

## Subsection 2.—Marketing of Furs

Montreal, Que., is the leading Canadian fur mart although auction sales are also held at Vancouver, B.C., Edmonton, Alta., Regina, Sask., Winnipeg, Man., and North Bay, Ont. The Saskatchewan Government maintains a Fur Marketing Service at Regina to assist producers in that province.

**Grading.**—The grading of furs to secure uniformity was introduced in 1939 by the federal Department of Agriculture 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.**—The Canadian fur trade, both export and import, is mostly in undressed furs, the value of dressed and manufactured furs going out of or coming into Canada being a comparatively small proportion of the total. Canadian fur exports consist largely of those produced in greatest abundance, mink being the most valuable followed by beaver, fox, muskrat and squirrel. Furs such as Persian lamb, mink, certain types of muskrat, fox, raccoon, Kolinsky, and sheep and lamb make up the major portion of the imports.

Exports and imports of all furs to and from the United States, the United Kingdom and all countries are given for the years 1958 and 1959 in Table 7.

## 7.—Exports and Imports of Furs, by Kind, 1958 and 1959

Kind of Fur	1958			1959		
	United Kingdom	United States	All Countries	United Kingdom	United States	All Countries
	<b>EXPORTS</b>					
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Undressed—						
Beaver.....	1,009,545	2,185,193	3,575,517	1,064,820	2,441,770	4,122,227
Ermine.....	154,322	89,567	243,890	163,463	45,379	208,842
Fisher.....	60,628	54,892	132,860	44,210	73,205	127,832
Fox, all types.....	27,569	939,696	973,373	9,799	1,454,845	1,466,396
Lynx.....	27,055	122,019	158,815	56,017	246,643	324,883
Marten.....	33,550	125,896	159,546	64,653	83,221	148,286
Mink.....	990,435	14,484,035	15,843,276	1,591,584	13,541,794	15,505,540
Muskrat.....	961,227	181,433	1,167,920	929,452	112,115	1,046,646
Otter.....	1,275	32,490	33,765	12,075	72,534	97,254
Rabbit.....	—	47,426	47,426	2,055	66,951	69,515
Raccoon.....	335	12,447	14,900	—	13,068	13,268
Seal.....	—	3,880	3,880	—	—	—
Skunk.....	6,193	2,954	9,147	1,416	875	2,291
Squirrel.....	632,755	470	633,225	516,683	63	517,276
Weasel.....	22,808	36,520	59,328	39,982	23,788	63,770
Wolf.....	6,152	9,718	15,870	14,321	41,298	56,567
Other.....	47,857	177,783	248,863	25,076	240,240	207,216
Dressed—						
Fox.....	—	400	400	—	70	70
Other.....	239,456	305,106	1,129,097	91,326	870,623	1,379,372
Manufactured.....	15,393	475,909	537,918	15,057	576,483	640,070
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>4,236,556</b>	<b>19,287,834</b>	<b>24,989,016</b>	<b>4,641,989</b>	<b>19,904,965</b>	<b>26,147,321</b>