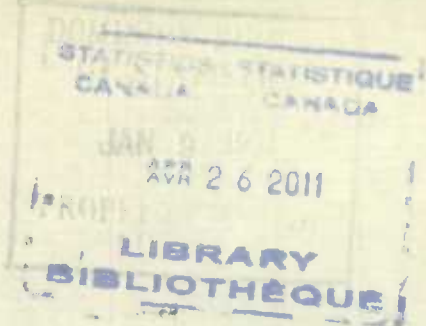


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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

FOREST PRODUCTS BRANCH

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PRELIMINARY REPORT  
on the  
COFFIN & CASKET INDUSTRY  
in  
CANADA  
1928 - 1929

(Subject to revision on further examination of individual reports)



Published by Authority of the Hon. H. H. Stevens, M.P.,  
Minister of Trade and Commerce

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NOTE.- Production figures as given in this bulletin do not necessarily represent the total output in Canada of the commodities listed, as there may be also a considerable production in other industrial groups. For complete information this bulletin must be read with the rest of the series on wood-using industries and other publications of the Census of Industry.



DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE  
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

CENSUS OF INDUSTRY - FOREST PRODUCTS BRANCH  
OTTAWA, CANADA

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

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THE COFFIN AND CASKET INDUSTRY IN CANADA

1928 and 1929

Ottawa, December, 1930. - A report on the manufacture of coffins, caskets and shells or rough boxes in Canada during 1928 and 1929 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 1929 as compared to 38 in 1928. The total amount of capital invested in the industry increased from \$3,514,906 in 1928 to \$3,608,383 in 1929. The employees of all classes numbered 755 in 1929 as compared to 697 in 1928. The total payroll in 1929 was \$863,968 and in 1928 \$771,035. This industry in 1929 purchased \$42,893 worth of fuel and employed power to the amount of 2200 horse-power. Its materials in 1929 cost \$1,312,374 and its total products were valued at \$3,185,338.

Out of the total of 36 factories, 16 were located in Ontario, 9 in Quebec, 3 each in Nova Scotia and British Columbia, 2 in Manitoba and one each in Saskatchewan, 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 10,803 m. ft. board measure costing \$407,781. About eighty-one 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 items were linings and coverings for coffins and caskets. Hardware and mountings; nails, tacks and screws; paint, oil and varnish were other important materials purchased.

Table 3 gives details of the materials used in 1928 and 1929.

This industry in 1929 turned out over seventy-six thousand caskets valued at \$2,282,978, seven thousand coffins at \$77,824 and over fifty thousand rough boxes and shells valued at \$269,774. Undertakers' supplies to the value of \$525,076, also formed a part of the products of the industry.

Table 4 gives the details of the products manufactured in 1928 and 1929 and Tables 5, 6, 7 and 8 cover capital invested, employment, fuel used and power employed during these two years.

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THE COFFIN AND CASKET INDUSTRY IN CANADA

1928 and 1929

Table 1. - Principal Statistics, 1928 and 1929.

Items		1 9 2 8	1 9 2 9
Establishments	No.	38	36
Capital Invested	\$	3,514,906	3,608,383
Employees on salaries	No.	70	76
Salaries paid	\$	151,738	187,825
Employees on wages	No.	627	679
Wages paid	\$	619,297	676,143
Fuel used	\$	22,834	42,893
Power employed	H.P.	2,278	2,200
Cost of materials	\$	1,319,555	1,312,374
Value of Products	\$	2,934,905	3,185,338

Table 2. - Distribution of Establishments by Provinces, 1928 and 1929.

Provinces	1 9 2 8	1 9 2 9
	No.	No.
CANADA	38	36
Ontario	16	16
Quebec	11	9
Nova Scotia	3	3
British Columbia	3	3
Manitoba	2	2
Saskatchewan	1	1
New Brunswick	1	1
Prince Edward Island	1	1

Table 3. - Materials Used, 1928 and 1929.

Materials		Quantity		Value	
		1928	1929	1928	1929
TOTAL		-	-	\$1,319,555	\$1,312,374
Lumber or logs, softwood	M. ft. b.m.	7,088	8,829	235,427	231,746
Lumber or logs, hardwood	" b.m.	2,072	1,974	126,316	126,035
Bolts, etc., softwood	Cords	-	131	-	1,312
Veneer and plywood	M. surf. ft.	2	1	175	60
All other materials	Value only	-	-	957,637	903,221





THE COFFIN AND CASKET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1928 and 1929.

Table 4. - Products Manufactured, 1928 and 1929.

Products	Quantity		Value	
	1928	1929	1928	1929
	No.	No.	\$	\$
TOTAL	125,969	135,253	2,934,905	3,135,338
Caskets	No. 68,373	76,385	1,993,456	2,282,978
Coffins	" 10,769	7,965	89,074	77,824
Shells or rough boxes	" 46,827	50,903	245,097	269,774
Other undertakers' supplies	-	-	586,610	525,076
Secondary Products --				
Sash, doors and other millwork )	-	-	20,668	29,686
hardwood flooring, matched and )				
planed lumber, refrigerators, )				
furniture, garment hangers, )				
excelsior and woodwool, reels )				
and boxes, etc. )				

NOTE: Data given here do not necessarily represent the total Canadian production under each heading since these products are also listed under other industries.

