

The assets and liabilities of the Commission, as reported for the year ended Oct. 31, 1926, are each given as \$204,911,876. Advances to the Commission by the Provincial Treasurer constitute over 63 p.c. of the liabilities, being \$130,237,183, while debentures issued total \$16,388,873, and debentures assumed by the Commission and guaranteed by the province, \$24,309,851, reserves \$20,993,899 and liabilities in respect of radial railway undertakings, the only other large liability, \$9,725,851. Of the assets, the sum of \$155,769,666 represents investments in the Niagara system; \$10,298,678 are assets in respect of railway undertakings, and about \$20,000,000 is invested in the various systems operated other than the Niagara system.

In Table 10 will be found the financial statistics of the electrical installations of the municipalities served by the Hydro-Electric Commission for the four years 1923 to 1926. A very rapid growth will be noticed, total earnings, for example, increasing 31.7 p.c. between 1923 and 1926.

10.—Statement of Earnings and Operating Expenses of Electric Departments of Municipalities served by the Ontario Hydro-Electric Commission for the calendar years 1923-1926.

Items.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
Number of municipalities.....	223	241	244	249
Earnings—				
Domestic Light.....	\$ 5,166,452	\$ 5,993,231	\$ 6,723,539	\$ 7,660,191
Commercial Light.....	3,260,773	3,566,227	3,901,220	4,225,960
Power.....	5,827,686	6,232,866	6,658,974	6,868,006
Power, Municipal.....	1,161,599	1,352,966	1,823,093	1,922,512
Street Light.....	1,269,604	1,356,869	1,441,770	1,492,385
Rural.....	116,639	75,100	37,975	37,811
Miscellaneous.....	316,311	231,664	288,041	471,134
Total Earnings.....	17,219,044	18,798,723	20,974,611	23,677,999
Expenses—				
Power purchased.....	8,699,027	9,669,789	11,216,798	12,326,255
Sub-Station Operation.....	474,442	430,056	417,922	463,905
Maintenance.....	133,816	202,050	222,097	286,520
Dist. System, Operation and Maintenance.....	636,477	648,701	695,832	803,314
Line Transformers, Maintenance.....	75,920	82,937	80,709	80,317
Meters.....	139,105	141,231	161,576	196,521
Consumers' Premises—Expenses.....	218,682	237,316	277,129	296,846
Street Light System, Operation and Maintenance.....	299,579	269,973	278,423	299,582
Promotion of Business.....	184,371	202,061	225,221	243,763
Billing and Collecting.....	444,307	490,273	552,121	588,712
General Office, Salaries and Expenses.....	937,463	859,908	925,844	823,783
Undistributed expenses.....	359,207	494,079	533,427	468,582
Interest and Debenture Payments.....	2,606,112	2,902,790	3,300,652	3,468,121
Total Expenses.....	15,298,508	16,661,164	18,887,750	20,343,231
Surplus.....	2,010,536	2,137,560	2,086,862	2,334,768
Depreciation Charge.....	916,783	973,650	1,079,618	1,157,579
Surplus less Depreciation Charge.....	1,093,753	1,163,910	1,007,243	1,177,189

Statistics of the assets and liabilities of the electric departments of the municipalities served by the Hydro-Electric Commission are given in Table 11. These show total assets of \$82,739,409 in 1926, as compared with liabilities of \$43,972,739. Of the difference, \$18,355,161 is allotted as reserves, leaving a surplus of \$20,539,395. The above assets are exclusive of the assets of the Hydro-Electric Commission shown above. The percentage of net debt to total assets has declined from 64.9 in 1923 to 55.5 in 1926.