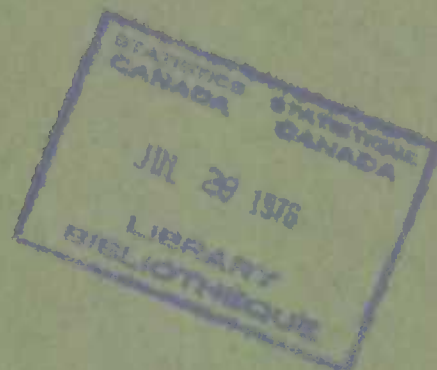


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CANADA
DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
CENSUS OF INDUSTRY
GENERAL MANUFACTURING STATISTICS

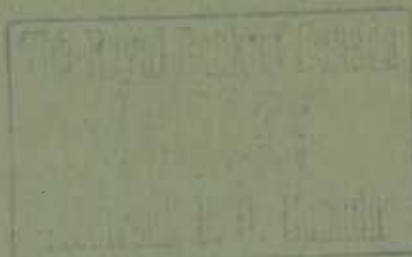
REPORT
ON THE
CORSET INDUSTRY
IN
CANADA
1945



OTTAWA
1946

14-1700

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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

GENERAL MANUFACTURES BRANCH

OTTAWA - CANADA

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THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1945

In 1945 reports were received from thirty-three establishments engaged in the production of corsets and kindred articles, 14 of which were located in Quebec and 19 in Ontario. Quebec, however, occupied the leading position in the industry with over 64 per cent of the gross value of production and over 63 per cent of the number of persons given employment.

Goods with a selling value at the factory of \$9,214,536 were produced in 1945; this amount representing an increase of \$1,257,355 or 15.8 per cent over the previous year. Employment was given to 2,527 persons, 177 or 7.5 per cent more than in 1944, and the payroll at \$2,786,015 was greater by \$334,799 or 13.7 per cent. Materials used cost \$3,475,601, an increase of \$510,311 or 17.2 per cent.

The 137,268 doz. corsets and girdles produced were valued at \$3,680,380 and this amount represented 39.9 per cent of the total value of production in the corset industry. The average price per doz. at \$26.81 was 80 cents higher than the average of the previous year. The output of combination garments amounted to 44,171 dozens valued at \$1,229,375 while bandeaux and brassieres accounted for \$3,292,888.

As may be observed in Table 5, of the 33 establishments reporting, the 5 largest were responsible for a production of \$5,218,767 or over 56 per cent of the total and furnished employment to 1,364 persons or over 53 per cent of all persons employed.

The month of highest employment of wage-earners was November when 2,137 persons were reported and July with 1,928 was the month of minimum employment. Females represent 91.4 per cent of the wage-earners in the industry and the average wage paid was \$29.44 per week for males and \$16.00 for females. (See Tables 7 & 8)

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1945

Table 1. Principal Statistics Representative years, 1925 to 1945

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	4,246,348
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	1,430,314	2,121,694	4,706,947
1940	25	3,817,487	1,886	1,556,419	2,377,079	5,158,146
1941	24	4,569,994	2,263	1,926,168	2,948,813	6,171,683
1942	26	4,769,208	2,314	2,035,355	3,129,641	6,945,472
<u>1943</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
<u>1944</u>						
CANADA ..	28	(1)	2,350	2,451,216	2,965,290	7,957,181
Quebec	13	-	1,541	1,531,356	1,992,098	5,229,288
Ontario ...	15	-	809	919,860	973,192	2,727,893
<u>1945</u>						
CANADA ..	33	(1)	2,527	2,786,015	3,475,501	9,214,536
Quebec	14	-	1,606	1,760,131	2,293,414	5,908,239
Ontario ...	19	-	921	1,025,884	1,182,187	3,306,297

1. Information not collected.

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1945

Table 2. - Comparison of Principal Statistics, 1944 and 1945.

