

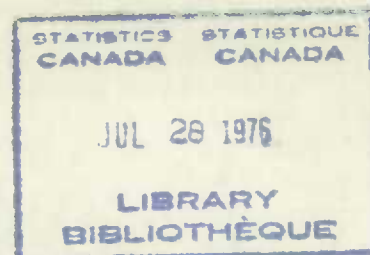
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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS — DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
CANADA

1951



THE CORSET INDUSTRY 1951

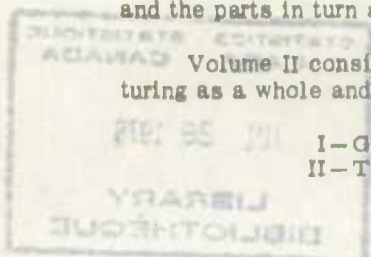
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NOTICE

The annual reports prepared by the Industry and Merchandising Division of the Bureau of Statistics are divided into 4 volumes, as follows: Volume I—The Primary Industries, including mining, forestry and fisheries; Volume II—Manufacturing; Volume III—Construction; Volume IV—Merchandising and Services. The volumes are made up of parts, and the parts in turn are subdivided according to the industries which they comprise.



Volume II consists of the following parts, the first two of which deal with manufacturing as a whole and the balance with the major manufacturing groups.

- I—General Review of the Manufacturing Industries, \$1.50.
- II—The Manufacturing Industries, by Provinces
 - Section 1. Principal Statistics of Major Industrial Groups and Leading Industries, 50¢.
 - Section 2. Principal Statistics of Individual Industries, 75¢.
 - Section 3. Principal Statistics by Regional Distribution, 75¢.
- III—Foods and Beverages
- IV—Tobacco and Tobacco Products
- V—Rubber Products
- VI—Leather Products
- VII—Textiles
- VIII—Wood and Paper Products
- IX—Printing Trades
- X—Iron and Steel Products
- XI—Transportation Equipment
- XII—Non-ferrous Metal Products
- XIII—Electrical Apparatus and Supplies
- XIV—Non-metallic Mineral Products
- XV—Products of Petroleum and Coal
- XVI—Chemicals and Allied Products
- XVII—Miscellaneous Manufactures

The present report belongs in Part VII, Textiles. It is punched to permit of filing in a ring binder along with others of the group. The reports in this group are:

A—General Review of All Textiles, 25¢.

Textiles, Except Clothing

- B—General Review, 25¢.
- C—The Cotton Textile Industries, 25¢.
- D—The Wool Textile Industries, 25¢.
- E—The Synthetic Textiles and Silk Industry, 25¢.
- F—The Narrow Fabrics Industry, 25¢.
- G—The Dyeing and Finishing of Textile Goods Industry, 25¢.

Miscellaneous Textile Products

- H—The Awning, Tent and Sail Industry, 25¢.
- I—The Cordage, Rope and Twine Industry, 25¢.
- J—The Cotton and Jute Bag Industry, 25¢.
- K—The Miscellaneous Textiles Industries, 25¢.

Clothing

- L—General Review, 25¢.
- M—The Men's Factory Clothing Industry, 25¢.
- N—The Women's and Children's Factory Clothing Industries, 25¢.
- O—The Hosiery, Knitted Goods and Fabric Glove and Mitten Industries, 25¢.
- P—The Corset Industry, 25¢.
- Q—The Fur Goods and Fur Dressing Industries, 25¢.
- R—The Hat and Cap Industry, 25¢.
- S—The Miscellaneous Clothing Industries, 25¢.

(4 Feb - 1953)

THE CORSET INDUSTRY

1951

The corset industry in 1951 operated at a somewhat lower level in terms of production and employment although there were increases in the cost of materials used as well as in salaries and wages. There were changes in the production levels of various kinds of products. For example there was an increase in the output of cotton corsets and girdles but a decrease in those produced of rayon and mixtures. There was an increase in the production of rayon bandeaux and brassieres but a decrease in the production of most other types of bandeaux and brassieres as well as combination garments. In 1951 imports of corsets, corselettes, girdles and brassieres amounted to \$1,004,990 compared with \$467,172 in 1950. Exports of corsets and girdles increased from \$1,327 in 1950 to \$7,062 in 1951 but exports of brassieres declined from \$15,373 to \$12,018 over the two years.

