

The outstanding feature of this table is the decline in the relative importance of agricultural occupations since 1891. At that time over 50 p.c. of the gainfully occupied males found employment in agriculture whereas in 1931 only one-third were so engaged. Other primary occupations have changed little, relatively to all other occupations, over this period. The manufacturing group for 1891 and 1901 probably includes a number of unskilled workers classed with labourers (not agricultural, mining, fishing, or logging) in later census years. There has been a steady growth in the proportion of males engaged in transport and commercial occupations and, since 1911, in the services. Clerical occupations have on the whole shown increasing importance since 1891. It will be noted that the group "labourers" was relatively greater in 1911 and 1931 than in 1921. This may be due in part to the fact that both 1911 and 1931 marked the close of periods when immigration to this country was large. It might be observed here that 24.6 p.c. of the gainfully occupied immigrant males coming to Canada between 1926 and 1931 were found in the group "labourers" at the 1931 Census.

Though the number of females in manufacturing occupations is substantial, there has been both an absolute as well as a percentage decline in this field of employment since 1911. It should be pointed out, however, that the figure for 1931 would have been considerably larger had many of the unskilled workers in factories, classified as "labourers" in the latest census, been included with manufacturing occupations, as in 1921 and 1911. It was not possible to make an adjustment in the table for this class of females. A large part of the decline in the relative importance of manufacturing occupations in providing gainful employment for women has been due to the decrease in the number of dress-makers, milliners, and tailoresses since 1911. The combined total of dress-makers, milliners, and tailoresses was 45,287 in 1911 and in 1931 only 14,649. Allowing for changes in the method of classification in the two years, there still remains a substantially larger number in these occupations in 1911 which does not appear to have been fully counterbalanced by the increase between 1911 and 1931 in the number of female operatives in clothing factories. Personal service is absorbing an increasing proportion of females while the professions and the clerical and commercial occupations, which showed outstanding gains up to 1921, have declined slightly in relative importance since that year. It might be mentioned that the growing importance of personal service occupations has been due in no small degree to the remarkable increase in the number of females in such occupations as "lodging-house keepers", "hairdressers", "waitresses", and "laundry operatives" in recent years.

**Detailed Analysis of the 1931 Census of Occupations.**—*Occupations by Provinces.*—In considering regional differences in the relative importance of the several occupational divisions which make up the working population, some references to the changes that have taken place since 1921 will be necessary. In the first place, consideration may be given to the group "agriculture". In every province, with the exception of British Columbia, this group of gainfully occupied persons was larger than any other. In the Maritimes, excluding Prince Edward Island from the comparison, the proportion of the total gainfully occupied in agriculture was greater than in Quebec or Ontario though, of course, less than in the Prairie Provinces. About three-fifths of the persons in gainful occupations in Saskatchewan, one-half in Alberta, and just over one-third in Manitoba, were following agricultural pursuits at the time of the 1931 Census. In each province, however, the proportionate importance of agricultural occupations to the whole was less than