

TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox And Mink Farming

A French Government decree has banned the use of the word "fur" on all products which do not derive directly from fur-bearing animals. The text of the decree has been forwarded to the French Economic Police with instructions to prosecute in cases of infringements. Prosecution will also follow in cases where imitations are labeled as deriving from fur or hair, when this is not the case. The new law stems from action taken by the French National Fur Federation to stop the use of terms such as "nylon fur".

The above ruling by the French Government is directly opposite to the decision given in a case by the Federal Court at Montreal recently where Mouton, commonly known as sheep skin processed into fur-like garments, was ruled for tax purposes as "fur". The ruling of the Quebec justice seems a very strange one and is very contrary to the expectations of people in the fur trade.

Hudson's Bay Fur Company. New York, which formerly went under the name of C. M. Simpson & Co., has not lost any prestige by appearing in the new garb. They were the owners of Lamson's, having purchased that firm in the 1920's. Recently they appear to be doing the largest part of fur selling in New York and at their last week standing ranch mink prices shot up fully 10 per cent in comparison with February levels. The action marked the end of a month in moratorium on ranch mink auctions in New York and buyers acted as if they were starving for merchandise. There was a big crowd in attendance and bidding was heated throughout the sale. They officially report as follows: Section 1 and 2, 14,574 skins 98 per cent sold, top price \$40 for males and \$22.50 for females; X Dks; section 3, 5,583 pelts, 95 per cent sold, top price \$28 for males and \$14.75 for females; section 4, 8,020 pelts, 99 per cent sold, top price \$27.50 for males and \$15.75 for females. A good part of the strength was said to be speculative buying in anticipation of increased business to come from the excise tax cut.

For Foxes — and he hails the fox as a highly important fashion piece in the fur picture and emphasizes its relatively low cost compared with other furs in the smaller piece category.

We notice in the U. S. Fur Rancher where the Great Lakes Mink Association of Minnesota is offering \$100. reward for the arrest and conviction of any person or persons stealing dark mink or dark mink pelts from a member's ranch which would normally sell through the Great Lakes Mink Association's marketing outlets. That brings us back to the early 1930's when the Charlottetown Fox Breeders' Protective Association was formed to cope with the stealing of foxes from ranches in and around that vicinity. A membership fee of \$50. for the season was paid and a bloodhound was brought here from sunny Tennessee. He was named "Gyp the Blood" and great stories of his ability to track persons — came with him. A full time caretaker of Gyp was employed and he was available at any time to a mem-

ber whose ranch had been burglarized. Whether it was the formation of the association or the presence of Gyp the Blood, no stealings were reported during the life of the Association.

At the 13th annual meeting of the Great Lakes Mink Association, after the statements had been tendered, Dave Loffman the Association's New York manager, spoke in detail and part of his address was as follows: "We should also realize that there is a tremendous movement of goods from dealer to manufacturer right now. The movement from manufacturer to retailer has been very slow and unless this movement is greatly increased, we might yet encounter trouble." Mr. Loffman pointed out the danger of "false security" based on reports we are five to ten years ahead of Scandinavia. Fox men, he reminded, were 30 years ahead at one time and then, in a space of five years, the Scandinavians were producing better foxes than we were. Referring again to mink, he showed how the Scandinavians had improved from the time seven years ago, when they were getting half of what we were getting for the average dark mink, to last winter when they sold a \$15 average, which figure will be close to our national average for darks. He said we are ahead of them only because they do not have enough mutation mink, and if many sales of mutation livestock were made to Scandinavia this would be a definite threat and the basis for a request for greater efforts toward a quota on imported mink.

Canadian Fur Auction Sales Company (Quebec) Ltd. will hold its next general sale on May 13th. Many wild furs collections of beaver, muskrat, mink and otter will be offered together with standard ranch and mutation mink. The offering of silver fox will also be made.

L. L. Berger Inc., Buffalo, N. Y., fur retailer, is playing up foxes. His ad is headed — Watch For Foxes — and he hails the fox as a highly important fashion piece in the fur picture and emphasizes its relatively low cost compared with other furs in the smaller piece category.

