

Among The Farmers

Federation Of Agriculture News

Membership Campaign

Within the next few days material will be mailed from the office to Federation district secretaries and chairmen relative to the renewal of membership by members who paid their fees in cash.

To each such member will also go a letter explaining the activities and accomplishments of the Federation during the past year. Members have every right to expect value for their money and this attitude on their part will do much to promote activity on the part of directors and executive officers.

In some other provinces money to finance the Federation is raised along with municipal taxes. This, we grant, is a simpler method of financing, but the member very often does not understand so clearly his connection with the organization.

A careful study of the letter to the members will, we feel, prove that the Federation has not been idle on behalf of the individual members and the welfare of agriculture in general.

Ten Years of Farm Forum

Canada's Farm Forum is the greatest national discussion group program in the world. It represents the most effective combination of discussion groups, radio and printed material.

Since the coming of Farm Forum thousands of people have gained a new confidence, a new ease of expression in public, a new capacity to make themselves heard among other groups in the province. Thousands of people have shared in the capture of a pioneer neighborliness now established in many communities through Farm Forum.

The Forums do not organize the Federation or the Co-operatives. But, the people who are awakened by the Forums organize these and more. Here we have adult education on a high level and the prac-

tical application of the knowledge gained to the solution of individual and community problems.

Dairy Meeting

On May 4th directors of the Dairywomen's Association, Department officials, and representatives of butter and cheese factories are meeting to make marketing and storage plans for the coming summer.

The new floor price for butter, expected to be announced shortly, will have a direct bearing, particularly on the policy of creameries, relative to storing butter.

Prospects at the present time are for decreased production of butter and no prospect of surpluses except in the flush season of production.

The holding of customers depends to a large extent on the ability of butter and cheese factories to provide ample and continuous supplies throughout the year. This indicates the desirability of full use being made of storage facilities available in this province.

Meeting at Hampton

On April 20th the president and secretary of the Federation spoke at a largely attended meeting of Federation members at Hampton. In spite of meetings on two previous nights in the same hall, farmers of Hampton and surrounding districts demonstrated their interest in their own and Federation problems by turning out in good numbers and taking part in the discussion.

Such meetings are indispensable in strengthening the Federation and their number is to be increased, call for the services of a Federation fieldman, not too closely tied to office routine.

Election Results

By the time this newsletter is read the sovereign voter will have

TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox and Mink Farming

Plans are now completed for a Retail Furrier's Fashion Review by Montreal retail furriers designed to stimulate business at the start of the slow season. The event takes place May 14th to May 17th — seven showings in all — at the Windsor Hotel, Montreal.

The show will comprise about seventy garments. Moderately priced garments will be shown in the first half, more expensive furs in the second part, but no price restrictions will be made. Over sixty firms will participate and it is expected that this year's show will eclipse anything ever previously attempted in Quebec Province.

Specially selected fox and mink pelts from Canadian ranches are used in a group of capes and jackets as part of a large Canadian fur display at the International Textiles Exhibition which opens at Lille, France, today April 28th, and in subsequent shows this year. Some of the garments that are being displayed appeared in photo cuts published in Women's Wear Daily, New York — Ranch mink cape stole; platinum fox cape; Pearl

platinum fox cape, and looked very attractive.

A fur labeling bill now before Congress which makes it an offence "not to properly describe the fur or imitation of the garment sold or offered for sale" is being bitterly fought by members of the Fur Manufacturing and Retail Fur Guilds. The fox and mink ranch organizations are vigorously moving for its adoption.

Very good interest was shown in an ordinary collection of ranch mink last week at the New York Auction Co. April sale. The bulk of the 40,000 skins offered were sold at prices full firm to market and to recent sales, 30,000 of the pelts were from the Great Lakes Mink Association and described as "ordinary to poor". Males sold especially well and were possibly a little stronger than recent markets. Prices ranged from \$20. to \$33.50 with 44% bringing \$26 to \$29. Only 5% dropped into the \$20 to \$23 bracket. Female ranged from \$14 to \$21 with 57% bringing from \$16 to \$18 and 15% from \$18 to \$21.

The top best selling furs in 1950 are shown in this week's Women's Wear Daily, New York, by diagrams as Mink 26%; Persian Lamb 23%; Muskrat 13 per cent; Beaver 12%; Sheared Raccoon 5 per cent. The three leaders total about two thirds of the fur sales in leading United States cities.

