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REPORT

ON THE

CORDAGE, ROPE & TWINE INDUSTRY

IN

CANADA

1947



OTTAWA
1949

23

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

INDUSTRY AND AGRICULTURE

SECTION ON THE

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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
GENERAL MANUFACTURES SECTION

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THE CORDAGE, ROPE AND TWINE INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1947.

The ten establishments listed in the cordage, rope and twine industry in 1947 reported a gross value of production of \$18,229,405. Persons employed numbered 1,607 with salaries and wages paid amounting to \$2,837,339. Materials used had a value at the factory of \$11,053,378, while the value added by manufacture amounted to \$6,999,873.

Ontario is the leading producer of cordage, rope and twine. The six plants located there in 1947 produced 80 per cent of the total output, and furnished employment to 80 per cent of the employees engaged in the industry.

From the standpoint of both volume and value binder twine is the principal product manufactured by this industry. In 1947 there were produced 65,279,450 pounds, with a value at the factory of \$8,758,981. The output of binder twine represented 48 per cent of the total value of products made during this year. The price structure of binder twine throughout the war years and until the end of 1946 was complicated by subsidies and price changes during this period must, therefore, be used with caution.

The output of rope totalled 18,213,663 pounds, valued at \$5,115,455; twines for sale, 10,229,987 pounds valued at \$3,062,004; yarns for sale, 2,638,888 pounds valued at \$890,605; and all other products had a value of \$402,360.

There was a substantial decrease in the physical volume of production in the industry during 1947, attributable almost entirely to the drop of 24 per cent in the production of binder twine. Twines made for sale registered an increase of 31 per cent while both the output of rope and the production of yarns for sale continued at about the same level as in 1946. All told there was a decrease of approximately 16 per cent in the volume of production. Table 3 gives detailed statistics of production for 1946 and 1947.

Hard fibres, such as Manilla hemp, Mexican and African sisal, etc. constitute the principal materials used by the industry. The amount used in 1947 was valued at \$8,970,696, or over 81 per cent of the total cost of materials used.

THE CORDAGE, ROPE AND TWINE INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1947

Table 1. - Principal Statistics, Representative Years, 1921 - 1947.

Year and Provinces	Estab-lish-ments	Capital Invested	Em-ployees	Salaries and Wages	Cost of Materials Used	Gross Value of Production
	No.	\$	No.	\$	\$	\$
1921	9	7,861,066	824	1,055,462	4,620,408	7,962,550
1924	9	9,416,545	1,359	1,486,702	5,096,892	8,876,786
1929	13	13,066,423	1,368	1,518,280	7,798,893	11,798,165
1930	13	12,281,660	1,058	1,182,568	6,059,887	8,551,349
1933	11	9,839,262	1,015	1,027,460	2,461,395	4,740,612
1937	10	11,254,478	1,030	1,132,435	3,907,340	6,578,967
1938	10	10,437,106	882	1,007,597	3,057,839	4,910,962
1939	10	10,376,100	978	1,055,702	2,710,778	4,966,074
1940	11	12,190,563	1,285	1,533,026	4,903,793	9,192,945
1941	11	13,136,537	1,346	1,668,462	5,684,207	10,895,994
1942	11	13,286,543	1,590	2,243,872	8,350,266	13,758,225
1943	11	13,552,590	1,531	2,279,708	8,197,636	12,650,931
1944	10	(2)	1,741	2,637,162	10,594,964	16,177,696
1945	10	(2)	1,678	2,477,765	8,814,693	14,419,946

1946

CANADA	10	(2)	1,740	2,669,236	8,058,127	13,869,880
Ontario	6	-	1,450	2,214,622	6,764,939	11,274,281
(1)						
Other Provinces	4	-	290	454,614	1,293,188	2,595,499

1947

CANADA	10	(2)	1,607	2,837,339	11,053,378	18,229,405
Ontario	6	-	1,293	2,292,678	9,177,366	14,598,024
(1)						
Other Provinces	4	-	314	544,661	1,876,012	3,631,381

(1) Includes two establishments in Quebec, one in Nova Scotia and one in British Columbia.

(2) Information not collected since 1943.

