

Section 3.—Leading Branches of Production in Each Province, 1939 Compared with 1938

Maritime Provinces.—Net production in the Maritime Provinces in 1939 increased 5·7 p.c. over the preceding year. Decreases were shown in agriculture and custom and repair. The greatest increase was shown in manufactures, the net production gaining from \$56,400,000 to \$64,200,000.

Quebec.—Manufacturing was again the principal industry in Quebec, contributing, without duplication, about 45 p.c. of the net value of provincial production. In comparison, agriculture accounted for only 15·6 p.c. and forestry 12·3 p.c. of the total net. Mining registered a slight gain, showing an advance from 9·1 to 9·8 p.c., while construction also increased slightly from 6·8 to 7·2 p.c. of the provincial total.

Ontario.—This Province held the leading position in the net value of manufacturing production in 1939, and contributed more than half of the total. Agriculture and mining were almost unchanged, accounting for only 18·6 p.c. and 13·9 p.c., respectively, as compared with 18·5 p.c. and 14·1 p.c., respectively in 1938.

Prairie Provinces.—Agriculture naturally predominated in the Prairie Provinces, contributing about 65·7 p.c. of the net production in 1939; the increase over 1938 was 32·8 p.c., gains having been general in each of the three provinces with a marked betterment in Saskatchewan. Manufacturing accounted for about one-sixth of the regional output—a remarkable development of the past quarter century in an area generally regarded as predominantly agricultural. Mining continued to advance, supplying over 7·5 p.c. of the net total.

British Columbia and Yukon.—The net output from forestry in British Columbia during 1939, was nearly \$63,000,000 or about one-quarter of the provincial production. Manufactures, *n.e.s.*, eliminating duplication, contributed the second highest proportion, viz., 21·5 p.c., while mining comprised 20 p.c. of the net. Agriculture contributed 12·5 p.c. and fisheries accounted for only 5·5 p.c.

Per Capita Production.—The Dominion total of net commodity production at \$285 per capita was 7·5 p.c. above the figure of \$265 for 1938; the estimated increase in the population was less than one per cent.

Each of the nine provinces showed per capita betterment in 1939 over the preceding year. Ontario with its pre-eminent industrial position and diversification, was in first place in this respect, with a net commodity output of \$361 per capita, a gain of more than \$13 over the level of 1938. British Columbia ranked second with a per capita output of \$326. Alberta was again in third place with \$279, while Quebec's position was improved by a rise from \$241 to \$259. Saskatchewan's improved position was portrayed by the advance from the low point of \$146 in 1938 to \$238 in the year under review. The per capita returns for Manitoba recorded an output of more moderate proportions at \$205. Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island followed in the order named.