CHAPTER XV.—MANUFACTURES

CONSPECTUS

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Note.—The interpretation of the symbols used in the tables throughout the Year Book will be found facing p. 1 of this volume.

This Chapter deals with manufacturing in Canada in three Parts. Part I reviews the manufacturing situation at the end of 1955, emphasizing particularly the fifteen leading industries. Part II provides general statistical analyses including: manufacturing statistics from 1917; detailed treatment of current production under various groupings and individual industries; and principal factors in manufacturing production such as capital expenditures, employment, salaries and wages and size of establishment. Part III deals with the provincial and local distribution of manufacturing production.

A special review of postwar growth of manufacturing within the framework of Canadian economic development appears in the 1956 Year Book, pp. 619-624.

PART I.—REVIEW OF MANUFACTURING

Canada is one of the world's largest manufacturing nations, probably ranking about sixth. Manufacturing contributed 29 p.c. of the net national income in 1955, which was almost as great a proportion as manufacturing holds in the United States, where it contributed 32 p.c. About one-quarter of the employed population in Canada were working in manufacturing in mid-1955.

Canada's position as one of the world's leading traders is based largely on the country's natural resources, and is reflected in the industrial structure. Three industries stand out as major exporters—the pulp and paper mills, the non-ferrous smelting and refining plants, and the sawmills. These three large exporters are all closely concerned with the processing of Canada's natural resources. The aluminum plants, which form part of the smelting and refining industry, are an exception, since they process imported raw materials, but the reason for their location in Canada is the abundant supply of another natural resource—water power.