

the past fourteen years, from 505,597 to 1,499,872 (Table 24); the lesser increase in the gas meters in use from 267,454 in 1916 to 612,120 in 1929 (Table 25); and the number of cubic feet of gas sold in Canada from 1920 to 1929, classified as carburetted water gas, coal gas, coke oven gas, natural gas and acetylene gas (Table 26).

24.—Number of Electricity Meters in Use, fiscal years ended Mar. 31, 1915-1929.

Fiscal Years.	Number.	Fiscal Years.	Number.
1915.....	505,597	1923.....	1,046,831
1916.....	517,629	1924.....	1,094,639
1917.....	594,737	1925.....	1,165,664
1918.....	661,403	1926.....	1,240,752
1919.....	717,776	1927.....	1,314,428
1920.....	743,468	1928.....	1,412,521
1921.....	860,379	1929.....	1,499,872
1922.....	945,599		

25.—Number of Gas Meters in Use, fiscal years ended Mar. 31, 1916-1929.

Fiscal Years.	Manufactured Gas.	Natural Gas.	Acetylene Gas.	Total.
	No.	No.	No.	No.
1916.....	199,514	67,940	-	267,454
1917.....	314,915	55,697	-	370,612
1918.....	325,244	88,795	-	414,039
1919.....	336,388	91,056	-	427,444
1920.....	350,777	85,004	513	436,294
1921.....	361,479	98,494	577	460,550
1922.....	366,840	101,785	430	469,055
1923.....	379,459	102,007	438	481,904
1924.....	390,548	105,804	425	496,777
1925.....	405,471	106,861	404	512,736
1926.....	443,067	85,752	425	529,244
1927.....	462,496	90,302	358	553,156
1928.....	482,076	98,915	357	581,348
1929.....	504,500	107,504	116	612,120

26.—Number of Cubic Feet of Gas Sold in Canada, fiscal years ended Mar. 31, 1920-29.

Fiscal Years.	Carburetted Water Gas.	Coal Gas.	Coke Oven Gas.	Natural Gas.	Acetylene Gas.	Total.
	cu. ft.	cu. ft.	cu. ft.	cu. ft.	cu. ft.	cu. ft.
1920.....	4,487,511,639	6,787,370,045	-	17,117,100,328	1,669,650	28,393,651,662
1921.....	5,331,442,415	7,096,221,745	-	-	-	-
1922.....	4,668,391,857	8,433,860,903	-	11,289,592,401	1,005,000	24,392,850,161
1923.....	6,632,961,609	7,637,113,997	132,000	12,238,836,883	1,165,395	26,510,207,884
1924.....	5,214,843,290	8,042,882,100	3,188,600	14,866,618,700	1,194,059	28,128,726,149
1925.....	5,254,802,700	7,824,192,540	91,628,300	10,525,604,563	1,266,109	23,697,494,212
1926.....	4,835,613,326	8,149,894,391	1,449,794,500	13,004,469,776	1,210,894	27,440,982,887
1927.....	5,804,503,468	8,405,556,329	1,049,978,000	17,863,365,700	1,247,108	33,124,650,905
1928.....	6,883,634,603	7,488,964,653	1,680,237,100	20,365,048,768	1,325,510	36,419,210,634
1929.....	4,550,828,600	6,273,274,533	6,097,920,366	25,491,446,000	647,168	42,414,116,667

Section 7.—Census of Wholesale and Retail Trading Establishments.

The distribution of commodities, through the operation of wholesale and retail trading establishments, is generally recognized as the least thoroughly explored department of the economic life of those nations whose advanced civilizations and