Sacred Heart Home for the past eight years, where she enjoyed fairly good health, up to the first of October, when she took sick, and was taken to the Charlottetown Hospital where she received medical attention and expert care.

But the Lord called her, and on the above mentioned date she passed peacefully away. She was always of a bright and cheerful disposition and during her time in the Home she did a lot of plain and fancy knitting at which she was an expert. She leaves to cherish her memory two brothers and two sisters,

ant director of the Jericho joint expedition in 1952-53, Miss Needler, whose specific field is Egyptology has already spent a year doing research in Egypt, and Mr. Power participated in the Jericho excavations this spring. Dr. Kenyon, director of the British School of Archeology in Jerusalem, has directed the Jericho diggings all four years. She is the leading Palestinian field archeologist and has dug also in Britain and North Africa. Dr. Kenyon will be in charge of the complete expedition again in 1956, and will have a staff of about 17 from Britain.

This department is conducted by the Prince Edward Island Teachers' Federation. Contributions are welcomed and should be sent to Estelle Bowness, General Secretary, 96 Prince St., Charlottetown.

Joseph of Butte, Montana, and Andrew of Monticello West, Mrs. Sarah Sutherland of Morell and Mrs. Daniel O'Hanley of St. Peter's and a number of nephews and nieces.

Her remains were conveyed to the home of her nephew, Elmer Sutherland, at Goose River, where a large number of her old neighbours, friends and relatives gathered to her wake.

Her funeral was held at St. Peter's Church, St. Peter's, on November 10th. High Mass of Requiem was sung by her nephew, Rev. J. P. E. O'Hanley, who also officiated at the grave. Seated in the Sanctuary was Rev. W. V. McDonald. The pallbearers were six nephews of the deceased namely: Elmer, Joseph, Plus Sutherland, Augustus, Raymond, Hubert McLaren.

#### MASS CARDS

Mrs. Sarah Sutherland,  
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel O'Hanley,  
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph McLaren,  
Utta, Montana,  
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew McLaren,  
Mr. and Mrs. William O'Brien,  
St. John, N. B.,  
Gladys McLaren, St. John,  
N. B.,  
Raymond and Herbert McLaren,  
Mr. and Mrs. Augustus McLaren,  
Joseph and Plus Sutherland,  
Jack Sutherland,  
Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Sutherland,  
Hugh John and Angela Sutherland,  
Mr. and Mrs. John D. McNeil,  
Rev. J. P. E. O'Hanley,  
Mr. and Mrs. Peter McKinnon,  
Mr. and Mrs. Neil McKinnon and Frances,  
Joseph G. and Jack McKinnon.

Hugh McIsaac,  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul McKinnon,  
Mrs. Mary McKinnon and Jean,  
Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred McKinnon,  
Mr. and Mrs. John King,  
John A. McDonald, Souris Line Road,  
John D. McDonald,  
Mr. and Mrs. Plus Flynn,  
Mr. and Mrs. Ambrose Steele,  
Mrs. Vince Sutherland,  
Mr. and Mrs. Aeneas McAlway,  
Mr. and Mrs. Archie O'Hanley,  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas McDonald, Providence, R. I.,  
John Jr. and Anna McCormack,  
Mr. and Mrs. Leo Gorman,  
Neil J. McCormack,  
Mr. and Mrs. Mell McPhee,  
John L. McPhee,  
Jennie G. McKinnon, Boston, Mass.,  
Mr. and Mrs. Gus Sutherland, Boston, Mass.,  
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Kelly, N.Y.,  
Mrs. Mary McKinnon, Boston, Mass.,  
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Reddin,  
C. W. L. of St. Peter's,  
Pupils of Goose River School,  
Sisters of St. Martha, Charlottetown Hospital,  
Sisters of St. Martha, Sacred Heart Home,  
Mr. and Mrs. H. Mertz, Chicago, Mr. and Mrs. Steve Lavas, Conn.,  
Mrs. Heber Anderson, Chicago, Charlottetown Funeral Home.

#### MESSAGES OF SYMPATHY

Mrs. Mary Clinton,  
Jennie G. McKinnon,  
Mrs. Mary Sutherland,  
Mr. and Mrs. Gus Sutherland,  
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Kelly,  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas McDonald,  
Sister Mary Lea,  
Rev. Ed. O'Maherty, Spanish, Ont.,  
Rev. Maurice Coffin, Ottawa, Ont.,  
Josephite Fathers, Baltimore, M. D.

#### CARD OF THANKS

We wish to extend our thanks to the Sisters of the Sacred Heart Home, and Sisters and Nurses of the Charlottetown Hospital and Dr. A. McMillan, relatives, friends and neighbours and to all who sent Mass Offerings, Spiritual Bouquets and Messages of Sympathy. We extend our sincere gratitude.

Relatives of the late  
Jessie McLaren.

### Cyrus Eaton Contests \$1,572,000 Tax Claim

CLEVELAND (AP) — Cyrus S. Eaton, Canadian - born Cleveland financier, will be confronted with a \$1,572,000 income tax claim here next week in connection with his development of a rich ore field buried below a Canadian lake.

Eaton, a native of Puywash Junction, N. S., was instrumental in obtaining a \$5,000,000 loan from the Reconstruction Finance Corp. to finance the big Steep Rock Lake ore project early 13 years ago.

His counsel, I. W. Sharp, indicated that Eaton will be a witness in contesting the federal claim tax court which starts a two-week session Monday.

William R. Daley, an associate of Eaton, and Premium Iron Ore Ltd., of Toronto, also are involved in the tax dispute.

Daley, president of Otis and Co. an investment banking firm, heads a syndicate which is buying the Cleveland's American League baseball club.

HAS SALES RIGHTS  
The government is seeking \$1,572,000 from Eaton in addition to income taxes for 1943, and \$388,000 from Daley for the same year.

The revenue agency contends that if Eaton and Daley are not held liable for those amounts, the taxes should be paid by Premium Iron Ore, Ltd., which is controlled by the two financiers.

The company has 10-year exclusive sales rights to ore mined by Steep Rock Iron Mines, Ltd. Tax claims against Eaton and Daley are based on contentions by the United States. The government maintains the company had an office in Cleveland sold ore to American customers, and therefore its income is taxable in the U. S.

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