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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
CENSUS OF INDUSTRY

REPORT
on the
CORSET INDUSTRY

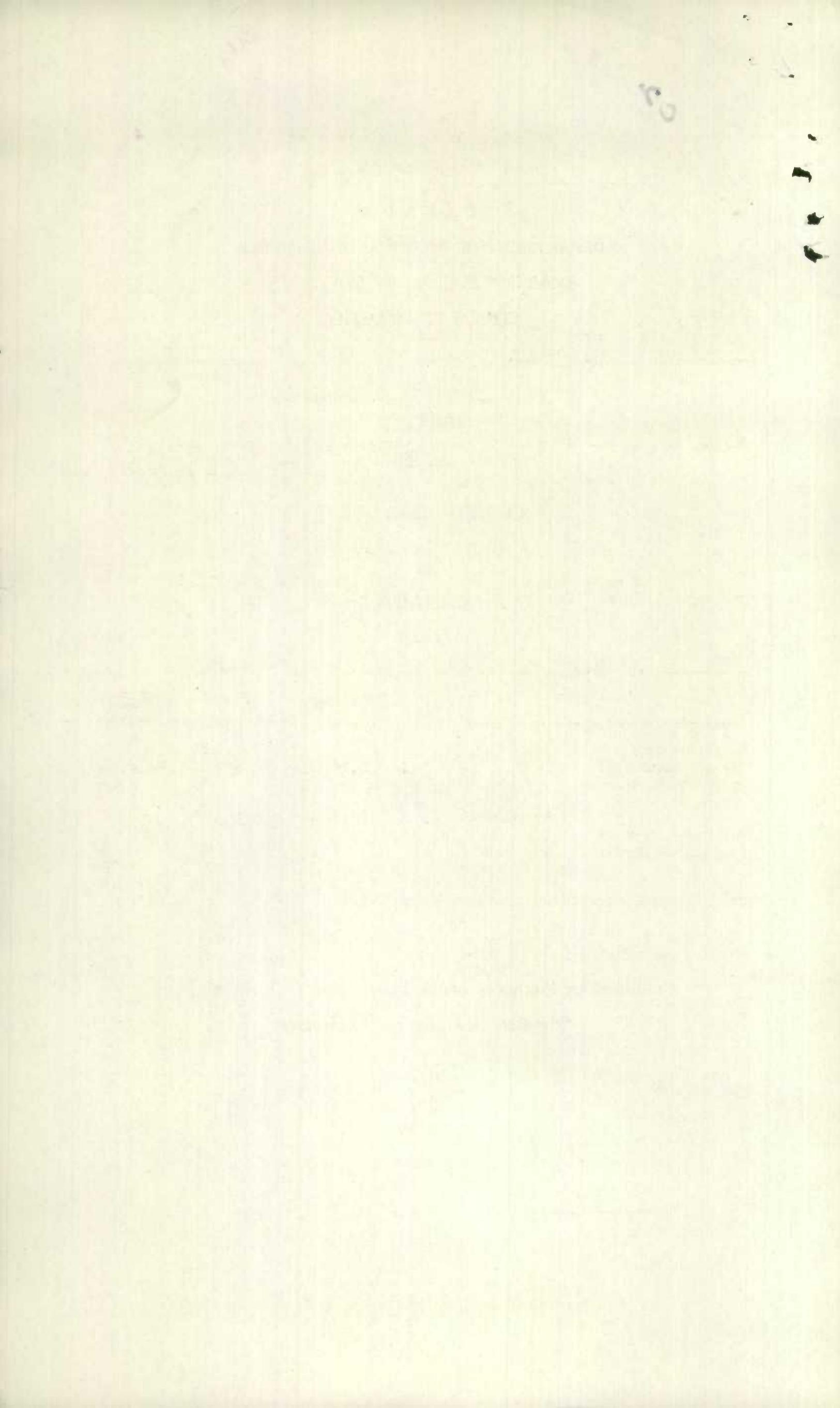
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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

CENSUS OF INDUSTRY

Ottawa, Canada.

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THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1923

Ottawa, May, 1925:- A report is herewith presented on the corset industry in Canada during the calendar year 1923. Reports were received from 17 establishments of which 11 were in the province of Ontario and 6 in Quebec.

Principal Statistics

A summary of the principal statistics of the industry, is given by provinces in Table I for the calendar year 1923.

