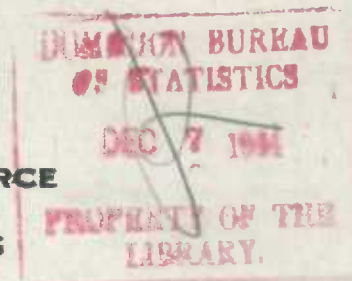


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Minister of Trade and Commerce

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



REPORT
ON THE
CORSET INDUSTRY
IN
CANADA
1943



OTTAWA
1944

Price 15 cents

83

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GENERAL MANUFACTURES BRANCH

REPORT

ON THE

CORSET INDUSTRY

IN

CANADA

1913



OTTAWA
1913

Price 12 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, 1943.

In 1943 reports were received from twenty-seven establishments engaged in the production of corset and kindred articles, 12 of which were located in Quebec and 15 in Ontario. Quebec, however, occupied the leading position in the industry with 71 per cent of the capital invested, 66 per cent of the gross value of production and 69 per cent of the number of persons given employment.

Goods with a selling value at the factory of \$7,132,539 were produced in 1943 this amount representing an increase of \$187,067 or 2.6 per cent over the previous year. Employment was given to 2,220 persons, 94 persons or 3.4 per cent less than in 1942 and the payroll \$2,244,814 was greater by \$209,459 or 10 per cent. Materials used cost \$2,891,021 a decrease of \$238,620 or 7.6 per cent. Capital invested in fixed and current assets totalled \$4,776,317 an increase of \$7,109 being accounted for by an increase of \$182,245 in fixed capital but a decrease of \$175,136 in the value of working capital.

The 134,018 doz. corsets and girdles produced were valued at \$3,187,058 and this amount represented 44.7 per cent of the total value of production in the corset industry. The average price per doz. at \$23.78 was \$4.55 higher than the average of the previous year. The output of combination garments amounted to 43.714 dozen valued at \$1,245,290 while bandeaux and brassieres accounted for \$1,949.928.

As may be observed in Table 5, of the 27 establishments reporting, the 11 largest were responsible for a production of \$6,058,695 or over 84 per cent of the total and also supplied \$4,162,151 or over 87 per cent of the entire capital investment and furnished employment to 1,871 persons or over 84 per cent of all persons employed.

The month of highest employment of wage-earners was November when 1,794 persons were reported and February with 1,698 was the month of minimum employment. Females represent 92 per cent of the wage-earners in the industry and the average wage paid was \$31.74 per week for males and \$13.46 for females. (See Tables 7 & 8)

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1943

Table 1. Principal Statistics Representative years, 1925 to 1943

Year and Provinces	Estab- lish- ments	Capital Invested	Em- ployees	Salaries and Wages	Cost of Materials Used	Gross Value of Production
	No.	\$	No.	\$	\$	\$
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
1940	25	3,817,487	1,886	1,556,419	2,377,079	5,158,146
<u>1 9 4 1</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>1 9 4 2</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
<u>1 9 4 3</u>						
CANADA ...	27	4,776,317	2,220	2,244,814	2,891,021	7,132,539
Quebec	12	3,409,849	1,530	1,457,796	1,966,233	4,711,830
Ontario	15	1,366,468	690	787,018	924,788	2,420,709

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1943

Table 2. - Comparison of Principal Statistics, 1942 and 1943

Items	1942	1943	+ Increase - Decrease
Establishments reporting No.	26	27	+ 1
Capital invested \$	4,769,208	4,776,317	+ 7,109
Employees on salaries -			
Total No.	480	486	+ 6
Male No.	202	204	+ 2
Female No.	278	282	+ 4
Total salaries \$	862,930	935,756	+ 72,826
Employees on wages -			
Monthly average No.	1,834	1,734	- 100
Male No.	153	139	- 14
Female No.	1,681	1,595	- 86
Total wages \$	1,172,425	1,309,058	+ 136,633
Power equipment -			
Units No.	214	213	- 1
Horsepower capacity H.P.	612	570	- 42
Cost of fuel and electricity \$	24,741	26,875	+ 2,134
Cost of materials used \$	3,129,641	2,891,021	- 238,620
Gross value of production \$	6,945,472	7,132,539	+ 187,067
Value added by manufacture \$	3,791,090	4,214,643	+ 423,553

