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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

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FORESTRY BRANCH

### PRELIMINARY REPORT

ON THE

### COFFIN & CASKET INDUSTRY

IN

CANADA

1931

Published by Authority of the HON. H. H. STEVENS, M. P., Minister of Trade and Commerce. 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.

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#### DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

#### CENSUS OF INDUSTRY FORESTRY BRANCH OTTAWA, CANADA

Dominion Statisticians Forestry 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, 1930 AND 1931.

Ottawa, October, 1932 — A report on the manufacture of coffins, caskets and shells or rough boxes in Canada during 1930 and 1931 has been completed by the Forestry Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. There were 35 firms engaged in the manufacture of these products in 1931 and 36 in 1930. The total amount of capital invested in the industry decreased from \$3,784,344 in 1930 to \$3,685,003 in 1931. The employees of all classes numbered 787 in 1931 as compared to 778 in 1930. The total payroll in 1931 was \$887,323 and in 1930 \$877,128. This industry in 1931 purchased \$17,422 worth of fuel and employed power to the amount of 2,260 horse-power. Its materials in 1931 cost \$1,102,101 and its total products were valued at \$2,767,491.

Out of the total of 35 factories 14 were located in Ontario, 10 in Quebec, 2 in Nova Scotia, 4 in British Columbia, 2 in Manitcha 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 10,183 m. ft. board measure costing \$422,347. About seventy six 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 1930 and 1931,

This industry in 1931 turned out over sixty seven thousand caskets valued at \$2,113,319, eight thousand coffins at \$84,538 and over forty-eight thousand rough boxes and shells valued at \$254,584. Undertakers supplies to the value of \$272,652, also formed a part of the products of the industry.

Table 4 gives the details of the products manufactured in 1930 and 1931 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 IN CANADA 1930 AND 1931.

Table 1. - Principal Statistics, 1930 and 1931.

| the state of the same of the s |      |           |           |
|--|------|-----------|-----------|
| Items  |      | 1930      | 1931      |
|  |      |           |           |
| Establishments   | No.  | 36        | 35        |
| Capital Invested   | *    | 3,784,344 | 3,685,003 |
| Employees on salaries  | No.  | 77        | 134       |
| Salaries paid  | \$   | 182,936   | 257,513   |
| Employees on wages .   | No.  | 701       | 653       |
| Wages paid   | ě    | 694,192   | 629,810   |
| Fuel Used  |      | 18,522    | 17,422    |
| Power Employed   | H,P. | 2,253     | 2,260     |
| Cost of Materials  | \$   | 1,337,718 | 1,102,101 |
| Value of Products  | \$   | 3,186,476 | 2,767,491 |

Table 2. - Distribution of Establishments by Provinces, 1930 and 1931.

| Provinces            | 1930 | 1931 |
|----------------------|------|------|
|                      | No.  | No.  |
| CANADA               | 36   | 35   |
| Ontario              | 15   | 14   |
| Quebec               | 10   | 10   |
| Nova Scotia          | 3    | 2    |
| British Columbia     | 3    | 4    |
| Manitoba             | 2    | 2    |
| Saskatchewan         | 1    | 1    |
| New Brunswick        | 1    | 1    |
| Prince Edward Island | 1    | 1    |

Table 3. - Materials Used, 1930 and 1931.

| Materials  |              | Quant       | tity        | Value     |                    |
|--|--------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|--------------------|
|  |              | 1930        | 1931        | 1930      | 1931               |
| TOTAL  |              | <b>□</b>    | 400         | 1,337,718 | 1,102,101          |
| Lumber or logs, softwood<br>Lumber or logs, hardwood | M. ft. b.m.  | 7,726 2,236 | 7,776 2,407 | 247,317   | 228,035<br>194,312 |
| Bolts, etc., softwood                                | Cord         | -           | -           | _         | 449                |
| Veneer and plywood                                   | M. surf. ft. |             | 574         | -         | 28,721             |
| all other materials                                  | Value only   | -           | -           | 947,178   | 651,033            |

# THE COFFIN AND CASKET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1930 AND 1931.

Table 4. - Products Manufactured, 1930 and 1931.

|                                     |     | Carant  | ± 1     | 77        | 7         |  |  |
|-------------------------------------|-----|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|--|--|
| Denducto                            | THE | Quant   | Try     | Va        | Value     |  |  |
| Products                            |     | 1930    | 1931    | 1930      | 1931      |  |  |
|                                     |     | No.     | No.     | \$        | \$        |  |  |
| TOTAL                               |     | 134,531 | 124,288 | 3,186,476 | 2,767,491 |  |  |
| Caskets                             | No. | 80,378  | 67,282  | 2,323,480 | 2,113,319 |  |  |
| Coffins                             | 11  | 4,534   | 8,509   | 43,303    | 84,538    |  |  |
| Shells or rough boxes               | n   | 49,619  | 48,497  | 263,171   | 254,584   |  |  |
| Other undertakers' supplies         |     | -       | -       | 507,258   | 272,652   |  |  |
| Secondary Products —                |     |         |         |           |           |  |  |
| Sash, doors and other millwork,     |     | s + mb  | 4 mg    | 49,264    | 42,398    |  |  |
| moulding, hardwood flooring,        |     |         |         |           |           |  |  |
| matched and planed lumber, sanitary |     |         |         |           |           |  |  |
| woodwork, garment hangers, excelsio | r   |         |         |           |           |  |  |
| cigar boxes, handles, 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, 1930 and 1931.

