

Hunting—With No Time Lost

J. Turnquist, Wallwort



Museum Specimen.—Photo by Fred Bard

ONE summer evening some visitors and the writer were sitting in the evening shadow of our home when all of a sudden we heard a strange shrill noise. All turned to look where it came from. We had not long to wait, for from under the kitchen floor came a weasel with five young, all in a line, passing us about three yards away. As they passed the woodpile the last one in the line diverged in through the blocks of wood and came out on the side with a mouse as large as itself and joined the procession again. With no time lost and all tails straight up, they continued their hunting expedition down the path and towards the granary and garden.

How To Deal With The Situation

Arthur Ward

I HAD to laugh at Doug Gilroy's encounter with the skunk, as told in the last BLUE JAY. If you remember, in a former issue, Cliff Shaw inquired about the scavenger trait of the skunk. In my short article respecting this I suggested the way to deal with this animal, if one wished to examine it. Unfortunately, this was left out (sorry, Ed.) or Doug would have known how to handle the situation.

I was out on horseback fetching the cows and I came across a skunk in some weeds adjacent to a slough. Being a little curious, after taking the cows home, I returned on foot with a binder whip stock about twelve feet long. I brought that skunk anywhere I wanted it, by first turning its head with the whip stock and soon we were in the farmyard.

It just sat there as much as to say, "Well, what do you expect me to do next?"

I have heard the question asked before, "How far can a skunk throw its scent?" My answer would be, less than ten feet.

Relics

Lad. Martinovsky, Gerald

I HAVE a large collection of Indian arrows, hammers, spear-heads, leather scrapers of stone and bone axes, etc. Also among my collection are a number of fossils, petrified wood, minerals and shells from many different places and countries. I have a two-tine fork found at Fort Ellice. Another interesting item is a fossilized backbone consisting of 12 vertebrae and spinal cord, in limestone. I also have what I believe to be the tail end of some reptile.

Anybody interested in seeing relics is welcome to examine these.