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, 1943

Table 3. - Production, 1942⁽¹⁾ and 1943⁽¹⁾

Principal Products	Unit of Measure	1942		1943	
		Quantity	Selling Value at Factory	Quantity	Selling Value at Factory
			\$		\$
Corsets and girdles -					
Cotton	Doz.	66,934	1,227,347	63,959	1,396,384
Silk and satin	"	26,141	400,334	23,731	574,244
Rayon and mixtures	"	46,819	1,104,573	36,923	995,576
Elastic	"	19,468	332,067	9,405	220,855
Combination garments -					
Cotton	"	9,162	240,828	7,928	277,241
Silk and satin	"	18,791	424,533	11,948	399,103
Rayon and mixtures	"	27,382	802,443	15,713	511,648
Elastic	"	1,762	44,140	403	21,165
Children's waists	"	6,560	27,602	7,722	36,133
Bandeaux and brassieres -					
Cotton	"	119,845	773,094	133,582	932,648
Silk and satin	"	69,291	419,378	67,753	495,231
Rayon and mixtures	"	90,575	515,351	90,090	502,513
All other, material not specified	"	224	358	-	19,536
Surgical belts and other					
surgical garments	"	2,698	331,668	3,228	394,956
Underwear, all kinds	"	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Garters	"	9,134	19,110	5,989	14,352
Girdles, suspender	"	3,788	20,920	3,004	25,756
Sanitary supplies (belts, aprons, etc.)	"	-	6,967	-	5,778
Shoulder braces	"	625	4,375	707	5,367
All other products	-	-	250,384	-	304,053
TOTAL VALUE OF PRODUCTS					
	-	-	6,945,472	-	7,132,539

- (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, hosiery and knitted goods, rubber goods and other industries.
- (2) Included in "all other products".

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1943

Table 4. - Capital invested representative years, 1925 to 1943.

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	1,379,463	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	743,537	3,820,719
1940	1,318,958	1,673,781	824,748	3,817,487
<u>1 9 4 1</u>				
CANADA	1,387,283	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>1 9 4 2</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
<u>1 9 4 3</u>				
CANADA	1,427,048	2,229,682 ^x	1,119,587	4,776,317
Quebec	1,132,863	1,530,578	746,408	3,409,849
Ontario	294,185	699,104	373,179	1,366,468

x Includes inventory value of "finished products on hand" amounting to \$479,077 in 1941, \$508,609 in 1942 and \$323,744 in 1943.

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1943.

Table 5. - Principal Statistics of the Corset Industry, Grouped According to the Size of Establishment, 1942 and 1943

Establishments having a pro- duction of -	Estab- lish- ments No.	Capital Invested \$	Em- ployees No.	Salaries and wages \$	Cost of Materials Used \$	Gross Value of Production \$
<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)					
\$50,000 " " \$100,000	3)	103,189	77	72,364	94,350	210,964
\$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)					
\$1,000,000 and over ...	1)	2,520,675	1,055	767,544	1,413,636	2,713,900
TOTAL	26	4,769,208	2,314	2,035,355	3,129,641	6,945,472
<u>1 9 4 3</u>						
\$5,000 to under \$25,000	5	49,321	39	26,290	37,162	81,921
\$25,000 " " \$50,000	3	48,781	39	32,368	45,693	99,755
\$50,000 " " \$100,000	3	141,530	81	95,359	82,506	216,094
\$100,000" " \$500,000	5	374,534	190	216,814	236,108	676,074
\$500,000" " \$1,000,000	10)					
\$1,000,000 and over ...	1)	4,162,151	1,871	1,873,983	2,489,552	6,058,695
TOTAL	27	4,776,317	2,220	2,244,814	2,891,021	7,132,539

