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

REPORT
on the
BUTTON INDUSTRY
in
CANADA
1926

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Published by authority of the Hon. James Malcolm, M. P.,
Minister of Trade and Commerce

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OTTAWA

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

CENSUS OF INDUSTRY

OTTAWA - CANADA

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 Chief, Census of Industry J. C. Macpherson,

THE BUTTON INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1926

Ottawa, March, 1928.- A report is herewith presented on the Button Industry in Canada for the calendar year 1926. 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 1925 and 1926 is given in Table 1.

Table 1.- Principal Statistics compared for 1925 and 1926.

		1925	1926
Establishments	No.	13	13
Capital investment	\$	1,273,041	1,390,717
Employees on salaries -			
Male	No.	50	50
Female	No.	16	17
Salaries	\$	135,516	148,208
Employees on wages - average number -			
Male	No.	249	236
Female	No.	232	253
Wages	\$	323,365	310,832
Outside piece workers -			
Male	No.	-	-
Female	No.	27	26
Amount paid	\$	4,911	3,426
Cost of fuel and electricity	\$	18,843	19,107
Power installation - Units	No.	53	57
Capacity	H.P.	512	534
Cost of materials	\$	316,170	358,979
Gross value of products	\$	1,030,514	1,088,953
Net value of products	\$	714,344	729,974

Size of Establishments

In view of the tendency towards concentration in industrial enterprise, a series of tables have been prepared presenting in a threefold way the size of establishments in the Button industry measured by (a) capital investment (b) gross value of production and (c) the number of persons employed, all within certain specified groups or limitations for the calendar years 1925 and 1926. The tables further indicate the movement of capital production and employment within the industry.

In 1925 the number of establishments reporting was 13 with a total capital investment of \$1,273,041; a gross value of production of \$1,030,514 and a total employment of 547. Six establishments had a capital investment of \$1,030,798 or 80.8 per cent of the total capitalization with an average investment of \$171,799 per establishment. In gross value of production seven establishments had a total production of \$845,547 or 82.0 per cent of the total output and an average of \$120,792 per establishment. In employment 8 establishments had 489 persons on the payroll or 89.4 per cent of the total employment with an average employment of 61 per establishment.

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In 1926 the number of establishments reporting was 13 with a total capital investment of \$1,390,717, a gross value of production of \$1,088,953 and a total employment of 556. Six establishments had a total capital investment of \$1,114,868 or 80.2 per cent of the total capitalization with an average investment of \$185,811 per establishment. In gross value of production 7 establishments had a total production of \$916,668 or 84.2 per cent of the total output with an average production of \$130,952 per establishment. In employment 8 establishments had 496 persons on the payroll or 89.2 per cent of the total employment and an average of 62 persons per establishment.

