

tion for patent therefor in Canada may. . . . obtain a patent granting to such person an exclusive property in such invention." The exclusive right in the patent has duration for eighteen years.

The first Canadian patent was issued under the Lower Canada Act of 1824 to Noah Cushing, of Quebec. 165 patents were granted under the Acts of Upper and Lower Canada, and under the consolidating and later Acts of the provinces of Canada 3,160 patents were granted. The growth of invention is shown by the fact that, in 1923 alone 2,021 Canadian patents, a record figure, were issued to Canadians by the Patent Office.

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 gradually continued to expand and the number of applications and total fees increased each year without a break from the beginning of the present century until the fiscal year ended Mar. 31, 1913, when 8,681 applications were received and the total fees amounted to \$218,125. In the fiscal year ended Mar. 31, 1925, there were 14,834 applications, with fees amounting to \$474,614, as compared with 10,441 and \$390,934 respectively in 1924. For the fiscal year ended Mar. 31, 1925, the number of patents granted was 9,508, as compared with 9,000 in 1924, an increase of 508. Of the patents of 1925, 6,580, or 69 p.c., were issued to United States inventors, 1,302 to Canadians and 670 to residents of Great Britain and Ireland, while Germany with 200, France with 184 and Australia with 117 came next in number of patents issued. Table 45 shows the distribution of the Canadian patentees by province of residence for the years 1915 to 1925.

**45.—Number of Canadian Patentees, by Province of Residence, for the fiscal years ended Mar. 31, 1915-1925.**

Provinces.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Prince Edward Island.....	2	3	3	3	-	9	2	4	9	7	2
Nova Scotia.....	33	21	29	18	21	29	29	22	35	41	26
New Brunswick.....	20	17	29	14	9	22	33	14	21	14	24
Quebec.....	278	237	287	220	172	312	331	276	430	312	302
Ontario.....	586	540	465	398	386	636	708	508	845	673	559
Manitoba.....	97	89	84	91	66	86	118	75	158	83	66
Saskatchewan.....	66	65	62	84	76	94	119	101	166	106	101
Alberta.....	71	60	59	61	75	116	127	96	155	123	95
British Columbia.....	126	92	72	83	70	147	177	103	202	174	127
Territories and Yukon.....	2	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>1,281</b>	<b>1,125</b>	<b>1,091</b>	<b>973</b>	<b>875</b>	<b>1,451</b>	<b>1,645</b>	<b>1,199</b>	<b>2,021</b>	<b>1,533</b>	<b>1,302</b>

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 the census population shows that, for the fiscal year 1925, the greatest relative inventiveness was displayed in British Columbia. Thus, in this province, in 1925, one patent was granted to every 4,413 persons, the other provinces, as regards the number of persons to each patent granted, being placed in order as follows:—Ontario, 5,551, Alberta, 6,860, Saskatchewan, 8,248, Quebec, 8,344, Manitoba, 9,945, New Brunswick, 16,800, Nova Scotia, 20,650, and P.E. Island, 43,650.

The Commissioner of Patents reports that during the fiscal year ended Mar. 31, 1925, inventions in roofing fabrics and their manufacture, together with machines