1. DISTRIBUTION OF WATERWORKS AND WATER SUPPLY.

The population supplied with water was 87,670,000 people, or 61.7% of Japan's total population, as of March 31, 1952. As classified by types of works, the population supplied with water included 5,630,000 people with waterworks (mainly for a planned water supply), 3,986,000 with simplified waterworks (mainly for a planned water supply population of 100 through 5,000 people), and 2,220,000 with exclusive waterworks for a planned water supply population of 10 and over.

The total quantity of water supplied from April 1, 1951, through March 31, 1952, was 8,069,000 million m³, or 86.7 m³ per person supplied with water. Of this, 92.5% of the total quantity was for households, 14% for business, 9% for industrial plants, 5% for government agencies and schools, and 0.3% for others.

The water service establishments supplied in the Water Service Law (for a planned water supply population of 10 and over, total 15,810; it is the whole country. They include 1,671 establishments for supplying water to waterworks, 2,731 establishments for simplified waterworks, and 3,761 establishments for exclusive waterworks. There have been cases in some regions for inter-regional water supplies. The number of establishments for the inter-regional supplying of water to waterworks has increased from year to year, and they are being operated as prefectural or prefectural projects in 11 prefectures.


2. Distribution of City Gas Installations

The total number of city gas meters installed had increased from year to year and reached 6,936,900 as of December 31, 1952. The percentage was 63% of the population, as of March 31, 1952.

The distribution rate is high in major cities and their outlying areas as well as in Aichi, Niigata, Yamanashi, and Ibaraki prefectures where natural gas is produced. The annual sales volume of city gas sold 20,808,000 million m³ in 1952, 68% of which was used by businesses, 30% by households, and 2% by industrial plants and 5% by others. The annual consumption per household installed city gas meter was 3,085,000 m³.

For the distribution of city gas, emphasis is given to new buildings and time is required for the construction of city gas supplying facilities, such as gas mains under ground, gas production facilities, and gas holders. From the urban areas, there are many districts where city gas has not yet come into wide use due to rapid urbanization in recent years. It would not be economically efficient even if city gas facilities were put into wide use in such areas where the population is scattered. In these areas, therefore, a household LP gas system has come into widespread use for cooking and heating and is furnished to each household and gas is piped into the houses.


2. Electricity Consumption

The electric power consumption in our country in 1952 totaled 46,500 million kWh, including 6,300 million kWh for lighting, 28,300 million kWh for power, and 1,900 million kWh for industrial plant use with industrial plant generation. The total consumption of electric power and the per capita annual electric power consumption for household use increased about 2.5 times in the decade from 1940 through 1952.

The electric consumption under large consumer contracts was 28,000 million kWh. By industry, the electric consumption in the chemical industry was 8,000 million kWh, pulp and paper of the electric industry was 8,500 million kWh, the primary aluminum refining industry was 7,000 million kWh, the machinery and equipment manufacturing industry was 4,700 million kWh, and others were 6,300 million kWh.


3. Percentage of Homes Owned

Of 37,300,000 ordinary households in the whole country in 1952, 19.7% had dwellings and the remaining 80.3% lived in dormitories, inns, hotels, and others. A check of the ownership of the ordinary households indicates that the percentage of households owning their own dwellings is highest in 54.7%. They are followed by households living in rental dwellings with 20.5%, households living in dwellings available as a workers' fringe benefit with 18.1%, and households living in rental rooms with 12.8%. Of the house- holds living in rental rooms, 69.5% live in rental rooms under public management and 30.5% are living under private management.

The number of households owning their own dwellings increased, 13,072,000 households in 1950, 12,600,000 (91%) in 1951, and 12,900,000 (91.5%) in 1952. But the percentage of houses owned decreased to 56.5%, 54.6%, and 52.6%, respectively.