CAPITAL

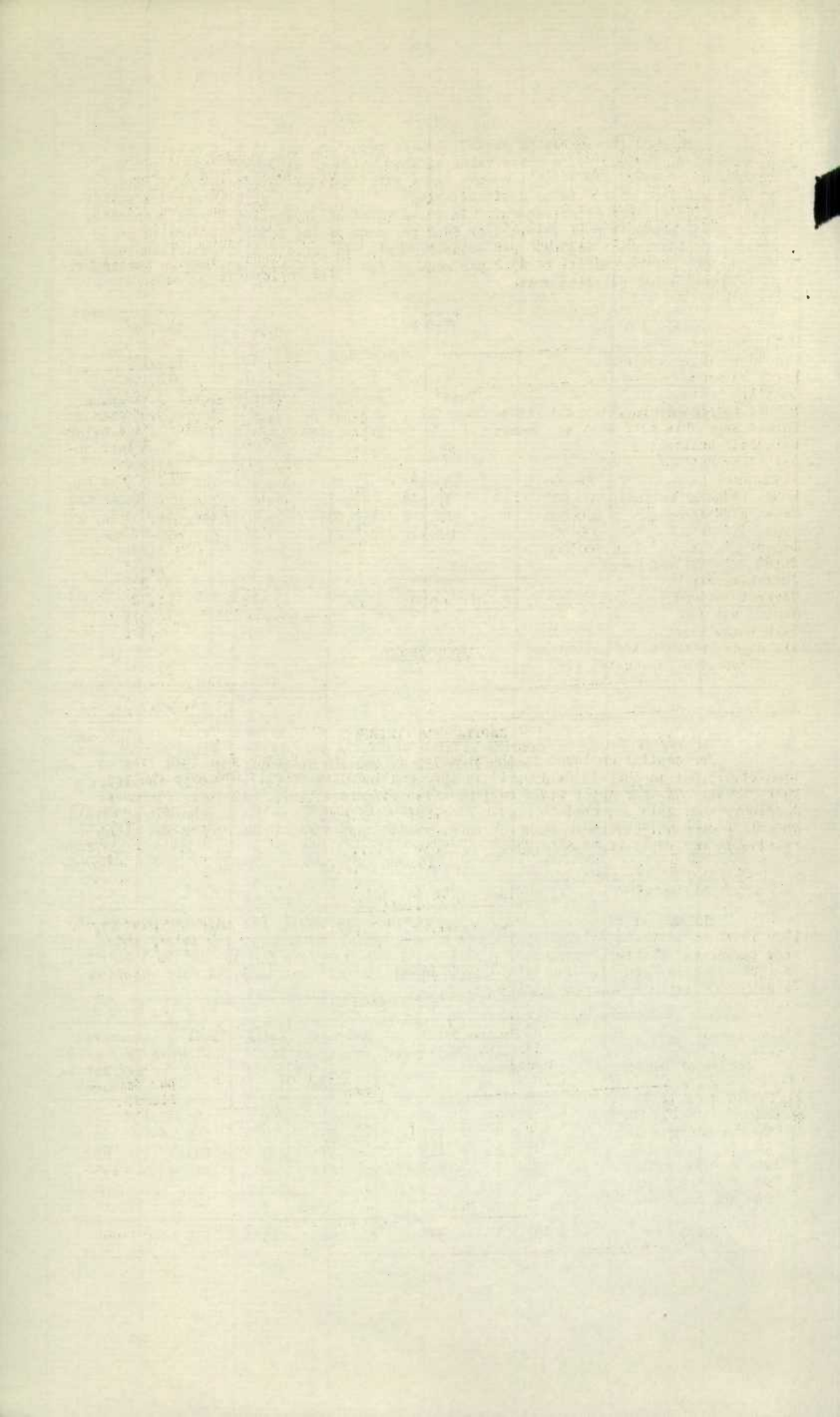
Groups of Value	Estab- lish- ments	1 9 2 5		1 9 2 6		
		Total Capital	Average Capital per Establish- ment.	Estab- lish- ments	Total Capital	Average Capital per Establish- ment.
		\$	\$		\$	\$
Under \$ 50,000	6	169,567	28,261	5	142,670	28,534
\$ 50,000 to under 100,000	1	72,676	72,676	2	133,179	66,589
100,000 " " 200,000	4	520,332	130,083	4	497,710	124,427
200,000 " " 500,000	2	510,466	255,233	2	617,158	308,579
500,000 " " 1,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
\$1,000,000 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	13	1,273,041	97,926	13	1,390,717	106,978

PRODUCTION

Groups of Value	Estab- lish- ments	1 9 2 5		1 9 2 6		
		Total Value of Produc- tion \$	Average Value per Establish- ment \$	Estab- lish- ments	Total Value of Produc- tion \$	Average Value per Establish- ment \$
Under \$50,000	6	184,967	30,828	6	172,285	28,714
\$ 50,000 to under 100,000	3	244,968	81,656	3	274,286	91,428
100,000 " " 200,000	3	363,433	121,144	3	401,414	133,804
200,000 " " 500,000	1	237,146	237,146	1	240,968	240,968
500,000 " " 1,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
\$ 1,000,000 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	13	1,030,514	79,270	13	1,088,953	83,766

