



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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ALASKA SEALSKINS DROP SHARPLY AT FALL AUCTION

Prices of Government-owned Alaska fur-seal and fox skins dropped sharply at the semi-annual auction held in St. Louis, Mo., on October 21, the Fish and Wildlife Service reported today.

The gross proceeds from the sale of sealskins amounted to \$1,397,384 while an additional \$6,321 was realized from the sale of 664 fox skins. At the spring auction held on April 29, the total amount received was \$2,457,705 for 28,032 sealskins and 307 fox skins.

A total of 26,032 finished fur-seal skins from the Pribilof Islands were offered by the Government at the October public auction through its agent, the Fouke Fur Company of St. Louis. Prices averaged \$54.45 per skin, or about 37 percent lower than the average of \$87.51 received at the April auction. Offerings of sealskins included 14,657 dyed matara brown, 8,036 dyed safari brown, and 3,950 dyed black.

The 664 fox skins were sold at prices which averaged 36 percent below the April prices.

All of the Government offerings were sold during the auction which was well attended by buyers from many sections of the country.

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