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OTTAWA - CANADA

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TALC AND SOAPSTONE, 1936.

Production in Canada of talc and soapstone, both crude and refined, totalled \$177,270 in 1936 as compared with a value of \$171,532 in 1935, according to finally revised statistics issued by the Mining, Metallurgical and Chemical Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa. Soapstone production during 1936 came entirely from the Eastern Townships in Quebec and was valued at \$32,770. Talc production in 1936 totalled 14,508 short tons worth \$144,500. The mineral was produced chiefly in the Madoc district, Hastings county, Ontario; in British Columbia a relatively small tonnage was shipped from a property operated at Anderson Lake in the Lillooet mining district. The western production of talc was utilized principally in the manufacture of roofing materials. Ontario talc is of high quality and was shipped almost wholly in the refined state with various grades being marketed in the Dominion and foreign countries. It is employed chiefly in the cosmetic, rubber, paper, textile, and roofing industries. Soapstone, as produced in Quebec, was shipped in both the crude and dressed state and was consigned principally to the pulp and paper industry.

Shipments of talc and soapstone ranging from 50 tons to 1,420 tons were made from Canadian deposits during the period 1886 to 1906. Prior to 1900 the production consisted mainly of impure talc and soapstone shipped from Quebec.

It was not until 1900 that mining operations were commenced on the high grade talc deposits of the Madoc district. Ground talc was shipped from this district in 1906. Production advanced in value during the ensuing years until in 1927 the all-time high record output of \$236,105 was attained for these minerals.

Although it is known that early settlers made use of soapstone from deposits in Quebec for lining fireplaces and ovens and for footwarmers, the first official records of the mining of soapstone are for 1871 when 300 tons valued at \$1,000 were shipped from a deposit in Bolton township, Brome county.

The talc of the Madoc area is of foliated type, has a good white colour, and occurs as a series of vertical veins or bands in white crystalline dolomite. Near Broughton, in Quebec, crude, lump talc, from a band cutting the soapstone body, and soapstone waste are shipped to a Montreal grinding plant. In addition to its use as a furnace material, Quebec soapstone is utilized in the manufacture of stoves, mantels, interior trim, ornaments, crayons, etc. The Bureau of Mines, Ottawa, reports that a recent development which may seriously affect the demand for soapstone for pulp-mill use is the introduction of a new type of water cooled alkali-recovery furnace; this is of steel construction, only the base being built of soapstone blocks.

Imports of talc and soapstone during 1936 totalled 2,936 short tons valued at \$43,185 and of these, 2,548 tons valued at \$32,063 came from the United States and 275 tons worth \$7,731 from Italy. Exports of talc during 1936 amounted to 10,222 short tons valued at \$102,071 compared with 8,927 short tons at \$90,823 in 1935.

The number of firms reported as being active in the industry during 1936 totalled 7 of which 3 were located in Quebec, 3 in Ontario and 1 in British Columbia. Capital employed during 1936 amounted to \$647,929 and \$70,935 were distributed as salaries and wages to 85 employees. The cost of fuel and purchased electricity used in 1936 was \$21,669 and the value of explosives and various other process supplies consumed totalled \$11,723. The net value of sales was estimated at \$143,878 compared with \$134,121 in 1935.

The Canadian price for domestic crude talc in 1936 approximated \$6 per short ton while prices per short ton for the milled product ranged from \$9 to \$17.50, depending upon the grade and quality. Crude soapstone ranged in price from \$1.50 to \$2.00 per short tons; dressed soapstone ranged up to approximately \$28 per short ton depending on grade and specifications.

Table 1 - PRINCIPAL STATISTICS OF THE TALC AND SOAPSTONE INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1935 and 1936.

	1935	1936
Number of firms	8	7
Capital employed	\$ 639,501	647,929
Number of employees - On salary	12	15
On wages	82	70
Total	94	85
Salaries and wages - Salaries	\$ 25,662	26,526
Wages	\$ 44,141	44,409
Total	\$ 69,803	70,935
Selling value of products (gross)	\$ 171,532	177,270
Cost of fuel and purchased electricity	\$ 23,774	21,669
Cost of explosives and other process supplies. \$	13,637	11,723
Selling value of products (net)	\$ 134,121	143,878

Table 2 - CAPITAL EMPLOYED, BY CLASSES, 1934, 1935 and 1936.

	1934	1935	1936
	\$	\$	\$
Present value of lands, buildings, fixtures, machinery, tools and other equipment	557,143	568,429	581,643
Inventory value of materials on hand, stocks in process, fuel and miscellaneous supplies on hand	7,350	4,470	7,042
Inventory value of finished products on hand	8,410	5,997	7,741
Operating capital	67,291	62,605	71,503
TOTAL	640,194	639,501	647,929

Table 3 - WAGE-EARNERS, BY MONTHS, 1932 - 1936.

