Subsection 2.—Employment in Manufactures

Using a base and taking the percentages of the wage-earners and the total employees in each year, and dividing these percentages into the corresponding volumes of manufacturing production, tentative conclusions are arrived at regarding the efficiency of production per wage-earner and per employee. These indexes of the efficiency of production are, of course, affected by the changes in the method of computing the number of wage-earners adopted in 1925, and then again in 1931. Inasmuch as the change increased the apparent number of employees between 1925 and 1930, it proportionately decreased the index of the efficiency of production. Comparability exists, however, between the Table 15 shows only the latter figures prior to 1925 and subsequent to 1930. period. Unfortunately, the period covered is rather limited for the purpose in view, but it is suggested that the reader compare these data with the comparable figures for 1917-30 at p. 421 of the 1939 Canada Year Book. Up to the beginning of the Second World War the indexes may be considered as supplying satisfactory evidence of a general gain in volume of production per person employed. With the outbreak of war unemployed skilled workers were first absorbed into industry, with the result that the efficiency of production was slightly bettered. As the War progressed, however, manufacturers were forced more and more to employ unskilled workers. The decline in the efficiency of production during the war years may, therefore, be attributed to this cause as well as to absenteeism for various causes.

15.—Salaried Employees and Wage-Earners in Manufacturing Industries, with Volume of Manufacturing Production and Comparative Efficiency of Production, 1931-45.

(1935-39=100)

Note.—Figures, with qualifications as to comparability, for 1917 to 1930 are published at p. 421 of the 1939 Canada Year Book.

Year	Salaried Employees	Wage- Earners	Total Employees	Percentages Relative to 1935-39		Number of	Indexes of Efficiency of Production	
				Of Wage- Earners	Of Total Em- ployees	Volume of Mf'd. Products	Per Wage- Earner	Per Employee
•	No.	No.	No.	p.c.	p.c.			
1931	87,050 86,636 92,095 97,935 104,417 115,827 120,589 124,772 135,760 158,944 177,187	437,149 381,783 382,022 427,717 458,734 489,942 544,624 521,427 533,342 626,484 802,234 974,904 1,047,873 1,030,324 928,665	528, 640 468, 833 468, 658 519, 812 556, 664 594, 359 660, 451 642, 016 658, 114 762, 244 961, 178 1, 152, 091 1, 241, 068 1, 222, 882 1, 119, 372	85.8 74.9 75.0 83.9 90.0 96.1 106.9 102.3 104.7 122.9 157.4 191.3 205.6 202.2 182.2	84.9 75.3 75.3 83.5 89.5 95.5 106.1 103.2 105.8 122.5 154.5 185.1 199.4 196.5 180.0	79·9 67·6 67·7 79·6 87·9 96·2 108·9 100·8 106·3 125·2 155·9 179·9 187·7 180·8 165·3	93·1 90·3 90·3 94·9 97·7 100·1 101·9 98·5 101·5 101·9 99·0 94·0 91·3 89·4 99·7	94·1 89·8 89·9 95·3 98·2 100·7 102·6 97·7 100·5 102·2 100·9 97·2 94·1 92·0 91·8

Monthly Record of Employment in Manufactures.—Ordinarily, manufacturing employment in Canada reaches its highest point during the summer months. Some of the seasonal industries, such as canning, are most active then, textile industries are preparing winter goods, and industry generally feels the active demand of the agricultural purchasing power resulting from the prospect of the season's harvest. After the setback of 1929, employment in 1930, 1931, 1932 and