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REPORT  
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BUTTON INDUSTRY  
in  
CANADA  
1930

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Minister of Trade and Commerce

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OTTAWA  
1931

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THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF [illegible]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS  
CENSUS OF INDUSTRY  
OTTAWA - CANADA

Dominion Statistician: R.E. Coats, B.A., F.S.S. (Hon.), F.R.S.C.  
Acting Chief, Census of Industry: A. Cohen, B. Com.

THE BUTTON INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1930.

Ottawa, November 1931 - A report is herewith presented on the Button Industry in Canada for the calendar year 1930. There were 12 establishments in operation of which 10 were in the province of Ontario and 2 in Quebec. A summary of the principal statistics compared for the years 1926 to 1930 is given in Tables 1(a) & 1(b).

Table 1 (a) - Principal Statistics compared for 1926, 1927 and 1928.

Principal Statistics		1926	1927	1928
Establishments	No.	13	13	13
Capital Investment	\$	1,390,717	1,393,132	1,468,361
Employees on salaries -				
Male	No.	50	49	48
Female	No.	17	16	17
Salaries	\$	148,208	147,762	141,940
Employees on wages - average number -				
Male	No.	236	226	225
Female	No.	253	193	182
Wages	\$	310,832	264,908	259,828
Outside piece workers -				
Male	No.	-	-	-
Female	No.	26	32	29
Amount paid	\$	3,426	3,793	2,209
Cost of fuel and electricity	\$	19,107	20,561	19,668
Power installation - Units		57	57	55
Capacity		534	525	537
Cost of materials	\$	358,979	306,498	263,480
Gross Value of products	\$	1,088,953	955,397	937,326
Net value of products	\$	729,974	648,899	673,846

Table 1(b) - Principal Statistics compared for the years 1929 and 1930.

Principal Statistics		1929	1930
Establishments	No.	13	12
Capital Investment	\$	1,517,123	1,408,331
Employees on salaries -			
Male	No.	41	39
Female	No.	15	17
Salaries	\$	131,422	125,767
Employees on wages - average number -			
Male	No.	211	183
Female	No.	191	158
Wages	\$	255,034	213,824
Outside piece workers -			
Male	No.	-	-
Female	No.	26	20
Amount paid	\$	1,985	1,799
Cost of fuel and electricity	\$	17,927	15,727
Power installation - Units		57	64
Capacity		543	585
Cost of materials	\$	278,825	199,766
Gross value of products	\$	955,256	702,470
Net value of products	\$	676,431	502,704

Commissioner of Statistics  
L. J. ...  
E. H. ...

Director of Industry  
J. ...

INDUSTRY INVESTMENT IN CANADA, 1951

Ottawa, November 1951 - A report is herewith presented on the United Industry in Canada for the calendar year 1950. There were 18 establishments in operation of which 10 were in the province of Ontario and 8 in Quebec. A summary of the principal statistical characteristics for the years 1949-1950 is given in Tables I(a) & I(b).

Table I(a) - Principal Statistics Compared for 1950, 1949 and 1948

1950	1949	1948	
1,500,717	1,302,138	1,188,261	Establishments
1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	Capital Investment
100,000	100,000	100,000	Employees on salaries
100,000	100,000	100,000	Wages
100,000	100,000	100,000	Employees on wages - average number
100,000	100,000	100,000	Value
100,000	100,000	100,000	Output plus work-in-progress
100,000	100,000	100,000	Cost of fuel and electricity
100,000	100,000	100,000	Cost of maintenance - utility
100,000	100,000	100,000	Cost of materials
100,000	100,000	100,000	Gross Value of Products
100,000	100,000	100,000	Value of products

Table I(b) - Principal Statistics Compared for 1950, 1949 and 1948

1950	1949	1948	
1,500,717	1,302,138	1,188,261	Establishments
1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	Capital Investment
100,000	100,000	100,000	Employees on salaries
100,000	100,000	100,000	Wages
100,000	100,000	100,000	Employees on wages - average number
100,000	100,000	100,000	Value
100,000	100,000	100,000	Output plus work-in-progress
100,000	100,000	100,000	Cost of fuel and electricity
100,000	100,000	100,000	Cost of maintenance - utility
100,000	100,000	100,000	Cost of materials
100,000	100,000	100,000	Gross Value of Products
100,000	100,000	100,000	Value of products

THE BUTTON INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1930.

Size of Establishments

In view of the tendency towards concentration in industrial enterprise, a series of tables have been prepared presenting in a three fold 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. The tables compared for a number of years indicate the movement of capital, production and employment within the industry.

