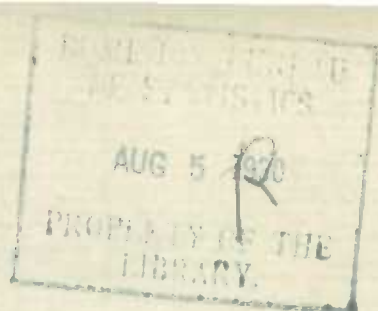


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CANADA
DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
CENSUS OF INDUSTRY

REPORT
on the
CORSET INDUSTRY
in
CANADA
1929

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

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OTTAWA

1930

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NOTE.- The statistics published in the present statement include only the statistics of such manufacturing establishments as make Corsets as their principal product. The Statistics relating to specific products are therefore not to be regarded as comprehensive, as these products are also found as secondary products of other industries such as Women's Factory Clothing.

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, 1929.

Ottawa, July, 1930 - A report on the corset industry in Canada during the calendar year 1929 is herewith presented. Reports were received from 17 establishments. Of this total 12 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 1928 and 1929 is given in Table 1.

Table 1.- Principal Statistics compared for the years 1928 and 1929.

Principal Statistics		1928	1929
Establishments		16	17
Capital investment		\$ 4,917,408	5,327,991
Employees on salaries - Male		No. 170	155
	Female	No. 176	165
	Salaries	\$ 431,004	386,787
Employees on wages, average number - Male		No. 72	87
	Female	No. 1,000	998
	Wages	\$ 693,280	697,444
Outside piece-workers	Female	NO. -	3
	Amount Paid	\$ -	226
Cost of fuel and electricity		\$ 11,899	13,808
Power installation - units		No. 72	89
	Capacity	H.P. 294	346
Cost of Materials		\$ 2,055,416	2,098,351
Gross value of products		\$ 4,246,948	4,219,019
Net value of products		\$ 2,191,532	2,120,668



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 1928 and 1929. The tables further indicate the movement of capital, production and employment within the industry.

In 1928 the number of establishments reporting was 16 with a total capital investment of \$4,917,408, a gross value of production of \$4,246,948 and a total employment of 1,418. Seven establishments had a capital investment of \$4,389,413 or 89.2 per cent of the total capital investment and an average investment per establishment of \$627,059. In gross value of production, eight establishments had a total production of \$3,734,289 or 87.9 per cent of the total value of production, and an average output per establishment of \$466,786. In employment, eight establishments had 1,253 persons on the pay-roll, or 88.4 per cent of the total employment with an average employment of 156.62 per establishment.

In 1929 the number of establishments reporting was 17 with a total capital investment of \$5,327,991, a gross value of production of \$4,219,019 and a total employment of 1,405. Eight establishments had a capital investment of \$4,904,115 or 92.02 per cent of the total capital investment and an average investment per establishment of \$613,014.

Eight establishments had a gross value of production of \$3,611,522 or 85.6 per cent of the total value of production, and an average output per establishment of \$451,440. In employment 9 establishments had 1,273 persons on the pay-roll or 90.6 per cent of the total employment and an average of 141.4 per establishment.

Capital		1929		1928	
Establishments having a capital	No. of Est.	Total Capital	Average Capital per Establishment	No. of Est.	Average Capital per Establishment
Under 50,000	6	97,488	16,248	5	82,953
50,000 to under 100,000	1	56,264	56,264	2	146,245
100,000 " " 200,000	2	270,124	135,062	2	298,797
200,000 " " 500,000	5	1,307,473	261,494	4	1,065,454
500,000 " " 1,000,000	1	603,133	603,133	2	1,500,849
1,000,000 and over	2	2,993,509	1,496,755	1	1,823,110
TOTAL	17	5,327,991	313,411	16	4,917,408
Employment					
Having an Employment of	No.	Total Employees	Average per Establishment	No.	Average per Establishment
Less than 20 persons	4	20	5.00	3	13
20 to under 50	4	112	28.00	5	152
50 to " 100	5	385	77.00	3	234
100 to " 200	2	269	134.50	3	367
200 to " 500	2	619	309.50	2	652
500 and over	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	17	1,405	82.65	16	1,418
Production					
	No.	Total Production	Average per Establishment	No.	Average per Establishment
Under 50,000	4	37,551	9,388	3	19,512
50,000 to under 100,000	3	221,600	73,867	3	204,205
100,000 " " 200,000	2	348,346	174,173	2	288,942
200,000 " " 500,000	6	1,966,566	327,761	6	2,113,567
500,000 " " and over	2	1,644,956	822,478	2	1,620,722
TOTAL	17	4,219,019	248,178	16	4,246,948