EMPLOYEES

Groups of Employees	Estab- lish- ments	1 9 2 5		1 9 2 6		
		Total Employees	Average Employees per Estab- lishment	Estab- lish- ments	Total Employees	Average Employees per Estab- lishment
Under 20	5	58	11	5	60	12
20 but under 50	4	131	33	4	148	37
50 " " 100	2	115	57	3	203	67
100 " " 200	2	243	121	1	145	145
200 " " 500	-	-	-	-	-	-
500 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	13	547	42	13	556	43



PRODUCTION

The quantity and value of the various products of the industry will be found in Table II. for the calendar year 1926. The total value of production in 1925 was \$1,030,514, whilst for the period covered by this report the amount reported was \$1,088,953, a net increase of \$58,439 over the two year period.

Table II. - Production - 1926.

Principal Products	Unit of measure	Quantity	Value \$
Fresh water pearl buttons	gross	444,367	148,776
Metal buttons	gt.gross	18,059	57,204
Vegetable ivory buttons	gross	596,565	456,883
Pearl buttons	gross	80,628	82,109
Galalith buttons	"	1,454	3,272
Patent detachable bachelor buttons	"	8,373	9,546
Patent separable cuff buttons	"	647	7,565
Celluloid buttons	"	38,474	78,375
All other buttons	"	16,383	33,560
Metal fasteners	gt.gross	34,785	20,309
Metal loops	D.gross	11,893	7,386
Metal slides	" "	13,959	11,031
Caps	Dozen	5,991	58,687
Boxes	K.	84	2,941
Tags	K.	1,868	7,343
Shrinking cloth	yards	1,491,049	37,255
Covered buttons	gross	13,829	11,225
Moulds and dies	"	59,000	16,573
Silk tassels	"	233	1,371
All other products and amount received for custom work	-	-	37,542
		-	1,088,953

CAPITAL INVESTMENT

The capital employed in the industry during the calendar year 1926 rose from \$1,273,041 in 1925 to \$1,390,717 in 1926, an increase of \$117,676 over the two year period. Of this total fixed capital which comprises land, buildings, fixtures, machinery and tools amounted to \$758,671 whilst working capital which consists of materials on hand, stocks in process, cash, trading and operating accounts and bills receivable was reported at \$632,046.

EMPLOYEES, SALARIES AND WAGES

The number of persons employed in the industry during the calendar year 1926 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 574 in 1925 to 556 in 1926 a decrease of 18. The total payroll which in 1925 was \$463,792 only amounted to \$459,040, being a decrease of \$4,752.

Table III. - Employees, salaries and wages - 1926.

	Male	Female	Salaries and Wages.
Employees on salaries	50	17	148,208
Employees on wages (average number)	236	253	310,832
Outside piece workers	-	26	3,426
TOTAL	286	296	462,466

TABLE

The following table shows the results of the survey conducted in the year 1950. The data is presented in the following order: (a) total number of respondents, (b) percentage of respondents who are male, (c) percentage of respondents who are female, (d) percentage of respondents who are married, (e) percentage of respondents who are single, (f) percentage of respondents who are divorced, and (g) percentage of respondents who are widowed.

Category	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
Total	1000	100.0
Male	550	55.0
Female	450	45.0
Married	600	60.0
Single	300	30.0
Divorced	50	5.0
Widowed	100	10.0

The above table shows that the majority of respondents are married (60%) and male (55%). The percentage of single respondents is 30%, divorced respondents is 5%, and widowed respondents is 10%.

