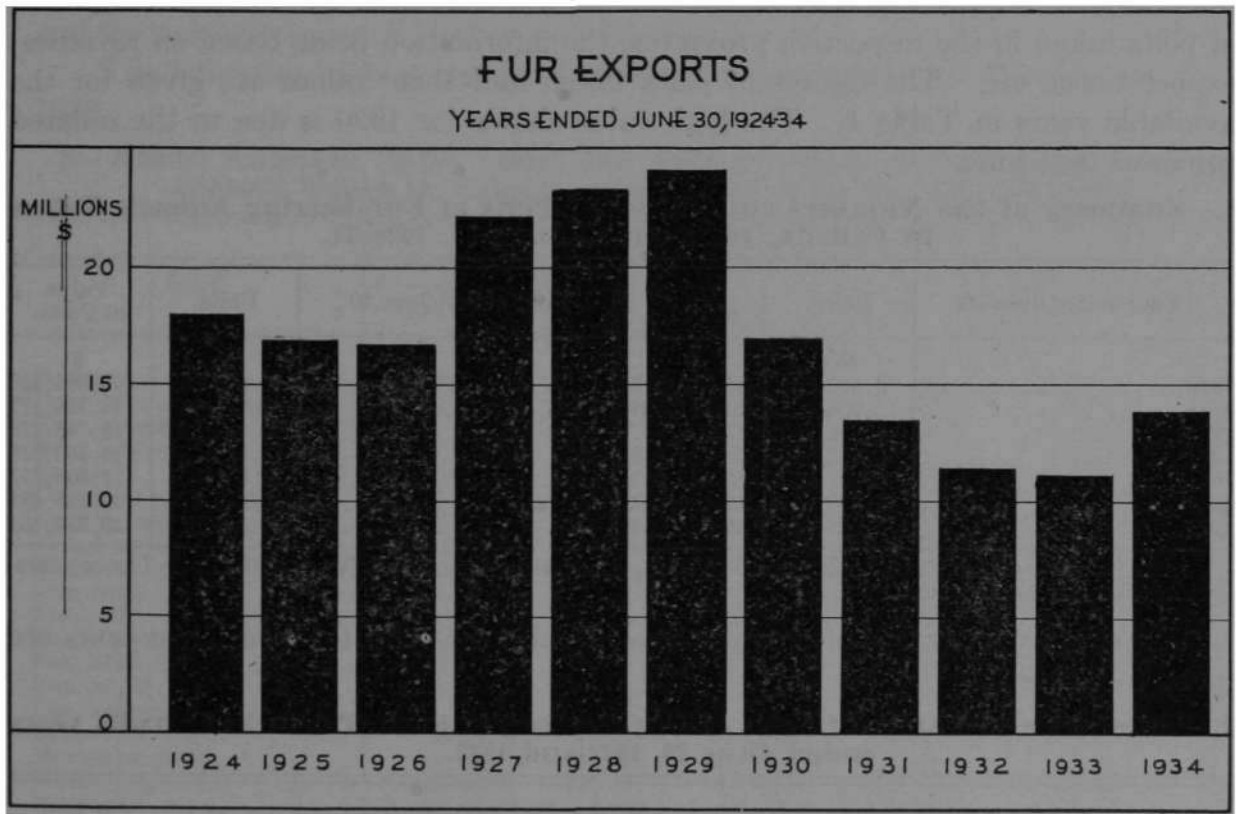


Exports.—Though the bison is gone forever and the beaver and the marten are slowly following, the fur trade of Canada is in no immediate danger of extinction. A century ago the value of the export trade in furs exceeded that of any other product. This has been greatly changed, yet the total output has not declined and Canada may be described as one of the great fur preserves of the world. In 1667 exports of furs to France and the West Indies were valued at 550,000 francs. In 1850, the first year for which trade tables of the Province of Canada are available, the value of raw furs exported was £19,395 (\$93,872); for the twelve months ended June 30, 1920, the value was \$20,417,329; for 1925, \$17,131,172; for 1930, \$17,187,399 and for 1932, \$11,495,086. Raw furs to the value of \$11,180,052 were exported during the twelve months ended June 30, 1933, the British market taking \$7,122,874 worth and the United States most of the rest. The area which will continue to furnish the historic peltries when settlement has planted its furthest outpost will still have to be reckoned by the hundreds of thousands of square miles. It is the function of the fur trade to turn this vast domain to perpetual economic use.

For a review of the fur-farming industry of Canada, see Chapter VIII, pp. 275 to 278.



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 others. The Board