Anning, Chadwick and Kiver Ltd., London, Eng., will hold a public auction in London, Eng., May 3rd, and following days. 300 platinum and pearl fox and 3,000 silver fox are included in a great variety of furs offered.

Lampson, Fraser and Huth held a sale of all kinds of mutation mink dressed and sold in New York yesterday and the previous day. We will give the results in next Saturday's notes.

We acknowledge with thanks two copies of "Portfolio" now being distributed by D. O. Stewart, executive secretary, Canadian Fur Advertising Committee, Summerside, P.E.I. They are really beautiful and should contribute to much greater interest in ranch mink and fox furs. The following letter from Don gives more particulars:

Enclosed you will find two copies of a portfolio of Canadian mink and fox garments prepared by our Committee and the Information Division of the Department of Trade & Commerce, Ottawa.

I understand that this is the first time that quadri-coloured photography of furs has been done in Canada. We arranged with an expert firm of photographers in Montreal to do the colour photography and supply the models and accessories used by the models, and engaged a leading firm of engravers in Canada to make up the plates. This part of the work was all done by our Committee, but from there on all the expense of printing was born by the Department of Trade & Commerce.

Approximately 1,500 of these folders have been sent to the International Trade Fair being held the latter part of this month and next month at Lille, France, where they will be distributed to the European trade. Copies have been sent to all Canadian Foreign Trade Commissioners to obtain a further distribution among the trade, and several hundred copies still remain at the secretary's office here, to be used to the best advantage as our Committee may see fit.

Those of the trade who have seen some of the proofs are enthusiastic about our effort and express the belief that the advertising value will be a real and lasting one.

A large beaver offering and the first major collection of fresh Canadian spring muskrat will be the features of the three-day sale of Canadian Fur Auction Sales Co. (Quebec) Ltd. in Montreal, commencing May 2.

The schedule is as follows: Wednesday, May 2 at 9:30 a.m.: 12,000 beaver; 1,800 otter; 200 fisher; 550 marten; 550 white fox; 700 blue fox; 6,000 red fox; and 900 cross fox.

Thursday, May 3 at 9:30 a.m.: 4,500 wild mink; 10,000 ranch mink; 4,000 mutation, including silver blue, pastel, and aleutian; 15,000 ermine; 90,000 Canadian squirrel; 75,000 muskrat; 400 lynx; 5,700 raccoon; 2,500 wolf; 120 timber wolf, and miscellaneous pelts.

Friday, May 4, 9 a.m.: 10,000 silver fox, including 2,000 platinum, 1,000 white mark and 7,000 standard.

All goods go on show starting at

- NEWSY NOTES -

By J. A. Clark, D.Sc.

PROTECT THE FARM TOP SOIL

Suggestions by a Geologist

In Mr. G. C. Milligan's report of 1940, a "Geological Survey of Prince Edward Island", he states: "A still more modern manifestation of the processes of nature at their slow work is of more immediate consequence and directly concerned with the agriculture of the Province. Soil erosion we have perhaps been inclined to view as a special problem of the 'Dust Bowl' of the west, and of certain of the Southern States of the U.S.A. Anyone who will note our streams running red after a storm can see that certain rivers which carried fishing boats twenty years ago are now scarcely able to float a canoe, the amount of material being carried to the sea becomes apparent.

"The solution of the problem of the soil erosion is outside the field of the geologist, but the writer would seriously suggest that consideration of the matter is urgently required, and that a mitigation of the loss of soil and fertility would be to the great profit of the people of the Province."

The Opinion of the Agricultural Technical Committee 1945

In their brief to the Advisory Reconstruction Committee, the agricultural industry is F. E. Island's most valuable asset. The soil is her most important material natural resource." Under Erosion they stated: "Most serious of the economic evils arising from conditions so far outlined is that of soil erosion. Roughly, soil erosion may be divided into two parts—that caused by water and that caused by wind. Water erosion, again, may be divided into two parts—sheet erosion and gully erosion. Sheet erosion is the more serious type and is found very generally throughout Prince Edward Island. Sheet erosion increases rapidly as the soil loses its humus and fibre content. The silting of millponds, and the deep deposits of mud in the rivers is evidence of the gradual loss of clay and silt from our soils. Many of the abandoned farms in the Province were within a period of one hundred years, cleared, cultivated without thought of conservation and finally abandoned, having been deprived of their original fertility largely through sheet erosion, aggravated by faulty farm practices."

