

34-212.

C7

Historical File Copy

R

C A N A D A
DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
CENSUS OF INDUSTRY

REPORT
on the
CORSET INDUSTRY
in
CANADA
1926

— + + + —

Published by authority of the Hon. James Malcolm, M. P.,
Minister of Trade and Commerce

+ + +

OTTAWA

1928

63



7

1870

1871

1872

1873

1874

1875

1876

1877

1878

1879

1880

1881

1882

1883

1884

1885

1886

1887

1888

1889

1890

1891

1892

1893

1894

1895

1896

1897

1898

1899

Published by the Historical Society, New York, N.Y.

Printed by the Historical Society, New York, N.Y.

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
CENSUS OF INDUSTRY
OTTAWA, CANADA

Dominion Statistician: R. H. Coats, B.A., F.S.S.(Hon.), F.R.S.C.
Chief, Census of Industry: J. C. Macpherson

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1926

Ottawa, March, 1928. A report on the corset industry in Canada during the calendar year 1926 is herewith presented. Reports were received from 16 establishments, a decrease of one over the number reported for the previous year. Of this total 11 factories were in the province of Ontario and 5 in Quebec.

Principal Statistics.

A comparative summary of the principal statistics of the industry for the calendar years 1925 and 1926 is given in Table 1.

Table 1. - Principal Statistics compared for the years 1925 and 1926.

Principal Statistics		1 9 2 5	1 9 2 6
Establishments	No.	17	16
Capital investment	\$	4,224,722	4,129,882
Employees on salaries - male	No.	197	146
female	No.	175	142
salaries	\$	473,351	435,563
Employees on wages, average number - male	No.	70	69
female	No.	1,019	950
wages	\$	636,931	625,426
Cost of fuel and electricity	\$	17,580	14,858
Power installation - units	No.	98	71
capacity	H.P.	471	332
Cost of materials	\$	2,330,165	2,241,554
Gross value of products	\$	4,314,309	4,048,926
Net value of products	\$	1,984,144	1,807,372

