

Farm Notes

TRAPPING MOLES.

Moles frequently become serious pests in gardens, lawns, and small fruit plantations. The injury to gardens is chiefly caused by the surface tunnels they made directly beneath the rows of seeds or young plants. In strawberry patches the tunnelling under the plants breaks many of the small feeder roots and leave air pockets beneath the plants which cut off moisture and prevent the roots from functioning properly. Contrary to current belief moles are active at all seasons of the year in such climates as permit of their activity during the winter season. Moles are common to all parts of Canada but they appear to be more plentiful in the Province of British Columbia. At the Agassiz Experimental Farm in that province different ways of controlling them have been tried. These are described in Circular No. 67 of the Dept. of Agriculture, Ottawa, which recommends trapping and shows the type of trap that has been found to work well. The trap is of simple construction and easily manipulated.

The runways are usually a few inches to one side of the centre of a mole hill. The direction of the runway can be determined by scraping aside the earth around the hill until the tunnel is discovered. The trap has to be set in the runway and a garden trowel has been found a useful tool for preparing a situation for the trap. After the trap has been set it has to be protected by sods, grass, or clumps of earth, which should be so placed as to exclude the light without interfering with the spring of the trap.

At the Agassiz Station with a dozen traps set as many as four moles were caught in twenty-four hours. With a little practice and careful observation, it is stated that the average person can become quite proficient in knowing how and where to set a mole trap.

THE CLEANSING OF MILK PAILS.

If thoroughly clean milk is to be secured it is all important for the milkers to see to it that their pails and utensils are well sterilized and that dirt of all kinds is prevented from falling from the cow into the pail at the time of milking. Precautions in respect to these matters are believed to be of greater account than all other minor factors combined. According to Dr. G. Lochhead, Bacteriologist of the Dominion Dept. of Agriculture, the condition of the utensils themselves are responsible for the majority of the contaminating bacteria. This question is fully dealt with in Circular No. 64 "The Washing and Sterilization of Farm Dairy Utensils." Milk pails and cans cannot be kept clean by a casual washing. Carelessly washed pails are responsible for most of the trouble that arises from bacterial contamination. Even cans and pails which have been thoroughly washed and scalded, and appear perfectly clean, may add millions of bacteria at the next milking if traces of moisture are allowed to remain in them. Where steam is available the circular recommends its use in the cleansing of the utensils. Without steam the use of hot water is the commonest method of sterilization. The success of this method, however, depends on the temperature of the water and the quantity used. An eight gallon can requires at least a quart of boiling water to sterilize it effectively. Where a large number of utensils have to be cleared these should be immersed for a minute or two in a tank of water at practically boiling heat.

Whatever method is used, rapid drying on a rack, on which the utensils should be placed while quite hot, is important.

Where neither steam nor hot water is readily available there still remains another system, the using of chlorine compounds in the washing water. The proper strength to use and the method of application are clearly set forth in the circular, which is available from the Publications Branch, Dept. of Agriculture, Ottawa.

BETTER BABY CHICKS

A policy is to be put into operation by the Dept. of Agriculture, at Ottawa, to protect the interests of the purchasers of baby chicks. The Baby Chick Association, representing the whole of Canada, has felt the need of some oversight of the hatchery industry and their executive committee has co-operated with officials of the Live Stock Branch in preparing a workable plan. The policy to be known as "Approved Hatcheries" provides for the inspection of flocks supplying hatchery eggs and the certification of those that measure up to the requirements with respect to laying performance, health and type. The inspection is to be done under the direction of the Live Stock Commis-

Turkish Woman Artist



A FAR CRY FROM HAREM AND VEIL

Mme. Mihri Hassim, a Turkish champion of woman's rights takes a prominent place in the women artists of the world. She runs an art school in Constantinople and is seen exhibiting one of her pictures in New York.

siener by district poultry promoters and others duly qualified for the work. The approved hatcheries themselves are to be under supervision so as to judge of their fitness to do business. Hatcheries wishing to be classed as "Approved" are required first to make application on forms that have been prepared by the Live Stock Commissioner, on which must be recorded, among other things, the breed and variety of the flocks, the date the birds would be ready for inspection and banding, the size of the flocks, both with respect to pullets and hens, and the name and location and capacity of the hatchery.

