

toward consolidation in large units, the gross production of \$113,018,789 coming from no fewer than 2,698 plants, mostly small and scattered at convenient points throughout the farming communities.

The leather industries have long been established on a considerable scale, mainly, of course, because the large number of cattle raised and slaughtered provide a ready supply of hides. There are large tanneries in the eastern provinces, and no fewer than 179 boot and shoe factories were in operation in 1930, chiefly in Quebec and Ontario, representing a total capital of over \$28,000,000 with an annual output of over \$40,000,000 and employing 13,922 men and women. The canning and preserving of fish also calls for reference. Concentrated naturally upon the Pacific and Atlantic coasts, 699 establishments were engaged in 1930 in canning, curing and packing of various kinds of fish that were valued at \$33,000,000.

Textile Products.—The principal manufactures which may be so classified are: awnings, tents and sails; cotton and jute bags; batting and wadding; carpets, mats and rugs; men's factory clothing; women's factory clothing; cordage, rope and twine; corsets; cotton and woollen waste; cotton textiles; cotton thread; cotton yarn and cloth; dyeing and finishing of textiles; dressed flax; men's furnishing goods; hats and caps; hosiery and knitted goods; linen goods; oiled and waterproof clothing; silk goods; woollen cloth; woollen textiles and woollen yarns. An output of \$426,247,587 was established for this wide industrial group in the year 1929, being an increase of 2.6 p.c. over 1928. This is the highest figure attained since the depression of 1921, but it must be remembered that the index number of wholesale prices for fabrics, textiles and textile products has dropped from 303.2 in 1920 to 156.9 in 1929 and there is therefore every justification for assuming that the year 1929 was a record one in the textile industry.

In common with all other industrial groups, the textile industries of Canada felt the effects of the general depression prevailing in 1930. The output of textiles and textile products was valued at \$361,814,733, a decrease of \$64,432,854 or 15.1 p.c. as compared with 1929. The textile industries, however, were not as severely affected as this figure would indicate. Drastic declines in the value of raw materials with the consequent decline in the value of finished products account for the greater part of the decrease in the value of production, the yearly index of wholesale prices of fibres, textiles and textile products having dropped from 156.9 in 1929 to 140.5 in 1930, a decrease of 10.4 p.c. Therefore, the decline in the index of volume for textile products from 133.8 in 1929 to 124.4 in 1930, as shown in Table 5 on p. 416—a decline of 7 p.c.—gives a better idea as to the extent of the recession experienced by the textile group of industries in 1930.

The outstanding feature of the textile situation in Canada in 1930 was the expansion of the silk industry at a time when practically all other industries were experiencing a diminished demand for their products. Compared with 1929, the silk industry increased its output by \$3,332,518 and furnished employment to 1,021 more persons.

In net production, *i.e.*, in value added by manufacture, which is a truer criterion than gross production of the place of the group in the industrial life of the country, the textile group was fourth in 1930 among the ten major groups shown in the Census of Manufactures on p. 410, being exceeded only by the wood, iron and vegetable products groups. Textiles accounted for over 10 p.c. of the net manufacturing production of Canada. As an indication of the contribution which the textile group made in 1930 to employment in the Dominion, the group stood third in both