SIZE OF ESTABLISHMENTS

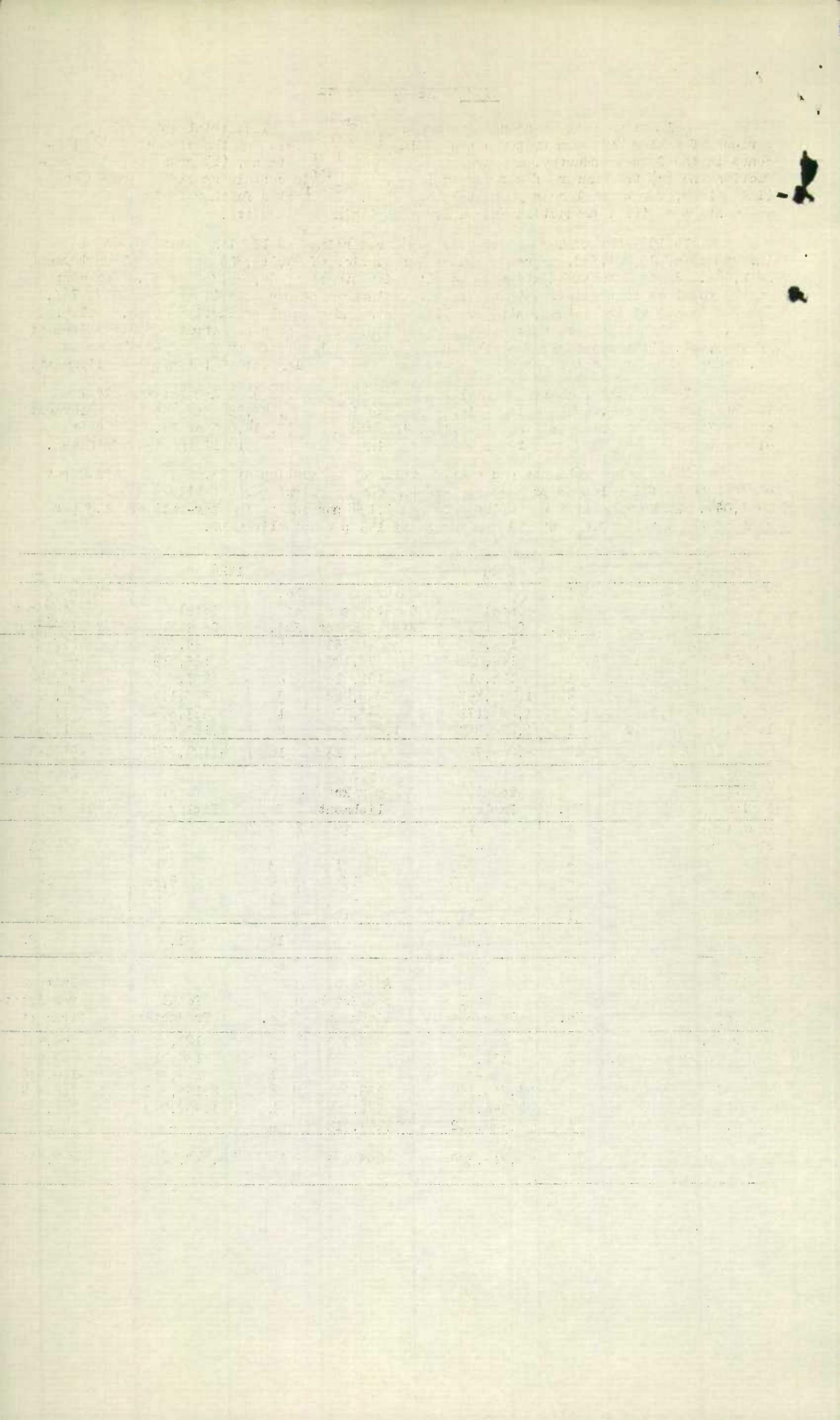
In view of the tendency towards concentration in industrial enterprise, a series of tables has been prepared presenting in a threefold way the size of establishments in the Corset industry, measured by (a) capital investment, (b) gross value of production and (c) the number of persons employed, all within certain specified groups or limitations, for the calendar years 1925 and 1926. The tables further indicate the movement of capital, production and employment within the industry.

In 1925 the number of establishments reporting was 17 with a total capital investment of \$4,224,722, a gross value of production of \$4,314,309 and a total employment of 1,461. Seven establishments had a capital investment of \$3,736,368 or 88.4 per cent of the total capital investment and an average investment per establishment of \$533,767. In gross value of production, nine establishments had a total production of \$4,057,125, or 94.0 per cent of the total value of production, and an average output per establishment of \$450,791. In employment, 9 establishments had 1,361 persons on the pay-roll, or 93.2 per cent of the total employment with an average employment of 151 per establishment.

In 1926 the number of establishments reporting was 16 with a total capital investment of \$4,129,832, a gross value of production of \$4,048,926 and a total employment of 1,307. Six establishments had a capital investment of \$3,614,680 or 87.5 per cent of the total capital investment and an average investment per establishment of \$602,446.

Eight establishments had a gross value of production of \$3,688,352 or 91.0 per cent of the total value of production, and an average output per establishment of \$461,044. In employment 8 establishments had 1,194 persons on the pay-roll or 91.3 per cent of the total employment and an average of 149 per establishment.