Production of the industry at \$16,594,290 in 1951 was \$353,254 less than the 1950 output of \$16,947,544. The cost of materials, however, was up by \$449,875 as costs rose from \$7,358,186 to \$7,808,061 over the two years. Employment at 3,146 in 1951 represented a drop of 73 over the 3,219 reported in 1950, while salaries and wages rose from \$4,741,557 to \$4,916,077 over the two years.

There were 37 establishments in the corset industry in 1951, the same number as in the previous year. Sixteen of these were in Quebec and produced goods to the value of \$10,867,395 or 65 per cent of the total output. The remaining \$5,726,895 was produced by 21 establishments in Ontario. Quebec also dominated in terms of employment with 61 per cent of employees of the industry located in that province.

In terms of size, thirteen establishments each having a value of production in excess of \$500,000, accounted for 72 per cent of the output and 72 per cent of the employment of the industry. While a lower level of employment was recorded in the industry there was little seasonal variation and the number of wage-earners varied from a high of 2,742 in March to 2,196 in December following a general downward trend. The industry gave a large share of employment to females and the number of female wage-earners in 1951 amounted to 88 per cent of total wage-earners.

The 162,857 dozen corsets and girdles produced in 1951 were valued at \$5,868,916 and this amount represented 35 per cent of the total value of production in the corset industry. The average price of corsets and girdles per dozen at \$36.04 was 95 cents higher than the average of the previous year. Bandeaux and brassieres were produced to the extent of \$7,862,811 and accounted for 47 per cent of total production. The output of combination garments amounted to 28,738 dozen valued at \$1,202,584.

TABLE 1. Principal Statistics, Representative Years, 1925 to 1951

Year and Provinces	Establishments	Employees	Salaries and wages	Cost of materials used	Gross value of production
	No.	No.	\$	\$	\$
1925.....	17	1,461	1,110,282	2,330,165	4,314,309
1927.....	16	1,351	1,009,495	1,925,962	3,791,748
1928.....	16	1,418	1,124,284	2,055,416	4,246,948
1929.....	17	1,405	1,084,231	2,098,351	4,219,019
1930.....	19	1,482	1,097,037	2,221,318	4,578,847
1931.....	20	1,508	1,124,990	2,054,461	4,187,647
1932.....	19	1,517	1,202,228	1,812,233	4,267,671
1933.....	20	1,498	1,154,979	1,881,362	4,168,585
1934.....	23	1,598	1,274,845	2,062,352	4,461,409
1936.....	23	1,555	1,289,015	1,956,071	4,397,141
1937.....	23	1,684	1,328,019	2,100,321	4,567,707
1938.....	23	1,632	1,313,711	1,939,519	4,321,254
1939.....	23	1,768	1,430,514	2,121,694	4,706,947
1940.....	25	1,886	1,556,419	2,377,079	5,158,146
1941.....	24	2,263	1,926,168	2,948,813	6,171,683
1942.....	26	2,314	2,035,355	3,129,641	6,945,472
1943.....	27	2,220	2,244,814	2,891,021	7,132,539
1944.....	28	2,350	2,451,216	2,965,290	7,957,181
1945.....	33	2,527	2,786,015	3,475,601	9,214,536
1946.....	39	2,827	3,289,067	5,111,692	12,115,588
1947.....	40	3,259	4,093,288	6,276,125	14,121,811
1948.....	37	3,154	4,358,510	6,462,015	15,486,766
1949					
Canada	37	3,456	4,818,813	7,101,529	16,389,008
Quebec	18	2,217	2,938,979	4,668,267	10,475,986
Ontario	19	1,239	1,879,834	2,433,262	5,913,022
1950					
Canada	37	3,219	4,741,557	7,358,186	16,917,544
Quebec	17	2,052	2,826,039	4,745,657	11,164,312
Ontario	20	1,167	1,915,518	2,612,529	5,783,232
1951					
Canada	37	3,146	4,916,077	7,808,061	16,594,290
Quebec	16	1,918	2,901,774	5,274,097	10,867,395
Ontario	21	1,228	2,014,303	2,533,964	5,726,895