Profits or losses cannot be estimated from the figures published in this report as no data are collected for overhead expenses, such as interest, rent, depreciation, taxes, insurance, advertising, etc.

The statistics published in this report include only the statistics of manufacturing establishments whose principal products are cordage, rope and twine. Statistics relating to specific products, such as twines, are not to be regarded as the total for Canada since some of these products are also produced in cotton textiles establishments.

THE CORDAGE, ROPE AND TWINE INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1947

Table 2. - Comparison of Principal Statistics, 1946 and 1947.

Item		1946	1947	+ Increase - Decrease	
Establishments reporting	No.	10	10	-	
Employees on salaries -					
Total	No.	165	169	+	4
Male	No.	113	121	+	8
Female.....	No.	52	48	-	4
Total Salaries	\$	459,620	523,446	+	63,826
Employees on wages -					
Monthly average.....	No.	1,575	1,438	-	137
Male	No.	955	912	-	43
Female.....	No.	620	526	-	94
Total Wages	\$	2,209,616	2,313,893	+	104,277
Power equipment -					
Units.....	No.	659	693	+	34
Horse-power capacity	H.P.	9,651	9,478	-	173
Cost of fuel and electricity.....	\$	170,710	176,154	+	5,444
Cost of materials used	\$	8,058,127	11,053,378	+	2,995,251
Gross value of production	\$	13,869,880	18,229,405	+	4,359,525
Value added by manufacture	\$	5,641,043	6,999,873	+	1,358,830

Table 3. - Production, 1946 and 1947.

Principal Products	Unit of Measure	1946		1947	
		Quantity	Selling Value at Factory(2)	Quantity	Selling Value at Factory
			\$		\$
Binder twine -					
All sisal	lb.	} 86,138,550	7,715,357	65,279,450	8,758,981
Chiefly sisal	"				
Twines for sale - Hemp ..	"	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Jute.....	"	4,730,042	1,235,214	4,626,395	1,625,685
Sisal....	"	2,750,231	514,826(3)	5,076,972	1,193,434(3)
All other	"	308,474	137,819	526,620	242,885
Rope -					
Manila	"	2,095,623	450,596	6,717,452	2,280,402
Sisal	"	15,554,508	2,635,976	10,887,358	2,590,623
Cotton	"	94,071	52,724	74,010	53,333
Jute	"	339,750	81,568	463,356	145,452
Hemp	"	103,871	64,056	61,435	38,252
All other.....	"	17,047	4,129	10,052	7,393
Yarns -					
Flax, hemp, jute, etc. ...	"	2,647,958	673,939	2,638,888	890,605
All other products, unable to specify	-	-	303,676	-	402,360
TOTAL PRODUCTION...	-	-	13,869,880	-	18,229,405

(1) Included in all other twines. (2) Includes subsidies.

(3) Selling value at factory in this case does not represent sales at a definite level as it includes sales to wholesalers at wholesale prices along with sales to dealer organizations at manufacturer's cost of production. As a guide to selling prices of binder twine, reference may be had to the wholesale prices as published by Prices Statistics Branch of the Bureau of Statistics which for the years 1946 and 1947 were \$9.025 and \$14.963 per cwt., respectively.

THE CORDAGE, ROPE AND TWINE INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1947.

Table 4. - Consumption of Binder Twine in Canada for the Years, 1945 - 1947.

	1945		1946		1947	
	Quantity Cwt.	Value \$	Quantity Cwt.	Value \$	Quantity Cwt.	Value \$
Production	759,102	7,671,822	861,386	7,715,357	652,795	8,758,981
plus						
Imports	41	482	12	170	5	152
TOTAL	759,143	7,672,304	861,398	7,715,527	652,800	8,759,133
less						
Exports	238,962	2,793,834	369,613	3,910,078	216,688	3,274,331
AVAILABLE FOR CONSUMPTION	520,181	4,878,470	491,785	3,805,449	436,112	5,484,802

Table 5. - Materials Used, 1946 and 1947.

