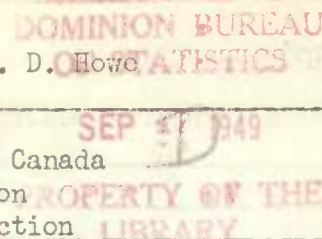


Published by Authority of the Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe
Minister of Trade and Commerce
Department of Trade and Commerce
Dominion Bureau of Statistics--Ottawa, Canada
Industry and Merchandising Division
Mining, Metallurgical and Chemical Section



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Price 15 cents

THE TALC AND SOAPSTONE INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1948

Canadian producers of talc and soapstone shipped 28,780 tons valued at \$309,823 during 1948. Operators in Quebec, all in the Eastern Townships, shipped 14,479 tons of blocks and ground material worth \$145,361 and shipments from Ontario totalled 14,301 tons valued at \$164,462; the latter tonnage was mostly high-grade milled talc. The 5 concerns in this industry employed an average of 58 persons during the year.

Canadian consumers imported 7,798 tons of talc or soapstone valued at \$213,438 in 1948. Exports totalled 5,052 tons worth \$63,474.

Ground talc, including soapstone and pyrophyllite, is used chiefly in the paint, roofing, paper, rubber, insecticide, and ceramic industries. It is used also in foundry facings, bleaching fillers for textiles, cosmetics and pharmaceuticals, soaps and cleansers, plaster, polishes, plastics and for rice polishing. Soapstone is used extensively in the form of sawn blocks and bricks for lining the alkali recovery furnaces and kilns of kraft pulp and paper mills. It is used for brick and slab liners for fireboxes, stoves, and ovens, and for switchboard panels, laboratory benches, etc. Considerable quantities of soapstone quarry and sawing waste are ground and used as low-grade talc in the rubber, roofing, foundry, and other trades. Compact, massive talc, sawn into square pencils and slices, is an important material for steelmakers' crayons. Recent shortages of suitable raw material have led to the introduction of extruded crayons compounded of ground talc with a suitable binder.

Under the new Multilateral Trade Agreement, effective January 1, 1948, the duty on ground talc exported to the United States was reduced from $17\frac{1}{2}$ per cent to 10 per cent ad valorem on material valued at not over \$14 a ton. On material valued at over \$14 a ton, the duty remains at 35 per cent. The duty on crude material is $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent a pound, whereas cut soapstone or talc in the form of bricks, crayons, blanks, etc., is dutiable at one cent a pound. Talc, ground or unground, enters Canada under the British Preferential tariff at 15 per cent; imports from the United States are dutiable at 20 per cent.

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Table 1 - PRINCIPAL STATISTICS OF THE TALC AND SOAPSTONE INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1946-1948

	1946	1947	1948
Number of firms	5	5	5
Number of employees - Administrative .	11	12	10
Workmen	76	61	48
Total	87	73	58
Salaries and wages - Salaries	\$ 27,455	\$ 32,766	\$ 29,035
Wages	\$ 90,096	\$ 77,761	\$ 73,052
Total	\$ 117,551	\$ 110,527	\$ 102,087
Selling value of products (gross)	\$ 303,684	\$ 266,377	\$ 309,823
Cost of fuel and purchased electricity ..	\$ 25,401	\$ 22,786	\$ 20,353
Cost of freight and process supplies .	\$ 38,167	\$ 18,904	\$ 8,897
Selling value of products (net)	\$ 240,116	\$ 224,687	\$ 280,573

Table 2 - PRODUCERS' SHIPMENTS OF TALC AND SOAPSTONE (x) BY PROVINCES, 1946-1948

	1946		1947		1948	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	tons	\$	tons	\$	tons	\$
Quebec (soapstone) (f)	14,914	150,004	13,279	123,467	14,479	145,361
Ontario (talc)	14,439	153,680	13,430	142,910	14,301	164,462
CANADA	29,353	303,684	26,709	266,377	28,780	309,823

(x) Includes both crude and milled grades.

