

## TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

**Electric Railways.**—During 1916 the total capital liability of electric railways, which for the most part consist of urban street tramways, was increased from \$150,344,002 to \$154,895,584. Of this amount \$67,738,275 are in stocks, and \$87,157,309 are in funded debt. The number of passengers carried was 580,094,167, as compared with 562,302,373 in 1915. The freight hauled in 1916 was 1,936,674 tons, as compared with 1,433,602 tons in 1915. Gross earnings were \$27,416,285, as against \$26,922,900 in 1915, and operating expenses were \$18,099,906 against \$18,131,842 in 1915. These and other particulars, with comparative figures, are set out in Tables 21-25. The number of employees in the service of electric railways on June 30, 1916, was 10,622, as compared with 14,795 in 1915. The total salaries and wages for the year 1916 were \$8,767,734, as against \$10,781,199 in 1915. The total mileage of electric railways computed as single track in 1916 was 2,192, as compared with 2,103 in 1915.

## MOTOR VEHICLES.

The use of motor vehicles has increased so rapidly during recent years that this means of transportation is now become one of the most important in Canada. In 1904, the number of motor vehicles registered in Ontario was only 535; in 1916 the number was 54,375. In Quebec province the number has grown from 254 in 1907 to 15,335 in 1916. For Alberta the number of registered cars in 1906 was 41; in 1916 the number was 9,516. As will be seen from Table 26 there has been a great increase in the number of motor vehicles registered in each of the provinces, whilst the total number of motor vehicles registered for all Canada in 1916 is 123,464 as compared with 69,598 in 1914, an increase of 77 p.c. in three years. The following is a brief synopsis of the laws and regulations in force in each province, and Table 27 summarizes the legal speed limits by provinces under the varying conditions specified.

**Prince Edward Island.**—Under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1913, with amendments and regulations, all cars must be registered in the office of the Provincial Secretary. In addition to the registration fee an annual tax is payable on the 1st of May, but this is not required of non-residents unless the car is used in the province during more than four weeks in one year. All drivers of cars, owners included, must be eighteen years old and must be licensed. Every car must have a lock or other device to prevent it from being operated when left unattended. The use of motor vehicles is forbidden on Sunday between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. and between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. The speed limits are, in cities, towns and villages,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles an hour, in places which are closely built up, 10 miles, where there is not a clear view of the road for at least 200 yards, 12 miles, and in all other places 15 miles an hour. The number of cars registered in 1917 is 300.

**Nova Scotia.**—The Motor Vehicles Act, 1914, and amending Acts, require cars to be registered by the Provincial Secretary, who issues permits renewable annually on January 1. Cars belonging to persons residing out of Nova Scotia need not be registered if cars are registered