

WATER POWERS OF THE MARITIME PROVINCES

GENERAL FEATURES OF THE WATER POWER SITUATION

THE Maritime Provinces, including New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, have a total area of 51,512 square miles and a total population of about 975,000. Their area is relatively small and they are so much cut up by bays and arms of the sea that, with one or two exceptions, no large river systems exist. Prince Edward Island besides, is for the most part not far above sea level, and such rivers as do exist are tidal for a considerable distance from their mouths and have little fall in their upper reaches. This tidal effect is found in all the larger rivers of the whole district, so it is not to be expected that large water powers would be available.

However, possible sites are well distributed, and the handicap of comparatively small drainage areas is largely overcome by heavy rainfall and excellent storage facilities in many cases, particularly in Nova Scotia. The annual rainfall in New Brunswick ranges from 35 to 47 inches, while in Halifax the average precipitation for 35 years is over 57 inches.

There are several large power sites, comparable in size to other water powers throughout Canada, notably at Grand Falls, on the St. John River, as also on the Mersey, Gasperaux and East Rivers, in Nova Scotia. An added feature in connection with these sites is that



Dam on Nashua River, New Brunswick.