

*Lillooet Valley Reclamation Project.*—The Lillooet Valley Reclamation project was undertaken upon agreement between the Government of Canada, the Government of British Columbia and the Pemberton Valley Reclamation District. This project is located in the Lillooet River Valley above and below the town of Pemberton and its objective is to protect lands now under cultivation from flooding and to reclaim additional lands by dyking and drainage. The land reclaimed amounted to 14,000 acres, which allowed farmers in the district to increase their holdings and also permitted the settlement of hundreds of additional inhabitants.

### Land Utilization

In addition to cultivation and water-conservation activities, rehabilitation of drought areas involves the conversion of large tracts of land proved to be unsuitable for crop production, which had initially been cultivated to a permanent grass cover for live-stock production, and the relocation of farmers residing thereon. To this end, PFRA's Land Utilization Program has constructed 62 operating pasture units, resulting in the reclamation of 1,677,416 acres of submarginal land. During the 1953-54 construction season 25,396 additional acres were fenced and included in the pasture system.

During the year ended Mar. 31, 1954, summer grazing was provided for 110,000 head of live stock owned by 6,421 patrons living on lands adjacent to these pastures.

An extensive pasture improvement program is in effect on all pastures and is immediately initiated as soon as new areas are enclosed. This policy has more than doubled the 1938 average carrying capacity on pasture land. The three improvement policies most extensively practised in all pastures are: (1) regrassing—since 1938 approximately 180,293 acres of land in community pastures have been regrassed; (2) development of stock-watering sites—to Mar. 31, 1954, over 1,000 stock-watering dams, dugouts and wells have been constructed in community pastures; and (3) pasture management and controlled grazing.

### MARITIME MARSHLANDS REHABILITATION ACT

The marshlands of Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick are among the more productive soils in Canada when protected and properly cultivated. They are composed of deposits laid down by tidal waters and are, for the most part, adjacent to the Bay of Fundy.

The initial areas were reclaimed as early as 1630 and since that time about 80,000 acres have been protected by dykes and aboiteaux. These structures prevented flooding by tide water and permitted cultivation after drainage had been carried out.

Through a variety of circumstances—loss of cattle markets, loss of hay markets and the increase in labour costs—maintenance of the protective structures was not adequately carried out and deterioration of many of the structures resulted. Because the marshlands, when protected, can play such an important role in the agricultural economy of the provinces concerned, the Government of Canada and the Provincial Governments of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick passed legislation permitting them to carry on a program of reclamation and rehabilitation of these lands. The federal Act, the Maritime Marshland Rehabilitation Act, was passed in 1948. Complementary provincial marshland reclamation Acts were passed by both Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in 1949. These Acts permitted