Capital		1925		1926		
Establishments having a capital	No. of Est.	Total Capital	Average Capital per Establishment	No. of Est.	Total Capital	Average Capital per Establishment
Under 50,000	7	152,499	21,785	6	98,798	16,466
50,000 to under 100,000	2	144,240	72,120	2	128,519	64,259
100,000 " " 200,000	1	191,615	191,615	2	287,335	143,942
200,000 " " 500,000	4	1,197,847	299,462	3	883,117	294,372
500,000 " " 1,000,000	2	1,286,171	643,085	1	567,874	567,874
1,000,000 and over	1	1,252,350	1,252,350	2	2,163,689	1,081,844
Total	17	4,224,722	248,513	16	4,129,832	258,118
Employment		1925		1926		
Having an Employment of	No.	Total Employees	Average per Estab-lishment	No.	Total Employees	Average per Estab-lishment
Less than 20 persons	8	100	12	6	71	12
20 to under 50	-	-	-	2	42	21
50 to " 100	4	323	81	3	232	77
100 to " 200	4	523	131	4	578	144
200 " " 500	-	-	-	1	384	384
500 and over	1	515	515	-	-	-
Total	17	1,461	86	16	1,307	82
Production		1925		1926		
Having a product-ion per establish-ment of -	No.	Total Production	Average per Estab-lishment	No.	Total Production	Average per Estab-lishment
Under 50,000	6	125,597	20,933	5	122,239	24,448
50,000 to under 100,000	2	131,587	65,793	2	134,016	67,008
100,000 " " 200,000	-	-	-	1	104,319	104,319
200,000 " " 500,000	6	1,830,184	305,030	6	2,195,363	365,894
500,000 " " 1,000,000	2	1,042,129	521,064	2	1,492,989	746,494
1,000,000 and over	1	1,134,812	1,134,812	-	-	-
Total	17	4,314,309	253,783	16	4,048,926	253,058

