

Summary Statistics of Manufactures.—In Table 4 will be found an analysis of the most important statistics of manufactures for the period 1917 to 1937, brought together in order that the tendencies in Canadian manufacturing industries may be traced as clearly as possible through this latest period of their development. In analysing statistics of production and materials used, it should be borne in mind that, due to the inflation of values during the War and immediate post-war periods and the drop in prices of commodities during the depressions of 1921 and 1930, the figures for these years are not completely comparable. One very important figure, however, which shows the trend of development clearly and uninterruptedly, is concerned with the use of power. The total horse-power employed increased from 1,658,475 in 1917 to 4,461,867 in 1936, an increase of 169 p.c. in nineteen years. In the same period horse-power per wage-earner increased from 3.06 to 9.11, indicating the rapidly increasing utilization of electric power in manufacturing production. The significant feature is the increase in both the absolute figures of power employed and the average per wage-earner during the depression years as compared with 1929, although the large numbers of persons again finding employment since 1933 have reduced the averages for later years. Another interesting comparison is the trend of value added by manufacture per employee and of average salaries and wages paid since 1929. Compared with 1917, the figures for average salaries and wages per employee in 1937 represent an increase of 33.1 p.c., while the estimated increase in the value added by manufacture per employee was only 8.0 p.c. Wholesale prices of commodities declined 26.0 p.c. in the same period.

Consumption of Manufactured Products.—One of the beneficial results of placing the classification of external trade and of production upon a common basis is exhibited in Table 5, where the value of commodities made available for consumption in Canada is derived from the statistics of the two important fields. For example, the value of all manufactured commodities made available in a period approximately corresponding to 1936 was \$2,794,000,000, a figure obtained by adding to the value of manufactured products in 1936 the value of the imports of manufactured and partly manufactured goods during the fiscal year ended Mar. 31, 1937, and deducting the value of the corresponding exports for the same period. In this table more accurate statistics could be presented were it possible to exclude from the gross value of manufactured products the duplications involved when the products of one manufacturing establishment become the materials worked upon in another. Vegetable, iron, textile, animal, and wood and paper products were, in that order, the leading groups in the value of finished goods made available for consumption. The large amount of manufactured vegetable products made available for consumption was due to the large domestic production, as the exports and imports were about equal, while manufactures of textiles and iron and steel products, in addition to a large production, showed an excess of imports over exports of \$59,000,000 and \$92,000,000, respectively. Wood and paper, animal, and non-ferrous metal products were manufactured in Canada in greater quantities than required for home consumption, providing export balances in these groups.

In 1929, the order of the groups by the values available for consumption was iron, vegetable, textile, wood and paper, and animal products. Since 1929 the consumption of vegetable, animal, chemical, and textile products has been much better maintained than that of iron, non-metallic mineral, and wood products.