

54 p.c. from 1946 to 1956 while durable goods increased 92 p.c. in the same period. The gap between the two was narrowed in the years from 1957 to 1960 so that for the whole period 1946-60 durable goods expanded 83 p.c. and non-durable goods 69 p.c.

The trend of production among the non-durable goods industries in 1960 was mixed. Eight groups reported increases ranging from 5.4 p.c. for chemicals and allied products to 1.2 p.c. for tobacco and tobacco products and four groups reported declines. Rubber goods, with a loss of 11.0 p.c., experienced the greatest drop in production followed by leather goods with a loss of 7.1 p.c., clothing 4.6 p.c. and textiles 1.5 p.c. In the durable goods sector only the non-ferrous metal products group reported a greater volume of production in 1960, the increase over 1959 being 10.1 p.c. A decline of 6.7 p.c. was reported by iron and steel products followed by a loss of 5.5 p.c. by the non-metallic mineral products group, one of 2.5 p.c. by electrical apparatus and supplies, 1.1 p.c. by transportation equipment and 0.4 p.c. by wood products.

The level of manufacturing production in 1960, as measured by the number of persons employed, varied from province to province. Compared with the previous year, the greatest increase in employment of 6.1 p.c. was reported by New Brunswick. Prince Edward Island with an increase of 1.6 p.c. was second in this respect, followed by Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan each with an increase of 0.7 p.c. and Quebec with an increase of 0.6 p.c. Manitoba suffered the greatest loss in employment of 2.9 p.c., followed by Ontario with a loss of 2.4 p.c., Newfoundland 1.5 p.c., British Columbia 1.2 p.c. and Alberta 1.1 p.c. Perhaps the most outstanding feature in 1960 was the continued expansion of manufacturing employment in Saskatchewan which increased 0.7 p.c., after a rise of 2.1 p.c. in 1959 and of 2.3 p.c. in 1958, a year when all other provinces reported declines. Another feature was the gain of 2.2 p.c. in employment in the Atlantic Provinces, when other economic regions, with the exception of Quebec, suffered declines.

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Of major importance to modern industry is the production of petrochemicals, a sector of the chemical industry that has developed rapidly in Canada during the past decade. This industry is dealt with in detail in the following specially prepared article.

### THE PETROCHEMICAL INDUSTRY IN CANADA\*

The term "petrochemicals" identifies, in a general way, not only the raw materials from which these chemicals are derived but also the closely related processes by which they are made. Petrochemicals may be defined broadly as chemicals derived from crude petroleum or natural gas and the development of this sector of the chemical industry has automatically brought it into closer working relationship with the oil and gas industry. Using plants and equipment that frequently resemble oil refineries, and employing techniques that have been only recently discovered, firms in this relatively new field can be separated from the remainder of the chemical industry for purposes of describing their growing importance in the Canadian economy.

For many years production of organic chemicals was hampered by a shortage of raw materials since the output of coal tar products was unable to keep abreast of the needs of chemical producers. This naturally led to the interest in petroleum and natural gas as source materials. In North America today there are some 3,000 petrochemicals in everyday use. Their number is increasing rapidly, with 300 or more being introduced every

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