

the manufacturers of the United States; only a small quantity of Canadian-made shoes were marketed through the stores. The shoemakers at that time were engaged for the most part in supplying made-to-measure boots which they delivered direct to their customers. In 1859, however, the import duty was increased from 12½ p.c. to 25 p.c. This additional protection proved a stimulus to the growth of shoe manufacturing in Canada, and available statistics record a continuous progress from that date to the present, the output increasing year by year, especially in the medium and coarse grades. Imports at the same time diminished and an export trade was begun. The finer grades of shoes were supplied by the manufacturers of the United States until about 1882, when Canadian factories began the production of fine shoes on a larger scale. Three years later, the total imports were only an inconsiderable portion of the consumption, and such sales as took place indicated a last effort on the part of the American manufacturers to retain the Canadian market by granting to their customers the most favourable prices and conditions.

Introduction of Machinery.—Prior to Confederation the handicraft system of producing boots and shoes was general, and very little machinery was used. The first recorded machinery dates from 1847, when Brown and Childs, operating in Notre-Dame Street, Montreal, imported several sewing machines for stitching uppers. This development was not well received by the workers, and when the Parliament Buildings were destroyed in 1849 police and militia were required to save the factory of Brown and Childs. Pegging machines were next brought into use. The McKay machine for sewing soles found its way into shoe factories during the period 1867-70; available data would indicate that Sholes and Ames of Montreal were the first to use them. The utmost secrecy was maintained for some time as to the mechanism and the operation of these machines. Shortly after the use of the McKay sole sewing machine, the screw wire machine and Goodyear machinery were introduced, together with a number of edge trimming and finishing devices, as well as several lesser machines, skivers, rollers, etc. Canadian inventors provided the boot and shoe industry with several new and ingenious machines, and made improvements on imported machinery.

Centres of Production.—The cities of Quebec and Montreal soon took pre-eminence in the field of boot and shoe manufacturing, and today between them furnish approximately 50 p.c. of the total output of the industry. Not until the last decade of the 19th century was manufacturing on any large scale carried on outside of the borders of Quebec province, but in this period several important factories with an increasing output were established in the province of Ontario. To-day the industry is practically limited to the two provinces, less than 10 p.c. of Canadian production coming from factories in other provinces. A statement regarding shoe manufacturing in Montreal in 1882 was prepared for the Montreal Board of Trade, in which it was claimed that 30 boot and shoe factories existed, employing 3,500 persons of both sexes. The output was given at four and one-half million pairs valued at \$5,400,000, while the total Canadian production of that year was placed at 6,750,000 pairs, giving Montreal 66 p.c. of the total Canadian output. The machines in use in Montreal factories in 1882 were reported as follows:—675 sewing machines; 34 pegging machines; 28 sole sewers; 23 sole cutters; 8 heeling machines; 45 eyeletting machines; 28 punching machines; 23 sole leather skiving machines; 56 other skiving machines; 34 rolling machines; 23 heel finishers; 23 edge finishers; 28 buffing machines and 17 beating out machines.

Modern Manufacturing Methods.—In the decade 1880 to 1890 the art of shoemaking was revolutionized through the adoption of the Goodyear machinery.