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CENSUS OF INDUSTRY - FORESTRY PRODUCTS BRANCH

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Dominion Statistician: R. H. Coats, B.A., F.S.S.(Hon.), F.R.S.C.
Forest Products' Statistics: R. G. Lewis, B. Sc.F.

THE EXCELSIOR INDUSTRY, 1925.

Ottawa, February 1927.- A report on the manufacture of excelsior and wood wool in Canada during the calendar year 1925 has been issued by the Forest Products Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This report shows the production of these commodities in eight establishments of which five were located in Ontario and one each in Manitoba, Nova Scotia and Quebec. These mills were engaged primarily in the manufacture of excelsior or wood wool and their production represents practically all of this material made in Canada. There are a few cases where saw-mills, planing mills and other wood-working factories manufacture excelsior as a side line or a by-product when market conditions are favorable, and this production is not always shown on their annual reports to the Census of Industry.

There was a total of \$174,066 invested in the industry in 1925. It gave employment to eight salaried employees and an average of forty-two men and seven women throughout the year, on wages. The total payroll in 1925 amounted to \$44,287.

Poplar and basswood in the form of logs or bolts form the chief raw material used in the industry being purchased by the cord or M. ft.B.M.. Where quantities were reported in M. ft. they have been converted into cords by allowing 500 feet B.M. to the cord.

Excelsior is used in packing fragile commodities of all kinds and in upholstering. It is also used in the manufacture of cheap mattresses.

The use of poplar in this industry is important from a forestry standpoint as it provides a market for what is in many places in Canada, a tree wood. As the supply of poplar is more than sufficient to provide for its present uses the development of this industry depends entirely on market conditions.

The following tables give the statistics of the industry in detail.

EXCELSIOR MANUFACTURE, 1924 and 1925

Table 1.- Principal Statistics, 1924 - 1925.

| Items | Unit | 1924 | 1925 |
|-----------------------|------|---------|---------|
| Establishments | No. | 10 | 8 |
| Capital invested | \$ | 175,888 | 174,066 |
| Employees on salaries | No. | 8 | 8 |
| Salaries paid | \$ | 9,064 | 7,198 |
| Employees on wages | No. | 58 | 49 |
| Wages paid | \$ | 37,353 | 37,089 |
| Fuel Used | \$ | 1,984 | 1,764 |
| Power employed | H.P. | 661 | 415 |
| Cost of materials | \$ | 43,396 | 37,630 |
| Value of products | \$ | 106,971 | 114,621 |

THE EXCELSIOR INDUSTRY 1924 and 1925.

Table 2.- Distribution of establishments, by provinces, 1924 and 1925.

| Provinces | 1924 | 1925 |
|------------------|------|------|
| | No. | No. |
| CANADA | 10 | 8 |
| Ontario | 5 | 5 |
| British Columbia | - | - |
| Nova Scotia | 1 | 1 |
| Quebec | 1 | 1 |
| Alberta | - | - |
| New Brunswick | 1 | - |
| Manitoba | 2 | 1 |

Table 3.- Capital Invested, 1924 and 1925.

| Items | 1924 | 1925 |
|---|---------|---------|
| | \$ | \$ |
| TOTAL | 175,888 | 174,066 |
| Land, buildings, fixtures and machinery | 33,345 | 143,004 |
| Materials, stocks in process, etc. | 30,994 | 21,141 |
| Cash, trading and operating accts. etc. | 11,549 | 9,921 |

Table 4.- Materials Used, 1924 and 1925.

| Materials | Quantity | | Value | |
|-----------------|----------|-------|--------|--------|
| | 1924 | 1925 | 1924 | 1925 |
| | cords | cords | \$ | \$ |
| Logs and bolts | 4,019 | 2,702 | 33,589 | 27,187 |
| Other materials | - | - | 9,807 | 10,443 |
| TOTAL | - | - | 43,396 | 37,630 |

Table 5.- Products Manufactured, 1924 and 1925

| Products | Quantity | | Value | |
|--------------------------------|----------|-------|---------|---------|
| | 1924 | 1925 | 1924 | 1925 |
| | No. | No. | \$ | \$ |
| TOTAL | 3,652 | 2,411 | 106,971 | 114,621 |
| Excelsior and wood wool | 3,452 | 2,411 | 88,021 | 57,743 |
| Mats, pads and bottle wrappers | - | - | - | 56,878 |
| Sash, doors and other millwork | - | - | 9,000 | - |
| Hardwood flooring | 60 | - | 3,000 | - |
| All other matched lumber | 100 | - | 4,000 | - |
| All other planed lumber | 40 | - | 2,000 | - |
| All other wooden products | - | - | 950 | - |

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