

Alberta.—Public ownership of power generating and distributing systems in Alberta is confined to certain urban municipalities. The regulatory authority over privately owned systems is the Board of Public Utility Commissioners which has jurisdiction over the distribution and sale of electricity. The Board has power to hold investigation upon complaint made either by a municipality or by a utility company and, following such investigation, may fix just and reasonable rates.

There are three private utility services in the province: Calgary Power Limited, Canadian Utilities Limited, and Northland Utilities Limited. A synopsis of these services is given below; plant additions recently completed or under way are outlined at pp. 610-611.

Calgary Power Limited.—This Company has 11 hydro generating plants on the Bow River and its tributaries, west of Calgary: Horseshoe Falls, Kananaskis Falls, Ghost River, Cascade, Barrier, Spray, Rundle, Three Sisters, Bears paw, Pocaterra, and Interlakes. The Company also operates a steam plant of 176,000 hp. at Wabamun, west of Edmonton. At Dec. 31, 1959, the Company's total plant capacity was 485,450 hp. All the hydro plants except Bears paw are operated by remote control from the Kananaskis Falls plant.

The Company has five reservoirs on the Bow River and its tributaries:—

Lake Minnewanka.....	180,000 acre-feet
Interlakes (Upper Kananaskis Lake).....	100,000 acre-feet
Pocaterra (Lower Kananaskis Lake).....	50,000 acre-feet
Spray Lakes.....	200,000 acre-feet
Ghost.....	74,000 acre-feet

An agreement with the City of Medicine Hat provides an additional 33,500 hp. to the Company from the city's steam plant. Power from these plants is fed into a transmission network which supplies the entire electricity requirements of the cities of Calgary, Red Deer, Wetaskiwin and Camrose, about 436 towns, villages and hamlets, and a substantial industrial load in central and southern Alberta. This transmission network is also connected with the municipal utilities of the cities of Edmonton and Lethbridge, Canadian Utilities Limited at Drumheller, Vegreville and Vermilion, and the East Kootenay Power Company in the Crownsnest Pass.

The Company has about 4,900 miles of main transmission lines and 3,100 miles of distribution lines extending from Plamondon in the north to Milk River and Waterton in the south, and from Chauvin, Macklin (Sask.), Brooks and Bow Island in the east to Nordegg, Banff and Crownsnest Pass in the west. The cities of Calgary and Red Deer and the towns of Ponoka, Fort Macleod and Cardston are supplied on a wholesale basis, but all other points on the same system are supplied on a retail basis. At Dec. 31, 1959, electric pumping service was being supplied to more than 3,900 oil wells, as well as direct service to such other sectors of the oil industry as gathering stations, refineries and pipeline pumping. Several industrial plants near Edmonton were also served.

An extensive farm electrification program is in progress in Alberta and at Dec. 31, 1959 the Company was serving 35,018 farms. Calgary Power constructs, operates and provides for the engineering of these co-operatives through a non-profit subsidiary (Farm Electric Services Limited) and energy is supplied to the farm co-operative consumers at cost.

Canadian Utilities, Limited.—This Company supplies three areas in the province: the Grande Prairie District, outlined by Hythe, Spirit River, Lesser Slave Lake, Smith, Fox Creek and the city of Grande Prairie; the Vegreville District, outlined by Vermilion, Vegreville, Smoky Lake, Cold Lake and the city of Lloydminster; and the Drumheller District, outlined by Three Hills, Stettler, Forestburg, Consort, Empress, Cessford and the city of Drumheller. Three interconnected plants at Battle River, Vermilion and Drumheller supply the Vegreville and Drumheller districts. The Battle River plant has a 32,000-kw. coal-fired steam unit; the Vermilion plant has a 8,500-kw. gas turbine (the first gas turbine powered generator in Canada) and 9,000 kw. in gas-fired steam equipment; and the