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Department of Trade and Commerce
Dominion Bureau of Statistics
Industry and Merchandising Division
Mining, Metallurgical and Chemical Section
Ottawa - Canada

Dominion Statistician: Herbert Marshall
Director - Industry and Merchandising Division: W. H. Losee
Chief - Mining, Metallurgical and Chemical Section: H. McLeod

CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS IN CANADA

PRELIMINARY SUMMARY STATISTICS - 1948

The upward climb in production by Canada's chemical industries was maintained in 1948, when according to preliminary figures compiled in the Dominion Bureau of Statistics the value at factory prices reached a record (exclusive of shell-filling) of \$554 millions. Compared with the 1947 official value of \$450 millions for the chemicals and allied products group of industries, the apparent advance was \$104 millions or 23 per cent, but more than half of this gain was due to a change in statistical procedure which placed the vegetable oils industry in this group for the first time. If this latter industry were also included in the 1947 compilations, the total output value for that year would be \$488 millions, and the gain in 1948 would be \$66 millions or 14 per cent on a value basis.

Higher output values were recorded for all industries, the percentage increases from 1947 being as follows: heavy chemicals, 20.6; fertilizers, 7.1; paints, 15.5; soaps, 18.2; coal tar distillation, 3.1; toilet preparations, 10.1; compressed gases, 14.8; medicinals, 0.3; polishes, 17.5; inks, 12.8; adhesives, 26.1; primary plastics, 21.5, and miscellaneous, 6.0. The vegetable oils industry gained 37.0 per cent.

The 535 works in Ontario, with 21,000 employees and production at \$310 millions, accounted for about 56 per cent of the total output value and for 47 per cent of the employees. Quebec, with 331 establishments, 14,000 employees, and production at \$161 millions, accounted for nearly 30 per cent of the Dominion's output of chemicals and allied products. British Columbia had 70 plants and production at \$49 millions in 1948.

The value of imports of chemicals and allied products in 1948 was the highest on record at \$118 millions, an increase of nearly 5 per cent over the previous year's total. About 90 per cent of the imports were from the United States and nearly 6 per cent from the United Kingdom. France, Argentina, Cuba, Switzerland, Chile and Brazil were the principal other suppliers. Paints and pigments were valued at \$13.4 millions, drugs and pharmaceuticals at \$11.6 millions, dyeing and tanning materials at \$10.4 millions, fertilizers at \$6.6 millions, cellulose products at \$5.5 millions, and soaps at \$2.8 millions.

The value of exports in 1948 was \$79.8 millions, a decline of about 5 per cent from 1947. Fertilizers were valued at \$36.4 millions, acids at \$5.7 millions, sodium compounds at \$4.8 millions, synthetic resins at \$5.2 millions, calcium compounds at \$2.8 millions, paints and pigments at \$6.2 millions, and medicinal preparations at \$3.1 millions.

Table 1 - PRINCIPAL STATISTICS FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS IN CANADA, BY INDUSTRIES, 1947 and 1948

Industry	Number of plants	Average number of employees	Salaries and wages	Cost of fuel and electricity at works	Cost of materials at works	Gross selling value of products at works
(000's of dollars)						
<u>1947</u>						
Coal tar distillation.	11	392	776	390	3,753	6,151
Heavy chemicals	31	5,541	12,929	7,053	19,059	59,318
Compressed gases	44	1,089	2,262	366	1,475	9,607
Fertilizers	31	3,258	7,283	2,465	27,417	58,784
Medicinals and pharmaceuticals	213	7,678	13,849	547	26,244	70,292
Paints and varnishes..	109	5,428	10,876	526	38,322	69,912
Soaps and washing compounds	166	3,262	6,805	752	28,957	53,201
Toilet preparations ..	100	1,370	2,885	66	6,640	16,888
Inks	32	719	1,465	62	3,142	7,022
Adhesives	26	729	1,551	275	4,303	7,415
Polishes and dressings	55	743	1,281	54	4,787	8,736
Plastics (primary only)	10	1,060	2,351	203	5,177	11,783
Miscellaneous (*)	203	6,722	13,165	2,873	36,263	70,851
TOTAL	1,031	38,491	77,480	15,632	205,541	449,960
<u>1948 (Preliminary)</u>						
Coal tar distillation.	11	390	786	393	3,902	6,344
Heavy chemicals	34	6,294	15,705	7,802	21,816	71,525
Compressed gases	45	1,163	2,346	405	2,093	11,026
Fertilizers	32	3,149	7,931	2,231	29,656	62,932
Medicinals and pharmaceuticals	211	7,398	14,417	618	26,011	70,514
Paints and varnishes..	116	5,543	11,784	607	44,969	80,724
Soaps and washing compounds	148	3,604	8,656	830	33,425	62,900
Toilet preparations ..	99	1,329	2,923	79	7,209	18,604
Inks	31	654	1,582	70	3,589	7,919
Vegetable oils	13	719	1,580	349	40,532	52,620
Adhesives	26	757	1,787	334	5,163	9,354
Polishes and dressings	55	762	1,440	610	5,969	10,268
Plastics (primary only)	12	908	2,428	303	6,217	14,319
Miscellaneous (*)	197	6,584	13,655	2,982	39,957	75,061
TOTAL	1,030	39,754	87,020	17,613	270,508	554,110
Per cent change, 1948 from 1947	+3.3	+12.3	+12.7	+31.6	+23.1

(*) Includes explosives, insecticides, matches, synthetic rubber, etc.

Table 2 - PRINCIPAL STATISTICS FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS IN CANADA, BY PROVINCES, 1947 and 1948

Province	Number of plants	Average	Salaries and wages	Cost of	Cost of materials at works	Selling
		number of employees		fuel and electricity at works		value of products at works
(000's of dollars)						
<u>1947</u>						
Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia ..	17	378	686	111	3,615	5,712
New Brunswick	7	196	395	57	3,472	4,912
Quebec	334	13,931	27,047	3,989	63,809	139,414
Ontario	530	20,259	41,479	9,552	116,006	250,186
Manitoba	37	631	1,079	78	3,929	7,303
Saskatchewan	9	100	172	14	410	952
Alberta	22	511	1,064	622	1,360	5,663
British Columbia ...	75	2,485	5,558	1,209	12,940	35,818
CANADA	1,031	38,491	77,480	15,632	205,541	449,960
<u>1948 (Preliminary)</u>						
Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia ..	17	387	711	113	4,083	6,392
New Brunswick	7	174	374	59	3,500	4,687
Quebec	331	14,149	29,421	5,326	74,323	161,150
Ontario	535	21,142	47,610	10,135	154,374	310,318
Manitoba	37	693	1,192	99	5,488	10,278
Saskatchewan	11	167	311	40	2,980	4,253
Alberta	22	483	1,168	635	2,470	7,690
British Columbia ...	70	2,559	6,233	1,206	23,290	49,342
CANADA	1,030	39,754	87,020	17,613	269,509	554,110

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