

Subsection 5.—Power and Fuel.

Power.—The power equipment installed in manufacturing establishments is a very good barometer of the industrial development of Canada, inasmuch as the production is dependent on the power equipment. Increases and decreases in productive capacity, measured in horse-power, are not the result of temporary fluctuations in costs and values in the same manner as capital investments, values of products, etc. Power equipment will not reflect temporary depressions, but over a period of several years will indicate industrial growth or decline.

Central electric stations, which generate electricity for both lighting and power purposes, are included in Table 30 with the other groups of industries and are included also with the industries of each province. The note with Table 30 explains the duplications in power equipment involved where other manufacturing plants are operated by power purchased from central electric stations. Internal combustion engines include all gasolene engines, natural, coal and producer gas engines, and diesel and semi-diesel or other engines which produce power by burning the fuel in the cylinder.

Comparisons with the data for 1927 show an increase of 558,664 h.p. or 9.8 p.c. in 1928 in the total primary power equipment installed in manufacturing establishments, by far the largest increase being in the central electric stations, where the increase was 468,504 h.p., there being a decrease in primary power installation in some of the other groups due to the replacement of steam equipment by electrical equipment operated by purchased power. The water-power development of central electric stations increased by 470,519 h.p., while the steam power installed was slightly reduced. In the provinces with large water-power developments the greatest total primary power increases were made, Quebec leading with an increase of 311,262 h.p., Ontario coming second with an increase of 97,375 h.p., British Columbia third with an increase of 74,144 h.p. and Manitoba fourth with an increase of 55,185 h.p. In the utilization of hydraulic power Quebec exceeded Ontario for the first time in 1925. In 1928, Quebec exceeded Ontario or any other province in the total of installed primary power from all sources.

The rapid increase in the development of power in Canada and in its utilization in manufacturing industries is illustrated by the summary figures for the years 1921 to 1928 in Table 30. The total primary power increased by 3,102,798 h.p. or 99 p.c. in the 7 years, while the total installation of electric motors increased 1,582,478 h.p. or 156 p.c. in the same time.