| Items  | 1930      | 1931                                     |
|--|-----------|--|
|  | \$        | \$                                       |
| TOTAL  | 3,784,344 | 3,685,003                                |
| and, buildings, fixtures and machinery aterials, stocks in process, etc. | 1,882,402 | 1,793,068<br>657,786<br>7 <b>5</b> 9,363 |
| ash, trading and operating accounts, etc.                                | 745,127   | 474,786                                  |

Table 6. - Employment, 1930 and 1931.

| Classes of   | Total | No. of |      |      |      |      | Total    | al        |  |
|--------------|-------|--------|------|------|------|------|----------|-----------|--|
| Employees    | Emplo | yees   | Ma   | les  | Fema | ales | Salaries | and Wages |  |
|              | 1930  | 1931   | 1930 | 1931 | 1930 | 1931 | 1930     | 1931      |  |
|              | No.   | No.    | No.  | No.  | No.  | No.  | \$       | \$        |  |
| TOTAL        | 778   | 787    | 664  | 671  | 114  | 116  | 877,128  | 887,323   |  |
| Salaried em- |       |        |      |      |      |      |          |           |  |
| ployees      | 77    | 134    | 63   | 108  | 14   | 26   | 182,936  | 257,513   |  |
| Employees on |       |        |      |      |      |      |          |           |  |
| wages        | 701   | 653    | 601  | 563  | 100  | 90   | 694,192  | 629,810   |  |
|              |       |        |      |      |      |      |          |           |  |

# THE COFFIN AND CASKET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1930 AND 1931.

Table 7. - Fuel Used, 1930 and 1931.

| Kind of Fuel             |           | Quantity |       | Value  |        |
|--------------------------|-----------|----------|-------|--------|--------|
|                          |           | 1930     | 1931  | 1930   | 1931   |
|                          |           |          |       | 4      | \$     |
| TOTAL                    |           | 14.65    | -     | 18,522 | 17,422 |
| ituminous coal, Canadian | Tons      | 1,290    | 1,039 | 6,528  | 4,622  |
| " Imported               | 11        | 808      | 984   | 5,607  | 7,165  |
| nthracite coal           | tt        | 76       | 70    | 761    | 657    |
| ignite coal, Canadian    | 11        | 93       | 15    | 650    | 150    |
| loke                     | 11        | 4        | 19    | 60     | 190    |
| asoline                  | Gal.      | 461      | 240   | 139    | 72     |
| erosene                  | 11        | 25       | 90    | 5      | 15     |
| uel Oil                  | Ħ         | 3,875    | 4,008 | 464    | 477    |
| ood                      | Cord      | 358      | 332   | 2,951  | 2,367  |
| as - Manufactured        | M. c. ft. | 1,293    | 1,103 | 1,280  | 1,190  |
| Natural                  | 11 11 11  | 139      | 322   | 70     | 201    |
| ther fuel                | -         | 440      | -     | 7      | 316    |

Table 8. - Power Employed, 1930 and 1931.

| Power Units  | Numbe<br>Uni |        | Total<br>Horse-power |                  |
|--|--------------|--------|----------------------|------------------|
|  | 1930         | 1931   | 1930                 | 1931             |
| Total Power Employed                                 | 162          | 167    | 2,253                | 2,260            |
| Stationary Engines:-                                 |              |        |                      |                  |
| Steam Oil, gas and gasoline                          | 6 5          | 5<br>4 | 415<br>42            | <b>375</b><br>38 |
| Hydraulic turbines or waterwheels                    | -            | 1      | K.IO                 | 5                |
| Electric motors:-  (a) Purchased power               | 151          | 157    | 1,796                | 1,842            |
| (b) Operated by power generated by the establishment | 1            |        | 40                   | 400              |
| Boilers installed                                    | 16           | 27     | 1,030                | 1,273            |

#### THE COFFIN AND CASKET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1930 AND 1931.

Coffins and caskets were the principal products of the following firms in 1931.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
Montague

Montague Furnishing Co., Ltd.

Cameron & Fraser Ltd.
Dominion Manufacturers, Ltd.

Tuttle Bros., Ltd.

Descoteaux, C.E.
Dominion Manufacturers, Ltd.
Dubé, Xavier & Fils
Emond, Molse
Godue, Casket Mfg. Co., Ltd.
La Cie Canadienne de Cerceuils Ltée
La Manufacture de Cerceuils et de
Spécialités, Ltée.
Larivière, Philippe
Lépine, Germain, Ltée
Perreault, Séraphin

Canadian Casket Co., Ltd. Central Casket Co., Ltd. Dominion Manufacturers, Ltd.

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.
Stewart, A.
Stoddart, M.J., & Sons
Stratford Casket Co. Ltd.

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

NOVA SCOTIA

Townsend Ave., P.O. Box 1124, New Glasgow Albion St., Amherst

NEW BRUNSWICK

171 Lutz St., Moneton

QUEBEC

Pierreville
Bellefeuille St., Trois Rivières
St-Jean Port Joli
139 Kent St., Hull
Maple St., Sutton
St-Rémi de Napierville

10 des Bouleaux, Montmagny St-Ours 283 rue St-Vallier, Québec St-Gabriel de Brandon

ONTARIO

117 Drouillard Rd., East, Windsor
1481 Davenport Rd., Toronto, 4.
10. 109 Niagara St., Toronto 2 Hamilton and London
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
189 Dalhousie Street, Peterboro
Woodville
182 King Street, Stratford

MANITOBA

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)
Riverside Mfg. Co. Ltd.

62-64 Fourth Ave. West, Vancouver 291 Second Ave. E., Vancouver 425 2nd Avenue West, Vancouver 425 2nd Avenue West, Vancouver

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