

Anyone qualified by special knowledge is aware that conditions exist in a gas meter distributing service which will differentially *vary losses by* short registration. For example, suppose aggregate losses average 10 per cent. per meter, the liability is for higher per centage of loss with large consumers and lesser per centages with the smaller.

It will be out of place to name private firms or householders connected with striking cases of this nature which come to the writer's memory—there are, however, some not personal, to wit, the Richmond Station, Round House and Repair Shops of the N. S. R. This was a case where the meter certainly failed to register within 50 per cent. of the gas passed through it. After the absorption into the I. C. R., each department was served by separate meters, but the surroundings contributed to much intermittent registration, and in the case of the Round House it was occasionally so glaring that the bills had to be computed—and one quarter \$400 was added to the registered consumption with the concurrence of the then Locomotive Superintendent.

There are other cases connected with the Dominion, also the Imperial services, the banks, the newspaper offices, especially the "Chronicle," also some of the city churches and many large consumers, who received for years varying per centages of gas not charged in the company's bills.

All these meters were certified correct; some by the (hybrid) city gas meter inspection, the others by Dominion.

It must however be admitted that these losses were in part contributed to by the perfunctory work of the company's servants, and their inability to comprehend the unfavorable conditions when making their periodical inspections to see that all was in proper order.

All the foregoing is contrary to popular impressions, but this letter is only intended for limited circulation. Possibly, however, it may reach the eye of some who will think the reference to Halifax ought for personal reasons to be challenged and discredited, but the writer in advance questions their ability to do this on its merits.

The writer remembers a disputed meter case (reported in the London Gas Journal) protracted over several months by adjournments and fresh trials. Three different district inspectors after examination testified the meter to be correct, but finally it was found, "and not by the inspectors," that the index had an improper multiple.

Some instances of this character came to the notice of the writer in his Halifax experience. *Two* representative cases may be mentioned, one