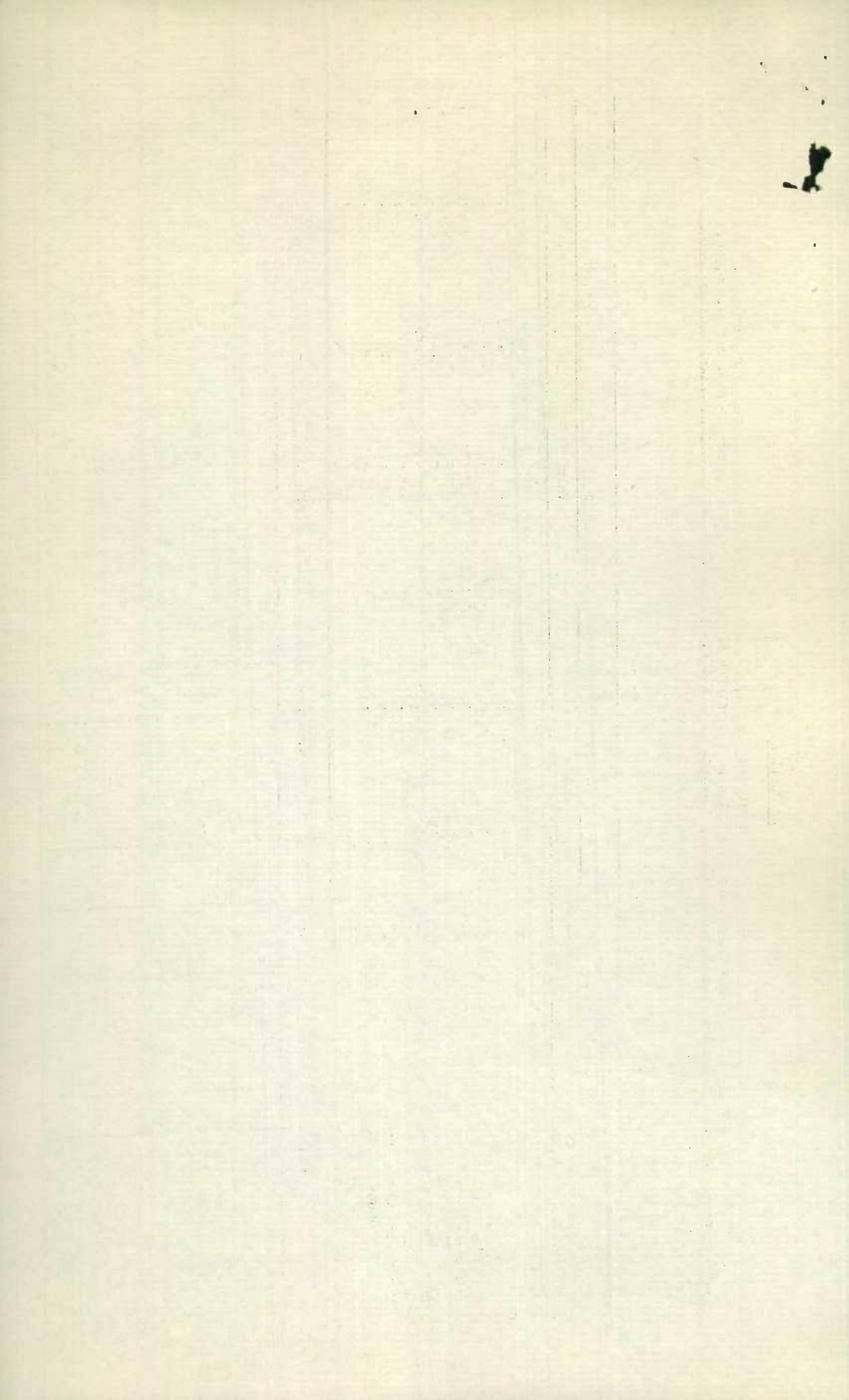


Production

The quantity and value of all products of the industry is given by provinces in Table 11 for the calendar year 1926. The total value of production in 1925 was \$4,314,309 whilst for the period covered by this report the amount reported was \$4,048,926, a decrease of \$265,383. To this total the province of Quebec contributed \$2,106,337 or 52.0 per cent, whilst Ontario was accountable for \$1,942,589 or 48.0 per cent.

Table 11. - Products by Provinces, 1926

Principal Products	Unit of Measure	CANADA		Quebec		Ontario	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Corsets	dozen	107,572	2,058,961	81,795	1,129,722	25,777	929,239
Corselettes, corsettes or corsetalls	"	61,949	943,858	46,938	536,523	15,011	407,335
Children's waists	"	14,828	68,599	12,988	57,440	1,840	11,159
Pandoaux and brassieres	"	105,063	652,412	73,558	323,620	31,505	328,792
Supporters and suspenders	"	23,145	119,653	-	-	23,145	119,653
Belts	"	285	2,156	-	-	285	2,156
Protectors	"	115	1,201	-	-	115	1,201
Sanitary and rubber goods	"	14,000	35,000	-	-	14,000	35,000
Garters and supporters	"	11,000	33,000	1,000	3,000	10,000	30,000
All other products	-	-	134,086	-	56,032	-	78,054
Total	-	-	4,048,926	-	2,106,337	-	1,942,589



Capital Investment

The capital employed in the industry during the calendar year 1926 is given in Table III by provinces subdivided into fixed and working capital. The total capitalization of the industry fell from \$4,224,722 in 1925 to \$4,129,882 in 1926, a decrease of \$94,840. Of this amount \$982,383 represents fixed capital, whilst working capital was reported at \$3,146,899.

Table III. - Capital investment by provinces, 1926

Provinces	Fixed Capital	Working Capital		Total Capital
	Land, buildings, fixtures, machinery and tools	Materials on hand, Stocks in process, etc.	Cash trading and operating accounts, etc.	
	\$	\$	\$	\$
CANADA	982,983	1,415,265	1,731,634	4,129,882
Quebec	613,073	665,150	891,458	2,169,681
Ontario	369,910	750,115	840,176	1,960,201

Employees, Salaries and Wages

The number of persons employed in the industry during the calendar year 1926 is shown by provinces in Table IV by (a) classes of employment, (b) sex and (c) salary and wage payments. The total employees in all classes fell from 1,461 in 1925 to 1,307 in 1926, a decrease of 154, likewise the payroll showed a similar decline, the total expenditure for salaries and wages being \$1,110,282, whilst in the following year the amount was reported at \$1,060,989, a decrease of \$49,293 over the two year period.

