The Consumers' Gas Co. OF TORONTO

The Consumers' Gas Company has a perpetual charter for the manufacture and sale of gas in the City of Toronto, Townships of York, Etobicoke, Vaughan, Markham and Scarboro.

The dividend is limited by statute to 10% on the paid-up Capital. After this dividend has been earned, and provision made for repairs and renewals, the Company must reduce the price of gas. The prices have gradually and voluntarily been reduced, during the sixty-nine years of the Company's history, from five dollars per thousand cubic feet to eighty cents. Moreover, the Company has acquired one of the finest and most up-to-date plants obtainable.

The output of gas for the year ended September 30, 1917, was over 4,200,000 thousand cubic feet, being approximately equal to the combined output of all the other gas companies in Canada. In addition, over \$350,000.00 worth of merchandise was sold, and over \$895,000 worth of residual products.

The present capital of the Company is \$5,360,700. There is a reserve fund of \$3,525,833.49, and a plant renewal fund of \$1,608,312.80. Assets 'total \$11,672,283.21. Profits for the past fiscal year were \$953,306.61, after providing for all expenses of management and operation.

The reserve and plant renewal funds together equal 96% of the Company's capital, which funds are invested principally in the Company's business, with no interest charges against them. This means that the Company need earn only about 5% on the money invested in order to meet its dividend requirement of 10% on the capital stock. The Company has steadily maintained its 10% dividend for forty-three years.

The directors are Messrs. A. W. Austin, President; Wellington Francis, K.C., Vice-President; A. H. Campbell; F. Le M. Grasett, M.D.; John Hoskin, K.C., LL.D., D.C.L.; Herbert Langlois; Thomas Long; Lieut.-Col. J. F. Michie; Sir Edmund Osler, M.P. The General Manager is Mr. Arthur Hewitt; the Secretary, Mr. John J. Armstrong.

Table Showing Increase of Company's Business

| Year | Population | Increase per cent. | Output of Gas M. Ft. | Increase per cent. | No. of Meters | Consumption per meter | Com. per Capital of Pop. | Miles of Main | Price of Gas per M. |
|------|------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| 1855 | 42,500 | | 22,000 | | 1,119 | 11,500 | 302 | 23 | \$3.00 |
| 1865 | 47,500 | 11.7 | 30,014 | 36.4 | 1,188 | 16,000 | 402 | 411 | 3.00 |
| 1875 | 68,678 | 44.6 | 100,122 | 233.9 | 2,508 | 26,500 | 969 | 66 | 2.50 |
| 1885 | 105,211 | 53.2 | 273,484 | 173.1 | 6,778 | 28,300 | 1,873 | 126 | 1.50 |
| 1895 | 190,000 | 80.0 | 614,553 | 124.7 | 20,626 | 25,000 | 2,883 | 2273 | 1.05 |
| 1905 | 250,000 | 31.5 | 1,374,114 | 123.6 | 39,711 | 31,334 | 5,496 | 302.06 | .80 |
| 1917 | 500,000 | • 100.0 | 4,202,516 | 205.8 | 108,719 | 36,797 | 8,001 | 585 | .80 |