In 1930 the number of establishments reporting was 12 with a total capital investment of \$1,408,331 a gross value of production of \$702,470 and a total employment of 397. Six establishments had a total capital investment of \$1,203,176 or 85 per cent of the total capitalization with an average investment of \$200,529 per establishment. In gross value of production 6 establishments had a total production of \$587,902 or 83 per cent of the total output with an average production of \$97,984 per establishment. In employment 7 establishments had 362 persons on the payroll or 91 per cent of the total employment and an average of 52 persons per establishment.

CAPITAL

Groups of Value	1929			1930		
	Estab-lish-ments No.	Total Capital \$	Average Capital per Estab-lish-ment \$	Estab-lish-ments No.	Total Capital \$	Average Capital per Estab-lish-ment \$
	Under \$50,000	5	98,008	19,602	4	90,138
\$50,000 to under \$100,000	1	58,711	58,711	2	115,017	57,509
\$100,000 " " \$200,000	4	514,252	128,563	3	349,712	116,571
\$200,000 " " \$500,000	3	846,152	282,051	3	853,464	284,488
\$500,000 " " \$1,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
\$1,000,000 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1,517,123</b>	<b>116,702</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1,408,331</b>	<b>117,361</b>

Groups of Value	1929			1930		
	Estab-lish-ments No.	Total Value of Produc-tion \$	Average Value per Estab-lish-ment \$	Estab-lish-ments No.	Total Value of Produc-tion \$	Average Value per Estab-lish-ment \$
	Under \$50,000	7	194,105	27,729	6	114,568
\$50,000 to under \$100,000	2	159,924	79,962	4	284,058	71,015
\$100,000 " " \$200,000	3	373,729	124,576	2	303,844	151,922
\$200,000 " " \$500,000	1	227,498	227,498	-	-	-
\$500,000 " " \$1,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
\$1,000,000 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>955,256</b>	<b>73,481</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>702,470</b>	<b>58,539</b>

Groups of Employees	1929			1930		
	Estab-lish-ments No.	Total Employees No.	Average Employees per Estab-lish-ment No.	Estab-lish-ments No.	Total Employees No.	Average Employees per Estab-lish-ment No.
	Under 20	6	55	9	5	35
20 but under 50	4	139	35	4	117	29
50 but under 100	2	137	69	2	131	66
100 but under 200	1	127	127	1	114	114
200 but under 500	-	-	-	-	-	-
500 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>33</b>



THE BUTTON INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1930.

PRODUCTION

The quantity and value of the various products of the industry will be found in Table II for the calendar year 1930. The total value of production in 1929 was \$955,256 whilst for the period covered by this report the amount reported was \$702,470 a net decrease of \$252,786 over the two year period.

Table II. - Production, 1930.

Principal Products	Unit of Measure	Quantity	Value \$
Fresh water pearl buttons	gross	258,879	93,932
Metal buttons	gt. gross	8,129	34,136
Vegetable ivory buttons	gross	477,411	293,712
Pearl buttons	gross	118,296	83,022
Galalith and artificial horn buttons & specialties	gross	15,812	31,547
Patent detachable bachelor buttons	gross	548	4,278
Patent separable cuff buttons	gross	224	2,866
Celluloid buttons, buckles and specialties	gross	18,325	43,105
Celluloid buttons (value only)	-	-	33,385
All other buttons	gross	9,252	5,615
Metal fasteners	gt. gross	10,130	13,190
Metal loops	D. gross	1,730	1,557
Metal slides	D. gross	308	360
Metal snaps	gt. gross	300	1,966
Buckles	gross	3,000	7,987
Moulds	gross	52,354	10,790
All other products and amount received for custom work	-	-	41,022
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	-	<b>702,470</b>

MATERIALS USED

The total cost of all materials used in the industry during the calendar year 1930 was \$199,766 whilst the amount reported for the previous year was \$278,825 a decrease of \$79,059. The principal items of material used are given in Table III.

Table III.- Materials Used, 1930.

Principal Materials	Unit of Measure	Quantity	Selling Value at the Factory.
Pearl shell	lb.	68,000	21,850
Vegetable ivory nuts	lb.	1,087,826	37,098
Galalith and artificial horn	lb.	14,542	5,552
Celluloid	lb.	40,434	16,694
Celluloid (value only)	-	-	3,083
Steel and brass	lb.	89,574	7,347
Blanks	gross	312,875	61,027
Lacaloid	-	27,380	9,762
All other materials	-	-	37,353
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	-	<b>199,766</b>





THE PUTTON INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1930.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT

The capital employed in the industry during the calendar year 1930 fell from \$1,517,123 in 1929 to \$1,408,331 in 1930 a decrease of \$108,792 during the two year period. Of this total, fixed capital which comprises land, buildings, fixtures, machinery and tools amounted to \$776,987 whilst working capital, which consists of materials on hand, stocks in process, cash, trading and operating accounts and bills receivable, was reported at \$631,344.