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IN THE HOME WORKSHOP

MAKE BIRD BATHS WITH THIS PATTERN 227

IT'S FUN TO WORK WITH CEMENT

You can make this cement bird bath. The mold for forming the concrete is a simple job using common mason lat. A little cement, sand and gravel are all you need for the concrete mix. The pattern shows just how to use the lat to get the fluted effect of the pedestal, and the octagonal basin. Once the forms are made the materials for a number of these attractive baths cost very little. The pattern gives actual-size guides for preparing the molds as well as the formula for the concrete; and the construction steps are illustrated. A few bird houses and a feeder are sure to attract the songsters. A number of interesting designs are included in the Bird House Packet which is priced at \$1.50. The bath pattern 227 only is 35c postpaid. Address your orders to the HomeWork Shop Department, Guardian Office.

KRUPP IN MONTREAL

MONTREAL, (CP) — Alfred Krupp, whose family empire supplied Germany with munitions in two world wars, stopped briefly here Monday en route from Mexico to Europe. In an interview, Mr. Krupp said he had visited Mexico on business and pleasure and hopes to return to Canada for a "real visit, perhaps next year."

NEWSY NOTES

By J. A. Clark, D.S.

WEATHER AND SEASONAL OBSERVANCE

Corn.

Corn differs very widely in many ways from the other cereal crops that belong to the great family of true grasses (Gramineae). Wheat, rye and barley which belong to the tribe Hordeae, have many more characters in common than either rice or oats. These all, however, have known wild species and some wild prototype. The Encyclopedia Britannica states: "Corn [is] unknown in the native state." No wild prototype has been found. All types and varieties of corn so far identified belong to one species, (*Zea mays* L.).

When Columbus first landed in America on the Island of Hayti, he found corn being cultivated there. The natives called it Mahiz, an Arawak Indian word that originated in South America. The name "Maiz" is largely retained in Latin America. Corn is an Anglo-Saxon word that formerly was the generic name for all kinds of grain. In Genesis 4:37 we read: "And all countries came into Egypt to Joseph for to buy corn." Corn in England applied to wheat; in Scotland, to oats, and in the United States to Indian corn (maize). The early settlers of North America found the Indians cultivating corn throughout the country, and to distinguish it from other grain, the colonists called it Indian corn. In Canada and the United States the word Indian has been dropped, and a Pennsylvania court ruled that: "The word corn is a sufficient description of Indian corn."

Corn is of American origin. It is generally believed that it originated in the warmer parts of America. Before the American continent was discovered by Europeans, it was being cultivated by the natives from Chile in South America to many parts of this continent, including areas now a part of Canada. It was the great bread cereal of the people of the New World. Corn saved many of the early colonies from starvation. In the form of corn stover, it also saved their stock, which would otherwise at times have had nothing but salt marsh hay to eat; because cultivated grasses had not been introduced.

There is no mention of the corn plant in any of the writings found in Egyptian monuments; nor did any of the Eastern travellers in Africa or Asia, prior to the sixteenth century, mention the plant. Numerous varieties of corn grains have been found in the ancient tombs of New Mexico, Mexico, and Peru. Some of these monuments are believed to be over 3,000 years old. It seems evident that when so many different types had been developed at that time, the original corn must have existed at a much earlier date. Darwin found cobs of corn imbedded on the shore in Peru, at 85 feet above the present sea level.

Columbus took corn to Spain, and as the climate and conditions in the lands adjoining the Mediterranean—Sea were so favourable for its growth, it spread rapidly across North Africa and southern Europe, and from there, across Asia to China. The rapidly with which it spread caused many disputes as to its origin, and confusion as to its name. Some based a claim on the alleged discovery of grains of corn in the cellars of ancient houses in Athens; and suggested that corn had originated in the East.

In Europe, corn was known un-

der many curious names, given it on account of the country where it was supposed to have originated. Some of these were: Indian wheat, Roman wheat, Spanish wheat, Barbary wheat, Sicilian wheat, Indian Corn, Turkish Corn, Guinea and Egyptian wheat. Ships sailing from America to the Mediterranean Sea had taken corn to countries bordering that sea, which would account for its very rapid introduction.

Corn is the most important annual crop in the United States. Early in this century the Corn Belt in the United States was said to be the greatest agricultural region in the world. It produced more than three times the corn grown in the European corn belt in the Balkans. It has made profitable dairying possible in some states; and the great meat industry of the United States depends on live stock fed and finished largely on corn and its products. Corn starch, glucose, oil and other products are in great demand by commerce everywhere.

There are six types of corn that are easily identified; Pod, pop, flint, dent, soft and sweet corn.

Pod corn, more or less a novelty, has each grain covered with a husk, in addition to the husk that covers the ear.

Pop corn, its small size, shape and popping characteristics make it easy to identify it from flint corn, which it somewhat resembles.

