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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS FOREST PRODUCTS BRANCH

PRELIMINARY REPORT

on the

COFFIN & CASKET INDUSTRY

in

CANADA 1925 and 1926

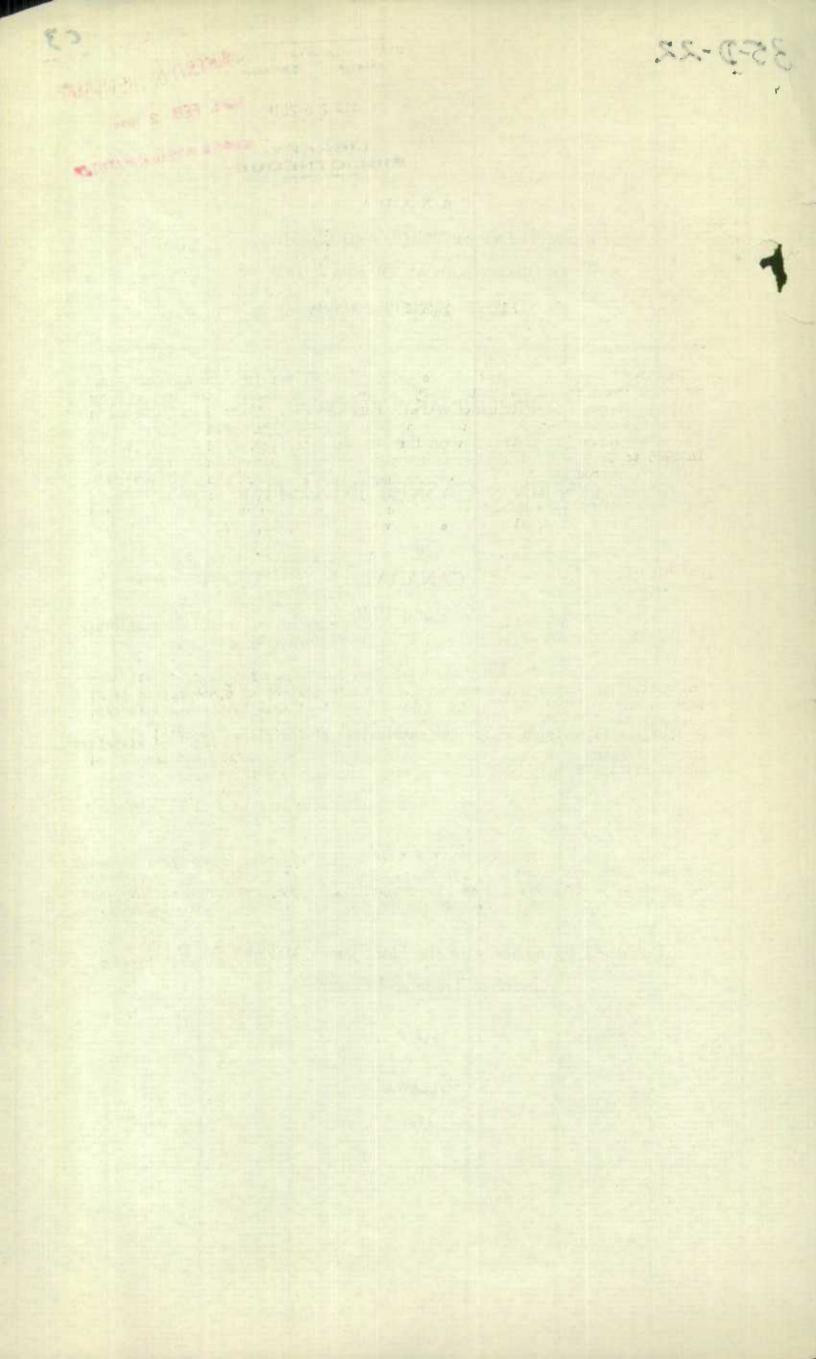
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Published by authority of the Hon. James Malcolm, M. P., Minister of Trade and Commerce

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OTTAWA

1928



DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

CENSUS OF INDUSTRY - FOREST PRODUCTS BRANCH OTTAWA, CANADA

Dominion Statistician: Forest Products Statistics: R. H. Coats, B.A., F.S.S.(Hon.), F. R. S. C. R. G. Lewis, B. Sc.F.

