

was a drop in other principal standard production items such as belting, hose and packing. Consumption of rubber in 1952 involved 41.6 p.c. synthetic rubber, 41.5 p.c. natural rubber and 16.9 p.c. reclaim.

The men's factory clothing industry ranked eleventh with output at \$277,000,000 in 1952. This was the only textile industry to rank currently within the major fifteen compared with three in 1949. Recovery in the clothing and leather-products industries from the slack conditions prevailing during the latter part of 1951 began early in 1952. The initial cause for the upturn in activity was caused by depleted inventories at both the retail and factory levels but, once under way, recovery was given added impetus by increased retail sales from April onwards. At the same time there were a number of underlying negative factors qualifying the industry's recovery. Credit played a growing role in the increase of retail sales. Despite this increase, clothing prices fell slightly as compared with 1951 and the volume of imports assumed a larger percentage of domestic disappearance at the end of the year.

PART II.—ANALYSES OF MANUFACTURING STATISTICS

Section 1.—Growth of Manufacturing

This Section gives a summary of the growth of manufacturing in general, as shown by comparable principal statistics, i.e., establishments, employees, salaries and wages paid, cost of materials and value of products. Also, it includes information on the consumption of manufactured products as well as a treatment of value and volume data.

Subsection 1.—Historical Statistics of Manufacturing

It is impossible to give absolutely comparable statistics of manufacturing 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.

Beginning in 1952, the Bureau of Statistics changed its policy with regard to the collection of statistics on the production of manufactured goods. Firms in several industries where year-end inventory changes were known to be insignificant were requested to report value of shipments f.o.b. plant instead of gross value of products. Under the "value of products" concept, establishments were asked to report the factory selling value of the products made whether sold or not, the unsold portion being assigned the average selling value of similar articles sold during the year. Under the "value of shipments" concept, establishments are required to report their sales during the year regardless of when the products were made, an