

Total value of the intended construction program in Canada for 1954, both new and repair, is estimated at \$4,830,000,000 as compared with \$4,595,000,000 in 1953 and \$4,199,000,000 in 1952. This estimate covers all sectors of the Canadian economy—business, institutions, governments and housing. The estimate for 1954 is larger than the estimated amount spent in 1953—making the eighth successive year since 1946 to show an increase over the previous year. Expressed as a percentage, it is the smallest increase amounting to only 5 p.c. over the previous year. The program for 1954 is not expected to have the same impact on the expanded construction industry as the programs of some of the earlier post-war years when the supply situation, for both labour and materials, was much more restricted.

The trend of construction volume is indicated in Table 8 which shows construction, both new and repair, in constant as well as in current dollars. Total construction is also shown in this table as a percentage of gross national product in terms of both current and constant dollars. Though the total value of construction rose by 128 p.c. between 1947 and 1953 the volume of construction as indicated by the constant dollar data, recorded an increase of only 50 p.c. (This shows that price changes must be taken into account in any comparison of value.) It is also apparent from the constant dollar figures in Table 8 that practically all of the increased activity since the end of World War II has been in new construction, and that repair has remained at about the same level. Repair work is a much smaller proportion of the total construction now than in the earlier years. In 1947, repair and maintenance construction accounted for 29 p.c. of total volume as compared with 20 p.c. in 1954.

#### 8.—Value of Construction Work Performed, Current and Constant (1949) Dollars, 1947-54

NOTE.—Actual 1947-52, preliminary actual 1953, intentions as of January 1954.

(Millions of Dollars)

Year	New Construction		Repair and Maintenance Construction		Total Construction		Total Construction as P.C. of Gross National Product	
	Current	Constant	Current	Constant	Current	Constant	Current	Constant
1947 <sup>1</sup> .....	1,424	897	592	696	2,016	2,377	14.6	15.4
1948 <sup>1</sup> .....	1,877	1,049	694	720	2,571	2,667	16.5	17.0
1949.....	2,124	1,129	732	732	2,856	2,856	17.3	17.5
1950.....	2,366	1,196	766	727	3,132	2,974	17.2	17.2
1951.....	2,754	1,248	927	783	3,661	3,091	17.0	16.9
1952.....	3,263	2,609	916	732	4,199	3,357	18.1	17.2
1953.....	3,646	2,831	949	735	4,595	3,566	18.9	17.6
1954.....	3,866	..	964	..	4,830	..	..	..

<sup>1</sup> Exclusive of Newfoundland.

Estimates of the value of work performed by construction contractors and by others in various branches of industry, business and government who use their own labour force to perform construction work are given in Table 9. There is little indication of any change from year to year in the proportionate division of total construction work between these two categories. The construction industry proper accounted for about 72 p.c. of the total value of all work performed in each of the three years and the remaining 28 p.c. was undertaken by other business and government bodies. A further elaboration of these data and their relationship to numbers employed, salaries and wages paid, and value of materials used is given in Table 13, p. 734.