

Surveys for drainage and flood works that will benefit 1,169,700 acres are near completion. Channel improvement works to secure more adequate drainage have been constructed in five sub-drainage districts.

Miscellaneous Project Work.—Miscellaneous projects include the regrassing of 10,870 acres and the planting of 331,000 trees. Rural municipalities and local organizations may obtain assistance for tree planting either through the use of government-owned equipment or financially for the purchase of machinery.

Fifty-seven dams and dugouts have been constructed for groups of farmers in the area of northern Saskatchewan outside the P.F.R.A. area of operations.

Nine Conservation and Development Areas, comprising a total of 1,350,260 acres, were established during the period Apr. 1, 1949, to Dec. 31, 1952.

Development of Land for Settlement.—The development and improvement of unoccupied land for agricultural settlement in six new projects has been carried out under the supervision of the Lands Branch during the period Apr. 1, 1950, to Dec. 31, 1952. These projects included the breaking of 50 acres on each of 273 farm units. A total of 12,350 acres were broken and prepared for seeding. Each of these farm units is to be leased for a 33-year term, the leases specifying the conservation methods to be followed.

Alberta.*—Extensive surveys have been carried out in Alberta to determine the distribution and extent of the available water supplies in the Province and their most beneficial use for irrigation, water power and other purposes. Sect. 69 of the Alberta Water Resources Act gives the Minister of the Department of Water Resources wide powers with respect to investigation of the water resources of the Province.

In more recent years much of the work has been carried out by the Federal Government in co-operation with the Provincial Government. Stream measurement is now done by the Hydrometric Service of the Federal Department of Resources and Development, while irrigation surveys are carried out largely by the Water Development Organization under P.F.R.A. The Water Resources Division, Federal Department of Resources and Development, and the power companies operating in the Province also assist in the program.

The Calgary Power Company has completed a fairly extensive and detailed water-power survey of the Bow River and its tributaries and, as a result, the Company has constructed a number of water-power reservoirs and power stations on the stream. Also, in co-operation with the Provincial Government, the Company has made a preliminary survey of Lesser Slave River and the Athabasca River from Athabasca to McMurray.

By Order in Council dated Feb. 17, 1941, the St. Mary and Milk River Water Development Committee was set up to investigate and report on the many phases of irrigation development of southern Alberta including water supplies available to Canada from the Waterton, Belly, St. Mary and Mild Rivers; the most feasible plan to put these waters to the most beneficial use; the benefits that such water-development projects would confer on federal and provincial interests; the allocation of costs; and methods that might be adopted to finance such developments. The Committee completed a very thorough investigation and published a full and comprehensive report, not only on the projects on the international streams, but also on other projects in Alberta.

* Prepared by J. L. Reid, Secretary, Alberta Power Commission, Edmonton, Alta.