9.—Farm Service Furnished by Central Electric Stations in Quebec and Ontario, 1930-38.

Year.	Quebec.			Ontario.		
	Customers.	Power Consumed.	Revenue.	Customers.	Power Consumed.	Revenue.
	No.	kwh.	$	No.	kwh.	$
1930	14,541	5,062,869	334,139	19,644	21,375,070	952,886
1931	15,142	5,406,741	292,574	24,172	27,093,114	1,215,142
1932	9,940	3,130,443	189,816	24,923	31,377,643	1,386,543
1933	10,747	3,572,085	203,258	25,552	32,336,080	1,386,688
1934	10,673	3,524,179	205,259	26,605	35,465,058	1,413,587
1935	13,108	4,268,290	261,274	27,883	39,844,300	1,434,169
1936	14,903	4,663,879	276,286	30,534	46,383,997	1,444,428
1937	19,505	5,858,850	361,411	39,281	56,729,752	1,432,883
1938	22,266	6,903,638	413,853	46,096	69,563,901	1,786,341

Subsection 2.—Public Ownership of Central Electric Stations.*

When, in the early years of the twentieth century, it became evident that the development of hydro-electric power would become a 'key industry' in Canada, more especially in the coal-less central provinces of Ontario and Quebec, a strong movement arose, particularly in Ontario, in favour of conserving the water powers of the country for the public benefit instead of allowing them to pass into the hands of private corporations.

10.—Publicly Owned Central Electric Stations in Canada, 1929-38.

Year.	Power Plants.	Customers.	Electric Energy Generated.	Power Equipment.	
				Water Wheels and Turbines.	Total.
	No.	No.	'000 kwh.	h.p.	h.p.
1929	165	822,185	5,188,408	1,274,394	1,426,488
1930	166	862,158	5,156,788	1,454,014	1,658,087
1931	163	874,507	4,139,707	1,505,599	1,719,495
1932	170	881,054	3,713,841	1,610,024	1,824,010
1933	172	890,301	3,673,016	1,742,024	1,966,889
1934	171	899,617	5,136,241	1,743,074	1,963,979
1935	169	915,303	5,515,084	1,815,164	2,036,799
1936	171	938,117	6,887,057	1,944,189	2,173,030
1937	179	972,284	7,372,018	1,975,989	2,202,624
1938	183	1,014,115	6,665,837	2,013,169	2,176,793

In Ontario the population had already been settled in relation to small water powers and steam engines before hydro-electricity became commercially important. Towns scattered in the area between Toronto and Windsor were supported by widespread agricultural and manufacturing activities. Out of their needs for power arose the agitation that led to the creation, in 1906, of the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario as an instrument to bring power to them from Niagara Falls and prevent the development of this great water-power site from building up rival industrial centres at their expense.

In Quebec public ownership has not made much headway. Perhaps one reason for this is that power development there has been closely associated with the pulp and paper industry, which, owing to its rapid development and huge demand

*The information included under the provincial headings of this subsection (pp. 373-383) has been revised by the various Provincial commissions or authorities concerned.