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THE TALC AND SOAPSTONE INDUSTRY 1951

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NOTICE

The annual reports prepared by the Industry and Merchandising Division of the Bureau of Statistics are divided into 4 volumes, as follows: **Volume I**—The Primary Industries, including mining, forestry and fisheries; **Volume II**—Manufacturing; **Volume III**—Construction; **Volume IV**—Merchandising and Services. The volumes are made up of parts, and the parts in turn are subdivided according to the industries which they comprise.

Volume I consists of the following parts:

- Part I—Mineral Statistics
- Part II—Forestry Statistics—Operations in the Woods
- Part III—Fisheries Statistics

Part I includes the following reports which constitute the complete series on Mineral Statistics of Canada. Individual reports are issued as the information becomes available; they are arranged in a form suitable for binding.

- A—General Review of the Mining Industry, 50¢.
- B—The Gold Mining Industry, 50¢.
- C—The Silver-Lead-Zinc Mining Industry, 25¢.
- D—The Nickel-Copper Mining, Smelting and Refining Industry, 25¢.
- E—The Miscellaneous Metal Mining Industry, 25¢.
- F—The Non-ferrous Smelting and Refining Industry, 25¢.
- G—The Coal Mining Industry, \$1.00.
- H—The Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Industry, 25¢.
- I—The Asbestos Mining Industry, 25¢.
- J—The Feldspar and Quartz Mining Industry, 25¢.
- K—The Gypsum Industry, 25¢.
- L—The Peat Industry, 25¢.
- M—The Salt Industry, 25¢.
- N—The Talc and Soapstone Industry, 25¢.
- O—The Miscellaneous Non-Metal Mining Industry, 25¢.
- P—The Cement Manufacturing Industry, 25¢.
- Q—The Clay and Clay Products Industry, 25¢.
- R—The Lime Industry, 25¢.
- S—The Sand and Gravel Industry, 25¢.
- T—The Stone Industry, 25¢.
- U—Contract Diamond Drilling in the Mining Industry, 25¢.

THE TALC AND SOAPSTONE INDUSTRY

1951

Talc and soapstone shipped by producers in 1951 amounted to 24,846 tons valued at \$283,624 compared with 32,604 tons worth \$364,995 in 1950. Most of the production in Ontario was high grade milled talc. The output from Quebec included crayons, blocks and ground soapstone. Operations in British Columbia were for experimental test purposes.

The industry employed 50 persons to whom \$109,522 were paid in salaries and wages. Fuel cost \$5,945 and 1,267,218 k.w.h. of electricity were purchased for \$19,529.

Imported talc and soapstone amounted to 9,283 tons valued at \$306,277. During 1951 there were 3,743 tons of talc valued at \$48,857 exported from Canada.

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. Also 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.

TABLE 1. Principal Statistics of the Talc and Soapstone Industry, 1949-1951

	1949	1950	1951
Number of firms	3	5	4
Number of employees:			
Administrative and office	7	8	3
Workmen	52	50	47
Total	59	58	50
Salaries and wages:			
Administrative and office	\$ 27,559	\$ 32,237	\$ 7,240
Workmen	\$ 78,177	\$ 84,310	\$ 102,282
Total	\$ 105,736	\$ 116,547	\$ 109,522
Gross value of products, f.o.b. quarries	\$ 320,793	\$ 364,635	\$ 305,338
Cost of fuel and purchased electricity at works	\$ 21,826	\$ 27,550	\$ 25,474
Cost of freight, process supplies and containers	\$ 42,426	\$ 39,225	\$ 37,481

TABLE 2. Producers Shipments¹ of Talc and Soapstone, by Provinces, 1949-1951

	1949		1950		1951	
	Quantity	Selling value f.o.b. shipping points	Quantity	Selling value f.o.b. shipping points	Quantity	Selling value f.o.b. shipping points
	tons	\$	tons	\$	tons	\$
Quebec (soapstone) ²	13,322	160,036	17,209	181,623	11,148	123,084
Ontario (talc) & British Columbia ³	13,600	160,757	15,395	183,372	13,698	160,540
Canada	26,922	320,793	32,604	364,995	24,846	283,624

