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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

1929 - 1930

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Published by Authority of the Hon. H. H. Stevens, M.P.,
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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

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

THE COFFIN AND CASSET INDUSTRY IN CANADA

1929 and 1930

Ottawa, January, 1932 - A report on the manufacture of coffins, caskets and shells or rough boxes in Canada during 1929 and 1930 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 1930 and 36 in 1929. The total amount of capital invested in the industry increased from \$3,608,383 in 1929 to \$3,784,344 in 1930. The employees of all classes numbered 778 in 1930 as compared to 755 in 1929. The total payroll in 1930 was \$877,128 and in 1929 \$863,968. This industry in 1930 purchased \$16,522 worth of fuel and employed power to the amount of 2,253 horse-power. Its materials in 1930 cost \$1,337,718 and its total products were valued at \$3,186,476.

Out of the total of 36 factories 15 were located in Ontario, 10 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 9,962 m. ft. board measure costing \$1,337,718. About seventy seven per cent of this lumber was softwood, used chiefly in the manufacture of rough boxes and shells. 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 1929 and 1930.

This industry in 1930 turned out over eighty thousand caskets valued at \$2,323,480, four thousand coffins at \$43,303 and over forty nine thousand rough boxes and shells valued at \$263,171. Undertakers' supplies to the value of \$507,258, also formed a part of the products of the industry.

Table 4 gives the details of the products manufactured in 1929 and 1930 and Tables 5, 6, 7 and 8 cover capital invested, employment, fuel used and power employed during these two years.

THE COFFIN AND CASE-SET INDUSTRY IN CANADA

1929 and 1930

Table 1. - Principal Statistics, 1929 and 1930.

Items		1 9 2 9	1 9 3 0
Establishments	No.	36	36
Capital Invested	\$	3,608,383	3,784,344
Employees on salaries	No.	76	77
Salaries paid	\$	187,825	182,936
Employees on wages	No.	679	702
Wages paid	\$	676,143	694,192
Fuel Used	\$	42,893	18,522
Power employed	H.P.	2,200	2,253
Cost of Materials	\$	1,312,374	1,337,718
Value of Products	\$	3,185,338	3,186,476

Table 2. - Distribution of Establishments by Provinces, 1929 and 1930.

Provinces	1 9 2 9	1 9 3 0
	No.	No.
CANADA	36	36
Ontario	16	15
Quebec	9	10
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, 1929 and 1930.

Materials		Quantity		Value	
		1929	1930	1929	1930
TOTAL		-	-	\$1,312,374	1,337,718
Lumber or logs, softwood	M. ft. b.m.	8,829	7,726	281,746	247,317
Lumber or logs, hardwood	" b.m.	1,974	2,236	126,035	143,223
Bolts, etc., softwood	Cord	131	-	1,312	-
Veneer and plywood	M. surf. ft.	1	-	60	-
All other materials	Value only	-	-	903,221	947,178

THE COFFIN AND CASKET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1929 and 1930.

Table 4. - Products Manufactured, 1929 and 1930.

Products	Quantity		Value	
	1929	1930	1929	1930
	No.	No.	\$	\$
TOTAL	135,253	134,531	3,185,338	3,186,476
Caskets	No. 76,385	80,378	2,282,978	2,323,480
Coffins	" 7,965	4,534	77,824	43,303
Shells or rough boxes	" 50,907	49,619	269,774	263,171
Other undertakers' supplies	-	-	525,076	507,258
Secondary Products --				
Sash, doors and other millwork)	-	-	29,686	49,264
hardwood, flooring, matched and)				
planed lumber, sanitary wood-)				
work, furniture, garment)				
hangers, excelsior and wood-)				
wool, 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, 1929 and 1930.

Items	1929	1930
	\$	\$
TOTAL	3,005,383	3,704,344
Land, buildings, fixtures and machinery	1,798,784	1,832,402
Materials, stocks in process, etc.	1,099,431	1,156,815
Cash, trading and operating accounts, etc.	710,168	745,127

Table 6. - Employment, 1929 and 1930.

Classes of Employees	Total No. of Employees		Males		Females		Total Salaries and Wages	
	1929	1930	1929	1930	1929	1930	1929	1930
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	\$	\$
TOTAL	755	778	644	664	111	114	863,968	877,128
Salaried employees	76	77	64	63	12	14	187,825	182,936
Employees on wages	679	701	580	601	99	100	676,143	694,192

Table 7. - Fuel Used, 1929 and 1930.

Kind of Fuel		Quantity		Value	
		1929	1930	1929	1930
TOTAL		-	-	\$ 42,893	\$ 18,522
Bituminous coal, Canadian	Tons	1,322	1,290	6,957	6,528
" " Imported	"	5,281	808	31,681	5,607
Anthracite coal	"	14	76	155	761
Lignite coal, Canadian	"	90	93	723	650
Coke	"	-	4	-	60
Gasoline	Gal.	935	461	28	139
Kerosene	"	20	25	5	5
Fuel Oil	"	-	3,875	-	464
Wood	Cord	217	358	1,138	2,951
Gas - Manufactured	M. c. ft.	1,621	1,293	1,502	1,280
Natural	" " "	236	139	118	70
Other fuel	-	-	-	333	7

Table 8. - Power Employed, 1929 and 1930.

Power Units	Number of Units		Total Horse-power	
	1929	1930	1929	1930
Total Power Employed	152	162	2,200	2,253
Stationary Engines: -				
Steam	6	6	435	415
Oil, gas and gasoline	5	5	43	42
Hydraulic turbines or waterwheels	2	-	15	-
Electric motors: -				
(a) Purchased power	139	151	1,707	1,796
(b) Operated by power generated by the establishment	1	1	40	40
Boilers installed	16	16	995	1,030

THE COFFIN AND CASKET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1929 and 1930.

Coffins and caskets were the principal products of the following firms in 1930.

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
Descoteaux, C. E.
Dominion Manufacturers, Ltd.
Dube, Xavier & Fils
Emond, Moise
Godue Casket Mfg. Co., Ltd.
La Manufacture de Cercueils et de
Specialites, Ltee.
Lamarre, C. H. & Fils, Ltee.
Lariviere, Philippe
Perreault, Seraphin

110 Notre Dame - Ste. Marie Beauce
Pierreville
Bellefeuille St., Trois Rivières
St. Jean Port Joli
139 Kent St., Hull
Maple St., Sutton

10 des Bouleaux, Montmagny
St. Remi
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. A.E. Gibson
Northern Casket Co., Ltd.
Sterling Caskets, Ltd.
Stoddart, M. J., & Sons
Stratford Casket Co.

117 Drouillard Rd., East, Windsor
1481 Davenport Rd., Toronto, 4.
H.O. 109 Niagara St., Toronto, 2 - Hamilton
and London.
H.O. Prescott-42 Hughson St. N., Hamilton
and Josephine St. Prescott
519 King St. East, Hamilton
67 Wellington St. Guelph
John St. Harriston
Main St., Mt. Forest
Cambridge St. North, Lindsay
627 Adelaide St. West, Toronto, 2.
Woodville
182 King Street, Stratford

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

