River Lee Generating Stations

COUNTY CORK

Standing with a finger

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River Lee Hydro-Electric Development

The hydro-electric development of the River Lee between Macroom and Cork is in two steps and comprises dams and power stations at Carrigadrohid and Inniscarra. The development necessitated the construction of eleven miles of public roads and three main road bridges. The turbo-generator at Carrigadrohid is rated at 8,000kW; two machines at Inniscarra are rated at 15,000 and 4,000kW. The 4,000kW set was installed at Inniscarra to give sufficient flow down the river to meet the requirements of a water supply plant at Cork city. It also acts as a house set to both the hydro stations on the Lee and the steam station in Cork city.

The catchment area of the Lee down to Inniscarra is 790 square kilometres (306 square miles). The average annual flow of the river at Inniscarra is 27.5 cubic metres per second (970 cu sec). The storage capacity in the reservoir amounts to 45.4 million cubic metres, which is 5.2% of the average annual flow. The alternators in both stations generate at 10,000 volts. This is stepped up to 110,000 volts and transmitted to the main transmission system at Kilbarry on the outskirts of Cork city. At Inniscarra feeds are provided also into the local 38,000 volt and 10,000 volt distribution networks. The Carrigadrohid station, which is ten miles upstream, is remotely controlled from Inniscarra.

To preserve the fishing in the River Lee, Borland-type fish passes are built into the dams at Carrigadrohid and Inniscarra.

Constructional work on the hydro electric development of the Lee was commenced in 1952 and both stations were commissioned in 1957. The cost of all the work was $\pounds 4\frac{1}{2}$ million.

In a year with average rainfall, the generated output of the two Lee stations is 77 million units.

Front cover shows Inishcarra Generating Station

PRINCIPAL TECHNICAL PARTICULARS

Catchment area1,400 km * (306 sq. miles)Average annual rainfall1,524 mm. (60 in.)Average annual flow27.5 m */sec. (970 cu. secs.)Storage capacity45.4 x 10 °m * (5.2% of annual flow)

Generating Station	Carrigadrohid	Inniscarra
Dam length	350 ft.	800 ft.
Dam height	70 ft.	140 ft.
Spillway gates	Three, 10 ft.	Three, 40 ft.

Turbines

Number	1	2
Туре	Kaplan	Kaplan
Head	13.55 m	29.4 m
Rating, H.P.	11,600	21,600 and 5,80
R.P.M.	167	214 and 428
Year commissioned	1957	1957
Maker	Voith	Voith

Generators

Туре		3 phase, 50 cycle
Normal rating, kVA	11,500	21,400 and 5,700
Power factor		0.7
Voltage		10,500
Maker	Siemens S	chuckert Brown-Boveri

Main Transformers

Rating, kVA Maker 12,000

27,000 and 5,000 A.S.E.A.

Switchgear and Control Gear Maker

A.S.E.A.

Average Annual Output:

Carrigadrohid	21 x 10 ° kWh
Inniscarra	56 x 10 ° kWh
Total	77 x 10 ° kWł



One of our many Stations

Of the 28 generating stations 9 are hydro, 4 operate on milled peat, 6 on sod peat, 1 on native coal, 6 on oil, 1 on sod/milled peat and 1 on coal or oil.

HYDRO STAT	FIONS Capa	acity Mw.	STEAM STATIONS	Capacity Mw.
River Shannon:	Ardnacrusha	85	Portarlington (Co. Laois)	20
River Liffey:	Pollaphuca Golden Falls Leixlip	30 4 4	sod peat Tarbert Island (Co. Kerry) oil	38 120
River Erne:	Cathaleen's Fal Cliff	1 45 20	Allenwood (Co. Kildare) sod peat	40
River Lee:	Inniscarra Carrigadrohid	19 8	Ferbane (Co. Offaly) <i>milled peat</i>	90
River Clady:	Clady	4	Lanesborough (Co. Longfor sod and milled peat	d) 60
		219	Rhode (Co. Offaly) <i>milled peat</i>	80
UNDER CONSTRUCTION			Bellacorick (Co. Mayo)	40
Turlough Hill, (e Co. Wicklow	292	Shannonbridge (Co. Offaly) milled peat	40
STEAM STAT	FIONS Capa	acity Mw.	Arigna (Co. Roscommon) native coal	15
Pigeon House ' oil	'A" (Dublin City	y) 90	Miltown-Malbay (Co. Clare sod peat) 5
North Wall (Du <i>oil</i>	blin City)	48	Screeb (Co. Galway) sod peat	5
Ringsend (Dub coal/oil	lin City)	270	Cahirciveen (Co. Kerry) sod peat	5
Marina (Cork C oil	lity)	120	Gweedore (Co. Donegal) sod peat	5
Pigeon House ' oil	"B"	268		1,459
Great Island (C <i>oil</i>	o. Wexford)	120	Total Capacity, Hydro and Steam 1,6	78 Mw.

Carrigadrohid Generating Station

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