

Section 3.—Distribution of Industrial Production in Each Province*

Maritime Provinces.—In Prince Edward Island, the net value of agricultural production, the main source of income, contributed about 59 p.c. of the total value in 1949 and showed little change from the previous year. The relative importance of the industry was slightly less than it was in 1938 when it accounted for 61 p.c. of the net output of the Province. A decline from the previous year in the value of fisheries was offset by increased construction activity. In Nova Scotia, more than one-half the rise from 1948 in the value of net output was accounted for by an increase in construction. Declines were recorded in forestry and fisheries while other industries advanced moderately. Compared with 1938, the relative importance of construction and manufactures gained markedly at the expense of agriculture, mining and electric power. In New Brunswick, a drop in the output of the important forestry industry in 1949, compared with the previous year, was offset by a gain in construction. As in Nova Scotia, the secondary industries contributed more to the Province's total net value in 1949 than in the pre-war year of 1938.

Quebec.—The manufactures group, which contributed 63 p.c. of provincial net production in 1949, recorded a gain of nearly 8 p.c. over the previous year and the value of construction advanced more than 34 p.c. The decline in forestry output was offset by an increase in mineral production, while agriculture showed little change. Here also, the primary industries—agriculture, mining and electric power—lost ground to construction and manufactures in the 1938-49 comparison. By contrast, the contribution of the forestry industry was greater than in 1938.

Ontario.—All the principal industries except forestry showed a higher value of output in 1949 than in 1948. The value of manufactures and construction rose 9 p.c. and 27 p.c., respectively, and mining advanced nearly 16 p.c. The relative importance of agriculture and mining in 1949 amounted to 13 p.c. and 6.4 p.c., respectively, compared with 15 p.c. and 14.5 p.c. in 1938. By contrast the contribution of construction and manufactures rose from 6 p.c. and 60 p.c., respectively, to 11 p.c. and 66 p.c. in the same comparison. Forestry also improved its position while the value of electric power lost in relative importance.

Prairie Provinces.—Agriculture continued to dominate the economy of the Prairie Provinces in 1949. In Manitoba, the decline of about 12 p.c. in 1949 from the preceding year in the value of agricultural output was mainly responsible for the drop in the total net output of the Province. In the 1938-49 comparison, the changes in the relative importance of mining and construction were the most marked features. In the pre-war year, the contribution of mining was 10.6 p.c. and that of construction 4.4 p.c. The positions were reversed in 1949, mineral production dropping to 4.1 p.c. and construction advancing to 10.8 p.c.

In Saskatchewan, the drop in the value of mining in 1949 from 1948 was more than offset by advances in agriculture and construction. The relative position of agriculture in Saskatchewan increased from 67 p.c. in 1938 to 77 p.c. in 1949. In contrast to the other provinces, the contribution of the secondary industries declined considerably during that period.

* This analysis takes no account of the deductions for the elimination of duplication between different groups.