

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 1927 are described in a special article, "The Origin and Growth of Government-owned railways in Canada", appearing on pages 653 to 661 of this volume, and illustrated by tables dealing with capital expenditure, physical operations, earnings and expenses, and the growth of the railway debt to the public and to the Government.

Section 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 had increased to an estimated total of 752,434 miles in 1926, of which figure 289,463 miles were State railways. Of the enormous total, nearly one-third, or 248,671 miles, was in the United States. Canada was second with 40,236 miles (exclusive of 336 miles of Canadian railways in the United States) and British India third with 39,049 miles. Germany had 34,811 miles, France 33,197 miles, Russia in Europe 35,659 miles, Australia 25,883 miles, Great Britain 24,342 miles, Argentina 23,429 miles, Brazil 19,043 miles, Mexico 16,443 miles.¹ Of all the leading countries in the world Canada had the smallest population per mile of her railway lines, viz., 234.

The mileage of steam railways in operation in Canada is given by single years for each year from 1835 to 1927 in Table 1, showing the first great period of construction in the 1850's, when the mileage grew from 66 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, 1919-1927.

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.....	-	1868.....	2,270	1889.....	12,628	1910.....	24,731
1836-1846.....	16	1869.....	2,524	1890.....	13,151	1911.....	25,400
1847-1849.....	54	1870.....	2,617	1891.....	13,838	1912.....	26,840
1850.....	66	1871.....	2,895	1892.....	14,564	1913.....	29,304
1851.....	159	1872.....	2,899	1893.....	15,005	1914.....	30,795
1852.....	205	1873.....	3,832	1894.....	15,627	1915.....	34,882
1853.....	506	1874.....	4,331	1895.....	15,977	1916.....	36,385
1854.....	764	1875.....	4,804	1896.....	16,270	1917.....	38,369
1855.....	877	1876.....	5,218	1897.....	16,550	1918.....	38,252
1856.....	1,414	1877.....	5,782	1898.....	16,870	1919.....	38,330
1857.....	1,444	1878.....	6,326	1899.....	17,250	1920.....	38,496
1858.....	1,863	1879.....	6,858	1900.....	17,657	1921.....	38,806
1859.....	1,994	1880.....	7,194	1901.....	18,140	1922.....	39,192
1860.....	2,065	1881.....	7,331	1902.....	18,714	1923.....	39,360
1861.....	2,146	1882.....	8,097	1903.....	18,998	1924.....	39,665
1862.....	2,189	1883.....	9,577	1904.....	19,431	1925.....	40,061
1863.....	2,189	1884.....	10,273	1905.....	20,487	1926.....	40,352
1864.....	2,189	1885.....	10,773	1906.....	21,423	1927.....	40,353
1865.....	2,240	1886.....	11,793	1907.....	22,446		40,572
1866.....	2,278	1887.....	12,184	1908.....	22,966		
1867.....	2,278	1888.....	12,163	1909.....	24,104		

¹From Slason Thompson's *Railway Statistics of the United States of America, 1927*, pp. 50-52.