

## PRODUCTION BY INDUSTRIES

The physical volume of output of all industries producing goods and services was at about the same level in 1957 as in 1956. When agriculture is removed from the comparison the remaining industries show an increase of about 1 p.c.; this increase was apparent in both the total for services-producing industries and that for goods-producing industries, exclusive of agriculture. These aggregates, however, hide important and divergent movements at the industry level.

During the course of 1957 there was a decrease in the rate of productive activity in certain industries. On a seasonally adjusted basis, goods output (less agriculture) declined throughout the year. Total services output was irregular during 1957 but a general decline was not apparent. The volume of production for manufacturing declined about 8 p.c. between January and December and most of the fall-off was concentrated in the durable manufactures group. Mining production rates kept increasing until April but were unsettled for the remainder of the year. Primary forest output fell off substantially during the year owing to deteriorating export and domestic markets. Transportation industries reflected the rather unsettled industrial production picture in 1957 and tended to move with manufacturing, forestry and mining.

In comparing annual output levels, agriculture was down about 17 p.c. in 1957. The volume of farmers' marketings fell almost 7 p.c. while the volume change in farm grain stocks reflected the substantially smaller crop in 1957. From a production standpoint, grain output in 1957 fell by about one-half as compared with 1956 but production of animal products remained practically unchanged. In the other primary resource industries movements were varied. Forestry output, affected by deteriorating domestic and foreign markets for pulpwood and lumber, was down by more than 11 p.c. Both pulpwood cut and output of other forest products were down by about the same percentage. Fishing and trapping output declined moderately in 1957. Electricity and gas utilities continued to expand; the output of electric power showed a 4-p.c. increase while gas distribution, reflecting the sharply increasing use of natural gas, advanced 14 p.c. The total output of Canadian mines showed one of the smallest increases in the postwar period with a gain of 6 p.c. Metals and fuels were up 12 and 5 p.c. respectively but non-metal mining was down 2 p.c. Uranium production rose sharply and accounted for most of the increment in metals. Small production gains were recorded for gold and nickel, while small decreases showed up in copper, silver, iron ore, lead and zinc. In contrast with recent years when iron ore exports showed substantial gains, only a minor advance was recorded in 1957. During the later months of the year export volume was down from corresponding months of 1956 mainly because of cut-backs in United States' steel-using industries. Within fuels, crude petroleum output rose 6 p.c. and more than offset a 12-p.c. decline in coal production. However, the small increase in petroleum mining represented a substantial change from the very large production gains in recent years.

The physical volume of output of manufacturing industries was off nearly 2 p.c. in 1957 with non-durables up slightly and durables down 5 p.c. Within the non-durable group of manufacturing industries, gains in output were recorded by chemicals, foods and beverages, leather, tobacco and tobacco products and products of petroleum and coal. Almost offsetting these increases, however, were declines in rubber products, textiles, clothing and paper. Printing and publishing showed little change. Within the durable group, every major industry group except non-metallic mineral products, which rose moderately, suffered production set-backs ranging from 2 p.c. in transportation equipment to 9 p.c. in wood products. Iron and steel, non-ferrous metal products and electrical apparatus and supplies declined 5, 6 and 8 p.c. respectively.

Within the services-producing division of industries, only the transportation, storage and communications group reflected reduced volume of activity and this was largely concentrated in railway freight. In the later part of 1957 there was a very noticeable slowdown in activity in civil aviation and oil pipelines—industries which had shown substantial gains in recent years. The communications component continued to expand, reflecting the substantial expansion of radio and television broadcasting and telephone