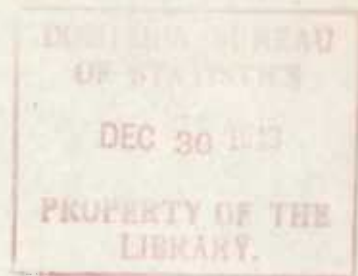


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CANADA
DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
CENSUS OF INDUSTRY
GENERAL MANUFACTURES BRANCH



REPORT
ON THE
CORSET INDUSTRY
IN
CANADA
1942



OTTAWA
1943

Price 15 cents

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
GENERAL MANUFACTURES BRANCH
OTTAWA - CANADA

Dominion Statistician:	S. A. Cudmore, M. A. (Oxon.), F.S.S., F.R.S.C.
Chief, General Manufactures Branch:	A. Cohen, B. Com.

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1942

In 1942 reports were received from twenty-six establishments engaged in the production of corset and kindred articles, 12 of which were located in Quebec and fourteen in Ontario. Quebec, however, occupied the leading position in the industry with 70 per cent of the capital invested, 64 per cent of the gross value of production and 68 per cent of the number of persons given employment.

Goods with a selling value at the factory of \$6,945,472 were produced in 1942 this amount representing an increase of \$773,789 or 12 per cent over the previous year. Employment was given to 2,314 persons, 51 persons or 2.3 per cent more than in 1941 and the payroll \$2,035,355 was greater by \$109,187 or 5 per cent. Materials used cost \$3,129,641 an increase of \$180,828 or 6 per cent. Capital invested in fixed and current assets totalled \$4,769,208 an increase of \$199,214 being accounted for by an increase of \$341,694 in the working capital but a decrease of \$142,480 in the value of the fixed assets.

The 159,362 doz. corsets and girdles produced were valued at \$3,064,321 and this amount represented 44 per cent of the total value of production in the corset industry. The average price per doz. of \$19.23 was 18 cents higher than the average of the previous year. The output of combination garments amounted to 63,657 dozen valued at \$1,539,546 while bandeaux and brassieres accounted for \$1,708,181.

As may be observed in Table 5, of the 26 establishments reporting, the 17 largest were responsible for a production of \$6,650,106 or over 95 per cent of the total and also supplied \$4,613,481 or over 96 per cent of the entire capital investment and furnished employment to 2,192 persons or over 94 per cent of all persons employed.

The month of highest employment of wage-earners was August when 1,897 persons were reported and December with 1,731 was the month of minimum employment. Females represent 91 per cent of the wage-earners in the industry and the average wage paid was \$21.94 per week for males and \$11.83 for females. (See Tables 7 & 8)

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1942

Table 1. Principal Statistics representative years, 1925 to 1942

Year and Provinces	Estab- lish- ments No.	Capital Invested \$	Em- ployees No.	Salaries and Wages \$	Cost of Materials Used \$	Gross Value of Production \$
1925	17	4,224,722	1,461	1,110,282	2,330,165	4,314,309
1927	16	4,806,157	1,351	1,009,495	1,925,962	3,791,748
1928	16	4,917,408	1,418	1,124,284	2,055,416	4,246,948
1929	17	5,327,991	1,405	1,084,231	2,098,351	4,219,019
1930	19	5,277,642	1,482	1,097,037	2,221,313	4,578,847
1931	20	4,812,464	1,508	1,124,990	2,054,461	4,187,647
1932	19	3,961,935	1,517	1,202,228	1,812,233	4,267,671
1933	20	3,740,176	1,498	1,154,979	1,881,362	4,168,585
1934	23	3,550,473	1,598	1,274,845	2,062,352	4,461,409
1936	23	3,318,953	1,555	1,289,015	1,956,071	4,397,141
1937	23	3,437,503	1,684	1,328,019	2,100,321	4,567,707
1938	23	3,377,292	1,632	1,313,711	1,939,519	4,321,254
1939	23	3,820,719	1,768	1,430,514	2,121,694	4,706,947
<u>1940</u>						
CANADA	25	3,817,487	1,886	1,556,419	2,377,079	5,158,146
Quebec	12	2,587,439	1,268	934,672	1,558,234	3,157,004
Ontario	13	1,230,048	618	621,747	818,845	2,001,142
<u>1941</u>						
CANADA	24	4,569,994	2,263	1,926,168	2,948,813	6,171,683
Quebec	10	3,060,114	1,527	1,166,428	1,937,403	3,798,077
Ontario	14	1,509,880	736	759,740	1,011,410	2,373,606
<u>1942</u>						
CANADA	26	4,769,208	2,314	2,035,355	3,129,641	6,945,472
Quebec	12	3,352,154	1,580	1,277,314	2,131,841	4,457,272
Ontario	14	1,417,054	734	758,041	997,800	2,488,200

