

FOREWORD

The purpose of this manual is to furnish information and instruction regarding the ranching, housing, breeding, feeding and care of Silver Foxes.

The author does not claim infallibility on this important subject, nor does he seek to convince the reader that there are not some differences of opinion among successful breeders of foxes. What he does claim is, that he is at present, and has been since 1912, a successful breeder and handler of these valuable and sensitive animals; and the suggestions herein set forth are the result of careful and painstaking efforts on his part to solve the problems incident to the development of satisfactory and successful methods of raising foxes, coupled with much valuable information obtained from the pioneer breeders, to whose labors and perseverance we are indebted for the establishment of this great conservation movement and international industry.

He is confident therefore, that if the following instructions are adhered to in a common sense manner, the rancher will achieve a large measure of success. No set of rules can be made to govern all foxes and all cases. A successful breeder of any live stock must rely upon his own initiative and judgment in peculiar and unusual circumstances; and this is particularly true when applied to the breeding of what may be termed semi-domesticated wild animals.

It is his keen hope that the results of his experience may be helpful to those who undertake to follow his methods, and he wishes to wish the fullest measure of success.