

## Section 1.—Leading Branches of Production, 1941 and 1942

**Primary Production.**—With marked increases being recorded by the basic industries of agriculture, electric power and mining, the net value of primary production showed an outstanding gain of 38 p.c. over the preceding year. The total primary output stood at \$2,924,000,000 or \$803,000,000 above the figure recorded for 1941.

Agriculture, the leading industry in the primary group, rose by \$741,000,000, a percentage gain of 78 p.c. Manufacturing industries in the secondary group recorded the next greatest advance of \$705,000,000 or 27 p.c.

The output of the forestry group recorded an expansion of 1·8 p.c., standing at \$429,000,000, or \$8,000,000 above the total for 1941.

Production in the fisheries group rose \$13,000,000 to \$65,000,000, a gain of 25 p.c. Trapping receipts mounted by nearly \$9,000,000, with the percentage increase of 57 p.c. being the highest in the group.

Mining was next in importance to agriculture among the primary industries, producing 23 p.c. of the aggregate. The gain in 1942, despite minor change in prices, was 3 p.c. The net total, which had been \$498,000,000 in 1941, rose to \$514,000,000. Due in part to the marked development during the past quarter century and to the war demand of the year, the production of the mining industry reached an historical maximum in 1942.

The output of the electric power industry was fourth in importance among the primary industries, reaching a new high point in history. The net value was \$200,000,000 in 1942, a gain of 9 p.c. over the preceding year. The industry has achieved marked expansion since the end of the War of 1914-18. The net revenue was slightly more than \$45,000,000 in 1919 and steady gains were recorded until an intermediate maximum of \$125,000,000 was reached in 1930. The advance was resumed in 1934 and marked gains have been shown annually since that time.

**Secondary Production.**—For the three groups engaged in secondary production expansion was recorded in 1942 over the preceding year. The aggregate net production of manufactures, construction, and custom and repair rose about one-quarter in this comparison. The total was \$3,760,000,000 compared with \$3,010,000,000 in 1941. After eliminating the production of the processing industries, the net output of manufacturing was 46·1 p.c. of total commodity production, the relative importance of 1941 having been 46·5 p.c.

The value of output in the construction industry increased by 15 p.c. to \$311,000,000 as compared with \$270,000,000 in the preceding year. Custom and repair stood at nearly \$140,000,000, an advance of \$4,000,000 over the total of \$135,000,000 recorded in 1941.