Table I - Principal Statistics, by Provinces, 1923

			CANADA	ONTARIO	QUEBEC
Establishments		No.	17	11	6
Capital investment		\$	6,155,454	1,264,715	4,890,739
Employees on salaries	male	No.	200	59	141
	female	No.	167	64	103
	salaries	\$	578,443	212,625	365,823
Employees on wages (average number)	male	No.	110	53	57
	female	No.	1,127	347	779
	wages	\$	685,307	292,148	393,159
Outside piece workers	female	No.	2	2	-
	Amount paid	\$	975	975	-
Cost of fuel		\$	11,435	3,644	7,791
Power installation	units	No.	74	41	33
	Capacity	H.P.	350	138	212
Miscellaneous expenses		\$	622,529	256,695	365,834
Cost of materials		\$	2,309,631	727,122	1,582,509
Value of products		\$	4,387,535	1,750,706	3,136,829
Value added by manufacture		\$	2,577,904	1,023,584	1,554,320

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1923. - Con.

PRODUCTION

The quantity and value of the various products of the industry is given by provinces in Table II for the calendar year 1923. The total value of production again fell off during the two year period, the value of products in 1922 being \$5,284,986, whilst for the year 1923 the amount reported was \$4,887,535, a net decrease of \$397,451. A general reduction in value was recorded for all products with the exception of children's waists and brassieres, which show considerable increases.

Table II. - Production by provinces - 1923.

Principal Products	CANADA		ONTARIO		QUEBEC	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Corsets	doz. 187,773	\$ 3,596,809	29,291	\$ 997,700	158,482	\$ 2,599,109
Corselettes	" 1,247	22,939	247	7,939	1,000	15,000
Children's waists	" 18,934	108,529	1,006	9,027	17,928	99,502
Bandeaux	" 11,600	52,710	3,444	19,455	8,156	33,255
Brassieres	" 98,134	526,302	16,214	157,272	81,920	369,030
Brassieres and trio girdles	- -	101,205	-	101,205	-	-
Bust extenders	doz. 63	1,323	63	1,323	-	-
Bust forms	" 29	545	29	545	-	-
Supporters	" 16,100	47,771	16,100	47,771	-	-
Men's braces, garters, arm- bands, etc.	- -	140,189	-	140,189	-	-
Bolts	doz. 683	2,698	683	2,698	-	-
Protectors	" 34	136	34	136	-	-
Shoulder braces	" 30	273	1	3	29	270
Garters	" 343	686	43	86	300	600
Sanitary aprons, towels, etc.	- -	183,864	-	183,864	-	-
All other products	- -	101,556	-	81,493	-	20,063
TOTAL	-	4,887,535	-	1,750,706	-	3,136,829

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THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1923 - Con.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT

The capital employed in the industry during the calendar year 1923 is given by provinces in Table III. The total capitalization in 1922 was \$6,021,963 whilst the amount reported for 1923 was \$6,155,454, an increase of \$133,491. To this increase fixed capital contributed \$21,563, whilst working capital was accountable for \$111,928.

Table III.- Capital employed, by provinces, 1923.

Provinces	Fixed Capital		Working Capital		Total Capital
	Land, buildings and fixtures	Machinery and tools	Materials on hand	Cash trading and operating accounts	
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Canada	720,083	284,727	1,678,103	3,472,541	6,155,454
Ontario	184,881	105,667	573,729	395,438	1,264,715
Quebec	535,202	179,060	1,099,374	3,077,103	4,890,739

EMPLOYEES, SALARIES AND WAGES

The number of persons employed in the industry during the calendar year 1923 is given in Table IV by (a) classes of employment, (b) sex and (c) salary and wage payments. The total number of employees in all classes declined from 1,747 in 1922 to 1,606 in 1923, a decrease of 141. On the other hand, the total payroll rose from \$1,253,059 in 1922 to \$1,264,730 in 1923, an increase of \$11,671 over the two year period.

TABLE IV.- Employees, salaries and wages, 1923.

Classes of employment	Male	Female	Salaries and wages
	No.	No.	\$
Salaried officers of corporations	17	1	89,687
General superintendents, managers	23	3	109,506
Technical experts, accountants, etc.	14	6	38,665
Clerks, stenographers, salesmen, etc.	146	157	340,590
Employees on wages - (average number)	110	1,127	65,307
Outside piece workers	-	2	975
TOTAL	310	1,296	1,264,730

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1923. Con.OTHER LABOUR STATISTICS

The number of days the establishments were in operation during the calendar year 1923, together with the number of hours per day and per week normally worked by wage earners, is given in Table V(a). The number of wage earners employed during the year is given by sex and by months in Table V(b). The maximum number was reached in April with 1,318, whilst the minimum number recorded was 1,177 in July.