Characteristics of Top-soil
In previous "notes" the soils of Prince Edward Island have been described from Cartier's discovery up to recent soil surveys. These all dealt with the type and size of the soil particles and their mineral content. The top-soil in addition to these characters have myriads of minute forms of life, many of these are essential in the decomposition of humus, vegetable and animal waste products which add so much to the fertility and water holding capacity of our soils. Some of them are symbiotic, like the bacteria that produce nodules on the roots of clover, capable of obtaining nitrogen from the air, and thus enriching the soil with an essential plant food. The earth worm performs a wonderful service, in masticating soil particles and bringing many tons of improved plant food nearer the surface and where plants have the chance to absorb it. Our top-soil is a priceless heritage, built up through countless ages by millions of plants and minute forms of life to form a fertile earth strata for the production of all forms of vegetable life.

General Recommendations

In order to protect this fertile, valuable top-soil from sheet erosion, which is the most serious form, as it moves the whole surface of the soil gradually down the slope, the following remedial measures are suggested:
The steep hillsides of the Province should remain in woodlots or be replanted to suitable economic species of forest trees. Areas with a slope twelve or more degrees (that is 12 ft. or more rise in 100 ft.) should be sown to hardy grasses and clovers for semi-permanent pasture and only broken when renewal is necessary. Slopes that are over five per cent would all be greatly benefited by contour and strip farming. This should be a watershed project with all the farms within a given watershed district co-operating so that the work on each farm would benefit the neighbouring farm. All slopes

8 a.m. April 30, and continuing until sold.
London, April 22 — The Finnish fur auctions to be held in Helsinki, April 30, will offer the following quantities, according to Max Weiss & Son, local representatives: 4,000 mink, 2,000 silver fox, 1,500 blue fox and 500 platinum fox.

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Certified Abegweit Seed Oats in sealed bags. Government tested. Absolutely free from any noxious weeds. Germination test 100%.
This seed is from fields which threshed out over 75 bushels per acre.

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For Hot Water Heating
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This Gas is:—
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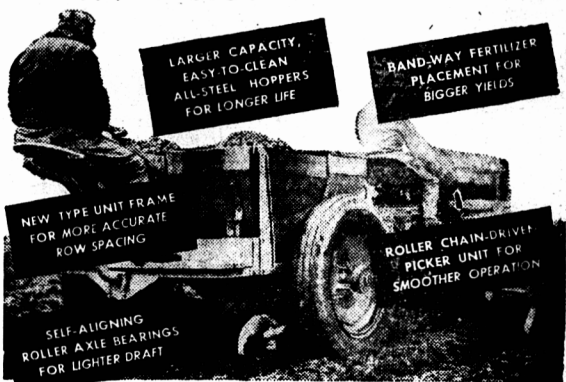
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AUCTION SALE

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AT THE
AUCTION ROOMS
Grafton Street
MONDAY, APRIL 30th,
AT 7 P. M.
W. H. BEATON
Auctioneer

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with IRON AGE POTATO PLANTERS



THIS lighter draft Farquhar Iron Age Planter assures you even greater accuracy, flexibility, no matter what your acreage! Has self-aligning roller bearing axles for lighter draft; rigid construction for greater planting accuracy. Easy to clean, reinforced all-steel hoppers plus exclusive Band-Way fertilizer placement that assures greater yields!

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Stop in and see how famous Iron Age Potato Planters help you grow more and make higher farm profits!



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Farm of 125 acres at Bloomfield Station.
Also Frost and Wood Manure Spreader and combined Seeder.

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General Delivery,
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Dependable Power in the two-plow class.
The CASE-VAC, general purpose tractor, is a sturdy, 2-plow power unit, adapted to every tractor job.

SAVE ON THESE LOW-PRICED TRACTORS.

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224 Gt. Geo. St. — Phone 831
CASE! A Leader in Every Field

PRICE FERTILIZERS

THAT MAKE FIRM FRIENDS
AMMONIUM NITRATE \$98.00 (\$88.00)
SULPHATE OF AMMONIA \$63.00 (\$62.00)
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MURIATE OF POTASH \$64.00 (\$67.00)

3-15-6
3-15-6 (3% Borax)
*5-10-10
*5-10-15

Per Ton F.O.B. Charlottetown
*For \$1.00 per ton additional we guarantee 1% M.G.O.
Our 1950 prices in brackets

PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE
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PLAY SAFE — BUY NOW
Orders subject to confirmation.