Flint corn has grains that are hard, smooth and more or less oval in shape. It is an early maturing corn and does well in the areas in Canada where dent corn cannot be ripened.

Dent corn is the corn of commerce, and is most commonly grown in the Corn Belt of the United States. Dent corn was produced by crossing flint corn and soft or gourd seed corn, which gave it a flint structure on the outside of the grain and soft, starch centre. The unequal shrinkage at maturity produces the characteristic dent in the kernel.

Soft corn has a white kernel. It is similar in shape to flint, but varies in size from grains the size of pop corn to the largest corn known. The variety Cuzco, in Peru, has grains 1 1/16 of an inch deep by 1 1/16 of an inch broad. This type is largely grown by the Indians in South America because of the ease with which it can be crushed for food.

Sweet corn has a translucent grain with a horny appearance. It is one of the starch corns that has lost its faculty of converting sugar into starch. It is used as a truck crop and is cultivated largely near cities or marketing areas. There are many varieties of all these types except pod corn. Frost kills corn in all stages and all varieties. At the turn of the century, the United States Experiment Stations recommended thirty varieties of flint corn and 199 varieties of dent corn. Canadian institutions recommended two varieties of flint and one of dent at that time.

Improved Varieties.

A very great amount of work has been done to improve varieties. Since corn is naturally cross-fertilized by the wind, it was thought undesirable to induce self-fertilization. Those who first experimented with this method found

Island Odds and Ends

Interests from Nova Scotia are said to be considering establishing a food processing plant in this Province. Nothing huge is planned, but the factory would give fifteen people employment, for about eight months each year. The Nova Scotia interests have already looked at sites in the Murray Harbour district and have been looking around the village of Mount Stewart. Because the latter place is near a number of strawberry growers it might be favoured. The company is said to be prepared to pack, when established, all kinds of small fruits and berries, as well as vegetables.

Almost unnoticed, the anniversary of one of the greatest feats of arms in Canadian history occurred on April 9th. It was on that date, Easter Monday morning, 1917, that four divisions of battle-hardened Canadians, veterans for the most part of two years of attack and counter-attack, stormed and swept over the great bastion on Vimy Ridge. One way or another, one hundred thousand Canadians took part in the superbly organized assault, which started in the early dawn in a downpour of hail and rain. Ten thousand prisoners were taken in the first victorious advance of the Canadians, and by the following morning the entire Vimy Ridge which had dominated Canadian positions for many months was in possession of the Canadian Corps.

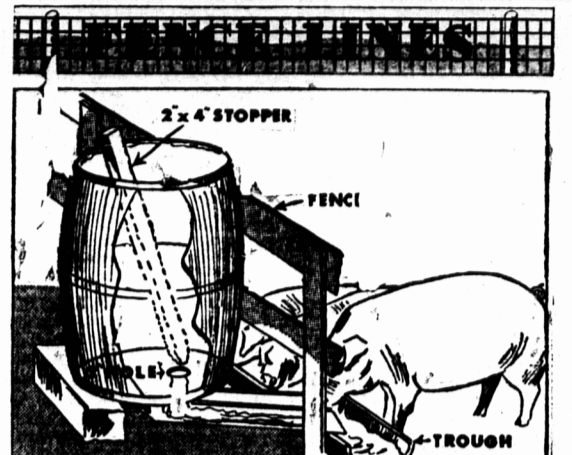
Beyond the Ridge the Douai Plain, into which the Canadian attack carried them about four miles, stretched invitingly. This ground offered the enemy no advantage such as he had long enjoyed perched on the heights of Vimy. It was a memorable action, probably unsurpassed in its success, scope, and brilliance of staff work, by any battle in which the Canadians have ever taken part. Many Islanders attached to many different infantry and artillery units scaled the enemy heights that day, and Island homes paid the price of victory. It would be interesting to know how many men from this Province are still alive, who participated in that great attack on Easter morning, thirty-seven years ago.

Plans for an early commencement that they obtained reduced yields. Hybrid corn was secured by crossing and selection of strains that had been inbred from five to eight generations. This system produced "hybrid vigor", and gave a very great increase in yield. It was originated by Dr. Shull of Princeton University and Dr. E. M. East of Harvard University. They began their work independently in 1905 and later joined forces. It was Henry A. Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture under Pres. F. D. Roosevelt, who was the first private breeder to follow this method. He and D. J. Jones of the Connecticut Experiment Station were mainly responsible for the acceptance of this new corn breeding method. By 1938, hybrid corn was planted on fifteen million acres in the United States. It increased the total yield there that year by 120 million bushels.

