

# Eugene Finlay Is Optimistic

### View Based on Experience of 13 Years; Largest Farms Near Here

By C. GENEVIEVE MORGAN.  
Fur farming is the most profitable agricultural pursuit in Oregon, believes Eugene Finlay of near Jefferson who right now is feeding 325 silver foxes, including pups, and who in this year started a minkery to be operated in conjunction with the fox farm.

Finlay's feeling about fur farming is built from 13 years experience raising foxes, five years on a 210-acre farm in the bottom land west of Jefferson. Incidentally, the fox business has more than paid for the present farm.

Just to show further Finlay's faith in the industry, it may be said in passing that he is producing two fur farmers in the persons of his sons, Lawrence, who has a two-thirds interest in the mink deal and John, who will finish Jefferson high school this spring and who has a small interest in the fox business. Good for incidental mention, too, are the 3500 turkeys which Finlay and Lawrence will raise this year, the large brooder house being on the fox farm and the range to be on the 210-acre farm which is almost due west of the smaller place.

**Large Farms Here**  
Marion county has three of the five largest fox farms in Oregon, the order for this county being Liberty, Frank Glasses at Jefferson and Finlay. At the latter reckoning a Hood River farm led the state numerically but there is probability that the Stacey farm will be first in Oregon if another year, says Finlay, who is president of the Oregon Fox Breeders' association, a strong organization which now numbers 90 paid up members and hopes to enroll 100 this year.

Oregon has not less than 500 fur farms valued at a million and a half dollars, Finlay says. Last year found 64 mink farms in the state, with bulk of these in Clatsop and Tillamook counties. Centers for the fox farming industry are in Marion, Lane, Multnomah and Coos counties, though scattering farms are found all over the state.

A superior fox pelt is produced on Marion county farms and Finlay recalls that in 1932 when he and Stacey, past president of the breeders' association, attended the fur auction in Denver, the two best pelts to arrive there from all over the country were from Hubbard and Jefferson.

Last year Oregon furs were somewhat affected by the long dry fall and as a result Finlay says his furs are averaging around \$40 to \$45 each while a year ago the average was from \$50 to \$75. However, the outlook is encouraging and promises a continuance of the exceptional demand that has existed since the 1936 pelts went on the market, he is informed from the New York house which handles many of his furs at the eastern market.

**Auction Prices High**  
In the April 26 auction in New York, full silvers average \$62.27 on 2607 pelts, with a top price of \$50, and three-fourth silvers average \$40.15 with a top of \$75. Seven of Finlay's pelts at this sale averaged \$38. Each breeder who sends pelts to the eastern auctions may value his pelts and the pelts are held for future auctions if no sale is open at or over this valuation.

Before the depression, Finlay had pelts sell as high as \$300; now the best don't bring over \$100.

While most of the sales of Oregon pelts have been made in New York, the west coast is beginning to open up a fine market, and last year Los Angeles took nearly half of Marion county's silver fox pelts. One Los Angeles firm alone took 1400 pelts from this county.

But dropping back from New York auctions and Los Angeles markets to the Finlay farm near Jefferson, let's go with Mr. Finlay through some of the operations of maintaining foxes.

**Food Major Item**  
Most important, of course, is food.

Meat, kept in a cold storage at a constant 15 degrees level, is fed now at the rate of 100 pounds a day, and in another three weeks the maximum of 140 pounds daily will go to the foxes.

That meat part of the diet—and what a diet the fox has you'll see shortly—includes horse meat, tripe, hearts, liver and fish, if one may step over the line and include fish with the meats. And at the rate of 100 pounds a day it's no small job to keep the meat coming in, let alone foot the bill!

The ice plant is operated by an electric motor and ice machine, and the equipment and storage house occupy half the fox house.

As much care as goes into the preparation of a Sunday dinner goes into getting a meal for the foxes, and much of the food is of the same quality that goes on the family table. Finlay says. For instance, not stock carrots but table carrots go to the foxes; and not just waste tomatoes but tomatoes equal to those for the family table are included in the fox diet. Local markets are used as much as possible in buying foods.

