

**Recent Trends.**—The net value of Canadian commodity production during 1956 at \$17,706,000,000 was 12 p.c. above the 1955 total. While all industries except trapping shared in the advance of \$1,936,000,000, manufacturing and construction accounted for 74 p.c. of it and the primary industries for the remainder.

This large increase in value of production reflected the vigorous program of expansion that began in mid-1954 and continued to the end of 1956, highlighted by the great expansion in consumer expenditure and residential construction and the greatly enlarged scale of business investment in plant and equipment accompanied by substantial building-up of business inventories.

In 1957 recessionary factors resulted in a levelling-off in the rate of increase of commodity output; preliminary data indicate only a slight increase in the aggregate net value. A decline of 24 p.c. occurred in the value of agricultural production reflecting the substantial reduction in output of grains in the western provinces. The forestry and fisheries industries also showed sizable declines in production, but mining and electric power recorded further advances over the high levels of 1956. On the whole, a moderate increase was estimated in the net value of the manufacturing industry in 1957, but it was more than accounted for by higher prices since the volume of output was about 2 p.c. lower than in 1956. The construction industry, however, showed a gain of about 11 p.c. over the preceding year; a decline in residential building was more than offset by a higher average level of other types of construction.

Advance data suggest that the value of commodity production for 1958 was little changed from 1957. While the net values of the agriculture and construction industries were higher, declines occurred in the manufacturing and mining industries.

## Section 2.—Provincial Distribution of Production

All provinces and territories showed large increases in net value of production over the 1946-56 period. The greatest proportionate gains were recorded by British Columbia and Alberta, amounting to 206 p.c. and 191 p.c., respectively. The economies of Ontario and Quebec also developed rapidly during the period; the value of net output in Ontario rose by 180 p.c. and in Quebec by 154 p.c. The other provinces and the territories showed more moderate gains.

### 3.—Net Value of Production, by Province, Specific Years 1946-56

NOTE.—Figures for 1950 and 1953 have been revised since the publication of the 1957-58 edition as a result of changes in the forestry item.

Province or Territory	1946	1950	1953	1955	1956
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Newfoundland <sup>1</sup> .....	—	104,211,000	159,195,289	190,913,405	212,468,130
Prince Edward Island.....	20,386,000	30,011,000	33,012,540	37,740,811	39,137,112
Nova Scotia.....	199,545,000	260,789,000	329,766,794	343,263,556	379,902,715
New Brunswick.....	167,008,000	242,713,000	260,996,477	289,916,350	319,198,678
Quebec.....	1,786,910,000	2,838,374,000	3,803,883,257	4,154,735,222	4,543,660,524
Ontario.....	2,529,727,000	4,469,631,000	5,990,989,151	6,426,947,022	7,072,489,377
Manitoba.....	359,693,000	490,604,000	563,662,409	585,219,522	686,871,514
Saskatchewan.....	520,391,000	636,163,000	911,956,307	837,778,719	1,031,415,033
Alberta.....	519,937,000	756,892,000	1,180,122,362	1,278,233,313	1,510,980,076
British Columbia <sup>2</sup> .....	613,421,000	1,027,952,000	1,376,443,675	1,587,990,127	1,877,857,488
Yukon and Northwest Territories <sup>2</sup> .....	6,769,600	17,495,000	21,588,983	36,893,569	32,133,813
<b>Canada.....</b>	<b>6,723,787,000</b>	<b>10,874,835,000</b>	<b>14,631,617,244</b>	<b>15,769,631,616</b>	<b>17,795,514,460</b>

<sup>1</sup> Excludes agriculture, with British Columbia.

<sup>2</sup> Construction figures for the Yukon and Northwest Territories are included