Table 6. - Employees by Sex and Remuneration 1941 to 1943

	1941	1942	1943
Salaried Employees--			
Total	No. 494	480	486
Male	No. 224	202	204
Female	No. 270	278	282
Total salaries	\$ 836,949	862,930	935,756
Wage-earners -			
Monthly average	No. 1,769	1,834	1,734
Male	No. 160	153	139
Female	No. 1,609	1,681	1,595
Total wages	\$ 1,089,219	1,172,425	1,309,058
All Employees -			
Total	No. 2,263	2,314	2,220
Male	No. 384	355	343
Female	No. 1,879	1,959	1,877
Total salaries and wages ..	\$ 1,926,168	2,035,355	2,244,814

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1943

Table 7. - Monthly Employment of Wage-earners, 1941 to 1943

Months	1941			1942			1943		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
January	153	1,379	1,532	162	1,625	1,787	151	1,560	1,711
February	152	1,431	1,583	157	1,636	1,793	151	1,547	1,698
March	153	1,481	1,634	156	1,706	1,862	152	1,580	1,732
April	154	1,508	1,662	152	1,727	1,879	139	1,583	1,722
May	157	1,560	1,717	155	1,730	1,885	137	1,572	1,709
June	161	1,625	1,786	155	1,721	1,876	137	1,586	1,723
July	163	1,624	1,787	154	1,705	1,859	130	1,572	1,702
August	162	1,729	1,891	153	1,744	1,897	130	1,588	1,718
September	163	1,762	1,925	144	1,688	1,832	127	1,604	1,731
October	165	1,771	1,936	145	1,690	1,835	134	1,648	1,782
November	165	1,719	1,884	148	1,607	1,755	137	1,657	1,794
December	168	1,683	1,851	144	1,587	1,731	137	1,629	1,766
MONTHLY AVERAGE .	160	1,609	1,769	153	1,681	1,834	139	1,595	1,734

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.
1942 and 1943

Number of Hours Worked per Week	1942		1943	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
	No.	No.	No.	No.
30 hours or less	3	59	3	70
31-43 hours	3	149	3	158
44 hours	26	176	16	249
45-47 hours	63	834	69	751
48 hours	42	431	24	311
49-50 hours	3	18	10	123
51-54 hours	12	144	6	63
55 hours	-	-	-	-
56-64 hours	6	-	6	-
65 hours and over	-	-	2	-
Average hours per week	46.7	45.4	46.9	44.9
Average weekly earnings	\$21.94	\$11.83	\$31.74	\$13.46

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1943

Table 9. - Power Installation, 1942 and 1943

Classes of Power	1942		1943	
	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	210	508	209	466
Idle	3	4	3	4
TOTAL POWER AVAILABLE FOR MANUFACTURING PURPOSES.	214	612	213	570
Electric motors operated by power generated in the establishment	-	-	1	75
Stationary boilers				
In use	6	495	6	495

Table 10. - Consumption of Fuel and Electricity, 1942 and 1943

Kinds of Fuel	Unit of Measure	1942		1943	
		Quantity	Cost Value at Factory	Quantity	Cost Value at Factory
			\$		\$
Coal	Ton				
Bituminous	(2000lb)	1,092	9,176	1,188	11,616
Anthracite	"	40	428	23	294
Coke	"	69	1,030	65	973
Gasoline	Imp. Gal.	239	79	180	60
Kerosene or coal oil	Gal.	40	15	50	12
Fuel or diesel oil	"	2,876	294	-	-
Gas -					
Manufactured	M. cu. ft.	69	78	47	53
TOTAL COST OF FUEL	-	-	11,100	-	13,008
Electricity purchased (including service charges).	Kw. H.	633,803	13,641	635,309	13,867
TOTAL COST OF FUEL AND ELECTRICITY	-	-	24,741	-	26,875

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1943

A P P E N D I X

Corset Manufacturers Operating in Canada, 1943

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, The	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 Manufacturing, 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	93 $\frac{1}{2}$ Church Street, Toronto
Hayward, A. P., Limited	50 York Street, Toronto
Kops Brothers Limited	559 College Street, Toronto
Lady Mac of Canada Ltd.	91 Wellington Street West, Toronto
Lagnon Manufacturing Company	37 McCaul Street, Toronto
Rose Mary Brassieres	269 College St., 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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