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PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE FUR PRODUCTION OF CANADA
 SEASON 1942-43

Ottawa, May 19, 1944 - The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues today a preliminary report on the fur production of Canada for the season 1942-43. The statistics of raw fur production are prepared from statements furnished the Bureau by the Provincial game departments (excepting Prince Edward Island). Those for Prince Edward Island are based on returns made to the Bureau by the traders who handled the furs produced in the province.

SUMMARY

The value of Canadian raw fur production, comprising pelts taken by trappers and those sold from fur farms, established a new record of \$27,694,164 for the year ended June 30, 1943. This valuation represents an increase of \$2,834,295 or 11 per cent from the previous high recorded for 1941-42. Generally higher prices combined with a larger number of pelts in some cases were responsible for the higher valuation in 1942-43. On a provincial basis Ontario had the highest value of furs at close to \$6 million, while Quebec and Alberta were second and third at approximately \$4.5 million. All provinces except Prince Edward Island and Alberta had higher values in 1942-43 than in the preceding twelve-month period. Values from the Northwest Territories and Yukon were lower in 1942-43. Pelts of mink contributed the largest amount to the total value of raw furs in 1942-43 with a valuation of approximately \$5.8 million. Muskrat were a close second at \$5.6 million and silver fox were third at \$4.6 million. Beaver pelts, with a valuation of \$3 million, were another important source of revenue of trappers and fur farmers. Silver fox rose in price from an average of \$22.96 in 1941-42 to \$24.72 in the period under review; red fox from \$8.81 to \$12.51; white fox from \$25.74 to \$28.53; ermine from \$1.20 to \$1.58; muskrat from \$2.06 to \$2.76 and squirrel from 31 cents to 34 cents. The total number of skins taken declined from 19,561,024 in 1941-42 to 7,355,304 in 1942-43. The major portion of this decline occurred in the case of rabbits which dropped from 9.0 million to 1.1 million and squirrels which declined from 5.8 million to 2.2 million. There is also a minor decline in the case of muskrat which dropped from 2.4 to 2.0 million but numbers of mink, silver fox, and red fox showed increases.

Table 1

Total Value of Pelts of fur-bearing Animals, by Provinces
 Seasons, 1940-41, 1941-42 and 1942-43

	1940-41	1941-42	1942-43
	\$	\$	\$
Prince Edward Island	804,083	735,189	718,635
Nova Scotia	476,310	532,059	920,515
New Brunswick	982,551	834,671	871,848
Quebec	2,476,556	3,394,630	4,562,354
Ontario	3,901,012	3,965,003	5,806,743
Manitoba	2,763,976	2,596,436	3,242,655
Saskatchewan	2,324,479	2,245,275	2,440,942
Alberta	2,806,074	5,162,636	4,542,818
British Columbia	1,913,667	1,655,137	1,860,990
Northwest Territories	2,301,054	2,840,701	2,388,629
Yukon Territory	373,399	398,132	338,035
Total	21,123,161	24,859,869	27,694,164

Table 2

Number and Value of Pelts of Fur-Bearing Animals taken in Canada
Seasons 1940-41, 1941-42 and 1942-43

