

Financial statistics of Canadian telephone companies are given in Tables 77 and 78 below.

77.—Financial Statistics of Telephone Companies, by Provinces, for the calendar year 1926.

Provinces.	Capital stock.	Funded debt.	Cost of property and equipment.	Salaries and wages.	Gross revenue.	Operating expenses.	Net operating revenue.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Prince Edward Island.....	480,732	202,132	827,186	54,408	153,902	107,633	46,269
Nova Scotia.....	3,632,640	2,560,558	7,386,318	579,955	1,637,621	1,318,857	318,734
New Brunswick.....	3,415,637	14,866	8,856,219	486,696	1,217,854	923,158	294,696
Quebec.....	51,049,792	37,111,358	119,092,452	5,975,995	29,941,985	21,705,860	8,236,125
Ontario.....	2,636,772	2,164,579	8,244,258	8,365,323	2,154,257	1,883,276	270,981
Manitoba.....	25,609	19,660,520	19,798,347	1,482,794	3,445,117	3,220,655	224,462
Saskatchewan.....	884,467	21,271,467	29,500,990	929,056	4,242,604	3,225,371	1,017,233
Alberta.....	52,137	25,578,187	22,618,292	1,120,960	3,410,179	3,023,986	386,193
British Columbia.....	6,153,313	2,246,432	15,805,758	1,436,085	4,303,720	2,722,153	1,581,537
Yukon.....	65,000	-	56,080	1,871	15,620	10,351	5,269
Total.....	68,345,999	110,805,099	227,155,900	20,413,173	54,522,859	38,141,360	12,381,499

¹As the head office of the Bell Telephone Co. is situated in Montreal, its very large business is necessarily credited to Quebec, though largely transacted outside of that province.

78.—Financial Statistics of Canadian Telephone Companies for the years 1912-1926.¹

Years.	Capital stock.	Funded debt.	Cost of property and equipment.	Salaries and wages.	Gross revenue.	Operating expenses.	Net operating revenue.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1912.....	21,533,605	24,743,247	56,837,799	2,659,642	12,273,637	9,094,639	3,178,936
1913.....	26,590,501	33,256,593	69,214,971	6,839,309	14,897,278	11,175,689	3,721,589
1914.....	28,644,340	41,647,554	80,258,356	8,250,253	17,297,269	12,882,402	4,414,867
1915.....	28,947,122	45,337,869	83,792,583	8,357,029	17,601,673	12,836,715	6,764,958
1916.....	29,416,956	47,503,358	88,520,021	7,852,719	18,594,268	11,147,201	7,447,067
1917.....	29,476,367	49,645,335	94,469,534	8,882,593	20,122,282	12,095,426	8,026,856
1918.....	29,803,090	55,471,601	104,368,627	10,410,807	22,753,280	13,644,524	9,108,756
1919.....	35,227,233	65,360,600	125,017,222	15,774,586	29,401,066	20,081,436	9,319,570
1920.....	36,149,838	80,539,367	144,560,969	17,294,405	33,473,712	25,044,401	8,429,311
1921.....	42,194,426	90,343,345	158,678,229	19,000,422	36,986,913	30,030,035	6,906,878
1922.....	48,988,198	94,833,826	167,332,932	17,305,759	39,559,149	29,966,181	9,592,968
1923.....	57,366,675	95,306,347	179,002,152	18,182,429	42,132,959	32,990,370	10,266,285
1924.....	63,798,133	96,216,887	198,884,378	18,293,234	44,322,598	33,615,896	10,706,912
1925.....	65,514,130	102,653,161	210,535,795	19,106,383	47,233,617	35,566,947	11,666,670
1926.....	68,345,999	110,805,099	227,155,900	20,413,173	50,522,859	38,141,360	12,381,499

¹Figures for the years 1912-1918 are from July 1 to June 30; those for 1919-1926 are for the years Jan. 1 to Dec. 31.

XII.—THE POST OFFICE.

Historical.—A postal service was established between Montreal and Quebec as early as 1721, official messengers and other travellers making a practice of carrying letters for private persons. When Canada came under British rule, the Post Office was placed on a settled footing by Benjamin Franklin, then Deputy Postmaster-General for the American colonies, who visited Canada in 1763, opened post offices at Quebec, Montreal and Three Rivers, and also established courier communication between Montreal and New York. Since 1755 Halifax had had a post office and direct postal communication with Great Britain.

As a consequence of the American Revolution and the resulting isolation of Canada from Nova Scotia, the first exclusively Canadian postal service, a monthly