TABLE 2. Production, 1950¹ and 1951¹

Principal products	1950		1951	
	Quantity	Selling value at factory	Quantity	Selling value at factory
	Doz.	\$	Doz.	\$
Corsets and girdles:				
Cotton	53,059	1,944,576	60,302	2,386,379
Silk	13,930	583,004	807	43,907
Nylon			11,733	513,103
Rayon and mixtures	67,068	2,732,906	39,635	1,758,526
Elastic	48,628	1,150,784	50,380	1,166,999

1. The statistics published in this table cover only those manufacturing establishments which have corsets and kindred articles as their principal products. For the total output of corsets, girdles and brassieres see table 3.

TABLE 2. Production, 1950¹ and 1951¹ - Concluded

Principal products	1950		1951	
	Quantity	Selling value at factory	Quantity	Selling value at factory
	Doz.	\$	Doz.	\$
Combination garments:				
Cotton	8,108	373,121	7,576	273,374
Silk	17,790	936,579	14,274	799,762
Rayon and mixtures				
Elastic	790	74,558	961	34,039
Children's waists	4,693	32,714	4,731	32,952
Nylon	468	48,639	1,196	62,457
Bandeaux and brassieres:				
Cotton	231,080	2,805,404	172,105	2,259,289
Silk	6,077	54,225	18,033	208,170
Nylon	69,462	937,901	107,483	1,288,278
Rayon and other	279,576	3,690,331	342,921	4,107,074
Underwear, all kinds	35,209	471,349	36,191	492,855
Garters	2,107	5,745	2	2
Girdles, suspender	32,421	328,282	34,911	331,293
Sanitary supplies (belts, aprons, etc.)	—	14,347	—	14,763
Shoulder braces				
All other products	—	763,079	—	821,068
Total value of products	—	16,947,544	—	16,594,290

1. The statistics published in this table cover only those manufacturing establishments which have corsets and girdled articles as their principal products. For the total output of corsets, girdles and brassieres see table 3.

2. Included in "All other Products".

TABLE 3. Production of Corsets, Girdles, Brassieres and Combination Garments in all Industries in Canada, 1938-1950

Year	Corsets and girdles		Combination garments ¹		Bandeaux, brassieres, etc.	
	Doz.	\$	Doz.	\$	Doz.	\$
1938	121,488	2,125,286	52,562	1,210,338	—	1,002,293
1939	133,205	2,419,490	53,156	1,211,689	—	1,043,190
1940	149,263	2,725,439	62,236	1,301,545	257,166	1,127,493
1941	146,574	2,791,990	58,304	1,494,759	305,294	1,613,360
1942	226,757	3,194,608	66,703	1,651,342	353,306	2,009,759
1943	143,212	3,298,623	36,781	1,220,102	364,926	2,175,446
1944	135,296	3,413,420	37,107	1,187,242	393,795	2,766,411
1945	147,530	3,765,101	35,596	1,177,005	419,889	3,603,638
1946	215,005	5,406,175	35,068	1,336,937	508,091	4,581,918
1947	194,119	5,906,143	35,139	1,634,579	528,564	5,597,069
1948	200,710	6,463,732	34,011	1,635,478	540,412	6,292,344
1949	197,577	6,421,681	29,080	1,452,845	574,682	7,175,428
1950	187,025	6,453,370	27,156	1,432,897	617,388	7,680,248