Items	1944	1945	+ Increase - Decrease
Establishments reporting No.	28	33	+ 5
Employees on salaries -			
Total No.	468	493	+ 25
Male No.	173	191	+ 18
Female No.	295	302	+ 7
Total salaries \$	1,027,851	1,152,883	+125,032
Employees on wages -			
Monthly average No.	1,882	2,034	+ 152
Male No.	155	175	+ 20
Female No.	1,727	1,859	+ 132
Total wages \$	1,423,365	1,633,132	+209,767
Power Equipment -			
Units No.	157	199	+ 42
Horsepower capacity H.P.	401	453	+ 52
Cost of fuel and electricity ... \$	29,120	30,881	+ 1,761
Cost of materials used \$	2,965,290	3,475,601	+510,311
Gross value of production \$	7,957,181	9,214,536	+1,257,355
Value added by manufacture \$	4,962,771	5,708,054	+745,283

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, 1945.

Table 3. - Production, 1944 (1) and 1945 (1)

Principal Products	Unit of Measure	1944		1945	
		Quantity	Selling Value at Factory	Quantity	Selling Value at Factory
			\$		\$
Corsets and girdles -					
Cotton	Doz.	58,335	1,371,497	52,814	1,332,271
Silk and satin	"	25,632	630,732	21,958	619,847
Rayon and mixtures ...	"	37,531	1,148,493	40,504	1,332,454
Elastic	"	6,461	177,727	21,992	395,808
Combination garments -					
Cotton	"	7,738	271,544	7,760	250,036
Silk and satin	"	15,427	495,587	11,869	440,005
Rayon and mixtures ...	"	13,788	412,489	15,873	483,193
Elastic	"	154	7,622	94	3,771
Children's waists	"	7,856	32,503	8,575	52,370
Bandeaux and brassieres -					
Cotton	"	172,890	1,244,556	180,070	1,525,973
Silk and satin	"	85,186	634,877	83,573	822,576
Rayon and mixtures ...	"	74,107	641,829	93,867	933,947
All other, materials not specified	"	-	-	1,462	10,392
Surgical belts and other surgical garments	"	3,976	523,614	4,491	623,374
Underwear, all kinds	"	(2)	(2)	34,621	216,523
Garters	"	4,345	9,846	4,881	13,121
Girdles, suspender	"	5,761	39,431	10,194	72,424
Sanitary supplies (belts, aprons, etc.)	"	-	9,821	-	16,092
Shoulder braces	"	568	4,581	750	6,400
All other products	"	-	300,432	-	63,959
TOTAL VALUE OF PRODUCTS .					
	-	-	7,957,181	-	9,214,536

- (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, 1945.

Table 4. - Capital invested representative years, 1925 to 1945.

Year and Provinces	Fixed Capital	Working 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.	Total Capital
	\$	\$	\$	\$
1925	1,041,217	1,641,254	1,342,251	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	2,759,663	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
1941	1,387,283	2,288,473 ^x	894,238	4,569,994
<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
<u>1 9 4 4</u>				
	Information not collected.			
<u>1 9 4 5</u>				
	Information not collected.			

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, 1945

Table 5. - Principal Statistics of the Corset Industry, Grouped According to the Size of Establishments, 1944 and 1945.

Establishments having a pro- duction of -	Estab- lish- ments No.	Em- ployees No.	Salaries and wages \$	Cost of Materials Used \$	Gross Value of Production \$
<u>1 9 4 4</u>					
\$5,000 to under \$25,000	4	26	15,997	23,673	44,301
\$25,000 " " \$50,000	5	69	67,079	82,572	176,509
\$50,000 " " \$100,000	3	88	117,290	95,593	263,946
\$100,000 " " \$500,000	11	834	928,859	1,134,657	2,866,049
\$500,000 " " \$1,000,000	4)	1,333	1,321,991	1,628,795	4,606,376
\$1,000,000 and over	1)				
TOTAL	28	2,350	2,451,216	2,965,290	7,957,181
<u>1 9 4 5</u>					
\$5,000 to under \$25,000	6	21	12,293	13,390	33,162
\$25,000 " " \$50,000	5	76	71,083	63,875	176,663
\$50,000 " " \$100,000	4	100	112,649	106,663	272,411
\$100,000 " " \$500,000	13	966	1,128,845	1,470,556	3,513,533
\$500,000 " " \$1,000,000	4)	1,364	1,461,145	1,821,117	5,218,767
\$1,000,000 and over	1)				
TOTAL	33	2,527	2,786,015	3,475,601	9,214,536

