

programmes were broadcasted by electrical companies as part of their campaign to sell private radio equipment. Radiotelephony has become a very practicable means of relaying telephone messages to places where the population is too sparse to support a telephone system and to ships at sea. But radiotelephony is not applicable to the regular business of telephone companies in urban districts, because only a limited number of messages can be transmitted simultaneously without interference.

72.—Wireless and Radio Stations in Operation in Canada, Mar. 31, 1923-1925.

Kind of Stations.	1923.	1924.	1925.
Coast Stations (government-owned).....	32	31	34
Land Stations.....	1	1	1
Direction Finding Stations (government-owned).....	4	7	7
Ship Stations (government-owned).....	29	30	20
Ship Stations (commercial).....	226	232	239
Limited Coast Stations.....	1	2	2
Public Commercial Stations.....	6	7	14
Private Commercial Stations.....	44	55	57
Private Commercial Broadcasting Stations.....	51	46	63
Experimental Stations.....	57	46	44
Amateur Experimental Stations.....	1,449	1,345	533
Amateur Broadcasting Stations.....	8	22	17
Private Receiving Stations.....	9,956	31,609	91,996
Radio Training Schools.....	18	14	11
Radio Beacon Stations.....	-	4	5
Life Saving Stations.....	-	5	5
Licensed aircraft.....	-	-	2
Total.....	11,882	33,456	93,048

XI.—TELEPHONES.

Telephone development in Canada dates from the year 1880, when the Bell Telephone Co. was incorporated by Act of Parliament. Although at this time all patents and lines were owned by the Canadian Telephone Co., they were dependent on the Bell Co., to which they sold out in 1882. By 1883 the first submarine telephone cable had been laid between Windsor and Detroit, and during the year the Bell Co. operated in Canada 4,400 rental-earning telephones, 44 exchanges and 40 agencies, with 600 miles of long distance wire. It controlled development in all the provinces except British Columbia, where the greater part of the system has always been in the hands of the British Columbia Telephone Co., Ltd.

With rapid growth of private companies in the Maritime Provinces, the lines of the Bell Co. were disposed of in 1888 to the Maritime Telegraph and Telephone Co. in Nova Scotia and to the New Brunswick Telephone Co. in New Brunswick, an interest in these corporations being retained under the terms of sale. A development of a different kind is seen in the three Prairie Provinces, where well organized systems were sold to the governments of Manitoba and Alberta in 1908 and to Saskatchewan in 1909. The lines in Ontario and Quebec are still largely owned by the Bell Telephone Co.

Telephone Systems.—In all the provinces, besides the large telephone companies, are many smaller systems, both urban and rural, usually owned privately or co-operatively. The number of independent lines is particularly large in Saskatchewan. The steady growth in the use of telephones is shown in Table 73, particularly by the increase of 63,251 telephones in 1924, as compared with 1923.