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CANADA
DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
CENSUS OF INDUSTRY
GENERAL MANUFACTURES BRANCH

REPORT
ON THE
BUTTON, BUCKLE
AND FASTENERS INDUSTRY
IN
CANADA
1943



OTTAWA
1945

Price 15 cents

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
GENERAL MANUFACTURES BRANCH
OTTAWA - CANADA

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THE BUTTON, BUCKLE, AND FASTENERS INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1943

There were twenty-five establishments in Canada in 1943 engaged principally in the production of buttons, buckles, and fasteners, etc. Fifteen of these establishments were located in the province of Quebec and ten in Ontario. The industry as a whole reported a capital investment in fixed and current assets of \$2,353,642 and a value of production of \$3,821,182. Persons employed numbered 1,032 and salaries and wages paid \$1,313,899.

The output of the button industry was slightly lower in 1943. Although the gross value of production was \$156,071 or 4 per cent higher, the physical volume of production was slightly lower, the output of buttons of all kinds having declined from 7,361,872 gross in 1942 to 7,142,957 gross in 1943. Reflected in the decreased output was a drop of 101 in the number of persons employed. Salaries and wages were, however, \$116,327 higher.

Moulded buttons to the value of \$817,172 was the most important single item of production in 1943. Plastic buttons valued at \$530,922, pearl buttons at \$368,127 and metal buttons at \$358,694 comprised the other principal items. For details of products made, see Table 3.

Referring to Table 2 it may be noted that the 7 largest establishments represented a capital investment of \$2,001,529 or 85 per cent of the total. The output of these establishments was valued at \$3,080,257 or 81 per cent of the total and employed 748 persons or 72 per cent of the total number.

Employment in this industry is fairly uniform throughout the year, there being no marked seasonal variations. Of the wage-earners employed in 1943, 451 or over 51 per cent were males, as compared with a male employment of 517 or 55 per cent of the total wage-earners in 1942. The average salary in 1943 amounted to \$2,291 being \$530 more than in 1942 and the average wage paid in 1943, \$1,082, was \$167 more than the 1942 average.

THE BUTTON, BUCKLE AND FASTENERS INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1943

Table 1. - Principal Statistics of the Button, Buckle and Fasteners Industry, 1933 to 1943

Year and Province	Estab-	Capital	Employees	Salaries and Wages	Cost of Materials Used	Gross Value of Production
	lish- ments Report- ing	Invested				
	No.	\$	No.	\$	\$	\$
1933	18	1,326,745	568	434,561	389,858	1,135,624
1934	17	1,455,681	640	501,379	466,935	1,298,914
1935	17	1,429,340	699	542,015	477,788	1,370,706
1936	18	1,364,317	800	630,576	522,570	1,467,414
1937	21	1,432,343	839	670,814	634,647	1,590,442
1938	21	1,579,532	736	572,858	498,674	1,338,583
1939	24	1,850,892	811	662,403	598,352	1,697,788
1940	22	1,877,541	988	887,602	1,025,774	2,524,388
1941	25	2,312,517	1,144	1,064,805	1,274,223	3,198,915
1942	27	2,409,739	1,133	1,197,572	1,364,632	3,665,111
<u>1943</u>						
Quebec	15	915,842	567	683,056	956,134	2,218,889
Ontario	10	1,437,800	465	630,843	472,196	1,602,293
CANADA	25	2,353,642	1,032	1,313,899	1,428,330	3,821,182

Profits or losses cannot be estimated from Census figures as no data are collected for certain expense items, such as interest, rent, depreciation, taxes, insurance, advertising.

Table 2. - Principal Statistics of the Button, Buckle and Fasteners Industry in Canada Grouped According to the Size of Establishment, 1943.

Establishments having a production of	Estab-	Capital	Employees	Salaries and Wages	Cost of Materials Used	Gross Value of Production
	lish- ments	Invested				
	No.	\$	No.	\$	\$	\$
<u>1943</u>						
Under \$5,000	1)	79,267	56	52,933	38,969	102,043
\$5,000 to \$25,000 ..	7)					
\$25,000 to \$50,000 .	2)	272,846	228	227,697	260,572	638,882
\$50,000 to \$100,000.	8)					
\$100,000 to \$500,000	4	754,461	309	408,286	320,976	990,427
\$500,000 to \$1,000,000 .	3	1,247,068	439	624,983	807,813	2,089,830
TOTAL	25	2,353,642	1,032	1,313,899	1,428,330	3,821,182

THE BUTTON, BUCKLE AND FASTENERS INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1943

Table 3. - Production, 1942 and 1943

Principal Products	Unit of Measure	1942		1943	
		Quantity	Selling Value	Quantity	Selling Value
			\$		\$
Buttons, moulded	Gross	2,487,251	519,953	3,209,439	817,172
" pearl and fresh	"				
" water pearl	"	704,105	348,731	646,749	368,127
" of plastic materials ..	"	1,697,674	858,891	945,215	530,922
" metal	"	1,865,310	462,844	1,752,664	358,694
" covered	"	43,280	30,986	(1)	(1)
" celluloid x	"	63,930	125,551	59,531	120,178
" all other, fibre, moulded, leather, vegetable ivory, etc. .	"	500,322	292,248	529,359	356,412
Buckles, of all kinds x	-	-	63,060	-	59,428
Fasteners, zipper x	-	(2)	(2)	-	164,058
Fasteners, all other x	-	-	151,778	-	60,482
Clips and other ornaments x ...	-	-	43,568	-	100,864
Pins	-	-	33,500	-	16,650
All other products	-	-	271,494	-	865,745
Amount received for custom work.	-	-	462,507	-	2,450
TOTAL VALUE OF PRODUCTION			3,665,111		3,821,182

x The figures in the above table do not represent the total production in Canada, as this product is also manufactured in other industries. For total production figures, see "Alphabetical List of Products Manufactured in Canada" published annually by the Bureau.

(1) Less than 3 establishments reporting, included in "All other buttons".

(2) " " " " " " " " "All other fasteners".

Table 4. - Materials Used, 1942 and 1943

Principal Materials	Unit of Measure	1942		1943	
		Quantity	Cost Value	Quantity	Cost Value
			\$		\$
Pearl, shell	lb.	32,231	12,799	4,980	3,029
Vegetable ivory nuts	"	(x)	(x)	(x)	(x)
Plastic materials (artificial horn, galalith, lactoid, mould- ing powder, casein, bakelite, catalin)	"	499,574	201,237	2,061,520	656,362
Celluloid	"	40,565	20,297	54,254	39,530
Iron and metal	-	-	87,488	-	99,634
Blanks	gross	1,029,380	157,062	573,448	168,358
All other materials	-	-	857,257	-	433,216
Containers and shipping materials	-	-	28,492	-	28,201
TOTAL COST OF MATERIALS USED ..			1,364,632		1,428,330

(x) Less than 3 establishments reporting - included under "All other Materials".

THE BUTTON, BUCKLE AND FASTENERS INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1943

Table 5. - Capital Invested, 1933 to 1943

Year and Provinces	Fixed Capital		Working Capital		Total Capital
	Land, buildings, fixtures, machinery, tools, etc.	Stocks of raw materials and finished products on hand, goods in process, fuel and miscellaneous supplies, etc.	Cash, bills and accounts receivable, prepaid expenses, etc.		
	\$	\$	\$	\$	
1933	716,803	324,972	284,970		1,326,745
1934	784,533	410,060	261,088		1,455,681
1935	874,811	361,031	193,498		1,429,340
1936	738,344	384,404	236,569		1,364,317
1937	757,389	501,720	173,234		1,432,343
1938	752,041	492,614	334,877		1,579,532
1939	760,579	588,614	501,699		1,850,892
1940	808,351	646,340	422,850		1,877,541
1941	1,077,038	742,480	492,999		2,312,517
<u>1942</u>					
CANADA	1,123,114	750,217	536,408		2,409,739
Quebec	452,295	389,487	202,395		1,044,177
Ontario	670,819	360,730	334,013		1,365,562
<u>1943</u>					
CANADA	1,059,391	748,929	545,322		2,353,642
Quebec	325,084	422,342	168,416		915,842
Ontario	734,307	326,587	376,906		1,437,800

Employment

Table 6. - Employees, Salaries and Wages, 1942 and 1943.

	1942			1943		
	Male	Female	Salaries and Wages	Male	Female	Salaries and Wages
	No.	No.	\$	No.	No.	\$
Employees on salaries	143	47	334,603	117	46	373,464
Employees on wages (average number)	517	426	862,969	451	418	940,435
TOTAL	660	473	1,197,572	568	464	1,313,899

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Table 7. - Wage-earners by Months, 1942 and 1943

	1942			1943		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
January	526	418	944	474	406	880
February	524	421	945	480	416	896
March	526	418	944	475	420	895
April	557	429	986	461	428	889
May	532	438	970	444	415	859
June	540	430	970	432	418	850
July	519	431	950	441	407	848
August	519	427	946	444	404	848
September	509	426	935	422	403	825
October	485	431	916	439	418	857
November	481	429	910	445	437	882
December	471	414	885	437	425	862
Total	6,189	5,112	11,301	5,394	4,997	10,391
Average number employed during the year	517	426	943	451	418	869

Table 8. - Average Weekly Earnings and Number of Wage-earners in the month of Highest Employment, and their Regular Hours of Work, 1942 and 1943.

Number of Hours Worked per Week	1942		1943	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
	No.	No.	No.	No.
30 hours or less	15	12	25	30
31-43 hours	16	32	35	72
44 hours	7	21	13	37
45-47 hours	16	74	57	91
48 hours	171	148	98	110
49-50 hours	39	47	47	39
51-54 hours	31	3	28	11
55 hours	146	88	140	85
56-64 hours	18	4	52	1
65 hours and over	130	38	13	-
Average hours per week	54.3	49.6	50.0	45.7
Average weekly earnings	\$21.77	\$13.41	\$25.90	\$14.93

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Fuel Consumption

Table 9. - Fuel Consumption, 1942 and 1943

Kinds of Fuel	Unit of Measure	1942		1943	
		Quantity	Cost Value	Quantity	Cost Value
			\$		\$
Bituminous coal	Ton	2,031	20,000	2,715	26,267
Anthracite coal	"	-	-	40	346
Gasoline	Imp. Gal.	30	10	580	196
Fuel oil	" "	12,366	1,340	55	12
Gas	M cu. ft.	2,106	2,039	1,013	1,063
Electricity	-	1,599,750	25,979	1,532,596	27,279
TOTAL COST OF FUEL AND ELECTRICITY	-	-	49,368	-	55,163

Table 10. - Power Equipment, 1942 and 1943

Classes of Power	Ordinarily in Use		In Reserve or Idle	
	Number of Units	Manufacturer's Rating of Horse-power Capacity	Number of Units	Manufacturer's Rating of Horse-power Capacity
<u>1942</u>				
Steam engines and steam turbines	1	6	-	-
Electric motors operated by purchased power	348	1,125	10	68
TOTAL POWER USED IN MANUFACTURING	349	1,131	10	68
Boiler installation	6	320	2	110
<u>1943</u>				
Steam engines and steam turbines	1	6	-	-
Electric motors operated by purchased power	317	1,251	13	68
TOTAL POWER USED IN MANUFACTURING	318	1,257	13	68
Boiler installation	6	320	2	110

THE BUTTON, BUCKLE AND FASTENERS INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1943

A P P E N D I X

Firms Manufacturing Buttons, Buckles and Fasteners in Canada, 1943.

QUEBEC

Canadian Buttons Limited	1850 St. Antoine Street, Montreal	B. & O.P.
Corona Slide Fastener Inc.	4510 St. Lawrence Blvd., Montreal	F
Ginn Brothers, Reg'd	686 Notre Dame Street West, Montreal	B. & F.
Ideal Button Company	Rm. 23, 1193 Phillips Place Bldg., Montreal	B. & F.
Jiffy Join Inc.	756 St. Paul St. West, Montreal	F.
Mack Molding, Limited	33 Taylor Street, Waterloo	B. & O.P.
Montreal Ornament & Button Mfg. Co.	2025 St. Lawrence Blv'd., Montreal	B. & O.P.
New Ornament and Jewellery Co.	58 Mount Royal East, Montreal	O. P.
Patent Button Company Limited	2210 Parthenais Street, Montreal	B.
Pearl Button Manufacturing Company of Canada Limited	Ste. Therese	B.
Premier Button & Buckle Co.	1485 Bleury Street, Montreal	B. & F.
Rapid Button Service Co.	1408 Bleury Street, Montreal	B.
Stein Button Company	745 St. Maurice Street, Montreal	B.
Universal Ornament and Buckle Mfg. Co., Limited	540 Beaudry Street, Montreal	B.
United Buckle and Ornament Mfg. Co.	333 Notre Dame St. East, Montreal	B. & O.P.

ONTARIO

Button Sales Limited	125-33 Niagara Street, Toronto	B.
Capital Ornament Co.	116 Spadina Avenue, Toronto	F. & O.P.
Dominion Button Manufacturers Ltd.	57 Water St. North, Kitchener	B.
Dominion Fastener of Canada	1040 Shaw Street, Toronto	F.
Kitchener Buttons Limited	70 Victoria St., N., Kitchener	B. & O.P.
Metro Mfg. Co.	243 Queen St., Toronto	F.
Mitchell Button Company Limited	97 Victoria Street, Kitchener	B.
Toronto Button Company Limited	116 Spadina Avenue, Toronto	B. & O.P.
Universal Button Fastening & Button Company of Canada Limited	1076 Walker Road, Walkerville	B. & F.
York Button Company	604 King Street West, Toronto	B.

Code for Products Made

B - Buttons

F - Fasteners and Buckles

O.P. - Other Products

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