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THE BUTTON, BUCKLE AND FASTENER INDUSTRY

1954

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NOTICE

The annual reports prepared by the Industry and Merchandising Division of the Bureau of Statistics are divided into 3 volumes, as follows: **Volume I**— The Primary Industries, including mining, forestry and fisheries; **Volume II**— Manufacturing; **Volume III**— Merchandising and Services. The volumes are made up of parts, and the parts in turn are subdivided according to the industries or provinces which they comprise.

Volume II consists of the following parts, the first two of which deal with manufacturing as a whole and the balance with the major manufacturing groups.

- I— General Review of the Manufacturing Industries, \$1.50
- II— The Manufacturing Industries of Canada, (7 sections, as follows:)
 - Section A. Summary for Canada, 25¢
 - Section B. Atlantic Provinces, 25¢
 - Section C. Quebec, 25¢
 - Section D. Ontario, 25¢
 - Section E. Prairie Provinces, 25¢
 - Section F. British Columbia, 25¢
 - Section G. The Manufacturing Industries of Canada, Regional Distribution, 75¢

- III— Foods and Beverages
- IV— Tobacco and Tobacco Products
- V— Rubber Products
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- X— Wood and Paper Products
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- XII— Iron and Steel Products
- XIII— Transportation Equipment
- XIV— Non-ferrous Metal Products
- XV— Electrical Apparatus and Supplies
- XVI— Non-metallic Mineral Products
- XVII— Products of Petroleum and Coal
- XVIII— Chemicals and Allied Products
- XIX— Miscellaneous Manufactures



The present report belongs in Part XIX, Miscellaneous Manufactures. It is punched to permit of filing in a ring binder along with others of the group. The reports in this group are:

- A— The Button, Buckle and Fastener Industry, 25¢
- B— The Broom, Brush and Mop Industry, 25¢
- C— The Musical Instrument Industry, 25¢
- D— The Sporting Goods Industry, 25¢
- E— The Miscellaneous Industries, 25¢

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THE BUTTON, BUCKLE AND FASTENER INDUSTRY

1954

In 1954 reports were received from 44 establishments engaged principally in the production of buttons, buckles, fasteners, etc. Thirty-one of these establishments were located in the province of Quebec and thirteen in Ontario. Ontario, however, occupied the leading position in the industry with 56 per cent of the value of factory shipments and 55 per cent of the number of persons given employment.

The factory selling value of the goods shipped by the industry during the year amounted to \$10,759,859. This was \$694,517 or 6.1 per cent less than that of the previous year. Employment was given to 1,592 persons, which was 149 fewer than in 1953, while the payroll decreased by \$321,704 or 7.2 per cent to \$4,138,450. Materials used cost \$4,420,926, a decrease of \$177,622 or 3.9 per cent from the earlier year.

Zipper fasteners continued to be the industry's most important commodity with shipments valued at \$6,390,352. Shipments of other main commodities in order of importance were moulded buttons valued at \$1,329,427, plastic buttons at \$928,333, metal buttons at \$254,633 and celluloid buttons at \$223,382. For further details of products shipped, see Table 4.

By referring to Table 10 it will be observed that in 1954 the 4 largest establishments reported shipments valued at \$5,954,529 or 55 per cent of the total. They also reported 842 or 53 per cent of all persons employed by the industry.

Beginning with 1954, information on the value of year-end inventory holdings at plant and plant warehouses is being collected as part of the Annual Census of Industry. This data was formerly collected by a separate survey. The summarized results for the Button, Buckle and Fastener Industry for the year under review will be found in Table 3.

TABLE 1. Principal Statistics of the Button, Buckle and Fastener Industry, Representative Years, 1926-1954

