

The initial operations of the Commission were concerned with acquiring by purchase municipally-owned plants which were improved, enlarged or supplemented by installations made by the Commission and were operated as individual systems of supply. Examples of such acquisitions made in 1929 were the Saskatoon, Humboldt, and Rosthern plants, while the plant at Shellbrook, the Wynyard-Elfros-Wadena and the Leader-Prelate-Sceptre systems, served from plants at Wynyard and Leader, were established by the Commission in the same year. In 1930 the municipal plants at North Battleford, Swift Current, Unity, Maple Creek and Lanigan were acquired, and in 1931 the generating plant at Willow Bunch was added. The Watrous-Nokomis system, including ten towns and villages, was also purchased from Canadian Utilities Ltd., and has been connected with the Bulyea system of the Montreal Engineering Co., Ltd.

Transmission lines run from Saskatoon, as the centre of the main system, easterly to Humboldt, northerly to Shellbrook and Duck Lake, westerly to Radisson, and southwesterly to Rosetown. Additional lines link Rosetown with Moose Jaw and Tisdale, where the Commission has a generating plant, with Nipawin. The systems built in 1929 have been extended. All transmission lines supply towns and villages along their courses. There are now 1,322 miles of transmission lines owned and operated.

The Commission purchases several blocks of power or contracts for the interchange of power from private interests in addition to supplying energy generated at its own plants. The number of consumers served directly in 117 towns and villages is approximately 7,850 and those indirectly served (where the cities operate the distribution systems) number 16,124. The total plant investment as at Dec. 31, 1931, was approximately \$7,260,000.

British Columbia.—British Columbia as a province has not, up to the present time, established any commissions for the development and use of water power for the distribution of electrical energy. Such power developments as have been undertaken to date have been by private interests or by municipalities. The Water Board, a quasi-judicial body, regulates the rates which are charged by public utility companies.