THE CONTROL OF WHEAT RUST

While the development of varieties of wheat that are resistant to Stem Rust is regarded as the most certain method of overcoming losses from this trouble, the Dept. of Agriculture at Ottawa, through the Botanical and Cereal Divisions, is endeavoring to find out other and quicker means of dealing with the problem. The crossing of resistant varieties with others of high yielding and milling qualities is being pursued. Experiments are being carried on in the hope of finding treatments of the growing crop that will in some sense reduce the losses that occur in seasons favorable to rust development. In a new bulletin on the subject, numbered 106, and entitled "Stem Rust in Western Canada," published by the Dept. of Agriculture, it is shown that dusting the crop with sulphur offers a promising method of controlling rust. Field results for the past three years, it is stated, have demonstrated beyond question that the method is effective even under severe epidemic conditions. The work described by the author, Dr. D. L. Bailey, formerly in charge of the Rust Research Labor-

atory at Winnipeg, has been largely confined to small plots. The crop on plots treated in 1925 yielded 55 bushels to the acre as against 15 bushels to the acre from untreated plots. Last year 43 bushels to the acre were obtained from treated plots as against 10 bushels from those given no treatment. The quality of the grain from the treated plots was No. 1 Northern, while from the other plots the grain harvested was fit only for feed. It is pointed out that for effective control the crop must be dusted often enough to maintain a continuous coating of sulphur over the plants while they are exposed to attack of rust. For spreading the sulphur both aeroplane and horse-drawn field dusters were used. Where the horse-drawn duster was used there was a net profit of \$11.80 per acre from its operation. Satisfactory so far as efficiency was concerned and demonstrated that the aeroplane is well suited to this type of work.

This bulletin, which is available from the Publications Branch of the Dept. of Agriculture, Ottawa, deals with the subject of rust disease, its development, and its control in a most interesting way.

Islam's Masses Oppose Afghan King as Caliph

Reports of Groups Backing Amanullah Persist Despite Silence on His Part

ACTION FEARED

Jerusalem.—Islam's conservative

Keen Interest Taken in Aircrafts



NEWEST FORMS OF MECHANICAL BIRDS ON SHOW

held in the Chicago Coliseum had 81 planes of all kinds on exhibition

Wide Appeal of Winter Sports

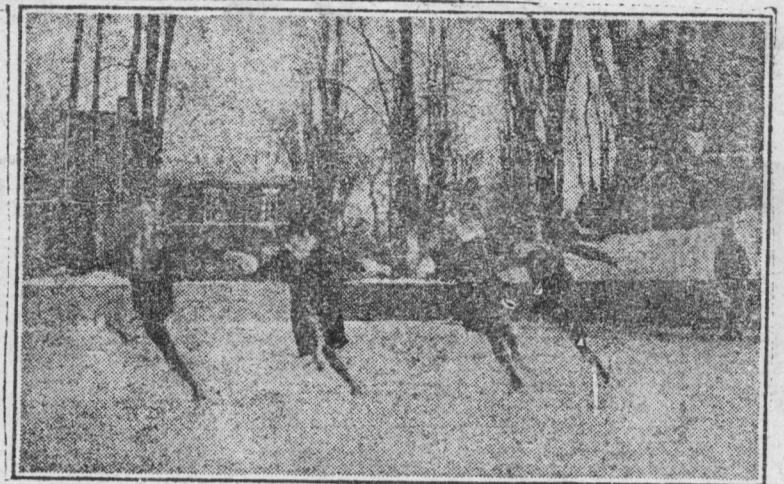
Recreation in the Open in Canada at This Season is Healthful and Enjoyable

Winter is pre-eminently outdoor sports time in Canada. At this season of the year the appeal of the outdoors is especially persistent for the sports lover. Many and varied forms of amusement are enjoyed. Skating, skiing, hockey, snow-shoeing, tobogganing, and curling all have their thousands of devotees, who thus refresh mind and body in the crisp, invigorating air. Gradually the gospel of recreation in the open spaces is spreading to less favored climes and each year sees growing numbers coming to Canada for enjoyment of winter pastimes.

