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

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TALC AND SOAPSTONE, 1935

Production (shipments) of talc and soapstone, both crude and refined, in Canada during 1935 was valued at \$171,532 as compared with \$180,777 in 1934 according to finally revised statistics issued by the Mining, Metallurgical and Chemical Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa. The value of the soapstone output alone in 1935 totalled \$32,053. Production of this material is confined to the province of Quebec. Talc production in 1935 totalled 13,803 short tons valued at \$139,479, of which 13,710 tons worth \$138,161 came from properties located in Hastings County, province of Ontario, while 93 tons valued at \$1,318 was produced in British Columbia.

Employment in the industry during the year under review showed a decline corresponding with the decrease recorded in production, the number of employees totalling 94 as compared with 112 in 1934; salaries and wages also fell off from a total of \$79,711 in 1934 to \$69,803 in 1935.

Exports of talc from Canada in 1935 also registered a decrease, the total tonnage being 8,927 valued at \$90,823 as against 9,386 tons worth \$103,631 in the preceding year, of the total exports in 1935, 7,947 tons valued at \$80,504 went to the United States.

The high grade white talc produced in Canada is of the foliated type and comes from deposits occurring near Madoc, Hastings County, Ontario; the crude talc is milled locally with the different grades going to the cosmetic, paper, textile, rubber and other talc-consuming industries. Talc production in British Columbia comes from near McGillivray Falls on the P. G. E. railway and from near Sooke on Vancouver Island. The mineral mined in this province is employed principally in the manufacture of roofing material.

The Canadian soapstone industry is centred in Thetford and Broughton townships in the province of Quebec; producers in this district operate sawing equipment for the manufacture of blocks or brick for the pulp and paper industry where it is employed chiefly as a refractory lining in alkali recovery furnaces in paper mills, using the sulphite process. Soapstone is easily carved and when polished takes a soft, marble-streaked appearance; various ornamental and building products, including monuments and mantels are now being shaped from Quebec soapstone.

The United States Bureau of Mines has investigated, on a laboratory scale, the froth flotation of talc and comment that the movement toward purification of talc by flotation may be important in connection with some of the newer ceramic uses, because some ceramists have difficulty in obtaining talcs low in lime and iron and of constant and dependable composition. It is also interesting to note that according to a recent report the strength of concrete is increased by addition of 5 per cent talc.

PRINCIPAL STATISTICS OF THE TALC AND SOAPSTONE INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1933, 1934 and 1935.

	1	9	3	3	1	9	3	4	1	9	3	5
Number of firms				6				8				8
Capital employed	\$			680,875				640,194				639,501
Number of employees - On salary				10				11				12
On wages				83				101				82
Total				93				112				94
Salaries and wages - Salaries	\$			24,096				26,516				25,662
Wages	\$			56,449				53,195				44,141
Total	\$			80,545				79,711				69,803
Cost of fuel and electricity	\$			25,889				26,312				23,774
Cost of process supplies used	\$			(a)				(a)				13,637
Selling value of products	\$			190,836				180,777				171,532

(a) Data not available.

CAPITAL EMPLOYED, BY CLASSES, 1933, 1934 and 1935.

	1	9	3	3	1	9	3	4	1	9	3	5
				\$				\$				\$
Present value of lands, buildings, fixtures, machinery, tools and other equipment				594,084				557,143				566,429
Inventory value of materials on hand, stocks in process, fuel and miscellaneous supplies on hand.				9,581				7,350				4,470
Inventory value of finished products on hand				7,428				8,410				5,997
Operating capital				69,782				67,291				62,605
TOTAL				680,875				640,194				639,501

WAGE-EARNERS, BY MONTHS, 1932, 1933, 1934 and 1935.

Month	1932	1933	1934	1935
January	66	66	83	102
February	67	75	93	100
March	68	78	97	71
April	67	47	87	89
May	80	86	96	88
June	79	87	105	84
July	79	82	95	87
August	80	94	111	70
September	85	97	97	71
October	82	89	121	62
November	82	93	106	77
December	75	85	110	82

In the entire talc and soapstone industry during 1935 there were three firms operating in Quebec, three in Ontario and two in British Columbia, and of the total employees engaged and salaries and wages paid during the year, 49 persons and \$20,439 were credited to the province of Quebec.

FUEL AND ELECTRICITY USED, 1934 - 1935.

