

a 300 p.c. advance in the output of petroleum. The volume output of metals rose steadily from 1949 to 1952 but fell off by about 2 p.c. in 1953 as a result principally of labour disputes in gold mining; over the five year period production of iron ore increased by 77 p.c. Asbestos was the main contributor to the 50 p.c. increase in the output of industrial minerals during the period. The output of electric power increased from 1949 to 1953 by more than 40 p.c. in volume and 66 p.c. in value.

The contribution of secondary production (manufacturing and construction) to the total commodity output advanced during the 1949-53 period from 67 p.c. to 72 p.c., mainly as a result of the very extensive construction activity during the period. In 1953 the construction industry contributed nearly 17 p.c. to the aggregate of net value compared with less than 14 p.c. in 1949 and the manufacturing industry's share rose from 53 p.c. to 55 p.c. in the same comparison.

The net value of manufacturing production increased 50 p.c. in the 1949-53 period—durable manufactures by 65 p.c. and non-durables 38 p.c. Among the durable industries, output of transportation equipment more than doubled in value, that of electrical apparatus and supplies and non-metallic mineral products advanced 70 p.c. and 67 p.c. respectively, and production of iron and steel products gained 50 p.c. In the non-durables sector petroleum and coal and rubber products recorded the highest value increases, the former a gain of 80 p.c. and the latter one of 70 p.c. Leather products, textiles and clothing were among the industries showing moderate increases.

The construction industry recorded the greatest proportionate gain of all major commodity producing industries during the 1949-53 period. The net value increased by 79 p.c. from \$1,371,000,000 to \$2,454,000,000 as building activity and construction costs continued their postwar advances. Investment in non-residential construction rose at a much faster rate than that in housing, following the major advances in industrial and resource development.

