

however, were commenced in August 1945 with the acquisition of electrical properties in several parts of the Province. The following statement shows the growth in the number of customers to April 1952:—

<i>Year Ended Mar. 31—</i>	<i>Services Acquired</i>	<i>Services Installed</i>	<i>Total Services for Period</i>	<i>Cumulative Services to End of Period</i>
	No.	No.	No.	No.
1946 (from August 1945).....	13,270	832	14,102	14,102
1947.....	7,151	1,786	8,937	23,039
1948.....	1,000	3,431	4,431	27,470
1949.....	831	3,313	4,149	31,619
1950.....	4,686	3,321	8,007	39,626
1951.....	473	4,075	4,548	44,174
1952.....	103	2,600	2,703	45,912
Sold June 1951.....	-325	-640	-965	
TOTALS.....	27,189	18,723	45,912	45,912

This growth has been accompanied by a corresponding increase in generating capacity which, at Mar. 31, 1946, totalled 8,285 kw. By March 1952 this capacity had been increased to 123,845 kw. The number of power districts rose in that period from 12 to 25 and there was also a large increase in the line mileage in operation.

In 1946 the Commission established a promotional rate structure designed to "permit and encourage the maximum use of power" as required by the Act. This rate structure has been extended as fast as increased plant capacity and distribution systems were installed to take care of the growth in load anticipated through its introduction. By February 1952, promotional rates had been adopted in all 25 operating power districts.

The Commission's main development on Vancouver Island—the John Hart plant—is being enlarged for the third time. This plant, now comprising four turbines of 28,000 h.p. each, the equivalent electrical rating being 20,000 kw., is being augmented by the addition of the final group of two units of the same size. By the spring of 1953, this plant will have a capacity of 168,000 h.p. or 120,000 kw.

The John Hart development now serves, through Commission transmission and distribution systems, territory on Vancouver Island between Duncan and Campbell River, including the Comox Valley, Alberni, Lake Cowichan and Nanaimo. The B.C. Electric Railway Company Limited takes delivery of power at Nanaimo and transmits a large block for distribution in Victoria and environs, so that the John Hart development serves all main portions of Vancouver Island. The plant has brought two major industrial loads to the area with a third (at Duncan Bay) scheduled to commence operation in the summer of 1952.

On the mainland another major power project, the Whatshan Development on the west side of Lower Arrow Lake, has been completed. It is designed for an ultimate 66,000 h.p. capacity and the first two turbines of 16,500 h.p., generating 11,250 kw. each, began operation in May 1951. Power from this plant is transmitted 75 miles at 138,000 volts to Vernon in the Okanagan Valley. Through an inter-connection with Kamloops in the north and the West Kootenay Power and Light Company Limited lines to the south, a large area in the interior of the Province can be served by this project.