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Minister of Trade and Commerce

CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

+ + + *Census of Industry* + + +

GENERAL MANUFACTURING STATISTICS

REPORT

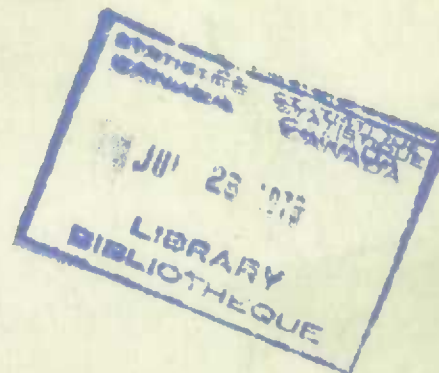
ON THE

CORSET INDUSTRY

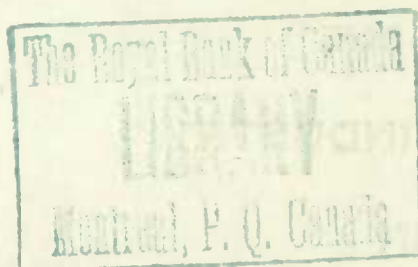
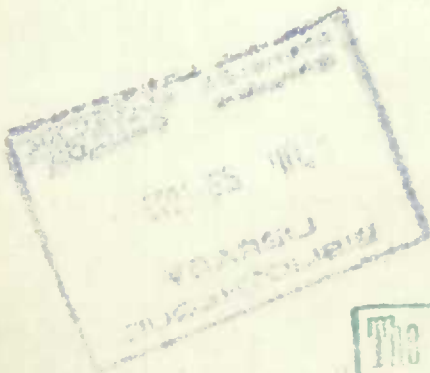
IN

CANADA

1946



OTTAWA
1948



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(25 Feb. 48)

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

Canada. DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

GENERAL MANUFACTURES BRANCH

OTTAWA - CANADA

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Director, Census of Industry and Merchandising:
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THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1946

In 1946 reports were received from thirty-nine establishments engaged in the production of corsets and kindred articles, 17 of which were located in Quebec and 22 in Ontario. Quebec, however, occupied the leading position in the industry with over 61 per cent of the gross value of production and over 62 per cent of the number of persons given employment.

Goods with a selling value at the factory of \$12,115,586 were produced in 1946, this amount representing an increase of \$2,901,050 or 31.5 per cent over the previous year. Employment was given to 2,827 persons, 300 or 11.9 per cent more than in 1945, and the payroll at \$3,289,067 was greater by \$503,052 or over 18 per cent. Materials used cost \$5,111,692, an increase of \$1,636,091 or 47 per cent.

The 208,912 dozen corsets and girdles produced were valued at \$5,290,536 and this amount represented 43.7 per cent of the total value of production in the corset industry. The average price per dozen at \$25.32 was \$1.49 lower than the average of the previous year. The output of combination garments amounted to 90,467 dozens valued at \$1,837,640, while bandeaux and brassieres accounted for \$3,912,631.

As may be observed in Table 5, of the 39 establishments reporting, the 8 largest were responsible for a production of \$8,018,820 or over 66 per cent of the total and furnished employment to 1,776 persons or over 62 per cent of all persons employed.

The month of highest employment of wage-earners was October when 2,372 persons were reported and April with 2,264 was the month of minimum employment. Females represent 89.5 per cent of the wage-earners employed in the industry.

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1946

Table 1. Principal Statistics Representative Years, 1925 to 1946

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
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
1943	27	4,776,317	2,220	2,244,814	2,891,021	7,132,539
<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	3,475,601	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
<u>1946</u>						
CANADA	39	(1)	2,827	3,289,067	5,111,692	12,115,586
Quebec	17	-	1,758	2,019,275	3,089,498	7,541,804
Ontario	22	-	1,069	1,269,792	2,022,194	4,573,782

1. Information not collected.

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1946

Table 2. - Comparison of Principal Statistics, 1945 and 1946

Items	1945	1945	1946	+ Increase - Decrease
Establishments reporting	No.	33	39	+ 6
Employees on salaries -				
Total	No.	493	511	+ 18
Male	No.	191	183	- 8
Female	No.	302	328	+ 26
Total salaries	\$	1,152,883	1,288,275	+ 135,392
Employees on wages -				
Monthly average	No.	2,034	2,316	+ 282
Male	No.	175	242	+ 67
Female	No.	1,859	2,074	+ 215
Total wages	\$	1,633,132	2,000,792	+ 367,660
Power Equipment -				
Units	No.	199	302	+ 103
Horsepower capacity	H.P.	453	556	+ 103
Cost of fuel and electricity	\$	30,881	34,645	+ 3,764
Cost of materials used	\$	3,475,601	5,111,692	+ 1,636,091
Gross value of production	\$	9,214,536	12,115,586	+ 2,901,050
Value added by manufacture	\$	5,708,054	6,969,249	+ 1,261,195

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, 1946

Table 3. - Production, 1945 (1) and 1946 (1).

