

6.—Pelts of Fur-Bearing Animals Taken in Canada, by Kind, Years Ended June 30, 1941 and 1942

Kind of Pelt	Pelts		Total Values		Average Values	
	1941	1942	1941	1942	1941	1942
	No.	No.	\$	\$	\$	\$
Badger.....	8,240	11,478	46,422	76,201	5.63	6.64
Bear, black and brown.....	1,030	1,186	2,548	2,899	2.47	2.44
Bear, grizzly.....	1	Nil	7	-	7.00	-
Bear, white.....	106	91	605	715	5.71	7.86
Bear, unspecified.....	26	32	104	160	4.00	5.00
Beaver.....	90,123	106,176	2,075,610	2,394,182	23.03	22.55
Cat, domestic.....	210	883	37	306	0.18	0.35
Coyote or prairie wolf ¹	28,265	39,035	269,168	447,313	9.52	11.76
Ermine (weasel).....	648,020	1,135,616	604,990	1,362,262	0.93	1.20
Fisher.....	2,212	3,408	100,701	164,291	45.52	48.21
Fitch.....	1,213	682	1,692	969	1.39	1.42
Fox, blue.....	1,746	2,481	32,392	52,602	18.55	21.20
Fox, cross.....	17,432	26,854	271,117	417,058	15.55	15.53
Fox, red.....	62,744	104,615	423,384	921,379	6.75	8.81
Fox, silver.....	202,916	162,788	4,379,271	3,737,376	21.58	22.96
Fox, new type.....	458	889	11,587	36,928	25.30	41.54
Fox, white.....	48,411	62,534	889,870	1,609,851	18.38	25.74
Fox, other.....	181	208	945	1,745	5.22	8.39
Lynx.....	6,684	7,109	276,343	291,956	41.34	41.07
Marten.....	22,453	20,242	849,802	781,856	37.85	38.63
Mink.....	424,825	405,324	4,705,605	4,059,601	11.08	10.02
Muskrat.....	2,795,218	2,408,436	4,990,762	4,954,504	1.79	2.06
Nutria.....	76	63	299	319	3.93	5.06
Otter.....	10,150	10,644	162,430	168,120	16.00	15.79
Rabbit.....	777,583	9,012,329	173,387	938,568	0.22	0.10
Raccoon.....	17,737	21,834	60,219	87,431	3.40	4.00
Skunk.....	147,523	247,245	231,106	467,752	1.57	1.89
Squirrel.....	1,935,837	5,761,433	519,889	1,794,307	0.27	0.31
Wild cat.....	1,138	2,124	5,694	19,004	5.00	8.95
Wolf.....	4,106	5,732	33,814	66,817	8.24	11.66
Wolverine.....	673	553	3,361	3,397	4.99	6.14
Totals.....	7,257,337	19,561,024	21,123,161	24,859,869		-

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

Since the First World War, 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 have 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. 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 1942, the 18 fur-dressing and -dyeing plants in Canada treated 18,913,432 fur skins, the chief kinds being rabbit (3,150,189), muskrat (1,833,456), and squirrel (1,304,872). The number of plants engaged in the manufacture of fur goods—coats, capes, scarves, muffs, etc.—numbered 484 with a total output valued at \$32,147,114.

Trade in Furs.—Before the outbreak of war, a large proportion of the total production of Canadian furs found their way to the London market where they were prepared and manufactured and returned to Canada in the form of the finished product. Under the circumstances brought about by the War, Canada's trade in furs is now carried on mainly with the United States. Figures of imports and exports for the calendar years 1941 and 1942 will be found in Tables 16 and 17 of Chapter XVI of this volume.