PRODUCTION

The quantity and value of all products of the industry is given by provinces in Table 2 for the calendar year 1929. The total value of production in 1928 was \$4,246,948, whilst for the period covered by this report the amount reported was \$4,219,019, a decrease of \$27,929 or .66 per cent. To this total the province of Quebec contributed \$2,422,397 or 57.41 per cent, whilst Ontario was accountable for \$1,796,622 or 42.59 per cent.

Table 2.- Products by Provinces, 1929.

Principal Products		CANADA		QUEBEC		ONTARIO	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
			\$		\$		\$
Corsets	dozen	100,295	1,868,531	83,146	1,072,916	17,149	795,615
Corselettes, corsettes or corsetalls (combinations)	"	96,224	1,549,589	68,574	890,704	27,650	658,885
Children's waists	"	10,883	41,966	10,605	39,464	278	2,502
Bandeaux and brassieres	"	93,351	545,325	74,968	367,653	18,383	177,672
Supporters and suspenders	"	17,866	82,558	-	-	17,866	82,598
Belts and girdles	"	3,259	28,623	1,947	12,917	1,312	15,706
Protectors	"	43	453	-	-	43	453
Sanitary and rubber goods	"	-	-	-	-	-	-
Garters and supporters	"	1,150	4,511	-	-	1,150	4,511
Shoulder braces and straps	-	1,320	3,201	429	1,171	891	2,030
All other products			94,222		37,572	-	56,650
TOTAL		-	4,219,019	-	2,422,397	-	1,796,622

Capital Investment

The capital employed in the industry during the calendar year 1929 is given in Table 3. by provinces subdivided into fixed and working capital. The total capitalization of the industry rose from \$4,917,408 in 1928 to \$5,327,991 in 1929, an increase of \$410,583. Of the total amount \$1,334,252 represents fixed capital, whilst working capital was reported at \$3,993,739.

Table 3.- Capital Investment by Provinces, 1929.

Provinces	Fixed Capital		Working Capital	
	Land, buildings, fixtures, machinery and tools	Materials on hand, stocks in process, etc.	Cash trading and operating accounts, etc.	Total Capital
	\$	\$	\$	\$
CANADA	1,334,252	1,234,056	2,759,683	5,327,991
Quebec	887,858	786,619	1,281,562	2,956,039
Ontario	446,394	447,437	1,478,121	2,371,952

Employees, Salaries and Wages

The number of persons employed in the industry during the calendar year 1929 is shown by provinces in Table 4 (a) classes of employment, (b) sex and (c) salary and wage payments. The total employees in all classes fell from 1,418 in 1928 to 1,408 in 1929, a decrease of 10, whilst the total expenditure for salaries and wages was \$1,124,284 in 1928 as compared with \$1,084,457 in 1929, a decrease of \$39,827 during the two year period.

Table 4.- Employees, Salaries and Wages, 1929.

Classes of employment by sex		CANADA	Quebec	Ontario
Salaried employees - male	no.	155	119	36
female	no.	165	99	66
Total salaries	\$	386,787	217,460	169,327
Wage-earners (average number)- male	no.	87	32	55
female	no.	998	653	345
Total Wages	\$	697,444	375,071	322,373
Outside piece workers female	no.	3	-	3
Amount paid	\$	226	-	226
Total male employees	no.	242	151	91
" female "	no.	1,166	752	414
" salaries and wages	\$	1,084,457	592,531	491,926

Other Employment Statistics

The number of days the factories were in operation during the calendar year 1929 together with the number of hours per day and per week normally worked by wage-earners will be found in Table 5 (a). The number of wage-earners employed during the same period is given by months and by sex in Table 5 (b). Employment reached its maximum in March with 1,132, whilst the minimum number recorded was in November with 1,043.

Table 5. (a).- Days in operation and hours worked, 1929.

Number of establishments in operation	17	
	Total	Average
Days in operation on full time	4,482	263.65
Days in operation on part time	432	25.41
Days idle	254	14.94
Hours worked by wage-earners per day	142	8.35
Hours worked by wage-earners per week	770	45.30

Table 5. (b).- Wage-earners by months, 1929.

