

**45.—Principal P.F.R.A. Irrigation Projects in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, as at Mar. 31, 1949**

NOTE.—Source: Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

Project	Location	Description	Irrigable Area	Storage Capacity
			acres	acre ft.
<b>Manitoba—</b> Deadhorse Creek.....	Morden.....	Earthfill dam, completed 1941.....	100	1,200
<b>Totals, Manitoba<sup>1</sup></b> .....			<b>100</b>	<b>16,265</b>
<b>Saskatchewan—</b> Cypress Lake Storage.	Southwest Sask.....	Development of storage and irrigation on Frenchman River Valley in southwestern Sask., storage dams to raise level of Cypress Lake for irrigation along Frenchman River; includes canal leading to Robsart-Vidora area.	—	80,000
Val Marie Irrigation District.....	Val Marie.....	Dam on Frenchman River and distributing works.	8,549	8,000
Eastend Irrigation District.....	Frenchman River, southwestern Sask.	Storage dam on Frenchman River and canals to rehabilitate and extend an old irrigation project.	2,500	1,300
Maple Creek.....	Maple Creek.....	Development of Maple, Gap and Downie Creeks flowing northward from Cypress Hills for irrigation and stockwatering.	4,000	23,260
Swift Current.....	Swift Current.....	Development of Swift Current Creek and tributaries for irrigation, stockwatering, municipal and domestic supply.	25,000	95,000
Qu'Appelle River Valley.....	On Qu'Appelle River from Moose Jaw east.	Development of Qu'Appelle River and tributaries for irrigation, stockwatering and domestic supply, ultimate irrigable acreage approximately 30,000 acres.	30,000	95,600
<b>Totals, Saskatchewan<sup>1</sup></b> .....			<b>105,219</b>	<b>456,230</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes other small projects.

**Irrigation in British Columbia.\***—The first right to the use of water for agricultural purposes in this Province was granted three months after the passing of an Act by the Imperial Government establishing the Crown Colony of British Columbia, in 1858.

Irrigation was used in these early years mainly for raising hay in valley bottom lands where it was easy to divert water out of the streams. By the end of the century, water was being conveyed to the benches and higher lands, especially where the climate and the benchlands were suitable for commercial fruit growing.

Companies were formed; large holdings were purchased and subdivided; and irrigation systems to supply them with water were constructed, largely with earth ditches and wooden flumes. Most of these irrigation systems have since been taken over and are operated by improvement districts, under the Water Act, or by municipalities. To-day, the large irrigation systems of the Province are good examples of hydraulic structures. Owing to the generally rugged topography, irrigation engineering has been faced in this Province with many difficult problems; agricultural development having of necessity to follow the rather narrow valleys does not lend itself to simple and cheap irrigation systems.

Due to the wide variations in climate and soil types found throughout the Province, three methods of irrigation are in use: (1) sprinkling, practised in fairly humid areas, where precipitation is moderate but insufficient during the growing

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