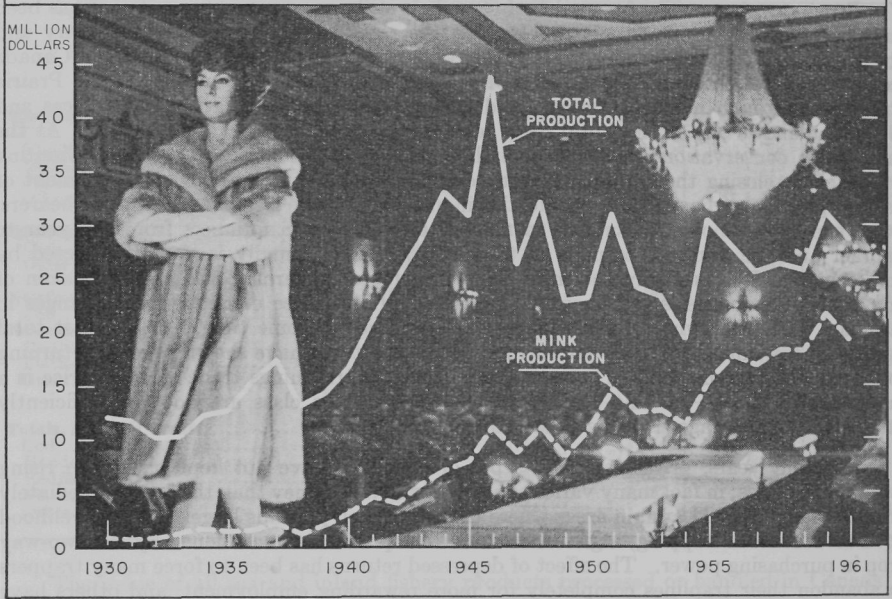


VALUE OF MINK PRODUCED, COMPARED WITH VALUE OF ALL TYPES OF FUR PRODUCED, YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 1930-61  
(WILD AND RANCH-RAISED)



Production of chinchilla pelts, a luxury fur, is increasing slowly in Canada. The first sale took place in 1944 when five pelts brought a total of \$78; in 1960 the 9,067 pelts sold were valued at \$118,416. In the early stages of the chinchilla industry, the promotional element was very active but the worst effects of this have been overcome and the chinchilla is beginning to find a place in the world fur market. Canadian raisers are striving to improve the quality of their pelts in order to take advantage of the demand that exists for fine quality merchandise.

Nutria, the only other fur-bearing animal reported on Canadian fur farms, is raised in limited numbers.

**Fur Marketing.**—The fur industry contributes about \$25,000,000 annually to Canada's export trade, approximately two-thirds of the total production of pelts going outside the country, principally to the United States and Britain. The majority of Canadian fur skins, both wild and ranch-raised, are sold by auction through one of seven fur auction houses situated across the country. Canadian pelts are traditionally sold in the raw or undressed state, facilitating entry into the many countries which maintain tariffs on imports of dressed furs.

The selling season commences in December with large offerings of fresh ranch mink pelts, and later in the same month quantities of the new season's wild furs become available, including substantial offerings of wild mink. In January and succeeding months, offerings of ranch mink continue and, in addition, quantities of wild furs fresh from the traplines reach the fur auction houses. These include wild mink from the Mackenzie River and Labrador sections and beaver from the Quebec preserves, acknowledged by the trade to be the finest of their types in the world.