1. Excluding children's waists.

TABLE 4. Imports of Fully Manufactured Corsets and Materials, Calendar Years 1950 and 1951

Articles imported	1950		1951	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		\$		\$
Corsets, corsellettes, girdles and brassieres	—	467, 172	—	1, 004, 990
Corsets, clasps, busks, blanks, steels and covered corset wires cut to length, tipped or untipped; reed, rattan or horn covered	—	17, 148	—	12, 003
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, 841	104, 962	2, 954	101, 391
Tips, studs and eyes of metal for the manufacture of corsets and corset wires	—	8, 108	—	7, 664
Shoe eyelets, corset eyelets and corset rivets, shoe eyelet hooks, shoe lace wire fasteners	—	318, 251	—	410, 730
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, 667	149, 643	31, 208	301, 271

TABLE 5. Exports of Corsets, Calendar Years 1950 and 1951

Articles exported	1950		1951	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	No.	\$	No.	\$
Corsets and girdles	176	1, 327	2, 476	7, 062
Brassieres	18, 407	15, 373	15, 145	12, 018

TABLE 6. Employees, Salaries and Wages by Provinces, 1950 and 1951

	1950			1951		
	Quebec	Ontario	Total	Quebec	Ontario	Total
Salaried Employees:						
Total	No. 356	213	569	411	218	629
Male	" 156	60	216	147	60	207
Female	" 200	153	353	264	158	422
Total salaries	\$ 957, 528	597, 227	1, 554, 755	1, 107, 884	611, 648	1, 719, 532
Wage-earners:						
Monthly average	No. 1, 696	954	2, 650	1, 507	1, 010	2, 517
Male	" 231	108	339	184	107	291
Female	" 1, 465	846	2, 311	1, 323	903	2, 226
Total wages	\$ 1, 868, 511	1, 318, 291	3, 186, 802	1, 793, 890	1, 402, 655	3, 196, 545
All employees:						
Total	No. 2, 052	1, 167	3, 219	1, 918	1, 228	3, 146
Male	" 387	168	555	331	167	498
Female	" 1, 665	999	2, 664	1, 587	1, 061	2, 648
Total salaries and wages	\$ 2, 826, 039	1, 915, 518	4, 741, 557	2, 901, 774	2, 014, 303	4, 916, 077

TABLE 7. Monthly Employment of Wage-earners, 1949 to 1951

Months	1949			1950			1951		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
January.....	338	2,624	2,962	334	2,312	2,646	316	2,336	2,652
February.....	325	2,589	2,914	325	2,252	2,577	315	2,352	2,667
March.....	332	2,621	2,953	337	2,284	2,621	320	2,422	2,742
April.....	331	2,565	2,896	331	2,263	2,594	319	2,395	2,714
May.....	335	2,524	2,859	328	2,334	2,662	301	2,311	2,612
June.....	332	2,483	2,815	348	2,326	2,674	300	2,236	2,536
July.....	327	2,409	2,736	343	2,296	2,639	280	2,175	2,455
August.....	333	2,482	2,815	336	2,291	2,627	273	2,177	2,450
September.....	332	2,554	2,886	335	2,398	2,733	265	2,094	2,359
October.....	338	2,639	2,977	339	2,441	2,780	274	2,101	2,375
November.....	332	2,647	2,979	337	2,397	2,734	269	2,044	2,313
December.....	319	2,399	2,718	338	2,137	2,475	266	1,930	2,196
Monthly Averages.....	332	2,549	2,881	339	2,311	2,650	291	2,226	2,517

TABLE 8. Principal Statistics of the Corset Industry, Grouped According to the Size of Establishments, 1950 and 1951

