DEPARTMENT OF
TRADE AND COMMERCE

CANADA

A FACT A DAY ABOUT CANADA

FROM THE

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

EIGHTH SERIES

1941 - 1942

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CONTENTS

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Editor.

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Dominion Bureau of Statistics

Eighth Series
Issue No. 2.

No. 32. -- Canada's Fighting Men.

"Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high."
From "In Flanders Fields."

Canada entered the war after full and free debate and entirely of her own volition on September 10, 1939.

Sailors, soldiers and airmen overseas	More than 100,000
Total voluntarily enlisted for service anywhere	About 344,000
Navy	About 25,000
Army	About 230,000
Air Force	About 89,000
Reserve Army (given part-time training and liable to be called out for home defence)	About 170,000

As statistics relating to the strength of the forces are of vital interest to the enemy, the above figures are all approximate.

Dead or Missing (late October, 1941)	2,087
Navy	403
Army	861
Air Force	823

The total population of Canada is less than 12,000,000. Canada's 344,000 enlisted for service anywhere would be equal, in terms of population to a strength of about 3,900,000 in the armed forces of the United States.

Canada drafts men aged 21 to 24, who have not joined one of the active armed forces, for full-time home defence duties with the Active Army. -- November 1, 1941

No. 33. -- Canadians on the Sea.

"The Canadian Navy is doing a very outstanding job ... It has been a very considerable help to the whole problem of transport."
- Col. Frank Knox, Secretary of the United States Navy.

The Royal Canadian Navy has been in action since the outbreak of war, protecting the Dominion's coasts, convoying Canadian and American supplies out of port and on the Atlantic, working in the waters around the British Isles, in the Pacific and in other parts of the seven seas.

The Navy has assisted in convoying ships carrying more than 35,000,000 tons of supplies, sunk enemy submarines, effected rescues at sea, captured several enemy vessels and caused others to be scuttled. It has lost five ships and more than 400 men.

Canada's sailors man more than 300 vessels - merchant cruisers, destroyers, corvettes, minesweepers, converted yachts, and patrol craft. -- November 2, 1941.

No. 34. -- Canadian Corps.

"We have a large and constantly growing Canadian Corps in Britain which, individually and collectively, is the match for anything it may meet on the field of battle."

Major-General H. D. G. Crerar,
Chief of the Canadian General Staff.

Canadian troops have been in Britain since the arrival of the First Division in December, 1939. Soon there will be four divisions (one of them armoured) and a tank brigade overseas. With auxiliary troops, Canadian soldiers in Britain already number scores of thousands of men.

The Canadian Corps in Britain, apart from occasional expeditions, has occupied vital sectors in Britain's front line and acted as a striking force in reserve. On September 4, 1941, Winston Churchill, the British Prime Minister, said of the Canadian Corps, "There they stand, and there they have stood through the whole of the critical period of the last fifteen months - at the very point where they would be the first to be hurled into a counter-stroke against an invader."

Nearly 10,000 American volunteers are serving in the Canadian Army.
-- November 3, 1941

No. 35. -- Canadian Airmen.

"More than two years of war have brought a continuous repetition of the glorious achievements of Canadian airmen in the First Great War."

Air Vice-Marshal L. S. Breadner,
Chief of the Canadian Air Staff.

Canadian airmen have been engaged in combat since the outbreak of war. Many had joined the R.A.F. before war broke out. Since early in 1940, R.C.A.F. squadrons have been operating in Britain, and for more than a year the output of the Air Training plan has been swelling the ranks of Canadians in both the R.A.F. and the R.C.A.F. overseas.

Canadian airmen are now fighting over Britain, over Europe, in the Mediterranean area and over Russia. They have shot down considerably more than 200 enemy planes. Sixteen R.C.A.F. squadrons are now organized overseas. Some of them are on bomber, coastal, fighter or night-fighting duties. By the end of this year the number of trained Canadian airmen abroad will be equal to a division of infantry. A total of 823 have been reported as dead or missing by the R.C.A.F.

The British Commonwealth Air Training Plan, first announced in December, 1939, has expanded very rapidly to keep pace with the urgent demands of the war. The Plan has now virtually been completed - seven months ahead of schedule. Airmen are being turned out at about twice the rate originally planned. The Plan now operates 131 establishments of all kinds and about 100 air fields. The R.C.A.F. provides 80 per cent of the pilots, gunners and observers being trained under the Plan. Of these about 10 per cent are American volunteers.

In addition, in the past year a considerable number of R.A.F. schools have been transferred to Canada. This movement will continue until perhaps 30 or 40 R.A.F. schools are operating in Canada. Construction for these schools is proceeding at a pace comparable to that when building for the original plan was at its peak.

- November 4, 1941

No. 36. -- Canada's Aid to Britain.

"All help is vital and the quicker you can give it the more help it will be.
Lord Halifax,
British Ambassador to the United States.

Canada, as Britain's ally has sent more than 100,000 soldiers, sailors and airmen overseas. These troops are equipped and maintained at the Dominion's expense, with the exception of service craft for the Air Force, which are provided by Britain as part of the contribution to the Air Training Plan.

Most of the equipment and supplies already sent from Canada to Britain have been "lease-lent" by the Canadian people. In the present fiscal year Canada will send $1,500,000,000 worth of supplies to Britain. Canadians will provide all the money Britain will need to pay for these supplies.

To help Britain to "deliver the goods" to Canada, the Dominion has materially reduced tariffs on imports from Britain. Canada has put tankers and other ships at Britain's disposal. British ships are repaired and supplied in Canadian ports. Canada has taken charge of a considerable number of prisoners of war. More than 6,000 British children have been given homes in Canada for the duration. Canadian homes are prepared to accommodate at least 100,000.

Canadian citizens have voluntarily contributed more than $27,000,000 to war charities. A large part of this sum has been used to provide money and comforts for the victims of enemy bombing in Britain, for Canadian troops overseas, and to purchase planes and other war equipment. Blankets, clothing, food, mobile kitchens, hospitals, first aid supplies, blood serum, ambulances and prisoners-of-war parcels have been provided. - November 5, 1941.

No. 37. -- Canada, the United States and the War.

"The Hyde Park Declaration is more than an extension of the Ogdensburg Agreement for hemisphere defence. It is also a joint agreement ... for aid to Britain."

Prime Minister Mackenzie King.

