

resulted. The output of many individual industries has been considerably affected, as is shown in the following tables :—

	Increases.
	£
Electricity generation and supply .. .. .	656,000
Printing, publishing, and bookbinding .. .. .	317,000
Motor and cycle engineering .. .. .	231,000
Flour-milling .. .. .	216,000
Clothing .. .. .	176,000
General engineering .. .. .	148,000
Ham and bacon curing .. .. .	140,000
Furniture and cabinetmaking .. .. .	120,000
Biscuit and confectionery making .. .. .	119,000

As an offset against these increases there have been reductions in the output of the following :—

	Decreases.
	£
Meat freezing and preserving .. .. .	1,134,000
Butter and cheese manufacture .. .. .	238,000
Woollen-mills .. .. .	104,000
Woolscouring and fellmongery .. .. .	77,000
Lime-burning and cementmaking .. .. .	61,000
Boot and shoe making .. .. .	28,000

*Land, Plant, and Buildings.*—The fourteen additional electricity-generation stations included this year are mainly responsible for the large increase in the value shown for land, plant, and buildings.

TABLE SHOWING MANUFACTURING ACTIVITIES BY PROVINCES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1926.

Province.	Number of Factories.	Number of Employees.	Wages and Salaries paid.	Value of Materials used.	Nature of Factory Production.		
					Cheese, Butter, and Meat.	Other Products.	Total.
			£	£	£	£	£
Auckland .. .. .	1,429	26,807	5,637,377	16,987,699	10,942,292	17,075,474	28,017,766
Wellington, Hawke's Bay, Taranaki, Marlborough, and Nelson	1,804	24,733	5,315,423	18,149,584	14,504,751	13,771,514	28,276,265
Canterbury and Westland ..	823	15,591	3,179,737	9,906,104	5,175,479	10,818,263	15,993,742
Otago and Southland ..	734	14,518	2,733,178	7,277,699	3,854,289	8,612,197	12,466,486
Totals, 1926 ..	4,790	81,649	16,865,715	52,321,086	34,476,811	50,277,448	84,754,259
Totals, 1925 ..	4,547	80,327	15,690,202	52,161,420	35,849,051	48,252,262	84,101,313

The above table shows the Dominion's manufacturing activities by provinces, and it also shows production of semi-primary industries separately. The latter—butter, cheese, and meat—disclose a reduction in value of production of £1,372,240, whereas all other products manufactured increased by £2,025,186. This latter figure includes an increase of £656,000 for electricity supply, and with this excluded the increase in value of production—viz., £1,369,186—in other manufacturing industries is relatively satisfactory.

Since the 31st March, 1926, the information received from manufacturers in the various branches of industry indicates a decided slump during the latter part of 1926 and 1927. Detailed information in relation to certain industries is, as already mentioned, given in an appendix to this report.

The Department has noticed that manufacturers are making strenuous efforts to reduce costs of production, and in many instances steps have been and are being taken to improve factory practice.

#### NEW INDUSTRIES.

Quite a number of new industries have been established during the past year.

In three of the main centres a company has installed and is operating a plant which deposits metal coatings on almost any class of material. At present the company is engaged in zinc-coating a big quantity of steel sashes. There appears to be a wide field for the uses to which this industry may be applied.

Another industry recently commenced in Otago by Arthur Ellis and Co. is that of manufacturing down quilts of a high-grade quality.

Fur Dressers and Dyers, Ltd., commenced operations in Dunedin at the end of last year, and now have a considerable number of hands employed. Most modern plant and buildings have been erected to deal with the company's output, and no expense has been spared to produce the finest of furs. The raw materials used are largely of New Zealand origin, and the company is securing a ready sale for its products. It is expected that this will develop into a valuable Dominion industry.

In Christchurch, Radiators Ltd. has successfully established the manufacture of electric radiators, electric grillers, kettles, glue-pots, &c., all of which are of a high standard, and production and sales are increasing.