

Capital Investment.—The capital investment in road and equipment of Canadian steam railways is shown in Table 5 for the calendar years 1923-1928. The table gives the investment in new lines and in additions and betterments during the year, together with the cumulative total of such investments as at the end of each year. During 1928, \$30,843,793 was invested in new lines and \$47,699,981 in additions and betterments, while up to Dec. 31, 1928 a total of \$3,020,059,995 had been invested in road and equipment of Canadian steam railways. When comparison is made with the figures of Table 3, it is seen that the capital liability of the steam railways was considerably greater than the actual investment in physical property by the railways at the same date. This discrepancy was largely accounted for by the fact that the total of capital liabilities as shown in Table 3 included loans and advances from the Government to cover deficits of the Canadian National Railways and unpaid accrued interest on such loans, which during the 10 years 1919 to 1928 amounted to \$500,471,329 as shown in Table 23. A further factor in the discrepancy was that some of the outstanding railway stocks represented no actual investment in physical property.

5.—Capital Invested in Road and Equipment of Canadian Steam Railways, calendar years 1923-1928.

Investments.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
New Lines—						
Road.....	12,464,847	5,739,382	10,353,357	10,030,081	14,488,059	30,003,540
Equipment.....	35,471	32,069	Cr. 3,399	129,645	448,649	351,447
General.....	2,468,244	2,396,790	2,442,175	277,356	2,807,259	488,806
Total for year.....	14,968,562	8,168,241	12,792,133	10,437,082	17,743,967	30,843,793
Additions and Betterments—						
Road.....	28,540,495	25,571,368	15,251,545	19,515,536	32,188,136	33,682,796
Equipment.....	29,559,855	9,895,974	1,629,939	2,121,625	20,081,275	11,432,446
General.....	990,805	Cr. 110,365	Cr. 95,460	2,387,982	138,644	2,659,759
Undistributed	83,938	2,625,247	702,450	1,089,943	Cr. 74,948	Cr. 75,020
Total for year.....	59,175,093	37,982,224	17,488,474	25,115,086	52,333,107	47,699,981
Undistributed..	-	623,913	Cr. 178,020	Cr. 15,415,510 ¹	1,598,437	Cr. 12,370,351 ²
Total Investments, as at Dec. 31...	2,785,197,438	2,831,971,816	2,862,074,403	2,882,211,061	2,953,886,572	3,020,059,995

¹ Includes a credit of \$14,944,515 on account of Hudson Bay Railway not operated and returned to Dominion Government for completion.

² Includes a credit of \$13,477,505 on account of Canadian National property transferred to Harbour Commissions of Halifax and Saint John.

Summary of Traffic Statistics.—A summary of freight and passenger traffic statistics and of the ratio of operating expenses to gross earnings, continuing a series which has been compiled since 1875, will be found for the years 1911 to 1928 in Table 6. This table has, however, the great defect that its figures of passengers and freight carried are not comparable throughout, but have been reduced as a result of the consolidation of railways. Better tests of the real volume of passenger and freight traffic are supplied in Table 9 of this chapter under the headings "Passengers carried one mile" and "Freight carried one mile". These records, commencing in 1915, show that the maximum volume of passenger traffic was reached in the calendar year 1919 and the maximum volume of freight traffic in 1928. Both freight