THE COFFIN AND CASKET INDUSTRY IN CANADA

1925 and 1926

Ottawa, December, 1927.- A report on the manufacture of coffins, caskets and shells or rough boxes in Canada during 1925 and 1926 has been completed by the Forest Products Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. There were 36 firms engaged in the manufacture of these products in 1926 as compared to 35 in 1925. The total amount of capital invested in the industry increased from \$2,721,200 in 1925 to \$2,991,223 in 1926. The employees of all classes numbered 629 in 1926 as compared to 583 in 1925. The total payroll in 1926 was \$673,083 and in 1925, \$573,936. This industry in 1926 purchased \$21,744 worth of fuel and employed power to the amount of 1259 horse-power. Its materials in 1926 cost \$1,108,988 and its total products were valued at \$2,466,117.

Out of the total of 36 factories, 14 were located in Ontario, 12 in Quebec, 3 each in Nova Scotia and British Columbia, 2 in Manitoba and one each in New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.

Tables 1 and 2 give a summary of the principal statistics of this industry and the distribution of its factories by provinces.

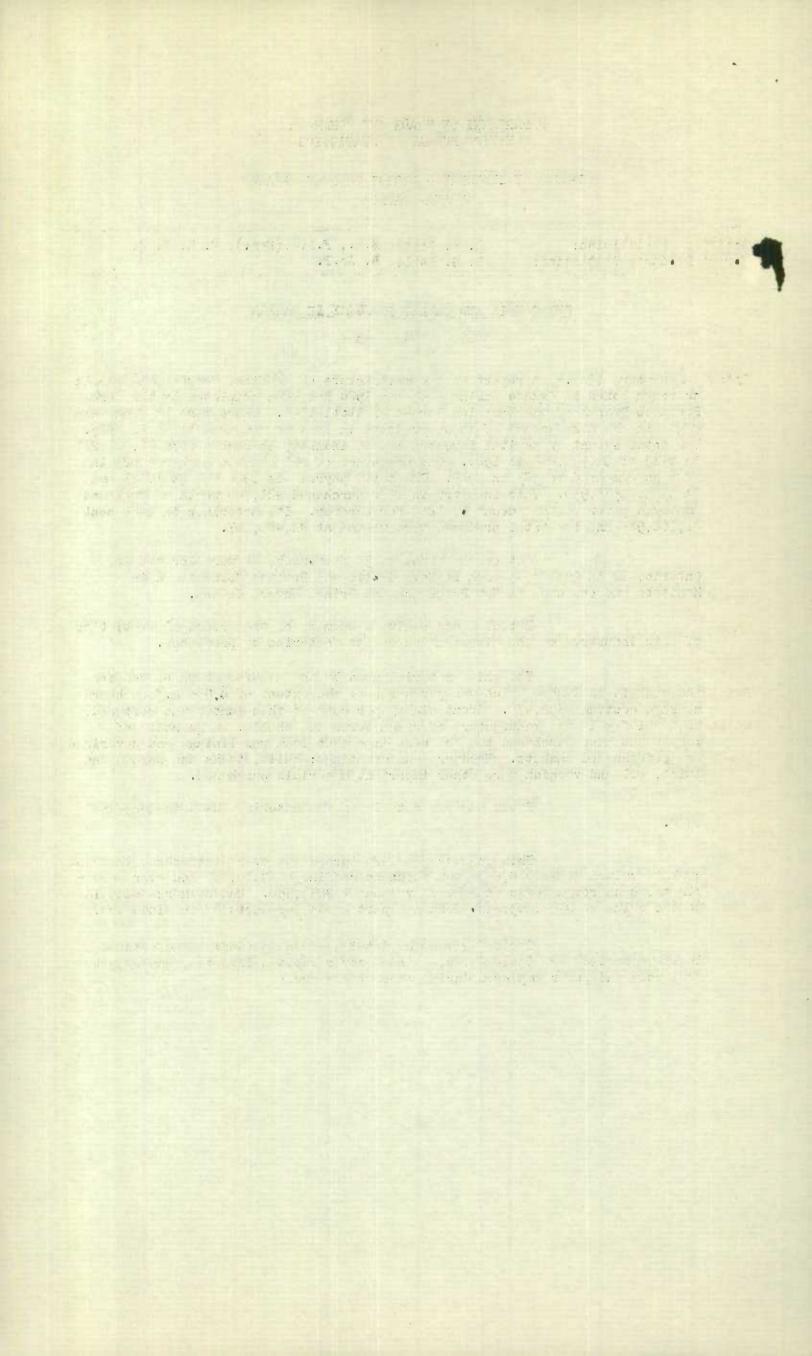
The chief material used by the manufacturers of coffins and caskets is lumber which was purchased to the extent of 6.566 m.feet board measure costing \$352,472. About eighty per cent of this lumber was softwood, used chiefly in the manufacture of rough boxes and shells. A quantity of veneer was also purchased but the next important item was linings and coverings for coffins and caskets. Hardware and mountings; nails, tacks and screws and paint, oil and varnish were other important materials purchased.

