





IN ANSWERING ADVERTISEMENTS PLEASE MENTION "THE CANADIAN COURIER."

Fox Ranching in Prince Edward Island

(Concluded from page 7.) rowing must be toward the centre of the varren

A^T the outer wall of the ranch a dif-ferent provision has been made to avoid escape. It is possible that a tame fox may slip past the keeper when the warren gate is open at feeding time. If not missed at once he might have some hours of freedom to burrow his way out. Imagine five thousand dollars getting away from you as fast as it could dig. But he would speedily come up against a different wire construction that would upset all his ideas of where wire ought

But he would speedily come up against a different wire construction that would upset all his ideas of where wire ought to be. The underground netting at the outer stockade slopes inward and down-ward for some distance to a depth of six or seven inches, and it would be a foxy fox indeed who would puzzle out this new wire problem before his absence from warren was discovered. Five thousand dollar wee beasties must be protected not only from their own wanderlust, but also from covetous man. Armed watchmen patrol the warrens night and day, and electric burglar alarm wires run in every direction to stop the would-be marauder. In addition to these precautions a number of Dartmoor peni-tentiary bloodhounds have the run of the outer wall. For food the foxes are given a sparing diet of fresh meat, eggs, rabbits, fish and vegetables, with a certain amount of bread and milk. The breeding kennels are very cleverly constructed, and nothing that will pre-vent mishap to the baby foxes has been overlooked. The entrance is by a cov-ered runway from ground. On the far side of the kennel from the entrance is a double compartment with sloping roof. This inner deck is mother fox's sitting room. A square entrance leads to one half of the compartment, and from this a round aperture leads into the nest. This is rounded like a bowl, with suffi-cient depth to keep the precious infants from falling out before their eyes are open. To prevent moisture and damp-ness getting in the nest is interlined with specially pulverized cork, and then surrounded by air chambers for ventila-tion. When the babies get their eyes open they catch a cleverly arranged glimmer

with specially pulverized cork, and then surrounded by air chambers for ventila-tion. When the babies get their eyes open they catch a cleverly arranged glimmer of light through the rounded aperture which leads them to the outer half of the compartment. This affords a partial protection until their ambition and wobbly legs carry them to the kennel floor, where they may roll and fight like so many kittens, while mother fox sits on the nest roof and bosses the joh. Soon the brighter light at the sloping kennel entrance, or perchance a glint of spring sunshine outside where the snow has now disappeared, attracts their at-tention, and then baby fox proceeds to make wonderful discoveries. With fur value in mind every inch of inner sur-face in the kennel is smoothly planed, so that slivers will have no chance to pull or catch the glossy spring coats. Thanks to the nat-urial surroundings and sanitary precau-tions there is no trouble with vermin. For cleaning purposes there is a man-sized door in one side of the kennel which is, of course, under lock and key. A patent system of ventilators in the peak of the roof ensures a constant supply of fresh air. fresh air.

fresh air. S of ar the efforts of the high grade fox ranchers have been entirely devoted to the task of accumulating a healthy and sufficiently numerous stud for breeding purposes. At the Park ranch they do not expect to dispose of a single plot for several years. In fact, genera-itations of high grade P.E.I. black foxes as yet unborn might be sold for years ahead to those who are anxious to try their luck at the fascinating industry. Nature has never been very prolific in the wild production of the black fox, as have stock raisers and fruit growers. As to the prospects of a market for in much the same light as merchants in the diamond industry. Quality is the standard, and the finest pelts will ever command a fancy price. At even a frac-tion of present market prices the busi-ness would still be profitable.

