

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

OTTAWA, January 31, 1919.

W. W. CORY, Esq., C.M.G.,
Deputy Minister of the Interior,
Ottawa, Canada.

SIR,—The Directory of central electric stations herewith submitted, comprises the second section of a report on the central station industry of Canada. The report has been compiled under a co-operative arrangement between the Dominion Water Power Branch, Department of the Interior, and the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce, with the assistance of the Ontario Hydro-Electric Commission and the Quebec Streams Commission.

The report deals with central electric stations only, that is to say, with stations developing electrical energy for sale or purchasing a block of power for resale. It is in two sections, the first comprising a comprehensive statistical survey of the industry and the second a Directory of the commercial and publicly-owned power stations reported as in operation throughout Canada.

The two sections of the report are being issued in uniform volumes, the first section comprising the statistics of the industry being distributed by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, to whom application should be made for copies, and the second section, or the Directory, submitted herewith, being distributed by the Dominion Water Power Branch.

The basic data for the Directory were secured through census schedules distributed to the central stations through the Census Office. Summaries were prepared in this office covering each central station and were submitted for revision to the proper central station officials before being included in final form in the Directory. Particular care was taken to secure information respecting locations where blocks of electrical energy are for sale, the prices at which this power is obtainable and the transportation and other facilities which are available in the vicinity. This information has been incorporated in the Directory.

While the outstanding importance of water-power in the industrial activities of Canada and its relation to the central station industry was recognized at the inauguration of the census inquiry, the results indicate an even greater development than it was supposed had been realized. The census returns disclose the remarkable fact that 90 per cent of the central station primary power is derived from water and they emphasize both the extent of Canadian water-power resources and their ready availability to the great industrial centres from coast to coast.

The conception of the census, the direction of the work, the analysis of the census returns and the preparation of the Directory has been the responsibility of Mr. J. T. Johnston, Assistant Director of Water Power. Mr. J. R. Bissett, Mr. N. Marr, and Mr. G. G. McEwen of the engineering staff have rendered valued assistance in the analysis of the statistics. Mr. N. E. D. Sheppard has been particularly charged with the detailed preparation of the Directory.

Acknowledgment is made here of the hearty co-operation which the central station interests throughout the Dominion have shown in filling in the census schedules and particularly in releasing for publication the material contained in the Directory.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. B. CHALLIES,
Director of Water Power.