Table V(a).- Days in operation and hours worked - 1923.

Number of establishments in operation	17	Total	Average
Days in operation on full time		4,076	239.7
Days in operation on part time		572	33.7
Days idle		520	30.6
Hours worked by wage earners per day or shift		141	8.3
Hours worked by wage earners per week		783	46.1

Table V(b).- Employees by months, 1923.

Months	Male No.	Female No.	Months	Male No.	Female No.
January	110	1,144	July	112	1,065
February	111	1,161	August	110	1,113
March	115	1,187	September	109	1,093
April	113	1,205	October	109	1,088
May	111	1,197	November	109	1,072
June	113	1,178	December	103	1,015
			Total	1,325	13,518
Average number employed during the year				110	1,127

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1923 - Con.

MATERIALS USED

The quantity and value of the various materials used in the industry will be found by provinces in Table VI for the calendar year 1923. The total value of all materials used in 1922 was \$2,634,153, whilst for the period covered by this report the amount was \$2,309,631, a net decrease of \$324,522.

Table VI - Materials used, by provinces, 1923.

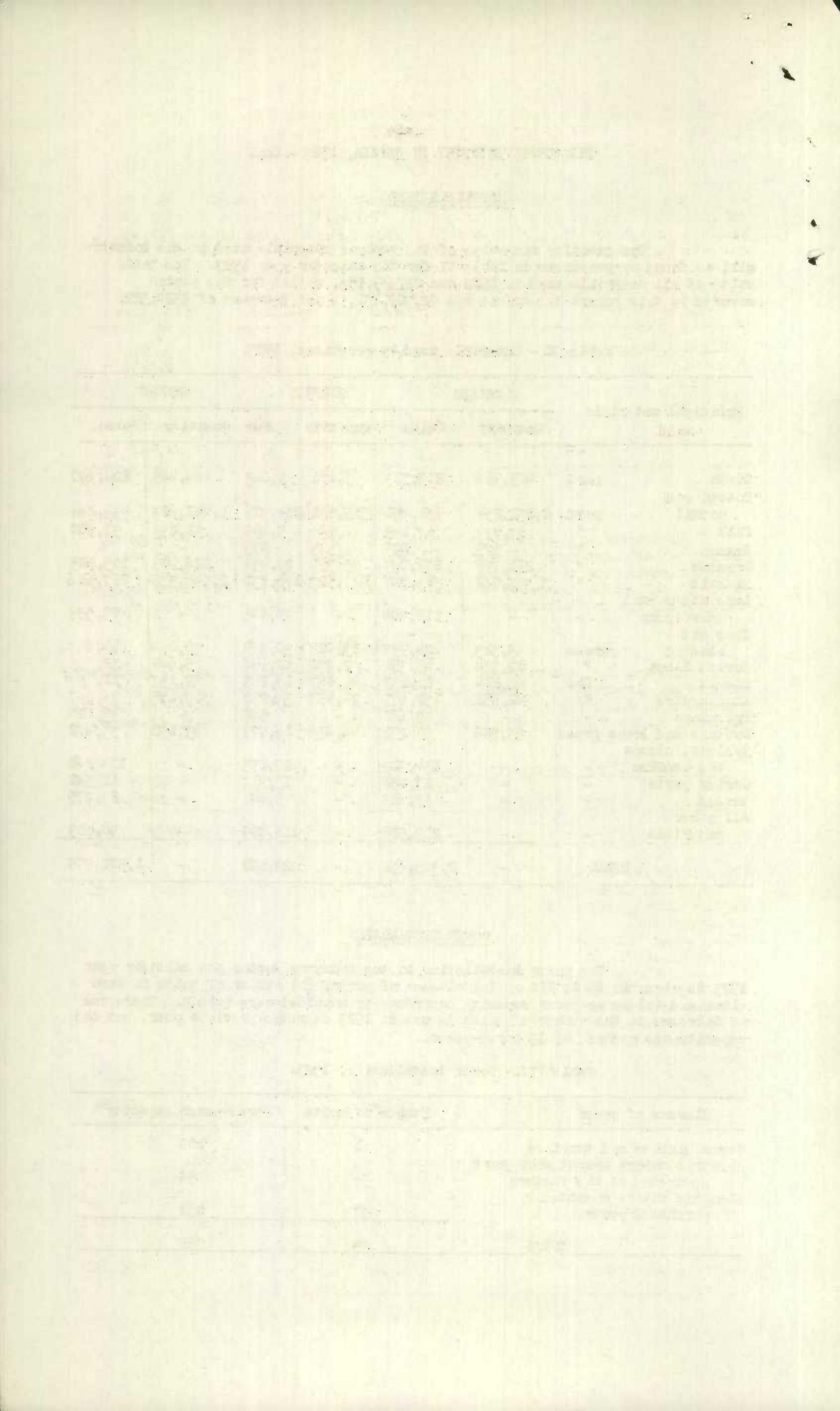
Principal materials used	CANADA		ONTARIO		QUEBEC	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Cloth yard	469,666	205,713	5,131	1,043	484,485	204,670
Cotton and coutil yard	2,232,254	638,650	539,631	204,386	1,642,623	434,284
Silk "	37,779	47,195	6,546	9,495	31,233	37,700
Sateen "	975	975	975	975	-	-
Brocade "	261,799	139,043	35,350	29,453	226,449	109,585
Elastic "	3,373,062	383,347	827,523	16,731	2,545,539	217,616
Lace ribbon and embroidery	-	118,404	-	28,845	-	89,559
Tape and binding	gross	43,313	74,997	13,029	30,360	30,284
Corset laces "	12,374	45,398	2,730	12,693	9,644	32,710
Steels lb.	88,284	28,237	46,437	16,283	39,347	11,954
Boxing wire "	382,652	132,477	74,497	36,230	308,155	96,247
Trimmings	-	35,62	-	512	-	35,120
Buttons and loops gross	93,586	50,251	46,456	16,779	47,130	33,472
Eyelets, clasps and buckles	-	134,713	-	29,853	-	104,860
Garter parts	-	27,458	-	15,917	-	11,541
Thread	-	37,623	-	9,848	-	27,775
All other materials	-	209,518	-	118,709	-	90,809
TOTAL	-	2,309,631	-	727,122	-	1,532,509