		1940-41	1941-42	1942-43
Badger	No.	8,240	11,478	7,575
	\$	46,422	76,201	52,331
Bear, black and brown	No.	1,030	1,186	1/
	\$	2,548	2,899	1/
Bear, grizzly	No.	1	-	5
	\$	7	-	35
Bear, white	No.	106	91	62
	\$	605	715	370
Bear, unspecified	No.	26	32	1,022
	\$	104	160	3,243
Beaver	No.	90,123	106,176	101,419
	\$	2,075,610	2,394,182	3,000,348
Coyote or prairie wolf	No.	28,265	38,035	43,474
	\$	269,168	447,313	673,180
Ermine (weasel)	No.	648,020	1,135,616	706,946
	\$	604,990	1,362,262	1,115,240
Fisher	No.	2,212	3,408	2,165
	\$	100,701	164,291	109,611
Fitch	No.	1,213	682	543
	\$	1,692	969	1,415
Fox, blue	No.	1,746	2,481	3,049
	\$	32,392	52,602	80,554
Fox, cross	No.	17,432	26,854	34,373
	\$	271,117	417,058	605,319
Fox, red	No.	62,744	104,615	138,180
	\$	423,384	921,379	1,728,214
Fox, silver	No.	202,916	162,788	186,909
	\$	4,379,271	3,737,376	4,621,187
Fox, new type	No.	458	889	3,414
	\$	11,587	36,928	141,321
Fox, white	No.	48,411	62,534	51,887
	\$	889,870	1,609,851	1,480,161
Fox, unspecified	No.	181	208	148
	\$	945	1,745	1,564
Lynx	No.	6,684	7,109	7,577
	\$	276,343	291,956	335,420
Marten	No.	22,453	20,242	14,784
	\$	849,802	781,856	582,331
Mink	No.	424,825	405,324	527,189
	\$	4,705,605	4,059,601	5,842,567
Muskrat	No.	2,795,218	2,408,436	2,032,181
	\$	4,990,762	4,954,504	5,599,430
Nutria	No.	76	63	83
	\$	299	319	286
Otter	No.	10,150	10,644	9,192
	\$	162,430	168,120	177,717
Rabbit	No.	777,583	9,012,329	1,080,285
	\$	173,387	938,568	214,256

1/ Included under "Bear, unspecified".

Table 2 (Concluded)

		1940-41	1941-42	1942-43
Raccoon	No.	17,737	21,834	23,189
	\$	60,219	87,431	115,784
Skunk	No.	147,523	247,245	143,277
	\$	231,106	467,752	320,230
Squirrel	No.	1,935,837	5,761,433	2,227,161
	\$	519,889	1,794,307	766,319
Wild cat	No.	1,138	2,124	2,117
	\$	5,694	19,004	27,958
Wolf	No.	4,106	5,732	6,450
	\$	33,814	66,817	95,212
Wolverine	No.	673	553	282
	\$	3,361	3,397	2,377
House cat	No.	210	883	366
	\$	37	306	184
Total	No.	7,257,337	19,561,024	7,355,304
	\$	21,123,161	24,859,869	27,694,164

Table 3

Average Value of Pelts of Fur-Bearing Animals taken in Canada,
Seasons 1940-41, 1941-42 and 1942-43

	1940-41	1941-42	1942-43
	\$	\$	\$
Badger	5.63	6.64	6.91
Bear, black or brown	2.47	2.44	-
Bear, grizzly	7.00		7.00
Bear, white	5.71	7.86	5.97
Bear, unspecified	4.00	5.00	3.17
Beaver	23.03	22.55	29.58
Coyote or prairie wolf	9.52	11.76	15.48
Ermine (weasel)	0.93	1.20	1.58
Fisher	45.52	48.21	50.63
Fitch	1.39	1.42	2.61
Fox, blue	18.55	21.20	26.42
Fox, cross	15.55	15.53	17.61
Fox, red	6.75	8.81	12.51
Fox, silver	21.58	22.96	24.72
Fox, new type	25.30	41.54	41.39
Fox, white	18.38	25.74	28.53
Fox, unspecified	5.22	8.39	10.57
Lynx	41.34	41.07	44.27
Marten	37.85	38.63	39.41
Mink	11.08	10.02	11.08
Muskrat	1.79	2.06	2.76
Nutria	3.93	5.06	3.45
Otter	16.00	15.79	19.33
Rabbit	0.22	0.10	0.20
Raccoon	3.40	4.00	4.99
Skunk	1.57	1.89	2.24
Squirrel	0.27	0.31	0.34
Wild cat	5.00	8.95	13.21
Wolf	8.24	11.66	14.76
Wolverine	4.99	6.14	8.43
House cat	0.18	0.35	0.50

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