

### Subsection 2.—Hydro-Electric Power Commissions in Other Provinces.

**Quebec.**—The Quebec Streams Commission, originally created by 1 Geo. V, c. 5, and given additional powers by 3 Geo. V, c. 6 (see R.S.Q., 1925, c. 46), is authorized to ascertain the water resources of the province, to make recommendations regarding their control, and to construct certain storage-dams and operate them so as to regulate the flow of streams.

The Commission has not undertaken the direct production of electric power, but has provided assistance to companies engaged in such work by a systematic collection of data on the flow of the principal rivers in the province and on the meteorological conditions prevailing, by investigation of numerous water power sites and the determination of the longitudinal profile of a large number of rivers, but mostly by the regulation of the flow of the principal power streams, thereby increasing very materially the amount of power available. This regulation is obtained by the construction of storage-dams by which water is held in large reservoirs during flood periods and is used to increase the flow at low-water periods.

The Commission has built storage reservoirs on the St. Maurice river, where the low-water flow has been increased from 6,000 second-feet to 17,000 second-feet, on the St. Francis, lake Kenogami, the Mitis, the Ste. Anne de Beaupré and the North rivers. In the Gatineau River watershed, a large storage-reservoir (lake Baskatong) was completed in 1927 with the construction of the Mercier dam across the Gatineau river, 30 miles north of Maniwaki. In 1929, another reservoir was completed in lake Cabonga. The entire cost of these works was borne by the benefitting companies. The combined capacity of the two reservoirs is 140 billions of cubic feet, making it possible to increase the flow of the Gatineau from 3,000 second-feet to 10,000 second-feet.

Up to date, the Commission has spent on the completed works about \$9,000,000, on which the annual revenue now exceeds \$750,000.

**Nova Scotia.**—The Nova Scotia Power Commission was created in 1919 with powers similar to those of the Ontario Commission. It is authorized to "generate, accumulate, transmit, distribute, supply and utilize electrical energy and power in any part of the province of Nova Scotia, and do everything incidental thereto or deemed by the Commission necessary or expedient therefor". Its main operations, however, are undertaken with the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor in Council.

The Commission has already constructed several important hydro-electric developments and is now operating the following systems:—*St. Margarets Bay*—sells power by wholesale in Halifax and vicinity; *Mushamush*—sells power by wholesale and retail in Lunenburg Co.; *Sheet Harbour*—sells power by wholesale in Pictou Co., also supplies demands of a groundwood pulp mill at Sheet Harbour; *Mersy System*—supplies demands of pulp and paper mill at Brooklyn, Queens Co., also supplies town of Liverpool and vicinity; *Tusket System*—sells power by wholesale in Yarmouth, also supplies demands of Cosmos Imperial Mills, Ltd., at Yarmouth.

The total installed capacity is 58,590 h.p., and there are about 120 miles of main transmission lines. The total capital expenditure to Sept. 30, 1929, was about \$11,500,000.

**New Brunswick.**—The New Brunswick Electric Power Commission operates under authority of 10 Geo. V, c. 53 and amendments thereto, and has powers somewhat similar to those of the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario, except that the plant and equipment operated by the Commission are the property of the province and not of the municipalities.