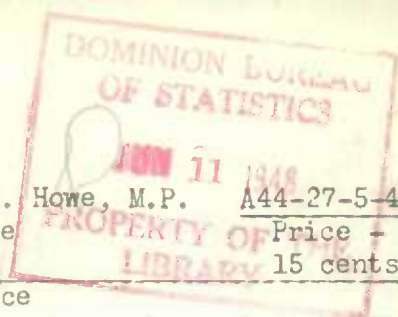


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Department of Trade and Commerce
Dominion Bureau of Statistics
Mining, Metallurgical and Chemical Statistics
Ottawa - Canada

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THE TALC AND SOAPSTONE INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1946

Producers' shipments of crude and milled talc and soapstone totalled 29,353 tons valued at \$303,684 in 1946, compared with 27,088 tons worth \$294,888 in the previous year. Operators in Quebec shipped 14,914 tons of talc and soapstone worth \$150,004 and mines in Ontario sold 14,439 tons, mostly high-grade talc, valued at \$153,680.

Imports of talc and soapstone in 1946 amounted to 6,737 tons valued at \$150,972, and the exports of talc totalled 6,402 tons worth \$74,991.

The industry employed 87 persons to whom \$117,551 were paid in salaries and wages. Fuel and electricity cost \$25,401 and the expenditure for freight and process supplies amounted to \$38,167.

The Bureau of Mines, Ottawa, has given the following information on the talc industry:

"Talc and soapstone production in Canada comprises powdered material made from both these raw materials, sawn soapstone furnace blocks and bricks, and talc crayons. For a number of years there has been a steady production of these three classes of material centred in the Eastern Townships, Quebec, and of ground talc in the Madoc area, Hastings county, Ontario. The ground talc produced in Quebec consists of grey, slightly off-colour material, classed for statistical purposes as soapstone; that from Ontario is of prime white grade.

"The market value of ground talc varies widely and is dependent upon purity (determined by freedom from lime and gritty or iron-bearing substances, slip and colour), particle shape, and fineness of grinding, the specifications for which vary in the different consuming industries. Roofing and foundry talcs are the cheapest grades, the users being satisfied with coarser, grey or off-colour material, often soapstone powder or sawing dust, which sells at about \$6 to \$7 a ton, f.o.b. rail. Domestic grey talc suitable for roofing, rubber, and paper use, sold in 1946 for \$7.50 to \$10 a short ton, according to fineness; similar talc from Vermont was quoted at \$9.50 to \$11 in bulk. White talc from Madoc, Ontario, was quoted at \$9.50 for the coarser grades, \$10.50 to \$17.50 for finer mesh sizes, and \$44 for minus 400 mesh material, output of the last material being only a small part of the total. New York fibrous talc, 325 mesh, sold for \$12 to \$15. Imported European cosmetic talcs cost as high as \$80 per ton delivered."

Note: This report was prepared by A. R. Deir, Mining Statistician.

Table 1 - PRINCIPAL STATISTICS OF THE TALC AND SOAPSTONE INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1944-1946

	1944	1945	1946
Number of firms	6	5	5
Number of employees - Administrative..	14	11	11
Workmen	99	92	76
Total	113	103	87
Salaries and wages - Salaries	\$ 29,532	\$ 28,714	\$ 27,455
Wages	\$ 104,351	\$ 106,068	\$ 90,096
Total	\$ 133,883	\$ 134,782	\$ 117,551
Selling value of products (Gross)	\$ 357,249	\$ 294,888	\$ 303,684
Cost of fuel and purchased electricity ..	\$ 27,642	\$ 27,978	\$ 25,401
Cost of freight and process supplies..	\$ 40,523	\$ 51,604	\$ 38,167
Selling value of products (net)	\$ 289,084	\$ 215,306	\$ 240,116

Table 2 - PRODUCERS' SHIPMENTS OF TALC AND SOAPSTONE(*), 1944-1946

	1944		1945		1946	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	tons	\$	tons	\$	tons	\$
Soapstone (Quebec)(x)	19,013	204,127	14,225	153,694	14,914	150,004
Talc (Ontario)	13,584	153,122	12,863	141,194	14,439	153,680
TOTAL CANADA	32,597	357,249	27,088	294,888	29,353	303,684

(*) Includes both crude and milled grades.

(x) Shipments by some firms usually include a considerable quantity of material classified as talc.

