

Subsection 5.—The Manufactures of British Columbia

British Columbia, with factory shipments totalling \$1,785,298,750 in 1957, ranked third among the provinces in manufacturing production. Forest resources, fisheries, minerals and electric power have given a broad base and wide diversification to its industrial development. British Columbia holds the dominant position among the provinces in the production of wood products, its output in 1957 making up 39 p.c. of the Canadian total. Sawmilling, pulp and paper, veneer and plywood, and sash, door and planing mills ranked first, second, fourth and fifth, respectively, in 1957. Third in importance was the petroleum products industry which moved up from seventh place in 1953 as a result of the completion of the Trans Mountain oil pipeline. The province also accounted for approximately 42 p.c. of the output of the nation's fish processing industry in 1957 and is mainly responsible for Canada's position as a major fish exporting nation.

Recently, many new developments have been taking place in areas far removed from older established industrial centres. A new railway cutting diagonally across the province from south to north has opened up the formerly locked interior of the province. Factories and plants in remote sections are drawing greater value in employment and dollars from natural resources. The growth of the province industrially may be indicated by the increase in employment—one and one-half times the prewar figure. In dollar terms, gross value of manufacturing has increased 620 p.c. since 1939. The consumption of 7,278,000,000 kwh. of electric power by manufacturers during 1957 marked a steady upward climb of 230 p.c. in the past decade. British Columbia ranks second among the provinces in available water power resources and its hydraulic development, which at the end of 1957 totalled 3,122,460 hp., was exceeded only by Quebec and Ontario.

The trend of manufacturing production in British Columbia curved slightly downward in 1957. Both employment and value of shipments declined, the former dropping 2.7 p.c. and the latter by 4.0 p.c. compared with an increase of 2.5 p.c. in value of factory shipments and 0.4 p.c. in employment for Canada as a whole. This recession followed several years of rapid expansion. During 1954, when the remainder of Canada was experiencing a minor recession, British Columbia was the only province to report increased employment, the increase being 2.2 p.c. For Canada as a whole there was a drop of 4.5 p.c. in the number of employees and 1.3 p.c. in value of shipments. Although British Columbia was not the only province to report increased shipments that year, its increase of 7.9 p.c. was, however, the highest of any province. In common with other provinces, manufacturing in British Columbia continued to expand during 1955 and 1956. From 1953 to 1957 employees in British Columbia advanced 12.6 p.c. compared with an increase of 2.4 p.c. for Canada, and the value of factory shipments was 30.6 p.c. higher for British Columbia compared with an increase of 24.7 p.c. for Canada as a whole.

7.—Statistics of the Leading Industries of British Columbia, 1957

Industry	Estab- lish- ments	Em- ployees	Salaries and Wages	Cost at Plant of Materials Used	Value Added by Manufacture	Selling Value of Factory Shipments
	No.	No.	\$	\$	\$	\$
1 Sawmills.....	1,541	26,637	95,351,853	182,658,637	147,175,380	335,038,867 ¹
2 Pulp and paper.....	12	7,366	35,070,708	71,950,061	87,890,237	169,468,855
3 Petroleum products.....	5	1,384	6,745,008	76,996,178	55,754,357	136,386,047 ¹
4 Veneer and plywood.....	17	5,995	22,431,250	42,723,812	33,939,998	76,749,790
5 Sash, door and planing mills.....	214	3,676	12,724,314	45,950,260	20,304,707	67,167,038
6 Fish processing.....	44	3,153	10,413,200	40,810,500	22,372,400	62,888,300
7 Slaughtering and meat packing.....	13	1,571	6,285,128	47,949,014	9,145,465	57,318,288
8 Shipbuilding.....	24	4,918	23,035,799	11,552,002	34,718,950	46,750,276 ¹
9 Miscellaneous food preparations.....	44	894	2,667,672	36,297,193	8,971,335	45,592,827
10 Butter and cheese.....	33	1,847	6,918,783	21,361,807	10,357,750	31,821,430
11 Bread and other bakery products.....	298	3,220	9,975,119	13,517,993	16,480,867	30,874,599
12 Fruit and vegetable preparations.....	63	2,378	5,806,195	23,212,901	10,767,087	30,832,368

¹ Reported on a production basis.