Principal Materials	Unit of Measure	1 9 4 6		1 9 4 7	
		Quantity	Cost Value at Factory	Quantity	Cost Value at Factory
			\$		\$
HARD FIBRES -					
Manila hemp	lb.	2,173,422	261,753	7,217,979	1,386,835
Java sisal	"	327,333	26,973	26,809	1,975
Mexican sisal	"	29,684,376	2,527,114	7,521,440	1,096,404
African sisal	"	39,568,554	3,199,810	50,359,274	5,934,770
Other hemp and sisal	"	320,481	38,311	3,809,081	550,712
SOFT FIBRES -					
Hemp, hemp tow, flax, flax tow and jute.....	lb.	8,455,208	846,861	7,867,570	1,032,696
Twines, cotton	"	92,580	150,040	82,367	154,059
Yarns, purchased -					
Flax, hemp and jute	"	1,664,573	285,001	614,622	169,005
Cotton and other	"	-	52,879	-	59,245
Oils.....	-	-	241,531	-	192,519
Wax.....	-	-	7,911	-	10,050
Degras	-	-	15,647	-	13,963
All other materials and supplies	-	-	87,606	-	103,244
Packing and shipping materials -					
Burlap	-	-	13,406	-	7,803
Other packing and shipping materials..	-	-	303,284	-	340,098
TOTAL COST OF MATERIALS USED....					
	-	-	8,058,127	-	11,053,378

THE CORDAGE, ROPE AND TWINE INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1947.

Table 6. - Capital Invested, Representative Years, 1921 - 1943.

Year and Provinces	Fixed Capital	Working Capital		TOTAL CAPITAL
	Land, buildings, fixtures, machinery, tools, etc.	Stocks of raw materials and finished pro- ducts on hand, goods in pro- cess, fuel and miscellaneous supplies, etc.	Cash, bills and accounts receivable, prepaid expenses, etc.	
	\$	\$	\$	\$
1921	3,022,161	2,697,790	2,141,115	7,861,066
1923	3,421,557	2,143,556	1,764,206	7,329,319
1926	5,774,524	5,859,920	4,045,125	15,679,569
1927	5,965,331	5,401,592	3,523,297	14,890,220
1928	5,346,038	2,627,292	4,200,219	12,173,549
1929	5,354,398	4,253,506	3,458,519	13,066,423
1930	5,274,962	3,274,323	3,732,375	12,281,660
1932	5,085,458	1,476,381	3,623,093	10,184,932
1933	5,073,234	2,099,449	2,666,579	9,839,262
1934	4,634,525	3,261,123	2,520,698	10,416,346
1935	4,683,573	2,336,790	3,970,723	10,991,086
1936	4,674,299	3,644,973	1,630,218	9,949,490
1937	4,679,711	5,175,204	1,399,563	11,254,478
1938	4,666,414	3,455,212	2,315,480	10,437,106
1939	4,725,034	2,976,397	2,674,669	10,376,100
1940	5,030,658	4,634,890	2,525,006	12,190,563
1941	4,183,425	5,643,324(1)	3,309,788	13,136,537
<u>1942</u>				
CANADA	4,489,212	5,142,095(2)	3,655,236	13,286,543
Ontario	3,936,643	4,161,633	3,050,659	11,148,935
Other Provinces	552,569	980,462	604,577	2,137,608
<u>1943</u>				
CANADA	4,508,493	3,975,830(3)	5,068,267	13,552,590
Ontario	3,960,236	3,340,108	4,181,574	11,481,918
Other Provinces	548,257	635,722	886,693	2,070,672

This information not collected since 1943

(1) The value of finished products on hand amounted to \$3,090,111.

(2) " " " " " " " " " \$1,870,645.

(3) " " " " " " " " " \$1,398,243.

THE CORDAGE, ROPE AND TWINE INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1947.

Table 7. - Employees by Sex and Remuneration, 1946 and 1947.

		1946	1947
Salaried Employees -			
Total	No.	165	169
Male	No.	113	121
Female	No.	52	48
Total Salaries.....	\$	459,620	523,446
Wage-earners -			
Monthly average	No.	1,575	1,438
Male	No.	955	912
Female	No.	620	526
Total Wages	\$	2,209,616	2,313,893
All Employees -			
Total	No.	1,740	1,607
Male	No.	1,068	1,033
Female.....	No.	672	574
Total Salaries and Wages.....	\$	2,669,236	2,837,339

Table 8. - Monthly Employment of Wage-earners, 1945 - 1947.