Table 6. - Employees by Sex and Remuneration 1943 to 1945

	1943	1944	1945
Salaries Employees --			
Total	No. 486	468	493
Male	No. 204	173	191
Female	No. 282	295	302
Total salaries	\$ 935,756	1,027,851	1,152,833
Wage-earners--			
Monthly average	No. 1,734	1,882	2,034
Male	No. 139	155	175
female	No. 1,595	1,727	1,859
Total wages	\$ 1,309,058	1,423,365	1,633,132
All Employees --			
Total	No. 2,220	2,350	2,527
Male	No. 343	328	366
Female	No. 1,877	2,022	2,161
Total salaries and wages	\$2,244,814	2,451,216	2,786,015

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1945

Table 7. - Monthly Employment of Wage-earners, 1943 to 1945.

Month	1943			1944			1945		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
January	151	1,560	1,711	145	1,690	1,835	160	1,814	1,974
February	151	1,547	1,698	147	1,727	1,874	168	1,835	2,003
March	152	1,580	1,732	151	1,736	1,887	164	1,866	2,030
April	139	1,533	1,722	151	1,724	1,875	159	1,867	2,026
May	137	1,572	1,709	150	1,688	1,838	164	1,854	2,018
June	137	1,586	1,723	149	1,690	1,839	164	1,840	2,004
July	130	1,572	1,702	152	1,622	1,774	164	1,764	1,928
August	130	1,588	1,718	153	1,718	1,871	172	1,824	1,996
September	127	1,604	1,731	153	1,755	1,908	184	1,871	2,055
October	134	1,648	1,782	155	1,807	1,962	186	1,921	2,107
November	137	1,657	1,794	157	1,808	1,965	192	1,945	2,137
December	137	1,629	1,766	161	1,730	1,891	188	1,915	2,103
MONTHLY AVERAGE.	139	1,595	1,734	155	1,727	1,882	175	1,859	2,034

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.
1944 and 1945

Number of Hours Worked per Week	1944		1945	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
	No.	No.	No.	No.
30 hours or less	4	103	2	115
31-43 hours	15	346	12	372
44 hours	13	180	15	272
45-47 hours	67	830	80	810
48 hours	39	292	48	386
49-50 hours	13	162	5	1
51-54 hours	4	-	12	-
55 hours	-	-	-	-
56-64 hours	4	-	2	106
65 hours and over	4	-	-	-
Average hours per week ...	46.3	43.7	46.2	44
Average weekly earnings ..	\$28.39	\$14.75	\$29.44	\$16.00

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1945

Table 9. - Power Installation, 1944 and 1945.

Classes of Power	1944		1945	
	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	149	293	188	344
Idle	7	8	10	9
TOTAL POWER AVAILABLE FOR MANUFACTURING PURPOSES.	157	401	199	453
Electric motors operated by power generated in the establishment	-	-	-	-
Stationary boilers				
In use	3	153	4	217

Table 10. - Consumption of Fuel and Electricity, 1944 and 1945.

Kinds of Fuel	Unit of Measure	1944		1945	
		Quantity	Cost Value at Factory	Quantity	Cost Value at Factory
			\$		\$
Coal	Ton				
Bituminous	(2000 lb)	1,193	12,663	1,183	11,907
Anthracite	"	7	76	33	365
Coke	"	66	1,124	67	1,033
Gasoline	Imp. Gal.	430	142	268	90
Kerosene or coal oil ...	Gal.	50	12	50	12
Fuel Oil	"	533	54	10,829	901
Wood	Cord	1	17	-	-
Gas -					
Manufactured	M. cu. ft.	84	87	133	147
TOTAL COST OF FUEL	-	-	14,175	-	-
Electricity purchased (including service charges). Kw. H.		728,897	14,945	851,182	16,426
TOTAL COST OF FUEL AND ELECTRICITY	-	-	29,120	-	30,881

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1945.

