

that are directly oriented to housing and community construction programs. Similarly, rapid industrial expansion stimulates the production and use of such materials as structural steel, bars and rods, pre-stressed concrete, heavy electric wire and electronic panels. It also follows naturally that the pattern of demand for construction skills and trades fluctuates as the pattern of construction changes.

2.—Expenditures on New and Repair and Maintenance Construction, 1926-60

NOTE.—Actual expenditures 1926-59; preliminary actual 1960.

Year	Housing	Other Building and Construction	Engineering	Total	Year	Housing	Other Building and Construction	Engineering	Total
	\$'000,000	\$'000,000	\$'000,000	\$'000,000		\$'000,000	\$'000,000	\$'000,000	\$'000,000
1926.....	261	371	167	799	1944.....	329	603	215	1,147
1927.....	267	452	196	915	1945.....	382	654	169	1,205
1928.....	290	547	254	1,091					
1929.....	303	599	308	1,210	1946.....	518	784	305	1,607
1930.....	256	501	324	1,081	1947.....	671	943	402	2,016
					1948.....	830	1,164	577	2,571
1931.....	214	396	256	866	1949.....	952	1,263	641	2,856
1932.....	136	271	143	550	1950.....	1,036	1,360	760	3,156
1933.....	116	216	95	427					
1934.....	142	242	118	502	1951.....	1,108	1,615	829	3,552
1935.....	160	255	149	564	1952.....	1,029	1,382	1,788	4,199
					1953.....	1,558	1,506	1,828	4,892
1936.....	189	299	143	631	1954.....	1,619	1,481	1,809	4,909
1937.....	230	350	201	781	1955.....	1,804	1,639	1,933	5,376
1938.....	212	346	179	737					
1939.....	242	354	163	759	1956.....	1,902	1,988	2,564	6,454
1940.....	263	461	145	869	1957.....	1,813	2,073	3,137	7,023
					1958.....	2,189	1,912	2,991	7,092
1941.....	321	615	201	1,137	1959.....	2,183	2,057	2,836	7,076
1942.....	310	725	228	1,263	1960.....	1,944	2,068	2,875	6,887
1943.....	292	624	366	1,282					

In addition to its cyclical behaviour, the construction industry displays a high level of seasonal activity. Because of the extremes of climate during the winter months, most construction work has been confined traditionally to the longer and warmer summer day and the amount undertaken during the shorter and more severe winter day is rather restricted. The effect of this practice has been the creation of a large construction labour force necessary to satisfy a high seasonal peak of activity. On the other hand, the slow-down in the winter months has generated a high level of seasonal unemployment among construction workers. Thus, one of the paramount objectives of the industry today is to moderate these extreme seasonal fluctuations in employment by developing new techniques of winter construction and by introducing new building materials and designs. The industry, with the co-operation of government agencies and builders' associations, has embarked on a continuing program of research and education with a view to minimizing the decline of activity during the winter. It has already had significant success in certain regions of the country for many types of construction activities.

Organization of the Industry.—In both organization and technology, the construction industry is the reflection of a widely diversified and changeable market. Its development over the past thirty years has been one of continuing adaptation to the instability of economic conditions, to rapidly changing techniques of construction, and to the utilization of new construction materials. The special characteristics of building structures, the variety and variability of construction activity, the extent of government influence and the effect of external economic factors are unique to this industry and have produced a continually changing kaleidoscope of demand patterns. This has at times imposed serious hardships on the industry, hardships and challenges that have been met by the ingenuity and aggressive pioneering of men of foresight and determination. As a