Months	Male No.	Female No.	Months	Male No.	Female No.
January	83	964	July	87	999
February	84	1,040	August	90	974
March	85	1,017	September	88	979
April	86	1,035	October	88	971
May	87	1,030	November	88	955
June	87	995	December	88	965
Total			1,041		
Average number employed during the year			87		
			11,954		
			998		

Table 1

Year	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Population	100	105	110	115	120	125	130	135	140	145	150
Area	100	105	110	115	120	125	130	135	140	145	150
Production	100	105	110	115	120	125	130	135	140	145	150
Consumption	100	105	110	115	120	125	130	135	140	145	150
Export	100	105	110	115	120	125	130	135	140	145	150
Import	100	105	110	115	120	125	130	135	140	145	150

Year	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Population	100	105	110	115	120	125	130	135	140	145	150
Area	100	105	110	115	120	125	130	135	140	145	150
Production	100	105	110	115	120	125	130	135	140	145	150
Consumption	100	105	110	115	120	125	130	135	140	145	150
Export	100	105	110	115	120	125	130	135	140	145	150
Import	100	105	110	115	120	125	130	135	140	145	150

Year	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Population	100	105	110	115	120	125	130	135	140	145	150
Area	100	105	110	115	120	125	130	135	140	145	150
Production	100	105	110	115	120	125	130	135	140	145	150
Consumption	100	105	110	115	120	125	130	135	140	145	150
Export	100	105	110	115	120	125	130	135	140	145	150
Import	100	105	110	115	120	125	130	135	140	145	150

Other Employment Statistics - Cont'd.

The number and percentage of wage-earners in month of highest employment working specified hours is shown in Table 5.(c). for Canada and the provinces. From this table it appears that the only province in which the working day exceeds 9 hours is Quebec, whilst in Ontario the 8 hour day is general.

Table 5.(c).- Hours worked by wage-earners in month of highest employment, 1929.

Provinces	Wage-earners in month of highest employment working per day of				Percentage of wage-earners working -			
	8 hours or less	9 hours	10 hours	Over 10 hours	8 hours or less	9 hours	10 hours	Over 10 hours
CANADA	663	470	63	-	55.43	39.30	5.27	-
Ontario	390	78	-	-	83.33	16.67	-	-
Quebec	273	392	63	-	37.50	53.84	8.66	-

The hours worked per day in the month of highest employment and the standard working hours per week are shown by provinces in Table 5.(d). It should be noted that the statistics relating to hours of labour in columns 1, 2 and 3 are based on figures compiled for the month of highest employment, whilst those in columns 4 and 5 represent the total standard weekly hours of labour for the number of establishments reporting to the Bureau.

The average daily hours of labour computed on the above basis was for the Dominion 8.50, whilst the average weekly hours worked out at 45.30 per establishment.

Table 5.(d).- Hours of labour per day and per week, 1929.

Provinces	Total hours worked per day and number of wage-earners in month of highest employment			Standard working hours per week	
	Total hours	Total wage-earners	Average hours per day per wage-earner	Total	Average
CANADA	10,164	1,196	8.50	770	45.30
Ontario	3,822	468	8.17	523	43.58
Quebec	6,342	728	8.71	247	49.40

Fuel Consumption

The quantity and cost of the various kinds of fuel consumed during the calendar year 1929 is given in Table 6. The total expenditure for fuel of all kinds and electricity rose from \$11,899 in 1928 to \$13,808 in 1929, an increase of \$1,909. Bituminous coal was the principal item of fuel used with a total cost of \$6,858, the next in order of importance being anthracite coal with \$837. The cost of electricity purchased was \$5,269 as compared with \$4,518 in 1928.

Table 6.- Fuel Consumption, 1929.

Kinds of fuel	Unit of Measure	Quantity	Cost Value \$
Bituminous coal	ton	862	6,858
Anthracite coal	"	69	837
Coke	"	-	-
Gas, natural and artificial	m.c.ft.	127	106
Other fuel	-	-	738
Electricity	-	-	5,269
TOTAL	-	-	13,808

Power Installation

The power installed in the industry for the calendar year 1929 is given in Table 7 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 1928 was 72 units with a capacity of 294 horse power. For the period covered by this report the number of units was 89 developing 346 horse power, a net increase of 52 horse power.

Table 7.- Power Installation, 1929.