1. Includes both crude and milled grades.

2. Shipments by some firms usually include a considerable quantity of material classified as talc.

3. Includes pyrophyllite.

TABLE 3. Shipments of Talc and Soapstone by Canadian Producers, 1942-1951

Year	Tons	Value	Year	Tons	Value
		\$			\$
1942	29,868	310,824	1947	26,709	266,377
1943	26,163	266,685	1948	28,780	309,823
1944	32,597	357,249	1949	26,922	320,793
1945	27,088	294,888	1950	32,604	364,995
1946	29,353	303,684	1951	24,846	283,624

Total man hours worked in 1951

TABLE 7. World Production of Talc, Pyrophyllite, and Soapstone, by Countries, 1945-1949

(Extracted from the annual review issued by the U.S. Bureau of Mines)

Country ¹	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949
			(metric tons)		
Argentina	2,681	3,760	2	2	2
Australia:					
New South Wales	1,776	1,665	1,181	2,155	2
South Australia	3,037	3,727	4,532	3,936	2
Tasmania	155	50	—	22	2
Western Australia	—	396	216	73	2
Austria	4,470	21,600	24,500	47,300	52,144
Canada	24,574	26,628	24,230	26,109	25,198
Newfoundland	711	660	220	2	
Chile	477	640	1,085	270	2
China	2	2	2	2	2
Egypt	3,868	4,760	4,630	5,521	5,000
Finland	75	300	2	237	2
France	40,650	63,350	69,785	98,248	2
French Indochina	—	—	—	—	—
Germany	6,300	13,800	20,484	28,214	30,968
Greece	—	500	200	1,800	2
India	22,872	96,220	20,823	18,291	2
Italy	39,861	36,356	50,000	2	60,210
Japan	199,653	111,562	183,129	243,737	262,423
Kenya	202	490	297	—	—
Korea:					
North	12,152 ⁵	300	700	72	2,773
South					
Madagascar	6	—	—	2	2
New Zealand	—	—	—	—	2
Norway	15,522	31,062	37,687	60,226	2
Romania	2	267	2	2	2
Spain ⁷	19,319	30,665	31,616	29,984	38,208
Sweden	9,360	14,010	10,710	11,703	2
Union of South Africa	1,947	3,680	2,700	4,897	5,061
United Kingdom	2,170	3,437	3,379	2	2,621
United States ⁸	361,406	414,641	468,190	470,596	419,023
Uruguay	1,823	1,818	2,675	2,984	660
Total (estimate)¹	830,000	940,000	1,020,000	1,170,000	1,140,000

1. In addition to countries listed, talc or pyrophyllite is reported produced in Brazil, Bulgaria, French Morocco, Pakistan, Tanganyika and U.S.S.R., but data on production are not available; no estimate included in total.

2. Data not available; estimate included in total.

3. United States zone only.

4. Bizonal area.

5. Incomplete.

6. Less than 1 ton.

7. Included steatite.

8. Talc, pyrophyllite, pinite and ground soap stone sold by producers.

Directory of Firms in the Talc and Soapstone Industry, 1951

Name of firm	Head office address	Location of plant or mine
Quebec:		
Baker Mining & Milling Co. Ltd.	4010 St. Catherine St. W., Montreal	Highwater
Broughton Soapstone & Quarry Co. Ltd.	Broughton Station	Broughton
Industrial Talc Prospecting Syndicate	137 Wellington St. W., Toronto, Ontario.	Bolton Tp.
Ontario:		
Canada Talc Limited	Madoc	Huntingdon Tp.
British Columbia:		
Mountain Minerals Ltd.	Box 273, Lethbridge, Alberta	Armstrong, Semlin

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