

the Manitoba Electrification Enquiry Commission was appointed by the Provincial Government to study the feasibility of widespread farm electrification in the Province. It was concluded that, with the Manitoba Power Commission's network of transmission lines as a source of supply and with the economy in design of farm lines that had been worked out, it would be practicable to bring the benefits of hydro-electric power to over 90 p.c. of the farms in the Province, provided the farmers themselves were prepared to assist in certain organizational and operational matters. A test program undertaken in 1945 proved successful and, thereafter, the Commission conducted annual programs of farm electrification. Shortages of materials restricted the size of these programs until 1948 when the set goal was reached of 5,000 farm connections. The program has since continued on an area-coverage basis and the Commission served over 34,000 farms by the end of 1952. The 1953 program, which is planned to serve another 5,000 farms, will be the last undertaken on an area-coverage basis. The only farmers remaining will be those in isolated pockets or those who have not availed themselves of the opportunity to take service.

Saskatchewan.—The Saskatchewan Power Corporation, established Feb. 1, 1949, and operating under the provisions of the Power Corporation Act (S.S. 1950, c. 10), as amended, succeeds the Saskatchewan Power Commission which operated from Feb. 11, 1929, to Jan. 31, 1949. The main functions of the Corporation are the generation, transmission, distribution, sale and supply of electric energy and steam. It is also authorized to produce or purchase, and to transmit, distribute, sell and supply natural or manufactured gas and the Corporation entered into that field in 1952 (see p. 582).

In 1952, the Corporation served 579 urban communities (with six or more customers) in retail sales and three urban communities (Saskatoon, Swift Current and Battleford) in bulk sales. Its activity is extended to the entire Province with the exception of such cities as Regina and Weyburn which own and operate municipal plants and distribution systems, and Moose Jaw where the local plant and distribution system is owned and operated by National Light and Power Company Limited. A number of small communities, the largest of them being the town of Kamsack, are not served by the Saskatchewan Power Corporation at present, although some such utilities, mostly privately owned, were taken over by the Corporation in 1952.

Particulars of the operations of the Saskatchewan Power Commission from 1929 to 1948 and of the operations of the Saskatchewan Power Corporation from 1949 to 1951 are given in the 1952-53 Year Book and earlier editions. At the end of 1952, the Corporation served 107,942 customers; 21,367 were located in communities supplied with power in bulk sales and 86,575 were retail customers. The latter group comprised 74,632 customers in communities considered as urban and 11,943 in areas classified as rural, predominantly farms. All customers absorbed 332,674,176 kwh. of which 300,297,970 kwh. were generated in Corporation plants and 32,376,206 kwh. were purchased in bulk from Regina and National Light and Power utilities. Total invested capital of the Corporation at the end of 1952 amounted to \$36,009,143.

During 1952, the Saskatchewan Power Corporation owned and operated four steam-generating plants (Estevan, North Battleford, Prince Albert and Saskatoon), and 12 diesel plants with capacities over 500 kw. each (Assiniboia, Humboldt, Maple Creek, Meadow Lake, Melville, Moosomin, Swift Current, Tisdale, Unity,