Months	1945			1946			1947		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
January	873	682	1,555	942	610	1,552	885	547	1,432
February	917	776	1,693	982	614	1,596	751	424	1,175
March	936	787	1,723	997	652	1,649	942	528	1,470
April	899	758	1,657	1,022	685	1,707	966	553	1,519
May	868	691	1,559	1,009	705	1,714	942	546	1,488
June	837	640	1,477	1,033	688	1,721	926	551	1,477
July	834	623	1,457	1,000	692	1,692	926	533	1,459
August.....	809	589	1,398	908	560	1,468	932	510	1,442
September.....	792	554	1,346	885	559	1,444	927	535	1,462
October	826	601	1,427	891	551	1,442	931	531	1,462
November	869	613	1,482	894	566	1,460	946	539	1,485
December	890	612	1,502	893	547	1,440	872	514	1,386

MONTHLY AVERAGE....	862	661	1,523	955	620	1,575	912	526	1,438
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THE CORDAGE, ROPE AND TWINE INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1947.

Table 9. - Number of Wage-earners during One Week in Month of Highest Employment with their Hours of Work per Week and Average Weekly Earnings.

Number of Hours Worked per Week	1 9 4 5		1 9 4 4	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
	No.	No.	No.	No.
30 hours or less	47	108	67	131
31 - 43 hours	156	167	46	65
44 hours	18	21	11	36
45 - 47 hours	131	105	21	12
48 hours	244	199	221	222
49 - 50 hours.....	15	22	433	381
51 - 54 hours.....	310	180	34	6
55 hours	19	4	14	7
56 - 64 hours.....	49	3	120	26
65 hours and over.....	13	-	34	1
Average hours per week	47.3	43.4	48.9	44.7
Average weekly earnings	\$28.42	\$19.99	\$30.36	\$22.25

The above information not collected since 1945.

Table 10. - Power Installation, 1946 and 1947.

Classes of Power	1 9 4 6		1 9 4 7	
	Number of Units	Manufacturers' Rating of Horse-power Capacity	Number of Units	Manufacturers' Rating of Horse-power Capacity
Steam engines and steam turbines	1	200	1	200
Electric motors, operated by purchased power -				
In use	627	8,697	662	8,605
Idle	31	754	30	673
TOTAL POWER USED IN MANUFACTURING	659	9,651	693	9,478
Boiler installation -				
In use	3	360	3	360

THE CORDAGE, ROPE AND TWINE INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1947.

Table 11. - Consumption of Fuel and Electricity, 1946 and 1947.

Kinds of Fuel	Unit of Measure	1 9 4 6		1 9 4 7	
		Quantity	Cost Value at Factory	Quantity	Cost Value at Factory
Bituminous Coal	(2000 lbs)	6,194	\$ 53,264	6,265	\$ 57,482
Gasoline (including gasoline used in cars and trucks).....	Imp. Gal.	7,003	2,210	7,641	2,577
Kerosene or coal oil	"	450	81	498	97
Fuel Oil	"	3,015	324	6,513	802
TOTAL COST OF FUEL.	-	-	55,879	-	60,958
Electricity purchased (including service charges)	Kw.H.	14,149,220	114,831	13,369,211	115,196
TOTAL COST OF FUEL AND ELECTRICITY...	-	-	170,710	-	176,154

Table 12. - Mechanical Equipment, 1946 and 1947.

	1 9 4 6	1 9 4 7
	No.	No.
Spindles which consumed fibre during the year	4,615	4,617
Spindles which consumed no fibre during the year.	-	-
Twisting and doubling spindles	666	664
Braiding machines	183	188
Rope machines	131	132
Winding machines	328	336

THE CORDAGE, ROPE AND TWINE INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1947.

Table 13. - Imports of Materials Used and Products Made by the Cordage, Rope and Twine Industry, 1946 and 1947.