Table 3 gives details of the materials used in 1925 and

1926.

This industry in 1926 turned out over sixty-three thousand caskets valued at \$1,668,837, ten thousand doffins at \$126,029 and over fortysix thousand rough boxes and shells valued at \$237,358. Undertokers' supplies to the value of \$390,863,alse formed a part of the products of the industry.

Table 4 gives the details of the products manufactured in 1925 and 1926 and Tables 5, 6, 7 and 8 cover capital invested, employment, fuel used and power employed during these two years.



THE COFFIN AND CASKET INDUSTRY, 1925 AND 1925.

Items		1925	1926
Establishments	No.	35	36
Capital invested	\$	2,721,300	2,991,223
Employees on salaries	No.	58	63
Salaries paid	\$	97,532	129,190
Employees on wages	No.	525	566
Wages paid	\$	476,404	543,893
Fuel used	\$	23,732	21,744
Power employed	H.P.	1,482	1,259
Cost of materials	\$	884,065	1,108,988
Value of products	\$	2,091,814	2,466,117

Table 1. - Principal Statistics, 1925- 1926.

Table 2.- Distribution of Establishments by Provinces, 1925-1926.

Provinces	1925	1926
CANADA	No. 35	No. 36
Ontario	13	14
Quebec	12	12
Nova Scotia	3	3
British Columbia	3	3
Manitoba	2	2
New Brunswick	2	1
Prince Edward Island	1	1

Table 3.- Materials Used 1925 and 1926.

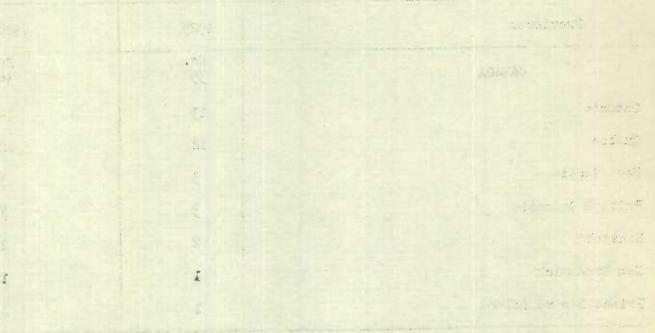
Materials		Quan	tity	Value		
W.C.VCI ICIE	1925	1926	1925	1926		
TOTAL		-	-	884,065	1,108,988	
Lumber cr logs, softword	M.ft.	5,759	6,804	167,128	229,940	
Lumber or legs, hardwood	11	1,484	1,762	99,644	122,533	
Bolts, etc., softwood	cords	15	30	75	150	
Veneer and plywood	M. surf.ft.	1	213	30	12,800	
All other materials	Value only	-	-	617,188	743,565	

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THE COFFIN AND CASKET INDUSTRY, 1925 AND 1926.

Table 4.- Products Manufactured, 1925-1926.

