

8.—Numbers, Total Values, and Average Values of Pelts of Fur-Bearing Animals Taken in Canada, Years Ended June 30, 1937 and 1938.

Kind of Pelt.	Numbers of Pelts.		Total Values of Pelts.		Average Values per Pelt.	
	1936-37.	1937-38.	1936-37.	1937-38.	1936-37.	1937-38.
Badger.....	141	204	\$ 1,688	\$ 1,953	\$ 11.97	\$ 9.57
Bear, black and brown.....	1,885	1,589	3,820	3,061	2.03	1.93
Bear, grizzly.....	2	2	14	14	7.00	7.00
Bear, white.....	49	150	641	2,020	13.08	13.47
Bear, unspecified.....	Nil	53	-	159	-	3.00
Beaver.....	55,759	54,148	699,011	568,486	12.54	10.50
Cat, domestic.....	381	339	85	68	0.22	0.20
Coyote or prairie wolf ¹	48,704	40,811	458,489	285,360	9.41	6.99
Ermine (weasel).....	926,611	680,752	818,290	348,213	0.88	0.51
Fisher.....	5,237	3,505	276,028	140,293	52.71	40.03
Fitch.....	1,437	976	2,331	1,642	1.62	1.68
Fox, blue.....	992	1,580	18,203	35,214	18.35	22.29
Fox, cross.....	20,934	15,281	518,066	319,151	24.75	20.89
Fox, red.....	87,846	64,076	716,747	449,985	8.16	7.02
Fox, silver.....	230,030	275,541	6,777,644	6,183,522	29.46	22.44
Fox, white.....	22,191	55,907	304,139	700,194	13.71	12.52
Fox, other.....	669	215	5,982	2,032	8.94	9.45
Lynx.....	17,539	10,538	605,526	315,192	34.52	29.91
Marten.....	24,433	23,851	642,204	555,002	26.28	23.27
Mink.....	139,673	139,740	2,267,835	1,400,587	16.24	10.02
Muskrat.....	1,607,897	1,748,239	2,250,971	1,320,509	1.40	0.76
Otter.....	11,136	10,262	227,792	176,533	20.46	17.20
Rabbit.....	649,107	218,005	95,254	22,121	0.15	0.10
Raccoon.....	23,932	20,366	119,540	72,892	4.99	3.58
Skunk.....	202,836	125,612	200,663	90,983	0.99	0.72
Squirrel.....	2,147,114	1,244,359	386,743	113,811	0.18	0.09
Wild cat.....	1,565	1,093	7,264	3,574	4.64	3.27
Wolf.....	8,826	8,062	117,559	80,123	13.32	9.94
Wolverine.....	714	671	3,836	3,660	5.37	5.45
Totals.....	6,237,640	4,745,927	17,526,365	13,196,354		

¹ Coyote or prairie wolf pelts for Manitoba are included with wolf pelts.

At the close of the War of 1914-18, Montreal took a position as an international fur market, holding the first Canadian fur auction sale in 1920. Through the medium of the Canadian fur auctions, grading and marketing of furs has been placed on a scientific footing, resulting in more or less stabilized conditional prices to the benefit equally of trapper, breeder, manufacturer, distributor, and consumer. At the sales held in Montreal during the year 1938, the pelts sold numbered 1,438,101 while the value amounted to \$4,992,956. Fur auction sales are held also at Winnipeg, Edmonton, and Vancouver.

During the past twenty years or so immense improvements have been made in the dressing, dyeing, and finishing of furs. In 1937, the 14 fur-dressing and -dyeing plants in Canada treated 4,004,620 fur skins, the chief kinds being rabbit (1,522,623) and muskrat (987,713). The number of plants engaged in the manufacture of coats, capes, scarves, muffs, etc., numbered 351 with a total output valued at \$16,261,100.

Section 4.—External Trade in Furs.

The important external markets for Canadian furs are London and New York; the trade tables for the twelve months ended June 30, 1938, show that of the total of \$12,653,355 worth of raw furs exported, the United Kingdom took \$8,363,694 and the United States \$3,610,520. In 1667 exports of furs to France and the West Indies were valued at 550,000 francs. In 1850, the first year for which tables of the Customs Department are available, the value of raw furs exported was £19,395. The following table shows that the exports for recent years are greatly in excess of the earlier values.