Articles Imported	Unit of Measure	1 9 4 6		1 9 4 7	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
			\$		\$
Fibrilla, flax fibre and flax tow	Cwt.	9,299	294,076	9,953	233,806
Manila fibre	"	32,450	456,291	105,083	1,992,087
Vegetable fibres, n.o.p. .	"	53,608	334,588	38,491	234,604
Sisal, istle and tampico fibre	"	935,871	7,973,975	831,934	9,913,337
Jute and jute butts	"	80,194	724,144	-	-
Okum of flax, hemp or jute	"	23,388	258,356	17,856	245,027
Coir and coir yarn	"	8,886	104,985	13,930	158,575
Yarns, vegetable fibres, singles, n.o.p.	Lbs	205,050	154,238	27,593	31,849
Yarns, cords and twines, vegetable fibres, plied n.o.p.	"	624,158	210,281	920,286	258,631
Yarns, cords and twines, jute, plied, n.o.p.	"	517,362	64,107	412,311	95,349
Yarns, jute, singles, n.o.p.	"	743,064	137,071	104,287	17,869
Cords and twine, cotton, n.o.p.	"	445,118	272,380	671,680	548,698
Thread, twines, marlines, fishing lines of vegetable fibre for commercial fishing purposes or for the construction or repair of fishing nets	"	783,298	600,905	1,025,287	922,841
Cordage, manila, sisal and New Zealand fibre, exceeding one inch in circumference.....	"	194,504	33,153	844,397	175,039

THE CORDAGE, ROPE AND TWINE INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1947.

Table 13. - Imports of Materials Used and Products Made by the Cordage, Rope and Twine Industry, 1946 and 1947 (Concl.)

Articles Imported	Unit of Measure	1 9 4 6		1 9 4 7	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
			\$		\$
Cordage exceeding one inch in circumference, wholly of vegetable fibre, n.o.p.	Lbs	501,220	84,466	885,859	181,314
Rope and cordage of cotton hemp, manila or other vegetable fibre, not exceeding one and one half inches in circumference, to be used for commercial fishing purposes, or for the construction and repair of fishing nets	"	70,834	15,912	1,303,731	283,402
Binder twine	Cwt.	12	170	5	152
Fish nets and nettings	-	-	1,223,306	-	1,264,148
Jute manufactures, n.o.p. ...	-	-	15,175	-	33,302
Vegetable fibre manufactures, n.o.p.	lb.	1,283,512	1,201,412	1,765,488	1,700,610

Table 14. - Exports of Cordage, Rope and Twine, etc., 1946-47.

Articles Exported	Unit of Measure	1 9 4 6		1 9 4 7	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
			\$		\$
Fibre and tow of flax or hemp	Cwt.	62,284	1,572,789	28,111	576,569
Binder twine	"	369,613	3,910,078	216,688	3,274,331
Rope	"	16,180	289,622	7,849	195,913
Cordage and twine, n.o.p.	"	9,207	549,940	9,730	617,781

THE CORDAGE, ROPE AND TWINE INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1947.

A P P E N D I X

Cordage, Rope and Twine Manufacturers Operating in Canada in 1947.

<u>Name of Firm</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Products Made</u>
<u>NOVA SCOTIA</u>		
Consumers' Cordage Co., Ltd. (H.O. 132 St. James St.W., P.O. Box 530, Montreal)	Wyse Road, Dartmouth	Twines, ropes,
<u>QUEBEC</u>		
Bolduc, The C.N., Manufacturing Company, Consumers' Cordage Co., Ltd.,	12 College St., Lennoxville 2143 St. Patrick St., Montreal	Rope Twines, yarns.
<u>ONTARIO</u>		
Brantford Cordage Co., Ltd., The Brooks Limited, John S. Derrett Limited Doon Twines Limited	111 Brant Street, Brantford 722 Broad St., E., Dunnville 6 Bartlett Avenue, Toronto 50 Ottawa St. S., Kitchener	Binder twine, twines. Fish netting. Twines, rope. Yarns, twines, rope.
International Harvester Co. of Canada, Limited	208 Hillyard Street, Hamilton	Binder twine, twines.
Plymouth Cordage Company	229 Plymouth Road, Welland	Binder twine, twines, rope, etc.
<u>BRITISH COLUMBIA</u>		
Canada Western Cordage Co., Ltd., (H.O. 20 Water Street, Vancouver)	3raid Street, New Westminster	Twines, rope.

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