

thus see a different part of the country. A third alternative is offered if he chooses to take the Brandon train from Souris, but this route is not so direct.

Lauder is the first town on the return via the Souris-Glenboro route. It is as yet only a small place, but is growing and gets its share of the general trade of this district.

Hartney is a bigger place and promises in the near future to have its business considerably augmented by the addition of a Northern Pacific station to its railway connections. The extension of this line, which is now under construction through this part of Manitoba, will touch at Hartney. Already there is a well established and well housed business community here consisting of several large general stores, hardware, flour and feed, jewellery and drug and stationery shops, etc. There are also several elevators and a flour mill of 180 barrels capacity, owned and run by Jas. Finis. Parkin & Moore have recently bought out the general store of S. K. Colquhoun here.

Souris is a place which needs no introduction to commercial readers. It has been described before in these columns and is moreover one of the best known towns in Manitoba. It is important as a railway centre, a farmers' market, a business town and a milling point. It serves one of the



McCulloch & Herriots new Flour Mill at Souris, Man.

best settled and most prosperous regions of Western Manitoba. It is the junction of the C. P. R., Glenboro and Souris branches and is also the eastern terminus of the Pipestone branch. It possesses a strong business influence in the firm of McCulloch & Herriott, millers, one of the oldest and most successful concerns in Manitoba, which is even now giving additional evidence of its faith in the district by the erection at large cost of a new brick flour mill and warehouse which is to be completed by the end of the year or early in January. This mill will have a capacity of 300 barrels daily. The main building is 40x70 feet, five storeys high, and the warehouse 50x80, two storeys and basement. The engine room is 34x50 and the boiler room 37x50, chimney 100 feet high. The plant is being furnished by Goudie & McCulloch, of Galt, Ontario. The system of milling will be quite different from anything in use elsewhere in Manitoba, having as one of its peculiarities the Gyrator system of bolting. We refrain from entering at greater length into the description of this mill as we hope to describe it fully with illustrations at an early date. Among the building improvements at Souris this year is a new Presbyterian church. T. R. Boothley opened in gent's furnishings on September 15th, coming here

from Bracebridge, Ontario. Other business changes of the past year are unimportant.

Consideration of the changes and improvements along the Glenboro line must be deferred to a later date, as they are too many and too important to crowd into this letter.

Around the points touched upon this week the crops are light, ranging all the way from four or five to fifteen bushels to the acre. This reduction in yield is due to an early drought. The average yield for the entire district will probably run about 10 or 12 bushels, Alameda, Oxbow and Souris each giving larger returns than this average. The grain is a good sample, but, of course, somewhat damaged by the recent rains, which found much of it in stook or badly stacked. The people are not by any means dispondent, as a result of this small return for the year's farming operations, but are taking the disappointment philosophically and quietly trimming their sails to suit the changed conditions. Fortunately nearly all are well-to-do and can easily afford an off year. They look forward with undiminished faith to the future of their several districts and predictions of the brightest kind are being indulged in in the face of the present depression.

Report on London October Sales.

BY PHILLIPS, POLITZER & Co.

In the present series of fur sales the prices ruling in the earlier part of the year were, on the whole, maintained, and in some instances exceeded. The trade with wholesale manufacturers has hardly had time this year to develop to the usual extent, owing to the warm summer which has lasted right through into October. Still, in the various fur centres of Europe stocks of skins are light, owing in a great measure to the smaller shipments to hand from the United States by reason of the Americans this season retaining their furs to a large extent for home consumption. It must also be noted that the welcome revival of trade in that quarter, and the consequently increased demand (which has so greatly fallen off in recent years) has greatly assisted the fur trade in Europe. The outlook, therefore, is hopeful, and with a cold autumn and winter to stimulate trade, one may well anticipate firm, and indeed, advancing prices for the early part of the coming year.

The purchases were chiefly made by German dealers; manufacturers, either foreign or English, only taking a very moderate portion of the catalogue, and the results in Messrs C. M. Lampson & Co.'s sale were as follows:

Mink—24,557 skins (last year 7,574). In good demand all through the year, and is being used in England and France, where of late years the article has had but small opportunities. In the foreign markets stocks are very small, and if the present collection has not shown better results it is because it consisted mostly of poor southern skins, while the demand is for better grades. In finer sorts there was an advance of about ten per cent, and for the common southern skins former prices were realized.

Marten—7,803 skins (last year 6,988). Are essentially an English article and have sold steadily throughout the year, and had it not been for the continuous exceedingly warm weather the small quantities still on hand would have been entirely cleared. The tendency remains good and prices

show an advance of about ten per cent.

Bear, black—3,547 skins (last year 2,875). Bears of all kinds have not had a very brisk sale during the year, and prices seem to tend lower, the present decline in this article being twenty per cent. to twenty-five per cent. on last March figures, at which values, however, the English trade has again taken nearly the whole quantity offered.

Bear, brown—453 skins (last year 451). Rather neglected, and prices remain about the same as last June, but twenty per cent. to twenty-five per cent lower than in March.

Bear, grizzly—83 skins (last year 271.) Seem to be in better request, and do not show much change in value.

Bear, white—27 skins (last year 25). Unaltered.

Skunks—16,204 skins (last year 18,929). The quantity in the present catalogue is really too small for comparison, but the article has been in good request in the United States, where considerable quantities have been re-imported from European markets during the year, leaving stocks on this side somewhat light. The demand here, however, has been only moderate, and the present small collection attracted but slight attention, prices ruling the same as in June.

Musquash—68,651 skins (last year 55,047). In fair request at former prices.

Raccoon—7,788 skins (last year 10,789). Scarce and the shipments to Europe during the year were very small. The present catalogue only contained a limited quantity, which did not, however, receive much notice, prices ruling the same as in the last sale.

Fox, red—3,290 skins (last year 2,175). Have sold fairly well in Russia, and prices are a trifle higher than last June.

Lynx—585 skins (last year 1,273). Neglected. Prices unaltered.

Otter—960 skins (last year 551). In fair request. Prices were firm and in some instances a trifle over those of last year.

Beaver—1,089 skins (last year 973). Firm at last sale prices.

Fox, white—1,890 skins (last year—) In good demand and prices unaltered.

Hair seals, dry—5,365 skins (last year 554.) About the same as last March.

Fox, gray—2,401 skins (last year 2,329). Rather neglected. Price about the same as last June.

Cat, wild—929 skins (last year 1,037). Unaltered.

Cat, house—734 skins (last year 2,486). Ditto.

Badger—541 skins (last year —). Common kinds were somewhat higher, but the rough skins were a good deal lower than last June.

Wolf—783 skins (last year 992). Neglected. Prices unaltered.

Notice has been filed with the Interstate Commerce commission that on November 10 the railroads between Chicago and the Atlantic seaboard will advance the carrying charges on grain 2 cents per 100 lbs.

WANTED—SEVERAL TRUSTWORTHY PERSONS in this province to manage our business in their own and nearby districts. It is mainly office work conducted at home. Salary straight \$500 a year and expenses—definite, bonafide, no more, no less salary. Monthly \$75. References. Enclose self-addressed stamped envelope. Herbert E. Hess, Pres., Dept. M. Chicago.