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ADVANCE REPORT ON THE FUR FARMS OF CANADA, 1938.

The number of fur farms in operation in Canada in the year 1938 was 10,455, comprising 8,073 fox farms, 2,222 mink farms and 160 farms of the miscellaneous group, classified as follows: raccoon, 66; fitch, 30; marten, 11; nutria, 10; badger, 2; fisher, 1; muskrat, 30; and beaver farms, 10. Compared with the preceding year, the number of fox farms shows an increase of 472, or 6 per cent, the number of mink farms, an increase of 796, or 56 per cent; the number of miscellaneous fur farms, an increase of 8, or 5 per cent; and the total number of fur farms, an increase of 1,276, or 14 per cent.

The term "fur farm" refers to all properties on which fur-bearing animals are raised, whether the property is one devoted solely to fur farming, or is operated as a branch of general farming. All fur farms on which foxes are raised are classified as fox farms, while the other groups comprise farms which raise fur-bearing animals other than foxes, and are classified according to the principal kind of fur-bearer.

Fur farm revenue in 1938 amounted to \$6,482,816, to which the sales of pelts contributed \$5,752,742, or 89 per cent, and the sales of live fur-bearing animals, \$730,074, or 11 per cent. The total revenue shows a decrease from the preceding year of \$327,570, or 5 per cent.

The value of fur-bearing animals on the farms at the end of the year 1938 was \$8,929,754, compared with \$9,676,431 in the preceding year. The number of silver foxes decreased by 16,003, or 10 per cent and the value by \$1,747,130, or 23 per cent. The number of minks, on the other hand, shows an increase of 34,873, or 49 per cent, and the value an increase of \$859,543, or 42 per cent. Other kinds of fur-bearers showing increases in number are blue fox, chinchilla, marten, fitch, badger, nutria and muskrat.

The following tables summarize the principal statistics of the industry in the years 1937 and 1938. The final report, to be issued at a later date, will contain statistics in greater detail and by county and district divisions (a)

1. Number of Fur Farms, by Provinces, 1937 and 1938.

Province	1 9 3 7				:	1 9 3 8			
	Fox Farms	Mink Farms	Other Fur Farms	Total Fur Farms		Fox Farms	Mink Farms	Other Fur Farms	Total Fur Farms
	No.	No.	No.	No.		No.	No.	No.	No.
Prince Edward Island	1,215	1	-	1,216	:	1,023	1	-	1,024
Nova Scotia	868	126	8	1,002	:	823	202	7	1,032
New Brunswick ...	999	13	-	1,012	:	925	16	-	941
Quebec	2,389	96	56	2,541	:	3,133	174	64	3,371
Ontario	867	378	33	1,278	:	847	607	27	1,481
Manitoba	361	293	8	662	:	372	410	11	793
Saskatchewan	365	121	5	491	:	415	188	3	606
Alberta	391	176	20	587	:	398	308	21	727
British Columbia ..	142	216	22	380	:	133	310	27	470
Yukon Territory ..	4	6	-	10	:	4	6	-	10
TOTAL	7,601	1,426	152	9,179		8,073	2,222	160	10,455

(a) Report on the Fur Farms of Canada, 1938. Price 25 cents.

2. Value of Property, 1937 and 1938.

Province	1 9 3 7			1 9 3 8		
	Value of land and buildings	Value of fur-bearing animals	Total Value of property	Value of land and buildings	Value of fur-bearing animals	Total Value of property
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Prince Edward Island.	878,934	945,542	1,824,476	729,657	585,102	1,314,759
Nova Scotia	319,305	510,769	830,074	290,805	407,790	698,595
New Brunswick	521,983	734,002	1,255,985	447,172	493,335	940,507
Quebec	1,348,655	1,797,806	3,146,461	1,557,618	1,682,783	3,240,401
Ontario	1,445,654	2,085,875	3,531,529	1,463,556	2,042,410	3,505,966
Manitoba	1,029,280	1,311,427	2,340,707	1,138,982	1,243,050	2,382,032
Saskatchewan	678,014	689,770	1,367,784	684,000	672,690	1,356,690
Alberta	1,047,408	1,186,450	2,233,858	1,176,979	1,317,109	2,494,088
British Columbia ..	400,788	402,646	803,434	424,223	475,205	899,428
Yukon	17,150	12,144	29,294	17,850	10,280	28,130
TOTAL	7,687,171	9,676,431	17,363,602	7,930,842	8,929,754	16,860,596

