

The following are statistics of the sealing fleet of Canada for the seasons of 1897 to 1902:—

	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.
Total catch.....	30,410	28,552	35,346	35,523	24,422	16,143
Distributed thus :						
British Columbia Coast..	6,100	9,746	10,471	16,438	7,265	4,936
Japanese coast.	7,321	360	.....	.....	2,130	3,331
Copper Island coast.....	1,382	50	699	208	3,397	1,340
Behring Sea.	15,607	16,943	23,284	17,513	10,362	5,193
North American coast, including Indians' coast catch.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8,533	1,343
Not specified. ....	.....	1,453	892	1,364	1,268	.....
Fleet, No. of vessels.....	42	35	26	37	39	34
Boats.. ..	149	90	68	114	139	129
Canoes.....	288	326	285	316	226	206
Crew, white.....	495	324	213	386	443	421
" Indians.....	587	653	587	646	465	437
Value of seal skins.....	\$304,100	\$285,520	\$441,825	\$562,845	\$366,330	.....

Prior to 1878 very few seals were killed by Canadian sealers. Hunting was not carried on further than 20 miles from shore.

The following statement shows the number of seals killed in 1883-1902 :

	Number.		Number.
1883	9,195	1896	55,677
1889	35,310	1897	30,410
1890	43,325	1898	28,552
1891	52,365	1899	35,346
1892	49,743	1900	35,523
1893	70,592	1901	24,422
1894	95,048	1902	16,143
1895	73,614		

From 1871 to 1902 the total products of the Canadian pelagic sealing industry amounted to 777,613 seal skins.

In addition to the take of Canadian vessels in 1902, 582 skins were landed at B. C. which were sent to the London market.