

Section 6.—The Fur-Processing Industry*

The rather general term "fur processing" includes the fur-dressing and -dyeing industry and the fur-goods industry. The former is concerned with the dressing or dyeing of pelts on a custom basis, and the latter is a manufacturing industry that makes up fur goods such as coats, scarves and gloves.

Fur-dressing and -dyeing industry statistics were first recorded in 1917, when 12 establishments with 512 employees reported receipts of \$1,071,805. Eight establishments in 1924 reported a revenue of \$1,120,895, expenditures of \$162,013 on dyes, chemicals and other materials used, and expenditures of \$561,233 on salaries and wages to 539 employees. Of the 3,473,909 skins treated in that year, muskrat pelts made up 47 p.c., rabbit 19 p.c. and squirrel 10 p.c.

The greatest number of skins treated was reported in 1941, when 14,592,079 were handled, but almost 53 p.c. of those were rabbit skins so that the revenue for that year was only \$2,476,289. The record revenue reported was that for 1949, when \$6,691,418 was received and rabbit skins constituted 38 p.c. of the total processed.

In 1953, the number of skins treated was 11,001,366, of which muskrat comprised 44 p.c., squirrel 15 p.c., Persian and other types of lamb 14 p.c. and rabbit 13 p.c.

8.—Principal Statistics of the Fur-Dressing Industry, 1950-53

Item	1950	1951	1952	1953
Establishments..... No.	22	20	17	16
Employees on Salaries—				
Male..... No.	120	100	82	74
Female..... "	44	37	30	24
Employees on Wages—				
Male..... No.	1,187	940	942	900
Female..... "	282	228	226	216
Salaries paid..... \$	653,165	600,593	460,998	440,036
Wages paid..... \$	2,766,881	2,538,783	2,865,534	2,749,531
Cost of materials used (dyes, chemicals, etc.)... \$	1,294,259	1,076,825	1,177,345	1,026,173
Pelts treated..... No.	13,639,110	9,768,616	12,085,066	11,001,366
Amount received for treatment of furs..... \$	6,514,772	5,302,761	6,061,850	5,920,014

Statistics for the fur-goods industry, on a comparable basis, are available from 1921, when 219 establishments reported a gross value of production of \$13,639,609, employees numbered 2,621 and salaries and wages amounted to \$3,013,706. Cost of materials used in the manufacturing process totalled \$8,118,833. Principal statistics for the industry for the years 1950 to 1953 are given in Table 9.

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