

6.—Values of Fur-Bearing Animals and of Pelts Sold from Fur Farms, 1943-46

Kind of Animal	1943		1944		1945		1946	
	Animals	Pelts	Animals	Pelts	Animals	Pelts	Animals	Pelts
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Chinchilla.....	Nil	Nil	3,800	Nil	23,225	Nil	295,130	Nil
Coyote.....	75	2,138	100	360	Nil	"	Nil	"
Fisher.....	Nil	3,124	8,652	2,909	3,590	544	9,260	637
Fitch.....	158	1,736	240	1,159	679	997	484	1,088
Fox, blue.....	13,008	57,337	28,675	125,005	37,305	151,122	18,998	83,397
Fox, cross.....	1,330	39,128	1,170	29,565	314	19,080	190	10,119
Fox, new-type....	310,870	770,142	316,753	1,091,036	312,967	1,633,938	142,887	1,388,526
Fox, red.....	695	15,391	564	8,953	442	6,138	312	4,269
Fox, silver.....	328,857	4,241,614	248,484	3,093,065	301,897	2,956,725	171,499	1,723,633
Fox, other.....	Nil	575	Nil	1,108	185	674	225	964
Marten.....	2,010	1,775	11,253	2,820	8,440	1,280	15,484	510
Mink.....	229,257	3,823,656	520,530	3,884,243	1,064,018	5,505,272	1,844,627	3,571,314
Nutria.....	915	652	925	272	375	257	475	103
Raccoon.....	168	1,394	93	369	63	447	67	121
Totals.....	887,343	8,958,662	1,141,239	8,240,864	1,753,500	10,276,474	2,499,638	6,784,681

Section 4.—Marketing and Foreign Trade

The first Canadian fur auction sale was held at Montreal in 1920 and since then that city has been the leading Canadian fur mart. To-day, auction sales are also held at Vancouver, B.C., Edmonton, Alta., Regina, Sask., and Winnipeg, Man., and at Regina the Saskatchewan Government maintains a Fur Marketing Service to assist the producers in that Province.

Grading.—In 1939 the Dominion Department of Agriculture introduced the grading of furs. One of the Department's main objectives in grading is to secure uniformity so that furs may be purchased by grade without the necessity of buyers from other countries personally examining the pelts. Grading offers many advantages to the producer as well as to the trade in general. It educates the rancher as to the proper value of his pelts, and creates an incentive to improve the quality of the product; it furnishes guidance in the planning of future matings, aids in raising the standard of quality of the entire crop of pelts and helps in advancing the level of prices for high-quality pelts.

Exports and Imports.—Prior to the Second World War Canada marketed her fur pelts mainly in the United Kingdom but, since that market was practically dormant during the war years, the fur trade was carried on for the most part with the United States. A definite revival of trade with the United Kingdom was shown in 1946 and 1947.

The Canadian fur trade, both exports and imports, is chiefly in undressed furs, the value of dressed and manufactured furs going out of Canada or coming in making up a comparatively small proportion of the total. A good part of the exports consists, of course, of those furs which Canada produces in greatest abundance, mink being the most valuable, followed by fox, beaver and muskrat. On the