Table IV. - Employees, Salaries and Wages, 1926.

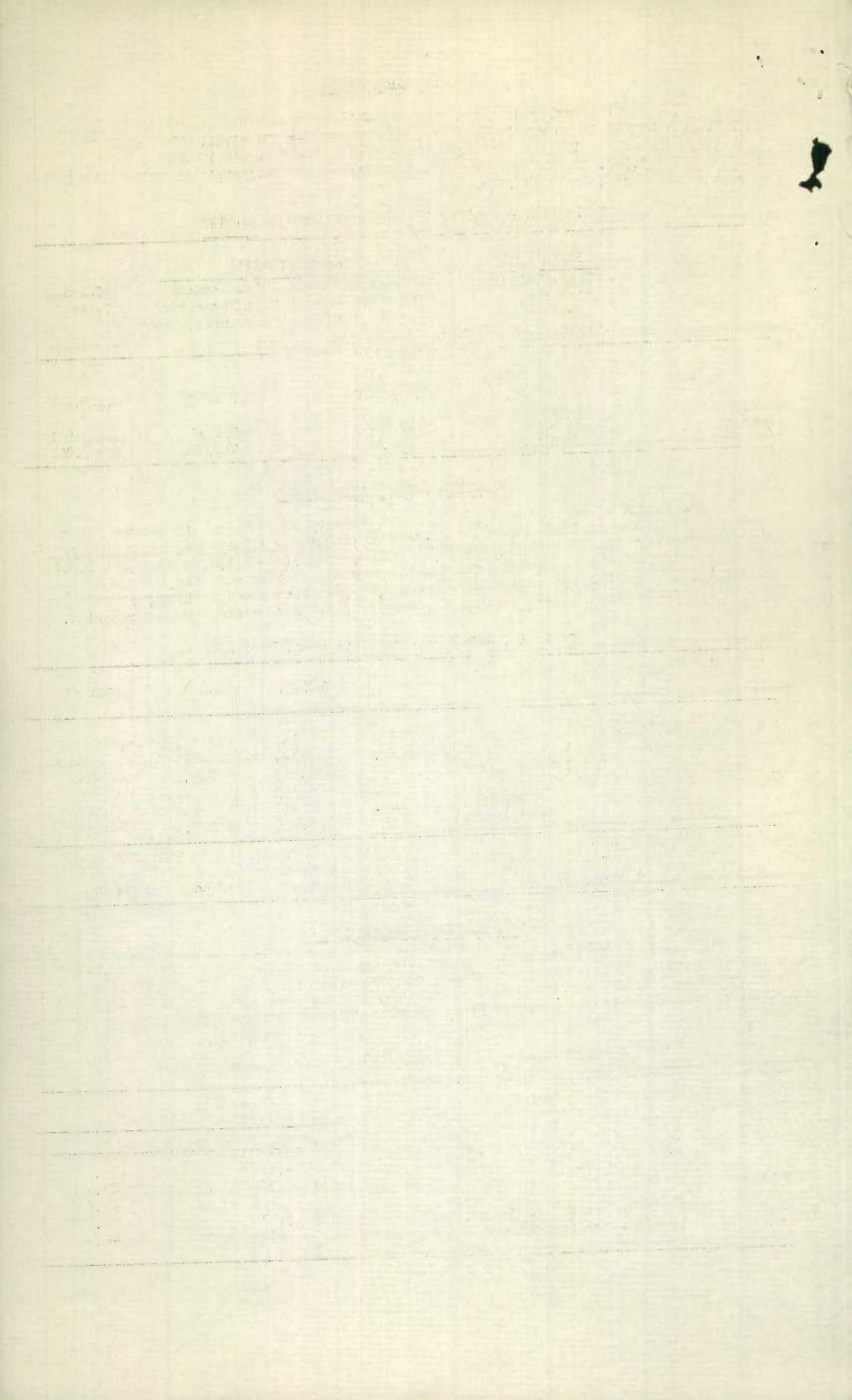
Classes of employment by sex		CANADA	Quebec	Ontario
Salaried employees - male	No.	146	95	51
female	No.	142	77	65
Total salaries	\$	435,563	220,592	214,971
Wage-earners (average number) - male	No.	69	17	52
female	No.	950	552	398
Total wages	\$	625,426	278,956	346,470
Total male employees	No.	215	112	103
" female "	No.	1,092	629	463
" salaries and wages	\$	1,060,989	499,548	561,441

