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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE  
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MINING, METALLURGICAL AND CHEMICAL BRANCH  
OTTAWA - CANADA

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MONTHLY REPORT

ASBESTOS PRODUCTION IN CANADA - MARCH, 1939.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa reports that the Canadian shipments of asbestos in March advanced to 22,680 tons from the preceding month's total of 21,224 tons and the March, 1938, shipments of 22,281 tons. During the first quarter of the current year, 62,684 tons were shipped compared with 51,303 tons, a year ago.

Exports of asbestos from Canada in March totalled 21,446 tons; the United States received 80.4 per cent of these exports, Japan, 11.5 per cent and Chile, Australia, Italy, Germany, Poland and Danzig, Great Britain, Belgium, New Zealand, British India, France and Argentina, the remainder. In February, Canada exported 16,638 tons of which the United States received 78.8 per cent.

The imports of asbestos products into Canada in March were appraised at \$83,819 or 47 per cent above the February import valuation. The March imports were as follows:-

	Pounds	\$
Asbestos packing .....	6,841	4,279
Asbestos brake linings for automobiles, motor vehicles and chassis ....	...	15,267
Asbestos clutch facings for automobiles, motor vehicles and chassis ...	...	4,477
Asbestos brake linings and clutch facings, n.o.p. ....	...	1,340
Asbestos in any form, other than crude, and all manufactures of, n.o.p. ....	...	58,456

The United States supplied 60.6 per cent of the above imports; Great Britain, 38.5 per cent, and Belgium, Germany and Sweden, the remainder.

PRODUCTION OF ASBESTOS IN CANADA  
(short tons)

Month	1939(a)		1938(a)	1937
	As- bestos	(b) By- products	Asbestos	Asbestos
January .....	18,780	117	16,845	22,521
February .....	21,224	32	12,177	27,382
March .....	22,680	403	22,281	32,843
April .....			24,642	42,392
May .....			31,007	37,748
June .....			25,219	35,446
July .....			23,344	35,298
August .....			24,820	36,991
September .....			28,297	39,327
October .....			34,246	33,570
November .....			29,471	37,737
December .....			17,473	28,771
TOTAL - CALENDAR YEAR .....			289,822	410,026
TOTAL - THREE MONTHS ending MARCH .....	62,684	552	51,303	82,746

(a) Subject to revision.  
(b) Sand, gravel, etc.



Average prices prevailing at Quebec asbestos mines at the end of March (tax and bags included) as quoted in Metal and Mineral Markets, were as follows:-

Crude No. 1 .....	\$700 - \$750 per ton	Shingle stocks .....	\$57 - \$78 per ton
Crude No. 2 and sundry crudes .....	\$150 - \$350 per ton	Paper stocks .....	\$40 - \$45 per ton
Spinning fibres .....	\$110 - \$200 per ton	Cement stocks .....	\$21 - \$25 per ton
Magnesia and compressed sheet fibres .....	\$110 - \$200 per ton	Floats .....	\$18 - \$20 per ton
		Shorts .....	\$12 - \$16.50 per ton

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IMPORTS OF ASBESTOS, RAW AND FIBRE, INTO GREAT BRITAIN, FEBRUARY and MARCH, 1939.

	FEBRUARY		MARCH	
	Short tons	£	Short tons	£
From -				
Union of South Africa .....	344	9,408	488	9,533
Southern Rhodesia .....	2,184	61,813	1,900	52,303
Canada .....	20	229	91	2,182
Other British countries .....	12	820	3	345
Foreign countries .....	23	165	238	3,423
TOTAL .....	2,583	72,435	2,720	67,786

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