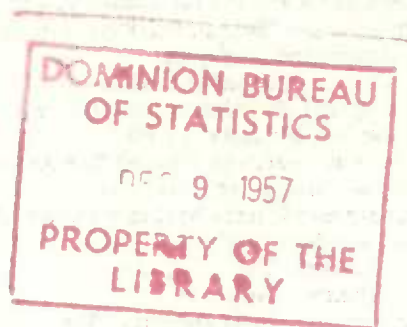


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THE TALC AND SOAPSTONE INDUSTRY

1956



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NOTICE

The annual reports prepared by the Industry and Merchandising Division of the Bureau of Statistics are divided into 3 volumes, as follows: **Volume I** — The Primary Industries, including mining, forestry and fisheries; **Volume II** — Manufacturing; **Volume III** — 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 Iron Mining Industry, 25¢
- F — The Miscellaneous Metal Mining Industry, 25¢
- G — The Smelting and Refining Industry, 25¢
- H — The Coal Mining Industry, \$1.00
- I — The Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Industry, 25¢
- J — The Asbestos Mining Industry, 25¢
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- L — The Gypsum Industry, 25¢
- M — The Peat Industry, 25¢
- N — The Salt Industry, 25¢
- O — The Talc and Soapstone Industry, 25¢
- P — The Miscellaneous Non-metal Mining Industry, 25¢
- Q — The Cement Manufacturing Industry, 25¢
- R — The Clay and Clay Products Industry, 25¢
- S — The Lime Industry, 25¢
- T — The Sand and Gravel Industry, 25¢
- U — The Stone Industry, 25¢
- V — Contract Drilling in the Mining Industry, 25¢

THE TALC SOAPSTONE INDUSTRY

1956

During 1956 the Canadian producers of talc, soapstone, pyrophyllite and steatite shipped 29,326 short tons valued at \$365,226 compared with 27,160 tons valued at \$338,967 in the preceding year. Production of pyrophyllite in Newfoundland was on a fairly regular basis during the latter half of the year. Quebec mines produced ground talc and steatite, also soapstone blocks and crayons. Talc of various particle sizes was shipped from the Madoc, Ontario area. There has been no production of talc or pyrophyllite from British Columbian properties in recent years.

The average number of persons employed in the industry was 67 to whom \$169,120 were paid as salaries. Fuel cost \$6,790 and 1,261,206 kwh. of electricity were purchased for \$23,700. Containers and process supplies cost \$83,043.

Imports of talc and soapstone in 1956 amounted to 16,268 tons valued at \$496,001. Exported were 2,613 tons worth \$34,408.

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 for the Talc and Soapstone Industry, Significant Years, 1921-1956

Year	Estab- lish- ments	Em- ployees	Salaries and wages	Cost of fuel and electricity at works	Cost of process supplies and containers at works	Gross selling value of products (f.o.b. works)	Net ¹ value of production
	No.	No.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1921	4	39	64,703	15,731	N.A.	144,565	N.A.
1929	5	86	74,300	21,395	"	229,198	"
1931	5	70	71,787	19,128	"	157,083	"
1933	7	103	83,060	26,424	"	190,836	"
1937	7	83	72,020	19,318	6,076	163,814	138,420
1939	6	65	60,512	15,154	7,178	170,066	147,734
1941	8	148	128,820	26,882	28,324	360,809	305,603
1944	6	113	133,883	27,642	40,523	357,249	289,084
1946	5	87	117,551	25,401	38,167	303,684	240,116
1949	3	59	105,736	21,826	42,426	320,793	256,541
1951	4	50	109,522	25,474	37,481	305,338	242,383
1953	3	54	132,934	32,707	63,315	308,497	245,182
1954	4	53	134,437	35,545	65,209	389,048	288,294
1955	4	50	129,221	38,689	63,122	392,667	290,831
1956	4	67	169,120	30,490	83,043	429,335	315,802

1. Gross value less cost of fuel, electricity, process supplies and containers.

TABLE 2. Producers' Shipments¹ of Talc and Soapstone, by Provinces, 1954-1956

Province	1954		1955		1956	
	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	14,437	165,472	12,562	143,895	15,576	185,298
Newfoundland ³	13,706	169,881	14,598	195,072	13,750	179,928
Ontario						
Canada	28,143	335,353	27,160	338,967	29,326	365,226

