

remain in force for two years. The duration of all contracts for the distribution of electricity is limited to five years. The Act does not apply to municipal corporations which have established an electricity service, except that such corporations may benefit by the provisions for obtaining revision of an abusive contract.

National Electricity Syndicate.—Created by an Act of the 1937 Legislature (1 Geo. VI, c. 24), the Syndicate is intended to develop electricity-generating plants and distributing systems in the province. The Syndicate may establish its undertakings by one or both of two methods: first, by funds advanced by the Provincial Government; secondly, by the issue of stock or debentures of which the Provincial Government is to purchase at least 60 p.c. to give it a controlling interest. The Act authorizes the Syndicate to use the first method to develop generating plants and distributing systems in the electoral districts of Abitibi, Timiskaming, Lake St. John and Roberval, and for this purpose authorizes an advance to the Syndicate of \$10,000,000 which may be subsequently increased by the Legislature. No further alienation or extension of leases previously granted on water-power sites of over 300 h.p. capacity may be granted without consent of the Legislature. The Act also permits the Government to contribute up to 55 p.c. of the cost of an electricity distributing system established by any rural municipality.

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 electric 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. Margaret*—sells power by wholesale and retail in Halifax and vicinity; *Mushamush*—sells power by wholesale and retail in Lunenburg Co.; *Sheet Harbour*—sells power by wholesale in Pictou Co., supplies demands of a groundwood pulp-mill at Sheet Harbour, retails in Sheet Harbour and in Musquodoboit and Stewiacke valleys and serves the town of Truro through the Pictou County Power Board; *Mersey System*—supplies demands of pulp and paper mill at Brooklyn, Queens Co.; *Markland System*—supplies town of Liverpool, Caledonia valley and places in vicinity, also power for a woodworking factory and a gold mine; *Tusket System*—sells power by wholesale in Yarmouth, also supplies demands of Cosmos Imperial Mills, Ltd., at Yarmouth; *Roseway System*—sells power wholesale in Shelburne and wholesale and retail in the town of Lockeport and vicinity; *Antigonish System*—supplies Antigonish town, and other communities in Antigonish Co.; *Canseau System*—serves various places on Cape Breton island, including St. Peters and Cheticamp districts which are supplied with diesel-generated energy. The Mabou district is supplied by the Commission with energy purchased in bulk from the Inverness collieries.

The Department of Rural Electrification of the Commission, created during the year 1937, is establishing various distribution districts throughout the province, and thus making service available to communities that were unable to enjoy electric light previous to the passing of the Rural Electrification Act, 1937.

The total installed capacity at Nov. 30, 1937, was 67,362 h.p., and there were about 308 miles of main transmission lines and 276 miles of secondary transmission and distribution lines. The total capital expenditure to Nov. 30, 1937, was \$14,487,803 and the reserves were \$2,253,715.