

Section 3.—The Manufactures of Ontario, 1939

The gross value of the manufactured products of Ontario in 1939 represented about 50 p.c. of the total for the whole Dominion, while that of Quebec amounted to about 30 p.c. This premier position in manufacturing has been fairly uniformly maintained by Ontario, as the following percentages show: 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; the wide range of natural resources of forests, minerals, water powers, and agriculture; a large population and excellent water and rail transportation facilities to other parts of the country, have all encouraged industrial development. Other factors 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.

Industries producing capital or durable goods, which constitute an important factor in the manufactures of Ontario, were particularly hard hit during the early years of the depression preceding the present war. 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 1939 increased the relative value to 50.2 p.c.

Outstanding among industries in which Ontario was pre-eminent, were those of automobile manufacturing and agricultural implements, which were 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 1939, were as follows: leather tanneries, 88 p.c.; rubber goods, 80 p.c.; furniture 56 p.c.; fruit and vegetable canning, preserving, etc., 67 p.c.; electrical apparatus and supplies, 76 p.c.; castings and forgings, 64 p.c.; primary iron and steel, 64 p.c.; flour and feed mills, 57 p.c.; hosiery and knitted goods, 59 p.c.; sheet metal products, 60 p.c.; biscuits, confectionery, cocoa and chocolate, 58 p.c.; coke and gas products, 54 p.c.; brass and copper products, 64 p.c.

4.—Statistics of the Leading Industries of the Province of Ontario, 1939

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	96,617,868	6,045	9,996,657	83,021,910	134,726,912
2 Automobiles.....	7	54,144,811	13,620	19,495,482	67,881,020	102,102,931
3 Slaughtering and meat packing....	67	27,549,218	5,297	7,201,703	65,228,513	79,480,472
4 Electrical apparatus and supplies..	140	78,298,175	15,027	18,917,134	30,144,956	67,733,158
5 Pulp and paper.....	38	174,672,911	9,579	14,714,523	26,596,101	65,486,349
6 Flour and feed mills.....	627	23,363,064	3,205	3,399,012	44,278,443	58,336,183
7 Rubber goods, including rubber footwear.....	35	53,540,653	9,993	11,992,985	23,344,495	55,784,921
8 Butter and cheese.....	951	27,655,635	7,558	7,618,426	37,096,438	52,663,274
9 Primary iron and steel.....	25	75,269,867	8,594	13,378,862	18,586,517	48,925,939

¹ See footnote 1, Table 2, p. 403.