

Uncle Sam Makes a Census of Soap

THE Department of Commerce announces that, according to data collected at the biennial census of manufactures taken in 1926, the establishments engaged primarily in the manufacture of soap (hard, soft, powdered, liquid, etc.), including the soap departments of large slaughtering and meat-packing establishments, reported, for 1925, a total output valued at \$270,273,107, of which amount \$229,948,291 was contributed by soap and \$40,324,816 by other products, such as glycerin, perfumery, toilet preparations, etc. The production of soap shows an increase of 2.3 per cent in value as compared with \$224,690,560 for 1923, the last preceding census year.

The items which make up the total of \$229,948,291 for soap made in 1925 are as follows: Hard soaps, 2,018,568,000 pounds, valued at \$182,714,092; granulated and powdered soap, 142,322,000 pounds, valued at \$15,789,485; soap powder, 398,947,000 pounds, valued at \$19,-

400,311; special soap articles valued at \$6,709,567; liquid, paste, and soft soaps, and soap stock or soap base, valued at \$5,334,836.

Of the 266 establishments reporting for 1925, 33 were located in Pennsylvania, 32 in New York, 30 in California, 28 in Illinois, 25 in Ohio, 24 in Massachusetts, 15 in New Jersey, 10 in Wisconsin, 9 in Rhode Island, and the remaining 60 in 19 other States. In 1923 the industry was represented by 270 establishments, the decrease to 266 in 1925 being the net result of a loss of 50 and a gain of 46. Of the 50 establishments lost to the industry, 39 had gone out of business prior to the beginning of 1925, 6 were idle during the entire year, and 5 reported commodities other than soap as their principal products and were therefore transferred to the appropriate industries.

Summary statistics for the industry are given in Table 1 below; and statistics of products by class, quantity, and value are presented in Table 2 on the page following.

TABLE 1. SUMMARY FOR THE INDUSTRY, 1925 AND 1923

	1925	1923	% increase or decrease (—)
Number of establishments.....	266	270	—1.5
Wage earners (average number) ¹	14,926	17,002	—12.2
Maximum, month	Nov. 15,359	Mar. 17,691	—
Minimum, month	July 14,552	July 16,230	—
Per cent of maximum.....	94.7	91.7	—
Wages ²	\$18,026,854	\$20,776,443	—13.2
Cost of materials (including fuel, electric power and containers) ² .	180,373,537	173,545,981	3.9
Products, total value ²	270,273,107	276,402,838	—2.2
Soap	229,948,291	224,690,560	2.3
Other products	40,324,816	³ 51,712,278	—22.0
Value added by manufacture	89,899,570	102,856,857	—12.6
Horsepower	54,677	74,820	—26.9

¹Not including salaried employees.

²The amount of manufacturers' profits can not be calculated from the census figures, for the reason that no data are collected in regard to a number of items of expense, such as interest, rent, depreciation, taxes, insurance and advertising.

³The value of "Other products" shows for 1923 is not strictly comparable with that for 1925 because of changes in the classification of certain establishments.

⁴Value of products less cost of materials.

TABLE II. PRODUCTS BY CLASS, QUANTITY AND VALUE, 1925 AND 1923

Total value	1925 (¹)	1923 \$281,294,774
The soap industry, all products,..... val.	\$270,273,107	\$276,402,838
Other industries, subsidiary soap products. . val.	(¹)	\$4,891,936
Soaps	\$229,948,291	\$229,582,496
Hard soaps	2,018,568,000	2,000,340,000
Hard soaps	\$182,714,092	\$179,924,316
Toilet soaps	257,554,000	240,144,000
Toilet soaps	\$46,643,664	\$53,098,527
Laundry soap, white	755,550,000	.....
Laundry soap, white	\$49,981,459	.....
Laundry soap, yellow	613,395,000	1,082,626,000
Laundry soap, yellow	\$42,755,099	\$66,425,243
Foots soap	11,903,000	.....
Foots soap	\$1,044,104	.....
Soap chips, in packages.....	183,386,000	.....
Soap chips, in packages.....	\$24,219,085	218,754,000
Soap chips, in barrels.....	139,366,000	\$25,373,176
Soap chips, in barrels.....	\$11,837,060	.....
Other hard soaps	57,414,000	458,816,000
Other hard soaps	\$6,233,621	\$35,027,370
Granulated and powdered soap—		
In packages	89,224,000	.....
In packages	\$10,681,483	.....
In barrels or bulk	53,098,000	655,061,000
In barrels or bulk	\$5,108,002	\$39,799,073
Soap powder, including cleansing, scouring and washing powders	398,947,000	.....
Soal powder, including cleansing, scouring and washing powders	\$19,400,311	.....
Special soap articles	\$6,709,567	\$1,600,242
Liquid soap	10,707,000	17,879,000
Liquid soap	\$1,039,325	\$1,666,495
Paste soap	26,755,000	40,584,000
Paste soap	\$1,942,685	\$3,670,198
Soft soap	52,397,000	67,752,000
Soft soap	\$2,077,080	\$2,465,114
Soap stock or soap base, for sale as such, lbs.	5,382,000	7,554,000
Soap stock or soap base, for sale as such, val.	\$275,746	\$457,058
Other products ²	\$40,324,816	³ \$51,712,278
Glycerin, crude (for sale).....	25,842,000	23,459,000
Glycerin, crude (for sale).....	\$3,518,471	\$2,694,894
Glycerin, refined (for sale).....	72,597,000	54,418,000
Glycerin, refined (for sale).....	\$13,091,685	\$8,553,765
Stearin	7,801,000	4,340,000
Stearin	\$934,645	\$525,489
Candle pitch, tar or stearin pitch.....	7,813,000	5,802,000
Candle pitch, tar or stearin pitch.....	\$226,734	\$142,863
Red oil (commercial oleic acid).....	2,180,000	1,390,728
Red Oil (commercial oleic acid).....	\$1,535,037	\$744,777
All other products	\$21,018,244	\$39,050,497

¹Data not yet available.²Production in the soap industry only.³See note ² ante.