

### Subsection 4.—The Manufactures of the Prairie Provinces

In the Prairie Provinces the leading industries have traditionally been those based on agricultural resources—grain-growing, cattle-raising and dairying areas. But recently slaughtering and meat packing has emerged as the major industry followed very closely by petroleum products. The latter industry has made tremendous strides in the Prairie Provinces since 1949 and now ranks highest in terms of selling value of factory shipments in Saskatchewan and second in both Manitoba and Alberta. It has increased its proportion of the total manufacturing production of the Prairie Provinces from 8.5 p.c. in 1949 to 16.6 p.c. in 1957. 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 occupies first place with a selling value of factory shipments more than double that of flour mills, which ranks second.

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 inorganic products such as 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 past decade although, on a percentage basis, it did not keep pace with the other 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, 4,327 manufacturing establishments reporting in 1957 furnished employment to 94,985 persons who received \$318,153,043 in salaries and wages. They shipped goods valued at the factory at \$1,755,125,360 and spent \$1,030,039,991 for materials.

#### 6.—Statistics of the Leading Industries of the Prairie Provinces, 1957

Industry	Estab-lish-ments		Salaries and Wages	Cost at Plant of Materials Used	Value Added by Manufacture	Value of Factory Shipments
	No.	Em-ployees				
<b>Manitoba</b>						
	No.	No.	\$	\$	\$	\$
1 Slaughtering and meat packing...	11	3,058	11,782,928	82,494,172	26,131,616	110,144,720
2 Petroleum products.....	4	656	2,731,140	31,462,751	21,319,719	54,900,334 <sup>1</sup>
3 Railway rolling-stock.....	4	4,822	17,205,635	17,040,452	16,626,328	34,233,639 <sup>1</sup>
4 Butter and cheese.....	68	1,237	3,763,447	22,927,023	6,632,288	29,683,726
5 Clothing, men's factory.....	53	2,936	6,247,408	15,035,636	9,671,599	24,451,810
6 Flour mills.....	8	509	1,545,269	17,441,933	2,660,334	20,262,344
7 Furniture.....	121	1,879	5,554,293	11,019,816	8,704,185	19,938,463
8 Miscellaneous food preparations...	23	560	1,978,338	13,729,992	5,486,590	19,436,791

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