If this amount were collected in four years it would mean a yearly amount of $2,478,100, the present value of which at 5 per cent. would be $8,787,200. On the 40c. rate suggested with a consumption of a little over 2,000 million cu. ft. per year and a minimum life of thirty-three years for the field, the total final revenue obtained from the 65,000 million feet would be $26,000,000, which would give a yearly collection of $787,800 for the thirty-three years. The present value of this is $12,606,800. There is thus an apparent gain of about $3,800,000, but all the expenses of leaseholds, upkeep, repairs, office staff, etc., for thirty-three years as against four years must be taken into consideration. This would amount to more than enough to make up the difference. The price would probably have to be increased as the supply declined greatly. In addition to these expenses the present pipe lines could be removed at the end of four years and sold for a substantial amount, but would have to be renewed wholly or in part before the end of the thirty-three years, thus increasing the disadvantage against the gas companies. If the interest be put at 6 per cent. as in the latest provincial loan, the present values under the two systems would differ by about $2,600,000.

Interest of Domestic Consumers Greatest in Importance

It is evident that the domestic consumers resident in cities, towns and in the country now supplied by this gas have the greatest aggregate interest of any of the parties concerned in the question, and that a long life for the gas field is of the greatest importance to them. Moreover, the matter was easily capable of calculation years ago; for instance, Vol. XIX of the Bureau of Mines Reports published in 1910 contained a calculation of the amount of gas that would be obtained from this field, which was close enough to shape an intelligent line of development. The production then was already high enough, viz., over 4,500 million cu. ft. per year. In the Report (Vol. XXII) published in 1913, on p. 45 and 46 information is given from which it could be calculated that the total production would be over 138,000 million, and yet the production went on increasing till by 1916 it trebled the amount yielded in 1910 and more than trebled it in 1917. The total production was published every year for the last five years. The way the output increased can be seen from the following table:—

Waste (estimated)	2,000	million cu. ft.
1907 production	297.0	"
1908 "	848.0	"
1909 "	1,996.0	"
1910 "	4,589.0	"
1911 "	5,649.0	"
1912 "	7,752.5	"
1913 "	7,975.8	"
1914 "	10,121.6	"
1915 "	10,819.1	"
1916 "	13,752.5	"
1917 estimated	15,000.0	"

In spite of this information being easily available to anyone interested in the matter, Utility Committees formed in that part of the country were trying to coax industries to come in and use up the gas at a rapid rate under the delusion that this was showing enterprise. One industry that required 5,000,000 feet per day was induced to establish itself there on account of the gas supply. This amount of gas is sufficient for the average daily consumption throughout the year of 70,000