**Varied Diet Given**  
Eleven to 14 items of food, not including the half cup of cod liver oil mixed in the rations each day, are included in the diet for the foxes. The food is fed in the form of 14-ounce balls and mixed fresh daily. One ball per day per fox is fed.

The food is mixed in a large bread mixer, now out-of-date for bakeries, and which the fox breeder can pick up for \$20 or so as against the original cost of \$600 or more. The feed house also contains a food grinder, geared for more than one speed, and a bone grinder. An old Star automobile engine has furnished ex-

## Fox Breeder



Eugene Finlay, Jefferson, who sees in fur farming agriculture's most profitable industry.

cellent power for the past five years for both grinders and the mixer.

A schedule is kept of each day's feeding, and here, in terms of pounds, is what the books record for the last two days of April and the first two days of May:

Ingredient	29th	30th	1st	2nd
Horse	36.5	38.0	40.0	41.5
Tripe	31.5	31.5	20.0	20.0
Liver	20.0	20.0	23.5	7.0
Hearts	10.0	10.0	10.0	8.0
Atco fish	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5
Bone	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
Pies	10.0	10.0	7.5	7.5
Carrots	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5
Tomatoes	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5
Cereal	41.5	43.0	44.0	45.0
Mineral	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.4
Yoe	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.2
Charcoal	5	5	5	5
Alfalfa	6	6	5	5
Lettuce	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0

Finlay also feeds dried prunes sometimes, but prefers the black figs on the belief that prunes are too acid. Some breeders who have prune orchards also feed green prunes while available. Charcoal is fed on assumption it aids digestion. Some alfalfa flour, powdered leaves and blossoms, goes into the cereal and this flour is obtained from sections where no poison spray is used.

The cereal used is half commercial and half produced on the farm. Shredded wheat, just as good as the housewife buys except broken and bought in sack lots and wheats are among those included in the commercial cereals. A mineral prepared especially for fox food and containing yeast and cod liver oil (and costing \$25 per hundred pounds) is being fed this year. It takes most of one man's time each day to care for the foxes at this time of the year.

This high gear feeding lasts eight months of the year. After August 1 and until December 1, the mixer is idle and feeding is slowed down to a cube concentrate containing 25 or 30 per cent powdered meat or fish and figs. A cupful of this concentrate is fed each fox daily for these four months.

**Some Litters Large**  
Whichever season is nearing an end at the Finlay farm, and soon vixen and pups, or at least the oldest ones, will be separated. The young arrive between March 10 and May 20, and this year Finlay has one litter of eight fine pups and several litters of seven and six; and of course a number of two, three and four, and very occasionally the vixen falls short of any blessed events.

The average increase at this fox farm this year has been 4.4 pups, which is larger than usual. Four pens in which the vixens are sisters have 23 pups this season, and the four-year-old mother fox of the litter of eight had litters of six last year and the year before.

Finlay uses the double mating plan, chutes for the males entering from either side of the vixen's pen. He has 45 males to service the 70 pens. The youngest mother Finlay has in his pens was 11 months old when pups arrived.

Division of the larger litters will start soon and during the summer months as many as 150 foxes at a time will be turned into a large runway. Each old fox has his or her own pen, this being tightly enclosed with fine mesh wire.

Do the foxes give any battle to the man attending them?

**Not Entirely Tame**  
They would if not handled carefully, Finlay says. His animals are not as tame as some, but the mothers raise the young just as well, and that is the main point, he believes. And you should



Commander C. E. Rosendahl, the country's leading Zeppelin expert, has been named technical adviser to the board of investigation appointed by Secretary of Commerce Roper to probe the disaster which overtook the German dirigible Hindenburg.

hear the warning signal the vixen nearest the entrance gate broadcasts to the rest of the pens when someone enters the gate!

Puppy foxes shed their original fur, which shows no trace of silver, and before many weeks begin to produce the beautiful silver. In fact, the old ones also shed their fur once each year, and shortly after the fur comes again and reaches its prime, pelted in in order on all fox farms.

