

London Fur Sales.

Phillips, Politzer & Co. report as follows on the October fur sales.

Although the accumulation of stocks and slow sales during the summer months caused some uneasiness in the fur trade, we are glad to be able to report a favorable change during the last few weeks. Of the medium and the lower grade of goods large quantities have been cleared, and manufacturers hold small stocks, and are full of work. With finer furs, the wet weather is interfering, but prospects are fair enough, and a few weeks of dry weather would improve things very materially. On the continent no particular activity prevails, the dullness of trade in America is felt and so far business there is marked by want of animation.

Bears, black, 2,200 skins (last year 2,912). Were almost unsalable at one time of the year, the last month or two, however, sales increased considerably and the available stock was pretty well cleared. In the present sales the competition was good and prices ruled about 10 per cent. higher than in June.

Bear, brown, 395 skins (last year 585). Advanced 20 per cent.

Bear, grizzly and Russian, 1,058 skins (last year 1,467). Are unaltered.

Fox, red, 3,131 skins (last year 2,000). Sold 10 per cent. lower, having thus lost the advance established in June.

Lynx, 2,207 skins (last year 1,181). Are absolutely without consumption, and stocks keep accumulating, although prices are at an extremely low level, compared with last sale, prices are 15 per cent. lower.

Otter, 820 skins (last year 458). Are in fair demand at previous prices.

Raccoon, 12,507 (last year 33,011). Realized an advance of 5 per cent.

Musquash, 88,871 skins (last year 73,203). Have caused some disappointment, a good many large prime skins remain unsold, but the cheaper sorts have done fairly well; the present prices are about 15 per cent. lower, the decline being more especially on the best large skins.

Wolves, 2,904 skins (last year 4,616). Are neglected and declined 15 per cent.

Opossum, Australian, 312,000 skins (last year 532,810). In good demand and sold steadily at an advance of 15 to 20 per cent.

Wombat, 38,211 skins (last year 5,210). Were also in good request, but prices, through the larger quantity offered, are 10 per cent. lower than in June.

Wallaby, 41,000 skins (last year 57,831). The Victoria skins are neglected and prices for same very moderate, the decline being 15 per cent., other sorts in fair demand and realizing 15 to 20 per cent. over last sale prices.

Marten, 5,601 skins (last year 9,312). Have been selling fairly all through the year, and the demand having further increased of late, prices ruled 10 per cent. higher than in June, and are about equal with those obtained in the March sales.

Baum marten, 1,050 skins (last year 1,510). Under the influence of improved demand for American marten, prices were maintained.

Stone marten, 1,997 skins (last year 80). Sold a trifle lower than in June, and do not seem to be used to any extent.

Japanese marten, 7,763 skins (last year 1,150). The high prices in the early part of the year checked the sale of this article, but the lower quotation in June improved the demand and prices are fully maintained.

Russian sables, 2,592 skins (last year 2,125). Fine Yakutsky skins realized March prices, the lower grades like Yenisseysky declined 20 per cent.

Japanese sables, 4,392 skins (last year 3,791). Could not be profitably handled at imported prices, and several parcels remained unsold in the market. A further decline of

7½ per cent. on the reduced values of June is the result.

Mink, 11,816 skins (last year 5,969). Have been moving slowly, the present small collection which consisted chiefly of poorest sorts declined 10 to 15 per cent.

Kolinski, 16,011 skins (last year 7,000). Are in poor demand, and prices receded 25 per cent.

Ermine, 5,235 skins (last year -). Are again more extensively used and sold at about 5 per cent. advance.

Japanese fox, 21,486 skins (last year 10,587). Sold readily at a small advance on last sale prices.

Beaver, 871 skins (last year 1,727). Very much neglected, and the low prices of June could hardly be reached.

Chinchilla bastard, 41,300 skins (last year 47,534). Are more moderate in price, and while common and discolored skins are not easily placed, the good blue skins were in fair demand, but at a further reduction of about 15 per cent.

Chinchilla real, 4,200 skins (last year 1,927). Good fresh blue skins fully maintained their previous values; common discolored are not wanted and sold at very low figures.

Thibets, 16,700 skins (last year 2,032); 2,248 crosses (last year 16, 1,479 coats (last year 175). Mostly common and woolly, sold at previous prices.

In the smaller sales. Monkeys, 70,311 skins (last year, 51,788). Proved quite unsalable, a few of the best lots were with difficulty disposed of at 10d. to 11d per skin.

Australian opossum, 112,305 skins (last year 367,882). The collection was very small the demand good, and the result an advance of about 15 per cent.

Whitecoats, 22,806 skins (last year 1,725). Attracted very little attention, and were withdrawn for want of competition.

Thibets, 51,827 skins (last year 13,156), 145 coats (last year 8), 1,971 crosses (last year 51). Continue to be used in very large quantities, and quotations were well maintained all through the year. In the present sale, the buying, on account of lateness of the season, was cautious, and several portions were withdrawn, as holders remain firm and will not accept anything under the current prices of the year. Coats and crosses are unobtainable at present.

Dried Fruit.

There is no abatement in the strength of the dried fruit market. Latest cable advices state that there has been another advance in Valencia raisins at Denia of 1s 6d, fine fruit now being firmly held at 19s, off stalk at 17s, selected at 22s 6c, and layers at 21s 6d. The above prices are equivalent to a net cost laid down at Montreal of 5c to 6½c, according to grade. The demand has been active and some large orders have been booked at these advanced prices. Advices from some of the largest shippers in Denia state that it is impossible to fill all orders forwarded. In this market there is absolutely no stock in first hands for sale, a thing almost unheard of in previous seasons at this time of the year.

California raisins are equally firm, and prices on 8-crown fruit have been withdrawn entirely. Recent sales of these will cost 6½c net laid down here, which is an advance of a full cent on the opening price. Two-crowns have sold at 5½c net, and 1-crowns at 7½c.

A Montreal report says. The first car load of new California prunes will be distributed to the jobbing trade this week. This fruit costs the jobbers 9c for 40 to 50s, 8c for 50 to 60s, 7½c for 60 to 70s, and 7c for 70 to 80s.

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