Classes of power	Number of Units	Horse-power Capacity
Steam engines and turbines	1	100
Electric motors operated by purchased power	88	246
Total power installation	89	346
Electric motors operated by power generated by the establishment	1	30

Materials Used

The quantity and value of the materials used in the industry during the calendar year 1929 is given by provinces in Table 8. The total cost of all materials used amounted to \$2,098,351, which was an increase of \$42,935 over the amount reported for the previous year. To this total the province of Quebec contributed \$1,306,946 or 62.28 per cent, whilst Ontario was accountable for \$791,405 or 37.72 per cent.

Table 8.- Materials used by provinces, 1929.

Principal Materials		Canada		Quebec		Ontario	
		Quantity	Cost Value \$	Quantity	Cost Value\$	Quantity	Cost Value\$
Cloth	yard	525,215	147,322	502,283	123,006	22,932	24,316
Cotton and coutil	"	881,360	253,447	517,693	127,994	363,667	125,453
Silk, sateen, brocade	"	845,967	495,637	660,262	319,439	185,705	176,198
Rayon and batiste	"	-	-	-	-	-	-
Elastic	"	3,045,913	490,820	2,263,974	297,039	781,939	193,781
Lace, ribbon and embroidery		-	52,895	-	33,257	-	19,638
Tape and binding	gross	68,070	119,986	44,023	66,841	24,047	53,145
Corset laces	"	6,813	21,221	3,112	8,058	3,701	13,163
Steels and boning wire	lb.	273,547	107,826	164,794	61,522	108,753	46,304
Trimmings	-	-	14,924	-	10,757	-	4,167
Buttons and loops	gross	36,673	18,419	19,368	9,486	17,305	8,933
Eyelets, clasps & buckles	-	-	76,889	-	36,223	-	40,666
Garter parts	-	-	63,475	-	40,904	-	22,571
Thread	-	-	36,050	-	23,253	-	12,797
All other materials	-	-	199,440	-	149,167	-	50,273
TOTAL	-	-	2,098,351	-	1,306,946	-	791,405

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 9 for the calendar year 1929. 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 10.

Table 9.- Imports by Countries, 1929.

Articles Imported	United Kingdom		United States		Other Countries	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		\$		\$		\$
Woven fabrics, wholly of cotton						
imported by manufacturers of corsets	-	796	-	76,189	-	-
Corset clasps, busks, steels						
and covered corset wires	-	749	-	11,460	-	217
Tips, studs and eyes for						
corsets clasps and corset wires	-	-	-	8,661	-	-
Steel wire flat No. 20 gauge						
or thinner for mfr. of corsets	cwt. -	-	1,841	15,856	-	-
Corsets of cotton	No. 46	117	4,362	6,960	460	984
Corsets of silk or artificial silk	No. 178	434	20,198	69,995	829	4,094
TOTAL	-	2,096	-	189,121	-	5,295

Table 10.- Exports by Countries, 1929.

Articles exported	Quantity No.	Value \$
Corsets and brassieres, total exports	133,802	147,265
United Kingdom	8,201	17,630
United States	99	186
Newfoundland	28,476	18,478
Australia	13,270	25,330
New Zealand	82,751	83,593
Bermuda	362	859
All other Countries	643	1,189

Imports and Exports		Value of Imports and Exports	
Year	Month	Value	Quantity
1900	Jan	100,000	100,000
1900	Feb	120,000	120,000
1900	Mar	150,000	150,000
1900	Apr	180,000	180,000
1900	May	200,000	200,000
1900	Jun	220,000	220,000
1900	Jul	250,000	250,000
1900	Aug	280,000	280,000
1900	Sep	300,000	300,000
1900	Oct	320,000	320,000
1900	Nov	350,000	350,000
1900	Dec	380,000	380,000
1901	Jan	400,000	400,000
1901	Feb	420,000	420,000
1901	Mar	450,000	450,000
1901	Apr	480,000	480,000
1901	May	500,000	500,000
1901	Jun	520,000	520,000
1901	Jul	550,000	550,000
1901	Aug	580,000	580,000
1901	Sep	600,000	600,000
1901	Oct	620,000	620,000
1901	Nov	650,000	650,000
1901	Dec	680,000	680,000
1902	Jan	700,000	700,000
1902	Feb	720,000	720,000
1902	Mar	750,000	750,000
1902	Apr	780,000	780,000
1902	May	800,000	800,000
1902	Jun	820,000	820,000
1902	Jul	850,000	850,000
1902	Aug	880,000	880,000
1902	Sep	900,000	900,000
1902	Oct	920,000	920,000
1902	Nov	950,000	950,000
1902	Dec	980,000	980,000