Make Your Fertilizer S's Go Further

The Island Fertilizer Co. Ltd.

Charlottetown, P. E. I.

VALUE

QUALITY

CLEARANCE AUCTION SALE

AT UNION ROAD, QUEEN'S COUNTY

I am instructed to sell by Public Auction on the premises of Everett Gray on Friday, May 4th, 1951, at 12 o'clock sharp, the following Stock, Crop, Machinery and Furniture.

MACHINERY:—1 John Deere Tractor M.T., one year old; 1 two-bottom tractor plough, I.H.; 2 section tractor spring tooth harrows (new); 1 combination fertilizer grain drill, I.H. (half share); 1 riding attachment and horse hoe, M.-H.; 1 scuffler M.-H.; 1 hay mower, I.H.; 1 rake, I.H.; 1 hay loader, M.-H.; 1 binder, 6 foot, M.H. (half share); 1 team truck wagon, M.H. (new); 1 cart (new); 2 wood sleds (new); 1 Hall's mill and blower; 1 tractor trailer; 1 car trailer; 1 set of truck front wheels with tires; 1 grain crusher; 1 set of light harrows; 1 potato planter; 1 fertilizer spreader; 1 1947 Ford Coach; 3000 ft. seasoned 2 by 4 boards.

STOCK:—1 Ayrshire cow in milk, 7 years old; 1 Shorthorn grade in milk, 6 years old; 1 Hereford grade in milk, 5 years old; 1 Holstein cow, newly freshened, 5 years old; 1 Holstein cow, newly freshened, 4 years old; 1 Holstein heifer, due to freshen in May, 2 years old; 2 Holstein heifers, due to freshen in June, 2 years old; 1 Holstein cow, due to freshen May 10th, 7 years old; 1 Holstein cow, stripper; 1 Guernsey cow, milking, 6 years old; 1 Ayrshire cow, due to freshen last of June, 9 years old; 1 Jersey cow, newly freshened, 9 years old; 1 Jersey cow, milking, 8 years old; 1 yearling heifer, Ayrshire; 1 yearling steer, Guernsey; 1 Holstein calf, 4 months old; 3 Holstein calves, 6 months old; 1 general purpose mare.

CROP:—200 bushel mixed grain, free from mustard; about 40 bushels wheat; quantity of hay, 7 cords hardwood in blocks.
FURNITURE:—1 kitchen range, 2 beds, 1 spring filled mattress, 3-4 width; 1 coil spring, full width; 6 kitchen chairs and table; 1 parlour settee, with chairs; 1 lounge; many other things too numerous to mention

Farm sold.

TERMS CASH.

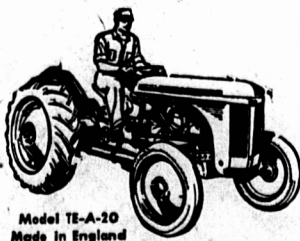
If weather unfit, sale following day.

EVERETT GRAY,
Owner.

ALEXANDER McRAE,
Auctioneer.

FERGUSON TRACTORS

FARMERS—Before you purchase that new Tractor, make sure you see the new Ferguson with its



Model T8-A-20
Made in England

1. Powerful 4-Cylinder Motor.
2. Built-in Hydraulic System giving it that EXTRA TRACTION.
3. Easy To Drive.
4. Economical To Operate.
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THE MOST TALKED ABOUT TRACTOR TODAY.

THE LITTLE GREY "BUNDLE OF POWER"

W. G. BARBOUR LTD.

SALES & SERVICE

Rural Beautification

For the past few weeks rural beautification of the highest order has been going on in the province. Green grass is covering the nakedness and rawness of the earth, transforming an uninteresting landscape into one, both soothing and beautiful.

We would like particularly to draw the attention of our readers to the 1951 Rural Beautification Competitions. Valuable prizes are offered for improvement in home, school and community. Even apart from the matter of prizes, it is well worth the extra effort to give a tidy, comfortable look to our homes and outbuildings. We take more pride and pleasure in our places when improved and the value is increased as well.

Visitors and tourists judge us and our Island by the evidence of pride taken in homes and communities. Entries will be accepted up to May 5th and should be mailed as soon as possible to the "Rural Beautification Society, c/o P.E.I. Libraries, Charlottetown."

Attention Farmers

Now In Stock

John Deere Lime Sowers

Both Tractor & Horse Drawn

A. Pickard Farm Tractors Ltd.

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