

represents a saving of about \$1,039,000 per annum, or, capitalised at 5 per cent, a total value of over \$20,000,000. Other benefits in regard to public health and in the economising of time and labour which may be anticipated from the cheapened diffusion of electrical energy are incalculable.

Industrial
disputes of
the year.

Eighty-seven strikes and lockouts occurred in 1910 as compared with 69 in 1909 and in 1908. Approximately the number of persons affected was 19,543 in 1910, 17,881 in 1909, 26,332 in 1908 and 34,694 in 1907. Working days lost numbered about 677,534 as against 842,275 in 1909, 708,194 in 1908 and 613,986 in 1907. The two principal disputes were a strike of coal miners at Springhill, Nova Scotia, and of employés of the Grand Trunk Railway. The former began on August 10 1909 and was still in existence at the end of 1910, although there was some improvement compared with the previous year. The latter began on July 18 1910 when employés in the train and yard service of the Grand Trunk Railway Company stopped work on their failure to reach an agreement with reference to proposed new rates of wages and working rules. The strike was settled on April 2 through the friendly intervention of the Minister of Labour and the Minister of Militia and Defence. While the strike was in progress business interests suffered through the congestion of freight, and the loss of earnings to the company alone was estimated at about \$1,000,000. About 2,750 employés were directly involved in the dispute, and 4,800 men were thrown out of employment by it for a week.

Statistics of
business
failures.

According to Bradstreet's the total number of failures in Canada in 1910 was 1,465, the realised assets amounting to \$7,022,853 and the liabilities to \$15,563,539. As compared with 1909 the number of failures was less by 7 p.c., while the liabilities show an increase of about 22 p.c. Messrs. R. G. Dun & Co. estimated the number of failures at 1,256, with nominal assets of \$11,013,396 and liabilities of \$14,514,650. In Messrs. Dun's statement however are not included banking failures of which there were two in 1910 with liabilities amounting to \$2,546,871. The number of defaulters, notwithstanding the great expansion of trading operations, compares favourably with previous years, the increase of total indebtedness in 1910 being attributed to several unusually large failures.

Department
of the Secre-
tary of State.

The number of charters of incorporation issued during the fiscal year 1910-11, including supplementary charters, was 544, as compared with 493 for the last fiscal year 1909-10. The total capitalisation of the new companies during the fiscal year 1910-11 was \$458,415,800, and the capital of existing companies was increased during the year by \$24,715,600, making the total of the capital authorised for the fiscal year to amount to \$483,131,400, as compared with \$348,377,800 for the previous fiscal year. The revenue of the Department, derived mainly