Year and Province	Estab- lishments reporting	Em- ployees	Salaries and wages	Cost at plant of fuel and electricity	Cost at plant of materials used	Value added by manufacture	Gross value of production ¹
	No.	No.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1926	13	556	459,040	19,107	358,979	710,867	1,088,953
1930	12	397	339,591	15,727	199,766	486,977	702,470
1937	21	839	670,814	30,064	634,647	925,731	1,590,442
1938	21	736	572,858	27,843	498,674	862,066	1,388,583
1939	24	811	662,403	31,387	598,352	1,068,049	1,697,788
1940	22	988	887,602	41,477	1,025,774	1,457,137	2,524,388
1941	25	1,144	1,064,805	46,881	1,274,223	1,877,811	3,198,915
1943	25	1,032	1,313,899	55,163	1,428,330	2,337,689	3,821,182
1944	20	896	1,259,446	60,398	1,280,740	2,096,745	3,437,883
1945	21	944	1,348,191	55,116	1,479,301	2,214,270	3,748,687
1946	18	986	1,468,667	59,309	1,757,419	2,480,099	4,296,827
1947	29	1,966	3,301,975	82,731	3,447,013	5,759,715	9,289,459
1948	31	1,844	3,373,681	69,301	3,078,233	5,888,891	9,036,425
1949	34	1,682	3,374,644	69,598	3,115,444	4,821,028	8,006,070
1950	38	1,698	3,529,893	80,849	3,455,976	6,239,707	9,776,532
1951	41	1,622	3,706,435	84,492	3,882,116	6,121,090	10,087,698
1952	45	1,679	3,969,929	94,487	4,436,224	6,486,117 ²	11,016,828
1953							
Quebec	32	747	1,572,185	38,421	2,356,279	2,597,927 ²	4,992,627
Ontario	13	994	2,887,969	65,965	2,242,269	4,153,515 ²	6,461,749
Canada	45	1,741	4,460,154	104,386	4,598,548	6,751,442²	11,454,376
1954							
Quebec	31	708	1,492,546	45,292	2,278,244	2,442,308	4,724,585
Ontario	13	884	2,645,904	70,506	2,142,682	3,807,030	6,035,274
Canada	44	1,592	4,138,450	115,798	4,420,926	6,249,338	10,759,859

1. Commencing with 1952 gross value of production has been replaced by value of factory shipments.

2. Because of insufficient inventory data in 1952 and 1953, these figures have been calculated from value of factory shipments and are, therefore, only approximations to true value added by manufacture.

TABLE 2. Comparison of Principal Statistics, 1953 and 1954

Item	1953	1954	+ Increase - Decrease
Establishments reporting	No. 45	44	- 1
Employees on salaries:			
Total	No. 357	345	- 12
Male	" 216	208	- 8
Female	" 141	137	- 4
Total salaries	\$ 1,357,388	1,395,629	+ 38,241
Employees on wages:			
Total (monthly average)	No. 1,384	1,247	- 137
Male	" 606	576	- 30
Female	" 778	671	- 107
Total wages	\$ 3,102,766	2,742,821	- 359,945
Cost of fuel and electricity	\$ 104,386	115,798	+ 11,412
Cost of materials used	\$ 4,598,548	4,420,926	- 177,622
Value of factory shipments	\$ 11,454,376	10,759,859	- 694,517

Note. 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 3. Inventories¹, 1954

	Raw materials and supplies	Goods in process	Finished goods of own manufacture	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Opening:				
Quebec	503,366	116,155	239,523	859,044
Ontario	956,281	739,759	1,241,103	2,937,143
Canada	1,459,647	855,914	1,480,626	3,796,187
Closing:				
Quebec	460,831	156,992	280,782	898,605
Ontario	1,034,502	662,978	1,226,047	2,923,527
Canada	1,495,333	819,970	1,506,829	3,822,132

1. Book value of all manufacturing inventories held at plant and plant warehouses.

TABLE 4. Factory Shipments, 1953 and 1954

Products	1953		1954	
	Quantity	Selling value at factory	Quantity	Selling value at factory
	Gross	\$	Gross	\$
Buttons:				
Moulded (including moulded plastic)	4,126,605	1,607,494	3,770,946	1,329,427
Pearl and fresh water pearl	137,990	205,785	75,553	134,283
Metal	564,256	445,619	331,684	254,633
Covered	2	2	83,941	136,733
Celluloid	70,439	327,312	51,260	223,382
Plastic, other	815,598	983,355	942,990	928,333
All other (vegetable ivory, etc.)	-	305,629	-	297,431
Buckles, all kinds	-	144,275	-	171,625
Fasteners, zipper	-	6,379,123	-	6,390,352
Fasteners, other	-	1	-	1
Clips and other ornaments	-	277,830	-	160,055
All other products	-	777,954	-	733,605
Total value of products	-	11,454,376	-	10,759,859

1. Included with "All other products".

2. Included with "All other (vegetable ivory, etc.)".

Note. The above table includes only the statistics of those manufacturing establishments whose principal products are buttons, buckles and fasteners. The figures do not necessarily represent Canadian totals as these commodities are also made as secondary products by firms in other industries. For total figures reference should be made to the alphabetical list of products published annually in the report "General Review of the Manufacturing Industries".

TABLE 5. Materials Used, 1933 and 1934

Materials	1933		1934	
	Quantity	Cost at factory	Quantity	Cost at factory
		\$		\$
Pearl, shell	lb. 1	1	18,187	17,716
Vegetable ivory nuts	" 1	1	1	1
Celluloid	" 80,909	95,550	56,710	65,073
Plexiglas and lucite	sq. ft. 3,967	6,254	5,099	8,239
Plastic materials, other (artificial horn, galalith, lactoid, moulding powder, casein, bakelite, catalin)	lb. 1,524,366	537,472	1,314,803	502,407
Button and buckle blanks	-	312,419	-	235,863
Button backs and parts	-	324,189	-	223,233
All other materials	-	3,193,020	-	3,248,011
Containers and shipping materials	-	129,644	-	120,384
Total cost of materials used	-	4,598,548	-	4,420,926

1. Less than 3 establishments reporting, included under "All other materials".

TABLE 6. Imports of Buttons, Buckles and Fasteners, 1933 and 1934

Items	1933		1934	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	Gross	\$	Gross	\$
Button blanks of animal shells, in the rough	-	13,835	-	3,698
Buttons and button blanks other than in the rough, of vegetable ivory	-	261	-	506
Buttons, collar and cuff	15,790	218,511	9,716	268,026
Buttons of all kinds, covered or not, n.o.p., including recognition buttons, and button blanks other than in the rough	1,553,178	1,059,928	1,612,034	1,095,998
Buckles, clasps, eyelets, hooks and eyes, dome, snap, or other fasteners, of iron, steel, brass or other metal, coated or not n.o.p. (not being jewellery)	-	1,146,848	-	1,141,444
Metal parts for the manufacture of covered buttons	-	130,551	-	86,704
Slide, hookless and zipper fasteners	-	113,150	-	85,116

TABLE 7. Exports of Buttons, Buckles and Fasteners, 1933 and 1934

Items	1933	1934
	Value	Value
	\$	\$
Buckles and slide or hookless fasteners of all kinds	175,128	53,375
Buttons	69,618	67,688

TABLE 8. Employees by Sex and Remuneration, 1953 and 1954

		1953	1954
Salaried employees:			
Total.....	No.	357	345
Male.....	"	216	208
Female.....	"	141	137
Total salaries.....	\$	1,357,388	1,395,629
Wage-earners:			
Total (monthly average).....	No.	1,384	1,247
Male.....	"	606	576
Female.....	"	778	671
Total wages.....	\$	3,102,766	2,742,821
All employees:			
Total.....	No.	1,741	1,592
Male.....	"	822	784
Female.....	"	919	808
Total salaries and wages.....	\$	4,460,154	4,138,450

TABLE 9. Monthly Employment of Wage-earners, 1952-1954

Months	1952			1953			1954		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Number									
January.....	556	707	1,263	623	818	1,441	582	670	1,252
February.....	563	725	1,288	631	803	1,434	574	673	1,247
March.....	585	712	1,297	641	850	1,491	565	663	1,228
April.....	580	772	1,352	620	840	1,460	573	687	1,260
May.....	564	792	1,356	603	823	1,426	578	703	1,281
June.....	556	752	1,308	608	780	1,388	583	677	1,260
July.....	562	777	1,339	604	764	1,368	578	696	1,274
August.....	575	817	1,392	598	733	1,331	590	697	1,287
September.....	602	840	1,442	603	766	1,369	591	718	1,309
October.....	601	820	1,421	583	745	1,328	593	674	1,267
November.....	617	823	1,440	589	725	1,314	558	621	1,179
December.....	614	790	1,404	570	697	1,267	545	599	1,144
Monthly average.....	583	778	1,361	606	778	1,384	576	671	1,247

TABLE 10. Principal Statistics of the Button, Buckle and Fastener Industry, Grouped According to the Size of Establishments, 1953 and 1954

Establishments with factory shipments of	Estab-lish-ments	Employees	Salaries and wages	Cost of materials used	Value of Factory Shipments
	No.	No.	\$	\$	\$
1953					
Under \$25,000.....	6	15	25,922	41,871	84,054
\$25,000 to \$49,999.....	5	52	94,061	81,314	209,087
\$50,000 to \$99,999.....	11	152	277,236	416,585	834,605
\$100,000 to \$199,999.....	11	237	464,407	869,401	1,664,476
\$200,000 to \$499,999.....	7	319	683,379	926,925	2,111,051
\$500,000 to \$999,999.....	4	966	2,915,149	2,262,452	6,551,103
\$1,000,000 and over.....	1				
Total.....	45	1,741	4,460,154	4,598,548	11,454,376
1954					
Under \$25,000.....	7	20	33,895	36,327	85,423
\$25,000 to \$49,999.....	6	62	94,360	83,806	218,596
\$50,000 to \$99,999.....	8	96	187,645	275,020	557,674
\$100,000 to \$199,999.....	11	206	388,701	797,421	1,479,405
\$200,000 to \$499,999.....	8	366	836,521	1,028,622	2,464,232
\$500,000 to \$999,999.....	3	842	2,597,328	2,199,730	5,954,529
\$1,000,000 and over.....	1				
Total.....	44	1,592	4,138,450	4,420,926	10,759,859