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Products		Quant	ity	Value		
		1925	1926	1925	1926	
		No.	Ņc.	\$	\$	
TOTAL		106,661	121,171	2,091,814	2,466,117	
Caskets Coffins Shells cr rough boxes Other undertakers!	No • 11 11	53,056 11,353 41,941	63,844 10,808 46,154	1,383,778 188,533 193,858	1,668,837 126,029 237,358	
Sash, doors and other		-	-	302,354	390,863	
millwork Hardwood flooring All other matched lumber All other planed lumber Skiis Furniture and other	M.ft.b.m. " prs.	- 84 100 100 16	203 - 150 3	3,995 4,500 4,500 4,500 56	3,654 23,430 4,800 17	
cabinet work Excelsion and wordworl	tons No.	_ 11	- 9	800 528 2,580	2,175 449 2,580	
Ladders Cedar chests		-	-	234 51	1 1	
Custom work All other Products		-	-	2,047	5,925	

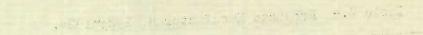
Table 5.- Capital Invested, 1925-1926.

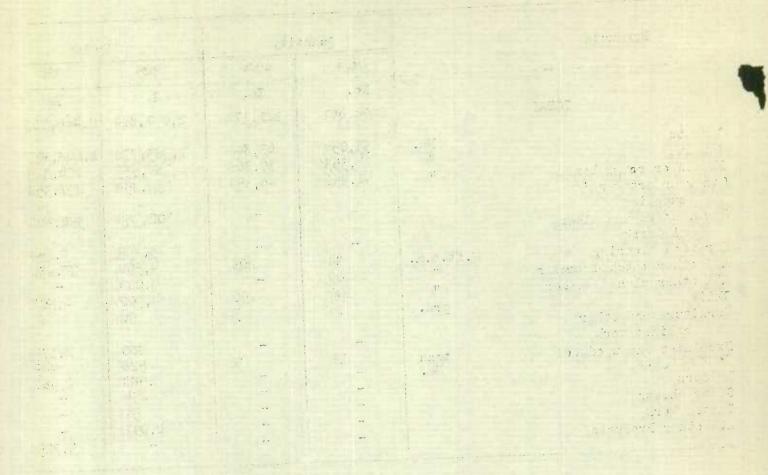
Items	1925	1926
TOTAL	\$ 2,721,300	\$ 2,991,223
Land, buildings, fixtures and machinery Materials, stocks in process, etc. Cash, trading and operating accounts, etc.	1,395,894 945,225 380,181	1,514,964 1,006,689 469,570

Table 6.- Employment, 1925 and 1926.

Classes of Employees	Total No. of Employees		Mal	Males		Females		Tctal Salaries and Wages	
	1925	1926	1925	1926	1925	1926	1925	1926	
	No.	No.	Nc.	No.	No.	Nc.	\$	\$	
TOTAL	583	629	484	518	99	111	573.936	673,083	
Salaried em- plcyees Employces on	58	63	44	45	14	18	97,532	129,190	
Wages	525	566	440	473	85	93	476,404	543,893	

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THE COFFIN AND CASKET INDUSTRY, 1925-1926.

