

Rural Electrical Service in Ontario.—During the past few years substantial progress has been made in Ontario in the field of rural electrification and the Commission's rural operations are now an important feature of its work. Towards this rural work the Ontario Government, pursuant to its policy of promoting the basic industry of agriculture, contributes, in the form of "grants-in-aid", 50 p.c. of the initial capital cost of distribution lines and equipment. Rural extensions are now being made at the rate of about 1,900 miles per year. Below will be found statistics relating to rural electrical distribution systems operated by the Hydro-Electric Power Commission.

15.—Statistics Relating to Electrical Service in Rural Power Districts Operated by the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario, years ended Oct. 31, 1925-1929.

Item.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
No. of rural power districts.....	—	—	120	131	141
No. of townships served.....	—	—	211	233	266
No. of consumers.....	13,899	18,854	25,283	31,063	37,340
Miles of primary distribution lines.....	1,525	2,277	2,850	3,790	4,835
Horse-power supplied.....	5,574	7,434	13,273	16,980	21,138
Revenue from customers..... \$	566,212	748,138	1,032,558	1,342,625	1,684,455
Total expenses..... \$	476,729	604,931	880,940	1,290,500	1,496,928
Net surplus..... \$	89,483	138,202	143,618	52,125	188,527
Capital invested, totals..... \$	2,658,515	4,005,164	5,469,179	7,288,284	9,334,514
Provincial grants-in-aid, totals..... \$	1,270,507	1,985,580	2,718,727	3,628,146	4,636,195

Subsection 2.—Hydro-Electric and Power Commissions in Other Provinces.

Quebec.—The Quebec Streams Commission, originally created by 1 Geo. V, c. 5, and given additional powers by 3 Geo. V, c. 6 (*see* R.S.Q., 1925, c. 46) and by 20 Geo. V, c. 34, is authorized to ascertain the water resources of the province, to make recommendations regarding their control, and to construct certain storage dams and operate them so as to regulate the flow of streams.

The Commission has not undertaken the direct production of electric power, but has provided assistance to companies engaged in such work by a systematic collection of data on the flow of the principal rivers in the province and on the meteorological conditions prevailing, by investigation of numerous water-power sites and the determination of the longitudinal profile of a large number of rivers, but mostly by the regulation of the flow of the principal power streams, thereby increasing very materially the amount of power available. This regulation is obtained by the construction of storage dams by which water is held in large reservoirs during flood periods and is used to increase the flow at low-water periods.

The Commission has built storage reservoirs on the St. Maurice river, where the low-water flow has been increased from 6,000 second-feet to 17,000 second-feet, on the St. Francis, lake Kenogami, the Métis, the Ste. Anne de Beaupré and the North rivers.

The entire cost to the Commission of the storage works on these rivers has been about \$9,000,000 and the annual revenue now derived from them exceeds \$750,000.

Other reservoirs have been built and paid for by the benefiting companies instead of being financed by the Commission, namely:—