Canada and the United States are co-operating in the production of war materials for the nations actively resisting aggression and for the defence of this hemisphere. Since going to war Canada has bought increasingly large quantities of war supplies from the United States. In the present fiscal year her total imports from the United States will be about twice as great as in 1938. At the same time the United States has increased her purchases of certain Canadian materials vital to defence. Since Hyde Park Declaration of April, 1941, this interchange of defence supplies has been increased. Each country is now concentrating on the production of the defence articles it is geared to produce best and most quickly. Canada is not obtaining supplies under the lend-lease plan. She pays cash for purchases in the

United States on her own account.

When Canada went to war two years ago she took immediate steps to ensure the defence of her territory and, subsequently of key points in the western hemisphere. Since the Ogdensburg Agreement of August, 1940, these defensive measures have been co-ordinated with those undertaken by the United States and the two countries have now worked out joint plans for the defence of their part of the western hemisphere. Both Canadian coasts are constantly guarded by large concentrations of troops and by coastal and anti-aircraft guns located at strategic points, as well as by naval and air patrols operating along 2,000 miles of coast line and far out to sea. In the west Canada is building a string of staging airdromes so that military planes from both Canadian and United States centres can be moved into northern British Columbia and Alaska without delay. In the east, United States troops have replaced Canadian forces in Iceland, and they have joined Canadian troops in Newfoundland, where the two countries are building extensive defence facilities. Canada and the United States are in full agreement concerning defence measures in Greenland. Both United States and Canadian troops stand guard in the West Indies. At sea both the Canadian and the United States navies seek out marauding submarines. - November 6, 1941

No. 38. — The Home Front.

> "Unless the whole resources and total energy of the free world are thrown into the struggle, the war may drag on for years, carrying in its train famine, pestilence and horrors still undreamed of."
>
> Prime Minister Mackenzie King.

Canadians now pay three times as much in taxes as they did before the war. Five times as many people pay income taxes, which have been sharply raised, and taxes on goods and services have been increased and extended to cover a wide variety of commodities from soft drinks to travel fares. Business income is subject to a minimum tax of 40 per cent, and 79½ per cent of all "excess profits" are taken by the Government.

Since the outbreak of war Canadians have loaned the Government nearly $1,500,000,000 in return for war bonds and savings certificates. In terms of the relative national incomes of Canada and the United States, this sum is the equivalent of about $23,000,000,000.

This fiscal year the Canadian Government is spending about $2,350,000,000 for war - a sum which would be equivalent to an expenditure in the United States of about $35,000,000,000 for defence and lend-lease aid to Britain in a single year. Forty cents out of every dollar earned in Canada is required to support the war.

The cost of living in Canada is nearly 14 per cent higher than at the outbreak of war. To arrest this trend the Government has taken steps to place the prices of all goods and services under a price ceiling, and wages have been stabilized at prevailing levels.

Many materials are very difficult to get for purposes not connected with the war effort. Among these are iron, steel, aluminium, nickel, zinc, copper, tin, silk and rubber. Supply of non-essential durable goods is limited. New models are "taboo". Passenger automobile production is being cut in half. Output of stoves, refrigerators, radios, vacuum cleaners and washing machines is down to 75 per cent

of 1940 production. Such articles are no longer imported from the United States. Instalment purchases of a wide range of articles from furniture to engagement rings can be made only on very strict terms.

Gasoline cannot be purchased on Sundays or between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. on week days.

Canadians cannot get funds to travel in the United States, cannot hold foreign exchange and cannot export capital. The chief purpose of these moves is to enable the Dominion to buy large quantities of war supplies in the United States.

- November 7, 1941.

No. 39. -- Consumption of Sugar.

Canadians have a sweet tooth. The per capita consumption of sugar amounts to almost 100 pounds per year, which is one of the highest rates of consumption of any country in the world, even in normal times. As this means that more than a billion pounds of sugar are necessary to supply the annual Canadian requirements, it is of interest to know from what source sweets are derived and to what extent these originate in Canada.

Common everyday sugar purchased in the store to sweeten tea, coffee, preserves and other foodstuffs, comes from two cultivated plants, the sugar cane and the sugar beet. Sugar cane furnishes the raw materials for about 80 per cent of Canadian requirements. This plant cannot be grown in Canada because it requires semi-tropical conditions.

The sugar-beet can be and is grown in Canada, and in 1940, 77,900 acres were planted, 38,200 acres in Ontario, 23,900 acres in Alberta and 15,800 acres in Manitoba. From this total area, 825,000 tons of beets were harvested which yielded 213,602,500 pounds of refined sugar or approximately 19 per cent of the total sugar requirements of the Dominion. This was the highest amount of beet sugar ever produced in Canada in a single year, the previous highest being in 1939 when it was 169,320,300 pounds. The value of this refined beet sugar increased from $8,063,300 in 1939 to $10,353,700 in 1940.

The processing of the 1941 crop is now in progress and figures are not yet available. Five factories process beets for sugar in Canada, two in Ontario, two in Alberta, and one in Manitoba. It is expected that a new factory will begin operation in the Province of Quebec in 1942.

No. 40. -- Indoor Forcing of Rhubarb.

During the winter months the use of fresh vegetables is denied to the average home owing to the high cost of the imported product. For a long period of the year if vegetables are to be included in the daily diet, reliance must be placed upon the stored and canned product.

Rhubarb constitutes an exception to the general rule. This healthful and appetizing vegetable can be readily forced in many homes providing a continuous supply of edible stalks from December to March, inclusive. All that is necessary is a cellar maintaining a fairly uniform temperature of from 58 to 60 degrees Fahrenheit together with a supply of rhubarb roots suitable for forcing.

Crowns two years in age and over and preferably those from which little if any crop has been removed during the preceding summer are suitable for forcing. They should be dug before the ground freezes solidly in the fall and then left outside until thoroughly frozen. For this purpose they may be stored in an open shed and given a light covering of soil or straw to prevent excessive drying out. For best results they should be frozen for a period of five or six weeks prior to forcing.

For forcing purposes the crowns may be planted or placed in boxes or placed fairly closely together on the cellar floor with the intervening spaces filled with a light soil or sand. A thorough watering should be given at the time of planting. After that the soil or sand should be kept only moderately moist.

Light must be excluded and the temperature held as closely to 58 degrees Fahrenheit as possible. At this temperature the first picking will be ready in approximately four weeks time and the harvesting period will continue for four or five weeks. At temperatures approaching 70 degrees picking may commence earlier, but the harvest period will be considerably shortened and the stalks too long and spindly. Low temperatures delay the harvest and produce stalks too dark in colour.

