

The Quebec Streams Commission exercises similar powers to those of the former Syndicate under "An Act respecting the exploitation of falls and rapids on water-courses in the public domain, and their concession in future", which, after being repealed in 1937, has been re-enacted by the 1940 legislation.

Similarly, the Provincial Electricity Board was abolished, and the Public Service Board established. The new Board exercises the powers of the former Quebec Electricity Commission, instituted in 1935, and also those of the Provincial Transportation and Communication Board, instituted in 1939. The fields of operation of these two bodies are dealt with below.

*Quebec Streams Commission.*—Created in 1910 by 1 Geo. V, c. 5, and given additional powers by 3 Geo. V, c. 6 (see R.S.Q., 1925, c. 46), by 20 Geo. V, c. 34 and by 4 Geo. VI, c. 22, the Commission is authorized to ascertain the water resources of the Province, to make recommendations regarding their control, to construct certain storage dams and operate them so as to regulate the flow of streams, and to undertake the direct production of electric power. The Commission has assisted companies engaged in such work by the systematic collection of data on the flow of the principal rivers and on the meteorological conditions, by investigation of numerous water-power sites and determination of the longitudinal profile of a large number of rivers, but mainly by the regulation of the flow of the principal power streams. This regulation is obtained by constructing storage dams that hold water in large reservoirs during flood periods and enable it to be used to increase the flow at low-water periods.

From 1912 to 1925, such storage reservoirs were built or acquired and operated by the Commission, charges being made to benefiting companies covering interest and amortization on the capital invested as well as the cost of operation. Since 1925, companies or persons have availed themselves of the latitude given them by R.S.Q., 1925, c. 46, s. 6, to build the necessary dams, subject, however, to rules and conditions laid down by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council. Such storages have been transferred to and are operated by the Commission, the cost of operation being charged annually to the interested companies or persons.

There were 17 storage reservoirs in Quebec in 1940. Among the rivers controlled by the Commission either by means of dams on the rivers themselves or by controlling the outflow of lakes at their headwaters, together with the horse-power now developed, were: the St. Maurice, 1,018,050 h.p.; the Gatineau, 504,000 h.p.; the Lièvre, 274,000 h.p.; the St. Francis, 100,000 h.p.; the Chicoutimi, 41,400 h.p.; and the Au Sable, 33,200 h.p. Most of these developments are capable of being extended to produce more power than is now installed.

Other storage reservoirs operated by the Commission are the Lake Mitis Reservoir; the Savane River and Lake Brulé Reservoirs on St. Anne de Beaupré River and three small reservoirs on North River.

Among storage reservoirs not controlled by the Commission are the Lake St. John Reservoir, with huge drainage area of 30,000 square miles, and the Onatchiway Reservoir on the Shipshaw River. Power developments on the Saguenay River, which benefit from the Lake St. John storage, amounted, in 1940, to 810,000 h.p. and the development at Chute-à-Caron is capable of a further development of 540,000 h.p.

*Public Service Board.*—The Board is an arbitration, supervisory and controlling body for public services and public utility enterprises. In addition to its control over transportation and communication, its functions in the electrical field include the powers of the former Quebec Electricity Commission, viz., jurisdiction over the production, transmission, distribution and sale of electricity in the Province of