

sumer would prove more satisfactory in Manitoba. Municipal contracts were cancelled and individual consumers were served directly. In 1940 the Act was amended to give the Commission control of its own finances.

The capital invested in the Province by the Commission is approximately \$8,000,000. At the close of the fiscal year 1943 the reserves, represented by first-class securities, amounted to \$4,191,256.

The Commission enters actively into the appliance-merchandising field; it also operates a central steam-heating system and a gas plant at Brandon. As a result of sales and educational policies, together with the economies enforced, the Commission has been able to reduce rates for service progressively and has established a low uniform basic rate for all towns on the network.

Extension of Facilities to Municipalities.—The first municipality to make application for power was Portage la Prairie and the construction of a transmission line from Winnipeg was commenced in the autumn of 1919 and completed in August, 1920. Extensions have been made annually with the exception of 1933. Since 1939 construction to Army and Air Force training centres has taken priority over all other extensions. Hundreds of farmers have turned to the cheap power provided by the Commission to assist them in their wartime problem of increasing production with less manpower.

At present 157 cities, towns, and villages are served by a transmission network of over 2,154 miles. The Commission's plan to complete the basic grid by extension to an additional 200 communities was interrupted by the War. This will be continued when men and materials are available and will be carried out in conjunction with the implementation of a proposed farm electrification project.

Power is at present purchased from the Winnipeg Electric Company through substations at Fort Garry and Selkirk for towns on the main network and at East Selkirk, Seven Sisters Falls and St. Boniface for distribution to outlying districts.

Saskatchewan.—The Saskatchewan Power Commission was established in 1929 under the Power Commission Act (R.S.S. 1940, c. 33) which authorized the Commission to manufacture, sell and supply electric energy, to acquire and develop water-power sites, to acquire or construct steam and oil plants, to construct transmission lines, to purchase power and to enter into contracts with municipalities for the supply of energy.

The Commission's main system is centred on its generating plant at Saskatoon. North Battleford and Swift Current also have generating plants owned and operated by the Commission. Electric energy is furnished in bulk to the city corporations, which own and operate their own distribution systems. In the town of Battleford electric energy is supplied by the Commission, in bulk, by transmission line from the Commission's plant at North Battleford. In all the municipal corporations on its system (143 in number) the Commission supplies approximately 12,989 individual consumers directly and 15,982 indirectly. In 1944, 1,598 miles of transmission lines were owned and operated.

During the years 1929 to 1944 the Commission purchased certain generating plants, and constructed and purchased transmission lines and also distributing systems in towns and villages. These were improved, enlarged or supplemented. Particulars of acquisitions and constructions are given at p. 291 of the 1941 Year Book; further details are given at p. 382 of the 1940 Year Book. Acquisitions in