

overcome, they can be sold under their real names. Muskrat backs are now sold as 'rat' fur at almost as high figures as the dyed product.

**Imitations and
Misnaming**

The pressure of increasing demand has brought into common use the fur of animals with harsh, brittle hair of any colour, which is sold under names which mislead the unwary public. Thus, the pelts of animals from the warmer zones such as Chinese goat, Thibet lamb, Manchurian dog, hamster, marmot, Tartar pony, opossum, raccoon, weasel, jackal fox, monkey, antelope, otter and many others are now worked up by dressers and dyers into very respectable-looking furs. They are inferior, however, to the furs from colder climates in suppleness of leather, closeness of underwool, fullness of overhair and silkiness of hair and, because they are dyed, they are less durable and less prized.

**Misnaming and
Deceptions**

The misnaming of furs has caused the London Chamber of Commerce to give notice that misleading terms are not to be used and that offenders are liable to prosecution under the Merchandise Marks Act, 1887. Even in the early days when misnaming was in its infancy, the manufactured furs were frequently misnamed as follows:

Muskrat or musquash, pulled and dyed.....	Seal
Nutria, pulled and dyed.....	Seal
Nutria, pulled and natural.....	Beaver
Rabbit, sheared and dyed.....	Seal
Otter, pulled and dyed.....	Seal
Marmot, dyed.....	Mink or sable
Fitch, dyed.....	Sable
Rabbit, dyed.....	Sable or French sable
Hare, dyed.....	Sable, fox or lynx
Muskrat, dyed.....	Mink or sable
Wallaby, dyed.....	Skunk
White rabbit.....	Ermine
White rabbit, dyed.....	Chinchilla
White hare, dyed or natural.....	Fox, foxaline
Goat, dyed.....	Bear or leopard

But, if laws were necessary twenty-five years ago to protect the public from frauds, what must be the necessity at the present time, when two hares reared by the same mother may pose on the same counter as 'white fox' and 'black lynx', respectively?

The following is a list of common misdescriptions: