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CANADA

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

CENSUS OF INDUSTRY

REPORT

on the

BUTTON INDUSTRY

in

CANADA

1930

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OTTAWA

1931

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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

DUMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS CENSUS OF INDUSTRY OTTAWA - UANADA

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

THE BUTTON INDSUTRY 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 | 148 |
| 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. | 0-0 | - | - |
| 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. 1929 1930 Principal Statistics No. Establishments 1,408,331 1,517,123 Capital Investment \$ Employees on salaries -41 39 No. Male 17 No. 15 Female 131,422 Salaries \$ 125,767 Employees on wages - average number -Male 211 No. 183 Female No. 191 158 255,034 213,824 \$ Wages Outside piece workers -Male No. 26 No. 20 Female 1,985 1,799 \$ Amount paid 15,727 \$ 17,927 Cost of fuel and electricity 57 Power installation - Units 585 199,766 Capacity Cost of materials \$ 278,825 702,470 955,256 Gross value of products \$ \$ 502,704 Net value of products

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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.

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|--|-----------------------|--|---|-----------------------|---|---|--|
| | | 1929 | | | 1930 | | |
| Groups of Value | Estabellishments | Total Gapital | Average Capital per Establishment | Metabalish- ments | Tetal Capital | Average Capital per Establish ment | |
| Under \$50,000 \$50,000 to under \$100,000 \$100,000 " " \$200,000 \$200,000 " " \$500,000 \$500,000 " " \$1,000,000 \$1,000,000 and over | 5 1 4 3 - | 98.008 58,711 514,252 846,152 | 19,602 58,711 128,563 282,051 | ¥ 2 3 3 - | 90,138 115,017 349,712 853,464 | 22,535 57,509 116,571 284,488 | |
| TOTAL | 13 | 1,517,123 | 116,702 | 12 | 1,408,331 | 117,361 | |

| | | 1929 | | | 1930 | |
|--|---------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Groups of Value | Estab- lish- ments No. | Total Value of Production \$ | Average Value per Establishment \$ | Estab- lish- ments No. | Total Value of Production \$ | Average Value per Establish- ment \$ |
| Under \$50,000 \$50,000 to under \$100,000 \$100,000 " " \$200,000 \$200,000 " " \$500,000 \$500,000 " " \$1,000,000 \$1,000,000 and over | 7 2 3 1 - | 194,105 159,924 373,789 227,498 | 79,962 | 6 # w 1 | 114,568 284,058 303,844 | 71,015 |
| TOTAL | 13 | 955,256 | 73,481 | 12 | 702,1470 | 58,539 |

| | | 929 | | 1930 | | |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Groups of Employees | Estab- lish- ments No. | Total Employees | Average Employees per Estab- lishment No. | Estab- lish- ments No. | Total Employees | Average Employees per Estab- lishment No. |
| Under 20 20 but under 50 50 but under 100 100 but under 200 | 6 4 2 1 | 55 139 137 127 | 9 35 69 127 | 5421 | 35 117 131 114 | 7 29 66 114 |
| 200 but under 500 500 and over TOTAL | 13 | 458 | 35 | 12 | 397 | 33 |

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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.

| 18010 11, - 410000 6101 | , 1970. | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| Principal Products | Unit of Measure | Quantity | Value \$ |
| Fresh water pearl buttons Metal buttons Vegetable ivory buttons Pearl buttons Galalith and artificial horn buttons & specialties Patent detachable bachelor buttons Patent separable cuff buttons Gelluloid buttons, buckles and specialties Celluloid buttons (value only) All other buttons Metal fasteners Metal loops Metal slides Moulds All other products and amount received for custom work | gross gt. gross gross gross gross gross gross gross gross D. gross D. gross gt. gross gt. gross | 258,879 8,129 477,411 118,296 15,812 548 224 18,325 - 9,252 10,130 1,730 308 300 3,000 52,354 | 93,932 34,136 293,712 83,022 31,547 4,278 2,866 43,105 33,385 5,615 13,190 1,557 360 1,966 7,987 10,790 |
| TOTAL | | | 702,470 |

MATERIALS USED

The total cost of all matarials 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.

| | | | and the second s |
|------------------------------|--------------------|-----------|--|
| Principal Materials | Unit of Measure | Quantity | Selling Value at the Factory. |
| Pearl hell | 16. | 68,000 | 21,850 |
| Vegetable ivory nuts | lb. | 1,087,826 | 37,098 |
| Galalith and artificial horn | 16. | 14,542 | 5,552 |
| Celluloid | lb. | 40; 434 | 16,694 |
| Celluloid (value only) | • | - | 3,083 |
| teel and brass | lb. | 89,574 | 7.347 |
| Blanks | gross | 312,875 | 61,027 |
| Gacaloid | | 27,380 | 9.762 |
| il other materials | | - | 37.353 |
| TOTAL | - | - | 199,766 |

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THE BUTTON 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 WACES

The number of persons employed in the industry during the calendar year 1930 is shown in Table IV by (a) diasses 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 \$47,091. 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 |
|---|------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Employees on salaries Employees on wages (average number) Outside piece workers | No. 39 183 | No. 17 158 20 | \$ 125,767 213,824 1,799 |
| TOTAL | 222 | 195 | 341,390 |

Table V. - Wage earners by Months, 1930.

| Months | Male No. | Female No. | Months | Male No. | Female No. |
|----------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------|---------------|
| Jenuary | 169 | 162 | July | 187 | 155 |
| February | 175 | 165 | August | 182 | 155 |
| March | 183 | 158 | September | 182 | 160 |
| Agril | 180 | 160 | October | 186 | 158 |
| Maj | 180 | 154 | November | 188 | 155 |
| June | 189 | 148 | December | 180 | 154 |
| | | otal | | 2,181 | 1,884 |
| | 4 | verage 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 Anthracite coal Gas Other Fuel | Ten ## M.C. ft. | 911 322 425 | 5,634 2,421 456 127 |
| Electricity FOTAL | | 0-0 | 7,089 |

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THE BUFTON 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.

| TOTAL | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|----------------------|--|--|--|
| Classes of power | Number of Units | Horse-power capacity | | | |
| Steam engines and turbines Electric motors operated by purchased power | 2 52 | 86 499 | | | |
| TOTAL | 64 | 585 | | | |

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 | Ohina | Japan | Other Countries | Total |
|---|-------------------------|--|--------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|---|
| Ray and partly manufactured Meterials:- | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Ivory nuts, vegetable Button blanks of animal shell | ↔ | 22,581 | • | - | 1,115 | 23,696 |
| in the rough Pearl, mother of - unmanufac- | b-4 | 3,704 | 12,149 | 37,100 | 2,003 | 54,956 |
| tured Celluloid, xylonite, etc. in | • | 18,167 | н. | gardi. | 1,298 | 19,465 |
| sheets | 47,026 | 1,420,982 | - | 0-1 | 264,931 | 1,732,939 |
| Manufactured articles:- | | | | | | |
| Buttons, shoe papier maché "n.o.p; "vegetable ivory cuff and collar recognition and lapel | 380 412 543 24 | 7,732 219 616 17,232 1,669 | 6-9 6-9 6-9 6-9 | 000 000 000 000 000 | 174 15,283 694 | 7,732 773 16,311 18,469 1,693 |
| all kinds covered or not, n.o.p. | 21,082 | 129,758 | - | 172,740 | 46,233 | 369,813 |
| TOTAL | 69,467 | 1,622,660 | 12,149 | 209,840 | 331,731 | 2,245,847 |

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

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

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APPENDIX

FIRMS MANUFACTURING BUTTONS IN CANADA. 1930.

CNTARIO

The Canada Button Co.
Toronto Button Co., Limited
Dominion Button Mfrs. Limited
Kitchener Buttons Limited
Mitchell Button Co. Limited
Pilcher Mfg. Co. Limited
Pearl Button Mfg. Co. of Canada Limited
Universal Button Fastening and Button Co. of
Canada Limited
Richard Roschman & Bros. Limited
Northern Buttons Limited

260 Spadina Ave., Toronto 3.
356 Clinton Street, Toronto 4.
57 Water Street N., Kitchener.
Edward & Victoria Street, Kitchener.
97 Victoria Street, Kitchener.
310 Albert Street, Windsor.
521 Glengarry, Windsor.

240 Walker Road, Walkerville. 27 Queen Street, Waterloo Smiths Falls.

OUEBEC

Canadian Buttons Limited Stein Button Co.

2091 Beaudry Street, Montreal. 40 Dufferin Square, Montreal.

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