Month	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936
January	66	66	88	102	53
February	67	75	93	100	61
March	68	78	97	71	54
April	67	47	87	89	72
May	80	86	96	88	77
June	79	87	105	84	63
July	79	82	95	87	79
August	80	94	111	70	83
September	85	97	97	71	84
October	82	89	121	62	79
November	82	93	106	77	70
December	75	85	110	82	61

In the entire talc and soapstone industry during 1936 there were three firms operating in Quebec, three in Ontario and one in British Columbia, and of the total employees engaged and salaries and wages paid during the year, 33 persons and \$14,796 were credited to the province of Quebec.

Table 4 - NUMBER OF WAGE-EARNERS IN MONTH OF HIGHEST EMPLOYMENT WHOSE REGULAR HOURS PER WEEK WERE -

Hours	1935	1936	Hours	1935	1936
	No.	No.		No.	No.
40 or less	7	1	56 - 59	10	...
48	36	...	60	30	29
51 - 53	1	2	Over 60	12	...
54	4	49			

Table 5 - FUEL AND ELECTRICITY USED, 1935 and 1936.

Item	Unit of measure	1 9 3 5		1 9 3 6	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Bituminous coal - Canadian ..	tons	163	1,037	192	1,217
Foreign ...	tons	...	...	...	...
Anthracite coal	tons	39	244	34	221
Gasoline	Imp.gal.	3,060	643	1,600	304
Kerosene	Imp.gal.	80	16	20	4
Fuel oil and diesel oil ..	Imp.gal.	2,080	237	1,560	179
Wood	cord	20	50	10	30
Electricity purchased	K.W.H.	1,573,767	21,547	1,249,914	19,714
TOTAL .....	\$	...	23,774	...	21,669

Table 6 - POWER EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION, 1936.

	Number of units	Horse power - manufacturers' rating
Diesel engines	1	25
Other gas engines	4	30
Electric motors	20	598

Table 7 - PRODUCTION OF TALC AND SOAPSTONE IN CANADA, 1927 - 1936.

Year	Value \$	Year	Value \$
1927	236,105	1932	159,038
1928	219,358	1933	190,836
1929	229,198	1934	180,777
1930	186,216	1935	171,532
1931	157,083	1936	177,270

Table 8 - PRODUCTION (SALES) IN CANADA, IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF TALC AND SOAPSTONE, 1934, 1935 and 1936.

	1934		1935		1936	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	Tons	\$	Tons	\$	Tons	\$
<u>PRODUCTION -</u>						
Soapstone (Quebec) .....	...	44,297	...	32,053	...	32,770
Talc - Ontario	13,934	135,978	13,710	138,161	14,461	143,701
British Columbia	25	502	93	1,318	47	799
TOTAL CANADA .....	...	180,275	...	171,532	...	177,270
<u>IMPORTS -</u>						
Talc or soapstone, ground or unground -						
From - United Kingdom	121	5,875	0.25	18	0.50	40
United States	2,496	29,812	2,214	29,431	2,548	32,063
Italy and other countries	280	9,218	480	15,054	387	11,082
TOTAL IMPORTS	2,897	44,905	2,694	44,503	2,936	43,185
<u>EXPORTS -</u>						
Talc -						
To - United Kingdom	1,046	14,729	930	9,660	1,368	12,957
United States	8,151	85,535	7,947	80,504	8,742	87,907
Other countries	189	3,367	50	659	112	1,207
TOTAL EXPORTS	9,386	103,631	8,927	90,823	10,222	102,071

Table 9 - PRODUCTION OF TALC AND SOAPSTONE, JANUARY 1 to JUNE 30, 1936 and 1937.

	1 9 3 6		1 9 3 7	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	Tons	\$	Tons	\$
Soapstone (Quebec) .....	...	11,713	...	11,516
Talc - Ontario	6,932	69,753	6,241	60,485
British Columbia .....	...	...	...	...
TOTAL .....	...	81,466	...	72,001

Table 10 - CONSUMPTION OF TALC IN CANADA, BY INDUSTRIES, as REPORTED TO THE ANNUAL CENSUS OF MANUFACTURES, 1934, 1935 and 1936.

	1 9 3 4		1 9 3 5		1 9 3 6	
Industries	Tons	Cost at works \$	Tons	Cost at works \$	Tons	Cost at works \$
Electrical Apparatus	97	2,299	166	4,297	(a)	(a)
Paints	1,676	40,926	1,811	45,654	1,948	47,378
Soaps and cleaning preparations .	184	2,956	139	2,583	128	2,680
Toilet preparations	402	24,714	504	29,250	397	22,393
Medicinals and pharmaceuticals ..	85	3,732	103	6,269	(a)	(a)
Polishes	1	27	1	32	10	222
Products from imported clays	76	1,982	...	...	...	...
Prepared roofing	1,546	20,448	1,363	16,034	1,839	21,500
Pulp and paper	1,482	23,895	1,361	24,652	1,124	22,497
Total Accounted for	5,549	120,979	5,448	128,771	...	...