Item	1934				1935			
	Quantity		Value		Quantity		Value	
				\$				\$
Bituminous Coal - Canadian Tons ..	1		9		163		1,037	
- Foreign " ..	...		...		...		...
Anthracite Coal " ..	...		...		39		244	
Gasoline (x) Imp. Gal. 7,042			1,602		3,060		643	
Kerosene " " 100			20		80		16	
Fuel oil and Diesel oil " " 720			82		2,080		237	
Wood - cord (128 cu. ft.) 31			107		20		50	
Electricity purchased K. W. H. 1,428,653			24,492		1,573,767		21,547	
TOTAL			26,312		...		23,774	

POWER EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION, 1935.

	Number of Units	Horse power manufacturers' rating
Steam engines and steam turbines .....	...	...
Diesel engines	1	25
Other gas engines	8	76
Hydraulic turbines .....	...	...
Electric motors	21	708
Boilers	1	80

PRODUCTION (SALES) IN CANADA, IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF TALC AND SOAPSTONE, 1933, 1934 and 1935.

	1933		1934		1935	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	tons	\$	tons	\$	tons	\$
<u>PRODUCTION -</u>						
Soapstone (Quebec) .....	...	47,680	...	44,297	...	32,053
Talc - Ontario	15,114	142,134	13,934	135,978	13,710	138,161
British Columbia	67	1,022	25	502	93	1,318
TOTAL CANADA .....	...	190,836	...	180,275	...	171,532

IMPORTS -

Talc or soapstone, ground of unground -

From - United Kingdom	226	17,396	121	5,875	0.25	18
United States	1,700	23,604	2,496	29,812	2,214	29,431
Italy and other countries	224	7,650	280	9,218	480	15,054
TOTAL IMPORTS	2,150	48,650	2,897	44,905	2,694	44,503

EXPORTS -

Talc -

TO - United Kingdom	1,520	26,506	1,046	14,729	930	9,660
United States	9,024	86,852	8,151	85,535	7,947	80,504
Other countries	180	3,592	189	3,367	50	659
TOTAL EXPORTS	10,724	116,950	9,386	103,631	8,927	90,823

(x) Exclusive of that used in motor vehicles.

PRODUCTION OF TALC AND SOAPSTONE, JANUARY 1 - JUNE 30, 1935 and 1936.

	1	9	3	5		1	9	3	6
	Quantity		Value			Quantity		Value	
	tons		\$			tons		\$	
Soapstone (Quebec) .....	...		14,821			...		11,713	
Talc -									
Ontario	5,736		58,419			6,932		69,753	
British Columbia	69		1,213			...		...
TOTAL Talc	5,805		59,632			6,932		69,753	

CONSUMPTION OF TALC IN SPECIFIED CANADIAN INDUSTRIES, 1933, 1934 and 1935.

	1	9	3	3		1	9	3	4		1	9	3	5
Industry and Form	Quantity		Cost at			Quantity		Cost at			Quantity		Cost at	
			works					works					works	
			\$					\$					\$	
Toilet Preparations Industry -														
Talc and chalk	pound													
868,952			25,920			723,969		23,281			1,007,154		29,250	
Soaps and Cleaning Preparations -														
Talc	pound													
346,641			2,623			371,013		2,989			279,224		2,583	
Roofing Materials Industry -														
Talc	ton													
1,180			12,928			1,546		20,448			1,363		16,034	
Pulp and Paper Industry -														
Talc	ton													
1,024			18,862			1,482		23,895			1,361		24,652	
Paints Industry - Asbestine and														
talc	pound													
2,758,551			34,597			3,352,426		40,926			3,622,209		45,654	

"Canadian Chemistry and Metallurgy" - July, 1936, quotations for talc were: - car lots, A.A.I.F. grade ton - \$17.50; No. 1 grade, ton - \$11.50; S grade - \$9.00; imported Italian, \$80.00 to \$100.00. American prices at the close of 1935 approximated: - per ton, carload lots, f.o.b. works Georgia: 98 per cent through 200 mesh, gray, \$6.00; white, \$8.00. In bags, \$1.00 per ton extra. New York: double air-floated, short fibre, 325 mesh, \$12.00 to \$15.00. Vermont: 99 per cent through 200 mesh, extra white, bulk basis, \$9.00. Virginia: 200 mesh, \$4.75 to \$5.50; 325 mesh, \$6.20 to \$7.00; crude \$4.00.

