

the year, the Montreal Telegraph Co., having absorbed the original one, had 540 miles of wire in use, 9 offices, 35 employees, and had sent out 33,000 messages. Equipment of very high quality was used by the early companies.

Development of new companies was rapid, new lines radiating from Montreal in all directions. The Grand Trunk Telegraph Co., with a line from Quebec to Buffalo, offered considerable opposition to the Montreal Co., and soon a combination of the two with the Great North Western Telegraph Co. was formed. This company controlled telegraph service in Canada until the building of the C.P.R. While private companies extended their service to meet the requirements of the more densely populated areas of the country, the Canadian Government, through its Public Works Department, built and is still operating lines in many other districts, principally outlying communities.

Telegraph Systems.—The Canadian telegraph systems are composed of lines owned by the Dominion Government and by chartered railway and telegraph companies. The Government system includes, besides the lines originally constructed by the Government, those previously owned by the Great North Western Telegraph Co., the Grand Trunk Pacific Telegraph Co., the Canadian Northern Railway Co. and the National Transcontinental Railway. The system is now operated by the Canadian National Telegraph Co. (formerly Great North Western Telegraph Co.).

The Canadian system, in proportion to population, is one of the most extensive in the world, and is operated under considerable climatic and geographic disadvantages. In the operation of railways and in the receipt and despatch of market and press reports its services to the nation are invaluable.

Telegraph Statistics.—A brief summary table giving the more important figures of the operation of Canadian telegraphs in 1921, 1922 and 1923 follows.

65.—Summary Statistics of all Canadian Telegraphs for calendar years 1921-1923.

Items.	Year ended Dec. 31.		
	1921.	1922.	1923.
Gross Revenue..... \$	11,310,989	11,018,762	11,417,284
Operating Expenses..... \$	9,734,299	9,846,425	9,931,845
Net Operating Revenue..... \$	1,576,690	1,172,337	1,485,439
Pole Line Mileage..... Miles	52,784	53,096	53,383
Wire Mileage..... "	250,802	262,343	270,782
Employees..... No.	7,818	8,500	7,565
Number of Offices..... "	4,901	4,762	4,930
Messages, Land..... "	15,013,993	15,271,410	16,150,106
Cablegrams..... "	1,154,787	1,182,053	1,302,224
Amount of Money transferred..... \$	5,150,916	4,404,407	5,326,352

Table 66 gives figures of telegraph operation and line and wire mileage of the various companies for the years 1920 to 1923.