

Conservation—The conservation of the wild life of Canada has been made a special object of government policy through the organization, in 1916, of the Advisory Board on Wild Life Protection, to co-ordinate the efforts of various Departments and Branches of the Dominion Government in matters relating to the conservation of the wild life resources of Canada. The Northwest Game Act and the Migratory Birds Convention Act are the most important subjects to which the attention of the Board is specially directed and upon which it makes recommendations. In addition, the Board investigates and studies all problems relating to the protection and better utilization of all fur-bearing animals, "big game" mammals and to bird life, whether game birds, insectivorous birds or other. The Board serves entirely without remuneration and in the seven years of its existence has incurred no expenditure.

In all provinces and territories of the Dominion, regulations governing the taking of fur-bearing animals are in force, and most kinds are protected during certain seasons of the year. In cases where special protection is necessary to avoid extermination of the species, the killing of the animals is prohibited for a period of years. Licenses are required for trapping and trading, and a direct revenue is derived by the provinces and territories from raw furs.

Commencing with 1881, records of the value of production of raw furs in Canada were obtained in the decennial censuses. In 1880, the value of pelts is shown to have been \$987,555, and in 1910, to have been \$1,927,550. In 1920 the Dominion Bureau of Statistics commenced the annual collection of returns from fur traders, and for the season 1919-20 the value of pelts purchased from trappers and fur farmers is shown to have been \$21,387,005. This figure should not be taken as representative of the value of an average year's production, as abnormally high prices were paid for pelts during the early part of the season.

Present Production—For 1920-21, the total fur production of Canada was valued at \$10,151,594, for 1921-22 at \$17,438,867, for 1922-23 at \$16,761,567, for 1923-24 at \$15,643,817 and for 1924-25 at \$15,441,564. For the calendar years 1924 and 1925 the value of the pelts sold from fur farms was \$664,620 and \$775,906. In both years the large item in the production was silver fox, which, being more valuable as well as more tractable, is more successfully bred. Statistics of the number and value of pelts produced are given by provinces in Table 1 for the years 1923-24 and 1924-25, while the number and value of pelts in 1923-24 and 1924-25 and the average value per pelt in the same years are given by kinds in Table 2.

1.—Numbers and Values of Pelts purchased by Traders from Trappers and Fur Farmers, years ended June 30, 1924 and 1925.

Provinces.	Number of Pelts.		Value of Pelts.	
	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.
			\$	\$
Prince Edward Island.....	6,193	4,664	471,772	326,669
Nova Scotia.....	55,582	57,957	266,935	271,753
New Brunswick.....	52,330	47,680	248,547	246,091
Quebec.....	351,881	369,341	2,075,801	2,272,095
Ontario.....	969,137	816,919	3,781,989	3,406,868
Manitoba.....	711,778	561,888	1,908,354	1,589,078
Saskatchewan.....	1,161,805	1,016,527	1,927,914	1,804,052
Alberta.....	593,070	603,483	1,970,013	2,030,974
British Columbia.....	180,844	216,368	1,116,037	1,463,769
Yukon.....	50,070	36,616	347,079	309,549
Northwest Territories.....	164,903	148,885	1,629,376	1,780,668
Total for Canada.....	4,297,593	3,826,326	15,643,817	15,441,564