

Under the new organization of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, the Census of Manufactures is taken annually instead of quinquennially, as in the past. The last of the quinquennial censuses of manufactures under the old system was taken in 1916 for the calendar year 1915, and the first of the annual censuses of manufactures was taken in 1918 for the calendar year 1917. In the tables comparisons are made where possible with the corresponding results for 1915.

In the making of such comparisons the differences in the method of taking the census must first of all be borne in mind. The statistics for 1915 included only establishments whose limit of output was placed at \$2,500 or over, irrespective of the number of persons employed, except in the case of flour and grist mills, butter and cheese factories, fish preserving factories, saw-mills, brick and tile yards, lime kilns and electric light plants, in which cases there was no limitation on the value of output. In the census of industry of 1917, the limit of output was withdrawn and all establishments reporting to the Bureau were included, the effect being an increase in the number of establishments included from 21,306 to 34,392—an increase due to change of method, rather than to a change in the actual number of industrial establishments existing in the Dominion. As however the establishments included for the first time in the 1917 census were exclusively those carrying on operations on a small scale, their inclusion affects only to a minor extent the statistics of those engaged in production and of the value of products.

When the results of the two censuses are placed in juxtaposition, certain striking changes which took place in the manufactures of Canada in the two years between 1915 and 1917 are at once evident. First of these is the very large increase of capital investment—an increase from \$1,994,103,272 to \$2,786,649,727, which is \$792,546,455, or 39.74 p.c. This increase was no doubt partly due to higher valuations placed upon equipment in 1917 than in 1915, as a consequence of the general rise in prices.

Next and most important of these changes is the large increase in both the gross and the net value of Canadian manufactures—that is, in the gross value of products and in the gross value of products less the cost of materials—in the short space of two years. Whereas in 1915 the gross value of products was \$1,407,137,140, in 1917 it had leaped forward to \$3,015,577,940, an increase of \$1,608,440,800, or 114.31 per cent, a quite unprecedented increase in such a brief period. Similarly, the value added in the process of manufacture rose from \$605,001,278 in 1915 to \$1,409,847,300 in 1917, an increase of \$804,846,022, or 133.03 p.c. These increases were, of course, largely due to higher prices, but also indicate an unexampled growth in actual production.

Accompanying the growth in the value of products and quite as remarkable, is the increase both in the total amount of wages paid and in the average wages paid per employee. The total amount paid in wages increased from \$225,580,998 in 1915 to \$455,199,823