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Published by Authority of the HON. JAMES A. MacKINNON, M.P. 18-25-9-41
Minister of Trade and Commerce

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

DOMINION BUREAU
OF STATISTICS

JUN 3 1941

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THE TALC AND SOAPSTONE INDUSTRY, 1940

The value of crude and refined talc and soapstone sold by Canadian producers of these minerals in 1940 totalled \$229,639 compared with a corresponding value of \$170,066 in 1939. Production of soapstone in 1940 came entirely from the eastern townships of the province of Quebec, while the output of higher grade talc represented shipments of the mineral made chiefly from deposits occurring near Madoc, Hastings County, Ontario. A relatively small quantity of talc has been shipped from a property located at Anderson Lake in the Lillooet mining district of British Columbia; however, no commercial shipments of domestic talc were reported in this province during either 1939 or 1940.

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.

During the year under review, there were 8 firms reported as active in the industry, 6 in Quebec and 2 in Ontario; 7 of these made commercial shipments. Capital employed totalled \$319,393; employees numbered 94, and salaries and wages distributed amounted to \$80,879. Fuel and purchased electricity used were appraised at \$15,480 and the cost of explosives and other process supplies was reported at \$21,650. The net value of sales was estimated at \$192,509 as compared with \$147,734 in 1939.

Imports into Canada of talc and soapstone, ground or unground, totalled 3,719 short tons valued at \$66,238 in 1940, compared with 3,193 short tons at \$51,380 in 1939. Exports of talc from Canada in 1940 totalled 10,232 short tons valued at \$142,577, as against 7,185 short tons worth \$74,560 in the preceding year.

"Canadian Chemistry and Process Industries", Toronto, May, 1941 quotations for talc were - all grades f.o.b. Madoc, Ontario - per ton - fine blown - Red label \$30; No. 2 Green label \$18; 1 SS white label \$12; 0 Blue label \$10; 3A Blue label \$8.00. Imported Italian talc \$85 - \$100.

"Metal and Mineral Markets", New York, May, 1941 - Quotations for talc were: Per ton, carload lots, f.o.b. works, containers included unless otherwise specified: Georgia: 98 per cent through 200 mesh, gray, \$6; white, \$8, packed in 50 pound paper bags or 200 pound burlap bags. New Jersey: mineral pulp, ground, \$8.50 to \$10.50, bags extra. New York: Double air floated, short fibre, 325 mesh \$12 to \$15. Vermont: 99½ per cent through 200 mesh, extra white, bulk basis, \$10.00; 97 per cent through 200 mesh, medium white, \$9.50; packed in paper bags, \$1.25 per ton extra. Virginia: 200 mesh, \$4.75 to \$5.50; 325 mesh \$6.20 to \$7; crude \$4.

Table 1 - PRINCIPAL STATISTICS OF THE TALC AND SOAPSTONE INDUSTRY IN CANADA,
1938 - 1940

	1938	1939	1940
Number of firms	6(a)	6(a)	8(b)
Capital employed	\$ 212,491	239,835	319,398
Number of employees - On salary	5	6	7
On wages	70	59	87
Total	75	65	94
Salaries and wages - Salaries	\$ 9,660	18,130	19,563
Wages	\$ 49,766	42,382	61,316
Total	\$ 59,426	60,512	80,879
Selling value of products (Gross)	\$ 144,848	170,066	229,639
Cost of fuel and purchased electricity ..	\$ 15,993	15,154	15,480
Cost of explosives and other process supplies	\$ 7,914	7,178	21,650
Selling value of products (net)	\$ 120,941	147,734	192,509

(a) 5 firms in Quebec and 1 in Ontario.

(b) 6 firms in Quebec and 2 in Ontario.

Table 2 - CAPITAL EMPLOYED, BY CLASSES(x), 1938 - 1940

	1938	1939	1940
	\$	\$	\$
Present value of lands, buildings, fixtures, machinery, tools and other equipment	178,754	195,518	284,993
Inventory value of materials on hand, stocks in process, fuel and miscellaneous supplies on hand	2,724	4,877	5,184
Inventory value of finished products on hand	11,115	11,634	6,513
Operating capital	19,898	27,806	22,703
TOTAL	212,491	239,835	319,398

(x) By active firms.