Principal Products	Unit of Measure	1 9 4 5		1 9 4 6	
		Quantity	Selling Value at Factory	Quantity	Selling Value at Factory
			\$		\$
Corsets and girdles -					
Cotton	Doz.	52,814	1,332,271	77,663	2,083,964
Silk and satin	"	21,958	619,847	26,354	852,810
Rayon and mixtures	"	40,504	1,332,454	37,184	1,201,285
Elastic	"	21,992	395,808	67,711	1,152,477
Combination garments -					
Cotton	"	7,760	250,036	30,482	552,648
Silk and satin	"	11,869	440,005	13,613	409,847
Rayon and mixtures	"	15,873	483,193	38,333	815,040
Elastic	"	94	3,771	250	10,361
Children's waists	"	8,575	52,370	7,789	49,744
Bandeaux and brassieres -					
Cotton	"	180,070	1,525,973	186,367	1,667,601
Silk and satin	"	83,573	822,576	92,587	938,442
Rayon and mixtures	"	93,867	933,947	100,750	1,053,735
All other, materials not specified	"	1,462	10,392	41,280	252,853
Surgical belts and other					
surgical garments	"	4,491	623,374	4,392	670,872
Underwear, all kinds	"	34,621	216,523	33,250	208,148
Garters	"	4,881	13,121	-	28,646
Girdles, suspender	"	10,194	72,424	10,855	81,900
Sanitary supplies (belts, aprons, etc.)	"	-	16,092	-	19,587
Shoulder braces	"	750	6,400	767	6,178
All other products	"	-	63,959	-	59,448
TOTAL VALUE OF PRODUCTS					
	-	-	9,214,536	-	12,115,586

(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 and other industries.

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1946.

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

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	1,542,251	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
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

The above information not collected since 1943.

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, 1946.

Table 5. - Principal Statistics of the Corset Industry, Grouped According to the Size of Establishments, 1945 and 1946.

Establishments having a production of -		Estab- lish- ments	Em- ployees	Salaries and wages	Cost of Materials Used	Gross Value of Production
		No.	No.	\$	\$	\$
<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
<u>1 9 4 6</u>						
\$ 5,000 to under \$	25,000 ...	8	22	22,586	32,020	73,269
25,000 "	50,000 ...	7)	163	146,122	228,821	480,110
50,000 "	100,000 ...	2)				
100,000 "	500,000 ...	14	866	964,185	1,635,254	3,543,387
500,000 "	1,000,000 ...	7)	1,776	2,156,174	3,215,597	8,018,820
1,000,000 and over	1)				
TOTAL		39	2,827	3,289,067	5,111,692	12,115,586

Table 6. - Employees by Sex and Remuneration 1944 to 1946

		1 9 4 4	1 9 4 5	1 9 4 6
Salaried Employees -				
Total	No.	468	493	511
Male	No.	173	191	183
Female	No.	295	302	328
Total salaries	\$	1,027,851	1,152,883	1,288,275
Wage-earners -				
Monthly average	No.	1,882	2,034	2,316
Male	No.	155	175	242
Female	No.	1,727	1,859	2,074
Total wages	\$	1,423,365	1,633,132	2,000,792
All Employees -				
Total	No.	2,350	2,527	2,827
Male	No.	328	366	425
Female	No.	2,022	2,161	2,402
Total salaries and wages	\$	2,451,216	2,786,015	3,289,067

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1946

Table 7. - Monthly Employment of Wage-earners, 1944 to 1946

Months	1 9 4 4			1 9 4 5			1 9 4 6		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
January	145	1,690	1,835	160	1,814	1,974	222	2,076	2,298
February	147	1,727	1,874	168	1,835	2,003	223	2,089	2,310
March	151	1,736	1,887	164	1,866	2,030	229	2,062	2,291
April	151	1,724	1,875	159	1,867	2,026	229	2,035	2,264
May	150	1,688	1,838	164	1,854	2,018	234	2,040	2,274
June	149	1,690	1,839	164	1,840	2,004	236	2,092	2,328
July	152	1,622	1,774	164	1,764	1,928	236	2,082	2,318
August	153	1,718	1,871	172	1,824	1,996	236	2,109	2,345
September	153	1,755	1,908	184	1,871	2,055	246	2,097	2,343
October	155	1,807	1,962	186	1,921	2,107	250	2,122	2,372
November	157	1,808	1,965	192	1,945	2,137	259	2,070	2,329
December	161	1,730	1,891	188	1,915	2,103	265	2,016	2,281
MONTHLY AVERAGES ..	155	1,727	1,882	175	1,859	2,034	242	2,074	2,316

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	1 9 4 4		1 9 4 5	
	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	-	-	-	-
55-64 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 above information was not collected in 1946.