1. Includes both crude and milled grades. Value of containers is excluded.

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, 1947-1956

Year	Tons	Value	Year	Tons	Value
		\$			\$
1947	25,709	266,377	1952	25,032	280,612
1948	28,780	309,823	1953	27,408	285,755
1949	26,922	320,793	1954	28,143	335,353
1950	32,504	364,995	1955	27,160	338,967
1951	24,846	283,624	1956	29,326	365,226

TABLE 4. Imports and Exports of Talc, 1954-1956

	1954		1955		1956	
	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value
		\$		\$		\$
Imports:						
Talc, or soapstone	12,392	397,985	11,382	378,027	16,268	496,001
Exports:						
Talc	3,609	48,753	4,428	64,974	2,613	34,408

TABLE 5. Available Statistics on the Consumption of Ground Talc and Soapstone, 1952-1955

	1952	1953	1954	1955
	Tons			
By uses:				
Paints	7,264	7,838	7,240	7,872
Roofing	3,255	8,050	7,772	9,414
Pulp and paper	2,568	1,510	814	687
Rubber	1,617	1,620	1,330	1,392
Toilet preparations	307	424	455	540
Electrical apparatus	427	490	598	311
Clay products	1,164	2,164	2,345	3,302
Soaps and cleaning preparations	206	81	106	64
Textiles and linoleum	533	1	2	975
Insecticides and miscellaneous chemicals	7,638	8,557	9,704	5,503
Polishes and dressings	16	11	13	8
Miscellaneous non-metallic mineral products	47	82	146	83
Iron foundries	—	—
Tanneries	20	5	2	6
Asbestos products	1	1	1	9
Coal tar distillation	133	694	2,195	783
Medicinal preparations	1	321	352	408
Total accounted for	30,696	31,849	33,073	31,357
By provinces:				
Nova Scotia and Newfoundland	204	178	186	158
New Brunswick	459	459	503	527
Quebec	9,455	9,554	10,473	11,962
Ontario	16,226	17,436	17,897	14,745
Manitoba	2,762	2,564	1,529	1,438
Saskatchewan	29	—	700	536
Alberta	862	852	686	732
British Columbia	699	806	1,049	1,259
Total	30,696	31,849	33,073	31,357

1. Included in toilet preparations, 1952.
2. Not reported separately.

TABLE 6. Employees and Their Earnings in the Talc and Soapstone Industry, 1952-1956

Year	Number of employees					Number of man-hours worked (all employees)	Earnings		
	Office and administrative		Workmen		Total		Office and adminis- trative	Workmen	Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female					
							\$	\$	\$
1952	5	1	48	—	54	110, 479	22, 768	94, 376	117, 144
1953	5	1	48	—	54	138, 913	23, 221	109, 713	132, 934
1954	7	1	45	—	53	138, 690	30, 881	103, 556	134, 437
1955	7	1	42	—	50	126, 986	32, 075	98, 146	129, 221
1956	10	1	56	—	67	157, 323	41, 061	128, 059	169, 120

TABLE 7. Average Number of Workmen, by Months, 1955 and 1956

Month	1955				1956			
	Surface	Under-ground	Mill	Total	Surface	Under-ground	Mill	Total
January	17	12	7	36	5	11	19	35
February	21	14	8	43	6	11	20	37
March	24	14	8	46	6	12	19	37
April	22	12	7	41	7	13	25	45
May	23	12	7	42	8	13	30	51
June	27	13	7	47	11	15	32	58
July	27	12	7	46	24	16	31	71
August	26	11	7	44	31	15	35	81
September	23	10	7	40	17	15	31	63
October	21	10	7	38	22	14	34	70
November	22	10	7	39	23	13	34	70
December	21	8	7	36	5	12	34	51
Average	23	12	7	42	14	13	29	56
<i>Man-hours worked</i>				108,166				132,998