Table 3 - WAGE-EARNERS, BY MONTHS, 1939 - 1940

Month	1939	1940		
		Surface	Underground	Mill
January	35	19	15	17
February	38	20	16	17
March	48	18	15	17
April	36	18	14	15
May	54	39	14	19
June	71	35	17	22
July	72	43	17	23
August	76	46	17	27
September	78	56	28	26
October	82	90	35	23
November	80	84	35	28
December	63	60	35	35

Table 4 - WAGE-EARNERS WORKING NUMBER OF HOURS SPECIFIED DURING ONE WEEK IN MONTH OF NORMAL EMPLOYMENT, 1940

Number of hours worked	Number of wage-earners	Number of hours worked	Number of wage-earners
30 hours or less	3	49 - 50 hours	1
31 - 43 hours	1	51 - 54 hours	8
44 hours	5	55 hours .....	...
45 - 47 hours	11	56 - 64 hours	90
48 hours .....	...	65 hours and over ...	26
Grand total number of employees in week specified			145
Total wages paid in week specified			\$ 2,385

Table 5 - FUEL AND ELECTRICITY USED, 1939 and 1940

Item	Unit of measure	1 9 3 9		1 9 4 0	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Bituminous coal - Canadian ..	tons	2	18	3	27
Foreign ...	tons	...	...	...	...
Anthracite coal	tons	...	...	...	...
Gasoline	Imp.gal.	8,515	1,893	7,144	1,458
Kerosene	Imp.gal.	40	7	60	11
Fuel oil and diesel oil	Imp.gal.	4,625	767	5,390	788
Wood	cord	35	88	60	150
Electricity purchased (/) ...	K. W. H.	1,140,199	12,381	1,184,970	13,046
TOTAL .....	\$	...	15,154	...	15,480

(/) In addition, 17,000 K.W.H. generated for own use in 1939 and 48,000 K.W.H. in 1940.

Table 6 - POWER EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION, 1940

	Number of units	Horse power - manufacturers' rating
Diesel engines	3	278
Other gas engines	9	361
Electric motors operated by purchased power	36	846
Electric motors operated by own power	48	1,485

Table 7 - PRODUCTION OF TALC AND SOAPSTONE IN CANADA, 1929 - 1940

Year	Value	Year	Value
	\$		\$
1929	229,198	1935	171,532
1930	186,216	1936	177,270
1931	157,083	1937	163,814
1932	159,038	1938	144,848
1933	190,836	1939	170,066
1934	180,777	1940	229,639

Production of talc and soapstone in Canada from 1886 to the end of 1940 totalled 487,169 short tons valued at \$4,456,472. The largest annual tonnage produced during these years was 27,247 in 1930 and the greatest annual value was \$236,105 in 1927.

Table 8 - PRODUCTION (SALES) IN CANADA, IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF TALC AND SOAPSTONE.
1938, 1939 and 1940

	1938		1939		1940	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	tons	\$	tons	\$	tons	\$
PRODUCTION -						
Soapstone (Quebec) (a) ...	...	35,038	...	41,471	...	74,905
Talc - Ontario	10,853	109,810	13,144	128,595	15,166	154,734
British Columbia .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL CANADA ....	...	144,848	...	170,066	...	229,639
IMPORTS -						
Talc or soapstone, ground or unground -						
From - United Kingdom ...	...	...	...	...	Not published by countries	
United States ...	2,301	31,214	2,731	38,814		
Italy and Other Countries	346	9,172	462	12,566		
TOTAL IMPORTS ...	2,647	40,386	3,193	51,380	3,719	66,238
EXPORTS -						
Talc -						
To - United Kingdom	675	5,654	965	8,499	Not published by countries	
United States	6,228	64,629	6,219	66,061		
Other Countries ...	48	459	...	...
TOTAL EXPORTS ...	6,951	70,742	7,184	74,560	10,232	142,577

(a) Shipments usually include relatively small quantities of material classified as **low grade talc**.

