

in 1922 and \$2,809,974,095 in 1921. "Net" production represents the value left in the producers' hands after the elimination of the value of the materials consumed in the production process, such as seed in the case of field crops and food in the case of farm animals.

Relative Importance of Different Branches of Production.—On the assumption that we confine our subsequent analysis to the net production of commodities, it is noteworthy that of the nine branches of production, six showed substantial increases in 1923 over 1922. While agriculture experienced a decline of 3.5 p.c. in values, the physical volume was far in excess of the preceding year, the wheat crop being the largest on record. The slight decline in fur production was also due to a lowered price level. The drop in construction, on the other hand, represented a real curtailment in operations. The largest absolute gain in net production was in the manufacturing industry.

Forestry, including the operations of saw-mills and pulp-mills, made the greatest relative gain in 1923, with an increase of nearly 18 p.c., while mining was a close second, with a gain of about 16 p.c. A steady and substantial increase in the electric power industry was also in evidence, the gain being 8.6 p.c. over 1922 and 14 p.c. over 1921. The fishing industry, which had shown an increase of nearly 20 p.c. in 1922, more than maintained its net production in 1923.

In view of the increase in manufacturing production in 1923 and the decline in the output of agriculture, the lead of manufactures, which was more than 4 p.c. in 1922, increased to 18 p.c. in 1923. The value added by manufacturing processes in 1923 was \$1,311,025,375, as compared with \$1,198,434,407 in the preceding year—an increase of \$112,590,968 or 9.5 p.c. The net production of agriculture, deductions being made for seed, feed and similar products used on the farm for further production, was in 1923, \$1,107,600,000 as compared with \$1,148,700,000 in the preceding year. Forestry occupied third place in value of production; this amounted to \$313,700,000, or 10 p.c. of the total, as compared with \$266,400,000 in 1922. Construction and mining were close rivals for fourth place in 1923, when mining took the lead with a production of \$214,100,000 or 7 p.c. of the country's production. While the value of construction was somewhat less in 1923 than in the preceding year, the industry was still of considerable importance, having a net output of \$212,200,000 or 6.9 p.c. of the total. The electric power industry was steadily expanding, the revenue after allowance for the purchase of power in 1923 being \$67,500,000. Activity in the other industries was well maintained, fishing and trapping showing total net outputs of \$42,500,000 and \$16,000,000 respectively. Statistics of the output from custom and repair establishments were not collected in 1923, but it is assumed that the production of such establishments was equal to that of the preceding year.

Relative Production by Provinces in 1923.—The production of Ontario in 1923 formed 39.7 p.c. of the Canadian total. Although the production of Quebec increased 1.4 p.c. in 1923 as compared with the preceding year, the percentage of the total declined somewhat, owing to the greater growth in other economic areas. The province held second place with 24.3 p.c., and the three western provinces of Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia followed with percentages of 9.2, 7.9 and 7.6 respectively. The contribution of Manitoba, largely agricultural, was more than 4 p.c., while the Maritime Provinces were jointly responsible for 7 p.c. of the total value of Canadian production.