Other Employment Statistics

The number of days the factories were in operation during the calendar year 1926 together with the number of hours per day and per week normally worked by wage-earners will be found in Table V(a). The number of wage-earners employed during the same period is given by months and by sex in Table V(b). Employment reached its maximum in April with 1,098, whilst the minimum number recorded was in December with 911.

Table V(a). - Days in operation and hours worked, 1926

Number of establishments in operation	16	
	Total	Average
Days in operation on full time	4,012	250.8
Days in operation on part time	375	23.4
Days idle	477	29.8
Hours worked by wage-earners per day	9,734	8.5
Hours worked by wage-earners per week	744	46.5



Other Employment Statistics - Cont'd.

Table V(b). - Wage-earners by months, 1926

Months	Male No.	Female No.	Months	Male No.	Female No.
January	69	850	July	70	983
February	71	936	August	70	994
March	73	993	September	67	968
April	73	1,025	October	59	888
May	73	1,020	November	59	863
June	73	1,023	December	62	849
			Total	819	11,392
			Average number employed during the year	69	950

Fuel Consumption

The quantity and cost of the various kinds of fuel consumed during the calendar year 1926 is given in Table VI. The total expenditure for fuel of all kinds and electricity fell from \$17,580 in 1925 to \$14,858 in 1926, a decrease of \$2,722. Bituminous coal was the principal item of fuel used with a total cost of \$7,018, the next in order of importance being anthracite coal with \$2,137. The cost of electricity purchased was \$5,617 as compared with \$7,801 in 1925.