Table 11. - Imports of Fully Manufactured Corsets and Materials,
Calendar Years 1944 and 1945 -

Articles Imported	Unit of Measure	1944		1945	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
			\$		\$
Corsets, Corselettes, Girdles and Brassieres ...	-	-	624	-	5,630
Corsets, Clasps, Busks, Blanks, Steels and Covered Corset wires cut to length, tipped or untipped; reed, rattan or horn covered.		7,775	7,775	-	5,966
Wire of Steel, flat or woven flat including steel strip in the coil, coated or not, .064 inch in thickness or thinner, with tolerance not to exceed .002 inch, for the manufacture of corset clasps steels, wires and dress stays.	Cwt.	2,679	85,376	2,809	73,142
Tips, studs and eyes of metal for the manufacture of corsets and corset wires	-	-	6,572	-	6,572
Shoe eyelets corset eyelets and corset rivets, shoe eyelet hooks, shoe lace wire fasteners.-	-	-	201,610	-	220,750
Sheets, hoop band or strip for the manufacture of buckle clasps, bed fasts, furniture casters, corset steels, clock springs, shoe shanks, phonograph motor springs or ball bearings	Cwt.	11,232	83,365	16,747	111,868

Table 12. - Exports of Corsets, Calendar Years 1944 and 1945

Articles Exported	Unit of Measure	1944		1945	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
			\$		\$
Corsets and brassieres	No.	73,183	70,787	57,599	67,494

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1945

A P P E N D I X

Corset Manufacturers Operating in Canada, 1945.

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
Corset, The E. T. Company, Ltd.,	1700 Laframboise St., St. Hyacinthe
Dainty Maid Brassiere Inc.,	3643 St. Lawrence Blvd., Montreal.
Dominion Corset Company, Ltd.	45 Dorchester Street, Quebec.
Form Craft Brassiere Company, The	5505 St. Lawrence Blvd., Montreal.
Grenier, C.J. and Company	4835 Colonial Avenue, Montreal
La Brassiere Marquise & Cie Enrg.	1268 Laurier East, Montreal.
La Brassiere Merveilleuse Enrg.	3801 St. Denis Street, Montreal.
Nature Fit Brassieres,	7100 Waverley Street, Montreal.
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.
Birstock S & Company	95 A King Street West, Toronto.
Canadian H. W. Gossard Company Ltd., The	366 Adelaide Street West, Toronto
Charis Limited	864 Lake Shore Road, New Toronto.
Eaton, The T. Company Ltd.,	190 Yonge Street, Toronto
Flexes (Canada) Limited	1151 Queen Street West, Toronto
Gordon and Mason	93½ Church Street, Toronto
Hayward, A.P., Limited	547 Parliament Street, Toronto
Iris Manufacturing Co. Ltd.,	600 Bay Street, Toronto.
Kops Brothers Limited	559 College Street, Toronto
Lady Mac of Canada Ltd.,	91 Wellington Street West, Toronto.
Lagnon Manufacturing Limited,	37 McCaul Street, Toronto
Liebgott Esther	585 Bathurst Street, Toronto
Princess Uplift,	760 Bathurst Street, Toronto
Rose Marx Brassieres Limited,	1194 Bloor Street, West, Toronto
Nu Bone Corset Company of Canada, Ltd., The	48 Main Street, Port Dalhousie.
Spirella Company of Canada Ltd., The	1651 River Road, Niagara Falls
Spracklin, J.M.	15 Castlewood Road, Toronto
Stein and Company, Ltd., A.	41 Peter Street, Toronto.



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