

Subsection 1.—Manufactures Grouped by Chief Component Materials

A classification based on the chief component materials in the various products of each manufacturing establishment was applied for the first time in the compilation of the returns for 1920. The number of groups was reduced from fifteen to nine to correspond with the foreign trade classification and the classes of industry were somewhat altered to conform with industrial developments. Subsequently, a number of minor changes were made, the most important being the elimination of central electric stations and the dyeing, cleaning and laundry industry from the compilation in 1936. Revisions due to these changes have been carried back to 1917 in so far as possible.

Recent Changes in Manufacturing Production.—Table 8 shows the effects of the depression, the recovery since 1933, and the impact of the Second World War upon the main groups of industries with regard to the numbers employed, the salaries and wages paid, and the gross value of products. Owing to the price decline during the depression, money values of both wages and products were naturally affected more than number of employees. Furthermore, during periods of curtailed production there is a tendency for wage-earners to be put on part time, while the number of salaried employees responds less quickly to reduction in output than that of wage-earners. Therefore, there are several reasons why the variation in number of employees should be less than that of money values. The figures of Table 8 are to be compared with those of Table 6 which show changes in volume of production. Compared with 1939, the number of employees in 1944 increased by 85.8 p.c. as compared with an increase of 70.1 p.c. in the physical volume of production. Salaries and wages paid were 175.1 p.c. higher and the gross value of production 161.1 p.c. higher. Another significant change is the increase in the proportion of women engaged in manufacturing. Whereas in 1939, there were 281 females to every 1,000 males employed, in 1944 this figure jumped to 403.

8.—Percentage Variation in Employment, Salaries and Wages, and Gross Value of Products in the Main Industrial Groups Compared for Significant Years, 1929-44

NOTE.—The highest pre-depression year was 1929, while the lowest depression year was 1933.

Industrial Group	1933 Compared with 1929			1939 Compared with 1929			1944 Compared with 1939		
	Em- ployees	Salaries and Wages	Gross Value of Pro- ducts	Em- ployees	Salaries and Wages	Gross Value of Pro- ducts	Em- ployees	Salaries and Wages	Gross Value of Pro- ducts
Vegetable products.	-17.2	-28.5	-44.8	+ 9.2	+ 8.8	-15.8	+ 31.4	+ 76.4	+ 92.6
Animal products.....	-21.5	-25.2	-43.3	+ 2.5	+ 9.9	- 3.3	+ 35.8	+ 89.4	+136.4
Textile products.....	- 7.9	-23.3	-30.7	+16.5	+12.8	- 2.6	+ 26.5	+ 82.8	+ 99.1
Wood and paper products..	-36.1	-46.8	-52.9	-12.0	-14.0	-20.0	+ 31.0	+ 72.1	+ 88.6
Iron and its products.....	-48.6	-64.5	-72.6	-15.2	-22.2	-30.0	+240.3	+416.2	+359.1
Non-ferrous metals.....	-36.6	-48.4	-41.9	+11.8	+ 9.5	+46.7	+134.1	+206.5	+138.5
Non-metallic minerals....	-42.0	-50.5	-42.8	-21.3	-22.8	- 9.4	+ 37.2	+ 86.7	+100.0
Chemicals.....	- 7.8	-17.2	-33.0	+35.3	+39.4	+15.2	+262.1	+335.3	+359.8
Miscellaneous products....	-22.6	-37.3	-52.9	+13.9	+ 4.7	-15.3	+108.0	+216.6	+251.4
Averages, All Industries.	-29.7	-43.9	-49.7	- 1.3	- 5.1	-10.5	+ 85.8	+175.1	+161.1