Table VI. - Fuel Consumption, 1926

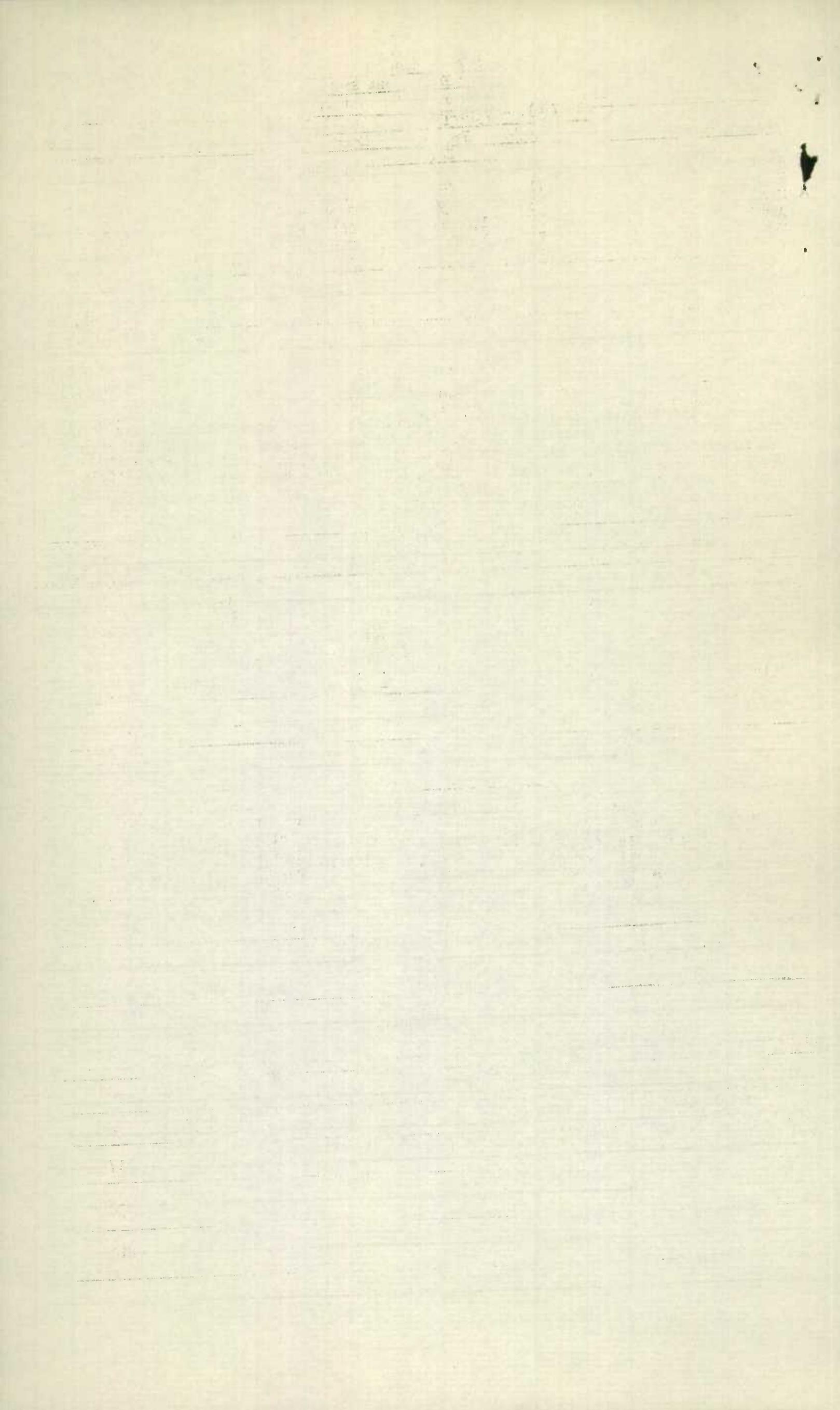
Kinds of fuel	Unit of Measure	Quantity	Cost Value \$
Bituminous coal	ton	924	7,018
Anthracite coal	"	198	2,137
Gasoline	gallon	5	2
Oil (fuel)	"	15	3
Gas	m.c.ft.	84	81
Electricity	-	-	5,617
Total	-	-	14,858

Power Installation

The power installed in the industry for the calendar year 1926 is given in Table VII by (a) classes of power, (b) number of units in each class and (c) the horse power capacity according to manufacturers rating. The total installation in 1925 was 98 units with a capacity of 471 horse power. For the period covered by this report the number of units was 71 developing 332 horse power, a decrease of 27 units and 139 h.p.

Table VII. - Power Installation, 1926.

Classes of power	Number of Units	Horse-Power Capacity
Steam engines and turbines	1	100
Hydraulic turbines and water wheels	3	15
Electric motors operated by purchased power	66	187
Total power used in manufacturing	70	302
Electric motors operated by power generated by the establishment	1	30
Total Electric motors	67	217
Total power installation	71	332
Boilers installed	3	210



Materials Used.

The quantity and value of the materials used in the industry during the calendar year 1926 is given by provinces in Table VIII. The total cost of all materials used amounted to \$2,241,554 which was a decrease of \$88,611 over the amount reported for the previous year. To this total the province of Quebec contributed \$1,304,722 or 58.2 per cent, whilst Ontario was accountable for \$936,832 or 41.8 per cent.

Table VIII. - Materials used by provinces - 1926.

