

A project which is indirectly connected with power development is the creation of a dam on the Vermilion River at Vermilion by Canadian Utilities Limited for condensing cooling water. This Company also increased its diversion from the Red Deer River at Drumheller for the same purpose.

Peace River Dugout Program.—The Provincial Department of Agriculture extends assistance for the construction of dugouts in the Peace River area because of a serious lack of underground water. Assistance is on the basis of six cents per cubic yard up to a maximum of \$120 per dugout (2,000 cubic yards) and, to Mar. 31, 1953, totalled \$184,725 on 2,048 dugouts. The program, which is of incalculable benefit to the Peace River area, is administered by District Agriculturists.

Ground Water.—The Provincial Government has recently passed new legislation regarding the study of ground water; it is expected that a start on this program will be made in 1953.

British Columbia.*—About 17 p.c. of the arable land in British Columbia is under cultivation and nearly all the grazing area is being utilized. The 1,100,000 acres developed give a ratio of approximately one acre per person. Within this arable area there exist 150,000 acres of irrigated land, an acreage considered to be less than one-half the ultimate total that can be served by water (approximately 350,000 acres).

About two-thirds of the irrigated area is made up of individual projects, while the remaining 50,000 acres are served by the larger irrigation projects listed below.

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5.—Major Irrigation Projects in British Columbia, 1952

Project	Water Supply	Irrigable Area	Irrigated Area	Average Irrigation Charge	Locality
		acres	acres	\$	
Provincial Irrigation System—					
Southern Okanagan Lands Project.....	Okanagan River.....	5,000	4,200	12.50	Okanagan Valley
Municipal Irrigation Systems—					
Penticton Municipality....	Penticton and Ellis Creeks..	2,500	2,200	18.00	Okanagan Valley
Summerland Municipality.	Trout and Eneas Creeks....	3,448	3,407	13.44	"
Irrigation Districts—					
Balfour Irrigation District.	Laird Creek.....	240	150	—	Kootenay Valley
Bankhead.....	Kelowna and Mission Creeks	85	85	17.00	Okanagan Valley
Barriere.....	Barriere River.....	225	129	2.50	North Thompson Valley
B.C. Fruitlands.....	Jameson and North Thompson Rivers.....	2,648	2,082	17.25	"
Black Mountain.....	Mission Creek, etc.....	4,275	3,995	15.00	Okanagan Valley
Blueberry Creek.....	Blueberry Creek.....	150	30	2.70	Columbia Valley
Boundary Line.....	Osoyoos Lake.....	96	96	18.00	Okanagan Valley
Brent Davis.....	Mission Creek.....	480	405	6.00	"
Cawston.....	Stimilkameen River.....	643	481	14.00	"
Chase.....	Chase Creek.....	639	625	2.50	South Thompson Valley
Covert.....	4th of July Creek.....	278	278	4.50	Near Grand Forks
Darfield.....	Lindquist Creek.....	363	200	—	North Thompson Valley