

486 from Canadian residents and 683 from residents of Great Britain and Ireland, while residents of Germany applied for 41, of Switzerland for 63, of Holland for 21, of France for 6, of Sweden for 49 and of other countries for 53.

During the war years following 1940, patent applications in Canada, contrary to the experience of most other countries, showed a steady increase. During the fiscal year 1944-45, 12,672 applications were received which was the highest number of applications made since 1931. However, the 7,084 patents granted was the lowest number for the past 25 years. Of the total patents issued, 7,044 were in English and 40 in French; 9 were granted to women inventors.

Patents applied for during the past 15 years, by the main branches of science or industry show the chemical arts, including plastics, fuels, medicines, pulp, metallurgy, electrochemistry and chemicals, as the leaders in number of inventions. Approximately 2,000 applications in this group have been received each year from 1931 to 1937 and over 2,500 from 1938 to 1943; a slight decrease was shown in 1944. Numerous applications in this class were for synthetic resins, dyestuffs, higher grades of gasoline, vitamin addition products, alloys and powder metallurgy, and the substitution of plastic for metal in many articles.

Inventions in the electrical class dealing with power generation and distribution, lighting, heating and intelligence transmission have been over 1,500 per year since 1936 reaching a peak of about 2,000 in 1938 and remaining relatively steady at between 1,600 to 1,700 since. Improvement in refrigeration, low-power fluorescent lighting, ultra-high frequency radio transmission, receiving apparatus and electrical apparatus involving electronics and their uses have been numerous in this group.

Transportation applications, including patents for transporting persons, goods and material by air, land or water, and especially in the substitution of paper and fibre for metals in making containers for goods in transit, had reached 2,000 in 1931 but, with the exception of 1936, have kept to the 1,000 to 1,200 level.

Heat and power inventions, involving hydraulic power, internal combustion and steam generators, heat transfer and control; patents for textiles; and the treatment of material of all kinds such as leather, metal, paper, wood fabric and tobacco have shown the least variation among the major groups. Hydraulic mechanism to control machine tools, aircraft and for many other uses was exceptionally active together with new methods and composition for improving the quality of finished textile materials.

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