APPENDIX

The following table shows the results of the survey conducted in the year 1950. The data is presented in the following order: (a) total number of respondents, (b) percentage of respondents who are male, (c) percentage of respondents who are female, (d) percentage of respondents who are married, (e) percentage of respondents who are single, (f) percentage of respondents who are divorced, and (g) percentage of respondents who are widowed.

Category	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
Total	1000	100.0
Male	550	55.0
Female	450	45.0
Married	600	60.0
Single	300	30.0
Divorced	50	5.0
Widowed	100	10.0

OTHER EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

The number of days the establishments were in operation during the calendar year 1926 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 555 in the month of March, whilst the minimum number reported was 447 in November.

Table IV(a).- Days in operation and hours worked, 1926

Number of establishments in operation	13	
	Total	Average per establishment
Days in operation on full time	3,570	274.6
Days in operation on part time	258	19.8
Days idle	124	9.6
Hours worked by wage earners per day or shift	5,513	9.0
Hours worked by wage earners per week	633	48.7

Table IV(b).- Wage earners by Months, 1926.

Months	Male No.	Female No.	Months	Male No.	Female No.
January	240	234	July	232	248
February	263	287	August	235	234
March	263	292	September	229	229
April	251	280	October	218	239
May	246	278	November	218	229
June	235	244	December	221	229
	Total			2,849	3,023
	Average number employed during year			236	253

MATERIALS USED

The total cost of all materials used in the industry during the calendar year 1926 was \$358,979 whilst the amount reported for the previous year was \$316,170 an increase of \$42,809. The principal items of material used are given in Table V.

Table V. Materials Used - 1926

Principal Materials	Unit of Measure	Quantity	Selling value at the factory
Pearl shell	-	-	\$ 24,318
Vegetable ivory nuts	-	-	101,360
Galalith	-	-	3,737
Celluloid	-	-	29,072
Steel	Lb.	136,925	11,296
Cloth	Yard	18,505	14,081
All other materials	-	-	175,115
			358,979

FUEL STATISTICS

The quantity and cost value of the various kinds of fuel used in the industry during the calendar year 1926 will be found in Table VI. The total expenditure for all fuel during 1926 was \$19,107. Bituminous coal was again the principal fuel used with 1,360 tons valued at \$9,130, whilst fuel oil takes second place in importance with \$1,934. The cost of electricity purchased was \$7,795 as compared with \$8,430 in 1925.

Table VI. - Fuel Consumption, 1926.

Kinds of fuel	Unit of Measure	Quantity	Cost Value \$
Bituminous coal	ton	1,360	9,130
Anthracite coal	"	10	50
Oil (fuel)	gallon	19,024	1,934
Gas	M.C. ft.	181	198
Electricity	-	-	7,795
TOTAL	-	-	19,107

THE BUTTON INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1926

POWER INSTALLATION

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

Table VII. Power Installation, 1926

Classes of power	Number of units	Horse-power capacity
Steam engines and turbines	2	36
Electric motors operated by purchased power	55	448
TOTAL	57	534

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 1926 will be found in Table VIII. by principal countries.

Table VIII. (a) Imports by principal countries, 1926

Materials and articles imported	United Kingdom	United States	Other Countries
	\$	\$	\$
Raw and partly manufactured materials:-			
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 VIII (b) Exports by principal countries, 1926.

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

A P P E N D I X

FIRMS MANUFACTURING BUTTONS IN CANADA - 1 9 2 6

Ontario

T. 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 Buttons Limited	Edward & Victoria Street, Kitchener.
Mitchell Button Co. Ltd.	21 Gaukel Street, Kitchener.
Pilcher Mfg. Co. Ltd.	310 Albert Street, Windsor.
Windsor Pearl Button Co. Ltd.	581 Glengarry, Windsor.
Universal Button Fastening and Button Co. of Canada Limited	240 Walker Street, Walkerville.
Richard Roschman & Bros. Ltd.	27 Queen Street, Waterloo.
Northern Buttons Limited	Smiths Falls.

Quebec

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

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