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THE CURRENT METER RATING STATION AT THE IRRIGATION OFFICE, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
ALBERTA.

By F. H. PETERS, A. M. Can. Soc. C.E.

TO BE READ AT THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE SOCIETY, OCTOBER 15TH, 1912.

The work of stream measurements has been carried on by the Irrigation Office, Department of the Interior, for a long period of years in the two provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan, but it was not until the early part of 1909, that the great importance of this work was recognized by the Department and at that time a special Hydrographic Surveys branch was organized under Mr. P. M. Sauder, C.E., from which time the work of stream measurements has been carried on systematically and extensively.

Prior to this time a current meter rating station had been established on a slack water mill pond on Bow River at Calgary, but its equipment was never very satisfactory, and it finally fell into bad repair and its use was discontinued. Along with the formation of the Hydrographic Surveys branch was considered the matter of establishing an up-to-date and efficient current meter rating station, because it was realized that without this equipment, by which means all current meters used could be frequently rated, the current meter records would be liable to serious errors.

No active steps were, however, taken in the matter until the winter of 1910, when the plans, specifications and estimate of cost for the station and equipment were prepared by the writer. The contract for the work was let to the firm of Jones, Blackshire and Lyttle of Calgary, on May 29th, 1911, and was completed by them on July 21st, 1911. In carrying out the construction the steel reinforcing, the steel rails, the cement, and the car were supplied by the Department and the City of