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1946

Table 9. - Power Installation, 1945 and 1946

Classes of Power	1 9 4 5		1 9 4 6	
	Number of Units	Manufacturers' Rating of Horsepower Capacity	Number of Units	Manufacturers' Rating of Horsepower Capacity
Steam engines and steam turbines	1	100	-	-
Electric motors operated by purchased power -				
In use	188	344	292	547
Idle	10	9	10	9
TOTAL POWER AVAILABLE FOR MANUFACTURING PURPOSES	199	453	302	556
Electric motors operated by power generated in the establishment	-	-	-	-
Stationary boilers -				
In use	4	217	-	-

Table 10. - Consumption of Fuel and Electricity, 1945 and 1946

Kinds of Fuel	Unit of Measure	1 9 4 5		1 9 4 6	
		Quantity	Cost Value at Factory	Quantity	Cost Value at Factory
			\$		\$
Coal	Ton				
Bituminous	(2,000 lb.)	1,183	11,907	746	7,551
Anthracite	"	33	365	111	1,803
Coke	"	67	1,033	1	14
Gasoline	Imp. Gal.	268	90	931	314
Kerosene or coal oil	Gal.	50	12	50	12
Fuel Oil	"	10,829	901	67,657	5,392
Wood	Cord	-	-	1	9
Gas					
Manufactured	M. cu. ft.	136	147	14	17
TOTAL COST OF FUEL	-	-	14,455	-	15,112
Electricity purchased (including service charges) ..	Kw. H.	851,182	16,426	995,680	19,533
TOTAL COST OF FUEL AND ELECTRICITY	-	-	30,881	-	34,645

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1946

Table 11. - Imports of Fully Manufactured Corsets and Materials,
Calendar Years 1945 and 1946.

Articles Imported	Unit of Measure	1 9 4 5		1 9 4 6	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
			\$		\$
Corsets, Corselettes, Girdles and Brassieres	-	-	5,630	-	141,177
Corsets, Clasps, Busks, Blanks, Steels and Covered Corset wires cut to length, tipped or untipped; reed, rattan or horn covered	-	-	5,966	-	30,342
Wire of Steel, flat or woven flat including steel strip in the coil, coated or not, .064 inch in thick- ness or thinner, with tolerance not to exceed .002 inch, for the manufacture of corset clasps steels, wires and dress stays	Cwt.	2,809	73,142	3,983	108,647
Tips, studs and eyes of metal for the manufacture of corsets and corset wires	-	-	6,572	-	5,805
Shoe eyelets, corset eyelets and corset rivets, shoe eyelet hooks, shoe lace wire fasteners	-	-	220,750	-	315,823
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.	16,747	111,868	15,276	108,617

Table 12. - Exports of Corsets, Calendar Years 1945 and 1946

Articles Exported	Unit of Measure	1 9 4 5		1 9 4 6	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
			\$		\$
Corsets and brassieres	No.	57,599	67,494	147,844	191,920

THE CORSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1946

A P P E N D I X

Corset Manufacturers Operating in Canada, 1946

Quebec

Best Form Brassiere Company	396 Craig Street West, Montreal
Better Brand Brassiere	6848 St. Lawrence Blvd., Montreal
Canadian Brassieres Inc.	20 rue Chabot St., Levis,
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
Janesse Limited	4530 Clark St., Montreal
La Brassiere Marquise & Cie Enrg.	1268 Laurier East, 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
Queen Brassieres Mfg. Co.	4828 De Grandpré St., Montreal
Smart Brassieres	119 Kelly St. West, Montreal
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
Flexees (Canada) Limited	1151 Queen Street West, Toronto
Gordon and Mason	93 1/2 Church Street, Toronto
Hayward, A. F., Limited	547 Parliament Street, Toronto
Hollywood Uplift Brassieres	961 Kingston Road, Toronto
Iris Manufacturing Co. Ltd.	600 Bay Street, Toronto
Jarwoods Limited	368 Victoria St., 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
Lieb Gott Esner	585 Bathurst Street, Toronto
Perfect Fit Brassiere Co.	507 Manning Ave., Toronto
Princess Uplift	760 Bathurst Street, Toronto
Rose Marx Brassieres Limited	154 Pearl Street, 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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