Imports and Exports		Value of Imports and Exports	
Year	Month	Value	Quantity
1903	Jan	100,000	100,000
1903	Feb	120,000	120,000
1903	Mar	150,000	150,000
1903	Apr	180,000	180,000
1903	May	200,000	200,000
1903	Jun	220,000	220,000
1903	Jul	250,000	250,000
1903	Aug	280,000	280,000
1903	Sep	300,000	300,000
1903	Oct	320,000	320,000
1903	Nov	350,000	350,000
1903	Dec	380,000	380,000
1904	Jan	400,000	400,000
1904	Feb	420,000	420,000
1904	Mar	450,000	450,000
1904	Apr	480,000	480,000
1904	May	500,000	500,000
1904	Jun	520,000	520,000
1904	Jul	550,000	550,000
1904	Aug	580,000	580,000
1904	Sep	600,000	600,000
1904	Oct	620,000	620,000
1904	Nov	650,000	650,000
1904	Dec	680,000	680,000
1905	Jan	700,000	700,000
1905	Feb	720,000	720,000
1905	Mar	750,000	750,000
1905	Apr	780,000	780,000
1905	May	800,000	800,000
1905	Jun	820,000	820,000
1905	Jul	850,000	850,000
1905	Aug	880,000	880,000
1905	Sep	900,000	900,000
1905	Oct	920,000	920,000
1905	Nov	950,000	950,000
1905	Dec	980,000	980,000

Imports and Exports		Value of Imports and Exports	
Year	Month	Value	Quantity
1906	Jan	100,000	100,000
1906	Feb	120,000	120,000
1906	Mar	150,000	150,000
1906	Apr	180,000	180,000
1906	May	200,000	200,000
1906	Jun	220,000	220,000
1906	Jul	250,000	250,000
1906	Aug	280,000	280,000
1906	Sep	300,000	300,000
1906	Oct	320,000	320,000
1906	Nov	350,000	350,000
1906	Dec	380,000	380,000
1907	Jan	400,000	400,000
1907	Feb	420,000	420,000
1907	Mar	450,000	450,000
1907	Apr	480,000	480,000
1907	May	500,000	500,000
1907	Jun	520,000	520,000
1907	Jul	550,000	550,000
1907	Aug	580,000	580,000
1907	Sep	600,000	600,000
1907	Oct	620,000	620,000
1907	Nov	650,000	650,000
1907	Dec	680,000	680,000
1908	Jan	700,000	700,000
1908	Feb	720,000	720,000
1908	Mar	750,000	750,000
1908	Apr	780,000	780,000
1908	May	800,000	800,000
1908	Jun	820,000	820,000
1908	Jul	850,000	850,000
1908	Aug	880,000	880,000
1908	Sep	900,000	900,000
1908	Oct	920,000	920,000
1908	Nov	950,000	950,000
1908	Dec	980,000	980,000

APPENDIX "A"

Corset Manufacturers operating in Canada, 1929.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
The E. T. Corset Co. Ltd.,	64 Laframboise St., St. Hyacinthe, Que.
Dominion Corset Co.	45 Dorchester St., Quebec, Que.
C. J. Grenier & Cie	4835 Colonial Ave., 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.
Eisman Co. Ltd.,	24 Spadina Ave., Toronto 2, Ont.
Kops Bros. Inc.	559 College St., Toronto, Ont.
The McMichael Co.	18 Temperance St., Toronto, Ont.
The NuBone Corset Co. of Canada, Ltd.,	64 Niagara St., St. Catharines, Ont.
Spirella Co. of Canada, Ltd.,	1651 River Road, Niagara Falls, Ont.
M. J. Walsh (Miss)	601 College Street, Toronto, 4, Ont.
Woolnough Corsetiers	28 Bloor St., West, Toronto 2, Ont.
The Canadian H. W. Gossard Co. Ltd.,	366-378 West Adelaide, Toronto 2, Ont.
H. H. Warner Co.	238 Broadview Ave., Toronto, Ont.
Grecian Health Corsets,	18 Dundas St., Toronto, Ont.



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