

2.—Central Electric Stations.

The development of the central electric power industry was greatly stimulated during the war by the urgent need of power for the manufacture of war munitions. In Table 4 will be found statistics of the number of central electric stations, capital invested, revenue from sale of power, total horse power, kilowatt hours generated and number of subscribers for the ten years ended 1926, together with the number of persons employed and the amount expended for salaries and wages. According to a table in the Commerce Year Book of the United States for 1926, the output of electric current in Canada in 1925 was the third largest in the world, ranking next to the United States and Germany. Canada's output in 1926 was larger than that of Germany in 1925.

4.—Summary Statistics of Central Electric Stations, calendar years 1917-1926.

Years.	Number of stations. ¹	Capital invested.	Revenue from sale of power. ²	Total horse power. ³	Kilowatt hours generated.	Subscribers.	Persons employed.	Salaries and wages.
		\$	\$	h.p.	(000)	No.	No.	\$
1917.....	666	356,004,168	-	1,844,571	-	-	8,847	7,777,715
1918.....	795	401,942,402	43,908,085	1,841,114	-	-	9,696	10,354,242
1919.....	805	416,512,010	47,933,490	1,907,135	5,497,204	-	9,656	11,487,132
1920.....	506	448,273,642	53,436,082	1,887,024	5,894,867	894,153	10,693	14,626,709
1921.....	510	484,669,451	58,271,622	1,977,857	5,614,132	973,212	10,714	15,234,678
1922.....	522	568,068,752	62,173,179	2,258,398	6,740,750	1,033,545	10,684	14,495,250
1923.....	532	581,780,611	67,496,893	2,423,845	8,099,192	1,112,547	11,094	14,784,038
1924.....	532	628,565,093	74,616,863	2,849,450	9,315,277	1,203,850	12,956	17,946,584
1925.....	563	726,721,087	79,341,584	3,569,527	10,110,459	1,279,731	13,263	18,755,907
1926.....	595	756,230,066	88,822,733	3,769,323	12,093,445	1,337,562	13,406	19,943,000

¹ Excluding non-generating stations in 1920 and subsequent years. ² Revised to exclude duplications.

³ Not including auxiliary plant equipment which is included in installation shown in central electric stations under Manufactures on p. 425.

Equipment of Central Electric Stations.—The primary power equipment of all central electric stations aggregated 3,769,323 h.p. in 1926. This included water wheels and turbines, steam reciprocating engines and turbines and internal combustion engines. The hydraulic power machines greatly predominated over the other prime movers, providing 95.8 p.c. of the total capacity, with steam turbines, steam reciprocating engines and internal combustion engines making up the remaining 4.2 p.c. Not included in the above were steam engines and internal combustion engines, with a capacity of 176,865 h.p. or 4.5 p.c. of the total power capacity, installed as auxiliary or standby equipment.

Central electric stations that have no water power, but are operated by steam and internal combustion engines, are on the whole small stations. Of the 151 steam reciprocating engines installed in central electric stations in 1926, only 18 in number, or about 12 p.c., were over 500 h.p. The steam turbines averaged over 2,000 h.p., with 6 units averaging 7,000 h.p., but there were only 47 steam turbines in the industry and these were confined to 24 stations, whereas the 730 water wheels and turbines averaged over 4,900 h.p.

The majority of the fuel-using stations are primarily for lighting purposes, using the cheapest fuel procurable, generally local coal. In the Prairie Provinces lignite coal is used for the steam engines, and gasolene, oil distillates and producer gas for the internal combustion engines.

Of the 341 internal combustion engines in central electric stations in 1926, 205, or 60 p.c., were in Saskatchewan, 69 in Alberta and 18 in Manitoba.

During 1926 the fuel stations produced 173,600,000 kilowatt hours at a cost for fuel of \$1,736,289, an average of 1.0 ct. per kilowatt hour. This production