

310. The increased expenditure this year is an index of the prosperity of the farming community.

Note by the Editor—This official report refers to the province of Manitoba alone. Other crop estimates and statistical reports relating to live stock, etc., usually include Manitoba and the Territories together. This will explain the wide divergence which would seem apparent to those who might not understand the circumstances.

Fur Trade Notes.

London fur sales for 1899 will be held as follows: C. M. Lampson & Co., January 16 to 20; March 13 to 24; June 13 to 15; October 17 to 19. Hudson's Bay Company, January 16; March 13 to 16.

The New York Fur Trade Review says: This is to be a fur season. Not only are capes, collarettes scarfs, Eton coats and jackets in great demand, but dressmakers are using fur extensively. The most elegant gowns, both for evening and day wear, have bands of fur on the waist, sleeves and skirts. The collection of raw furs, owing to favorable weather for trapping, ought to be up to the average in quantity; such being the fact, and other business conditions being considered, present prices should rule moderate on all articles to insure shippers a fair season.

The New York Press says: Some of the muffs carried are of gigantic size, like the muffs of Galunboro's beauties. It is not even pretended that they are used for warming the hands. The weather has made it unnecessary to consider other hand-coverings than gloves. But muffs have been in common use and for the sole purpose of adding further picturesqueness to my lady's toilet. Contrast of big muff and small waist has helped to produce the desired lithe effect. Sable and chinchilla are the popular furs with the "swells." Not all their muffs are large, but none are small. Mink is liked too. Furs for the neck oftenest are half cape and half boa, the front of the cape finishing in long ends, which sometimes comes to the skirt bottom. Little neck boas of marten and mink are worn, too, by the women of the world. Just such as every girl has in her closet, remaining from the fad of three years ago, but these boas are made more smart by a band of mink or sable worn around a velvet toque, which finishes the afternoon costume of the woman of fashion.

Dry Goods Trade.

Eastern clothiers report an improving demand for the better grades of clothing and that the demand for woolens is gradually working up to the finer goods.

A report from Lyons, France, shows no expansion in the demand in the market for silks, there being apparently little inclination on the part of buyers to anticipate future requirements. A more settled political outlook would, it is argued, considering the statistical position, be likely to find instant expression in a decided revival of activity in the Lyons market, and an upward movement of prices.

Little Isaac—"Fadder, it looks like rain." Isaac Senior—"Mark dose two tollar umprellas oop to five tollars, und sell 'em for tree und a halut."

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