

Wood and Paper Products.—While the gross value of production by industries of this group in 1936 was second among the main groups to that of vegetable products, the wood and paper group stood highest in net values, employees, and salaries and wages paid. These industries draw their raw materials almost entirely from the forests of Canada. The primary operations in the woods provide work during part of the year for an average of 200,000 individuals, largely during the season when other forms of employment are at their minimum. This has a valuable steadying effect on general labour conditions throughout the year.

The operations of the two leading industries under this group, namely, pulp and paper mills and sawmills, are treated fully in the Forestry chapter at pp. 273 to 284, while statistics regarding capital, employees, power installed, etc., appear in Table 9, p. 398.

The printing industries—printing and publishing, printing and bookbinding, lithographing, engraving, and trade composition—are included within this group because paper is the principal material used by them. The first two especially make an important contribution to manufacturing production in Canada, as indicated by their place in the forty leading industries (Table 12). Other large industries included in the wood and paper group are: paper boxes and bags, furniture, and planing mills, sash and door factories.

Iron and Its Products.—The gross value of production by industries of this group was third among the nine main groups in 1936. However, in periods of active prosperity the relative standing of the group tends to rise and thus it stood first in 1920 and 1929 (Table 3), while in 1933 it was fifth. The value of production more than doubled from 1933 to 1936, while the volume (Table 6) nearly doubled. The demand for durable goods depends in large measure upon the rate of capital improvement, which is almost at a standstill in times of depression and rises to a high level in times of prosperity.

Primary Iron and Steel.—There are at present four companies operating blast furnaces in Canada for the production of pig iron. One of these is located in Nova Scotia and uses local coal and iron ore from the great Wabana deposit in Newfoundland which it controls. The other three are located in Ontario on the Great Lakes waterways where they have the advantage of cheap water transportation for iron ore imported from the Messabi range of Minnesota and coal from Pennsylvania. These firms also operate open-hearth steel furnaces and rolling mills to make steel ingots, blooms and billets, merchant and alloy steel bars, rails, structural shapes, plates, sheets, rail fastenings, etc. There is also a large production in Canada of ferro-alloys (ferro-silicon, ferro-manganese, etc.) which are produced in electric furnaces. These alloys usually constitute the most important item of Canadian exports of primary iron. Output of these products since 1911 is shown in Table 15 of the Mines and Minerals chapter, p. 340.

Automobiles.—This is the most important industry of the iron group and is indeed one of the largest industries in Canada (Table 12). Table 4 of Part III of the Transportation chapter shows the number of vehicles manufactured, imported, and exported in each year, while in the Internal Trade chapter, the retail sales of motor vehicles are shown (see Index).

Automobile Supplies.—As an adjunct to the manufacture and wide use of motor vehicles, a large industry has developed for the independent production of parts and supplies required for the making, repair, and upkeep of such vehicles.

Railway Rolling-Stock.—With railway transportation so important a factor in the economic life of Canada, the manufacture and repair of railway vehicles is a large and widespread industry. In addition to rolling-stock for the standard steam