

# CHAPTER XII.—POWER GENERATION AND UTILIZATION

## CONSPECTUS

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*The interpretation of the symbols used in the tables throughout the Year Book  
will be found facing p. 1 of this volume.*

### Section 1.—Water Power Resources—Available and Developed\*

Canada, a land of many large lakes and fast-flowing rivers, is richly endowed with immense water power resources. With the exception of the prairies of the mid-west, these resources are found in considerable magnitude in almost every part of the country.

British Columbia, traversed by three distinct mountain ranges and with, generally speaking, a high rate of precipitation, has many mountain rivers offering abundant opportunity for the development of hydro-electric power. Notable for their power potential are such rivers as the Columbia, the Fraser, the Peace and the Stikine. Up to the present time, however, hydro-electric developments on smaller rivers in the southern part of British Columbia have supplied the major load requirements of the province. The immense power resources of the larger rivers have gone unused owing to a number of factors, including conflict of interest between fisheries and power development and remoteness from present demand areas. The water power resources of British Columbia, which in total magnitude are the second greatest in Canada, have played and will continue to play a very important part in the development of the province.

The Yukon Territory and the Northwest Territories possess extensive water power resources on the Yukon and South Nahanni Rivers. Indications are that the rivers draining the Keewatin District lying north of Manitoba will also contribute materially to the total power potential of the Northwest Territories. Owing to the lack of developed native fuel sources and to transportation difficulties, water power is of special importance in the development of mining areas such as at Yellowknife in the Northwest Territories and at Mayo in Yukon Territory.

Of the three Prairie Provinces, Manitoba has the greatest water power potential. For many years the more heavily populated southern region of the province has been supplied from hydro-electric developments on the Winnipeg River. With the advent of high-voltage long-distance transmission, however, power from hydro-electric stations on northern rivers can be expected to flow south to help meet the increasing demands of industrial, urban and rural users. In both Alberta and Saskatchewan, abundant reserves of coal, oil and natural

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