Principal Materials	Canada		Quebec		Ontario	
	Quantity	Cost Value \$	Quantity	Cost Value \$	Quantity	Cost Value \$
Cloth yard	507,319	217,418	456,530	166,132	50,789	51,286
Cotton and coutil "	1,125,990	432,394	941,926	327,814	184,064	104,580
Silk, sateen, brocade, rayon & batiste "	366,005	397,643	217,836	173,084	148,159	224,559
Elastic "	2,737,087	484,440	1,883,542	288,646	853,545	195,794
Lace, ribbon and embroidery -	-	81,200	-	27,364	-	53,836
Tape & binding gross	136,497	68,641	24,669	45,933	111,828	22,708
Corset laces "	8,031	34,099	5,302	15,224	2,729	18,875
Steels & boning wire -	-	135,507	-	72,307	-	63,200
Trimnings -	-	24,102	-	20,893	-	3,209
Buttons & Loops gross	33,009	44,871	13,074	9,847	24,935	35,024
Eyelts, clasps & buckles -	-	89,346	-	61,272	-	28,074
Garter parts -	-	62,441	-	43,477	-	18,964
Thread -	-	35,196	-	20,842	-	14,354
All other Materials -	-	134,256	-	31,887	-	102,369
Total	-	2,241,554	-	1,304,722	-	936,832

Imports and Exports

The quantity and value of the various partly manufactured materials together with the number and value of finished corsets imported into Canada for consumption is given by principal countries of origin in Table IX for the calendar year 1926. The quantity and value of corsets and brassieres, the produce of Canada exported during the same period will be found by principal countries in Table X.

Table IX. - Imports by Countries, 1926

Articles imported	United Kingdom		United States		Other Countries	
	Quan.	Value \$	Quan.	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$
Jeans, coutils, sateens for mfr. of corsets and stays Yds.	2,954	1,394	438,765	121,874	729	556
Corset clasps, busks steels and covered corset wires -	-	1,031	-	31,306	-	389
Tips, studs and eyes for corset clasps and corset wires -	-	-	-	12,689	-	-
Steel wire flat No.20 gauge or thinner for mfr. of corsets Cwt.	324	4,043	2,453	18,886	-	-
Corsets of all kinds, n.o.p. No.	1,845	4,557	83,943	218,009	2,311	3,960
Total	-	11,025	-	402,764	-	4,905

Table X. - Exports by Countries, 1926

Articles Exported	United Kingdom		United States		Other Countries	
	Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$
Corsets and brassieres No.	180,817	261,642	5	29	134,739	203,611

No. 334

1911

100

100

100

100

- 7 -

APPENDIX "A" Corset Manufacturers operating in Canada, 1926

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
The E. P. Corset Co. Ltd.	64 Laframboise St., St. Hyacinthe, Que.
Dominion Corset Co.	45 Dorchester St., Quebec, Que.
C. J. Grenier & Cie.	401-403 Ste. Catherine St. E., Montreal, Que.
Parisian Corset Mfg. Co. Ltd. and) Natures Rival Co. of Canada Ltd.)	599 St. Valier Street, Quebec, Que.
Perfection Corset Co. Ltd.	38 rue Champlain, Quebec, Que.
F. J. Allward Co. Ltd.	600 Bay St., Toronto 2, Ont.
Bias Corsets Ltd.	41 Britain St., Toronto 2, Ont.
The Coilene Corset Co. Ltd.	176 Dundas St., Toronto, "
Mishan Co. Ltd.	24 Spadina Ave., Toronto 2, Ont.
Kops Bros. Inc.	559 College St., Toronto, "
The McMichael Co.	18 Temperance St., Toronto, "
The McBone Corset Co. of Canada Ltd.	64 Niagara St., St. Catharines, Ont.
Spirella Co. of Canada Ltd.	1651 River Road, Niagara Falls, "
M. J. Walsh, (Miss)	601 College Street, Toronto 4, Ont.
Woolnough Corsetiers	384-386 Yonge St., Toronto 2, Ont.
The Canadian H. W. Gosard Co. Ltd.	366-378 West Adelaide, Toronto 2, Ont.

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY
BIBLIOTHÈQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA



1010755890