Four or five large roots will supply the needs of an average family. If these roots are brought in at intervals of three weeks, a constant supply of rhubarb may be had throughout the winter months.

No. 41. -- Farm Co-operatives.

Half a century ago the principles and aims of co-operatives were little known in Canada. Since that time, however, the idea has been steadily expanding and growing until today it has reached the stage of an organized movement with a definite purpose and a million-dollar turnover annually. United and strong, the co-operatives are working towards the ultimate goal of greater administrative efficiency, the elimination of wasteful methods of meeting the consumer demand and the bridgement of the gap that at present exists between the producer and consumer.

Perhaps the greatest steps in this field in Canada have been made in the marketing of farm products. In 1940 a total of 601 farmers' co-operative marketing associations were reported to the Dominion Department of Agriculture. Over 3,000 places of business and some 394,000 members were listed, with sales of farm products and supplies amounting to $219,046,000 during the year. Following along this line, in Western Canada 550 cooperative purchasing organizations have been formed mainly for the purpose of buying supplies -- usually bulk commodities such as gasoline, tractor fuel, wood, coal, and binder twine. Societies have been formed by fishermen on both coasts for the purpose of canning and marketing fish and buying gear on the cooperative plan. During 1939, 30 of these same societies were formed in Nova Scotia, Quebec and British Columbia, with a membership of some 3,000 and a business amounting to $1,256,000.

A mutual fire insurance company was formed in Ontario as early as 1836 and several still functioning as farmers' mutuals were organized between 1850 and 1860. Today there are about 350 such companies in Canada, with net assets of over $5 million and insurance at risk amounting to over one billion dollars.

Approximately 71,000 or about 5 per cent of the telephones in Canada are operated by rural cooperative companies in which there is a total investment of $19,442,000.

Credit unions are active in all provinces of the Dominion. About 1,100 were chartered as at December 31, 1940, with a membership close to 200,000. More than $100,000,000 has been loaned to the members of the various credit unions during their period of operation. Loans in the year 1939 totalled $9,000,000.

Statistics available on consumers' societies, although incomplete, indicate a total membership of approximately 15,000 persons who buy cooperatively 4 to 5 million dollars of consumers' goods each year. Many of the retail societies and the marketing associations are affiliated with the Cooperative Union of Canada. The Union functions in an advisory and educational capacity for its affiliates and has a guiding influence on the Canadian cooperative movement.

In Britain today, between 25 and 30 per cent of the civilian registration for unrationed food goes to the cooperatives. They also help in community feeding and the preparation of emergency supplies. While in the rural districts of Russia, the cooperative societies are operating on a scale unexampled in any part of the world.

Cooperative housing and cooperative hospitalization and medical schemes are other forms of newer cooperative ventures which are operating successfully in various parts of Canada.

No. 42. — Christmas Tree Cutting.

Canada's Christmas tree trade has become an important enterprise for farmers and woodlot owners. Last year around six million evergreens were cut as Christmas trees, of which approximately five million valued at more than a half million dollars were exported to the United States. Approximately a million trees are used annually to decorate Canadian homes during the Christmas season.

Balsam fir, Douglas fir and spruce are the Canadian species favoured by Christmas tree buyers. Balsam fir is most popular in the East, because of its quality and pyramidal shape. Spruce, obtainable nearly everywhere, is also widely used. In the past few years Douglas fir from British Columbia has been growing in popularity in the United States market, and recently there has been an increased demand for plantation-grown Scotch pine, particularly in border cities adjoining Ontario.

Canadian forest authorities consider the cutting of Christmas trees a legitimate use of forest products, as under proper management the present cut could be produced in perpetuity on an area of less than two hundred square miles. Formerly young trees for the Christmas trade were secured with little or no difficulty from the woodlands or pastures situated within convenient distance of towns, villages and cities throughout Eastern Canada, but within the past few years a scarcity of suitable trees has been experienced in some localities with the result that many farmers are now growing Christmas trees on managed woodlots. This practice is capable of expansion as most of the Christmas tree requirements could be grown as farm crops on land unsuited for agriculture.

No. 43. — Growth of Christmas Tree Trade.

Canada's Christmas tree trade has shown remarkable growth during the past twenty years. Exports of Christmas trees to the United States have increased from around 300,000 in 1918 to approximately 6,000,000 in the 1939 and 1940 seasons, and

now bring the Canadian growers more than a half million dollars a year. Large shipments are made annually from Quebec, Ontario, British Columbia, and the Maritime Provinces.

In the Maritime Provinces, American buyers appear early in October and cutting of the little trees begins not long after. In some instances the farmers cut and haul the trees to the nearest shipping point, and in other cases the United States firms employ crews to cut, haul, grade, bundle and load the trees. Many seedlings two or three feet in height are now being cut to meet the growing demand for table trees, but the great bulk are four to eight feet tall. To conserve shipping space these are tightly wired in bundles averaging five trees. A freight car holds between 500 and 600 bundles or about 2,750 trees on the average. Early cut trees are sheltered from the sun and wind until shipping time to prevent fading or premature loss of needles.

In the eastern United States cities the Canada balsam is easily the favourite Christmas tree, as it stands shipment better than other species, supports, lights and decorations well, is very fragrant, and the waxy, dark-green needles remain long on the tree. In the western and mid-west American markets the Douglas fir is favoured, and large shipments of this species have been made this year from British Columbia.

No. 44. -- Cork - 1

Possibly one of the least publicized of our "vital war materials" figuring prominently in Canada's war effort today is the simple substance cork.

For centuries cork has been an important item of international commerce. Up to now it has been accepted matter-of-factly by the public as it played its essential part in peacetime manufacture of such every day household necessities as bottle stoppers, floats and buoys and penholder grips. Today it is in the front line, going to war in many and varied forms.

Cork is the outer bark of a certain species of oak which, curiously enough, grows only in Mediterranean countries. The tree reaches a height of about 30 feet, has oblong evergreen leaves with a downy surfaced underside. Although it is usually found in the company of firs and other evergreen oaks, in parts of Tunis there are forests consisting entirely of cork oaks, and the bark is of extremely high quality.

In collecting cork, it is customary to slit the tree trunk perpendicularly from top to bottom, and make two horizontal incisions. Sometimes it is stripped in pieces the whole length and sometimes in shorter ones. For this purpose a very sharp, curved knife, with a handle at both ends is used. In some instances, after the incisions have been made in the bark, the cork is left on the trees until, with the growth of new bark underneath it becomes loose enough to be removed by hand.

