

6.—Pelts of Fur-Bearing Animals Taken in Canada, Years Ended June 30, 1938 and 1939

Kind of Pelt	Pelts		Total Values		Average Values	
	1938	1939	1938	1939	1938	1939
	No.	No.	\$	\$	\$	\$
Badger.....	204	3,237	1,953	22,485	9.57	6.95
Bear, black and brown.....	1,589	1,583	3,061	2,841	1.93	1.79
Bear, grizzly.....	2	Nil	14	-	7.00	-
Bear, white.....	150	115	2,020	1,616	13.47	14.05
Bear, unspecified.....	53	43	159	182	3.00	4.23
Beaver.....	54,148	64,086	568,486	985,743	10.50	15.38
Cat, domestic.....	339	213	68	29	0.20	0.14
Coyote or prairie wolf ¹	40,811	33,995	285,360	198,587	6.99	5.84
Ermine (weasel).....	680,752	697,104	348,213	354,455	0.51	0.51
Fisher.....	3,505	3,399	140,293	166,656	40.03	49.03
Fitch.....	976	1,283	1,642	2,365	1.68	1.84
Fox, blue.....	1,580	1,260	35,214	32,743	22.29	25.99
Fox, cross.....	15,281	13,555	319,151	186,908	20.89	13.79
Fox, red.....	64,076	62,347	449,985	340,596	7.02	5.46
Fox, silver.....	275,541	319,693	6,183,522	5,660,722	22.44	17.71
Fox, white.....	55,907	56,396	700,194	677,531	12.52	12.01
Fox, other.....	215	194	2,032	883	9.45	4.55
Lynx.....	10,538	8,109	315,192	299,153	29.91	36.89
Marten.....	23,851	21,843	555,002	550,263	23.27	25.19
Mink.....	139,740	220,359	1,400,587	2,103,774	10.02	9.55
Muskrat.....	1,748,239	2,295,550	1,320,509	2,011,469	0.76	0.88
Nutria.....	Nil	2	-	10	-	5.00
Otter.....	10,262	11,125	176,533	168,021	17.20	15.10
Rabbit.....	218,005	192,488	22,121	23,093	0.10	0.12
Raccoon.....	20,366	18,658	72,892	38,241	3.58	2.05
Skunk.....	125,612	160,734	90,983	158,235	0.72	0.98
Squirrel.....	1,244,359	2,296,139	113,811	245,312	0.09	0.11
Wild cat.....	1,093	1,125	3,574	3,120	3.27	2.77
Wolf ¹	8,062	6,866	80,123	48,212	9.94	7.02
Wolverine.....	671	721	3,660	3,612	5.45	5.01
Totals.....	4,745,927	6,492,222	13,196,354	14,286,937	-	-

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

Since the War of 1914-18, Montreal has been recognized 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 season 1938-39, the pelts sold numbered 1,299,695 while the value amounted to \$3,917,453. 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 1938, the 14 fur-dressing and -dyeing plants in Canada treated 4,197,079 fur skins, the chief kinds being muskrat (1,374,930) and rabbit (1,318,904). The number of plants engaged in the manufacture of fur goods—coats, capes, scarves, muffs, etc.—numbered 366 with a total output valued at \$16,012,245.

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, 1939, show that of the total of \$14,288,568 worth of raw furs exported, the United Kingdom received \$8,436,144 and the United States \$5,087,038. 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.