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FUR-ANIMAL STATION
OBSERVES FIELD DAY

Meeting Held at Saratoga Springs, N. Y.,
in Connection with Convention of
Fox Breeders' Associations

The fur animal experiment station maintained by the Bureau of Biological Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture, at Saratoga Springs, N. Y., was the center of attraction for members of fox breeders' associations during the field day held there September 19. The New York State Fox Breeders' Association and the American Fox Breeders' Association were in convention and summer school at the New York State Museum at Albany, September 17-19, and the third day was given over to a trip to the fur experiment station.

The program of addresses, motion pictures, and demonstrations of the first two days included a talk by Frank G. Ashbrook, in charge of the division of fur resources of the Biological Survey, on the relation of the bureau's work to the fur-farming industry and the need for thorough cooperation in furthering the investigations; a paper by Dr. Karl B. Hanson, director of the fur animal experiment station, on Parasites of Foxes; and a showing of the department's motion picture, How to Handle Foxes.

The program of the third day consisted of three addresses by department officials and a tour of inspection conducted by Doctor Hanson. Dr.

A. F. Woods, director of scientific work, in the address of welcome discussed the scientific work of the department and stressed the value of research in the new field of fur farming. W. C. Henderson, associate chief of the Biological Survey, read a comprehensive paper on the Functions of the Fur Animal Experiment Station, which covered all phases of the work at Saratoga Springs and the supplementary work on parasites and diseases of fur animals being conducted at Minneapolis, Minn., in cooperation with the University of Minnesota. Mr. Ashbrook spoke on the purpose of the station's field day, expressing the gratification of the bureau in having the opportunity of demonstrating to so many breeders of fur animals what the station has accomplished for the benefit of the fur-farming industry.

In the tour of inspection, the visitors, numbering about 130, gained first-hand information of the breeding experiments with red foxes, pure-bred silver foxes, martens, and other fur bearers, constructions of pens, dens, and nest boxes, the use of instruments in treating diseased animals, and feeding experiments, including kinds of food, processes of mixing dry feeds, and preparation of rations.

Copies of all publications of the Biological Survey on fur-animal production, made available through the cooperation of the Superintendent of Documents, were given each of the visitors, who registered from the New England States, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Ohio, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. A lunch was served at the Rip Van Dam Hotel at Saratoga in the middle of the day.

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