

26.—Number of Gas Meters in Use, fiscal years ended Mar. 31, 1916-1930.

Fiscal Year.	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	88,796	-	414,039
1919.....	336,388	91,056	-	427,444
1920.....	350,777	85,094	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	95,915	357	581,348
1929.....	504,500	107,504	116	612,120
1930.....	520,788	118,390	117	639,295

27.—Number of Cubic Feet of Gas Sold in Canada, fiscal years ended Mar. 31, 1920-30.

Fiscal Year.	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	12,238,336,583	1,165,395	26,510,207,884
1924.....	5,214,843,290	8,042,852,100	3,158,606	14,866,618,700	1,194,059	28,128,726,149
1925.....	5,254,802,760	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	1,210,394	27,440,982,887
1927.....	5,804,503,468	8,405,556,329	1,049,978,000	17,863,365,700	1,247,108	33,124,650,995
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	847,168	42,414,116,667
1930.....	4,466,996,628	5,802,653,503	8,153,473,000	31,880,844,600	847,230	50,294,814,961

Section 7.—Statistics of Wholesale and Retail Merchandising.¹

Comprehensive information regarding the distribution of commodities to the consumer is an outstanding need in the field of statistical effort at the present time. Statistics of production have helped to solve many of the problems of production, thus rendering it more efficient. We have very little information of an exact nature about wholesale and retail distribution, yet some of the most important business problems of the day are concerned with this field of activity by which goods reach the ultimate consumer from the manufacturer and producer. It is to be expected that if a comprehensive picture of the channels through which commodities are distributed and services rendered to consumers was made available, it would lead to many economies and aid in the development of more efficient distribution.

In connection with the 1931 population census there will be taken a census of merchandising and service establishments, the purpose of which will be to obtain the much needed comprehensive picture of the distribution of com-

¹ Revised by Herbert Marshall, B.A., F.S.S., Chief, Internal Trade Branch, Dominion Bureau of Statistics. For a list of the Publications of this Branch see Chapter XXVIII, Section 1 under "Internal Trade"