

water for a total of more than 100,000 acres of land and are located mainly in south-western Saskatchewan and southern Alberta. The highest degree of utilization of these projects is in the lower rainfall area but, owing mainly to higher rainfall since 1939, irrigation development has lagged in some cases. In some instances land control is a factor.

Small water developments have been greatly expanded under P.F.R.A. and since 1935 nearly 33,000 projects have been completed in the three Prairie Provinces. These are mainly for stock-watering and household use. However, nearly 1,100 small or individual irrigation projects have been completed under the P.F.R.A. self-help program. These serve an estimated potential area of 35,000 acres. Heavier rainfall has lessened the need for irrigation and the development of many of these projects has lagged. Moreover, many of the older individual irrigation systems have fallen into disuse. There are, nevertheless, some 1,500 authorized projects of this type in Alberta and Saskatchewan serving an estimated area of 48,000 acres. In Manitoba, where rainfall conditions are somewhat better than farther west, no large-scale irrigation developments have yet taken place. P.F.R.A. water-development work in this Province has been largely confined to water-storage projects.

The total area now under irrigation on the Canadian prairies, therefore, amounts to some 656,000 acres including large and small developments. The completion of the St. Mary-Milk Rivers Project will bring the area of irrigated land to more than 1,000,000 acres.

Table 43 shows the larger irrigation developments in Alberta. In addition, there are 630 private irrigation schemes, with a total irrigable area of 70,813 acres.

43.—Irrigation Development in Alberta, as at Oct. 31, 1946

Project	Source of Supply	Miles of Canals 1945	Area of Tract	Area Served by Existing Works	Area Irrigated in—				
					1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
		No.	acres	acres	acres	acres	acres	acres	acres
Canada Land and Irrigation Company....	Bow River.....	461	200,000	55,000	32,754	39,468	32,783	34,640	35,813
New West Irrigation District ¹	Bow River.....	24	8,000	4,564	2,558	2,979	4,501	2,626	3,025
Western Irrigation District.....	Bow River.....	1,000	150,000	150,000	21,144	9,194	7,666	20,000	20,000
Alberta Railway and Irrigation Company, Lethbridge.....	St. Mary River...	219	200,000	84,000	76,597	57,575	75,707	75,725	75,766
Magrath Irrigation District.....	St. Mary River...	90	18,873	6,975	3,448	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500
Raymond Irrigation District.....	St. Mary River...	17	20,520	15,130	14,000	10,000	12,000	12,000	12,000
Taber Irrigation District ²	St. Mary River...	105	33,200	21,500	15,103	14,108	20,935	21,325	21,218
Eastern Irrigation District.....	Bow River.....	2,084	1,500,000	250,000	140,000	158,000	168,496	167,094	167,100
Lethbridge Northern Irrigation District..	Oldman River....	600	220,782	96,135	63,575	31,102	67,777	75,927	57,126
United Irrigation District.....	Belly River.....	175	62,800	34,318	11,000	12,000	14,000	14,000	13,000
Mountain View Irrigation District..	Belly River.....	24	6,400	3,569	3,300	3,400	3,254	3,400	3,300
Leavitt Irrigation District.....	Belly River.....	³	16,100	4,571	—	—	—	526	1,000
Little Bow Irrigation District.....	Highwood River.	3	10,014	200	50	80	40	120	100
Totals.....	—	4,802	2,446,689	725,962	383,529	341,406	410,659	430,883	412,948

¹ Part of Canada Land and Irrigation Company Project.

² Part of Alberta Railway and Irrigation Project.

³ Not completed.