

Government agreed to construct the main supply reservoirs and the connecting canals, while the Province of Alberta undertook the responsibility for construction of the irrigation distribution system. When completed, this project will extend irrigation to approximately 510,000 acres of land in the area south of Lethbridge and east beyond Medicine Hat.

Construction of the St. Mary Dam, key structure on the whole project, was completed in 1951. During 1958 the second phase, involving the diversion of the Belly River into the St. Mary Reservoir, was completed. The third step, involving the diversion of the Waterton River into the St. Mary Reservoir by way of the Belly River diversion, is under construction. The present storage and distribution facilities extend irrigation to 296,000 acres of land in the St. Mary Project. With the addition of resources of the Waterton River, a further 214,000 acres of land can be brought under irrigation.

Bow River Project.—The Bow River Irrigation Project, situated west of Medicine Hat in Alberta and having an irrigation potential of 240,000 acres, was taken over by the Federal Government from the Canada Land and Irrigation Company in 1951; the Company had developed about 57,000 acres before financial difficulties caused work to be suspended. PFRA commenced the orderly rehabilitation of the project works and is proceeding with the development of the remainder of the area. The Federal Government is responsible for settlement of the areas surrounding Vauxhall and Hays. These areas have provided farms for 436 settlers, 162 of whom have now been established in the Hays district.

South Saskatchewan River Development Project.—In July 1958 agreement was reached between the Federal Government and the Province of Saskatchewan to start construction on the South Saskatchewan River Project, a large-scale multi-purpose water conservation project proposed for development in south-central Saskatchewan. The purpose of the project is to make better use of the water resources of the river through irrigation, river control, power, urban water supply and recreation. Control will be achieved by two dams, the major one on the South Saskatchewan River at a point approximately half-way between the towns of Outlook and Elbow and the other at the divide between the valleys of the South Saskatchewan and the Qu'Appelle Rivers. The agreement provides that Canada and Saskatchewan will share the cost of building the dams and all other works associated with the creation of the reservoir; 75 p.c. will be borne by the Federal Government and 25 p.c. by Saskatchewan, the province's share to be not in excess of \$25,000,000.

The project, when completed, will provide water for the irrigation of approximately 500,000 acres of land located in central Saskatchewan on both sides of the South Saskatchewan River between the town of Elbow and the city of Saskatoon and in the Qu'Appelle Valley extending east of Elbow to the Manitoba border. Power installations at the damsite will have a potential output of 475,000,000 kwh. The reservoir, which will be 140 miles long and will store 8,000,000 acre-feet of water, will be constructed at an estimated cost of \$96,000,000. The main dam will be 210 feet high and of earth fill, with an over-all length of 16,700 feet. It will be the largest rolled-earth dam ever built in Canada and one of the largest dams of its kind in the world.

Construction was started in the autumn of 1958 and at Dec. 31, 1960, 20 contracts totalling about \$25,000,000 had been let. Of these, 15 contracts had been completed, four were in progress on a winter-work basis, and one had been suspended until spring. The value of the completed contracts was \$9,382,802. Contracts awarded but not yet completed account for a further amount of about \$15,600,000. Partial payments have been made on these contracts, bringing the total expenditure to the end of 1960 to over \$16,300,000. In addition to paying 75 p.c. of the cost of construction of the dam, the Federal Government is supplying all engineering, administration and supervisory requirements. To Dec. 31, these totalled approximately \$3,400,000, an amount included in the total expenditure.