

MANUFACTURING IN MARITIMES

The gross value of factory shipments of the manufacturing industries of the Atlantic Provinces increased 10.6 per cent to \$845,867,000 in 1956 from the preceding year's \$765,167,000, all four provinces recording gains. The number of establishments fell to 3,381 from 3,565, but employees rose to 65,774 from 64,782, salaries and wages to \$178,708,000 from \$164,917,000, and material costs to \$464,478,000 from \$402,817,000. This information is given in a recent release of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Factory shipments in Nova Scotia, the largest manufacturing province of the four, rose to \$384,398,000 from \$331,130,000 in the preceding year, followed by New Brunswick with its total climbing to \$313,281,000 from \$294,829,000. Newfoundland was next with shipments valued at \$123,691,000 versus \$115,579,000, and Prince Edward Island at \$24,497,000 versus \$23,629,000.

Value of factory shipments of the six leading manufacturing industries of Nova Scotia: primary iron and steel, \$51,321,000 (\$43,561,000 in 1955); fish processing, \$40,787,000 (\$47,212,000); pulp and paper, \$22,022,000 (\$21,084,000); shipbuilding, \$20,868,000 (\$20,065,000); sawmills, \$19,319,000 (\$23,057,000); and butter and cheese, \$11,624,000 (\$11,423,000).

Pulp and paper was New Brunswick's leading manufacturing industry with shipments valued at \$101,358,000 (\$94,403,000 in 1955), followed by sawmills at \$22,372,000 (\$20,752,000), and fish processing at \$17,866,000 (\$19,923,000). Pulp and paper was also Newfoundland's top manufacturing industry with shipments valued at \$68,085,000 (\$62,616,000), and fish processing next at \$18,279,000 (\$17,445,000). Two leading manufacturing industries in Prince Edward Island were butter and cheese with shipments valued at \$4,989,000 (\$4,956,000), and fish processing at \$4,271,000 (\$4,072,000).

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"ROADS TO RESOURCES"

Formal agreement has now been reached between the Federal Government and the Government of British Columbia on the construction of the Stewart-Cassiar Road. This information has been announced jointly by Mr. Alvin Hamilton, Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources, and Mr. W.K. Kiernan, Provincial Mines Minister.

The British Columbia Agreement is the first to be signed under the new federal-provincial "roads to resources" programme.

Both governments will contribute to the cost of the 255-mile road, which will open to development the resources of a large and comparatively inaccessible region of north-western British Columbia. Exploratory work

carried out by the Geological Survey of Canada indicates that the area has a rich mineral potential.

The Stewart-Cassiar Road, Mr. Kiernan said, will also be of considerable benefit to the asbestos mining operations at Cassiar by very substantially reducing transportation costs for equipment moving in and for the shipment out of the mining product. In addition the road will provide access to tidewater for much of the area east of the Alaska Panhandle.

Mr. Hamilton revealed that active negotiations are under way on roads to resources programmes in eight other provinces, and four provinces, he said, are close to signing formal agreements with Ottawa. In general the roads to be constructed in Western and central Canada will open up new mineral areas, whereas in the eastern provinces more emphasis has been placed on the development of the forestry, fishing and recreation resources.

Work on the Stewart-Cassiar Road is already under way, and the target date for its completion is the spring of 1963.

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FRUIT CROP IN 1957

Farm value of Canadian fruit production in 1957 totalled \$39,700,000, an increase of 2 per cent over the preceding year's \$38,734,000, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. Receipts from sales of apples were lower as were those for pears, strawberries, grapes and blueberries, but receipts were larger from sales of peaches, cherries, apricots and raspberries.

Average prices for the 1957 crops were lower than in the preceding year for all fruits except sour cherries which sold at a higher price, and grapes and raspberries which were unchanged. Lower prices reflected larger crops of all fruits except pears, strawberries, grapes and blueberries.

Estimated values of individual crops: apples, \$14,881,000 (\$16,048,000 in 1956); pears, \$2,161,000 (\$2,853,000); plums and prunes, \$925,000 (\$896,000); peaches, \$6,116,000 (\$4,384,000); apricots, \$450,000 (\$194,000); sweet cherries, \$1,717,000 (\$823,000); sour cherries, \$1,867,000 (\$1,253,000); strawberries, \$3,698,000 (\$4,240,000); raspberries, \$3,008,000 (\$2,407,000); loganberries, \$162,000 (\$53,000); grapes, \$2,832,000 (\$3,293,000); and blueberries, \$1,887,000 (\$2,290,000).

Value of Ontario's commercial fruit crop in 1957 was \$18,187,000, slightly above the preceding year's \$18,116,000. In British Columbia the crop value rose to \$12,323,000 from \$10,559,000, but the value for Quebec fell to \$4,995,000 from \$6,023,000, Nova Scotia to \$2,734,000 from \$2,467,000, New Brunswick to \$1,127,000 from \$1,177,000, and Prince Edward Island to \$239,000 from \$344,000. Value for Newfoundland rose to \$99,000 from \$48,000.