Establishments having a production of:	Establishments	Employees	Salaries and wages	Cost of materials used	Gross value of production
	No.	No.	\$	\$	\$
1950					
Under \$25,000.....	4	24	17,355	26,263	54,972
\$25,000 to \$50,000.....	1	136	182,677	203,491	431,805
\$50,000 to \$100,000.....	5				
\$100,000 to \$500,000.....	14	692	1,126,072	1,740,932	3,874,734
\$500,000 to \$1,000,000.....	11	2,367	3,415,453	5,387,500	12,586,033
\$1,000,000 and over.....	2				
Total.....	37	3,219	4,741,557	7,358,186	16,947,544
1951					
Under \$25,000.....	5	19	20,247	23,515	61,786
\$25,000 to \$50,000.....	—	—	—	—	—
\$50,000 to \$100,000.....	4	87	133,063	150,183	338,622
\$100,000 to \$500,000.....	15	768	1,312,554	1,952,377	4,235,090
\$500,000 to \$1,000,000.....	12	2,272	3,450,213	5,681,986	11,958,792
\$1,000,000 and over.....	1				
Total.....	37	3,146	4,916,077	7,808,061	16,594,290



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THE TEXTILE INDUSTRIES

APPENDIX

List of Corset Manufacturers Operating in Canada, 1951

Name	Address
Quebec:	
Best Form Brassiere Company, Ltd.....	750 St. François Xavier, Montreal
Canadian Lady Corset Company, Ltd.	4475 Lawrence Blvd., Montreal
Dainty Maid Brassiere Inc.....	3643 St. Lawrence Blvd. Montreal
Delvoye, R., Inc.....	Waterloo
Dominion Corset Company, Ltd.....	45 Dorchester St., Quebec
E.T. Corset Company, Ltd.....	1700 Laframboise St., St. Hyacinthe
Grenier, C.J. Ltd.....	4835 Colonial Ave., Montreal
Janesse Limited.....	50 Mt. Royal Ave. W., Montreal
La Brassière Marquise & Cie Enrg.....	1268 Laurier East, Montreal
Parisian Corset Manufacturing Co. Ltd.	599 St. Vallier St., Quebec
Perfection Corset Company, Ltd.....	38 Champlain St., Quebec
Reldan Mfg. Corporation.....	4475 Lawrence Blvd., Montreal
Ross Corsets, Ltd.....	155 St. Paul St., Quebec
Smart Brassieres Reg'd.....	7048 St. Lawrence Blvd., Montreal
Spencer Supports (Canada) Ltd.	Rock Island
Vanity Brassiere Co. Ltd.....	7255 Alexandra St., Montreal
Ontario:	
Alexandra Manufacturing Company.....	32 Beverley St., Toronto
Birstock, S. and Company.....	89 Niagara St., Toronto
Canadian H.W. Gossard Co. Ltd., The	366 Adelaide St. West, Toronto
Canadian H.W. Gossard Co. Ltd., The	Port Perry
Charis Limited.....	150-7th St., New Toronto
Charm Brassiere Co.	152 Strathearn Rd., Toronto
Eaton, The T. Company Ltd.	49-51 Teraulay St., Toronto
Exquisite Form Brassiere (Canada) Ltd.	11 Brant St., Toronto
Flexees (Canada) Limited.....	48 Abell St., Toronto
Gordon and Mason Ltd.	100 Jarvis St., Toronto
Hayward, A. P. Limited.....	547 Parliament St., Toronto
Kops Brothers Limited.....	559 College St., Toronto
Lady Mac of Canada Ltd.	91 Wellington St. West, Toronto
Lagnon Manufacturing Ltd.	253 Queen St. West, Toronto
Lovable Brassiere Co. of Canada Ltd.	590 King St. W., Toronto
Nu Bone Corset Company of Canada, Ltd., The	48 Main St., Port Dalhousie
Princess Uplift.....	760 Bathurst St., Toronto
Rose Marx Brassieres Limited.....	152-154 Pearl St., Toronto
Spirella Company of Canada Ltd., The.....	1651 River Road, Niagara Falls
Stein and Company, Ltd., A.	41 Peter St., Toronto
Stella Lucas Co.	918 Main St. E., Hamilton