Health and fun are the principal magnets of the winter play idea. The artificial conditions and nervous

throughout the winter months. The outdoor play idea has gone far to popularize our winter season and Canadian youth—and this term covers many past the midway mark in life—live much in the open and find as much enjoyment in the season's pastimes as they do in summer sports.

Canada has always been noted for her winter sports and these have such a wide range that people of both sexes and of almost all ages can take part in at least one of them with benefit and enjoyment. Hockey is a fast, strenuous game that is played only by the youth of the land, but curling, with an appeal akin to golf, counts its enthusiasts among those past middle life. Skating, snowshoe-



Wide Appeal of Winter Sports—A group of fancy skaters enjoying themselves on an open-air rink. There are skating clubs in all the large centres of population in Canada and in them there are developed some of the most graceful skaters in the world.

strain of modern life make it important that people play outdoors and the need for this is greater in winter than in summer. Steam-heated houses, offices, and schools; travel in crowded trains and cars; and the great increase in sedentary occupations need to be balanced by bodily exercises comparable to the numerous duties and "chores" which kept the last generation active out of doors. Lively play is a tonic for tired nerves and bodies at all times and in any of ozone-laden, pine-scented air, brilliant sunshine and the speed and zeal of sport amid surroundings of glistening ice and powdery snow.

Canadians early realized the value of recreation in the open in winter time and they have developed to a high degree an ability to extract the most from this season. The period from December to March is now no longer one during which most of the time is spent indoors. The interruptions to building operations caused by frost are being overcome and most of the construction activities of the summer season are carried on

ing, skiing, and tobogganing can be as strenuous or as leisurely as the participant desires. Ice-boating is also a popular diversion in parts of Canada where the peculiar conditions required prevail. Dog-team racing is now an attractive feature of every carnival program.

A gratifying characteristic of winter sports in Canada is that they all tend to develop players rather than spectators. With the exception of hockey, only a small percentage enters into the full enjoyment of the game. The fun to be had while the novice is becoming familiar with his skis is one of the chief factors in the rapid rise to popularity of this sport.

From year to year the call of Canada's winter season is becoming greater and not only in the Dominion but abroad growing numbers are heeding the varied appeals of our northland pastimes. Health and enjoyment in far-flung fields amid vistas of great scenic beauty, is the lure by which growing throngs are being drawn to our snow-bedecked forests and hills.

masses view with frosty disapproval King Amanullah's flirtation with the caliphate.

Reports continue to come from Kabul, the Afghan capital, that various Moslem groups are supporting the candidacy of King Amanullah. Rumors that he had his eye on Islam's highest office began during his European tour and they have persisted in

spite of the fact that he has made no formal announcement of his purpose.

The problem, both from a practical and personal viewpoint, is complicated and precipitate action would harm Islam more than did the deposition of the former caliph by Kemal Pasha. Immediately after the fall of Abdul Medjid, Moslem authorities began investigating whether a caliph was essential.

Abdul Medjid has not renounced his claim to the caliphate and frequently, through some edict addressed to all true believers, he reminds Islam of his existence. He would have to be formally deposed before a successor could be chosen. This could probably be done on the ground that the Koran requires a caliph to be the head of an independent Moslem state.

Remaining Moslem rulers include two who cannot be considered in connection with the office. They are the Shah of Persia who is a Shiite whereas the caliph must be a Sunnite, and Ibn Saud, who is a follower of the Wahabi religion which does not recognize the caliphate.

This leaves only three: King Fuad of Egypt, King Amanullah and Imam Yehia, King of Yemen. King Fuad has already declined the honor and Imam Yehia has never given indication that he would accept it.

Election Shadows in Britain

Round Table (London): If the Conservatives wish to retain the substance of power, it is not enough for them to come back the strongest of the three parties. They must have a clear majority over both their rivals. Nor can the contingency of the latter joining forces after the election any longer be dismissed as fantastic. Both have now issued programs, and there is an interesting degree of resemblance between them in important respects. Enough has, moreover, been said by representatives of each of the two parties to show that some form of combination might in certain eventualities be considered.