EMPLOYEES, SALARIES AND WAGES

The number of persons employed in the industry during the calendar year 1930 is shown in Table IV by (a) classes of employment, (b) sex and (c) salary and wage payments. The total number of persons employed fell from 484 to 417 in 1930 a decrease of 67. The total payroll which in 1929 was \$388,441 amounted to \$341,390 in 1930 being a decrease of \$47,051. The number of employees by sex and by months is shown in Table V.

Table IV. - Employees, salaries and wages, 1930.

	Male	Female	Salaries and Wages
	No.	No.	\$
Employees on salaries	39	17	125,767
Employees on wages (average number)	183	158	213,824
Outside piece workers	-	20	1,799
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>341,390</b>

Table V. - Wage earners by Months, 1930.

Months	Male No.	Female No.	Months	Male No.	Female No.
January	169	162	July	187	155
February	175	165	August	182	155
March	183	158	September	182	160
April	180	160	October	186	158
May	180	154	November	188	155
June	189	148	December	180	154
Total			2,181		1,884
Average number employed during year			183		158

FUEL STATISTICS

The quantity and cost value of the various kinds of fuel used in the industry during the calendar year 1930 will be found in Table VI. The total expenditure for all fuel during 1929 was \$10,278 which in 1930 fell to \$8,638. Bituminous coal was again the principal fuel used with 911 tons valued at \$5,634 whilst anthracite coal takes second place in importance with \$2,421. The cost of electricity purchased was \$7,089 as compared with \$7,649 in 1929.

Table VI. - Fuel Consumption, 1930.

Kinds of Fuel	Unit of Measure	Quantity	Cost Value \$
Bituminous coal	Ton	911	5,634
Anthracite coal	"	322	2,421
Gas	M.C. ft.	425	456
Other Fuel	-	-	127
Electricity	-	-	7,089
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>15,727</b>

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Date	Description	Amount	Balance
1890			
1891			
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1899			
1900			

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THE BUTTON INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1930.

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. Boiler installation totalled 6 units of 415 horse power.

Table VII. - Power Installation.

Classes of power	Number of Units	Horse-power capacity
Steam engines and turbines	2	86
Electric motors operated by purchased power	62	499
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>585</b>

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 1930 will be found in Table VIII by principal countries.

Table VIII. - (a) Imports by principal countries, 1930.

Materials and articles imported	United Kingdom	United States	China	Japan	Other Countries	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Raw and partly manufactured Materials:-						
Ivory nuts, vegetable	-	22,581	-	-	1,115	23,696
Button blanks of animal shell in the rough	-	3,704	12,149	37,100	2,003	54,956
Pearl, mother of - unmanufactured	-	18,167	-	-	1,298	19,465
Celluloid, xylonite, etc. in sheets	47,026	1,420,982	-	-	264,931	1,732,939
Manufactured articles:-						
Buttons, shoe papier maché	-	7,732	-	-	-	7,732
" " n.o.p.	380	219	-	-	174	773
" vegetable ivory	412	616	-	-	15,283	16,311
" cuff and collar	543	17,232	-	-	694	18,469
" recognition and lapel	24	1,669	-	-	-	1,693
" all kinds covered or not, n.o.p.	21,082	129,758	-	172,740	46,233	369,813
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>69,467</b>	<b>1,622,660</b>	<b>12,149</b>	<b>209,840</b>	<b>331,731</b>	<b>2,245,847</b>

Table VIII (b) - Exports by principal countries, 1930.

Articles Exported	United Kingdom	United States	Other Countries	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Buttons	4,480	30	862	5,372



APPENDIX

FIRMS MANUFACTURING BUTTONS IN CANADA, 1930.

ONTARIO

The Canada Button Co.	260 Spadina Ave., 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. Limited	97 Victoria Street, Kitchener.
Pilcher Mfg. Co. Limited	310 Albert Street, Windsor.
Pearl Button Mfg. Co. of Canada Limited	521 Glengarry, Windsor.
Universal Button Fastening and Button Co. of Canada Limited	240 Walker Road, Walkerville.
Richard Roschman & Bros. Limited	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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