

volume is still small relative to other types of steel. An interesting development is the establishment of two new bar and rod mills in Western Canada since the end of the War, one at Edmonton and one at Vancouver.

The dramatic expansion that has taken place in Canada's capacity to produce sheet and strip has already been mentioned. In 1945 Canada could produce 356,000 tons of hot rolled sheet and strip; by 1957 Canadian mills had a capacity in excess of 1,000,000 tons. In 1945 cold-rolled sheet and strip capacity amounted to 324,000 tons; today it is more than 681,000 tons. At the end of World War II, galvanized sheet and tinplate capacity together amounted to 434,000 tons; today Canada has a productive capacity of 319,000 tons of galvanized sheet and 368,000 tons of tinplate annually. These increases may be attributed mainly to the high level of housing construction, to the demand for consumer durables and to the displacement of imports since 1948.

### III.—ROLLING-MILL CAPACITY OF MAJOR STEEL PRODUCTS, SELECTED YEARS 1945-57

NOTE.—Estimated capacity shown is the maximum annual potential capacity, i.e., for a continuous strip-sheet mill capable of producing both plates and sheets, the full capacity of the mill to produce each product is included. Therefore capacity for each of the principal classes shown cannot be totalled.

SOURCES: Department of Mines and Technical Surveys publication *Metallurgical Works in Canada, Pt. I*, and American Iron and Steel Institute.

Type of Steel	1945	1948	1951	1954	1957
	'000 tons	'000 tons	'000 tons	'000 tons	'000 tons
<b>HOT-ROLLED STEEL PRODUCTS—</b>					
Structurals.....	198	218	223	467	374
Plate.....	397	220	253	322	472
Bar and rod.....	1,071	1,102	1,089	1,044	1,150
Bar (concrete reinforcement).....	106	77	93	199	246
Sheet and strip.....	356	402	333	703	1,012
Rails.....	631 <sup>1</sup>	457	457	437	430
<b>COLD-ROLLED AND OTHER SELECTED FINISHED PRODUCTS—</b>					
Sheet and strip (cold-rolled).....	324	322	..	431	681
Other sheet and strip.....	434	485	..	437	687
Pipe and tubing.....	289	289	..	464	1,236

<sup>1</sup> Includes a large quantity of track materials.

Rail and track material capacity remained almost unchanged from the beginning of the century following the period of rapid railroad expansion. While the production of these items may not have the relative importance they once had, nevertheless they are often important factors in maintaining employment during seasonal off-peak periods. The production of wire rod and wire products (nails, wire and fencing) is another area of the steel industry that has not experienced the growth evident elsewhere. This can be attributed in large part to competition from imports and also to changes in the pattern of domestic demand. An example of the latter is the decline in the demand for barbed wire as a result of the greater use of electric fencing.

The greatest increase in capacity has occurred in that part of the steel industry producing pipe and tube. In 1945 Canadian mills were limited to the production of the smaller sizes of pipe used in housing and commercial construction and maintenance but the discovery and development of the Alberta oil and gas fields created an urgent demand for transmission-line pipe and well casing. Most of this demand was at first met from abroad, but Canadian pipe mills, constructed in various parts of the country, are now capable of meeting the domestic requirement for nearly all types of pipe. In 1945 total capacity to produce pipe was about 289,000 tons; today Canada can produce 1,236,200 tons annually. In 1946 the maximum size of pipe that could be produced was 16 inches; today pipe up to 36 inches in diameter is made in Canadian mills. Pipe production in 1946 was limited to the output of butt-weld and electric-weld pipe; today Canada includes