Algonquin, a hybrid corn, developed by MacDonald College, Quebec has for a number of years given best results in Prince Edward Island. For those that require an early corn the hybrid, Canada No. 240, has given good returns.

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ment of the Federal Building in Charlottetown have come under cross-fire of circumstances. On the one hand, are the residents of the area on which the building will be located, and who have notice to vacate. Many are finding it hard to find new homes. On the other hand are many idle men eager for work. A community effort to find new homes for those who must move, would be a great help at this juncture. It is to be hoped, at any rate, that the job will not be delayed so long that it will be more than put on the shelf for another year. It is to be hoped, too, that none of the householders affected will suffer hardship through being obliged to vacate their homes, without being assured of comfortable quarters elsewhere.



SIMPLIFIED FEEDING . . . One farmer simplified the job of stop-feeding hogs by placing a barrel outside the fence and rigging it with a chute to supply the trough inside the hog pen. A 2x4, tapered and rounded at one end is used both to stir and to plug the hole.

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
- Morrell Dingwell & Rossiter
- Kilmuir McGowan's Ltd.
- Murray River D. M. McKinnon
- Brookfield Cruvys Bros.
- Mount Stewart Clark's Feed Service

TIP NO. 34

At first signs of scours in young pigs the sow's feed should be reduced one half at least and if receiving barley remove from ration. A light thin slop of short and lime water makes a satisfactory diet until little pigs are better. Lime-water is made by putting half pound of quick lime into a pail of water, stir thoroughly and allow lime to settle.

Let's Discuss Your Feeding Plan With Your Island's MASTER Man

IVAN KERRY
Dial 5455
60 Green St. - Ch'town

FEEDERS WHO KEEP RECORDS USE MASTER

SAVE \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ - SALE April 17 - 24

At VERNON J. NOYE'S, Hunter River

GROCERIES

- SUGAR, 10 lbs. 79c
- FLUFFO, 2 lbs. 55c
- CARNATION or PERFECTION MILK, 6 for 85c
- COCOANUT, (Sweet) lb. 39c
- TEA, lb. 65c
- SWANSDOWN FLOUR, pkg. 39c
- JELL-O, 3 pkgs. 29c
- HEINZ BABY FOOD, 3 for 29c
- JAVEX, 32 oz. 27c
- JOHNSTON'S WAX, Paste or Liquid 59c
- SCRUB BRUSHES 15c

FRUIT

- ORANGES, 2 doz. 75c
- GRAPEFRUIT, 6 for 39c
- BANANAS, lb. 19c

DRY GOODS

- PRINT COTTON, yd. 39c
- BROADCLOTH, yd. 39c
- CRETONNE, yd. 89c
- PLASTIC CURTAINS, pair \$1.19
- COTTAGE CURTAINS, pr. \$1.98 - \$2.98
- CHILDREN'S RIB HOSE, pr. . . . 39c
- REGULAR \$2.98 - \$4.95
- LADIES' DRESSES, Special . . . \$2.59
- TOWELS, pair 79c
- MEN'S DUNGAREES \$2.59
- BOYS' DUNGAREES \$2.19

20% OFF

Men's, Boys', Ladies' and Girls' SWEATERS

— ALSO —

Men's & Boys' DRESS PANTS

Boys' JACKETS

C. I. L. PAINTS

Complete Stock of C. I. L. ENAMELS and SPEED EASY SATIN ENAMELS, qt. \$2.25 - \$2.75

SPEED EASY SATIN, qt. \$1.98

SPECIAL PRICES

Large Stock FLOOR COVERING 99c - \$4.29 yard

— ALSO —

10% OFF CONGOLEUM and REXOLEUM RUGS

WALLPAPER IN STOCK

Almost 100 Patterns to choose from 10 - 20% OFF

MEATS

- SPARE RIBS, 3 lbs. 49c
- SHANKLESS PICNIC, lb. 57c
- BOLOGNA, lb. 29c

ENTIRELY free

CANADA PACKERS PRODUCTS

we will give you entirely free any one piece of Wm. ROGERS Du Barry Silverplate you wish

FULL INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT OUR STORE

- QUIX, giant pkg. with dish cloth 65c
- YORK PEANUT BUTTER, 16 oz. . . 43c
- YORK PEACHES, 20 oz. 25c
- KAM, 2 for 75c