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1942

Table 2. - Comparison of Principal Statistics, 1941 and 1942

Items	1941	1942	+ Increase - Decrease
Establishments reporting No.	24	26	+ 2
Capital invested \$	4,569,994	4,769,208	+ 199,214
Employees on salaries -			
Total No.	494	480	- 14
Male No.	224	202	- 22
Female No.	270	278	+ 8
Total salaries \$	836,949	862,930	+ 25,981
Employees on wages -			
Monthly average No.	1,769	1,834	+ 65
Male No.	160	153	- 7
Female No.	1,609	1,681	+ 72
Total wages \$	1,089,219	1,172,425	+ 83,206
Power equipment -			
Units No.	221	214	- 7
Horsepower capacity H.P.	622	612	- 10
Cost of fuel and electricity \$	27,044	24,741	- 2,303
Cost of materials used \$	2,948,813	3,129,641	+ 180,828
Gross value of production \$	6,171,683	6,945,472	+ 773,789
Value added by manufacture \$	3,195,826	3,791,090	+ 595,264

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

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1942

Table 3. - Production, 1941⁽¹⁾ and 1942⁽¹⁾

Principal Products	Unit of Measure	Quantity	Selling Value at Factory	Quantity	Selling Value at factory
			\$		\$
Corsets and girdles -					
Cotton	Doz.	60,421	1,172,561	66,934	1,227,347
Silk and satin	"	3,312	89,555	26,141	400,334
Rayon and mixtures	"	55,882	1,135,376	46,819	1,104,573
Elastic	"	26,959	394,498	19,468	332,067
Combination garments -					
Cotton	"	6,832	180,428	9,162	240,828
Silk and satin	"	1,790	65,638	18,791	424,533
Rayon and mixtures	"	43,952	1,082,410	27,382	802,443
Elastic	"	4,730	150,983	1,762	44,140
Children's waists	"	4,749	19,092	6,560	27,602
Bandeaux and brassieres -					
Cotton	"	94,904	615,850	119,845	773,094
Silk and satin	"	23,462	100,362	69,291	419,378
Rayon and mixtures	"	87,214	649,335	90,575	515,351
All other, material not specified	"	915	2,930	224	358
Surgical belts and other surgical garments	"	(2)	(2)	2,698	331,668
Underwear, artificial silk	"	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Underwear, all other	"	-	-	(2)	(2)
Garters	"	20,685	47,114	9,134	19,110
Girdles, suspender	"	2,895	9,798	3,788	20,920
Sanitary supplies (belts, aprons, etc.)	"	-	17,948	-	6,967
Shoulder braces and straps	"	4,513	12,900	1,662	6,863
All other products	-	-	424,905	-	247,896
TOTAL VALUE OF PRODUCTS	-	-	6,171,683	-	6,945,472

- (1) The statistics published in this report cover only those manufacturing establishments which have corsets and kindred articles as their principal products. Statistics relating to specific products such as corsets, combination garments, brassieres, bandeaux, waists, etc., are not to be regarded as the total for Canada for they are also produced to some extent in the women's clothing, men's furnishings, rubber goods, hats and caps and other industries.
- (2) Included in "all other products".

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1942.

Table 4. - Capital invested representative years, 1925 to 1942.

