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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

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FOREST PRODUCTS BRANCH

PRELIMINARY REPORT
on the
COFFIN & CASKET INDUSTRY
in
CANADA
1925 and 1926

(Subject to revision on further examination of individual reports)

+ + +

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

+ + +

OTTAWA

1928

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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

CENSUS OF INDUSTRY - FOREST PRODUCTS BRANCH
OTTAWA, CANADA

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Forest Products Statistics: 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 coffins at \$126,029 and over forty-six thousand rough boxes and shells valued at \$237,358. Undertakers' supplies to the value of \$390,863, also 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 HISTORY OF THE
CITY OF BOSTON

FROM THE FIRST SETTLEMENT
TO THE PRESENT TIME

BY
JOHN B. BOWEN, ESQ.
OF THE CITY OF BOSTON

VOLUME II.

THE HISTORY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON, FROM THE FIRST SETTLEMENT TO THE PRESENT TIME, CONTAINS A FULL AND COMPLETE ACCOUNT OF THE CITY, AND OF THE VARIOUS BRANCHES OF COMMERCE, MANUFACTURES, AND AGRICULTURE, AS WELL AS OF THE EDUCATION, LITERATURE, AND ARTS, WHICH HAVE BEEN CULTIVATED IN THIS CITY, SINCE THE FIRST SETTLEMENT. THE HISTORY IS DIVIDED INTO SEVEN VOLUMES, AND IS NOW PUBLISHED IN TWO VOLUMES. THE FIRST VOLUME CONTAINS THE HISTORY FROM THE FIRST SETTLEMENT TO THE YEAR 1700, AND THE SECOND VOLUME CONTAINS THE HISTORY FROM THE YEAR 1700 TO THE PRESENT TIME.

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THE COFFIN AND CASKET INDUSTRY, 1925 AND 1926.

Table 1. - Principal Statistics, 1925- 1926.

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

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

Table 3.- Materials Used 1925 and 1926.

Materials		Quantity		Value	
		1925	1926	1925	1926
TOTAL		-	-	884,065	1,108,988
Lumber or logs, softwood	M.ft.	5,759	6,804	167,128	229,940
Lumber or logs, hardwood	"	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

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

Table 1. Balance Sheet, 1900-1901

Assets	Liabilities	Capital
1. Cash	1. Cash	1. Cash
2. Government securities	2. Deposits	2. Government securities
3. Loans and advances	3. Loans and advances	3. Loans and advances
4. Real estate	4. Real estate	4. Real estate
5. Other assets	5. Other liabilities	5. Other capital
6. Total	6. Total	6. Total

Table 2. Distribution of Assets by Province, 1900-1901

Province	Assets	Liabilities
ALBERTA		
BRITISH COLUMBIA		
MANITOBA		
ONTARIO		
QUEBEC		
NEW BRUNSWICK		
NOVA SCOTIA		
PELTON		
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND		
SASKATCHEWAN		
YUKON		

Table 3. Income Statement, 1900-1901

Income	Expenses	Profit
1. Interest income	1. Interest expense	1. Interest income
2. Dividend income	2. Dividend expense	2. Dividend income
3. Rental income	3. Rental expense	3. Rental income
4. Other income	4. Other expenses	4. Other income
5. Total	5. Total	5. Total

THE COFFIN AND CASKET INDUSTRY, 1925 AND 1926.

Table 4.- Products Manufactured, 1925-1926.

Products		Quantity		Value	
		1925	1926	1925	1926
TOTAL		No. 106,661	No. 121,171	\$ 2,091,814	\$ 2,466,117
Caskets	No.	53,056	63,844	1,383,778	1,668,837
Coffins	"	11,353	10,808	188,533	126,029
Shells or rough boxes	"	41,941	46,154	193,858	237,358
Other undertakers' supplies		-	-	302,354	390,863
Sash, doors and other millwork		-	-	3,995	3,654
Hardwood flooring	M.ft.b.m.	84	203	4,500	23,430
All other matched lumber	"	100	-	4,000	-
All other planed lumber	"	100	150	4,500	4,800
Skis	prs.	16	3	56	17
Furniture and other cabinet work		-	-	800	2,175
Excelsior and woodwool	tons	11	9	528	449
Foot hangers	No.	-	-	2,580	2,580
Ladders		-	-	234	-
Cedar chests		-	-	51	-
Custom work		-	-	2,047	-
All other Products		-	-	-	5,925

Table 5.- Capital Invested, 1925-1926.

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

Table 6.- Employment, 1925 and 1926.

Classes of Employees	Total No. of Employees		Males		Females		Total Salaries and Wages	
	1925	1926	1925	1926	1925	1926	1925	1926
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	\$	\$
TOTAL	583	629	484	518	99	111	573,936	673,083
Salaried employees	58	63	44	45	14	18	97,532	129,190
Employees on wages	525	566	440	473	85	93	476,404	543,893

THE COFFIN AND CASKET INDUSTRY, 1925-1926.

Table 7.- Fuel Used, 1925 and 1926.

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

Table 8.- Power Employed, 1925-1926.

Power Units	Number of Units		Total Horse-power	
	1925	1926	1925	1926
Total Power Employed	66	62	1,482	1,259
Stationary engines:-				
Steam	10	6	610	395
Oil, gas and gasoline	4	5	32	48
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.

NOVA SCOTIA

Cameron & Fraser Ltd.,
Dominion Manufacturers Ltd.,
Snow & Co. Ltd.,

Townsend Ave., New Glasgow, N. S.
Albion St., Amherst, N. S.
90 Argyle St., Halifax, N.S.

NEW BRUNSWICK

Futtle Bros. Ltd.,

171 Lutz St., Moncton. N.B.

QUEBEC

Bishop, S. N.
Descoteau, C.E.
Dominion Manufacturers Ltd.,

Bishop's Crossing, Co. Wolfe.
Rue Maurault, Pierreville.
(H.O.) 109 Niagara St., Toronto.
Bellefeuille St., Trois-Rivieres.

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

Pont Rouge
St. Jean Port Joli.
139 Kent St., Hull
Maple St., Sutton.
St. Ours
Princeville.
St. Gabriel de Brandon.
Baie St. Paul.
St. Paul D'Industrie.

ONTARIO

Border Cities Casket Co. Ltd.,
Central Casket Co., Ltd.,
Dominion Manufacturers Ltd.
Elliott Bros.,
Elliott Bros.,
Evel Casket Co. Ltd.,
Globe Casket Co. Ltd.,
Harriston Casket Co., Ltd.,
Stoddart & Son, M.J.,
Mt. Forest Casket Co. (Wm. Gibson),
Sterling Caskets Ltd.,
Tickell & Sons., Co.,
Stratford Casket Co.,

Fort, Ont.
1481 Davenport Rd., Toronto, Ont.
109 Niagara St., Toronto and Hamilton
42 Hughson, Hamilton.
Prescott, Ont.
519 King St. E., Hamilton.
Dundas St., London.
John St., Harriston.
Woodville.
Mt. Forest.
627 Adelaide St. W., Toronto.
275 Front St., Belleville.
King St., Stratford.

MANITOBA

Dominion Manufacturers Co.,
Western Casket Co. Ltd.,

Parr St. & Dufferin Ave., Winnipeg.
Cor. Bannatyne Ave. & Emily St., Winnipeg.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Dominion Manufacturers Ltd.,
Hardwood Milling Co. Ltd.,
Imperial Casket Co.,

1650 First Ave. W., Vancouver.
845 Beach Ave., Vancouver,
425 Dufferin W., Vancouver.

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