

#### WATER-POWER RESOURCES

The need for a systematic development of the water-power resources of the islands led to the creation of the Bureau of Water Power and Electricity by the Netherland East Indies Government in 1917, to control and direct operations pertaining to the exploration, survey, and development of water power. The function of this bureau is not to monopolize the water power of the Netherland East Indies for governmental purposes, although certain favorable sites will be reserved for general lighting and power supply and for possible further extensions to the Government electric railways. The remainder of the water resources will be available for private development under the direction of this bureau.

The bureau makes preliminary surveys of sources of power, passes on all applications for concessions, supervises power-plant constructions, and regulates the generation and distribution of current.

Applications for concessions for the erection of generating plants and the transmission of current for light and power must be addressed to the governor general, who transmits the application to the bureau for review. The application must be on official stamped paper and prepared according to the rules prescribed in Publication No. 2, Rules and Procedure, of the Bureau of Water Power and Electricity. As security for the costs, the applicant must make a deposit, the amount of which depends upon the importance of the work to be done. The deposit may range between 100 and 2,000 florins.

Likewise, applications for concessions for the use of water power must be addressed to the governor general, whose action depends upon recommendations made by the bureau, which are based upon an investigation of all details. Decisions on these applications are usually long delayed, as is the case in applications for mining and other concessions.

Rentals are charged for the use of water power in cases where the installation develops more than 100 horsepower. Following is a schedule of the charges for the use of water power:

1. A maximum of 2 florins for each potential horsepower above 100 but below 1,000 horsepower.
2. A maximum of 1.50 florins for each potential horsepower from 1,000 to, but not including, 10,000 horsepower.
3. A maximum of 1 florin for each potential horsepower from 10,000 upward.

These rates are in the nature of rental and are payable annually during the life of the concession.

Water-power concessions for a capacity exceeding 100 horsepower are usually granted for 40 years under terms and conditions specified by the Government. Water-power concessions for sites where less than 100 horsepower are available are granted free of charge and are subject to simple conditions. Electrical licenses for public-utility companies are usually granted for a fixed period, not exceeding 40 years, whereas licenses for private purposes, such as industrial and commercial enterprises, are terminable at notice.

#### WATER-POWER CONCESSIONS

The annual report of the Bureau of Water Power and Electricity for the year 1928 shows that there were 56 valid water-power concessions, of which 42 were held in Java and the remainder in Sumatra.