

## Section 5.—Ownership and Regulation of Electrical Utilities\*

Power is generated in Canada by publicly and privately operated utilities and by industrial establishments. Table 9, p. 564, giving summary statistics by type of establishment, shows that 50 p.c. of the total electric power generated in 1957 was produced by publicly operated utilities, 29 p.c. by privately operated utilities and 21 p.c. by industrial establishments. However, ownership differs greatly in different areas of the country. Quebec output, for instance, is predominantly from privately owned plants since a large portion of the power development in that province is connected with pulp and paper establishments and with the aluminum industry. In Ontario, on the other hand, almost all electric power is produced by a publicly owned utility, The Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario. The distribution of power production in all provinces is shown clearly in Table 10, p. 564.

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 in the following paragraphs. Certain privately owned utilities are also covered.

**Newfoundland.**—There are no publicly owned hydro-electric systems in Newfoundland. The largest water power development in the province is located at Deer Lake. The plant, which is operated by Bowater's Newfoundland Pulp and Paper Company Limited, has a total capacity of 154,000 h.p. This Company develops hydro-electric energy at Deer Lake mainly for its own use in the manufacture of pulp and paper and also supplies electric power to the Buchans Mining Company for its mining operations and to the Newfoundland Light and Power Company Limited which distributes electricity to consumers in Corner Brook and adjacent communities in the Bay of Islands sections.

The electrical distribution system of the Anglo Newfoundland Development Company Limited supplying the towns of Grand Falls, Windsor, Bishop's Falls and Botwood was acquired by the Newfoundland Light and Power Company Limited in 1956.

The Company, in addition to its seven hydro plants, operates a steam generation plant at St. John's. The Company recently acquired the right to supply power to the International Airport at Gander, the new Township of Gander nearby, and the town of Lewisporte providing for that purpose a 17,000-h.p. hydro development at Rattling Brook, Norris Arm.

The United Towns Electric Company Limited operates eight hydro plants and two diesel plants, the latter located on the Burin Peninsula. A subsidiary, the West Coast Power Company, operates diesel generators at St. George's and Port aux Basques, and a hydro plant at Lookout Brook. Another subsidiary, the Wabana Light and Power Company, distributes electricity to the town of Bell Island, the power being purchased from the Newfoundland Light and Power Company Limited. The Union Electric Light and Power Company operates plants at Clarenville, Port Union and Trinity.

Power plant construction recently completed or under way is outlined at pp. 555-556.

**Prince Edward Island.**—The area of Prince Edward Island is only 2,184 sq. miles and three-quarters of its population are rural dwellers. Electric power must therefore be supplied to rather densely populated rural districts interspersed with a considerable number of small municipalities. Power is mainly generated in thermal and diesel plants using imported fuels.

\* Revised by the various provincial commissions or authorities concerned.