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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
CENSUS OF INDUSTRY

REPORT
on the
BUTTON INDUSTRY
in
CANADA
1925

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CENSUS OF INDUSTRY

OTTAWA - CANADA

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THE BUTTON INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1925.

Ottawa, April 1927.- A report is herewith presented on the Button Industry in Canada for the calendar year 1925. There were 13 establishments in operation of which 11 were in the province of Ontario and 2 in Quebec. A summary of the principal statistics compared for the years 1924 and 1925 is given in Table 1.

Table 1.- Principal Statistics compared for 1924 and 1925.

		1924	1925
Establishments	No.	13	13
Capital investment	\$	1,317,378	1,273,041
Employees on salaries -			
Male	No.	49	50
Female	No.	14	16
Salaries	\$	141,865	135,516
Employees on wages - average number-			
Male	No.	219	249
Female	No.	219	232
Wages	\$	333,040	323,365
Outside piece workers -			
Male	No.	10	-
Female	No.	95	27
Amount paid	\$	13,563	4,911
Cost of fuel	\$	11,500	10,413
Power installation - Units	No.	36	53
Capacity	H.P.	403	512
Cost of materials	\$	312,620	316,170
Gross value of products	\$	958,363	1,030,514
Net value of products	\$	645,743	714,344

2.

THE BUTTON INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1925.

PRODUCTION

The quantity and value of the various products of the industry will be found in Table II for the calendar year 1925. The total value of production in 1924 was \$958,363, whilst for the period covered by this report the amount reported was \$1,030,514, a net increase of \$72,151 over the two year period.

Table II. - Production - 1925

Principal Products	Unit of Measure	Quantity	Value \$
Fresh water pearl buttons	gross	256,171	94,036
Metal buttons	gt.gross	12,540	51,540
Ivory buttons	gross	624,364	435,799
Pearl buttons	"	70,511	84,389
Galalith buttons	"	1,150	3,450
Patent detachable bachelor buttons	"	11,705	13,349
Patent separable cuff buttons	"	1,618	1,941
Celluloid buttons	"	64,576	118,174
All other buttons	"	19,368	39,224
Metal fasteners	gt.gross	17,660	13,245
Metal loops	D.gross	6,716	1,400
Metal slides	" "	6,676	6,342
Caps	dozen	8,459	63,446
Boxes	C	97	2,504
Tags	M	2,288	9,159
Shrinking cloth	yards	1,400,613	35,004
Covered buttons	gross	17,975	14,525
Moulds and dies	"	46,000	11,217
Silk tassels	gross	252	2,012
All other products and amount received for custom work	-	-	28,758
		-	1,030,514

CAPITAL INVESTMENT

The capital employed in the industry during the calendar year 1925 fell from \$1,317,378 in 1924 to \$1,273,041 in 1925, a decrease of \$44,337, over the two year period. Of this total fixed capital which comprises land, buildings, fixtures, machinery and tools amounted to \$664,787 whilst working capital which consists of materials on hand, stocks in process, cash, trading and operating accounts and bills receivable was reported at \$608,254.

EMPLOYEES, SALARIES AND WAGES

The number of persons employed in the industry during the calendar year 1925 is shown in Table III by (a) classes of employment (b) sex and (c) salary and wage payments. The total number of persons employed fell from 606 in 1924 to 574 in 1925, a decrease of 32. The total payroll which in 1924 was 488,477 only amounted to \$463,792, being a decrease of \$24,685.

Table III.- Employees, salaries and wages - 1925.

	Male	Female	Salaries and wages \$
Employees on salaries	50	16	135,516
Employees on wages (average number)	249	232	323,365
Outside piece workers	-	27	4,911
TOTAL	299	275	463,792

OTHER EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

The number of days the establishments were in operation during the calendar year 1925 together with the number of hours normally worked by wage earners per day and per week will be found in Table IV(a). The number of wage earners employed throughout the year is given by sex and by months in Table IV(b). The maximum number employed was 524 in the month of March, whilst the minimum number reported was 454 in December.

Table IV(a).- Days in operation and hours worked, 1925.

