

## Fur Trade News.

On account of the Queen's jubilee celebrations Messrs. C. M. Lampson & Co.'s June sale of furs will commence on June 16 instead of June 21, as previously announced.

C. M. Lampson offered the following articles at their March sale: 1,200 sea otter, 11,000 otter, 6,500 beaver, 8,000 fisher, 1,200 silver fox, 8,500 blue fox, 5,000 cross fox, 1,500 white fox, 80,000 gray fox, 60,000 red fox, 15,000 Japanese fox, 18,000 lynx, 7,500 bear, 10,000 wild cat, 10,000 house cat, 20,000 wolf, 900 wolverine, 260,000 raccoon, 85,000 marten, 460,000 skunk, 200,000 mink, 600,000 muskrat, 200,000 opossum, 3,000 real chinchilla, 80,000 bastard chinchilla, 20,000 Thibet lamb, 16,000 squirrels, 1,200 dry hair seal, 100 grebe, 80,000 Australian opossum, 25,000 wombat, 5,000 kangaroo, 55,000 wallaby, 800 musk ox, 7,000 deer, 600 Thibet coats, 1,000 Thibet crosses, 150 Persians, 650 China bid crosses, 7,000 Mongolian lamb crosses and coats, 9,000 Russian marmot, 10,000 Japanese mink, 15,000 Russian sable, 8,500 Japanese sable, 10,000 kolinsky, 500 nutria, 10,000 civet cat, 4,500, 100 kitt fox, 1,200 dry bait seals, 3,000 stone marten, 3,000 baum marten, 11,000 Japanese marten, 8,000 Russian sable tails, 3,000 mink tails, 4,000 marten tails. Fur seals, salted, 6,800 Northwest coast, 250 Cape Horn, 565 Lobos island, 250 Australasian, and 450 sundries. The sale of fur seal skins was held on March 25; this offering did not include the 7,500 Alaska fur seals, or the 5,100 Lobos island seals intended for the sale, both of which have been held over until next winter.—Fur Trade News.

Following is the complete cable report of the recent London fur sales, most of which has been previously given in The Commercial.

## HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY'S SALE.

Otter,	15 per ct. lower than Mch. '96
Silver Fox,	12½ " " " "
Cross Fox,	15 " " " "
Fisher,	15 " higher than Mch. '96
White Fox,	15 " " " "
Red Fox,	5 " lower " "
Marten,	12½ " " " "
Muskrat,	10 " " " Jan. '97
Beaver,	10 " " " " "
Lynx,	17½ " " " Mch. '96
Wolf,	30 " " " " "
Wolverine,	12½ " " " " "
Skunk,	27½ " " " " "
Mink, same as in March, 1896,	
Musk ox,	5 per ct. higher than Mch. '96
Black bear,	25 " lower " "
Grizzly bear,	50 " " " " "
Brown bear,	25 " " " " "
Northwest coast fur seals, salted, nearly all bid in.	

## C. M. LAMPSON &amp; CO.'S SALE.

Cross fox	10 per ct lower than Mch. '96
Blue fox,	25 " " " " "
Musk ox,	30 " " " " "
Beaver, same as in January, 1897.	
Squirrel, same as in March 1896.	
Otter,	15 per ct lower than Mch. '96
Lynx,	27½ " " " " "
Wolverine,	12½ " " " " "
Fur seals, dry,	20 " " " " "
Silver fox same as in March, 1896.	
Sea otter	5 per ct lower than Mch. '96
Fisher	15 " higher " " "
Northwest coast fur seals, salted, same as December, 1896.	
Red fox,	5 per ct lower than Mch. '96
Thibet lamb,	10 " " " " Jan., '97
Chinchilla, real, same as in	
Chinchilla, bastard, same as in	
White fox,	25 per ct higher than Mch. '96
White bear,	10 " lower " " "
Bl'k & b'n bear,	25 " " " " "
Grizzly bear,	85 " " " " "
Russian grizzly,	85 " " " " "
Marten,	10 " lower " " "
" baum, same as in January, 1897.	

Marten, stone,	15 per ct higher than Jan. '97
" Japanese,	10 " " " "
Russian sable, Jakutsky,	15 per cent higher than March, '96.
Russian sable, Nicholaisky,	15 per cent higher than March, '96.
Russian sable, Kamshatka,	15 per cent higher than March, '96.
Russian sable, Amorsky, same as Mch. '96.	
" Saghalin,	" " " " "
Japanese sable, same as in January, '97.	
" fox,	10 per cent lower than Jan. '97
Kolinsky fox, same as in January, '97.	
Mink,	12½ per cent lower than March, '96.
Muskrat, same as in January, '97.	
Muskrat, black, same as in January, '97.	
Skunk,	20 per cent lower than March, '96
Cat, civet,	15 per ct lower than Mch. '96
Opossum,	15 " " " " "
Wolf	10 " higher " " "
Cat, wild,	20 " lower " " "
Cat, house,	5 " higher " " "
Badger, Western,	50 per ct lower than Mch. '96
" Northern, same as March, '96.	
Australian opossum,	10 per cent higher than January, '97.
Wombat,	10 per ct higher than January, '97
Wallaby, same as in January, '97.	
Kangaroo, tanners,	15 per cent higher than Jan. '97.
Raccoon,	12½ per cent higher than Mch. '96
Fox, grey,	10 " " " " "
Fox, kitt,	15 " lower " " "
Hair seal, dry,	30 per cent lower than Mch '96
Rabbit, American,	50 per cent. higher than March, 1896.

