

16.5 p.c. in 1956. Next in importance generally are flour mills and dairy products followed by industries providing for the more essential needs of the resident population, such as the baking of bread, printing and publishing, etc. In Manitoba, the early commercial centre of the Prairie Provinces, water power, forest and, more recently, mineral resources have given rise to a diversification of industrial production. The extensive railway services require large shops for the maintenance of rolling-stock, especially in the Winnipeg area. In Saskatchewan, while the main economic role continues to be played by agriculture, the production of petroleum products has taken first place in selling value of factory shipments.

The Prairie Provinces are not so well endowed with water power resources as the more highly industrialized provinces of Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia, but the recent development of oil and gas will permit the economical generation of all thermal power necessary for industrial development in the mid-western region.

In the Prairie Provinces the nature of development varies from one province to another. Alberta, with its expanding oil and gas industries, has moved to the forefront, especially since 1950. Chemicals, particularly petrochemicals, have made striking gains, and now embrace various rayon intermediates and polythene plastics, as well as fertilizers and the manufacture of other new inorganic products like caustic soda and chlorine. Agriculture-based products still rank high in the province, as do structural materials such as steel, concrete products and hydraulic cement. Sizable gains have also been made by the expansion of food-processing plants.

Manitoba, next to Alberta in value of shipments, experienced great development in manufacturing production during the War and postwar periods although, percentagewise, it did not keep pace with the other two Prairie Provinces. The change has been largely one of emphasis rather than magnitude—that emphasis moving from production of food and clothing to production of goods of mineral origin such as iron and steel, non-metallic mineral products, and products of petroleum and coal.

Developments in Saskatchewan have continued along more or less traditional lines. The largest gains in shipments have been recorded by the food processing industries and a substantial increase has also been shown by the building materials group, which includes non-metallic mineral products and lumber. However, the largest single gain in employment has been in the refining of oil for local use.

Considering the Prairie Provinces as an economic unit, 4,303 manufacturing establishments reporting in 1956 furnished employment to 91,149 persons who received \$290,384,459 in salaries and wages. They shipped goods valued at the factory at \$1,648,781,413 and spent \$956,034,201 for materials.

#### 6.—Statistics of the Leading Industries of the Prairie Provinces, 1956

Industry	Estab- lish- ments	Em- ployees	Salaries and Wages	Cost at Plant of Materials Used	Value Added by Manufacture	Selling Value of Factory Shipments
Manitoba	No.	No.	\$	\$	\$	\$
1 Slaughtering and meat packing ..	13	3,196	11,834,164	76,670,429	24,416,035	101,465,534
2 Petroleum products .....	5	512	2,544,659	32,193,237	19,805,919	53,941,998 <sup>1</sup>
3 Railway rolling-stock .....	4	4,956	17,396,498	17,285,936	15,871,178	33,661,632 <sup>1</sup>
4 Butter and cheese .....	69	1,273	3,647,253	21,071,352	6,438,077	28,014,515
5 Flour mills .....	7	579	1,669,470	20,906,966	4,129,988	25,141,602
6 Clothing, men's factory .....	53	2,809	6,173,404	13,690,442	9,750,837	23,361,450
7 Miscellaneous food preparations ..	23	564	1,843,288	14,460,279	5,176,756	19,889,457
8 Furniture .....	126	1,787	5,098,222	10,573,864	7,924,888	18,832,860
9 Printing and publishing .....	78	1,951	6,040,072	5,102,583	11,962,789	17,154,605
10 Pulp and paper .....	3	582	2,597,630	5,725,724	9,734,993	16,696,382
11 Bread and other bakery products ..	144	1,785	4,873,406	7,009,939	7,776,206	15,357,512
12 Clothing, women's factory .....	24	1,521	3,883,420	7,232,409	5,343,306	12,597,053
13 Sheet metal products .....	26	1,026	3,339,609	7,123,296	5,759,599	12,560,115
14 Breweries .....	6	598	2,482,849	2,269,158	9,228,241	11,617,482

<sup>1</sup> Reported on a production basis.