

commenced the annual collection of returns from fur traders, but arrangements were subsequently made with the provinces whereby the provincial game departments undertook to supply annually to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics statements of the numbers and values of pelts taken in the respective provinces, the information being based on royalties, export taxes, etc. These returns include furs produced on fur farms as well as those taken by trappers from the wild-life resources of the Dominion. The figures of pelts produced and their values are given in Table 6 for the years since annual statistics were instituted. The high value shown for 1920 is due to the inflated prices at that time. The value for the latest year ended June 30, 1935, represents a good recovery and is higher than for any year since 1929. The decrease in the number of pelts is attributable chiefly to reductions in the numbers of muskrat, ermine, rabbit, and squirrel.

Canadian consumption of furs is increasing with the growth of population and wealth. An important industry has developed in the dressing and dyeing of furs. Imported furs, chiefly of types not produced in Canada, as well as domestic furs are treated in these plants. The industry is on a custom basis, that is, the work is done for customers and a charge made according to the nature of the work involved. In 1935 the number of fur skins treated was 5,738,920 and the amount received by the plants for the work, \$1,374,747. The plants in operation numbered 13.

As a result of increased Canadian consumption and the disorganization of older European markets at the close of the Great War, fur auctions were instituted in Canada. The first Canadian fur auction was held in Montreal in 1920, when 949,565 pelts, valued at \$5,057,114, were sold. The most recent figures show that at the auction sales held in Montreal during 1935 there were 1,342,769 pelts disposed of with a total value of \$4,562,669. Sales are also held at Winnipeg, Edmonton, and Vancouver. These sales are attended by foreign as well as Canadian fur buyers.

**6.—Summary of the Numbers and Values of Pelts of Fur-Bearing Animals Produced in Canada, years ended June 30, 1920-35.**

Year ended June 30—	Pelts.	Value of Pelts.	Year ended June 30—	Pelts.	Value of Pelts.
	No.	\$		No.	\$
1920.....	3,600,004	21,387,005 <sup>1</sup>	1928.....	3,601,153	18,758,177
1921.....	2,936,407	10,151,594	1929.....	5,150,328	18,745,473
1922.....	4,366,790	17,433,867	1930.....	3,798,444	12,158,376
1923.....	4,963,996	16,761,567	1931.....	4,060,356	11,803,217
1924.....	4,207,593	15,643,817	1932.....	4,449,289	10,189,481
1925.....	3,820,326	15,441,564	1933.....	4,503,558	10,305,154
1926.....	3,686,148	15,072,244	1934.....	6,076,197	12,349,328
1927.....	4,289,233	18,864,126	1935.....	4,926,413	12,843,341

<sup>1</sup> Fur prices in this year were abnormally high. Any comparison of this figure with those of later years should take this into account.

Among the provinces, Ontario occupies first place in value of raw fur production, its output in 1934-35 being valued at \$2,218,514. The relation of the value of raw fur production in each province to the total for Canada in 1934-35 is shown by the following percentages: Ontario, 17.3; Quebec, 14.9; Northwest Territories, 13.1; Alberta, 11.5; Saskatchewan, 9.8; Manitoba, 9.2; British Columbia, 6.3; New Brunswick, 5.9; Prince Edward Island, 5.1; Nova Scotia, 5.1; and Yukon, 1.8. Details by provinces of the numbers of pelts produced in the two latest years are