

The availability of large amounts of hydro-electric energy has greatly fostered the economical utilization of the natural products from land, forest and mine. Low-cost power is fundamental in meeting the enormous requirements of Canada's great pulp and paper and smelting and refining industries. Indeed, Canada's outstanding industrial growth in the postwar period has been made in conjunction with accelerated development of water power resources. From hydro-electric plants ranging in capacity from a few hundred to more than 1,000,000 hp., networks of transmission lines carry power to most urban centres and to an increasing number of rural districts. This wide distribution of power has facilitated the decentralization of industry, enabling manufacturing processes to be carried on in many of the smaller centres of population. Low-cost domestic electrical service also contributes in no small measure to the high standard of living in Canada.

Table 3 indicates the respective amounts of water power that have been developed by utilities and by industrial establishments. For this tabulation, utilities are defined as companies, municipalities or individuals who sell most of the power they develop. In some instances they include also certain subsidiary companies whose main purpose is to develop and sell power to a parent company for industrial purposes. Installations of utilities totalling 19,223,020 hp. represent 77 p.c. of Canada's total developed water power as at Dec. 31, 1959.

Industrial establishments are defined as companies or individuals developing power mainly for their own use. Installations of industrial establishments totalled 5,665,406 hp. as at Dec. 31, 1959. In addition, industry purchased a considerable amount of electricity from utilities.

The figure of total hydraulic installation in Canada (24,888,426 hp.) is the cumulative total of all existing installations of water wheels and hydraulic turbines irrespective of whether or not the equipment has been in use during the year. It has been adjusted to