In the course of eight or nine years the same tree will yield a second supply of cork, the quality improving with each successive stripping. Trees thrive for over 150 years, still yielding valuable supplies in their ripe old age.

After being detached from the tree, the cork is first thoroughly soaked in water and then dried. Next comes the "refining" process in which the pieces are placed over hot coals and blackened. This makes the surface smooth and conceals the smaller blemishes. The larger cracks and holes are filled with soot and dirt. They are then loaded with weights to make them even, are dried and stacked or packed in bales ready for exportation.

No. 45. -- Cork - 2.

Cork is a peculiar substance that owes its importance commercially to its unique physical construction. Made up of minute cells, half the volume of a piece of cork is air. When pressure is applied the air is compressed in the cells, and the whole returns to its original volume when the pressure is released and the air expands.

Cork is light, tough and durable and highly impervious to moisture. It makes an excellent insulator against extremes of heat and cold and tends to absorb sound waves rather than reflect them. It may be readily understood, therefore, why the bulk of the cork we use is utilized in the field of insulation.

Today cork is described as a "critical" material, inasmuch as the only commercial supplies lie perilously close to the present European war zones. Cork plays a major part in the life of the Army, where it is used for cartridge plugs, bomb parts and in tanks; of the Navy where it goes to make life preservers and sweat preservers in undersea craft; and of the Air force where it is used in the manufacture of various parts of the modern fighting plane.

Cork might also be termed an indispensable material, for to date few satisfactory substitutes have been found for the natural bark. Portugal is the largest producer in the world, with Spain, Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia following. Various attempts to establish commercial forests elsewhere have thus far been unsuccessful. Since the middle of the 19th century experiments along this line have been carried on in California, where there are at present about 2,000 cork oaks. In 1940 about five tons of cork were gathered from these and found to be equal in quality to the foreign-grown. Plans are being considered to develop this project, with the view to eventually establishing commercial stands of cork oak on this side of the Atlantic, sufficient to meet a large percentage of the home demands.

Canada imports most of her cork in various stages of manufacture. In 1940 only about $102,000 worth of raw cork came into this country, and that mainly from Portugal. In the same year, largely from Spain, Portugal and United States, we imported manufactured cork to the value of approximately $1 million. From the same countries we received manufactured corks of all shapes and sizes valued around $171,000.

No. 46. -- Unusual Fish Species.

British Columbia reports the visit of two unusual fish species, a cat shark, (Apristurus brunneus), and a number of killer whales (Orcinus Orea), which arrived off the Pacific Coast during recent months. A third interesting, but more common arrival was a bottle-nosed whale (Hyperoodon rostratus).

The cat shark, an unusual and interesting fish recorded only once before as taken in British Columbia waters, near Nanaimo in 1907, was landed in the Gulf of Georgia. The particular specimen identified at the federal Pacific Biological Station, measured some 16 inches in length.

The so-called killer whale, in reality a species of porpoise, is also commonly known as the grampus. The animal - for actually the killer whale, like other whales is a mammal and not a true fish - is easily identified by characteristic white markings, including a lens-shaped patch behind the eye, and a large trident-shaped patch on the underside. It has a wide range in both the Atlantic and Pacific.

Eleven killer whales gave a surprise to fishery officials when they were left stranded by a receding tide along a seventy-five yard stretch of beach at the north end of Sturgess Bay. Both adult and immature whales were included in the group, and the mammals ranged in size from 10 to 20 feet.

Killer whales are very voracious, hunting in packs ranging from two or three, to thirty or forty. They attack large baleen whales, their behaviour being compared to that of a pack of wolves. They are said to feed on salmon when these fish are plentiful but their main diet is made up of whalebone whales, dolphins, seals, porpoises and sea lions. It is recorded that in the stomach of one killer whale no less than thirteen porpoises and fourteen seals were found. This particular "killer" measured 21 feet, though full grown males sometimes attain a length of thirty feet. Males are approximately twice as large as females.

The bottle nose whale came ashore at Ho-miss Bay and was identified from photographs. This specimen measured some 21 feet. It was blue black in colour ranging to dirty white, with some mottling.

Whales in Canadian waters are taken only for reduction purposes. They are utilized in the production of meal and oil. Some shark livers are used in making oil.

No. 47. -- Last Spanish Exploration

At Point Grey on Marine Drive one mile west of Vancouver, B.C., a cut stone monument and tablet, erected by the Department of Mines and Resources commemorates the first friendly meeting of British and Spanish explorers off the coast of British Columbia almost 150 years ago.

In the eighteenth century Spain claimed the sovereignty of all the western coast of America. Aroused by the activities of the Russians in Alaska and of the British traders farther south, the Spaniards, in support of their claim, established in 1789 a settlement at Nootka Sound, on the west coast of Vancouver Island, from there they despatched numerous exploring expeditions to the north and to the south. They directed much of their attention to the Strait of Juan de Fuca which, it was thought, might lead to a passage to the Atlantic. After unsuccessful attempts in 1790 and 1791, the Spaniards sent out their schooners "Sutil" and Mexicana" under Captains Galiano and Valdes from Nootka in June 1792, to complete the examination of the strait.

About this time, the British sent Captain George Vancouver to investigate the situation at Nootka Sound, and also to make an accurate survey of the coast northwards from the 30th degree of north latitude. Aboard the "Discovery" and the "Chatham", Vancouver's expedition sailed half-way round the world, touching at the Cape of Good Hope and visiting Australia, New Zealand, and Tahiti, before reaching Nootka Sound.

After the necessary formalities at Nootka, Vancouver also examined the Strait of Juan de Fuca, and sailed on into the Strait of Georgia, where on June 22, 1792 he met the Spanish expedition, near Point Grey. He and the Spanish commanders discussed the task freely and amicably, and decided to work together. In company they proceeded up the Strait of Georgia and together examined the mainland side as far as Bute Inlet, comparing their observations and exchanging information. The Spaniards proved to be slower sailors than the British, and after Vancouver's officers had found an exit to the ocean by way of Seymour Narrows the ships

separated. Vancouver passed out to Queen Charlotte Sound by the route his men had discovered, and the Spaniards pursued their course to the same sound by the more easterly channels.

