

under powers conferred by Acts of the Dominion Parliament, and their business consists in the forwarding of parcels through the railway companies, in the transfer of luggage and in the issue of money orders, travellers' cheques, letters of credit and other forms of financial paper. Three other express companies situated in the United States, but consolidated during the war period, like the United States railways, under the operation of a single management appointed by the United States Government, and referred to here as "American Railway," also do business in Canada. The total capital liability of the four Canadian companies on December 31, 1922, stood at \$6,150,000.

A considerable volume of the business of express companies has, during recent years, been drawn off by the numerous motor bus and motor truck systems now in operation. Transport facilities offered by motor vehicles have proved to be of much value; with the building of improved road systems throughout the country, further decreases in the amount of express traffic now carried by the railways over short distances may be expected.

Table 27, following, shows the operating mileage of Canadian express companies for the years 1919-1922, illustrating chiefly the division of business between the various concerns and the provinces in which their systems are most highly developed. The first section of the table illustrates clearly the preponderance of mileage operated over steam railway lines.

27.—Operating Mileage of Express Companies in Canada, by Routes, by Provinces and by Companies, for the calendar years 1919-1922.

Routes, Provinces and Companies.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.
	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.
By routes over—				
Steam roads.....	40,450	40,852	40,851	42,176
Electric lines.....	399	301	304	250
Steamboat lines (Inland).....	2,912	2,862	2,862	3,037
Stage lines.....	57	84	81	81
Steamship lines (Ocean).....	—	—	16,811	16,811
Miscellaneous ¹	16,813	16,813	2	2
Totals.....	60,631	60,912	60,911	62,357
By Provinces—				
Prince Edward Island.....	500	500	500	490
Nova Scotia.....	1,569	1,947	1,946	1,946
New Brunswick.....	2,519	2,549	2,549	2,810
Quebec.....	5,424	5,426	5,398	5,514
Ontario.....	11,908	11,701	11,701	11,701
Manitoba.....	4,402	4,296	4,298	4,298
Saskatchewan.....	6,148	6,168	6,219	6,269
Alberta.....	4,601	4,774	4,754	5,626
British Columbia.....	5,756	5,778	5,738	5,723
Yukon.....	669	637	669	844
Other.....	17,135	17,137	17,137	17,137
Totals.....	60,631	60,912	60,911	62,357
By companies—				
American Railway Express Co.....	2,822	2,657	2,611	2,786
British America Express Co.....	414	414	414	414
Canadian Express Co. ²	14,963	15,308	15,308 ³	—
Canadian Northern Express Co. ³	8,810	8,921	—	—
Central Canada Express Co.....	729	729	729	763
Dominion Express Co.....	32,893	32,884	32,806	33,666
Canadian National Express Co.....	—	—	9,043 ⁴	24,728
Totals.....	60,631	60,912	60,911	62,357

¹ Miscellaneous mileage is almost entirely on ocean steamship lines.

² Now included in the Canadian

National Express Co. ³ 8 months. ⁴ 4 months.