

Section 5.—The Manufactures of British Columbia, 1944

British Columbia in 1944 was again the third most important manufacturing province of the Dominion. Normally its rich forests give the wood industries a pre-eminence in the Province. Due to the exigencies of the War which resulted in the establishment of a huge shipbuilding industry on the Pacific Coast, the iron and its products group displaced wood and paper as the dominant factor in British Columbia manufacturing production. As a result of this, the shipbuilding industry, with a gross value of production of \$124,175,065 and accounting for 19 p.c. of the total output of the Province in 1944, was the dominant industry. This industry which rose from sixth place in 1940 when the output was valued at only \$9,943,941, reached its maximum expansion in 1943 when the output was valued at \$155,536,396 and the persons employed totalled 31,238. Operations declined during 1944, the gross value of production dropping by \$31,361,331 and the number of persons employed by 6,623. Emphasizing the importance of the forests in the industrial life of the Province, the sawmilling industry ranked second with a gross value of production of \$98,381,844, and the pulp and paper industry fourth with \$32,726,647. Third in importance was fish curing and packing, based principally on the estuarial salmon fisheries. British Columbia accounted for 48 p.c. of the total production of this industry in Canada. Other important industries were: slaughtering and meat packing, petroleum products, fruit and vegetable preparations, machinery, butter and cheese, etc. The varied resources of the Province and its position on the Pacific Coast have resulted in a wide diversification of its manufactures.

7.—Statistics of the Leading Industries of the Province of British Columbia, 1944

Industry	Estab- lish- ments	Em- ployees	Salaries and Wages	Cost of Materials	Net Value of Products	Gross Value of Products
	No.	No.	\$	\$	\$	\$
1 Shipbuilding and repairs.....	22	24,615	51,827,314	29,356,048	93,674,331	124,175,065
2 Sawmills.....	498	15,274	27,110,882	51,324,211	46,251,574	98,381,844
3 Fish curing and packing.....	72	3,568	5,142,961	21,401,993	11,228,791	33,058,628
4 Pulp and paper.....	7	3,901	8,411,434	12,338,145	18,131,055	32,726,647
5 Slaughtering and meat packing...	11	1,205	2,134,801	21,132,581	3,291,104	24,587,190
6 Petroleum products.....	6	416	896,217	15,387,576	1,407,381	17,278,020
7 Fruit and vegetable preparations..	62	2,140	2,570,392	10,646,717	5,425,836	16,280,853
8 Machinery.....	26	2,270	4,570,759	5,408,161	8,462,539	13,986,622
9 Butter and cheese.....	36	1,084	1,825,473	9,311,954	3,590,965	13,168,262
10 Fertilizers.....	5	1,096	2,572,595	4,250,970	7,679,536	12,995,510
11 Bread and other bakery products	252	2,336	3,279,966	5,438,975	5,934,594	11,669,971
12 Veneer and plywood.....	8	1,788	2,866,215	4,352,336	6,767,600	11,247,593
13 Sheet metal products.....	18	1,240	2,185,079	6,198,301	4,601,584	10,880,794
14 Foods, miscellaneous.....	29	526	619,147	7,747,674	1,760,137	9,546,137
15 Breweries.....	11	504	1,045,175	1,231,817	6,268,321	7,610,409
16 Foods, stock and poultry.....	28	430	646,797	6,377,247	990,089	7,430,499
17 Iron and steel products, n.e.s.	19	1,197	2,762,501	1,545,684	5,734,900	7,390,740
18 Printing and publishing.....	71	1,691	2,979,642	1,353,023	5,892,821	7,312,134
19 Acids, alkalies and salts.....	4	444	877,883	699,444	6,062,183	7,284,745
20 All other leading industries ¹	8	12,873	26,500,111	37,227,316	42,489,831	84,090,486
Totals, Leading Industries ...	1,193	78,598	150,825,344	252,730,173	285,645,185	551,102,149
Totals, All Industries.....	2,116	96,062	178,639,118	303,560,016	337,137,197	655,844,689
Percentage of leading industries to all industries.....	56.4	81.8	84.4	83.3	84.7	84.0

¹ Includes other leading industries, statistics of which cannot be published because there are fewer than three establishments in each industry. Such industries are: distilleries, sugar refineries, bridge and structural steel and non-ferrous metal smelting and refining.