Year and Provinces	Fixed Capital	Working Capital		Total Capital
	Present value of land, buildings, fixtures, machinery tools, and other equipment	Inventory value of materials, stocks in process, finished products fuel and miscellaneous supplies on hand	Cash trading and operating accounts, etc.	
	\$	\$	\$	\$
1925	1,041,217	1,641,254	1,542,251	4,224,722
1926	982,983	1,415,265	1,731,634	4,129,882
1928	1,248,304	1,260,251	2,408,853	4,917,408
1929	1,334,252	1,234,056	2,759,683	5,327,991
1931	1,772,949	1,169,817	1,869,698	4,812,464
1934	1,344,600	1,223,014	982,859	3,550,473
1936	1,379,433	1,269,713	669,777	3,318,953
1937	1,398,176	1,394,418	644,909	3,437,503
1938	1,465,610	1,267,636	644,046	3,377,292
1939	1,548,584	1,528,598	743,587	3,820,719
<u>1940</u>				
CANADA	1,318,958	1,673,781	824,748	3,817,487
Quebec	975,096	1,182,305	430,038	2,587,439
Ontario	343,862	491,476	394,710	1,230,048
<u>1941</u>				
CANADA	1,537,283	2,288,473 ^x	894,238	4,569,994
Quebec	955,465	1,532,527	572,122	3,060,114
Ontario	431,818	755,946	322,116	1,509,880
<u>1942</u>				
CANADA	1,244,803	2,637,749 ^x	886,656	4,769,208
Quebec	956,855	1,837,371	557,928	3,352,154
Ontario	287,948	800,378	328,728	1,417,054

x Includes inventory value of "finished products on hand" amounting to \$479,077 in 1941

x Includes inventory value of "finished products on hand" amounting to \$508,609 in 1942

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1942.

Table 5. - Principal Statistics of the Corset Industry, Grouped According to the Size of Establishment, 1941 and 1942.

Establishments having a pro- duction of -	Estab- lish- ments	Capital Invested	Em- ployees	Salaries and wages	Cost of Materials Used	Gross Value of Production
	No.	\$	No.	\$	\$	\$
<u>1 9 4 1</u>						
\$5,000 to under \$25,000	4	47,297	42	25,766	33,004	65,219
\$25,000 " " \$50,000	3)	92,806	67	57,169	78,471	167,719
\$50,000 " " \$100,000	1)					
\$100,000 " " \$500,000	14)					
\$500,000 " " \$1,000,000	1)	4,429,891	2,154	1,843,233	2,837,338	5,938,745
\$1,000,000 and over ...	1)					
TOTAL	24	4,569,994	2,263	1,926,168	2,948,813	6,171,683
<u>1 9 4 2</u>						
\$5,000 to under \$25,000	5	52,538	45	29,080	38,577	84,402
\$25,000 " " \$50,000	1)	103,189	77	72,364	94,350	210,964
\$50,000 " " \$100,000	3)					
\$100,000 " " \$500,000	14	2,092,806	1,137	1,166,367	1,583,078	3,936,206
\$500,000 " " \$1,000,000	2)	2,520,375	1,055	767,544	1,413,636	2,713,900
\$1,000,000 and over ...	1)					
TOTAL	26	4,769,208	2,314	2,035,355	3,129,641	6,945,472

Table 6. - Employees by Sex and Remuneration 1940 to 1942

	1940	1941	1942
Salaried Employees -			
Total	No. 434	494	480
Male	No. 175	224	202
Female	No. 259	270	278
Total salaries	\$ 718,564	836,949	862,930
Wage-earners -			
Monthly average	No. 1,452	1,769	1,834
Male	No. 169	160	153
Female	No. 1,283	1,609	1,681
Total wages	\$ 837,855	1,089,219	1,172,425
All Employees -			
Total	No. 1,886	2,263	2,314
Male	No. 344	384	355
Female	No. 1,542	1,879	1,959
Total salaries and wages \$	1,556,419	1,926,168	2,035,355

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1942.

Table 7. - Monthly Employment of Wage-earners, 1940 to 1942.

Months	1940			1941			1942		
	Male No.	Female No.	Total No.	Male No.	Female No.	Total No.	Male No.	Female No.	Total No.
January	174	1,314	1,488	153	1,379	1,532	162	1,625	1,787
February	171	1,289	1,460	152	1,431	1,583	157	1,636	1,793
March	172	1,301	1,473	153	1,481	1,634	156	1,706	1,862
April	171	1,297	1,468	154	1,508	1,662	152	1,727	1,879
May	163	1,258	1,421	157	1,560	1,717	155	1,730	1,885
June	161	1,250	1,411	161	1,625	1,786	155	1,721	1,876
July	164	1,236	1,400	163	1,624	1,787	154	1,705	1,859
August	165	1,265	1,430	162	1,729	1,891	153	1,744	1,897
September	169	1,303	1,472	163	1,762	1,925	144	1,688	1,832
October	182	1,305	1,487	165	1,771	1,936	145	1,690	1,835
November	179	1,277	1,456	165	1,719	1,884	148	1,607	1,755
December	170	1,288	1,458	168	1,683	1,851	144	1,587	1,731
MONTHLY AVERAGE	169	1,283	1,452	160	1,609	1,769	153	1,681	1,834

