

TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox And Mink Farming



Women's Wear Daily of October 8 has the following: A collection of foxes offered yesterday at American Fur Auction, New York, were 25 to 40 per cent sold with prices unchanged from April. The official report is:— silvers (3972) 90 per cent sold, top \$11.50; three-quarter silvers (185) 40 per cent sold, top \$10; a poor collection; searays (1259) 25 per cent sold, top \$6.50; platinum (2066) 30 per cent sold, top \$11; white marked (1315) 30 per cent sold, top \$11. The auction firm described attendance as poor throughout the day and warned that shortages in fox supplies were in the offering despite dealer optimism on that score. The firm explained the low tops on the grounds that big strings of fine goods had either been bought back or withdrawn because of lack of interest. Sales room comment was to the effect that levels were, definitely lower than those of last spring. However, this was partially compensated, observers said, because of the finer collection offered at that time.

above is a photo cut of actress Jane Wyman wearing a fox shoulder piece styled as open collar with deep-V cut which is one of a wardrobe of evening fox fashions in varied shapes and colors worn by her in a Columbus technical comedy. . . In another column in the same magazine is this: Norwegian blue fox in new mutations stands out most prominently among the long-haired furs which are being revived at present. Its popularity is on the upswing because it lends itself both to day and evening fashions because it can be fashioned into all types of small shoulder pieces as well as more luxurious wraps. At Hudson's Bay Company's auction sale held in Montreal October 7, wild mink was in good demand and 60 per cent was sold at somewhat easier prices. Ranch mink, standard type, was end of season collection and 53 per cent was sold at unchanged price levels. Mutation mink was a small end of season collection and 60 per cent was sold at firm prices. Muskrat was in limited demand and mainly for cheaper types.

In recent issues of Women's Daily are ads about foxes. Gruskin & Feldman have this: "There is a new trend in the language of fur fashion-- FOX. This is one only item. This has been our only item. This will always be our item. We are the world's foremost manufacturer of foxes with 60 years of experience." Hats off and three cheers for Gruskin & Feldman and may their business increase a hundred fold, as the wish we are sure, of every fox farmer in Canada and the United States.

Fromm Bros. had its first showing of the ne mutation Golden Glory Fox at Bonwit Teller, 5th Avenue specialty shop last week. They were given an auspicious setting as a new 1953 fox mutation that took fifteen years to develop. The fashions are a full-length single skin draped over the shoulder on one model and down the front, and the other fastened around the neck and draped down the left shoulder in front.

A collection of platinum mink drew considerable activity at the New York Auction Company's sale last week. Sixty-five per cent sold at firm prices. The auction firm described all types as inferior merchandise when compared with previous sales. They were said to contain old peltries customer sold at this time of year. Attendance was described as good. The official report is:— Pastels, including Stewart, 50 per cent sold, levels unchanged to last

offering of comparable merchandise. Top regular males \$90, females, \$22; Sapphires 40 per cent sold; levels were 7 to 10 per cent under previous auction results for similar goods; top males \$67, females \$31.50. Platinaums including Stewart, 66 per cent sold, prices firm, good activity in all types of goods; top males \$32.50, females \$19.75. Almost 1,250,000 raw Persian lamb skins will be offered in London at auction October 28-29; 625,000 of these will be Southwestern African, 360,000 Russian and 250,000 Afghans. Hudson's Bay, Amberg, Chadwick & Kiever and Eastwood & Holt will be the sellers.

And here is Paul L. Reinhardt, the greatest silver fox and mutation booster in the whole world, and secretary of the American Fox Breeders' Association, who has just compiled the industry's production figures for the year. Paul states: "This year there were about 4000 domestically cultivated foxes produced in America and it means that if only 2000 women bought a two-skin fox stole the years entire production would be exhausted." Fox is now the rarest fur in America, he continued, because of current public demand stimulated by Paris and Italian designers who have been featuring "Norama" (North America) fox in their collections.

