

In 1949, the Company embarked on a program of extending its lines to farmers on a co-operative basis. Energy is supplied at the individual meters at 2 cts. per kwh. and the Company also collects from the farmers \$3.50 per month, against which it charges the operating and depreciation costs involved. In effect, the system is constructed and operated at cost for the farmer.

Northland Utilities Limited.—This Company, with headquarters at Edmonton, supplies electric energy to 4,450 consumers in 22 northern communities. Diesel generating plants are located at Jasper, Mayerthorpe, Athabasca, High Prairie, McLennan, Peace River and Chauvin. Low-voltage transmission lines extending from these generating stations supply electricity to 120 farms and 13 villages.

In addition to the diesel generating stations, the Company in 1948 constructed a 665 kva. hydro plant on the Astoria River in Jasper National Park for the Department of Mines and Resources. The Company also serves the communities of Dawson Creek, Pouce Coupé and Rolla in the Peace River Block of British Columbia.

Other Privately Owned Utilities.—Edmonton generates power from coal and operates its own distribution system; in addition, there is a reciprocal arrangement with Calgary Power, Limited, for exchange of power at peak periods. Calgary, Red Deer, Lethbridge, Macleod, Cardston and Ponoka own their distributing systems but purchase power from Calgary Power, Limited. Medicine Hat owns a power plant and distribution system and furnishes power to the adjacent town of Redcliff. Villages and hamlets beyond the reach of the large utility companies are served by small privately owned power plants.

British Columbia.—The British Columbia Power Commission was appointed Apr. 17, 1945, under the provisions of the Electric Power Act, to provide for improving the availability and supply of electric power. In addition to acquiring the electrical equipment of the West Canadian Hydro Electric Corporation, Nanaimo-Duncan Utilities, Limited, Columbia Power Company, Limited, National Utilities, Limited, and the Kamloops properties of British Columbia Electric Railway Company Limited, the Commission has also purchased several smaller privately owned utilities and municipal plants throughout the Province. The latest of these are: Vancouver Island Utilities, Limited, serving nearly 850 customers in the vicinity of Campbell River, and the municipal distribution system serving the city of Courtenay and Comox District with over 1,700 customers, acquired January and April, 1949, respectively.

The Commission's main development on Vancouver Island, the building of a hydro-electric plant—the 'John Hart' development, on Campbell River, designed for an ultimate capacity of 180,000 h.p.,—was officially opened Dec. 15, 1947. The first two units, comprising 50,000 h.p. now supply power to the territory north of Duncan over a 104-mile 132,000 volt double circuit transmission line making electric energy available to industries that are now being attracted to this readily accessible area on Vancouver Island. Power for the southern part of Vancouver Island is to be purchased by the B. C. Electric Railway Company, so that the third