

conservation of the wild life resources of Canada. The Northwest Game Act and the Migratory Birds Convention Act are the most important subjects to which the attention of the Board is specially directed and upon which it makes recommendations. In addition, the Board investigates and studies all problems relating to the protection and better utilization of all fur-bearing animals, "big game" mammals and to bird life, whether game birds, insectivorous birds or other. The Board serves entirely without remuneration and in the seven years of its existence it has incurred no expenditure.

In all provinces and territories of the Dominion, regulations governing the taking of fur-bearing animals are in force, and most kinds are protected during certain seasons of the year. In cases where special protection is necessary to avoid extermination of the species, the killing of the animals is prohibited for a period of years. Licenses are required to trade or traffic in furs and periodical returns are made by the traders to the provincial authorities. Some of the provinces also impose a royalty on furs and require that all pelts must be stamped by a game guardian or other provincial officer.

Commencing with 1881, records of the value of production of raw furs in Canada were obtained in the decennial censuses. In 1880, the value of pelts is shown to have been \$987,555, and in 1910, to have been \$1,927,550. In 1920, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics commenced the annual collection of returns from fur traders, and for the season 1919-20, the value of pelts purchased from trappers and fur farmers is shown to have been \$21,387,005. This figure should not be taken as representative of the value of an average year's production, as abnormally high prices were paid for pelts during the early part of the season.

**Present Production.**—For 1920-21, the total fur production of Canada was valued at \$10,151,594, for 1921-22, at \$17,438,867, for 1922-23, at \$16,761,567 and for 1923-24, at \$15,643,817. For the calendar years 1923 and 1924 the value of the pelts sold from fur farms was \$859,872, and \$664,620; in both years the large item in the production was silver fox, which, being more valuable as well as more tractable, is more successfully bred. Statistics of the number and value of pelts produced are given by provinces in Table 1 for the years 1922-23 and 1923-24, while the number and value of pelts in 1922-23 and 1923-24 and the average value per pelt in the same years are given by kinds in Table 2.

**1.—Numbers and Values of Pelts purchased by Traders from Trappers and Fur Farmers, years ended June 30, 1923 and 1924.**

Provinces.	Number of Pelts.		Value of Pelts.	
	1922-23.	1923-24.	1922-23.	1923-24.
			\$	\$
Prince Edward Island.....	4,881	6,193	383,252	471,772
Nova Scotia.....	48,103	55,582	197,928	266,935
New Brunswick.....	39,861	52,330	157,636	248,547
Quebec.....	398,825	351,881	3,049,656	2,075,801
Ontario.....	838,249	969,137	3,616,692	3,781,989
Manitoba.....	701,091	711,778	1,673,667	1,908,354
Saskatchewan.....	1,462,288	1,161,805	2,242,937	1,927,914
Alberta.....	873,079	503,070	1,822,634	1,970,013
British Columbia.....	263,723	180,844	1,246,219	1,116,037
Yukon.....	46,198	50,070	199,522	347,079
Northwest Territories.....	287,698	164,903	2,171,424	1,529,376
<b>Total for Canada.....</b>	<b>4,963,996</b>	<b>4,207,593</b>	<b>16,761,567</b>	<b>15,643,817</b>