

**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, for 1924-25 at \$15,441,564 and for 1925-26 at \$15,072,244. For the calendar years 1925 and 1926 the value of the pelts sold from fur farms was \$781,383 and \$1,218,111. 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 1924-25 and 1925-26, while the number and value of pelts in 1924-25 and 1925-26 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, 1925 and 1926.**

Provinces.	Number of Pelts.		Value of Pelts.	
	1924-25.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.
Prince Edward Island.....	4,664	4,944	\$ 326,669	\$ 308,687
Nova Scotia.....	57,957	60,912	271,753	301,450
New Brunswick.....	47,680	63,124	246,091	288,252
Quebec.....	306,341	269,875	2,272,095	2,250,809
Ontario.....	818,919	696,413	3,406,868	3,491,512
Manitoba.....	561,888	600,536	1,589,078	1,899,904
Saskatchewan.....	1,016,527	650,811	1,804,052	1,370,554
Alberta.....	603,483	975,855	2,030,974	2,122,778
British Columbia.....	216,366	153,574	1,403,769	1,121,620
Yukon.....	36,616	35,767	309,549	320,803
Northwest Territories.....	148,885	174,337	1,780,666	1,625,875
<b>Total for Canada.....</b>	<b>3,826,326</b>	<b>3,686,148</b>	<b>15,441,564</b>	<b>15,072,244</b>