

of electric railways which was \$87,409,885 in 1908 had grown to \$161,234,739 in 1917.

A form of transportation which has developed with great rapidity during the last few years is that of motor vehicles, the registrations of which in Canada numbered 197,799 in 1917 as against 69,598 in 1914. The six Government canals have a mileage of 1,594, the traffic for 1917 amounting to 22,238,935 tons, as compared with 888,189 tons in 1887. The telegraph system has also developed correspondingly. At Confederation in 1867 there were 7,227 miles of line and 9,040 miles of wire, and during that year 600,770 messages were sent. In 1917 the Government lines had a total length of 11,843 miles and the Chartered Companies 49,397. Messages across the Atlantic by wireless telegraphy were instituted in October, 1907. In 1917, 181,740 wireless messages were sent and 3,140,843 words were handled. Telephones were first commercially established at Hamilton in 1877. There were in 1917 1,695 telephone companies in Canada with a capitalization of \$79,121,702. The number of telephones was 604,136, or one telephone to every 13.4 persons. In 1917 the number of postage stamps issued was 957,051,564 of the value of \$23,174,602, as compared with 306,382,154, of the value of \$5,636,746 in 1904.

#### FINANCIAL AND SOCIAL STATISTICS.

In 1868 the public revenue of Canada, i.e., receipts on the Consolidated Fund Account, amounted to \$13,687,928. In 1871 they were \$19,335,561, in 1881 \$29,635,298, in 1891 \$38,579,311, in 1901 \$52,514,701. In 1910 for the first time they exceeded one hundred million dollars, being \$101,503,711 and in 1911 they were \$117,780,409. During the war they have necessarily expanded in consequence of increasing taxation, and for the fiscal year 1917-18 they reached the record total of \$260,778,953. Per capita the revenue has grown from \$5½ in 1871 to \$27.82 in 1917. In 1868 the revenue of the provincial Governments of Canada (Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario) was not more than \$5,072,084. For the whole of the nine provinces in 1917 the revenue of the provincial Governments was \$57,962,979. Per capita the provincial revenue was in 1868 \$1.60, in 1917 it was \$6.95. The net public debt of Canada, incurred largely for reproductive purposes, except during the last four years of the war, has increased from \$75,728,642 at Confederation to \$335,996,850 in 1914, the fiscal year before the outbreak of the war. The debt on March 31, 1918, amounted to \$1,191,884,063, having been swollen to this amount as a consequence of the war; but the fact that this debt is being shouldered by the people of Canada without undue difficulty is in itself proof of the great progress made by the Dominion in the realization of its resources and the accumulation of wealth.

In 1868 the chartered banks of Canada numbered 27, with 123 branches. Their paid up capital amounted to \$30,507,000, and the deposits to \$33,654,000. In 1917 the paid up capital of the 21 chartered banks of Canada having 3,135 branches amounted to