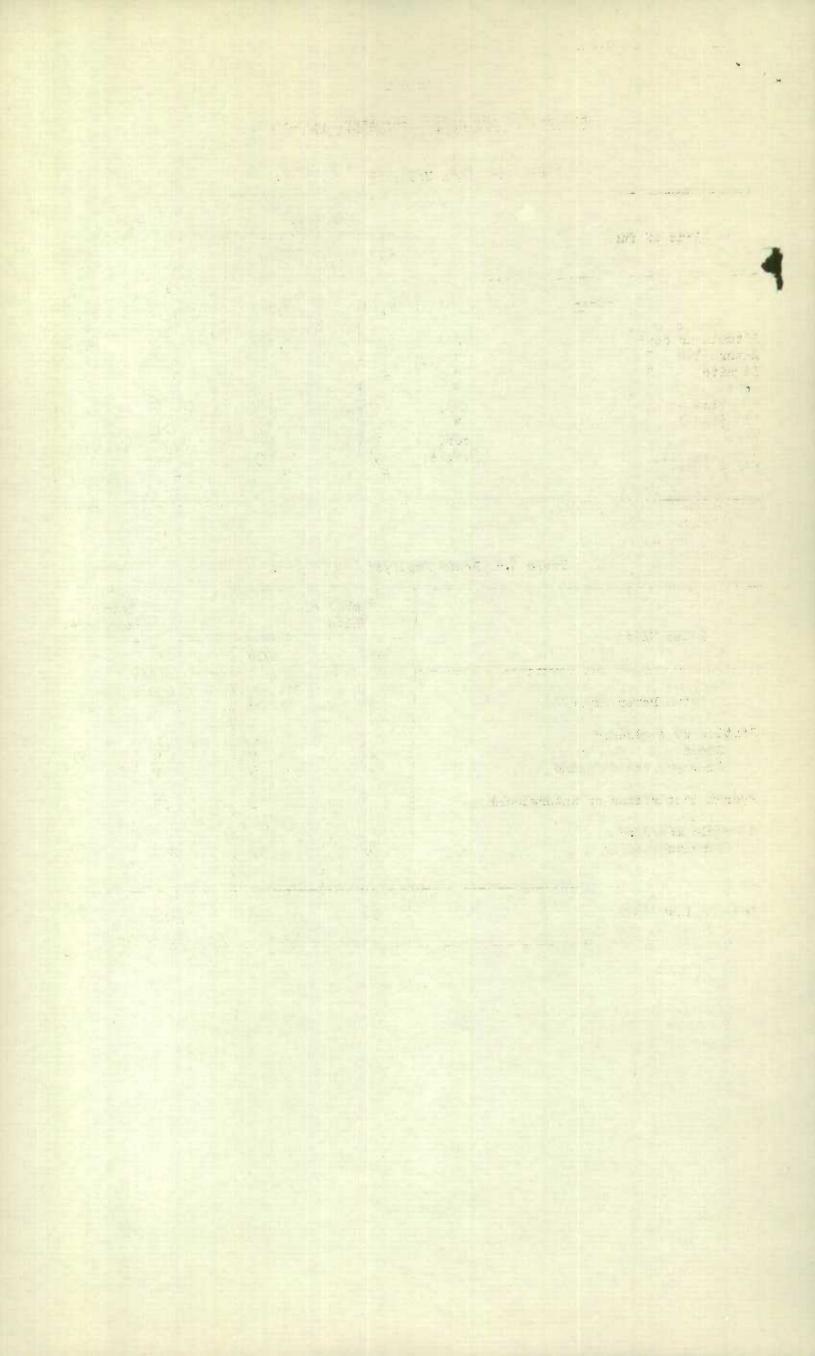
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Kinds of fuel		Quar	ntity	Value		
		1925	1926	1925	1926	
TOTAL		4,762	4,566	\$ 23,732	\$ 21,744	
Bituminous coal Anthracite " Lignite " Coke Gasoline Oil (fuel) Wood Gas Other fuel	tons " " gal. " cord M.c.ft.	3,084 2 - 3 250 600 316 507 -	2,933 1 - 5 370 600 282 375 -	21,751 24 23 82 150 1,100 602	20,130 19 68 118 150 700 439 120	

Table 7.- Fuel Used, 1925 and 1926.

Table 8.- Power Employed, 1925-1926.

	Number Units	of	Total Hcrse-power		
Pcwer Units	1925	1926	1925	1926	
Tctal Power Employed	66	62	1,482	1,259	
Stationary engines:- Steam Oil, gas and gasoline	10 4	6 5	610 32	395 4ø	
Hydraulic turbines or waterwheels	2	1	27	7	
Electric motors:- Purchased power	50	50	813	809	
Boilers installed	19	18	1,300	1,245	



PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Montague Furnishing Co. Ltd.,

Montague, P. E. I.

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NEW BRUNSWICK

QUEBEC

Tuttle Bros. Ltd.,

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Doré, L., Dubé, Xavier Emcnd & Freres, Godue Cashet Mfg. Co., Lariviere, P. Lehoux, Aug., Perrault, Seraphin, Perron, Jos. & Fils. Sansregret, Mederic Fils.

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