Pelting begins the first week in December and at the Finlay farm, Lawrence, who does this work, handles from 10 to 12 animals a day. Pelts dry quickly and if necessary skins pelted one day may be on the way to market the next night. For drying, a cool, moving atmosphere with good air circulation is best. Pelts hung above a hole cut through an attic below which is a heater are most easily dried. The pelts should be kept in a dark, cool, dry place and when large shipments are made it is best to bale the skins and ship them that way.

This year Finlay will pelt about 200 foxes. He has a slight increase in his pens this year—the first expansion in three years.

No serious diseases are known to the fox industry in Marion county, though this is not true in other parts of Oregon; however, there is some indication of parasites in increasing number.

One may wonder why the fox breeder tells so freely of his work and possible profits, when there is tendency on part of some farmers to keep to themselves information about industries which seem profitable.

**Industry Stable**  
Possibly the answer is in the fact that within the last few years the number of fox farms has been pretty stable though, breeders have come and gone—in short, one must have an aptitude for the fox game to be successful in it. It requires much detailed work. Oregon last year produced between 8000 and 9000 silver foxes, and the output for Oregon, Washington and a part of Idaho was 20,000.

Finlay believes many more mink will be raised in this area, and as already stated, is himself going into mink raising also. He has 50 mink this year. While mink pelts sell for less money—averaging from \$22 to \$25—it is easier to produce, mink for they require much less pen room and much less food, just to mention two items. Great care must be exercised in handling the young mink, for they are so tiny it is not uncommon for them to drop through one-inch mesh wire.

The last legislature appropriated \$5000 for experimental work on fur farming, to be conducted through the station at Oregon State college, and work on making pens in preparation for starting these studies is now under way, Finlay reports. This step was urged by the fox breeders' association of the state.

The last legislature appropriating a summer school for breeders, with new features to be added this year. One of these will be held in the Salem area, Finlay says.

**Summer Sessions To Start June 21**

Seven summer sessions will be offered by the institutions in the state system of higher education in 1937. It was announced Saturday by Alfred Powers, director of the sessions.

The University of Oregon will have sessions in Eugene and Portland, Oregon State college in Corvallis, Oregon Normal school in Monmouth, Southern Oregon Normal school in Ashland, and Eastern Oregon Normal school in La Grande. The marine biology camp, with specialized study in marine animal and plant life, will be held at Coos Bay.

The university and college sessions will open June 21, and the normal schools June 7, with post sessions of one month at Eugene and Corvallis. The normal schools will offer second sessions.

Many special features will be added to the regular work of the Oregon summer sessions this year, and increased opportunity will be given students and teachers for study in particular fields of interest, stated Dean Powers.

**All Employees to Register, Stated**

Employees, regardless of age, were urged to apply at their local office for federal security act account numbers, in a statement issued Saturday by the state unemployment compensation insurance commission.

The statement said the unemployment compensation law covered employees of all ages, contrary to an impression had gone out that persons over 65 years old did not have to register.

Four ways are provided for registration. They are: Through the employer, through any labor union of which he is a member, by delivering to his local postoffice and by mailing in a sealed envelope addressed "Postmaster, Local."

**Many Letters on Labor Statement**

The recent statement by the state board of control that while it would not oppose organization of state employees they would not be recognized as labor organizations, has brought an avalanche of letters to the executive department.

Most of the letters commended the board and declared that organization of state employees into union groups was against public policy.

In a few cases the writers took Governor Martin to task and alleged that his views on the labor situation were not in harmony with the trend of the times.

# Store-wide Sale!

## Continues All This Week At

# THE PRICE SHOE CO.

Many new attractive bargains added in each department to increase the sales and bring larger crowds. Store has been crowded all this week and we have been compelled to increase our sales force, calling extra sales people each day. Millinery and Corset departments are crowded to capacity. The corset department is selling out the Hagedorn stock at unbelievable prices. Hats are reduced to such a low figure that every one is buying a hat.

Lingerie, Hose and Bags are a riot of beautiful merchandise and unheard of bargains. Give the recipient the added thrill of receiving their graduation gifts from Price's.

### TRY AND ARRANGE TO SHOP IN THE MORNING SO OUR SALES FORCE CAN GIVE YOU OUR USUAL COURTEOUS ATTENTION

## Our Greatest Hose Bargain

## Wonderful Slip Promotion

Our complete stock \$2 sheer chiffon pure silk hose. Good shades and sizes. Some clocks in the new shades. All to go at half price . . .