Table 3 - PRODUCTION(*) OF TALC AND SOAPSTONE IN CANADA, 1931-1946

Year	Tons	Value	Year	Tons	Value
		\$			\$
1931	21,916	157,083	1939	18,241	170,066
1932	13,275	159,038	1940	23,791	229,639
1933	16,829	190,836	1941	34,632	360,809
1934	15,532	180,777	1942	29,868	310,324
1935	15,301	171,532	1943	26,163	266,685
1936	16,587	177,270	1944	32,597	357,249
1937	15,939	163,814	1945	27,088	294,888
1938	13,814	144,848	1946	29,353	303,684

(*) Producers' shipments.

Table 4 - IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF TALC, 1945 and 1946

	1945		1946	
	Tons	\$	Tons	\$
Imports - Talc or soapstone	6,389	131,863	6,737	150,972
Exports - Talc	7,363	100,114	6,402	74,991

Table 5 - AVAILABLE STATISTICS ON THE CONSUMPTION OF GROUND TALC AND SOAPSTONE IN CANADA, 1945 and 1946

	1945	1946
	(Tons)	
(a) <u>By Uses</u>		
Paints	5,385	5,445
Roofing	6,168	8,065
Pulp and paper	2,454	2,872
Rubber	2,656	2,529
Toilet and medicinal preparations	1,373	1,226
Electrical apparatus	199	259
Imported clay products	713	1,107
Soaps and cleaning preparations	735	683
Textiles	267	250
Insecticides	943	2,616
Polishes	23	31
Prepared foundry facings	10	17
Iron foundries	106	106
Plastics	10	...
Adhesives	45	45
Linoleum .....	...	19
TOTAL	21,587	25,270
(b) <u>By Provinces</u>		
Nova Scotia	59	52
New Brunswick	475	375
Quebec	8,133	9,204
Ontario	10,731	13,285
Manitoba	1,439	1,548
Saskatchewan	42	75
Alberta	67	83
British Columbia	641	648
TOTAL	21,587	25,270

Table 6 - NUMBER OF WORKMEN, BY MONTHS, 1945 and 1946

Month	1945			1946		
	Surface	Underground	Mill	Surface	Underground	Mill
January	39	20	51	28	11	19
February	44	21	47	22	12	17
March	39	21	44	24	13	19
April	31	25	32	24	17	34
May	26	25	30	22	19	36
June	46	19	28	26	16	36
July	44	19	28	31	14	37
August	40	21	28	35	13	39
September	42	21	26	36	10	38
October	45	20	28	33	13	38
November	33	21	26	33	14	37
December	22	14	19	27	14	37
AVERAGE	38	21	33	29	14	33



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Talc and Soapstone

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Table 7 - FUEL AND ELECTRICITY USED, 1945 and 1946

Item	Unit of measure	1945		1946	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
			\$		\$
Bituminous coal--Canadian	...	...	...	...	...
Foreign.	...	...	...	...	...
Gasoline	Imp.gal.	13,670	3,961	10,875	3,097
Kerosene	Imp.gal.	75	15	30	6
Fuel oil and diesel oil..	Imp.gal.	20,255	3,327	19,610	2,767
Wood	cord	15	75	25	125
Electricity purchased ...	K.W.H.	1,784,770	20,600	1,599,300	19,406
TOTAL .....	...	...	27,978	...	25,401
Electricity generated for own use	K.W.H.	164,850	...	122,380	...

Table 8 - POWER EQUIPMENT, 1946

	Ordinarily in Use		In Reserve of Idle	
	Number of units	Horse power	Number of units	Horse power
Diesel engines	3	274	...	...
Other gas engines	15	344	...	...
Electric motors operated by purchased power	53	879	4	320
Electric motors operated by own power	12	126	...	...
Motor-generator sets .....	...	...	...	...

DIRECTORY

FIRMS IN THE TALC AND SOAPSTONE INDUSTRY, 1946

Name of Firm	Head Office Address	Location of Plant or Mine
<u>Quebec -</u>		
Baker Mining & Milling Co. Ltd.	4010 St. Catherine St. W., Montreal	Highwater
Broughton Soapstone & Quarry Co. Ltd.	Broughton Station	Broughton
Fortin, Charles	Robertsonville	Thetford Tp.
Pharo, L. C. Co. Ltd.	187 St. Maurice St., Thetford Mines	Leeds Tp.
<u>Ontario -</u>		
Canada Talc Limited	Madoc	Huntingdon Tp.