

### Section 4.—Electricity and Gas Inspection\*

The Electricity and Gas Inspection Branch of the Department of Trade and Commerce administers three Acts: the Electricity Inspection Act (c. 22, 1928), the Gas Inspection Act (c. 82, R.S.C., 1927) and the Electricity and Fluid Exportation Act (c. 54, R.S.C., 1927).

The Gas Inspection Service was inaugurated on July 1, 1875, and the Electricity Inspection Service in 1894, at which time these two Services were merged to form the Electricity and Gas Inspection Services and constituted as a Branch of the Department of Inland Revenue.

For the purpose of administration, Canada is divided into 3 divisions and 20 districts: the total staff is 108. The nature of the work performed by these Services is entirely technical and comprises the control of all types of electricity meters and gas meters used throughout Canada, and the testing and stamping of every meter used for billing purposes, the object being to ensure the correct measurement of electricity and gas sold. Manufactured gas is also tested to determine its heating value wherever sold in Canada.

The latest report of the Branch shows 515,796 electricity and gas meters tested in the fiscal year 1941, as compared with 517,121 in the preceding year. The total revenue derived from electricity and gas inspection was \$351,091 as compared with an expenditure of \$256,251. The Branch also collected \$560,797 as export duty and licence fees under the provisions of the Electricity and Fluid Exportation Act; the cost of collecting this revenue was only \$232.

The administration of the Electricity and Fluid Exportation Act involves the receiving and consideration of applications to export electric energy, natural gas, crude oil, etc., the issuing of licences therefor, the inspection and testing of meters to measure the commodity exported and the collection of the export tax imposed. Other related statistics collected in the administration of the last-named Act will be found in the Power chapter of this volume, pp. 317-346.

\* Revised by J. L. Stiver, Director, Electricity and Gas Inspection Service, Department of Trade and Commerce.

#### 5.—Electricity Meters in Use, Fiscal Years 1915-41

Year	Number	Year	Number	Year	Number
1915.....	505,597	1924.....	1,094,639	1933.....	1,722,697
1916.....	517,629	1925.....	1,165,664	1934.....	1,720,997
1917.....	594,737	1926.....	1,240,752	1935.....	1,760,262
1918.....	661,403	1927.....	1,314,428	1936.....	1,788,522
1919.....	717,776	1928.....	1,412,521	1937.....	1,839,420
1920.....	743,468	1929.....	1,499,872	1938.....	1,905,692
1921.....	860,379	1930.....	1,582,505	1939.....	1,964,729
1922.....	945,599	1931.....	1,653,922	1940.....	2,037,563
1923.....	1,046,831	1932.....	1,704,197	1941.....	2,109,437