

PRAIRIE MANUFACTURING

Factory shipments from all manufacturing industries in the Prairie Provinces in 1956 were valued at an all-time high total of \$1,648,781,000, an increase of 8.1 per cent from 1955's previous record total of \$1,524,661,000, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' annual review of the manufacturing industries in the Prairie Provinces. Number of establishments declined to 4,303 from 4,635 in 1955, but number of employees increased to 91,149 from 87,654 and their salaries and wages to \$290,384,000 from \$263,094,000. Cost of materials used advanced to \$956,034,000 from \$869,801,000 and value added by manufacture to \$669,477,000 from \$624,380,000.

Value of factory shipments climbed 9.7 per cent in Alberta to \$703,189,000 in 1956 from \$641,148,000 a year earlier, making it the leading manufacturing province of the Prairies for the third consecutive year. Establishments fell to 1,971 from 2,126, but employees rose to 36,792 from 34,846, salaries and wages to \$120,195,000 from \$106,549,000, material costs to \$412,138,000 from \$366,023,000 and value added by manufacture to \$285,831,000 from \$263,309,000. Of the six leading industries in the province, four reported gains and two losses. Factory shipments in order of size were: petroleum products, \$132,335,000 (\$115,990,000 in 1955); slaughtering and meat packing, \$132,087,000 (\$126,628,000); butter and cheese, \$38,224,000 (\$36,893,000); flour mills, \$32,368,000 (\$30,954,000); sash, door and planing mills, \$21,219,000 (\$22,087,000); and sawmills, \$20,503,000 (\$23,853,000).

Manitoba was second in value of factory shipments, these rising 10 per cent in 1956 to \$647,389,000 from \$588,351,000 in 1955. Establishments eased to 1,534 from 1,549 in the preceding year, but employees rose to 42,821 from 41,318, salaries and wages to \$133,506,000 from \$121,719,000, material costs to \$367,025,000 from \$329,699,000 and value added by manufacture to \$270,018,000 from \$247,472,000. Five of the six leading industries had larger shipments in 1956 than in 1955. Industry totals in order of size were: slaughtering and meat packing, \$101,466,000 (\$98,777,000 a year earlier); petroleum products, \$53,942,000 (\$40,235,000); railway rolling stock, \$33,662,000 (\$28,150,000); butter and cheese, \$28,015,000 (\$28,510,000); flour mills, \$25,142,000 (\$24,516,000); and men's factory clothing, \$23,361,000 (\$20,569,000).

Value of factory shipments in Saskatchewan edged up 1 per cent in the year to \$298,203,000 from 1955's total of \$295,162,000. Establishments were down to 798 from 960, but employees were up to 11,536 from 11,490, salaries and wages to \$36,683,000 from \$34,826,000, material costs to \$176,871,000 from \$174,079,000 and value added by manufacture to \$113,628,000 from \$113,599,000. Of the four

leading industries, half reported increases in value of factory shipments and half decreases. Value of factory shipments of these four industries in order by size were: petroleum products, \$86,090,000 (\$84,368,000 a year earlier); flour mills, \$42,063,000 (\$42,919,000); slaughtering and meat packing, \$31,334,000 (\$30,440,000); and butter and cheese, \$28,017,000 (\$28,278,000).

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EARNINGS HIGHER

Average hourly earnings in manufacturing at October 1 rose to 164.5 cents from 164.0 cents at September 1; average weekly wages to \$66.95 from \$66.58 and the work-week to 40.7 hours from 40.6, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports in an advance statement. At October 1, 1957 hourly earnings averaged 160.5 cents; weekly wages \$65.32 and the work-week 40.7 hours.

In durable goods manufacturing, average hourly earnings rose to 179.1 cents at October 1 from 178.3 cents at September 1 and average weekly wages to \$72.89 from \$72.57. Resumption of work in the automobile industry following layoffs for model change-over was partly offset by strikes in non-ferrous metals.

In non-durable goods manufacturing, average hourly earnings edged up to 151.2 cents at October 1 from 151.0 cents a month earlier and average weekly wages to \$61.54 from \$61.16. Wage-rate increases in meat packing and the recall of brewery employees after a temporary layoff were partly offset by gains in employment of lower-paid workers in the canning industry.

Average hourly earnings in mining declined to 95.1 cents from 95.8 cents at September 1, partly due to industrial disputes in metal mining. Further layoffs of seasonal workers in summer hotels accounted for most of the rise in average hourly earnings in the service industries to 96.7 cents from 95.2 cents.

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BUSIEST AIRPORT

Ottawa airport, with 26,733 takeoffs and landings, was Canada's busiest flying field during October, the Department of Transport announced recently. The total for all Canada was 264,311, an increase of 10.6 per cent over October 1957.

Second in line, among the 28 airports at which the Department controls air traffic movements, was Montreal with 23,037 takeoffs and landings. Following in order were Cartierville, 22,927; Vancouver, 19,848; Edmonton, 19,458; Winnipeg, 19,043; Saskatoon, 15,703.

Montreal airport led the list in number of scheduled airline flights cleared and landed, with 5,242. Next in order were Toronto, 4,804; Vancouver, 2,548; Edmonton, 2,458; Winnipeg, 2,226 and Ottawa, 2,052.