

Fur dressing and dyeing industry statistics were first recorded in 1917 when 12 establishments with 511 employees reported receipts of \$1,071,805. Eight establishments in 1924 reported revenues 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 1955 the number of skins treated was 9,762,062, of which muskrat comprised 51 p.c., Persian and other types of lamb 13 p.c., mink 12 p.c., squirrel 9 p.c. and rabbit 7 p.c.

8.—Principal Statistics of the Fur Dressing Industry 1952-55

Item		1952	1953	1954	1955
Establishments.....	No	17	16	17	18
Employees on Salaries—					
Male.....	No	82	74	84	92
Female.....	"	30	24	19	24
Employees on Wages—					
Male.....	No	942	900	859	876
Female.....	"	226	216	180	170
Salaries paid.....	\$	460,998	440,036	437,131	538,703
Wages paid.....	\$	2,865,534	2,749,531	2,562,980	2,756,638
Cost of materials used (dyes, chemicals, etc.).....	\$	1,177,345	1,026,173	963,538	1,121,805
Pelts treated.....	No.	12,085,066	11,001,366	9,279,897	9,762,062
Amount received for treatment of furs.....	\$	6,061,850	5,920,014	5,634,991	6,498,292

Statistics on a comparable basis for the fur goods industry 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 of the industry for the years 1952 to 1955 are given in Table 9.

9.—Principal Statistics of the Fur Goods Industry 1952-55

Item		1952	1953	1954	1955
Establishments.....	No	596	600	581	558
Employees on Salaries—					
Male.....	No.	1,220	1,122	1,083	1,015
Female.....	"	355	314	282	257
Employees on Wages—					
Male.....	No	2,629	2,745	2,435	2,369
Female.....	"	1,765	1,764	1,489	1,378
Salaries paid.....	\$	5,033,155	4,743,807	4,531,941	4,470,610
Wages paid.....	\$	10,388,597	11,103,947	9,816,442	9,652,599
Cost of materials used.....	\$	41,909,453	39,639,350	36,058,592	38,389,138
Value of factory shipments.....	\$	66,245,562	63,991,716	58,464,790	60,349,381

Changes in living habits and standards in the past quarter-century are reflected in the type of goods produced by the fur goods industry. For example in 1921 there were 31,604 ladies' fur coats and jackets produced whereas in 1955 the number was 203,233. The manufacture of men's fur coats showed a decided reversal in the market; there were 5,692 men's fur or fur-lined coats manufactured in 1921 but only 149 in 1955.