The meeting of the English and Spanish officers near Point Grey was a momentous event in the history of the Pacific coast. Spain was then on the verge of abandoning the last shadow of her claims, while Britain was strengthening hers by Vancouver's great work.

No. 48. -- Another New Canadian Industry.

A tragic incentive for inventive genius is war! The maelstrom of events comprising the last two years has drawn the capricious public eye to focus with ever-increasing interest upon a comparatively small, unassuming group of men at their labours.

Mass interest is usually inspired by either idle curiosity or selfish concern, and in this case it is doubtless the latter. Necessity is still the Mother of Invention, and with disaster staring mankind in the face, the Necessity for Invention has become dire indeed. So, true to character, we suddenly take a keen interest in those of our fellows who are, fortunately for us, possessed of uncommon skill and ingenuity in origination. That this creative faculty of theirs should be deflected from the holy paths of the pursuit of greater happiness for the genus homo into a death struggle to outwit a heinous enemy, is a mocking quirk of circumstance.

Indicative of this newly aroused interest in research and science is the recent opening of Canada's one and only optical plant. Located at Leaside, a Toronto suburb, "Research Enterprises", as it is called, is one of a dozen government-owned companies producing vital war materials. A culmination of a vision of Lt.-Gen. A.G.L. McNaughton, who had been advocating the production of optical glass in Canada for some time, the new plant produces weapons of war that have played and will yet play a decided part in the conflict engaging the nations of the world at the present time.

Delicate instruments of war, used by all three branches of the service are fashioned by skilled craftsmen in this plant. One of these new devices is known as a "radiolocator", which reveals the approach of enemy aircraft long before it could be detected by previous methods. By thus eliminating the surprise element in attack, counter offensive measures can be taken before the enemy reaches its objective.

Using the approved methods of one of the oldest producers of optical glass in the world, namely the Chance Brothers of England, the new plant produces many instruments that have been painstakingly worked out by various members of the National Research Council. It is most important, of course, that the raw materials that go into the making of the optical glass be of the highest quality and purity. After the ingredients are thoroughly mixed by hand, they are loaded into huge clay pots, which hold about 2,000 pounds. After some 24 to 36 hours in the melting furnace, and while the molten glass is at a temperature approximating 600 degrees Centigrade, the pots are suddenly chilled. In about 48 hours the clay pots are broken from the solid mass, and chunks of the glass are examined for flaws and impurities. After various operations of remolding, grinding and annealing some 500 pounds of good usable optical glass is obtained at each melt.

This plant, one of the most recent additions to Canada's rapidly growing defence programme was officially opened by Minister of Munitions and Supply, Hon. C.D. Howe, on July 8 of this year.

No. 49. -- Possible New Source of Tungsten.

Tungsten-bearing veins discovered during the past two years in the Yellowknife-Beaulieu River area, Northwest Territories, are regarded by two geologists of the Department of Mines and Resources who recently examined them, as a possible source of substantial quantities of tungsten, an urgently needed alloy metal. Approximately half of the 4,000-square mile region is underlain by rocks in which scheelite, the tungsten-bearing mineral, might occur, and within these rocks 400 or more veins containing varying amounts of tungsten have already been found. So far only about five per cent of the favourable ground has been carefully prospected for scheelite.

Most of the two hundred or more scheelite veins examined lie within ten miles of Gilmour Lake, which is 45 miles east of Yellowknife settlement. None of them is sufficiently large or rich to be mined profitably for tungsten alone, but by certain alterations in the equipment of one or more of the gold milling plants in operation, or to be erected in the region, high grade scheelite concentrate could be recovered. Some such arrangements are under consideration by the companies or syndicates concerned and any action taken will depend largely upon assay returns from samples already collected or being collected.

Scheelite was first identified in the region in 1939 in the Con mine in veins being mined for gold, and in the following year twenty tungsten-bearing veins were discovered near Gilmour Lake. It was not until 1941, however, that concerted efforts were made to search for and develop tungsten-bearing deposits. No viens of an obviously commercial character were discovered during this summer's field work, but the many occurrences within the small area intensively prospected are a favourable indication that there may be commercial deposits in the region, and accordingly it is recommended for further careful prospecting.

Tungsten is used chiefly in the making of cutting tools and of high quality steel. Canada's production of scheelite at present comes largely from certain gold mines in Ontario and Quebec and from tungsten properties in British Columbia, but the output meets only a small fraction of the domestic requirements.

No. 50. -- Damage by Rats Totals Millions.

In keeping with the increasing importance of the conservation of food and supplies in Canada's war effort, the elimination of a serious destroyer of valuable material, the brown rat, becomes peremptory. In some respects the rat might be regarded as a fifth columnist. It invades houses, stores, warehouses and markets; it destroys fabrics and leather destined for war equipment; it attacks all kind of food - grains, meats, groceries and vegetables. In town and country it attacks poultry, destroying eggs and chickens; it even damages the foundations of buildings. Everywhere it destroys unceasingly.

Besides the enormous destruction of food supplies, amounting to millions of dollars annually, the brown rat is a menace to public health. Rat fleas cause bubonic plague, known at one time as "The Black Death"; the rat louse carries typhus fever to man; and in countries where meat inspection is not so thorough as in Canada the trichina worm which affects rats in turn may infect pigs and the organism be transmitted to man.

With regard to destroying rats by poison, one of the most satisfactory is finely ground red squill. This product has the advantage of other commonly used

poisons in that it is relatively harmless to human beings and domestic animals. Second in value to red squill is barium carbonate. Although less poisonous than arsenic, it should be handled with care. Arsenic is used in many rat poisons and every precaution should be used, as with other poisons, to avoid exposing poison baits where they may cause accidental poisoning to people, pets, or live stock.

No. 51. -- Fish Cookery Classes.

Over 36,000 women, more than enough to make up a fair sized Canadian city, attended fish cookery demonstrations and addresses given last year by the Lecture-Demonstration Service of the Dominion Department of Fisheries. They included women with experience in home-keeping and other younger women who as students at household science schools, were making ready for the day when they would have homes of their own under their care.

They saw many different kinds of Canadian fish foods cooked in different ways suitable for the average Canadian home, heard many cookery hints, gathered a good deal of useful information as to the nutritive and health value of fish and shellfish, and they asked a good many questions.

