

PATENTS, COPYRIGHT, TRADE MARKS, ETC.

Patents.—Applications for patents in Canada from inventors in other countries were first received in 1872. In that year the total number of applications for patents made to the Canadian Patent Office, Department of Agriculture, was 752, and the total fees amounted to \$18,652. The business of the Office has continued gradually to expand, and the number of applications and total fees have increased each year without a break since the beginning of the present century until the fiscal year ended March 31, 1913, when 8,681 applications were received, and the total fees amounted to \$218,125. The number of patents granted in the fiscal year 1916-17 was 7,520, as compared with 6,812 in 1915-16. Of the total number of patents granted in the fiscal year 1916-17, 5,772 were issued to inventors or assignees resident in the United States, this number being over 76 p.c. of the total. Patents to Canadian inventors numbered 1,091, the other principal countries in order of the number of patents granted being Great Britain 352, Australia 62, France 45 and Sweden 43. For the fiscal year ended March 31, 1918, the number of patents granted was 7,233, of which 5,631, or 78 p.c. of the total, were issued to United States inventors. Patents to Canadian inventors numbered 973, the other principal countries in order of the number of patents granted being the United Kingdom 318, Australia 53, France 34, New Zealand 35 and Sweden 47. Table 39 shows the distribution of the Canadian patentees by province of residence for the years 1909 to 1918.

39.—Number of Canadian Patentees by Province of Residence, for the fiscal years 1909-1918.

Provinces.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Prince Edward Island	3	2	—	—	4	2	2	3	3	3
Nova Scotia.....	24	29	31	30	20	39	33	21	29	18
New Brunswick.....	18	30	23	17	25	30	20	17	29	14
Quebec.....	205	267	271	233	277	278	278	237	287	220
Ontario.....	467	610	610	531	584	607	586	540	465	398
Manitoba.....	71	88	102	72	105	115	97	89	84	91
Saskatchewan.....	32	40	47	47	58	59	66	65	62	84
Alberta.....	28	39	54	56	61	46	71	60	59	61
British Columbia.....	51	90	108	97	122	157	126	92	72	83
Territories and Yukon	4	3	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	1
Totals.....	903	1,198	1,246	1,083	1,256	1,334	1,281	1,125	1,091	973

It will be seen from the table that the more populous provinces of Ontario and Quebec obtained the largest absolute number of patents; but a calculation of the number of patentees in relation to population shows that for the fiscal year 1917 the greatest relative inventiveness was displayed in British Columbia. Thus in this province, in 1917, one patent was granted to every 5,421 persons, the other provinces