

agriculture and other primary industries has tended to diminish over time while construction and utilities are becoming progressively more significant.

The more important role played by manufactured products in Canadian export trade is illustrated in the table at the bottom of page 4.

A rough approximation of "manufactured exports" (excluding edible products) may be obtained by combining "inedible fabricated materials" with "finished manufactured goods". On this basis, close to 70 per cent of Canadian exports were in this category in 1977 compared with 58 per cent in 1962. The relative increase has been the greatest in fully finished manufactured products. If edible end products (e.g. whisky) were to be included, about three-quarters of Canada's exports now consist of either partly or fully manufactured goods.

Food and crude materials, though still important in Canadian exports accounted for only about 30 per cent of all shipments in 1977 compared with 42 per cent in 1962. This does not mean that the actual values are becoming less significant. This is far from being the case. For example, Canadian exports of wheat in 1977 were valued at \$1.8 billion compared with about \$600 million in 1962. At the same time, animal and other edible product exports were valued at \$2.7 billion in 1977 compared with only about \$600 million in 1962.

At the same time, exports of ores

and concentrates also climbed from a value of about \$700 million in 1962 to \$2.7 billion in 1977. A particular highlight during this period was the increase in Canadian exports of crude petroleum and natural gas which went from about \$300 million in 1962 to \$3.8 billion in 1977.

Canada's specialization in mineral and forest products is exemplified by a rapid expansion of Canadian exports in this sector. A particular highlight is the fact that Canadian shipments abroad in 1977 of lumber, woodpulp and newsprint were valued at close to \$7 billion compared with \$1.5 billion in 1962. At the same time, Canadian exports of fabricated metals (copper, zinc, nickel, aluminum, etc.) was valued at \$3.5 billion in 1977 compared with about \$900 million in 1962.

Canada leads the world in mineral exports and ranks third in mineral production behind the United States and the Soviet Union. The mineral industry has been and remains a major factor in Canada's economic development.

The strength of the industry is based on export sales. About 82 per cent of total mineral production is exported with major consumers being the United States, the European Economic Community and Japan.

The most spectacular element in the increase in Canada's exports of fully finished goods has come about because of the rationalization of the Canadian and United States automo-