

**Agricultural Irrigation.**—This is now being successfully practised in the drier parts of western Canada, particularly in southern Alberta and in certain districts of British Columbia, where water is artificially stored and distributed for use in fruit-growing. In Saskatchewan, Alberta and the Northwest Territories, the construction of irrigation works is regulated by the Irrigation Act (R.S. 1906, c. 61) and amendments thereto, and these Acts are now administered by the Water Power and Reclamation Branch of the Department of the Interior. The Irrigation District Act of the Alberta Legislature (R.S.A. 1922, c. 114) and amending statutes provide for the formation of irrigation districts under the Irrigation Act of the Parliament of Canada, and authorize the raising of loans under by-laws adopted by voters of the districts. In British Columbia (except in the Railway Belt) the granting of water rights comes under provincial jurisdiction, and is under administration by the Comptroller of Water Rights, Department of Lands, Victoria, B.C. Table 57, furnished by the Department of the Interior, gives for nine irrigation projects in southern Alberta the source of the water supply and the areas under irrigation.

**57.—Statistics of Irrigation Projects in Southern Alberta, 1923.**

Projects.	Source of water supply.	Area of tract irrigated.	Irrigable area.	Ditches constructed.	Area irrigated in 1923.
		acres.	acres.	miles.	acres.
C.P.R. Western Section.....	Bow River....	1,145,336	218,980	1,467.0	3,074
C.P.R. Eastern Section.....	Bow River....	1,212,074	400,000	2,500.0 <sup>1</sup>	42,928
C.P.R. Lethbridge Section.....	St. Mary R....	434,509	130,000	225.0 <sup>2</sup>	72,345
Canada Land and Irrigation Co. <sup>3</sup> .....	Bow River....	452,482	202,640	366.0	11,249
Taber Irrigation District.....	St. Mary R....	30,365	17,245	73.5	3,623
Lethbridge Northern Irrigation District <sup>4</sup> .....	Oldman R....	231,220	105,000	573.0	6,963
United Irrigation District.....	Belly R....	61,195	36,158	172.8	2,000
New West Irrigation District.....	Bow River....	8,000	4,501	21.0	40
Little Bow Irrigation District.....	Highwood R.	11,490	2,821	2.7	—
<b>Total.....</b>		<b>3,586,671</b>	<b>1,117,345</b>	<b>5,401.0</b>	<b>142,222</b>

<sup>1</sup>Approximate. <sup>2</sup>Excluding laterals. <sup>3</sup>Partly constructed. <sup>4</sup>Partial operation commenced in 1923.

Under the Alberta Act a number of irrigation districts have constructed works, and as each district is a corporate body similar to a municipality, they have been included in the table. It will be observed that the total area of the irrigated tracts of the nine projects in Table 57 is 3,586,671 acres, the irrigable area is 1,117,345 acres, the mileage of ditches constructed is 5,401, and the area irrigated in 1923 was 142,222 acres.

**Irrigation Projects of Canadian Pacific Railway.**—The oldest irrigation projects in Alberta are those of the Canadian Pacific Railway company. These are divided into three sections: Western, Eastern and Lethbridge. The gross area of the western project is, as shown in the table, 1,145,336 acres, of which 218,980 acres are classified as irrigable. The project has been in operation for 17 years. In 1922 the area under irrigation was 49,752 acres, and the principal crop, which was wheat, represented over 50 p.c. of the total crop area. In the eastern section the area actually under irrigation during the year 1922 was 93,375 acres, as compared with 88,299 acres in 1921, an increase of 5,076 acres. The value of the crops from the irrigated lands was estimated at \$1,400,000, and the average price obtained for wheat was 82 cents per bushel, for alfalfa \$11 per ton and for alfalfa seed \$24 per bushel. More particulars are available as regards the Lethbridge section, which in 1923 included a gross irrigable area of 130,000 acres. In 1922 it was reported that practically all the land had been sold and approximately 80 p.c. of the area lying below the canals was under cultivation. The total area irrigated