

Under the terms of the Precious Metals Marking Act 1946 (R.S.C. 1952, c. 215) commodities composed of gold, silver, platinum or palladium may be marked with a quality mark describing accurately the quality of the metal. Where such mark is used, a trade mark registered in Canada, or for which application for registration has been made, must also be applied. Gold-plated or silver-plated articles may also be marked under certain conditions outlined in the Act. The inspection staff of the Standards Division is engaged in the examination of advertising matter, in verifying the quality of articles offered for sale, and in checking the marks applied.

Weights and Measures.—The Weights and Measures Act (R.S.C. 1952, c. 292) prescribes the legal standards of weight and measure for use in Canada. The Act requires control of the type of all weighing and measuring devices used for commercial purposes and their periodic verification and surveillance directed towards the elimination of sales by short weight or short measure. The number of inspections made in the year ended Mar. 31, 1957, was 481,722 compared with 480,704 in 1955-56. The more important inspections comprised the following: weighing machines including scales of all kinds, 235,245; measuring machines for liquids 93,950; weights 131,101; other measures 21,426. Total expenditure was \$849,102 in 1956-57 compared with \$763,863 in 1955-56, and total revenue \$752,196 compared with \$710,206.

Electricity and Gas Inspection.—Responsibilities of the Standards Division under the Electricity Inspection Act (R.S.C. 1952, c. 94) and the Gas Inspection Act (R.S.C. 1952, c.129) comprise the testing and stamping of every electricity and gas meter used throughout Canada for billing purposes, the object being to ensure the correct measurement of all electricity and gas sold. Canada is divided into 21 districts for administration of the two Acts and staff numbers 181. During the year ended Mar. 31, 1957, 1,224,752 electricity and gas meters were tested as compared with 1,202,415 in the preceding year. Revenue derived from the testing amounted to \$931,288, and expenditure to \$834,638.

1.—Electricity and Gas Meters in Use, Years Ended Mar. 31, 1948-57

Year	Electricity Meters	Gas Meters			
		Manufactured Gas	Natural Gas	Petroleum Gas	Total
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1948.....	2,746,685	587,629	217,068	1,046	805,746 ²
1949.....	2,972,725	600,923	227,393	4,006	832,325 ²
1950 ¹	3,188,013	606,395	239,448	3,841	849,688 ²
1951.....	3,405,432	610,096	252,468	33	862,602 ²
1952.....	3,590,422	609,262	263,130	68	872,465 ²
1953.....	3,779,739	599,140	277,248	1,270	877,663 ²
1954.....	3,967,952	593,693	298,166	429	892,297 ²
1955.....	4,175,534	420,432	486,768	536	907,736
1956.....	4,380,889	416,338	507,875	3,151	927,364
1957.....	4,571,485	350,558	599,633	4,843	955,034

Newfoundland included from 1950.

Includes acetylene meters.