

Subsection 3.—The Manufactures of Ontario, 1935.

Ontario is the most important manufacturing province of the Dominion. The gross value of its manufactured products in 1935 represented about 51 p.c. of the total for the whole Dominion, while that of Quebec, the second province in importance in this respect, amounted to about 29 p.c. This premier position in manufacturing has been fairly uniformly maintained by Ontario over a long period, as the following percentages show: in 1926, 52 p.c.; 1918, 53 p.c.; 1910, 50 p.c.; 1900, 50 p.c.; 1890, 51 p.c.; and 1880, 51 p.c. Thus, in spite of the rapid industrial development in recent years in other provinces, such as Quebec, British Columbia, and Manitoba, Ontario is maintaining a manufacturing production roughly equal to that of the remainder of the Dominion.

The value of manufactured products totalled \$1,423,562,474 in 1935. In value of production, automobiles headed the list with an output valued at \$105,810,655. Other leading industries in the order of their importance were: non-ferrous metal smelting and refining \$105,035,029, slaughtering and meat packing \$56,932,181, central electric stations \$53,535,095, flour and feed mills \$51,760,071, pulp and paper \$51,041,765, electrical apparatus and supplies \$47,503,325, rubber goods including footwear \$46,466,350, and butter and cheese \$44,221,126. Some significant changes took place in the ranking of the leading industries. The automobile industry regained the dominant position held for several years prior to the depression and non-ferrous metal smelting and refining, which led all industries for the first time in 1934, dropped to second place. Central electric stations moved up from seventh to fourth place and electrical apparatus from ninth to seventh.

The turning point of the depression was reached in the summer of 1933. The increases in the latter part of the year, however, were not sufficiently pronounced to offset the losses of the beginning of the year. The result was that the principal statistics for 1933 were the lowest since 1929. Considerable improvement was reported for 1934 and again for 1935, although to a lesser degree in the latter year. Compared with 1934 there was in 1935 an increase of 8.4 p.c. in the number of employees, with a greater increase in the amount paid out in salaries and wages, namely, 12.1 p.c. The increase in the value of production was 13.4 p.c. and in the value added by manufacture 9.4 p.c.

The depression was particularly hard on industries producing capital or durable goods, and these constitute an important factor in the manufactures of Ontario. Thus, production was disproportionately curtailed in such important industries as automobiles, electrical equipment, machinery, agricultural implements, primary iron and steel, etc. This resulted not only in a drop in the rank of such industries within the province, but in a lowering of the manufacturing production of the whole province relatively to that of other provinces less affected by these influences. Since 1933, however, these industries in general have made a good recovery, and Ontario, which accounted for 48 p.c. of the gross value of all products manufactured in the Dominion in 1933, had by 1935 increased the relative value to 51 p.c.

Indicating the greater diversification of industry in Ontario as compared with Quebec, the percentages which the forty leading industries bore to the total manufactures of the province were higher in every particular in Quebec than in Ontario, especially in the capital employed and the number of establishments reporting. Outstanding among the industries in which the province of Ontario was pre-eminent, was that of automobile manufacturing, which was carried on practically in this province alone. Other important industries in which Ontario led, with the percentage