3. Number of Fur-bearing Animals Born on Fur Farms, 1937 and 1938 (a)

Kind	1937		:	Kind	1937		1938	
	No.	No.			No.	No.		
Silver fox	238,936	254,129		Fisher	25	25		
Cross fox	3,085	2,905		Fitch	1,617	1,304		
Red fox	1,293	1,159		Karakul sheep	99	48		
Blue fox	1,140	1,416		Marten	55	128		
Mink	106,999	169,518		Nutria	132	269		
Badger	2	16		Raccoon	650	613		
Chinchilla	-	3		Skunk	7	13		
Coyote	35	42		Total	354,075	430,988		

(a) Exclusive of muskrat and beaver.

4. Number and Value of Fur-bearing Animals Sold from Fox Farms, 1937 and 1938.

Kind	1 9 3 7		1 9 3 8	
	Number	Value	Number	Value
		\$		\$
Silver fox	9,670	517,782	6,363	258,205
Cross fox	121	3,437	93	2,246
Red fox	131	1,449	78	729
Blue fox	47	2,145	301	15,790
Mink	14,813	497,965	18,142	443,802
Beaver	8	92	1	15
Fisher	14	2,100	12	1,978
Fitch	172	590	163	500
Karakul sheep	1	75	15	500
Marten	30	2,337	25	1,300
Muskrat	34	222	3	10
Nutria	90	2,200	148	4,525
Raccoon	71	494	92	474
TOTAL	25,202	1,030,888	25,436	730,074

5. Number and Value of Pelts Sold from Fur Farms, 1937 and 1938

Kind	1 9 3 7		:	1 9 3 8	
	Number	Value		Number	Value
		\$		\$	
Silver fox	196,436	5,019,487		229,452	4,508,767
Cross fox	2,133	48,899		2,865	55,788
Red fox	1,222	8,382		1,197	7,307
Blue fox	608	10,586		745	14,909
Mink	54,819	681,475		105,292	1,156,062
Badger	5	75		6	70
Beaver	104	1,358		75	895
Coyote	126	752		70	433
Fisher	9	245		12	397
Fitch	865	1,470		1,095	2,024
Karakul sheep	82	442		-	-
Marten	22	398		6	119
Muskrat	2,985	3,739		4,921	4,593
Raccoon	443	2,175		440	1,365
Skunk	11	15		13	13
TOTAL	259,870	5,779,498		346,189	5,752,742

6. Number and Value of Fur-bearing Animals on Fur Farms, December 31, 1937 and 1938.

Kind	1 9 3 7		:	1 9 3 8	
	Number	Value		Number	Value
		\$		\$	
Silver fox	153,822	7,474,741		137,819	5,727,611
Cross fox	1,388	46,937		1,279	39,730
Red fox	1,119	13,018		923	8,826
Blue fox	723	32,884		978	74,195
White fox	1	40		1	40
Mink	71,410	2,035,307		106,283	2,894,850
Badger	20	525		26	760
Beaver (a)	787	19,330		677	15,095
Chinchilla	2	3,300		60	96,000
Coyote	47	550		37	330
Fisher	120	12,790		126	12,655
Fitch	575	1,953		649	2,445
Karakul sheep	180	3,330		157	2,335
Lynx	-	-		3	300
Marten	136	8,175		250	15,015
Muskrat (a)	10,003	12,335		20,155	23,359
Nutria	152	4,265		323	11,225
Raccoon	865	6,932		678	4,968
Skunk	6	10		7	15
Weasel	3	9		-	-
TOTAL	241,359	9,676,431		270,431	8,929,754

(a) Based on estimates supplied by the operators of the farms.

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