

31.—Live Stock Owned by Indians, by Provinces or Territories, 1950

Province or Territory	Horses			Cattle			
	Stallions	Geldings and Mares	Foals	Bulls	Steers	Milch Cows	Young Stock
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Prince Edward Island.....	—	11	1	1	8	15	14
Nova Scotia.....	1	44	1	3	—	58	33
New Brunswick.....	—	25	—	—	—	5	2
Quebec.....	2	375	45	29	61	890	438
Ontario.....	24	2,257	143	89	529	3,022	1,881
Manitoba.....	—	2,226	47	28	185	796	538
Saskatchewan.....	4	5,592	142	59	782	1,900	1,449
Alberta.....	167	8,256	899	243	1,697	7,522	4,719
British Columbia.....	104	5,714	570	227	2,463	7,112	4,452
Northwest and Yukon Ter- ritories.....	2	25	—	—	—	—	—
Totals.....	304	24,525	1,848	679	5,725	21,320	13,526

The Eskimos.—The Eskimos of Canada are located principally north of the tree-line along the northern fringes of the mainland and around the coasts of the islands in the Arctic Archipelago and in Hudson Bay. Most of them are coastal dwellers obtaining much of their food, fuel and clothing from the mammals of the sea. There are, however, small bands living in the interior of the Districts of Keewatin and Mackenzie who depend almost wholly on caribou and fish.

The economy of these nomadic people is based on their hunting, fishing and trapping. From their hunting and fishing they obtain the essentials of food, fuel, clothing and shelter, while trapping produces furs to trade for the white man's goods. Variations in the availability of game and furs and wide fluctuations in the prices of furs from year to year add to the precariousness of the Eskimo's life in these Arctic regions.

The 1951 Census established the Eskimo population at 9,733, of whom 6,822 were located in the Northwest Territories, 1,958 in northern Quebec and 769 in Newfoundland and Labrador.

The administration of Eskimo affairs comes under the Department of Resources and Development whose aim it is to assist these people in adjusting themselves to changes being brought about by advancing civilization and ultimately to develop to a point where they can assume the full rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

The question of the ability of wildlife resources to support the native population is becoming acute. To conserve the natural resources necessary for the subsistence of the Eskimos, the Administration has introduced game preserves where only natives may hunt and trap. Game regulations provide for the efficient use of wildlife, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police encourage hunting practices which will conserve the supply of game both on land and in the sea. The Federal Government, for a number of years, has operated a reindeer project near Aklavik, which was undertaken primarily as a possible means of improving the economic condition of the Eskimos. Research is going on to determine the suitability of other areas for reindeer culture and to determine the possibility of developing other resources such as fisheries. Eskimo handicraft is being encouraged by the Canadian Handicrafts Guild assisted by a grant from the Federal Government. Eskimos have produced carvings in soapstone, ivory and wood, and articles made of various skins and furs. Sales have been successful.