

Section 3.—The Manufactures of Ontario, 1938

The gross value of the manufactured products of Ontario in 1938 represented about 51 p.c. of the total for the whole Dominion, while that of Quebec amounted to about 29 p.c. This premier position in manufacturing has been fairly uniformly maintained by Ontario, 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. 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 geographic position of Ontario on the Great Lakes waterway system, by means of which the iron ore of Minnesota and the coal of Pennsylvania are readily accessible, has resulted in a greater development of the iron and steel industries in this Province than in any other. The Province is endowed with a wide range of natural resources of forests, minerals, water powers, and agriculture. Its large population and central position in Canada, with excellent water and rail transportation facilities to other parts of the country, have encouraged industrial development. Other factors in this development have been proximity to one of the most densely populated sections of the United States and the establishment within the Province of branch factories of United States industries, as in automobile manufacturing.

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 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 good recovery, and Ontario, which accounted for 49 p.c. of the gross value of all products manufactured in the Dominion in 1933, had by 1938 increased the relative value to 51.3 p.c.

Outstanding among industries in which Ontario was pre-eminent, was that of automobile manufacturing, which was carried on practically in this Province alone. Other important industries in which the Province led, with the percentage which the production of each bore to that of the Dominion in 1938, were as follows: agricultural implements, 96 p.c.; leather tanneries, 87 p.c.; rubber goods, 81 p.c.; furniture, 59 p.c.; fruit and vegetable canning, preserving, etc., 70 p.c.; electrical apparatus and supplies, 76 p.c.; castings and forgings, 66 p.c.; primary iron and steel, 64 p.c.; flour and feed mills, 54 p.c.; hosiery and knitted goods, 60 p.c.; sheet-metal products, 59 p.c.; biscuits, confectionery, cocoa, and chocolate 58 p.c.; coke and gas products, 56 p.c.; brass and copper products, 65 p.c.

4.—Statistics of the Leading Industries of the Province of Ontario, 1938

Industry	Estab-lish-ments	Capital	Em-ploy-ees	Salaries and Wages	Cost of Materials	Gross Value of Products ¹
	No.	\$	No.	\$	\$	\$
1 Non-ferrous metal smelting and refining.....	7	96,107,230	6,146	10,023,908	102,982,091	166,012,623
2 Automobiles.....	7	54,173,682	14,008	19,786,423	72,041,319	110,207,173
3 Slaughtering and meat packing...	65	23,467,792	5,145	7,114,438	66,057,758	79,197,442
4 Electrical apparatus and supplies..	136	73,524,692	14,908	18,247,713	27,106,345	68,249,332
5 Flour and feed mills.....	644	24,035,889	3,189	3,223,184	53,155,870	66,763,154
6 Pulp and paper.....	37	174,219,617	9,637	14,280,151	24,619,850	60,946,197
7 Butter and cheese.....	958	27,061,412	7,542	7,629,975	40,128,992	54,859,365
8 Rubber goods,(including footwear)	34	53,636,642	9,252	11,017,428	19,940,090	49,402,686

¹ See footnote 1, Table 2, p. 354.