(a) Not yet complete.

Table 11 - WORLD'S PRODUCTION OF TALC, 1933 - 1935. (Taken from the Imperial Institute's publication "The Mineral Industry of the British Empire and Foreign Countries")

(Long tons)

Producing Country	1 9 3 3	1 9 3 4	1 9 3 5
<u>BRITISH EMPIRE</u>			
United Kingdom	166	...	...
Union of South Africa	276	215	299
Canada (sales) (c)	13,554	12,463	12,324
India	17,048	9,375	12,596
Australia	1,769	1,739	1,442
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>			
Austria	25,000	30,188	30,254
Bulgaria .....	...	15	15
Finland	1,150	1,561	(a)
France	76,230	67,812	(a)
Germany (Bavaria)	5,026	6,824	3,900
Greece	1,252	116	543
Italy	33,909	37,042	41,014
Norway	19,571	27,285	27,343
Roumania	1,094	1,902	1,966
Spain (b)	5,682	10,750	(a)
Sweden	4,630	6,398	5,967

Table 11 - WORLD'S PRODUCTION OF TALC, 1933 - 1935. (concluded)
(Long tons)

Producing Country	1 9 3 3	1 9 3 4	1 9 3 5
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES (concluded)</u>			
Egypt	2,491	2,562	360
Morocco (French) (exports)	518	776	709
United States (sales)	148,235	123,665	154,211
Argentina	20	42	173
Uruguay (exports)	1,250	2,595	1,181
"Manchoukuo"	61,444	64,000	(a)
China	3,000	3,000	(a)

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

(a) Information not available.

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

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

1933	£ 10,600
1934	£ 8,900
1935	£ 6,500

Table 12 - WORLD'S IMPORTS OF TALC, 1933 - 1935. (Less Re-exports)
(Taken from the Imperial Institute's publication "The Mineral Industry of the British Empire and Foreign Countries")
(Long tons)

Importing Country	1 9 3 3	1 9 3 4	1 9 3 5
<u>BRITISH EMPIRE</u>			
United Kingdom	18,785	18,828	23,025
Seychelles	2	3	7
Canada	1,919	2,586	2,405
Cyprus .....	...	166	177
Australia	403	405	551
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>			
Albania	(a)	91	26
Austria	45	113	462
Belgium-Luxemburg E.U.	3,322	3,058	3,885
Czechoslovakia	3,503	3,586	3,793
Denmark	1,747	1,985	2,514
Estonia	75	134	60
Finland (total imports)	1,005	1,976	773
France	4,297	3,477	3,538
Germany	23,120	31,332	24,523
Latvia	123	124	183
Lithuania	45	49	21
Poland	2,525	2,936	3,211
Roumania	506	181	141

Table 12 - WORLD'S IMPORTS OF TALC, 1933 - 1935. (Less re-exports) (concluded)
(long tons)

Importing Country	1933	1934	1935
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES (Concluded)</u>			
Yugoslavia	645	587	446
Algeria	201	353	459
Egypt	1,782	1,542	908
Morocco	12	20	23
Tunis	364	441	424
Guatemala	6	10	7
Mexico	327	343	264
United States	19,671	18,169	21,337
Argentina	1,964	1,691	1,479
Chile	6	17	37
Colombia	250	20	152
Peru	101	107	128
Venezuela	13	13	50
Formosa	2	2	(a)
French Indo-China	35	68	92
Japan (total imports)	58,409	52,779	64,219
Syria and Lebanon	35	53	57
Turkey	32	52	(a)

(a) Information not available.

LIST OF FIRMS IN THE CANADIAN TALC AND SOAPSTONE INDUSTRY, 1936.

<u>Name of Firm</u>	<u>Head Office Address</u>	<u>Location of Plant</u>
<u>QUEBEC -</u>		
Broughton Soapstone and Quarry Co. Ltd.	Broughton Station	Broughton Tp.
Fortin, Charles	Robertsonville	Thetford Tp.
Pharo, L.C.	Thetford Mines	Thetford Tp.
<u>ONTARIO -</u>		
Canada Talc Ltd.	Madoc	Hastings Co.
Gillespie, Geo.H., & Co.Ltd.	Box 232, Madoc	Madoc
Henderson Mines, Ltd.	Madoc	Hastings Co.
<u>BRITISH COLUMBIA -</u>		
Fairey and Cuncliffe (x)	660 Taylor St., Vancouver	Anderson Lake
Kennedy, J.J. (x)	Sooke Lake	Sooke Lake
Richmond, Geo. W.	2635 W. 15th Ave., Vancouver	Anderson Lake

(x) No operations reported in 1936.

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