We have just received thirty dozen made from a new material containing fifteen per cent glass and eighty-five per cent pure silk. We consider this an outstanding \$2.95 value and to introduce these slips to our trade we offer them while they last at only

**\$1.00**

**\$1.00**

**\$1.69**

Tearose White, Both Crepe and Satin — a Number of Styles to Select From

You Will Have to Come Early as They Will Not Last Long

# SHOES

## SPORT SHOES

Low heels and flat heels including saddle patterns in White, Brown, Blue. \$6 and \$7 values, over one hundred pair of selected numbers all to go at

**\$3.95**

## White Pumps, Ties

Pedigo, Rice, O'Neill and Brauer. Our very best known makes exclusive in our store. Regularly \$6.85 to \$10 values to be grouped out at

**\$4.95**

## Arch-Preservers

Pumps and Ties in Black and Brown. Only lines that are very badly broken up. While they are our regular \$10 and \$12 values there will not be nearly all the sizes. This is the reason for them being priced so low. They go at

**\$4.95**

# READY-TO-WEAR

## Women's Man Tailored SUITS

We only have a very few of these suits left and they are the finest that we ever have offered to our trade. We are grouping our few remaining \$19.50 to \$25.00 values at only

**\$14.95**

## Two and Three Piece COSTUME SUITS

The very finest things from our store. Regular \$49.50 values. You will have to see these to appreciate them. They go at

**\$34.95**

## FORMAL DRESSES

Pastels, in nets, Organdies, Chiffons all from our regular line formerly selling at \$19.50 to \$22.50. Just the thing for graduation. They are the greatest values we have ever offered.

All going at **\$12.95**

## Costume and 2-Piece Suit

Blue, Brown, Toast, Green and other light colors. Regularly sold at \$29.50, on sale at

**\$19.95**

## Two and Three Piece Costume Suits

The very finest things from our stock. Regular \$49.50 values. You will have to see these to appreciate them. They go at

**\$34.95**

## Sport Coats - \$19.95

The largest line of Sport Coats in this city. Full range of colors. They were a big value at \$29.50.

## New Gantner Swim Suits

We have just received a large lot of swim suits made by Gantner which is the very best guarantee for fit, quality and dependability. Be sure and see these suits before you buy. All colors and many new features in the line this year.

They will be placed on Sale at

**\$3.95 to \$8.95**

## SPORT COATS

We are offering one lot of Sport Coats in broken sizes and odd coats regularly sold at \$19.50. You will have to come early for these as they will go very quickly for

**\$12.95**

## BRADLEY KNITS

This line is exclusive to our store and we are positive it is the finest line of knitted dresses. All very highly styled.

We have practically every color and size, Rose, Green, Blue, Red, Beige and Tan. Each \$24.50 value goes at \$16.95 and \$19.50 values go at

**\$12.95**

## Print DRESSES

One and two piece, plain colors and black, every known pattern. These dresses will go very quickly as they are the regular \$19.50 and \$22.50. If you come early you can have them at

**\$10**

## Hats

Felts, Crepes, Shark Skin and Straws. Hundreds of styles to select from. Flower and veiled trimmed styles. White, Pastels and Dark colors. All head sizes.

Every \$5.00 hat in our store to go at

**\$2.95**

## CLOSING OUR HAGEDORN STOCK OF CORSETS

This stock will be on sale till it is closed out so come now and get some of these wonderful bargains.

Regular \$2.00 Corsets	<b>95c</b>	Regular \$5.00 Corsets	<b>\$2.95</b>
Regular \$3.50 Corsets	<b>\$1.95</b>	Regular \$7.50 to \$10 Corsets	<b>\$4.95</b>

## SALE

## HANDBAGS and PARTY BAGS

We do not have a price tag on bags below \$2.95, so the prices quoted below are exceptional values and are priced to close out quickly.

Many beautiful gift bags.

Three groups, \$2.95 and \$3.95 bags

**49c, \$1.29, \$1.89**

