



An analysis of the volume of manufactures since 1929 in relation to population and exports shows that the decline in the depression preceding the Second World War was due chiefly to reduced exports and a cessation in production of capital equipment. As a result of expansion during the War, the physical volume of production in 1943, when production was at an all-time high, was 77 p.c. above 1939 and 85 p.c. above 1929. The chemical and allied products group, with an increase of 262 p.c., reported the greatest production expansion since 1939. This was followed by the iron and its products group with an increase of 222 p.c., non-ferrous metal products 130 p.c., miscellaneous industries 68 p.c., non-metallic mineral products 56 p.c., animal products 40 p.c., textiles and textile products 34 p.c., vegetable products 25 p.c., and wood and paper products 21 p.c. There was also an increase in the volume of consumer goods. As was to be expected, the increase was not so great as that for production of equipment and supplies needed by the Armed Forces. Drink and tobacco increased by 51 p.c., food 27 p.c. and clothing 25 p.c.

In 1946 the index of the physical volume of production at 150.3 represented a drop of 19.9 p.c. from the high mark attained in 1943. Chemicals and allied prod-