

1910, and employing five or more persons, was to make a full report. All flour mills, saw and shingle mills, lime kilns, brick and tile works, butter and cheese factories, fish curing plants, electric light and power plants whatsoever were nevertheless to be included. The statistics for 1915 included only establishments having an output of \$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, where all plants were included.

In the census of industry of 1917, the limit of output was withdrawn and all establishments reporting to the Bureau were included, the effect being an increase in the number of establishments included from 21,306 in 1915 to 34,392 in 1917—an increase due mainly to change of method, rather than to a change in the actual number of industrial establishments existing in the Dominion. Similar methods have been pursued in the censuses of 1918 and 1919, so that the results for the three years are strictly comparable, a fact which has been the guiding principle in framing the tables included in this part of the Year Book. As the establishments included for the first time in the 1917 census were those which carried on business only on a small scale, their inclusion affected only to a minor extent the statistics of those engaged in production and of the value of products.

**Recent Censuses of Manufactures.**—The census of manufactures has since 1917 been taken by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics annually instead of quinquennially. The last of the quinquennial censuses was taken in 1916 for the calendar year 1915, and the first annual censuses were taken in 1918, 1919 and 1920 for the calendar years 1917, 1918 and 1919.

In any comparison between the results of the 1915 quinquennial census and the subsequent annual censuses the rapid rise in prices must be borne in mind, and in comparisons between these annual censuses themselves the same factor must be taken into account. The Canadian index number of wholesale prices was 293.2 for 1919 as compared with 278.3 for 1918, 237.0 for 1917 and 148.0 in 1915. Under such circumstances it was inevitable that considerable increases in the money value of products should have been recorded, and that wages and salaries paid should also have greatly advanced since 1915.

Summary statistics of manufactures for 1917, 1918 and 1919, are contained in Table 111, significant features of which are the increase in capital, salaries, wages, and value of products during the period. More detailed statistics by groups of industries are given in Table 112, which shows among other things, an extraordinary decline in the value of iron and steel products and of chemical products in 1919 as compared with 1918, accounted for by the transition from war to peace. This decline was observable both in the cost of raw materials and in the value of finished products, while the comparative stagnation in these industries was also reflected in a decline in the number of wage-earners, the number in the iron and steel industry, for example,