## Montreal Grocery Markets.

Since our last there has been a decidedly better feeling in the sugar market in sympathy with the strong advices from primary points, and although no actual advance in values has taken place yet the tendency is that way. In New York granulated sugar has advanced within the past two days ¼c per lb., it now being \$1.46 per 100 lbs. net, and advices to hand state that the above does not check the disposition to buy freely. The New York market for raws is also firmer and tending higher under a good demand. Recent sales of 96 test centrifugal have been made at 8 5-16c to 3½c. A private cable from London to-day reported the market for best firm a 9s April and May. Locally the clearings of raw sugar from bond lately have been exceedingly large in anticipation of a duty being imposed. The demand for refined sugar has been good and a more active business is reported. Prices are very firm at 4 to 4½c for granulated and at 3½ to 3¾c for yellows, as to quality, at the factory.

There has been no important change in the situation of the molasses market since our last. Latest advices from the point of production indicate that the offerings from planters are small yet, and although some large orders from local houses have been forwarded, no purchases have yet been made, but it is reported that some lots have been secured on Quebec account. Business in old molasses, on spot, continues quiet, owing to the fact that holders do not feel disposed to accept the prices offered. The New York Commercial Bulletin and Journal of Commerce says:—The extensive demand at New Orleans for open-kettle, referred to in our previous report, has developed to remarkably large takings and, as understood here, practically clearing up the stocks here of that class of goods. It has been brought about by the interest of New York and Boston houses, with their buying reaching between 7,000 brls. to 8,000 brls., and nearer, as reported upon this market, the outside figures. Naturally, this heavy business and the closer control of supplies exerts a good effect upon the situation here, while for certain lines of goods that have been under

most attention latterly from the grocery trade the tempo of prices is decidedly stronger. Bids were made here to-day at 1 to 2c advance for medium and good grades of kettle, while there is rather more of a disposition to take in a supply a little ahead of actual needs. The centrifugal stocks quite firmly hold, but is without especial features beyond it taking more or less demand in competition with mixed goods, which grades are in moderate supply only.

The demand for syrups continues slow, and the market, in consequence, rules quiet and steady at 1½c to 1¾c per lb., as to quality, at the factory.

There is nothing new to relate in the rice market, business being quiet and prices unchanged. We quote: Crystal Japan, \$5.00 to \$5.25; standard B., \$3.50; Patna \$1.50 to \$5.25; Carolina, \$6.75 to \$7.75; choice Bermuda, \$1, and Java kinks, \$1.25

In spices business has been somewhat quiet during the past week, owing to the fact that buyers generally have filled their wants pretty well for season. The tone of the market is firm and prices show no change. We quote: Black pepper, 8 to 10c; white, 11 to 11c; Jamaica ginger, 20 to 25c; cloves 7½ to 10c, and nutmegs, 60 to 90c.

The market for coffee shows no signs of improvement, the demand being chiefly for small lots at about steady prices. We quote: Maracaibo, 17½ to 18c; Santos, 14½ to 16c; Rio, 15 to 16c, and Mocha, 21 to 26c.

In anticipation of a duty being placed on teas quite an active demand of a speculative character has sprung up within the last few days and a large volume of business has been accomplished at firm values. The demand chiefly has been for Japan and in the neighborhood of 1,500 to 2,000 packages have changed hands at 15c. The offerings on spot are not large owing to the fact that holders generally have confidence in the future.—Gazette.

## Condition of Range Cattle.

The first of April can generally be looked upon in the stock raising country as witnessing the departure of winter. To the stock district the most serious question is that of how the bands of cattle will "pull through" the winter. In a country where comparatively no attempt is made at housing or sheltering the cattle, the question becomes one of interest not only to the growers of stock, but to the whole population.

In this district the winter of 1896-97 was a most peculiar one. It was a hard winter and it was a long winter. It opened with November, the coldest and severest month for thirty years. The thermometer never known to dip as low in this particular locality as it did about the end of January. There were long stretches of cold weather without the tempering influence of a chinook. The break-up of the winter was later than for a number of years. Last year we had grain in the ground when this year we had zero weather. In spite of all this the cattlemen and sheepmen are getting their herds through with but very trifling loss. This refers to dogie cattle as well as to range bred and range born cattle.

Owners of dogie cattle who have brought their bands through the winter of 1896-97 with any degree of success need not fear that their business will not be a successful one. Pilgrim cattle that can rustle through their first winter on the ranges in such a season as we have just come through can withstand any weather which we may in future have in the stock country. The successful carrying of stockers through this winter should prove an incentive to the business.—Montreal Hat Times.