

Northern, of the Grand Trunk Pacific and of the Grand Trunk proper, and that they should be administered on purely business principles by a board of trustees, such compensation as seemed proper to be decided by arbitration and given to the shareholders of the Canadian Northern and the Grand Trunk.

The process of the acquisition of these railways and the financial results of their operation down to the end of 1924 are described in a special article, "The Origin and Growth of Government-owned railways in Canada," appearing on pages 604 to 609 of this volume, and illustrated by Tables 19, 20 and 21, dealing respectively with physical operations, with earnings and expenses, and with the growth of the railway debt to the public and to the Government.

2.—Statistics of Steam Railways.

The steam railways of the world may be said to have commenced their operations with the opening of the Stockton and Darlington Railway in England on Sept. 26, 1825. In the intervening century, the mileage of the steam railways of the world has increased to an estimated total of 738,577 miles in 1924, of which figure 279,721 miles were state railways. Of the enormous total, slightly over one-third, or 250,282 miles, was in the United States. British India was second, with 40,401 miles and Canada a close third, with 40,061 miles. Germany had 35,558 miles, France 33,208, Russia in Europe, 30,732 miles, Australia 26,712, Argentina 22,228 miles, Brazil 18,703 miles, Mexico 16,406 miles. Of all the countries in the world, Canada had the smallest population per mile of her railway lines, *viz.*, 230.

The mileage of steam railways in operation in Canada is given by single years for each year from 1835 to 1924 in Table 1, showing the first great period of construction in the 1850's, when the mileage grew from 16 to 2,065, the lull in the 1860's, the second great period of construction in the 1870's and 1880's, the lull in the 1890's, the third great period of construction between 1900 and 1915 and the subsequent falling-off in the rate of increase. The mileage in the different provinces is given for recent years in Table 2.

1.—Record of Steam Railway Mileage as at June 30, 1835-1919, and Dec. 31, 1919-1924.

Years.	Number of miles in operation.	Years.	Number of miles in operation.	Years.	Number of miles in operation.	Years.	Number of miles in operation.
1835.....	-	1858.....	1,863	1881.....	7,331	1904.....	19,431
1836.....	16	1859.....	1,994	1882.....	8,697	1905.....	20,487
1837.....	16	1860.....	2,065	1883.....	9,577	1906.....	21,353
1838.....	16	1861.....	2,146	1884.....	10,273	1907.....	22,452
1839.....	16	1862.....	2,189	1885.....	10,773	1908.....	22,966
1840.....	16	1863.....	2,189	1886.....	11,793	1909.....	24,104
1841.....	16	1864.....	2,189	1887.....	12,184	1910.....	24,731
1842.....	16	1865.....	2,240	1888.....	12,163	1911.....	25,400
1843.....	16	1866.....	2,278	1889.....	12,628	1912.....	26,727
1844.....	16	1867.....	2,278	1890.....	13,151	1913.....	29,304
1845.....	16	1868.....	2,270	1891.....	13,838	1914.....	30,795
1846.....	16	1869.....	2,524	1892.....	14,564	1915.....	35,582
1847.....	54	1870.....	2,617	1893.....	15,005	1916.....	37,434
1848.....	54	1871.....	2,695	1894.....	15,627	1917.....	38,604
1849.....	54	1872.....	2,899	1895.....	15,977	1918.....	38,484
1850.....	66	1873.....	3,832	1896.....	16,270	1919.....	38,501
1851.....	159	1874.....	4,331	1897.....	16,550	1919.....	38,663
1852.....	205	1875.....	4,804	1898.....	16,870	1920.....	38,976
1853.....	506	1876.....	5,218	1899.....	17,250	1921.....	39,363
1854.....	764	1877.....	5,782	1900.....	17,657	1922.....	39,360
1855.....	877	1878.....	6,226	1901.....	18,140	1923.....	39,665
1856.....	1,414	1879.....	6,858	1902.....	18,714	1924.....	40,061
1857.....	1,444	1880.....	7,194	1903.....	18,988		