APPENDIX

List of Firms Manufacturing Buttons, Buckles and Fasteners in Canada, 1954

Name	Address	Main products
Quebec:		
Acme Slide Fastener Co. Ltd.	1740 St. Antoine St., Montreal	F
Alnor Button Co.	400 Ontario St W., Montreal	B, OP
B. and L. Brothers Co.	278 rue St. Jean, Longueuil	B
Berkeley Novelty Co.	1435 St. Alexander St., Montreal	B
Buttons and Ornaments Reg'd.	151 LaGauchetière St. W., Montreal	B
Buttoncraft	1449 St. Alexander St., Montreal	B, OP
Canadian Buttons Limited	1350 St. Antoine St., Montreal	B
Canadian Spangle Mfg. Co. Inc.	1590 Sanguinet St., Montreal	OP
Corona Slide Fastener Inc.	282 Ontario St. W., Montreal	OP
Clix Fastener Corporation	425 River St., Verdun	F, OP
Dubarry Ornament Co.	1449 St. Alexander St., Montreal	OP
The Export Corporation (of Canada) Ltd.	282 Ontario St. W., Montreal	F
Fashion Ladies Belts	2010 City Councillors, Montreal	G
Fashler Fastener Co.	1485 Bleury St., Montreal	F
Gibson, Samuel, Inc.	420 LaGauchetière St. W., Montreal	B, G, OP
Ginn Brothers, Ltd.	280 Regina Ave., Verdun	B, G,
Herman Button & Ornaments Inc.	116 St. Paul St. West, Montreal	B
Holtite Fastener Co.	5530 Casgrain Ave., Montreal	F
Ideal Button Company	4600 St. Lawrence Blvd., Montreal	B, OP
Jet Fastener Corp.	363 Lemoyne St., Montreal	F
Jiffy Join Inc.	762 St. Paul St. West, Montreal	OP
Mock Molding Ltd.	33 Taylor St., Waterloo	B
Montreal Ornament & Button Mfg. Co.	2052 St. Lawrence Blvd., Montreal	G
Rapid Belt Co. Ltd.	486 St. Catherine St. W., Montreal	B, G, OP
Rojac Novelty Products Inc.	371 Dowd St., Montreal	B, OP
H. Shiller Inc.	460 St. Catherine St. W., Montreal	B, OP
Shur-Lok Zipper Co. of Canada	460 St. Catherine St. W., Montreal	F
Star Fasteners of Canada Ltd.	5530 Casgrain St., Montreal	F
Stein Button Company	745 St. Maurice St., Montreal	B
Tabb Button Co. Ltd.	1440 Bleury St., Montreal	B
Trek Manufacturing Co. of Canada Ltd.	363 Lemoyne St., Montreal	F
Ontario:		
American Trimming Co. Ltd.	460 Richmond St. W., Toronto	F
Button Sales Limited	133 Niagara St., Toronto	B, G
Capital Ornament Co. Ltd.	104 Spadina Ave., Toronto	B, G
Dominion Button Manufacturers Ltd.	57 Water St. North, Kitchener	B, F
Excel Jewellery Ltd.	204 Spadina Ave., Toronto	B
Famous Button Company	18 Haymarket St., Hamilton	B, G
Flash Fasteners of Canada, Ltd.	300 Lake Shore Rd., Toronto	F
Kitchener Button Industries Ltd.	70 Victoria St. N., Kitchener	B
Lightning Fastener Co. Ltd.	50 Niagara St., St. Catharines	F, OP
Majestic Button & Ornament Co.	363 Adelaide St. W., Toronto	B
The Mitchell Button Co. Ltd.	97 Victoria St. N., Kitchener	B, OP
Royal Button Co.	108 King St. W., Kitchener	OP
Universal Button Fastening & Button Company of Canada, Ltd.	1076 Walker Road, Walkerville	B, F, G, OP

Note. Code for products made: B-Buttons; F-Fasteners; G-Buckles; OP-Other products.

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