"Questions, that's what we like best," said one of the four skilled dietitians who carried on the lecture-demonstration work for the department. "For my own part, if I held a meeting and the women didn't ask questions I would feel there must have been something wrong with the way I handled my job on that particular day -- I hadn't caught the interest of the audience as I should have done. As a matter of fact, though, we usually do get plenty of questions, and that isn't surprising when it is remembered that there are more than sixty different kinds of Canadian food fish and shellfish for people to ask about and that their exact uses and the methods of cooking them may depend a good deal upon whether they are used in the fresh form or whether they have been frozen or put up in some one of the several processed forms, such as canned."

The program put on by the lecturer-demonstrators in 1940 included 100 talks and between four and five hundred demonstrations. In addition, there were a few radio talks. Most of the work was done in the inland provinces, largely in Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba, since it was felt that, as a rule, the women in the coastal districts would be likely to be already more familiar than their inland sisters with fish foods and the methods of preparing them for the table. Some of the meetings were held under the auspices of women's institutes, others were arranged for by Red Cross branches and church women's organizations, the demonstrations for household science students took place in school or college quarters.

The autumn and winter program of the Lecture-Demonstration Service is now under way again and a number of addresses and demonstrations have already been given. Others will follow steadily until the warm months of next summer come 'round. Requests for demonstrations or addresses are always met by the department, when feasible, but, of course, each dietitian's itinery must be so planned that a number of communities can be covered on the one trip. No admission fees are ever charged at meetings which the dietitians hold.

No. 52. -- Soybeans.

When you look over your nice new car and note how neat are the windows and panelling it might very well be that these window frames and panelling are made of

soybeans. So soybeans have a particular interest for us in many ways, and we are watching the progress made by this bean that came to us from China. Growing tests are being made by the Department of Agriculture. Here is what the Department says of the New Brunswick tests:

New Brunswick farmers and business men have shown considerable interest in soybeans as a seed crop. This interest is partly due to the high percentage of protein and oil contained in the beans and partly to the good results obtained with this crop in the other provinces of Canada and in the United States.

Those localities in which the soybean acreage is increasing rapidly have a longer growing season than in New Brunswick. Tests at the Experimental Station, Fredericton, show that unless early varieties are grown, soybeans are a somewhat uncertain crop in the Province.

The last nine years, Manitoba Brown, the earliest variety tested, ripened in an average of 117 days. This means that if this variety were sown on May 25, it would be ripe about Sept. 19. In backward seasons, the date of maturity would be even later. Thus, Manitoba Brown required 130 days in 1936 and 126 days in 1941 to mature. Soybeans may be sown early in May, as they are not affected by light spring frosts, but there does not seem to be any advantage in early seeding. At Fredericton, soybeans sown the last week in May ripened about the same time as those sown earlier, and it was much easier to control weeds in the later seedings. Soybeans are not greatly affected by light September and early October frosts, but five or six degrees of frost will kill the plants. Unless the pods are well filled before heavy frosts come, the beans will be of poor quality.

In 1935 and again in 1941, the season was backward and a severe frost came at the end of September. Under these conditions, only the earlier varieties such as Manitoba Brown, Wisconsin Black, Kabott and Pagoda produced high quality beans.

Medium early varieties, such as Mandarin, are more productive in favourable seasons, but when the season is backward, the yields are low and the beans are immature and therefore poor in quality. Late varieties, such as O.A.C. 211, are not suitable for a seed crop, even in favourable seasons.

The names Manitoba Brown and Wisconsin Black indicate the colour of these beans. The Kabott and Pagoda varieties are yellow. While yellow beans are preferred by the trade there is no advantage in having yellow beans for feeding livestock.

Soybeans will grow on most types of soils but do best on mellow, fertile loam. Seeding in rows 28 - 30 inches apart is best for seed production. When grown in this manner, weeds are easily controlled by horse cultivation. Inoculating the seed has definitely increased yield.

Although the crop is late maturing, harvesting is not difficult nor expensive. The plants shed their leaves and the beans will ripen on the vines. They need not be harvested until they are dry enough to thresh.

Soybeans do not seem to be greatly affected by either insect pests or by disease.

No. 53. — Charles Fisher.

In tribute to the memory of Charles Fisher, one of the Fathers of Con-

federation, the Department of Mines and Resources, on the recommendation of the historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, has recently erected a bronze tablet in the Legislative Assembly Building in Fredericton, N. B.

Charles Fisher was born in Fredericton on September 16, 1808, was educated at King's College, studied law, and was called to the bar of New Brunswick in 1833. In 1837 he was elected to the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick and with but slight interruption represented the constituency of York until 1868 when he retired from political life. He was a member of the Executive Council from 1848 to 1850 and in 1851 he became Premier and Attorney General. His Government resigned in 1856, but was returned to power the following year, and he remained in office until 1861 when he resigned, although retaining his seat as a private member.

In 1864 Charles Fisher attended the Quebec Conference as a delegate from New Brunswick, and his advocacy of Confederation lost him his seat in the election of 1865. In 1866 he was re-elected and was one of the delegates sent to England for the final conference in 1866-67. Upon his return he was elected to the Canadian House of Commons but retired from political life in 1868 and was appointed a puisne judge of the Supreme Court of New Brunswick. He died in Fredericton on December 8, 1880.

No. 54. — Irish Moss

While west coast residents are experiencing something new and tragically different in the realm of entertainment, Canadians living along the shores of the Atlantic are busy establishing something new and different in the way of industries. This latest pursuit, in the region of the Maritimes, especially Prince Edward Island, is the collection and curing of Irish Moss.

Originally a product of the old world, Irish Moss, or Carragheen, is a specie of marine algae found abundantly near Waterford, Ireland, in a place called Carragheen, from which the name is derived. It was also secured in some quantity from France and Spain. However, the Canadian supply seems to be almost unlimited and the quality superior to the European product.

The moss, a thick cartilaginous seaweed, grows on the rocks along the shore, and tons of it are washed ashore during storms. Maritimers, armed with long toothed rakes drag the moss beds, which are generally found in from six to twelve feet of water. The moss is carefully dried in the sun on wire trays about ten feet by four, then washed in sea water, and dried again. Fresh water is very injurious to the product, so great care must be taken to protect it against rain. This drying and washing process is repeated until the original shade of purple or bright green has faded to a pinky white. This is the Irish Moss of commerce. When cured it is compressed into 100 to 150 pound bales and is ready to be shipped.

One of the main constituents of this product of nature is mucilage. In hot water it swells up and on boiling it dissolves. It is nutritious and is used in the preparation of jellies, ice cream, soup and various other canned foods. The manufacturers of cold water paints buy large quantities and in the cotton industry it is used as a filler. Shoe and soap manufacturers are also potential customers. But the largest consumers are the breweries which use it for clearing beer.