TABLE 8. Fuel and Electricity Used in the Talc and Soapstone Industry, 1956

Kind	Unit of measure	Quantity	Cost at plant
Bituminous coal (a) From Canadian mines	short ton	—	—
(b) Imported	"	—	—
Sub-bituminous coal (from Alberta mines only)	"	—	—
Anthracite coal	"	—	—
Lignite coal	"	—	—
Coke (for fuel only)	"	—	—
Gasoline, (includes gasoline used in cars and trucks)	Imp. gal.	8,016	3,033
Kerosene or coal oil	"	—	—
Fuel oil	"	14,974	3,757
Wood (cords of 128 cubic feet of piled wood)	cord	—	—
Gas (a) Liquefied petroleum gases (propane, etc.)	Imp. gal.	—	—
(b) Other manufactured gas	M cu. ft.	—	—
(c) Natural gas	"	—	—
Other fuel	—	—	—
Electricity purchased for power and lighting	k.w.h.	1,261,206	23,700
Electricity purchased for other purposes	"	—	—
Total (cost only)	30,490
Electricity generated (a) For own use	k.w.h.	—	—
(b) For sale	"	—	—

TABLE 9. World Production of Talc, Pyrophyllite and Soapstone, by Countries¹, 1952-1956

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

Country ¹	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
	Short tons ²				
North America:					
Canada (shipments)	25,032	27,408	28,143	27,160	29,030
United States	600,908	631,518	618,994	725,708	739,039
Total	625,940	658,926	647,137	752,868	768,069
South America:					
Argentina	14,330	16,500 ³	16,500 ³	25,353	27,558
Brazil	21,464	23,466	21,967	27,190	27,600 ³
Chile	—	—	—	—	—
Paraguay	—	99	132	100 ³	100 ³
Peru	137	—	—	3,708	579
Uruguay	748	992	1,167	1,249	1,100 ³
Total	36,679	41,000³	39,800³	57,500³	56,900³
Europe:					
Austria	56,022	56,477	68,310	77,794	72,819
Finland	6,614	4,065	8,133	5,265	8,146
France	120,864	120,693	130,844	148,040	145,064
Germany, West	30,412	32,991	36,170	55,571	56,476
Greece	1,323	—	1,275	2,315	2,200 ³
Italy	89,886	91,049	94,440	110,099	102,369
Norway	70,629	67,848	78,801	76,059	66,000 ³
Portugal	7	18	6	11	10 ³
Rumania	4	4	4	4	—
Spain	20,296	20,720	22,896	25,168	30,405
Sweden	9,686	9,306	14,689	13,695	14,492
United Kingdom	2,897	4,413	4,447	5,641	5,500 ³
Yugoslavia	—	—	—	2,922	—
Total^{3,4}	430,000	430,000	483,000	545,000	530,000
Asia					
Afghanistan	882	800	1,200	700 ³	899
India	23,264	32,632	47,405	47,476 ³	35,529
Japan	350,960	362,193	246,197	251,479	300,000 ³
Korea, Republic of	14,985	26,983	20,965	12,092	15,719
Tiawan (Formosa)	1,205	1,944	7,791	5,807	6,758
Total^{3,4}	435,000	480,000	390,000	395,000	450,000
Africa:					
Egypt	5,071	2,509	2,822	6,878	7,706
Kenya	259	173	111	—	—
Union of South Africa	9,562	7,974	7,974	1,581	1,968
Total	14,892	10,656	10,907	8,459	9,674
Australia	8,518	11,127	14,699	14,075	14,955
World total (estimate)¹	1,550,000	1,630,000	1,590,000	1,770,000	1,830,000

1. In addition to countries listed, talc or pyrophyllite is reported in China and U.S.S.R., but data on production are not available; estimates have been included in total.

2. This table incorporates a number of revisions of data published in previous talc chapters.

3. Estimate.

4. Data not available; estimate included in total.

Directory of Firms in the Talc and Soapstone Industry, 1956

Name of firm	Head office address	Location of plant or mine
Newfoundland:		
Newfoundland Minerals.....	Box 348, St. John's	Long Pond, Conception Bay
Quebec:		
Baker Talc Limited	215 St. James St. W., Montreal	Highwater
Broughton Soapstone & Quarry Co. Ltd.	Broughton Station	Broughton
Ontario:		
Canada Talc Industries Ltd.	Madoc	Huntingdon Twp.
British Columbia:		
Mountain Minerals Ltd. ¹	Box 273, Lethbridge, Alberta	Armstrong, Semlin

1. Non-producing during current year.

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