

In 1952 the sawmill-products industry produced almost \$568,000,000 worth of planks and boards, shingles, railway ties and other sawmill products and thus ranked sixth among Canada's manufacturing industries. Since the early days of Canada, the growth of the lumber industry has reflected the expansion of the Canadian economy. During World War II, output was limited only by production facilities and the availability of manpower. Large quantities of lumber were used domestically for the construction of defence establishments and for new munitions factories in the first two years of the War. Later on, demand gradually increased for lumber to make boxes, barrels and crates required for the overseas shipment of munitions, food and supplies. Large volumes of lumber were also used in connection with shipbuilding and aircraft construction and for such essential purposes as mining, manufacture of railway rolling-stock and wartime housing. Besides fulfilling the domestic requirements, which took an increasing percentage of total production as the War proceeded, Canada maintained at high level its exports to the United Kingdom, to other Commonwealth countries and to the United States. By 1945, out of a total production of 4,500,000,000 board feet, 56 p.c. was used at home, 19 p.c. was exported to the United Kingdom and 21 p.c. to the United States. For most of the period since the end of the War, demand for sawmill products has continued to exceed the supply and lumber prices have more than doubled in the past few years.

With production at \$504,000,000 in 1952, the primary iron and steel industry ranked seventh in Canadian manufacturing. After World War II the industry added greatly to its steel-making plant and by 1942 domestic output had reached 2,900,000 ingot tons annually. In recent years greater emphasis has been placed upon modernization and on adding rolling mill and other fabricating facilities in order to permit greater integration and more efficient operation of existing plants. As a result of recent outlays, Canada is now virtually self-sufficient in tin plate. Large-scale production of cold rolled strip, large-diameter oil and gas line pipe, special alloys and stainless steel is also being carried out in this country. Other items, such as rails, bars, rods, wire products and hot rolled plate and sheet in certain widths, are relatively important products of Canadian mills. Current imports tend to be confined to products not made in quantity in Canada, such as large items beyond the capacity of Canadian mills, Bessemer skelp for the production of pipe, special steel sheet material for large transmission towers and certain wire products, forgings and castings. The future development of the industry is linked with the tremendous progress being made in iron-ore production.

The rubber industry ranked tenth in 1952 with a gross output of \$287,000,000. This industry forms an adjunct of considerable importance to the cotton yarn and cloth and synthetic textiles industries which supply it with fabrics, yarns, etc., used in manufacturing such items as tires, hose and belting. The importance of the industry lies in the fact that Canada ranks among the leading countries of the world as a manufacturer of rubber goods and also that the industry makes a significant contribution to Canada's export trade. Tire sales in 1952 were 9 p.c. higher than in 1951 but sales of waterproof and canvas footwear were down 2 p.c. and there