

GONDOLA LIFT AT BANFF

North America's first mountain gondola lift went into operation at Banff recently following a rigid nine-hour series of safety and operational tests conducted by inspectors of the Provincial Department of Industries and Labor's Factories Branch.

Prior to undertaking the inspection the Factories Branch inquired of the Government of Switzerland of their regulations governing such installations. The salient features of the Swiss laws were incorporated into new Alberta regulations.

The \$500,000 Banff lift carries passengers 4,950 feet to the top of Sulphur Mountain. The vertical rise is 2,300 feet. Travelling at 600 feet per minute, the ride takes approximately eight minutes. Each glassed-in gondola can accommodate four adults while the hourly capacity of the lift is 450 persons. It will operate daily from the beginning of May to the end of October.

Another gondola lift is under construction at Lake Louise. It will be in operation in late August or early September. It is designed to carry passengers above the treeline on Mount Whitehorn the year around.

This information is contained in the September 1 issue of "Within our Borders", an Alberta Government publication.

MANUFACTURING IN PRAIRIES

Selling value of factory shipments from all manufacturing industries in the Prairie Provinces reached an all-time high of \$1,755,125,000 in 1957, some 6.5 per cent greater than the previous peak total of \$1,648,781,000 in 1956, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' annual review of the manufacturing industries in the Prairie Provinces. Number of establishments rose to 4,327 from 4,303 in 1956, employees to 94,985 from 91,149, and salary and wage payments to \$318,153,000 from \$290,384,000. Cost of materials used increased to \$1,030,040,000 from \$956,034,000, and value added by manufacture to \$694,799,000 from \$669,477,000.

For the fourth consecutive year Alberta was the leading manufacturing province in the Prairies in 1957, with factory shipments valued at \$784,480,000, some 11.6 per cent higher than 1956's total of \$703,189,000. Number of establishments declined to 1,893 from 1,971 in 1956, while employees increased to 39,089 from 36,792, salaries and wages to \$137,078,000 from \$120,195,000, cost of materials to \$461,134,000 from \$412,138,000, and value added by manufacture to \$312,037,000 from \$285,831,000.

Of the eight leading industries in Alberta, five reported gains and three losses in 1957 as compared to 1956. Factory shipments in order of size in 1957 were: slaughtering and meat packing, \$148,849,000 (\$132,087,000 in

1956); petroleum products, \$147,473,000 (\$132,335,000); butter and cheese, \$41,457,000 (\$38,224,000); flour mills, \$26,518,000 (\$32,368,000); sash, door and planing mills, \$21,140,000 (\$21,219,000); bread and other bakery products, \$19,183,000 (\$17,235,000); concrete products, \$18,455,000 (\$13,834,000); and sawmills, \$18,043,000 (\$20,503,000).

Manitoba was second in value of factory shipments, the total rising 2.6 per cent to \$664,530,000 from \$647,389,000. Number of establishments increased to 1,590 from 1,534 in 1956, employees to 43,884 from 42,821, salaries and wages to \$140,200,000 from \$133,506,000, material costs to \$379,799,000 from \$367,025,000, and value added by manufacture to \$273,163,000 from \$270,018,000. Five of the six leading industries reported greater factory shipments in 1957 compared with 1956.

Totals in order of size in Manitoba in 1957 were: slaughtering and meat packing, \$110,145,000 (\$101,466,000 in 1956); petroleum products, \$54,990,000 (\$53,942,000); railway rolling stock, \$34,234,000 (\$33,662,000); butter and cheese, \$29,684,000 (\$28,015,000); men's factory clothing, \$24,452,000 (\$23,361,000); and flour mills, \$20,262,000 (\$25,142,000).

Value of factory shipments in Saskatchewan rose 2.7 per cent in 1957 to \$306,115,000 from \$298,203,000 in the preceding year. Number of establishments increased to 844 from 798, employees to 12,012 from 11,536, salaries and wages to \$40,875,000 from \$36,683,000, material costs to \$189,107,000 from \$176,871,000, and value added by manufacture decreased to \$109,599,000 from \$113,628,000.

Three of the four leading industries in Saskatchewan had larger factory shipments in 1957 as compared to the preceding year. Totals in order of size in 1957 were: petroleum products, \$89,580,000 (\$86,090,000 in 1956); flour mills, \$39,194,000 (\$42,063,000); slaughtering and meat packing, \$38,709,000 (\$31,334,000); and butter and cheese, \$29,836,000 (\$28,017,000).

BEAVERBROOK ART GALLERY

The Lord Beaverbrook Art Gallery, the magnificent gift of the British financier and publisher to the province of New Brunswick, where he spent his boyhood, was opened on September 16 in the old city of Fredericton.

Situated on the banks of the St. John River, the gallery was opened in the presence of some 200 especially invited guests, from various parts of Canada, Great Britain and the United States. Lord Beaverbrook himself acted as chairman of the ceremonies. Forty-eight dozen roses had been flown from Great Britain for the occasion, a gift to Lord Beaverbrook from the British Rose Society.

The Gallery houses some 300 paintings, including old masters, abstractionists and impressionists, collected by the donor.