Table 8. - Number of Wage-earners during One Week in Month of Highest Employment with their Hours of Work per Week and Average Weekly Earnings.
1941 and 1942

Number of Hours Worked per Week	1941		1942	
	Male No.	Female No.	Male No.	Female No.
30 hours or less	1	24	3	59
31-43 hours	6	288	3	149
44 hours	4	99	26	176
45-47 hours	87	820	63	834
48 hours	23	301	42	431
49-50 hours	1	35	3	18
51-54 hours	34	172	12	144
55 hours	4	46	-	-
56-64 hours	8	22	6	-
65 hours and over	-	-	-	-
Average hours per week	48.0	45.6	46.7	45.4
Average weekly earnings	\$23.04	\$11.97	\$21.94	\$11.83

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1942

Table 9. - Power Installation, 1941 and 1942.

Classes of Power	1941		1942	
	Number of Units	Manufacturers' Rating of Horsepower Capacity	Number of Units	Manufacturers' Rating of Horsepower Capacity
Steam engines and steam turbines	1	100	1	100
Electric motors operated by purchased power -				
In use	216	515	210	508
Idle	4	7	3	4
TOTAL POWER AVAILABLE FOR MANUFACTURING	221	622	214	612
Boiler installation				
In use	5	445	6	495

Table 10. - Consumption of Fuel and Electricity, 1941 and 1942

Kinds of Fuel	Unit of Measure	1941		1942	
		Quantity	Cost Value at Factory	Quantity	Cost Value at Factory
			\$		\$
Coal	Ton				
Bituminous	(2000lb)	1,232	9,253	1,092	9,176
Anthracite	"	48	920	40	428
Coke	"	71	956	69	1,030
Gasoline	Imp.Gal.	10	3	239	79
Kerosene or coal oil	Gal.	40	12	40	15
Fuel or diesel oil	"	4,423	418	2,876	294
Gas -					
Manufactured	M.cu.ft.	132	161	69	78
TOTAL COST OF FUEL	-	-	11,723	-	11,100
Electricity purchased (including service charges).	Kw. H.	639,729	15,321	633,803	13,641
TOTAL COST OF FUEL AND ELECTRICITY	-	-	27,044	-	24,741

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1942

A P P E N D I X

Corset Manufacturers Operating in Canada, 1942

Quebec

Best Form Brassiere Company	390 Craig Street West, Montreal
Better Brand Brassiere	6846 St. Lawrence Blvd., Montreal
Canadian Lady Corset Company, Ltd.	4475 St. Lawrence Blvd., Montreal
Dainty Maid Brassiere Inc.	3643 St. Lawrence Blvd., Montreal
Form Craft Brassiere Company	3457 St. Lawrence Blvd., Montreal
Nature Fit Brassieres	7054 Chateaubriand Ave., Montreal
Grenier, C.J. and Company	4835 Colonial Avenue, Montreal
Corset, The E.T. Company, Ltd.	1700 Laframboise Street, St. Hyacinthe
Dominion Corset Company, Ltd.	45 Dorchester Street, Quebec
Parisian Corset Manuf., Co., Ltd.	599 St. Valier Street, Quebec
Perfection Corset Company, Ltd., The	38 Champlain Street, Quebec
Spencer supports (Canada) Ltd.	Rock Island

Ontario

Alexandra Manufacturing Company	73 Adelaide Street West, Toronto
Allward, The F. J. Company, Ltd.	600 Bay Street, Toronto
Canadian H. W. Gossard Company, Ltd., The	366 Adelaide Street, Toronto
Charis Limited	864 Lake Shore Road, New Toronto
Eaton, The T. Company Ltd.	190 Yonge Street, Toronto
Flexees (Canada) Limited	240 Richmond Street West, Toronto
Gordon and Mason	93½ Church Street, Toronto
Hayward, A.P., Limited	50 York Street, Toronto
Kops Brothers Limited	559A College Street, Toronto
Lady Mac of Canada Ltd.	91 Wellington Street West, Toronto
Lagnon Manufacturing Company	37 McCaul Street, Toronto
Nu Bone Corset Co. of Canada, Ltd., The	48 Main Street, Port Dalhousie
Spirella Co. of Canada Ltd., The	1651 River Road, Niagara Falls
Stein and Company Ltd., A.	41 Peter Street, Toronto

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