

expansion in production was achieved in 1950 and 1951. Between 1949 and 1950, the volume index of industrial production rose more than 7 p.c. and preliminary calculations show that an additional rise of about 7 p.c. occurred in 1951. Wholesale prices in 1950 averaged about 6 p.c. higher than in 1949 and registered a further advance of nearly 14 p.c. in 1951. After a slight increase in 1950, total non-agricultural employment rose approximately 7 p.c. in 1951. Although the value of agricultural production levelled off in 1950 as compared with 1949, near-record grain crops in 1951 resulted in a considerable advance in the value of farm output.

Substantially higher price levels, sustained demand for consumer goods both in Canada and abroad, the rapid development of the industrialization program and, more recently, the outbreak of hostilities in Korea and the subsequent expansion of defence industries have all contributed to record high levels of production in the post-war years.

Section 1.—Industrial Distribution of Production

The figures in Table 1 show that the net value of Canadian commodity production in most industrial groups rose considerably during the post-war period. Value of net output in the mining, construction and manufacturing industries advanced rapidly from 1946 to peak levels in 1949. The 90 p.c. gain in the value of mineral production in that comparison was the result of both higher prices and expanded physical output. High levels of building activity and the rapid advance in costs of construction combined to account for the marked advance of 161 p.c. in the total for the construction industry. The net value of manufacturing production in 1949 was over 50 p.c. higher than in 1946. In this case, the greater part of the increase was due to higher prices although volume of output rose nearly 15 p.c. The electric-power industry expanded steadily over the period, although the value rose at a more moderate pace since it was less influenced by the increase in prices. In the agriculture and forestry groups, net value receded slightly in 1949 from the record levels of 1948, but remained far above the 1946 totals. The value of the fisheries industry, after rising moderately in 1947 and 1948 recorded a drop in 1949, and returns from trapping showed a tendency to decline.

Table 1 classifies industry into primary and secondary production, although there is a certain amount of duplication since many stages of manufacturing are closely connected with primary activities. Fish-packing plants, for instance, are operated in close relationship with the fishing fleets, sawmills and pulp and paper mills with forest operations, and smelters and refineries with metal mining. The net values of production of such processing industries are given separately in Table 3, to show the degree of this duplication between primary industries and manufactures which is eliminated in Tables 1 and 2.