Quebec at the lowest rates consistent with sound financial administration. The Commission at the end of 1956 controlled, among other assets, the following hydro-electric plants:*—

Plant	River	Installed Capacity	
		h.p.	
Cedars			
Sault au Recollet			
Beauharnois	St. Lawrence	1,400,000	
Rapid VII	Upper Ottawa	64,000	
Rapid II	Upper Ottawa	48,000	
Bersimis No. 1	Bersimis	450,000	

The Commission operates a public utility system which supplies the electric light and power requirements of Metropolitan Montreal and surrounding districts, embracing a population of nearly 2,000,000. From the Cedars plant, electric energy is supplied to the Aluminum Company of America at Massena, N.Y., and through the Beauharnois Light, Heat and Power Company power is sold to The Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario. Sales involved are in the neighbourhood of 100,000 h.p. to Massena, N.Y., and 250,000 h.p. to Ontario.

15.—Growth of the Quebec Hydro System, 1947-56

Note.—Figures for the years 1935-46 will be found in the 1950 Year Book, p. 572.

Year	Municipalities Served	Customers Served -	Power Distributed	
			Total	Primary
	No.	No.	h.p.	h.p.
1947. 1948. 1949. 1950.	61 61 61 64 66	318, 984 330, 799 349, 347 368, 026 387, 218	1,127,000 1,202,000 1,233,000 1,296,000 1,312,000	980,000 1,034,000 1,119,000 1,182,000 1,312,000
952 953 954 955 956	67 67 67 65- 65	400,779 413,439 430,687 451,821r 475,504	1,620,000 1,748,000 1,700,000 1,760,000 2,061,000	1,462,000 1,625,000 1,687,000 1,725,000 1,955,000

16.—Distribution of Quebec Hydro Primary Power, by Customer Group, 1952-56

(Coincident with Montreal System peak)

System	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
	h.p.	h.p.	h.p.	h.p.	h.p.
Montreal System. Beauharnois Local System. Beauharnois 25-cycle System (Ontario Hydro) Massena System Shawinigan System Gatineau System	873,000 189,000 250,000 135,000	997,000 213,000 250,000 142,000 ^r 23,000	1,117,000 154,000 250,000 126,000 40,000	1,230,000 106,000 250,000 99,000 40,000	1,351,000 138,000 250,000 86,000 110,000 20,000
Totals	1,462,000	1,625,000	1,687,000	1,725,000	1,955,000

^{*} The Commission also purchases 135,000 h.p. from the Shawinigan Water and Power Company.