Bringing a price of from $200 to $250 a ton, Irish moss furnishes a welcome supplement to the fisherman's fluctuating income. Future prospects for this newly developed industry are very bright and markets will likely be permanent.

The product enters the United States duty-free, and freight rates are reasonable. This year, because of an unusually rainy summer Prince Edward Island's crop of Irish Moss is not very heavy.

No. 55. -- Indian Treaty Commemorated.

Pioneer days in the Canadian West are recalled by a number of national historic sites, marked on the recommendation of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada. Prominent among these is a cairn and tablet on the Blackfoot Indian Reserve in Alberta, which commemorates the signing of Indian Treaty No. 7 on September 22, 1877. This historic document was one of a series of treaties which helped to establish peaceful relations between the Indians and white people of the Canadian prairies, although under its terms the Blackfeet, Blood, Peigan, Sarcee, Stony and other Indians surrendered their rights to 50,000 square miles of territory in the southwestern corner of Alberta.

In exchange for relinquishing their lands, the Indians were allotted liberal land reserves and every man, woman and child of the families concerned received $12. Annual treaty payments of $25 to each chief, $15 to each minor chief or councillor, and $5 to other Indians were also provided for. In addition a further sum of $2,000 was to be distributed annually to the Indians in ammunition or other form as agreed. The Treaty also provided for clothing, medals and flags for the chiefs, cattle and implements in specified quantities, and teachers for the Indian schools.

Indian Treaty No. 7 was signed at the Blackfoot Crossing of the Bow River, near the present town of Cluny, with Crowfoot, principal chief of the Blackfeet, figuring prominently in the negotiations, and the Hon. David Laird, Governor of the Northwest Territories, and James F. MacLeod, Commissioner of the North West Mounted Police, representing the Crown.

Although the Blackfeet had pronounced views upon their ownership of the land, Crowfoot, a man of exceptional ability, foresaw that with the spread of settlement over the prairies the life of the Indians must change to fit the coming conditions. With the eye of a true statesman he realized the necessity of having the situation clarified by a treaty.

No. 56. -- Canada's Forest Resources.

Canada's total forested area exceeds 1,220,000 square miles and occupies 35 per cent of the land area of the Dominion, according to new estimates of the forest resources recently completed by the Department of Mines and Resources. These estimates have been compiled from information provided by provinces which have made inventories of their forest resources, and from surveys conducted by the Dominion in other areas.

About 450,000 square miles of this forest is not suitable for commercial operations; but on 770,000 square miles the trees are large enough for use now or can be expected to grow to usable size in future. Because of Canada's great size, and the concentration of her population in the southern parts of the country, large areas of forests of commercial quality are at present too far removed from centres of consumption to be economically operated. The presently accessible

portion of the productive forest totals about 430,000 square miles, of which about 45 per cent bears merchantable timber and 55 per cent is occupied by young growth.

The volume of wood in the merchantable forest is estimated at 313,140 million cubic feet. About two thirds of this volume, consisting of 252,100 million feet board measure, of sawlogs and 1,500 million cords of small material, is now accessible. Most important of all species is spruce, which constitutes more than one-third of the total forest. Softwood or coniferous species together make up 75 per cent of the total stand, and hardwood or broadleaved species, 25 per cent.

Complete information respecting rate of use and wastage in Canada's forests under war conditions is not yet available, but it is known that about 70 per cent of the total depletion is due to utilization and 30 per cent to loss from fire, insects, and other causes.

It is estimated that replacements of this depletion requires an average growth rate of more than 14 cubic feet per acre annually throughout the accessible productive forest area. This rate of growth is being exceeded in many parts of the forest, but it is doubtful if the necessary average is being maintained over the whole area. Replacement can be ensured only by more intensive management of the forest, a prime essential of which will be the introduction of adequate protective measures. Given these requisites, the forest of Canada can be maintained indefinitely, but in some regions future crops will be taken from smaller trees, and may consist in part of so-called inferior species. These changes may require corresponding changes in wood-using industries.

No. 57. -- Make Farm Plans Early.

Each year a farmer needs to make more or less definite plans for the operation of his farm business during the next season. Under present conditions such a plan is more than ever necessary, and the plan should be made early in order to avoid disappointment in procuring labour, seed, and other requirements. With the supply of farm labour limited and uncertain, changes in management may have to be made to reduce the need for hired help.

The plan must be based on the resources available to the operator. The foundation of the plan is, therefore, a physical one and will have to be made out in terms of acres of various crops, expected yields, number of livestock and their feed requirements, and the disposition of crop or livestock products available for sale.

Because the crop and livestock systems are mutually dependent, the various livestock enterprises should be planned so as to consume as much of the crops as possible and reduce the purchase of feeds. On the other hand the cropping plan should be so arranged as to supply as much of the livestock feed as possible and where desirable allow for the growing of profitable cash crops. It may be necessary because of the labour shortage to reduce the acreage of hoed crops and grow more hay and grain. Such a plan would fit in well with a bacon production programme and by using grass or legumes instead of corn for silage would apply well in producing dairy products. For cheese production, pasture should be given serious consideration.

When labour is scarce it is well in planning the farm operations to give consideration to readjustments in farm machinery and labour-saving devices. Tractor

and tractor-drawn equipment may allow for one man operating a farm which previously required two men. The size of implements should be adjusted so as to utilize the available power most efficiently whether it be horse or tractor power. A row crop tractor will reduce the manual labour required for culticated crops. Combination seed and fertilizer drills allow for two operations being done by one machine with a resulting economy of production. Harvesting machinery is now available which reduces manual labour to a minimum.

These points and many others should be considered from the standpoint of their possible profit and convenience and the year's operation plan worked out early and completely.

No. 58. -- Dogfish.

Dogfish in the waters off the British Columbia coast have taken to wearing costume jewelry these days. Yes, sir! And not the five-and-ten variety either but each adornment worth fifty cents when returned to the federal Fisheries Biological Station at Nanaimo.

Over 100 dogfish roaming the Strait of Georgia, and perhaps going elsewhere, too, sport natty coloured decorations on their snouts, silently proclaiming to the marine world what the well-dressed dogfish should wear. To be candid, though, the fish have had only an involuntary part in this 'sprucing up' process. Their decorations are really coloured celluloid discs attached to their snouts by fisheries scientists who are studying the movements of the fish, for dogfish have become increasingly important since science earlier discovered that their livers are a source of vitamin-bearing oils.

