

HUDSON'S BAY Co.,
New York, N.Y., June 6, 1968.

Mr. RICHARD WESTWOOD,
President, Mutation Mink Breeders Association,
West Jordan, Utah.

DEAR Mr. WESTWOOD: In response to your inquiry concerning the comparative averages obtained so far this season in the selling of your mink crop, we wish to advise that from December 1, 1967 through June 1, 1968 we sold a total of 2,349,580 mink pelts at an average price of \$15.76.

For the period December 1, 1966 through June 30, 1967 we sold 1,919,944 pelts at an average of \$15.64.

Yours very truly,

L. J. HENRY, *President.*

NEW YORK AUCTION Co., INC.,
New York, N.Y., June 11, 1968.

Mr. RICHARD WESTWOOD,
President, EMBA Mink Breeders Association,
West Jordan, Utah.

DEAR Mr. WESTWOOD: In accordance with your request we have checked our records in order to determine the number of Mink pelts sold by our Company—in all categories of all colors—and the average price realized for two selling seasons. For your information we herewith list our findings:

Period	Number of pelts	Average sell- ing price
Dec. 1, 1966, to June 1, 1967.....	2,045,978	\$14.31
Dec. 1, 1967, to June 1, 1968.....	2,264,869	\$15.23

I trust this is the information you require, and if there is anything further we can do, please feel free to call upon us.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM F. FITZGERALD, *President.*

Mr. LOVRE. And Mr. Henderson will present the case.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Henderson, we appreciate having you and all of you with us this morning. We thank you for introducing them.

You are recognized, Mr. Henderson.

STATEMENT OF DAVID W. HENDERSON

Mr. HENDERSON. Mr. Chairman, if you will forgive me, I will read rapidly but I want to call your attention to the fact that we brought some blowups of the figures that are contained within the statement itself if it is of any aid to the committee in following the argument.

The CHAIRMAN. If you leave out any part of your statement do so with the knowledge that the entire statement will appear in the record.

Mr. HENDERSON. Mink ranchers of the United States are in Washington again, Mr. Chairman, in the latest of many attempts to regulate unfair foreign competition. To most people the idea is just a little absurd, since the preeminence of mink in the fashion world today is so overwhelming that somehow all persons connected with its production and distribution are supposed to be gilt edged.

But I assure you, Mr. Chairman, that the domestic producers of mink, far from living in the lap of luxury and opulence, are in a tragic state of ruin today, and 56 percent of their number, as registered in 1962, have gone "belly up" in a vain attempt to beat the "establishment."