

CHAPTER XVI.—MANUFACTURES*

CONSPECTUS

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This Chapter deals with manufacturing industries in Canada in two main Parts. Part I gives general analyses of manufactures in the Dominion including: the historical development of manufacturing in Canada in so far as statistical data are available; production by industrial groups and individual industries, i.e., a detailed treatment of current production under various groupings and individual industries; general analyses of the principal factors in manufacturing production under such sub-headings as capital, employment, salaries and wages, size of establishment, power and fuel. Part II covers the provincial and local distribution.

With regard to the first section of Part I, dealing with historical development, it is impossible to give absolutely comparable statistics over a long period of years. From 1870 to 1915 statistics were collected only in connection with decennial or quinquennial censuses, and there was inevitably some variation in the information collected. The annual Census of Manufactures was instituted in 1917 and, while numerous changes have been made since then in the information collected and the treatment of the data, an effort has been made to carry all major revisions, in so far as possible, back to 1917.

The far-reaching influence of the War of 1914-18 was, of course, the outstanding factor in the growth recorded prior to the Second World War. It was during the years 1914-18 that Canadian manufactures began to develop on a really large scale.

The tremendous increase in production during 1939-45 is indicated by the increases in some of the main factors of production between 1939 and the highest point attained during the War. For manufacturing as a whole there was an increase of 161 p.c. in the gross value of production, 162 p.c. in the value added by manufactures, 89 p.c. in the number of persons employed, and 175 p.c. in the salaries and wages paid.

By 1945, gross value of manufacturing production was 137 p.c. above that of 1939, but 24 p.c. below that of 1944. The number of employees and the salaries and wages paid were 70 p.c. and 150 p.c., respectively, above those of 1939. Although still high, they reflected the decline to more normal productions compared with the peak of the War period.

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