



### Subsection 3.—The Lumber Industry.<sup>1</sup>

The manufacture of lumber, lath, shingles and other products of the sawmill is the second most important industry in Canada depending on the forest for its raw materials. Annual statistics covering this and other forest industries were collected and published by the Forest Service of the Department of the Interior from 1908 to 1916. Since that date the work has been carried on by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, in co-operation with the Forest Service.

The production of sawn lumber in Canada in 1920 reached a total of over four billion feet, board measure, the highest cut recorded since 1912. This was followed in 1921, however, by a period of depression which was general throughout all fields of industrial activity. The production of lumber in 1921 decreased by over a third and the average value by over \$10 a thousand feet. Since that year there have been annual increases in cut for Canada as a whole except in 1927. The tendency toward a decrease in production in Eastern Canada has been more or less made up by the increased cut each year in British Columbia, which now produces over half the total. Table 13 gives the production of lumber, lath and shingles in each year from 1908 to 1929.

<sup>1</sup> An article on "The History of the Canadian Lumber Trade", by A. R. M. Lower, M.A., appears at pp. 318-323 of the 1925 edition of the Canada Year Book.