

**Construction Materials.**—The demand for building materials is satisfied by the efforts of a multitude of processing industries. Most secondary manufacturing industries contribute in some way to the supply of processed or semi-processed commodities required by the construction industry. The basic material for all wood products, wallboards, insulating and other papers is contributed by the lumber industry; asphalt, explosives, plastics, paints and many other products are contributed by the chemical industry; steel rails, sheets, nails and other metal commodities are contributed by the iron and steel industry; and rock, stone and cement are supplied by the quarrying industry. These are but a few of the industries concerned with the provision of materials directly related to construction activity.

New techniques of construction and new products are substituting to varying degrees for traditional methods and materials. Reinforced concrete which replaced much of the need for steel and timber is now being partially replaced by pre-stressed concrete. Stainless steel and aluminum sheets are becoming more and more common as facing for office buildings, often replacing brick and stone. Off-site prefabrication techniques have increased the volume of work being done by the manufacturer and have necessitated the use of other new materials. Thus, certain building materials have experienced much greater growth than others, as is indicated by the figures of Table 4.

#### 4.—Indexes of Building Materials Production, Alternate Years, 1935-60

(1949=100)

Item	1935	1937	1939	1941	1943	1945	1947
Roofing paper.....	16.5	24.6	25.7	39.8	42.5	63.7	82.9
Saw and planing mills.....	41.0	52.3	52.8	72.1	68.6	72.8	96.4
Sash, door and planing mills.....	24.5	33.0	33.4	59.2	62.3	54.9	75.7
Hardwood flooring.....	41.2	57.7	54.1	78.4	102.3	83.1	95.9
Sawmills.....	54.7	68.8	69.5	87.2	78.6	79.3	101.4
Veneer and plywood.....	..	..	..	..	..	68.7	106.3
Bridge-building and structural steel.....	22.4	44.9	34.3	123.7	195.4	105.4	89.1
Heating and cooking apparatus.....	29.8	44.2	41.3	62.1	63.5	68.8	86.0
Wire and wire products.....	39.0	51.1	55.7	88.6	83.2	84.9	98.1
Cement.....	21.7	38.3	35.6	52.8	80.0	48.7	76.0
Clay products—domestic and sand-lime brick.....	31.0	45.7	51.1	68.0	55.0	65.5	91.2
Concrete products.....	4.2	14.5	16.3	23.9	21.5	35.0	62.0
Gypsum products.....	24.6	35.8	39.0	59.9	64.8	63.4	86.8
Lime.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Glass and glass products.....	31.7	46.1	42.3	63.4	76.2	79.4	96.6
Quarrying and sand pits.....	35.2	42.7	46.2	49.9	40.4	44.0	85.6
Paints, varnishes and lacquers.....	31.3	45.8	43.9	68.4	75.6	77.8	88.9
	1949	1951	1953	1955	1957	1959 <sup>1</sup>	1960 <sup>1</sup>
Roofing paper.....	100.0	100.8	104.3	115.2	100.9	115.0	98.2
Saw and planing mills.....	100.0	119.3	129.6	143.9	128.4	137.0	141.8
Sash, door and planing mills.....	100.0	117.2	126.3	144.7	130.1	137.7	122.8
Hardwood flooring.....	100.0	116.9	124.7	133.5	114.6	122.6	128.5
Sawmills.....	100.0	144.0	178.3	226.2	235.7	252.3	267.1
Veneer and plywood.....	100.0	124.5	147.5	169.8	241.1	198.6	148.6
Bridge-building and structural steel.....	100.0	97.4	135.2	154.9	183.5	244.0	191.3
Heating and cooking apparatus.....	100.0	134.9	120.5	148.0	144.6	182.2	159.8
Wire and wire products.....	100.0	106.6	139.5	156.1	221.1	221.9	204.9
Cement.....	100.0	120.7	130.8	146.6	145.5	170.2	152.8
Clay products—domestic and sand-lime brick.....	100.0	130.7	182.4	317.6	356.9	533.5	511.9
Concrete products.....	100.0	112.6	126.6	170.0	153.7	186.1	155.1
Gypsum products.....	100.0	120.6	119.0	126.4	133.1	161.3	145.1
Lime.....	100.0	117.7	148.5	158.2	168.6	198.1	187.9
Glass and glass products.....	100.0	192.9	154.3	204.3	264.2	317.7	301.2
Quarrying and sand pits.....	100.0	120.4	133.8	142.6	138.5	154.5	157.8
Paints, varnishes and lacquers.....	100.0	..	..	..	..	..	..

<sup>1</sup> Subject to revision.