

The lightness and ductility of the metal, and the fact that it is not readily attacked by organic acids, air or water, together with its capacity for transmitting heat readily, soon brought it into favour as a material for kitchen utensils, and in this connection it has become well known. Large quantities of aluminium wire are now used for electric transmission lines and quantities are used in the manufacture of such apparatus as cream separator parts and other light machinery. Alloyed with magnesium, it possesses great tensile strength and finds extensive use. Aluminium bronzes, too, are widely used, and during the war great quantities were utilized in the manufacture of aeroplane engines and parts.

An encouraging outlook for the electrical apparatus group is indicated by recent employment returns. About 100 plants were engaged during 1922 in manufacturing generators, motors, batteries, telephone and telegraph equipment, copper wires and cables, electric lamps, meters, vacuum cleaners and electrical fixtures of all kinds, of a total value of \$41,208,000. The development of cheap electrical power has done much to popularize the use of electrical equipment, and the future demand for such apparatus will probably only be limited by the development of adequate power.

Another industry of some importance consisted of 83 firms engaged principally in the rolling, casting and manufacturing of brass and copper, the principal products being castings and machinery fittings, brass steam fittings, plates and sheets, rods and wire cloth. The selling value of the products was \$12,254,000, while the materials were worth \$5,106,000.

Non-metallic Minerals.—The gradual recovery in business conditions since 1921 is demonstrated by developments in the non-metallic mineral group. The recent expansion is accentuated by the growth of the petroleum-refining industry, which in 1922 produced more than half of the gross value of the entire production of the group. The 13 plants were located with a view to the economy of distribution, based on the greatest accessibility to the source of supply and the proximity of the markets. The refineries on the eastern and western coasts obtain their crude petroleum from South America, Mexico and the United States by tank steamers, bringing transportation costs to a minimum. Those situated in the central part of the Dominion are necessarily supplied by rail or pipeline. The more general use of the automobile has resulted in a continually expanding demand for gasoline and lubricating oils. The installation of oil-using equipment in industrial plants for generating power and in buildings of various kinds for heating purposes, has also accelerated the consumption of fuel oil.

The illuminating and fuel gas industry of Canada is chiefly centred in the larger cities, especially in parts of the country where manufacturing predominates. Coal gas and carburetted water gas are the most important products, but pintsch gas is made at many divisional points along the railways to meet the demand for lighting purposes on passenger trains. Acetylene gas is used in several prairie towns where the size of the municipality is not sufficient to warrant a gas plant. The facility with which by-products such as coke, tar and light oils are turned out in connection with large scale production, becomes an incentive to plant expansion, providing that a demand is assured by increasing population and industrial development in the vicinity. The burning of coke in the house furnace, the necessity of enriching the soils with available nitrates, the large increase of refrigerating operations, and the extended use of tar and tar products, have prompted the larger plants to increase their output. A few plants established in