WORLD'S PRODUCTION OF TALC

(Taken from the Imperial Institute's publication "The Mineral Industry of the British Empire and Foreign Countries")

(Long tons)

Producing Country	1932	1933	1934
BRITISH EMPIRE			
United Kingdom ..	258	166	...
Union of South Africa ..	265	276	215
Canada (sales) (e) ..	10,806	13,554	12,463
India ..	6,512	17,048	9,375
Australia ..	1,347	1,769	1,739
FOREIGN COUNTRIES			
Austria (estimated) ..	25,000	25,000	25,000
Finland ..	1,599	1,150	(a)
France ..	67,400	(a)	(a)
Germany (Bavaria) ..	3,147	5,026	6,824
Greece ..	608	1,252	(a)

WORLD'S PRODUCTION OF TALC (concluded)

(Taken from the Imperial Institute's publication "The Mineral Industry of the British Empire and Foreign Countries")
(Long tons)

Producing Country	1932	1933	1934
Italy	31,860	33,909	37,042
Norway	13,322	19,571	33,929
Roumania	1,770 (d)	1,094	1,902
Spain (b)	4,577	5,682	10,750
Sweden	4,454	4,630	6,398
Egypt	228	2,491	2,562
Morocco (French) (exports)	824	518	776
United States (sales)	110,019 (c)	148,235	124,022
Argentina .. .. .	...	20	(a)
Uruguay (exports)	2,584	1,250	865
"Manchoukuo"	43,616	61,444	(a)

Talc is also produced in U.S.S.R. (Russia)

(a) Information not available.

(b) In addition the following were quarried: 1,936 cubic yards in 1932, 3,301 cubic yards in 1933, and 2,590 cubic yards in 1934.

(c) Excluding steatite, figures of which are not available for publication.

(d) Converted from cubic metres at a rate of 1 cu. metre = 2 long tons.

(e) Excluding soapstone, which is only recorded by value and was as follows:

1932	£ 11,700
1933	£ 10,600
1934	£ 8,900.

WORLD'S IMPORTS OF TALC

(Less Re-Exports)

(Long tons)

(Taken from the Imperial Institute's publication "The Mineral Industry of the British Empire and Foreign Countries")

Importing Country	1932	1933	1934
<u>BRITISH EMPIRE</u>			
United Kingdom	14,824	18,785	18,828
Seychelles .. .. .	...	2	3
Canada	1,697	1,919	2,586
Cyprus .. .. .	...	...	166
Australia	332	403	405

WORLD'S IMPORTS OF TALC (concluded)

(Less Re-Exports)

(Long tons)

(Taken from the Imperial Institute's publication "The Mineral Industry of the British Empire and Foreign Countries")

Importing country	1932	1933	1934
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>			
Austria	88	45	113
Belgium-Luxemburg E.U.	3,010	3,322	3,058
Czechoslovakia	4,069	3,503	3,586
Denmark	1,088	1,747	1,985
Estonia	120	75	134
Finland (total imports).....	1,226	1,005	1,976
France	3,458	4,297	3,659
Germany	17,760	23,120	31,332
Latvia	87	123	124
Lithuania	28	45	49
Poland	1,628	2,525	2,936
Roumania	221	506	181
Yugoslavia	524	645	587
Algeria	109	201	353
Egypt	1,658	1,782	1,542
Morocco	(a)	12	20
Tunis	660	364	441
Mexico .....	...	327	343
United States (including manufactures)...	17,837	19,594	18,258
Argentina	1,481	1,964	1,691
Chile	36	6	17
Colombia	157	250	20
Peru	67	101	107
Venezuela	20	(a)	(a)
Formosa	2	2	(a)
French Indo-China	28	35	68
Japan (total imports)	34,921	58,409	52,779
Syria and Lebanon	37	35	53
Turkey	24	(a)	(a)

a) Information not available.

LIST OF FIRMS IN THE CANADIAN TALC AND SOAPSTONE INDUSTRY, 1935

<u>Name</u>	<u>Head Office Address</u>	<u>Location of plant</u>
<u>QUEBEC -</u>		
Broughton Soapstone and Quarry Co. Ltd.	Broughton Station	Beauce Co.
Fortin, Charles	Robertsonville	Thetford Tp.
Pharo, L. C.	Thetford Mines	Thetford Tp.
<u>ONTARIO -</u>		
Canada Talc Ltd.	Madoc	Hastings Co.
Gillespie, Geo. H.	Box 232, Madoc	Madoc
Henderson Mines, Ltd.	Madoc	Hastings Co.

LIST OF FIRMS IN THE CANADIAN TALC AND SOAPSTONE INDUSTRY, 1935. (concluded)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Head Office Address</u>	<u>Location of plant</u>
<u>BRITISH COLUMBIA</u>		
Fairey and Cuncliffe	660 Taylor St., Vancouver	Anderson Lake
Kennedy, J. J.	Sooke Lake	Sooke Lake
Creagh, John	McGillivray Falls	Anderson Lake.

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