Table 9 - CONSUMPTION OF TALC IN CANADA, BY INDUSTRIES, AS REPORTED IN THE ANNUAL CENSUS OF MANUFACTURES, 1939

Industry	Short tons	Cost at works \$
Rubber industry	707	13,121
Electrical apparatus	194	5,636
Paints	2,350	59,565
Soaps and cleansing preparations	365	6,402
Toilet preparations	364	18,872
Polishes	16	495
Products from imported clays	178	2,502
Prepared roofing	3,170	34,307
Pulp and paper	1,125	19,363

Table 10 - WORLD'S PRODUCTION OF TALC, 1938-1939 (Taken from the Imperial Institute's Publication - The Mineral Industry of the British Empire and Foreign Countries) - (Long tons)

Producing Country	1938	1939
<u>BRITISH EMPIRE</u>		
Tanganyika Territory	37	...
Union of South Africa	1,529	442
Canada (sales) (b)	9,690	11,736
India	13,590	...
Australia	958	...
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>		
Austria (estimated)	(a)	...
Finland	409	...
France	57,625	...
Germany (Bavaria)	(a)	...
Greece	1,273	...
Italy	52,662	...
Norway	(a)	...
Roumania	2,220	2,581
Sweden	6,690	...
Egypt	1,231	820
Morocco (French) (exports)	(a)	...
United States (sales)	189,978	226,764
Argentina	79	298
Uruguay (exports)	937	...
French Indo-China .....	...	...
Manchuria (exports)	79,932	...

Talc is also produced in U.S.S.R., Spain and China.

(a) Information not available.

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

1938	£7,100
1939	£9,000

INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED STATES, 1940
(United States Bureau of Mines)

Sales of talc, pyrophyllite, and ground soapstone reached another new high in 1940, exceeding the peak of 1939, by over 27,000 short tons.

The total sales, as reported to the Bureau of Mines, were 281,375 short tons valued at \$3,008,320, increases of 11 per cent in both quantity and value over 1939. Sales of all classes increased in quantity and value, the greatest increase being in the sales of ground products.

Eleven states reported sales of talc, pyrophyllite, and ground soapstone (and a little pinite) in 1940 compared with 1939. Eight of these States, located in the East, supplied 86 per cent of the sales; Western States accounted for the remaining 14 per cent. All-time highs were again established in California, Georgia, North Carolina, and New York. New York was by far the leading State, with California, North Carolina, and Vermont of about equal importance, but each supplying only about a third as much as New York.



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Talc

five industries--paint, ceramics, roofing, paper, and rubber--consumed 75 per cent of the talc, pyrophyllite, and ground soapstone of domestic origin. The paint industry--the leading market for these materials--took only 24 per cent of the total sales in 1940 as compared with 27 per cent in 1939. The ceramic industry increased its hold on second place, while rubber dropped to fifth place in 1940 after being tied with the roofing and paper industries for third place in 1939.

The average value of sales of all grades of talc, pyrophyllite and ground soapstone, as reported to the Bureau of Mines by producers, was \$10.69 in 1940.

By far the greater part of the imports of talc, steatite or soapstone, and French chalk into the United States are of "ground, washed, or pulverized" materials. These totalled in 1940, 28,145 short tons valued at \$465,049, compared with only 93 tons of crude and unground, valued at \$1,479, and 125 tons of cut and sawed materials valued at \$20,739. The total value of all materials imported, including some "manufactured n.s.p.f." was slightly over half a million dollars. Most of the crude and unground material came from China and the Union of South Africa, and the cut and sawed varieties from Italy and Japan. Ground talc, steatite or soapstone, and French chalk came from seven countries, with Italy the leading source, followed by France, Canada, China, British India, Japan, and Egypt, in the order named. Exports of talc, steatite, soapstone, and pyrophyllite, crude and ground, in 1940 were 9,402 tons valued at \$167,992.

LIST OF FIRMS IN THE CANADIAN TALC AND SOAPSTONE INDUSTRY, 1940

<u>Name of Firm</u>	<u>Head Office Address</u>	<u>Location of Plant</u>
<u>QUEBEC -</u>		
Baker Mining and Milling Co. Ltd.	Highwater	Potton Tp.
Broughton Soapstone and Quarry Co. Ltd.	Broughton Station	Broughton Tp.
Fortin, Charles	Robertsonville	Thetford Tp.
Labonte, W. (x)	77 Notre Dame, Thetford Mines	Thetford Tp.
Pharo, L. C.	Thetford Mines	Leeds Tp.
<u>ONTARIO -</u>		
Canada Talc Ltd.	Madoc	Hastings Co. Huntingdon Tp.
Trent Mining Synd. Ltd.	213 Dundas St. E., Trenton	Huntingdon Tp.
<u>BRITISH COLUMBIA -</u>		
Fairey and Co. (x)	661 Taylor St., Vancouver	Anderson Lake

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(x) No production reported in 1940.