

in its pipe-making facilities one of the most modern seamless pipe mills in the world. Interesting also is the distribution of these facilities across the country—pipe mills are now operating in Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia.

CONSUMPTION OF CANADIAN-MADE STEEL

An important feature of the postwar development of the Canadian steel industry has been the changing pattern of Canadian demand for domestically produced steel. The following table shows the changing position of the steel industry's major customers.

IV.—DISTRIBUTION OF CANADIAN-MADE STEEL TO PRINCIPAL CONSUMERS, SELECTED YEARS 1946-57

SOURCE: DBS report *The Primary Iron and Steel Industry*.

Consumer	1946		1950		1953		1955		1957	
	'000 tons	p.c.	'000 tons	p.c.	'000 tons	p.c.	'000 tons	p.c.	'000 tons	p.c.
Building construction.....	189.8	9.9	357.6	12.6	434.8	13.4	517.7	14.3	680.1	17.7
Railway cars and locomotives (incl. operating).....	411.8	21.4	500.6	17.7	628.7	19.5	359.1	9.9	591.3	15.4
Merchant trade products.....	226.6	11.8	358.1	12.6	358.5	11.1	437.6	12.1	382.4	10.0
Wholesalers and warehouses.....	262.0	13.7	314.2	11.1	423.0	13.1	490.0	13.5	363.4	9.5
Containers industry.....	164.4	8.6	262.0	9.2	269.9	8.3	336.2	9.3	297.6	7.7
Machinery and tools.....	103.4	5.4	116.9	4.1	158.2	4.9	208.4	5.7	228.9	6.0
Direct exports.....	145.3	7.6	218.8	7.7	150.9	4.7	402.1	11.0	212.1	5.5
Automotive industries.....	84.0	4.4	200.1	7.1	289.6	8.9	254.5	7.0	198.9	5.2
Pressing, forming and stamping.....	87.8	4.6	187.1	6.6	153.2	4.7	258.9	7.1	164.3	4.3
All others.....	242.8	12.6	317.4	11.3	369.5	11.4	362.7	10.1	721.2	18.7

Throughout the period, there has been an almost continuing shift towards a relatively greater steel consumption by the producer and consumer durables sector of the economy. In this apparent movement there is implied not only a greater maturity of the Canadian steel industry by its ability to supply a greater variety and quality of rolling-mill products, but also a trend towards the more complete processing of its products by Canadian industry. Nevertheless, the greatest increases in steel consumption since 1946 have occurred in the construction industry, which rose by 258 p.c., followed by the automobile industry with an increase in consumption of 136 p.c., and machinery and tools with 121 p.c.

LABOUR FORCE

The primary steel industry now employs almost 36,000 persons and in addition provides jobs for nearly 200,000 Canadians in directly related industries. Employment has increased by 17 p.c. since 1945. Average weekly earnings are now about \$95 a week, fourth highest among the manufacturing industries. Average hourly rates in 1958 were \$2.20 per hour, second only to those paid by the petroleum and coal products industries.

FOREIGN TRADE

Canada has never been a major exporter of steel; exports have exceeded 200,000 tons only during periods of world steel shortage, or when there has been an excess of steel in the domestic market and Canadian producers have sought to maintain output by exporting. In recent years, most of the steel export trade has been concentrated in pig iron and railroad rails. Over 17 p.c. of all the rails produced in Canada have been exported in the past five years. These orders have been obtained despite severe competition from foreign producers, for there is a general excess of rail-making capacity in the world.

Steel imports have always been a major factor in the Canadian economy, and while domestic capacity has expanded considerably in recent years, imports have made up an average of approximately 30 p.c. of total consumption since 1946. During periods of