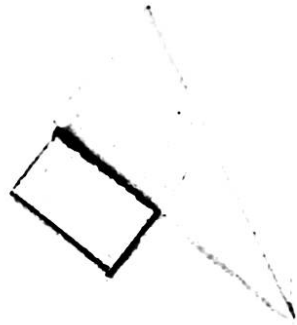


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ANNUAL REPORT OF

PRAIRIE PROVINCES WATER BOARD

1948

PRAIRIE PROVINCES WATER BOARD

Annual Report - December, 1948

Warrant and Function of the Board

Under date of July 28, 1948, the Prairie Provinces Water Board was established by the Governments of Canada, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, consisting of two members appointed by Canada and one from each of the three provinces.

The Board has the functions of recommending the best use to be made of interprovincial waters in relation to associated resources in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta; upon the request of any one of the three provinces or the Dominion to recommend the allocation of water as between each such province of streams flowing from one province into another province; and to report on any questions relating to specific projects for the utilization or control of common river or lake systems at the request of one or more of the Ministers or authorities charged with the administration of such river or lake systems.

Membership of the Board

- Mr. L. B. Thomson, Chairman of the Board: Director of Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration, Regina.
- Mr. N. Marr: Acting Controller, Dominion Water and Power Bureau, Ottawa.
- Mr. D. M. Stephens: Deputy Minister, Manitoba Department of Mines and Natural Resources, Winnipeg.
- Mr. G. N. Munro: Chief Engineer, Saskatchewan Water Rights Branch, Regina.
- Mr. B. Russell: Director, Alberta Water Resources Branch, Edmonton.

### Initial Meeting

The first meeting of the Board was convened in Regina on November 1st. Mr. W. M. Berry, Engineer, Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration, Regina, was appointed Acting Secretary to the Board.

At this meeting the Board set up tentative rules of procedure to govern its deliberations and formed subcommittees to gather information on map requirements, gauging stations, the sources of data on file in all the provincial water rights offices and the problem of reconstructing the natural hydrographs of the Saskatchewan River and its tributaries at interprovincial boundaries.

No requests for action by the Board were forthcoming at this meeting.

### Work in Progress

The subcommittee on map requirements, with the approval of three of the members, have agreed that a map showing the whole of the three prairie provinces on a scale of one inch equals twenty miles will fulfill the present requirements of the Board. Such a map is now being prepared in the Ottawa offices of the Dominion Department of Mines and Resources.

Anticipating the establishment of additional gauging stations on interprovincial streams next year, the Dominion Water and Power Bureau has submitted in its 1949-50 estimates an amount sufficient to finance several of these stations.

By the end of the year, the Secretary will have visited each of the provincial water rights offices to see what information they have, with the objective in mind of assembling it in the office of the Board in Regina

Work Contemplated

On November 30th, the Chairman received from Mr. B. Russell, on behalf of the Province of Alberta, a request for immediate consideration by the Board of a recommendation for approval of Alberta's twenty-year program in the South Saskatchewan River drainage basin. This will involve reviewing all commitments made by Alberta by virtue of authorizations, appropriations and reservations in that drainage basin, as well as studying the effect of this proposal on downstream interests. This request will be considered by the Board at its next meeting.

The Board being required, under the terms of the Agreement, to hold meetings at least twice annually, is prepared at all times to act on any request from any one of the three Provinces or the Dominion on questions relating to allocation of, or specific projects on, interprovincial streams.

L. B. Thomson  
Chairman

Wm. M. Berry  
Acting Secretary