

The 3,973 petroleum bulk tank stations engaged in the distribution of petroleum products by tank car to retailers and such users as farmers, fishermen and small industrial users transacted a business of \$216,292,000, constituting 4.1 p.c. of the total wholesale trade, and paid \$6,890,000 to 4,968 employees.

The sixth major group is a residual class including all other types, such as film exchanges, distributing warehouses and government-owned companies. These numbered 274 establishments, which had sales of \$148,168,000 and provided employment for 1,999 persons who received \$3,102,000 in salaries and wages.

Kind of Business.—The other major basis for classification used in the wholesale census was by kind of business, according to the main commodity or commodities handled. There were about 150 individual kind-of-business classifications and these were grouped under 25 major classifications. Among wholesalers proper, the largest volume of business in 1941 was transacted by the groceries and food specialties group, with sales of \$347,472,000, followed by the food products (except groceries) group with sales of \$237,935,000. Next in importance, in point of view of sales, amounting to \$207,856,000, was the machinery group. The most important trade according to volume of sales among manufacturers' sales branches was the metals and metal work classification with 75 establishments doing a business of \$177,152,000. Important, also, in this type were the sales of dry goods and apparel, electrical goods, petroleum products and groceries and food specialties trades. The farm products (raw materials) group doing a business of \$364,277,000 formed the most important kind-of-business classification among the agents and brokers so far as volume of business is concerned, followed by the dry goods and apparel group with a sales volume of \$116,914,000 but with a greater number of establishments participating. Assemblers of primary products were concentrated in the farm products (raw materials) trade; this kind of business accounted for 6,333 establishments and had sales of \$368,355,000. The food products (except groceries) trade was the other important kind-of-business classification found in the assemblers group and this trade accounted for sales of \$73,777,000.

Provincial Distribution.—Almost two-thirds of the total wholesale trade of Canada was at the date of the Census, concentrated in the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, the former having sales valued at \$1,744,664,000 or 33 p.c. of total sales and the latter, sales of \$1,726,521,000 or 32.6 p.c. of the total. Manitoba came next with \$579,613,000 or 11 p.c., while British Columbia accounted for 7.2 p.c.; Alberta, 6.1 p.c.; Saskatchewan, 5.3 p.c.; Nova Scotia, 2.9 p.c.; New Brunswick, 1.7 p.c.; and Prince Edward Island, less than 1 p.c.

The proportion of the total trade transacted in each province varied for the different major types into which the wholesale field is divided. For wholesalers proper, Quebec came first in 1941 with 36.0 p.c. of the total trade, followed closely by Ontario with 34.7 p.c. The Prairie Provinces accounted for 15.4 p.c., British Columbia for 8.1 p.c. and the Maritime Provinces for the remaining 5.8 p.c. Apart from a slightly greater concentration in Quebec and Ontario, the distribution of sales for manufacturers' sales branches was similar to that for wholesalers proper. On the other hand, the Prairie Provinces occupied a much more important role in the other categories. They accounted for 29.3 p.c. of the total sales of all petroleum bulk tank stations, 34.2 p.c. of the sales of all agents and brokers and 66.4 p.c. of the total business done by all assemblers of primary products.