

ance of way and structures account of the steam railways in 1924 totalled \$78,051,798, as compared with \$83,501,064 in 1923. There were 509 miles of new lines opened for operation during 1924, 203 miles completed but not opened for traffic and 770 miles projected or under construction. Total track mileage in 1924 was 52,692, as compared with 51,936 in 1923, a net increase of 756 miles. The expenditure of electric railways on maintenance of way and structures account increased from \$4,233,164 in 1923 to \$4,488,826 in 1924. The length of their main line increased from 2,247.63 miles to 2,261.68, or by 14.05 miles.

As for the growth of the telephone systems of Canada, the pole line mileage increased from 188,408 in 1923 to 195,119 in 1924, and the wire mileage from 2,574,083 to 2,293,596 in the same period. The property and equipment account was \$179,002,152 in 1923 and \$193,884,378 in 1924.

The pole line mileage of the telegraph systems increased from 53,383 in 1923 to 53,484 in 1924, and the wire mileage, which was 270,782 in 1923, increased by 45,331 in the following year. The line and equipment account was \$1,539,739 in 1923 and \$1,015,354 in 1924.

Contracts awarded.—The total value of contracts for construction awarded in Canada during the calendar years 1920 to 1925 inclusive, according to the compilation of the MacLean Building Reports, Ltd., is given in Table 1.

1.—Value of Construction Contracts Awarded in Canada, 1920-1925, according to the Compilation of MacLean Building Reports, Ltd.

Distribution.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
Geographical Division.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Maritime.....	21,395,000	9,288,900	11,154,000	8,749,400	8,596,700	8,873,700
Ontario.....	108,120,800	113,855,000	166,628,000	156,151,800	136,041,400	121,281,100
Quebec.....	54,904,600	61,337,500	103,291,800	102,569,800	89,511,200	124,509,100
Western.....	78,185,100	55,651,900	50,770,000	46,783,300	42,111,800	43,342,100
Type of Building.						
Residential.....	54,891,100	76,655,400	104,201,500	97,645,200	91,224,800	96,489,900
Business.....	86,073,200	84,721,700	81,385,700	80,436,800	73,666,700	73,067,100
Industrial.....	64,625,900	16,503,700	25,755,800	27,022,000	21,765,000	40,007,300
Engineering.....	50,015,300	62,252,500	120,500,800	109,150,300	89,604,600	88,408,700
Total.....	255,605,500	240,133,300	331,843,800	314,254,300	276,261,100	297,973,000

Building Permits.—The anticipated value of construction in 60 cities of Canada, as indicated by their building permits, is shown for the years 1920 to 1925 inclusive in Table 2. These cities had in 1921 about 32.5 p.c. of the population of Canada, while their 1925 building permits aggregated \$101,021,798, or 81 p.c. of the total contracts awarded, as shown in Table 1. In the following table, the 35 cities for which statistics of building permits are available since 1910 are indicated by an asterisk (*), and the totals for these cities are given beneath the totals for the larger group. Statistics of the building permits in these 35 cities for the years between 1917 and 1920 are given on p. 581 of the 1920 Year Book.