While Paul is probably correct in his figures regarding product-

ion of foxes in the United States there must be added thereto about the same production in Canada, or probably slightly less, and to that many thousands in Norway, Sweden, Finland, Russia and Denmark, and the worst feature of all the one that is causing the real trouble is the great quantity that has been built up by holdovers from auction sales in Canada and the United States. If we only had foresight like we have hindsight and had sold those foxes when the buyers wanted them at the figures they could pay the cupboard would be bare and we could look with confidence towards a buyer's market.

We learn with regret of the retirement because of ill health of Thomas D. Carruthers, for upwards of thirty years secretary of the Canadian National Silver Fox Breeders' Association. Mr. Carruthers was an ideal man for the position and no detail in connection with his work was ever overlooked. Courteous and obliging with everyone he made a host of friends in a position that called for tact and many other qualities. In its formative years his good judgment was of great value in placing the Association on a sound and steady course. While today the fox business has declined to an industry of little significance it was a mighty one years ago and the Canadian National Silver Fox Breeders' Association was handling pelts of ranchers from the At-

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lantie to the Pacific We trust that Mr. Carruthers' retirement will restore him to health and that we will have many opportunities in the future to enjoy conversations with him and recall the great days and the great stories of those days which we can relate.

HATSHAM, England (CP) — equipment and purchased material. The 190 Boy Scouts in this Sussex village to construct a new headquarters building at a cost of less than \$500.

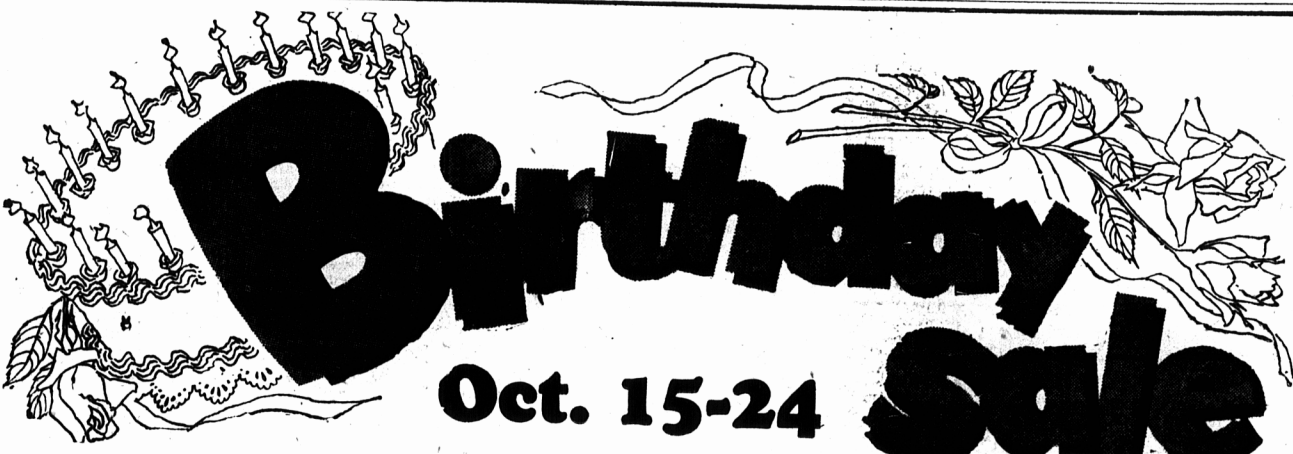
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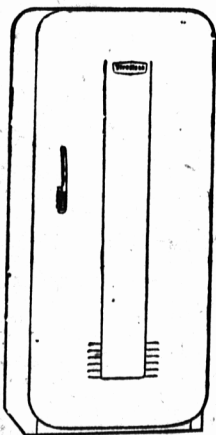


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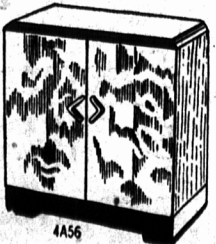


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