

1.—Electricity and Gas Meters in Use, Years Ended Mar. 31, 1946-55

Year	Electricity Meters	Gas Meters			
		Manufactured Gas	Natural Gas	Petroleum Gas	Total
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1946.....	2,459,672	550,949	215,330	1,651	767,934
1947.....	2,647,040	560,046	225,952	1,725	787,727
1948.....	2,746,685	587,629	217,068	1,046	805,746
1949.....	2,972,725	600,923	227,393	4,006	832,325
1950 ¹	3,188,013	606,395	239,448	3,841	849,688
1951.....	3,405,432	610,096	252,468	33	862,602
1952.....	3,590,422	609,262	263,130	68	872,465
1953.....	3,779,739	599,140	277,248	1,270	877,663
1954.....	3,967,952	593,698	298,166	429	892,297
1955.....	4,175,534	420,432	486,768	536	907,736

¹ Newfoundland included from 1950.

The Exportation of Power and Fluids and Importation of Gas Act (3-4 Elizabeth II, c. 14) was passed in 1955 to replace the Electricity and Fluid Exportation Act which came into force in 1907. Under its provisions no electric energy or fluid, whether liquid or gaseous, may be exported from Canada, nor gas be imported into Canada, without a licence. Total exports of electric energy during the year ended Mar. 31, 1955 amounted to 3,390,329,790 kwh. There was also a small export of natural gas and crude oil.

Section 4.—Patents, Copyrights and Trade Marks*

Letters patent are issued subject to the provisions of the Patent Act, (R.S.C. 1952, c. 203) effective since 1935. Applications for protection relating to patents should be addressed to the Commissioner of Patents, Ottawa.

2.—Patents Applied for, Granted, etc., Years Ended Mar. 31, 1951-55

Item		1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Applications for patents.....	No.	14,324	15,448	16,405	18,565	19,448
Patents granted.....	"	8,461	9,516	9,700	9,414	10,282
Granted to Canadians.....	"	627	708	742	606	570
Caveats granted.....	"	391	253	243	288	337
Assignments.....	"	11,437	11,621	12,525	13,127	20,062
Fees received, net.....	\$	661,069	728,241	756,714	847,874	1,086,278

The number of Canadian patents granted increased fairly steadily each year from 4,522 at the beginning of the century to a peak of 12,542 in 1923 and has remained between 6,500 and 10,000 for the past ten years. Of the 10,282 granted in 1954-55, 7,719 or 75 p.c. were to inventors resident in the United States, 570 to Canadian residents and 1,009 to residents of the United Kingdom or other Commonwealth countries. Residents of France obtained 190, of Switzerland 166, of the Netherlands 191 and of other countries 437.

Printed copies of patents issued from Jan. 1, 1949 to date are available at a nominal fee. The Canadian *Patent Office Record* gives a brief digest of each patent.

Canadian and foreign patents may be consulted at the Patent Office Library. The Library has records of British patents and abridged specifications thereof from 1617 to date, and of United States patents from 1872 to date, as well as many patents, indexes, journals and reports from Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, India, Pakistan, France, Belgium, Austria, Norway, Mexico, Italy, Sweden, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Japan, Korea and Brazil.

* The material relating to patents and copyrights was revised by J. W. T. Michel, Commissioner of Patents, and that relating to trade marks by J. P. McCaffrey, Registrar of Trade Marks, Department of the Secretary of State, Ottawa.