It all came about in this way. Until a few years ago dogfish were more of a nuisance than anything else to Canadian fishermen whether in British Columbia waters or on the Atlantic coast. They damaged nets and cluttered up gear set to catch other species. The only use made of them was in the manufacture of meal and oil from the carcasses, and until quite recently the output of these products was not very great. Then Science and War changed the picture.

Scientists found out that the livers of dogfish, or grayfish, have valuable vitamin content and the war increased the demand for vitamin-bearing oils. Instead of being reckoned little more than nuisances dogfish took on value. Consequently, it became of greater importance to know their migration habits and routes and to assemble knowledge as to the places and times most likely to yield good catches to the fishermen. This is where the tagging scheme comes in, though, of course, it is not expected that results from the tagging of the first one hundred dogfish will tell anything like the whole story.

In general method, the experimental tagging of dogfish has followed the same lines as tagging programs in the study of other fish. Any differences are in details. Numbered discs are used as tags and are fastened to the snouts of the fish. Record is kept as to where and when each fish was tagged; any fisherman who recaptures one of the marked fish is asked to send particulars as to time, place, etc., to the Nanaimo research station, together with the numbered disc itself. The station will pay fifty cents for each numbered tag returned.

Last year's production of dogfish liver oil in British Columbia totalled 64,270 gallons, with a marketed value of a trifle more than $84,400. In addition,

slightly more than 588,000 pounds of dogfish livers, worth about $40,700, were sent to market for use in making oil elsewhere. Oil made from the carcasses of dogfish in the Pacific province totalled nearly 95,500 gallons but it was worth only $20,300, or very much less per gallon than the liver oil. A small quantity of body oil, less than 100 gallons, was also produced on the Atlantic Coast (in Quebec and Nova Scotia) but no liver oil.

No. 59. -- Heating with Sawdust.

Even sawdust assumes a new economic importance in war-time. Formerly the economical disposal of the sawdust produced by the Canadian lumber industry presented a serious problem in most parts of the country, but to-day the use of this one-time waste material for domestic heating affords Canadians in regions contiguous to sawmills an opportunity to further practical conservation and utilization of waste material.

The sawmills of Canada are estimated to produce more than two hundred million cubic feet of sawdust annually, or the equivalent of a bin one-quarter of a mile square and more than one hundred feet high. After making allowance for the amount used by the sawmills as fuel to provide power and for other purposes, the quantity still available is not likely to be less than one hundred million cubic feet a year.

For home-heating purposes sawdust is burned in an attachment fitted with little difficulty and at moderate cost to any ordinary type of domestic furnace or boiler. Other types are available for use with stoves and kitchen ranges. The attachment consists of a set of special grates and a hopper to hold a supply of sawdust. The fuel feeds by gravity on to the grates from the hopper, the whole operation of stoking and combustion being accomplished without the aid of any mechanical appliances. Two or three fillings of the hopper each day are usually sufficient, excepting in the most severe weather.

Some of the features which make sawdust a desirable fuel are its steady burning, its quick response to changes in draught, its comparative freedom from ash, and its relative cleanliness. It may be burned green as it comes from the log or after it has been dried for a time. The drier the sawdust the more useful heat it will deliver.

Sawdust has long been an excellent domestic fuel in British Columbia. In other parts of the Dominion too, particularly in the Maritime Provinces, householders are discovering its merits. Its wider use would not only enable many Canadian families to curtail their expenditures for heating but would also ease the war-time strain on Canadian coal mines and reduce the amount of foreign exchange required for imported fuels.

No. 60. -- Ultra-Violet Rays Aid Search for Tungsten.

The Department of Mines and Resources is making use of a short wave ultra-violet ray lamp to detect the presence of scheelite, the principal tungsten-bearing ore in Canada. Tungsten is an important war metal and is used chiefly as an alloy in the making of high quality steels and cutting tools.

The scheelite frequently occurs in gold-bearing veins, though seldom in quantities sufficient to be recovered at a profit, and its production from Canadian gold mines represents a direct contribution on the part of the companies concerned to the war effort. The presence of scheelite in mine workings can be readily detected by its brilliant pale bluish fluorescence under ultra-violet light and purple filter. This method was used recently by an officer of the Department in an inspection of approximately forty gold producing porperties in the Porcupine, Kirkland Lake, Larder Lake, and other areas in Ontario, and in the Amos and Val d'Or areas of western Quebec.

To encourage the production of scheelite from domestic sources, high grade scheelite concentrates from hand-picked ores are now being produced in the ore-dressing laboratories of the Department. The ores are obtained mostly from gold mines in Ontario and Quebec, although some fairly large shipments have come from mines in British Columbia, and a few smaller ones from the Mayo area, Yukon.

No. 81. -- To Slaughter Buffalo.

In order to prevent over-grazing and to maintain the buffalo herd in Elk Island National Park in a healthy state, 500 animals will be slaughtered shortly. The herd in this fenced park now numbers almost 1,700, of which 255 were born during 1941, and further unchecked increase would endanger range conditions.

The slaughter will be carried out under the supervision of the park superintendent and strictly humane and up-to-date methods will be employed. Notwithstanding the fact that the buffalo in the park are in perfect health, a rigid inspection of the meat will be made by an official of the Department of Agriculture. The carcasses will be prepared for market in a modern abattoir maintained in the park and the meat will be handled under stringent sanitary conditions and graded according to quality and age. Only the choicest quality may be offered to the fresh meat trade, and the balance is marketed in processed form. Buffalo meat is considered dietetically to be equal to the best domestic cattle, and buffalo steaks and roasts have always been popular on the Canadian market.

The periodic reduction of the buffalo herd also provides high quality skins suitable for the manufacture of coats, motor robes, floor rugs, and other articles. Due to the improved fur-dressing methods and the fact that the animals are slaughtered only when the fur is prime, the buffalo products of today are held in high regard.

Canada's success in saving the buffalo from threatened extinction is a notable achievement in wild life conservation. In addition to the animals in Elk Island National Park, it is estimated that more than 12,000 buffalo roam at large in Wood Buffalo National Park, a vast game preserve which lies partly in Alberta and partly in the Northwest Territories. Small exhibition herds of buffalo are also maintained in Banff, Prince Albert, and Riding Mountain National Parks.
