

Subsection 1.—The Manufactures of the Atlantic Provinces

The Atlantic Provinces are of economic importance in a number of fields, such as pulp and paper, fish processing, sawmills and primary iron and steel. In *Newfoundland* manufacturing production is dominated by the forest and fisheries resources. Pulp and paper is by far the most important industry, having shipments valued at \$68,085,288 in 1956, followed by fish processing with shipments of \$18,279,005. These two industries accounted for 70 p.c. of the total production of the province. In *Prince Edward Island* agriculture and fishing resources make butter and cheese, slaughtering and meat packing, and fish processing the leading industries. *Nova Scotia* is renowned for its coal mines, its fisheries and its extensive forests and agricultural lands; it is also favoured with easy access by sea to the high-grade iron ore supply of Newfoundland. On these resources are based the leading manufactures of primary iron and steel, fish processing, pulp and paper, shipbuilding and sawmills. In addition, an important petroleum refinery and industries producing railway rolling-stock, cotton yarn and cloth, and coke and gas add to the diversification of industry in the province. The forests of *New Brunswick* give a leading place to pulp and paper and sawmilling industries in the province. Other important manufacturing and processing activities are based on fish and agricultural resources.

Considering the Atlantic Provinces as an economic unit, pulp and paper was the leading industry in 1956 with factory shipments valued at \$191,465,894. This was followed by fish processing with \$81,202,927, primary iron and steel \$51,321,212, sawmills \$44,251,499 and railway rolling-stock \$33,758,676. These five industries accounted for 49 p.c. of the total selling value of factory shipments of the region. Other industries with shipments valued at \$10,000,000 or more were, in order of selling value of factory shipments: petroleum products, sugar refining, butter and cheese, shipbuilding, bread and other bakery products, slaughtering and meat packing, sash, door and planing mills, miscellaneous food preparations, printing and publishing, prepared stock and poultry feeds, breweries, miscellaneous iron and steel products, and coke and gas products.

In the Atlantic Provinces the program of industrial development has been more selective than in some of the other provinces. Fish processing, new sawmills, increased pulp-making capacity and the manufacture of non-metallic building materials like cement and gypsum products have accounted for well over half of the industrial growth. There are, however, a few outstanding exceptions. Two sizable defence plants have been established in *Nova Scotia*, one to repair and overhaul naval aircraft and the other to build and repair radar and related electronic equipment. Considerable development has taken place in *Newfoundland*. Besides plants for the manufacture of cement and gypsum wallboard and plaster, factories for producing boots and shoes, birch veneer, leather goods, industrial machinery and a leather tannery were established, thus broadening the industrial base of the province. With these exceptions, most of the developments in the Atlantic Provinces have been either small and scattered or confined to the modernization and expansion of existing facilities.

Despite the rapid development in the Atlantic Provinces since 1949, manufacturing production did not quite keep pace with the development in the more industrialized provinces of Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia. This is indicated by a slight drop in the Atlantic Provinces' share of the Canadian total from 4.5 in 1949 to 3.8 in 1956.

Up to 1952 the increase in employment in the Atlantic Provinces was about the same as for the remainder of Canada. Between 1953 and 1955, however, employment in that region declined by 6.0 p.c. while for Canada as a whole the decline was only 2.2 p.c. and in 1956 employment in the Atlantic Provinces rose by 1.5 p.c. over 1955, while Canada as a whole increased 4.2 p.c. Increased employment since 1949 reported by Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island and *Nova Scotia* was partially offset by a drop of 3.8 p.c. in *New Brunswick*, resulting in a net increase of only 2.4 p.c. for the area as compared with an increase of 15.3 p.c. for Canada as a whole. For salaries and wages paid, the increase was 49.3 p.c. as compared with 76.2 p.c. for Canada, and for selling value of factory shipments the respective increases were 46.6 p.c. and 73.2 p.c.