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

Table 3 - SHIPMENTS OF TALC AND SOAPSTONE BY CANADIAN PRODUCERS, 1939-1948

Year	Tons	Value	Year	Tons	Value
		\$			\$
1939	18,241	170,066	1944	32,597	357,249
1940	23,791	229,639	1945	27,088	294,888
1941	34,632	360,809	1946	29,353	303,684
1942	29,868	310,824	1947	26,709	266,377
1943	26,163	266,685	1948	28,780	309,823

Table 4 - IMPORTS INTO CANADA AND EXPORTS OF TALC, 1947 and 1948

	1947		1948	
	Tons	\$	Tons	\$
Imports - Talc or soapstone	8,472	196,697	7,798	213,438
Exports - Talc	5,807	68,394	5,052	63,474

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Table 5 - AVAILABLE STATISTICS ON THE CONSUMPTION OF GROUND TALC AND SOAPSTONE IN CANADA, 1945-1947

	1 9 4 5	1 9 4 6	1 9 4 7
	(Tons)		
(a) <u>By Uses</u>			
Paints	5,885	5,445	7,352
Roofing	6,168	8,065	8,618
Pulp and paper	2,454	2,872	1,899
Rubber	2,656	2,529	3,075
Toilet and medicinal preparations .	1,373	1,226	1,350
Electrical apparatus	199	259	330
Imported clay products	713	1,107	1,214
Soaps and cleaning preparations ...	735	683	524
Textiles	267	250	150(x)
Insecticides	943	2,616	2,388
Polishes	23	31	8
Prepared foundry facings	10	17	39
Iron foundries	106	106	106(x)
Plastics	10	...	...
Adhesives	45	45	6(x)
Linoleum .....	...	19	6
TOTAL	21,587	25,270	27,115
(b) <u>By Provinces</u>			
Nova Scotia	59	52	60
New Brunswick	475	375	509
Quebec	8,133	9,204	10,006
Ontario	10,731	13,285	14,208
Manitoba	1,439	1,548	1,503
Saskatchewan	42	75	81
Alberta	67	83	70
British Columbia	641	648	678
TOTAL	21,587	25,270	27,115

(x) Partly estimated.

Table 6 - NUMBER OF WORKMEN IN THE TALC AND SOAPSTONE INDUSTRY, BY MONTHS, 1947 and 1948

Month	1 9 4 7			1 9 4 8		
	Surface	Underground	Mill	Surface	Underground	Mill
January	28	13	24	14	8	22
February	34	13	25	13	10	21
March	36	13	25	15	14	23
April	20	13	25	12	12	22
May	46	13	25	12	7	21
June	38	11	27	21	8	20
July	27	13	23	22	9	20
August	22	11	23	22	9	24
September	30	9	21	16	11	19
October	19	10	22	16	12	20
November	9	8	18	27	11	20
December	6	9	18	9	12	21
AVERAGE	27	11	23	16	11	21



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Table 7 - FUEL AND ELECTRICITY USED, 1947 and 1948

Item	Unit of measure	1 9 4 7		1 9 4 8	
		Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$
Gasoline	Imp.gal.	7,385	2,482	7,249	2,665
Kerosene	Imp.gal.	40	8	50	10
Fuel oil and diesel oil .	Imp.gal.	10,800	1,413	1,385	375
Wood .....	...	...	...	...	...
Electricity purchased ...	K.W.H.	1,442,143	18,883	1,420,220	17,183
TOTAL .....	...	...	22,786	...	20,353
Electricity generated for own use	K.W.H.	186,500	...	...	...

Table 8 - POWER EQUIPMENT, 1948

	Ordinarily in Use		In Reserve or Idle	
	Number of units	Horse power	Number of units	Horse power
Diesel engines	1	35	...	...
Other gasoline engines	3	100	...	...
Electric motors operated by purchased power	71	981	4	320
TOTAL	75	1,116	4	320

DIRECTORY OF FIRMS IN THE TALC AND SOAPSTONE INDUSTRY, 1948

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.	1 Victoria St., Thetford Mines	Leeds Tp.
<u>Ontario -</u>		
Canada Talc Limited	Madoc	Huntingdon Tp.

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