Section 4.—Progress in the Development of Hydro-Electric and Thermal-Electric Facilities, 1963

During 1963, a massive program of power plant construction in Canada boosted the nation's total generating capacity by 1,220,000 kw. About 785,000 kw. of this total was installed in hydro-electric plants with turbine capacities totalling 1,090,000 hp. and the other 435,000 kw. was installed in thermal-electric plants. No slackening in the pace of development is in sight—some 900,000 hp. of hydro capacity and another 700,000 kw. of thermal capacity being scheduled for completion in 1964. Moreover, almost 12,000,000 hp. of hydro capacity and 2,810,000 kw. of thermal capacity are proposed or under construction for installation over the years following 1964.

Atlantic Provinces.—During 1963, the Province of Newfoundland was the only Atlantic Province in which new hydro-electric capacity was brought into operation. hydro capacity, totalling 128,000 hp., overshadowed the 2,440 kw. of new thermal generating capacity installed. The two 60,000-hp, units placed in service at the Twin Falls development on the Unknown River in Labrador made up the largest part of the new capacity; the development is owned by the Twin Falls Power Corporation Limited. Completion by Newfoundland Light and Power Company Limited of a single-unit, 8,000-hp, development on Sandy Brook, on the island portion of the province, made up the remainder of the year's hydro-electric installation. No other developments were under way at the end of 1963 but the Newfoundland Power Commission plans early development of up to 350,000 hp. at Head Bay d'Espoir on the Salmon River and the proposed harnessing of the Hamilton River in Labrador promises to be of great significance to the province and to Canada. According to unofficial reports, if markets can be found for Hamilton River power, as much as 6,000,000 hp. of generating capacity may be installed eventually, making it potentially the largest hydro-electric development in the world. In the thermal field, the addition of two 1,000-kw. diesel units at the Wabush Lake plant of Wabush Mines brought the capacity of that plant to 4,000 kw. The Newfoundland Power Commission brought into operation three small thermal plants totalling 440 kw.

In Prince Edward Island, recent introduction of frozen food plants and fish processing plants have added considerably to the electrical load in the province. To meet growing requirements, Maritime Electric Company Limited added a 20,000-kw. unit to its steam plant at Charlottetown and the Town of Summerside thermal plant was increased by the installation of a 2,250-kw. unit, raising total plant capacities to 52,500 kw. and 6,890 kw., respectively.

Construction in Nova Scotia in the past two years has been devoted largely to strengthening the distribution network. No new generating capacity was brought into service but a start was made in 1963 on a single-unit, 100,000-kw. steam plant at Tufts Cove on the upper reaches of Halifax Harbour and there is a possibility of the early development of one or more water power sites. The Tufts Cove installation by the Nova Scotia Light and Power Company Limited will be ready for service in 1965; as proposed, the unit is the first of a multi-unit complex which may eventually have a capacity exceeding 500,000 kw. Hydro-electric plants under consideration include three plants with capacities ranging from 6,500 hp. to 10,800 hp., and a fourth, on Wreck Cove Brook, with a possible ultimate capacity of 90,000 hp.

Although no new hydro- or thermal-electric capacity was brought into operation during 1963 in New Brunswick, considerable progress was made on the construction of new plants which will add 60,500 kw. of thermal-electric capacity to New Brunswick Electric Power Commission plants in 1964—60,000 kw. at Grand Lake and 500 kw. at Grand Manan, raising these plant capacities to 103,750 kw. and 1,490 kw., respectively. Construction was begun in 1963 of a 100,000-kw. thermal unit, an extension to the Commission's 50,000-kw. Courtenay Bay plant. In hydro-electric construction, work was begun by the Maine and New Brunswick Electric Power Company Limited to increase the capacity of its Aroostook River plant to 34,640 kw. from the present 10,040 kw. The New Brunswick