

## 6.—Values of Fur-Bearing Animals and of Pelts Sold from Fur Farms, 1945-48

Kind of Animal	1945		1946		1947		1948	
	Animals	Pelts	Animals	Pelts	Animals	Pelts	Animals	Pelts
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Chinchilla.....	23,225	—	295,130	—	238,820	—	201,557	—
Fisher.....	3,590	544	9,260	637	7,150	2,125	1,200	1,267
Fitch.....	679	997	484	1,088	113	676	90	1,422
Fox, blue.....	37,305	151,122	18,998	83,397	4,210	52,740	2,030	94,053
Fox, cross.....	314	19,080	190	10,119	160	4,490	105	2,436
Fox, new-type.....	312,967	1,633,938	142,887	1,388,526	38,451	1,389,998	9,459	1,015,612
Fox, red.....	442	6,138	312	4,269	25	2,203	1	1
Fox, silver.....	301,897	2,956,725	171,499	1,723,633	43,779	1,482,328	33,882	977,690
Fox, other.....	185	674	225	964	276	618	50	1,416
Marten.....	8,440	1,280	15,484	510	2,370	1,479	2,870	877
Mink.....	1,064,018	5,505,272	1,844,627	3,571,314	1,039,379	8,780,456	537,643	5,875,376
Nutria.....	375	257	475	103	140	270	534	388
Raccoon.....	63	447	67	121	84	113	65	15
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>1,753,500</b>	<b>10,276,474</b>	<b>2,499,638</b>	<b>6,784,681</b>	<b>1,374,957</b>	<b>11,717,496</b>	<b>789,485</b>	<b>7,970,552</b>

<sup>1</sup> Included with cross fox.

## Section 4.—Marketing of Furs

The first Canadian fur auction sale was held at Montreal, Que , 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. At Regina the Saskatchewan Government maintains a Fur Marketing Service to assist the producers in that Province.

**Grading.**—In 1939 the Federal 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 mainly with the United States. A definite revival of trade with the United Kingdom was shown in 1946, 1947 and 1948, in 1949 exports to the United Kingdom were lower by 39 p.c. than in 1948 but imports were a little higher.

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 large part of the exports consists, of course, of those furs which Canada produces in greatest abundance, mink being the most valuable, followed by beaver, muskrat and fox. On the other hand, such furs as Persian lamb, certain types of muskrat, rabbit, squirrel, sheep and lamb, which are not produced to any extent in Canada, make up the major portion of the imports.

Total exports and imports of all furs to and from the United States, the United Kingdom and all countries are given for the years 1946-49 in Part I, Section 3 of the Foreign Trade Chapter, Tables 13 and 14.