

On Vancouver Island, the British Columbia Power Commission completed in 1957 the installation, at its Ladore Falls development on the Campbell River, of the second of two 35,000-h.p. units. In mid-1958, the Commission placed in operation an initial unit of 42,000 h.p. under a head of 140 feet at its Strathcona development near the outlet of Upper Campbell Lake, and construction proceeded on a 35,000-h.p. development on the Ash River near Port Alberni for operation early in 1959. On the mainland, the Commission added a third 16,500-h.p. unit at its Whalshan development near Needles. In active prospect are three new developments on Vancouver Island—two located in the Alberni area on the Stamp and Sproat Rivers with potential of 35,000 h.p. and 17,000 h.p., respectively, and the third on the Kokish River in the Englewood area with a potential of 51,500 h.p. In addition, the Commission has four possible developments under active study and investigation. One is on Vancouver Island on the Nempkish River and has a potential of 81,500 h.p. The other three are located on the mainland and consist of a development of up to 1,900,000 h.p. which would result from the diversion of water from the Chilko to the Homathko Rivers, a 140,000-h.p. potential at Helmoken Falls on the Murtle River tributary to the Clearwater River, and a potential of 120,000-h.p. at Hobson Lake, also in the Clearwater system.

In the field of thermal development, the Commission completed two single-cycle gas-turbine units of 26,500 h.p. each at its Georgia Generating Station at Chemainus, placed in service in September 1957 and January 1958 respectively. Two regenerated cycle gas-turbine units, each having a 24,000-h.p. turbine, were expected to be in operation by December 1958 and February 1959 respectively. At Prince George, seven diesel units with a total capacity of 6,480 kw. were transferred from active to inactive plant. The active plant now consists of four tri-fuel internal combustion units, each with a capacity of 3,000 kw. Two more 3,000-kw. units are in active prospect and it is anticipated that one will be in service by December 1959 and the other by February 1960. At Quesnel, six diesel units with a total capacity of 4,200 kw. were transferred from active to inactive plant. The active plant now consists of three tri-fuel internal combustion units, each with a capacity of 3,000 kw. Another 3,000-kw. unit is in active prospect, with completion anticipated for May 1960. At Dawson Creek, three diesel units with a total capacity of 1,800 kw. were transferred from active to inactive plant. The active plant now consists of three 3,000-kw. tri-fuel internal combustion units and two 1,000-kw. diesel units. Two more 3,000-kw. units are in active prospect, with the completion of one anticipated for October 1959 and the other for April 1960. Also in active prospect is a 1,000-kw. diesel unit at Smithers and a 100-kw. diesel unit at Alert Bay. The probable completion dates are June 1959 for the unit at Smithers and December 1959 for the unit at Alert Bay.

The British Columbia Electric Company's Cheakamus development, consisting of two units of 95,000 h.p., was brought into operation late in 1957. The Company also replaced its 4,000-h.p. two-unit installation at Clowham Falls on Sechelt Peninsula by a single-unit plant of 40,000 h.p. At the Company's Bridge River system, the power plant at La Joie dam, consisting of 30,000 h.p. in one unit, was placed in service. Work was continuing on the Bridge River No. 2 development which, when completed late in 1959, will provide an additional capacity of 328,000 h.p. to the system. The new storage dam required for the No. 2 development will raise the head on the existing Bridge River No. 1 development and is expected to increase the total capacity of that plant from 248,000 h.p. to 276,000 h.p.

In addition to its hydro-electric installations, the Company expects to complete construction of its Port Mann gas-turbine plant early in 1959. Four units will be installed, each consisting of a 33,500-h.p. turbine. At Ioco on Burrard Inlet, construction started on the development of a steam plant which will have an ultimate capacity of six units of 211,000 h.p. each. Two units are planned for service in 1961 and remaining units subsequently, as required by growth.

The Aluminum Company of Canada Limited installed in 1957 the fifth and sixth units of 150,000 h.p. each in its Kemano plant. Early in 1958, a seventh similar unit was added, bringing the total capacity to 1,050,000 h.p.