

several points in the neighbourhood, and at some ten or twelve wooded spots, a hundred or more rods from his dwelling, he kept his pens, having two females and one male at each point. He adopted the system of double mating. Large quantities of salmon, lobsters and game were caught for food for the foxes, while horse-meat was occasionally brought from Quebec city. He augmented his stock with native Quebec wild foxes and conducted feeding experiments with red foxes. Careful selection has improved his strain until they grade dark silver throughout.*

Authentic reports state that the late M. Monier, who owned Anticosti island, attempted to breed foxes there, and set at liberty silver and patched foxes to grade up the colour of the wild fox.

**An Ontario
Experimenter** Mr. Burrowman is a fur-buyer who, at an early date, recognized the possibilities of domesticating fur-bearers. He kept foxes in captivity twenty-two years, but did not successfully rear young to maturity until about ten years ago, because, prior to that time, he kept more than one pair in a single pen. He may be called the father of the Ontario fox-ranching business. The only assistance he obtained was from the late Dr. Robertson of Foxcroft, Me.

**Oulton and
Dalton** The placing of the fox-raising industry on a commercial basis is due to the efforts of Robert T. Oulton, formerly of Alberton, P.E.I., but now of Little Shemogue, N.B., and his former partner, Charles Dalton, now of Tignish, P.E.I. Dalton began experimenting about 1887, with red foxes, which he kept in a shed at Nail Pond. Later, he bought silver foxes from neighbouring districts and from Anticosti island and continued his experiments with indifferent success for about ten years. During that time, Oulton was also experimenting with foxes, having bought silver foxes at various points in P.E.I., Anticosti and elsewhere, and working somewhat in conjunction with Dalton. All Anticosti foxes were subsequently slaughtered because they did not come up to the requisite standard of quality.

One of their chief concerns was keeping prying neighbours from their ranch premises. While Beetz had little difficulty with neighbours, the obtaining of a sufficient food supply was a matter that gave no little trouble. Dalton and Oulton were more fortunate in their food supply as the thickly settled farming country all about them supplied horse-flesh and other cheap meat in abundance. Tallow, corn-meal, fish, oat-meal, flour and butcher's waste were available in plenty and a very small outlay in cash procured a large supply.

*See memorandum by Mr. J. Beetz, Appendix VIII.