

# CHAPTER XVII.—MANUFACTURES

## CONSPECTUS

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NOTE.—The interpretation of the symbols used in the tables throughout the Year Book will be found facing p. 1 of this volume.

This Chapter deals with manufacturing industries in Canada in two Parts. Part I gives general analyses including: the historical development of manufacturing; detailed treatment of current production under various groupings and individual industries; and principal factors in manufacturing production such as capital, employment, salaries and wages and size of establishment. Part II deals with the provincial and local distribution of manufacturing production.

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, as far as possible, back to 1917, so that the figures for the period since then are on a reasonably comparable basis.

Canada now ranks among the important manufacturing countries of the world and holds a dominant position in the export of many manufactured products. The forward movement in development has been the result of three great influences: first, the opening of the 'west' at the beginning of the present century which greatly increased the demand for manufactured goods of all kinds, especially construction materials; secondly, the First World War which left a permanent imprint upon the variety and efficiency of Canadian plants; and thirdly, the Second World War with its insatiable demands for food and manufactured products of all kinds. More especially during the Second World War the situation created as a result of Canada's strategic position as a source of food and armaments had far-reaching effects on the magnitude and diversification of Canadian manufacturing production, with the result that Canada, with greatly increased skills and plant capacity, has now entered a new era in manufacturing development.