POWER INSTALLATION

The power installation in the industry during the calendar year 1923 is given in Table VII by (a) classes of power, (b) number of units in each class and (c) horse-power capacity according to manufacturers rating. There was no increase in the number of units in use in 1923 over the previous year, but the capacity was reduced by 15 horse-power.

Table VII.- Power installation, 1923.

Classes of power	Number of units	Horse-power capacity
Steam engines and turbines	1	100
Electric motors operated by power generated at the factory	36	98
Electric motors operated by purchased power	37	152
TOTAL	74	350



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THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1923 - Con.

FUEL CONSUMPTION

The quantity and value of all fuel consumed in the industry during the calendar year 1923 is given in Table VIII. The total fuel costs in 1922 were \$12,076, whilst for the period covered by this report the amount was \$11,435, a net decrease of \$641.

TABLE VIII - Fuel consumption, 1923.

Kinds of fuel	Unit of measure	Quantity	Cost value
Bu tuminous coal	ton	1,043	\$ 9,657
Athracite coal	"	138	1,715
Gasoline	gallon	5	2
Oil (fuel)	"	15	3
Gas	M. c. feet	54	58
TOTAL			11,435

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES

The miscellaneous expenses or overhead charges incurred in the industry during the calendar year 1923 were \$22,529, a decrease of \$50,901 over the amount reported for the previous year. Miscellaneous expenses include:- rents, taxes of all kinds, insurance premiums, telephone, telegraph and postal charges, advertising and travelling expenses, and repairs to buildings and machinery.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

The quantity and value of corsets and the materials used in the manufacture of corsets, imported into Canada during the calendar year 1923, is given by countries in Table IX(a). The value of corsets and parts, the produce of Canada, exported during the same period is shown in Table IX(b) by principal countries.

Table IX(a) Imports of Corsets, etc., by countries - 1923.

Articles imported	United Kingdom		United States		Other Countries	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Jeans, coutils, sateens for m'f'r. of corsets	Yds.	\$ 204,323	54,253	479,130	189,152	150 55
Corset clasps, busks, steels, etc.	-	-	3,213	-	38,170	-
Tips, studs and eyes for the m'f'r. of corset clasps	-	-	-	-	12,907	-
Steel wire, flat, #16 gauge or thinner for m'f'r. of corsets, etc.	cwt.	-		3,793	495,715	-
Corsets of all kinds	-	-	9,569	-	201,740	-
TOTALS	-	67,035	-	491,192	-	2,883

Table IX(b) - Exports of corsets, etc., by countries, 1923.

Articles exported	United Kingdom		United States		Other Countries	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Corsets and parts	-	\$ 513,183	-	\$ 36	-	\$ 409,921

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