

Favourable progress was made by the Aluminum Company of Canada on its great Kemano-Kitimat project involving the diversion of the headwaters of the Fraser River through the Coast Range. The drilling of the 10-mile 25-foot-diameter diversion tunnel from Tahtsa Lake and of the penstock tunnel was essentially completed at the end of 1953. The underground power-house was completed and the work of installing three 140,000-h.p. turbines and 106,000-kva. generators was well advanced for operation in May 1954. The 50-mile transmission line from Kemano to Kitimat was virtually completed. The spillway for the Kenney Dam on the Nechako River was ready for operation. Ultimate capacity may be more than 2,000,000 h.p.

The Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company of Canada Limited expects to complete the construction of its Waneta development on the Pend d'Oreille River early in 1954. The plant will contain two turbines each of 105,000 h.p. and ultimately two additional units may be installed. Alaska Pine and Cellulose Limited completed the installation of a 3,200-h.p. turbine, driving a 2,500-kva. generator in its plant at the outlet of Victoria Lake, Vancouver Island. Plant capacity is 4,400 h.p., the power being used principally for pumping purposes.

Yukon Territory.—The Yukon Hydro Company Limited, serving the town of Whitehorse, added a Pelton wheel of 940 h.p. driving an 875-kva. generator to its Porter Creek plant, to bring capacity to 1,390 h.p.

Surveys and investigations towards a major hydro-electric development, involving the storage of Yukon River headwaters and their diversion through the Coast Range, were carried out during the summer of 1953 and will be continued in 1954 by Ventures Limited and its subsidiary companies, Frobisher Limited and Quebec Metallurgical Industries Limited. Preliminary planning indicates that, initially, a development of about 25,000 h.p. may be made on one of the rivers on the Pacific slope in northern British Columbia.

THE ST. LAWRENCE POWER PROJECT*

Joint international development of power in the International Rapids Section of the St. Lawrence River was officially begun on Aug. 10, 1954. Ceremonies held in the presence of government leaders from Canada and the United States marked the inauguration on that day of a 1,640,000-kw. project that has been the subject of international interest for more than forty years. The power thus to be provided is essential to the continued progress of Ontario, and in view of Ontario's important role in the national economy, to Canada as a whole.

The project will be a joint undertaking on the part of The Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario and the Power Authority of the State of New York. The former was authorized by legislation of the Governments of Canada and of Ontario to construct the Canadian part of the work, and the latter was named by President Eisenhower as the entity to undertake the work on the United States side of the river. Each of the power authorities will assume the cost of the generating equipment installed in its own half of the power-house. They will share equally in all other costs of construction and in the total output of the generating station.

* Contributed by The Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario, Toronto, Ont.