

Because of the absence of free market determination of prices and regulation of services in an industry that is semi-monopolistic, regulation of electrical utilities has been attempted in most provinces. The governing bodies of the provincial electric-power commissions, their functions and activities are summarized by provinces in the following paragraphs. In certain cases, privately owned utilities are also covered.

Newfoundland.—There are no publicly owned hydro-electric systems in Newfoundland. Of the total installed turbine capacity of 292,890 h.p. at the end of 1951, 245,550 h.p. was utilized by the two large pulp and paper companies—Anglo-Newfoundland Development Company Limited and Messrs. Bowater's Newfoundland Pulp and Paper Mills Limited—for their own manufacturing requirements and for the provision of light and power to the municipalities in their vicinities. The remainder was distributed among four other privately owned companies, the largest being the Newfoundland Light and Power Company which supplies the City of St. John's and the town of Bell Island together with the mining operations there. This Company has a turbine installation of 37,900 h.p. at five plants all on the eastern side of the Avalon Peninsula to which a proposed development at Horse Chops River, Cape Broyle, will add 8,500 h.p. One municipally owned steam plant, with a capacity of 264 h.p., operates at the town of Lewisporte.

Nova Scotia.—Legislation relating to the use of water power was first enacted in Nova Scotia in 1909 under "An Act for the Further Assistance of the Gold Mining Industry". In 1914, legislation was passed initiating the development of water power in the Province and this was carried on in an investigatory manner in co-operation with the Federal Government until 1919 when the Nova Scotia Power Commission was created under the Power Commission Act. Certain investigatory work is still carried on in Nova Scotia by the Federal Government in close association with the Commission. The control of the water resources of the Province is vested in the Crown and is administered under the provisions of the Nova Scotia Water Act of 1919. The Commission pays the regular fees for water rights.

The function of the Commission is to supply electric power and energy by the most economical means available. The Rural Electrification Act of 1937 greatly increased the possibilities for retail service by providing for financial assistance to equalize cost and revenue of extensions, the construction of which has been approved by the Governor in Council as qualifying under the Act. In 1941, an amendment to the Power Commission Act authorized the Commission, subject to the approval of the Governor in Council, to regulate and control the generation, transmission, distribution, supply and use of power in the Province.

Financially, the Commission is self-supporting, repaying borrowings from revenue. The balance sheet at Nov. 30, 1950, showed total fixed assets of \$29,266,677, including work in progress amounting to \$4,638,804. Current assets amounted to \$325,550. Liabilities are shown as follows: fixed \$23,088,483; current \$1,927,044; contingency and renewal reserves \$2,884,464; sinking fund reserves \$4,566,241; and general reserves and special reserves \$1,595,944.

The initial development of the Commission was an 800 h.p. installation on the Mushamush River which went into operation in 1921 and delivered 192,000 kwh. in the first complete year of operation. Succeeding years showed a marked growth in installed capacity, reaching 92,450 h.p. in hydraulic turbines, 2,012 h.p. in diesel units and 1,125 kw. in steam turbines by Nov. 30, 1950, with a total generation for that year of 253,058,860 kwh.