

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
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NATURAL ABRASIVES, 1927.

Finally revised statistics on the production of corundum, diatomite, garnets, grinding pebbles, grindstones, pulpstones, scythestones, and volcanic dust in Canada during 1927, as reported by the Mining, Metallurgical and Chemical Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa, are as follows:-

Corundum.- Corundum is found in an area embracing several townships in Renfrew and Hastings counties in the province of Ontario. The industry made its appearance there in 1900 and production reached a maximum in 1906. In 1921, grain corundum amounting to 403 tons valued at \$55,965 was exported to the United States. Since that date no shipments of corundum have been reported.

Diatomite.- Shipments of diatomite amounting to 266 tons valued at \$6,650 were made during 1927. This production was obtained from a deposit at East New Annan, Nova Scotia.

Diatomite, sometimes called tripolite, is a silicious material closely related to quartz, and is used for heat and sound insulation, as an absorbent, a filtering medium, a filler, a mild abrasive, a structural material, etc. The Canadian material is usually given a preliminary calcine in rotary furnaces, before shipment.

Garnets.- In 1927 development work was done on a garnet deposit in Joly township, Labelle county, Quebec. Shipments from this property during the year amounted to 2 tons valued at \$150.

A deposit in Ashby township, Ontario, was operated during 1923 and 1,250 tons of garnet concentrates and crude garnets were shipped to Niagara Falls, New York, for use as an abrasive material. In 1924 a shipment of 360 tons of garnets was made but there has been no production from the Ashby deposit since that date.

Grinding Pebbles.- There was no production of grinding pebbles in Canada during 1927. Shipments from a deposit near Jackfish, Ontario, in 1926 amounted to 64 tons valued at \$576.

Grindstones, Pulpstones and Scythestones.- Production of grindstones, pulpstones and scythestones in Canada during 1927 was 2,251 tons valued at \$125,017; consisting of 11 tons from Nova Scotia deposits, 1,860 tons from New Brunswick, and 380 tons from British Columbia. In 1926 shipments were recorded at 2,695 tons worth \$151,227.

Volcanic Dust.- Operations in this industry are centred on deposits near Waldeck, Saskatchewan, where there has been an annual production during each of the past four years. In 1927, shipments totalled 105 tons with a valuation of \$735. The previous year's production was 90 tons worth \$630.

Capital employed by the 9 producing firms in the natural abrasives industry totalled \$433,810 in 1927. Employment was furnished 132 employees whose earnings amounted to \$107,603. Fuel and electricity costs were reported at \$10,279.

In addition to the production of natural abrasives in Canada there is also a large production of artificial abrasives such as fused alumina, crude silicon carbide, firesand and abrasive products such as abrasive wheels, paper and cloth and other products. In 1927 the production of these commodities was valued at \$6,106,794 as compared with \$6,081,822 in 1926. Capital employed in the industry amounted to \$6,563,669. Employees numbered 627 persons, and payments in salaries and wages totalled \$955,134. Raw materials cost \$1,999,148. Four plants in Ontario and 1 in Quebec made artificial abrasives while 7 plants in Ontario manufactured grinding wheels, sand-paper and similar products.

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PRODUCTION OF NATURAL ABRASIVES IN CANADA, 1927.

Province	Diatomite		Garnets		Grindstones, Pulpstones, and Scythestones		Volcanic Dust	
	Tons	\$	Tons	\$	Tons	\$	Tons	\$
Nova Scotia	266	6,650	-	-	11	220	-	-
New Brunswick.....	-	-	-	-	1,860	97,197	-	-
Quebec.....	-	-	2	150	-	-	-	-
Saskatchewan.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	105	735
British Columbia...	-	-	-	-	380	27,600	-	-
CANADA.....	266	6,650	2	150	2,251	125,017	105	735

IMPORTS INTO CANADA AND EXPORTS OF ABRASIVES IN 1927.

	Quantity	Value
		\$
<u>IMPORTS -</u>		
Abrasives -		
Artificial abrasives in bulk, crushed or ground, when imported for use in the manufacture of abrasive wheels and polishing composition.....	...	216,174
Carborundum wheels or stones not further manufactured than moulded and burned.....	...	131,428
Diamond dust or bort, and black diamonds for borers.....	...	1,396,122
Emery in bulk, crushed or ground.....	...	46,649
Emery wheels and carborundum wheels, n.o.p.....	...	56,916
Emery or carborundum, manufactures of, including carborundum stones, n.o.p.....	...	76,987
Grindstones, not mounted, and not less than 36 inches in diameter.....	...	815,257
Grindstones, n.o.p.....	...	96,151
Pumice and pumice stone, lava and calcareous tufa, not further manufactured than ground.....	...	35,211
Sand paper, glass, flint and emery paper or emery cloth.....	...	348,652
Iron sand or globules or iron shot and dry putty, adapted for polishing glass or granite or for sawing stone.....	...	12,052
Burrstones in blocks, rough or unmanufactured, not bound up or prepared for binding into mill-stones.....No.	3	450
TOTAL.....	...	3,232,349
<u>EXPORTS -</u>		
Grindstones, manufactured.....	...	50,866
Abrasives -		
Natural, n.o.p.....cwt.	5,516	6,426
Artificial, crude, including carborundum.....cwt.	1,000,321	2,645,347
Artificial, made up into wheels, stones, etc.....	...	38,463
TOTAL.....	...	2,741,102

PRINCIPAL STATISTICS OF THE NATURAL ABRASIVES INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1926 and 1927.

	1926	1927
Number of firms.....	8	9
Capital employed.....\$	358,342	\$ 433,810
Number of employees:-		
On salary.....	8	10
On wages.....	94	122
Total.....	102	132
Salaries and wages:-		
Salaries.....\$	21,190	\$ 21,200
Wages.....\$	68,879	\$ 86,403
Total.....\$	90,069	\$ 107,603
Cost of Fuel and Electricity.....\$	9,716	\$ 10,279
Selling value of products.....\$	152,433	\$ 132,552