Number of establishments in operation	13	
	Total	Average per establishment
Days in operation on full time	3,245	249.6
Days in operation on part time	539	41.4
Days idle	168	13.0
Hours worked by wage earners per day or shift	5,203	9.1
Hours worked by wage earners per week	648	49.8

Table IV(b).- Wage earners by Months, 1925.

Months	Male No.	Female No.	Months	Male No.	Female No.
January	244	231	July	249	223
February	259	238	August	251	225
March	268	256	September	250	232
April	262	248	October	243	222
May	243	232	November	246	219
June	238	231	December	244	210
			Total	2,997	2,767
Average number employed during the year				249	232

MATERIALS USED

The total cost of all materials used in the industry during the calendar year 1925 was \$316,170 whilst the amount report for the previous year was \$312,620, an increase of \$3,550. For the period covered by this report manufacturers of buttons were not required to furnish details of the different kinds and quantities of materials used.

FUEL STATISTICS

The quantity and cost value of the various kinds of fuel used in the industry during the calendar year 1925 will be found in Table V. The total expenditure for all fuel during 1924 was \$11,500 whilst for 1925 the amount reported was \$10,413, a decrease of \$1,087. Bituminous coal was again the principal fuel used with 1,377 tons valued at \$8,851, whilst fuel oil takes second place in importance with \$1,331.

Table V.- Fuel Consumption, 1925.

Kinds of fuel	Unit of Measure	Quantity	Cost value \$
Bituminous coal	ton	1,377	8,851
Anthracite coal	"	10	47
Coke	"	3	49
Oil (fuel)	gallon	16,573	1,331
Gas	M. c.ft.	109	135
TOTAL	-	-	10,413

THE BUTTON INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1925.

POWER - INSTALLATION

The power installed in the industry is given in Table VI by (a) classes of power, (b) number of units in each class and (c) the horse power capacity according to manufacturers' rating.

Table VI.- Power Installation, 1925.

Classes of power	Number of units	Horse-power capacity
Steam engines and turbines	2	86
Electric motors operated by purchased power	51	426
TOTAL	53	512

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

The value of all raw or partly manufactured materials together with the various kinds of buttons imported into and exported from Canada during the calendar year 1925 will be found in Table VII by principal countries.

Table VII(a).- Imports by principal countries, 1925.

Materials and articles imported	United Kingdom	United States	Other Countries
	\$	\$	\$
<u>Raw and partly manufactured materials:-</u>			
Button blanks of animal shell in the rough	-	4,701	28,894
Pearl, mother of- unmanufactured	-	10,520	-
<u>Manufactured articles:-</u>			
Buttons, shoe papier mache	638	8,774	526
" " n.o.p.	66	5,886	1,792
" vegetable ivory	3,618	6,036	48,318
" collar and cuff	927	36,365	796
" recognition and lapel	55	1,673	-
" all kinds covered or not, n.o.p.	40,467	264,356	239,131
TOTAL	45,171	338,311	319,457

Table VII(b).- Exports by principal countries, 1925.

Articles exported	United Kingdom	United States	Other Countries
	\$	\$	\$
Buttons	-	23	305

APPENDIX

FIRMS MANUFACTURING BUTTONS IN CANADA - 1925.

Ontario

E. Eaton Co. Ltd.	190 Yonge Street, Toronto 2.
Canada Button & Buckle Mfrs. Ltd.	1303 Queen Street West, Toronto 3,
Toronto Button Co. Limited	356 Clinton Street, Toronto 4.
Dominion Button Mfrs, Limited	57 Water Street N., Kitchener.
Kitchener Button Limited	Edward & Victoria Street, Kitchener.
Mitchell Button Co. Ltd.	21 Gankel Street, Kitchener.
Pilcher Mfg. Co. Ltd.,	310 Albert Street, Windsor.
Windsor Pearl Button Co.	521 Glengarry, Windsor.
Universal Button Fastening and Button Co. of Canada Limited	240 Walker Street, Walkerville.
Richard Roschman & Bros.	27 Queen Street, Waterloo.
Northern Button Limited	Smiths Falls.

Quebec

Canadian Button Limited	2091 Beandry Street, Montreal.
Stein Button Co.	40 Dufferin Square, Montreal.

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