

A total of 122 plants was engaged during 1925 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 \$60,158,837. The development of cheap electric 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 91 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 \$19,155,309, while the materials were worth \$10,147,373.

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 1925 produced over 35 p.c. of the gross value of the entire production of the group. The 21 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 coast 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 increased 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 nitrates, the increase of refrigerating operations and the extended use of tar and tar products have prompted the larger plants to increase their output. The industry is also intimately connected with the iron and steel industry or dependent upon the demand of the non-ferrous smelting plants. Coke plants are maintained at Sydney, Hamilton and Sault Ste. Marie by the three principal iron and steel companies, and by the International Coal and Coke Co., the Crow's Nest Pass Co. and the Granby Consolidated Mining, Smelting and Power Co.

Other industries of a varied nature included in this group are the manufacture of asbestos products, the glass industry, the manufacture of abrasives, the preparation of ornamental and monumental stone, the bottling of aerated waters and the manufacture of various clay products and cement.