Table 5. - Capital Invested, 1928 and 1929.

Items	1928	1929
	\$	\$
TOTAL	3,514,906	3,608,383
Land, buildings, fixtures and machinery	1,788,466	1,798,784
Materials, stocks in process, etc.	1,031,422	1,099,431
Cash, trading and operating accounts, etc.	695,018	710,168

Table 6. - Employment, 1928 and 1929.

Classes of Employees	Total No. of Employees		Males		Females		Total Salaries and Wages	
	1928	1929	1928	1929	1928	1929	1928	1929
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	\$	\$
TOTAL	697	755	531	644	116	111	771,035	863,968
Salaried employees	70	76	51	64	19	12	151,738	167,325
Employees on wages	627	679	530	580	97	99	619,297	676,143

1919

1919

1919

1919

1919



THE COFFIN AND CASKET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1928 and 1929.

Table 7. - Fuel Used, 1928 and 1929.

Kind of Fuel		Quantity		Value	
		1928	1929	1928	1929
				\$	\$
TOTAL		-	-	22,834	42,893
Bituminous coal, Canadian	Tons	1,135	1,322	6,078	6,957
" " Imported	"	1,707	5,281	12,040	31,681
Anthracite coal	"	45	14	646	155
Lignite coal, Canadian	"	99	90	802	723
Coke	"	2	-	21	-
Gasoline	Gal.	1,085	935	339	281
Kerosene	"	40	20	9	5
Oil (fuel)	"	-	-	-	-
Wood	Cord	304	217	1,590	1,138
Gas - Manufactured	M. c. ft.	1,084	1,621	1,133	1,502
Natural	" " "	332	236	176	118
Other fuel	-	-	-	-	333

Table 8. - Power Employed, 1928 and 1929.

Power Units	Number of Units		Total Horse-power	
	1928	1929	1928	1929
Total Power Employed	151	152	2,278	2,200
Stationary engines: -				
Steam	7	6	470	435
Oil, gas and gasoline	3	5	33	43
Hydraulic turbines or waterwheels	1	2	10	15
Electric motors: -				
(a) Purchased power	140	139	1,765	1,707
(b) Operated by power generated by the establishment	-	1	-	40
Boilers installed	19	16	1,415	995





THE COFFIN AND CASKET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1928 and 1929.

Coffins and caskets were the principal products of the following firms in 1929.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Montague Furnishing Co. Ltd.

Montague.

NOVA SCOTIA

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

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

NEW BRUNSWICK

Tuttle Bros. Ltd.

171 Lutz St., Moncton.

QUEBEC

Bilodeau, Ludger  
Bishop, S. N., Casket Co.  
Descoteaux, C. E.  
Dominion Manufacturers Ltd.  
Dube, Xavier & Fils  
Emond, M.  
Godue Casket Mfg. Co. Ltd.  
Lariviere, P.  
Perreault, Seraphin

110 Notre Dame - Ste. Marie Beauce  
Bishop's Crossing  
Pierreville  
Bellefeuille St., Trois Rivières  
St. Jean Port Joli  
139 Kent St., Hull  
Maple St., Sutton  
St. Ours  
St. Gabriel de Brandon.

ONTARIO

Canadian Casket Co. Ltd.  
Central Casket Co. Ltd.  
Dominion Manufacturers Ltd.  
  
Elliott Bros.  
Evel Casket Co. Ltd.  
Guelph Casket Works (F. W. Wood)  
Harriston Casket Co. Ltd.  
Mt. Forest Casket Co. (Wm. Gibson)  
Northern Casket Co. Ltd.  
Sterling Caskets Ltd.  
Stoddart, M. J., & Son  
Stratford Casket Co.  
Tickell & Sons Co.

117 Drouillard Rd. East, Windsor  
1481 Davenport Rd., Toronto  
(H. O. 109 Niagara St., Toronto) - Hamilton  
and London  
42 Hughson St. N., Hamilton and Prescott  
519 King St. E., Hamilton  
Guelph  
John Street, Harriston  
Mt. Forest  
Lindsay  
627 Adelaide St. W., Toronto  
Woodville  
King Street, Stratford  
275 Front Street, Belleville.

MANITOBA

Dominion Manufacturers Ltd.  
Western Casket Co. Ltd.

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

SASKATCHEWAN

North West Casket Mfg. Co. (Nap. Goulet)

Delmas.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Canada Casket Co. Ltd.  
Dominion Manufacturers Ltd.  
Imperial Casket Co. (R. A. Aves)

62-64 Fourth Ave. West, Vancouver  
1650 First Ave. West, Vancouver  
425 2nd Avenue West, Vancouver.



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