

industry, and annual deficits of \$8,047,635, \$9,649,479, \$9,368,670, \$8,836,609, \$7,667,513, \$6,687,221, \$7,036,940, \$7,545,525 and \$5,928,758 are shown for the years 1921 to 1929 respectively.

In conformity with the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement Act of 1926, (16-17 Geo. V, c. 16), the Dominion Government has provided direct steamship services to the West Indies through the medium of Canadian National (West Indies) Steamships, Ltd. The service is provided by a fleet of twelve vessels of a total dead weight tonnage of 60,592. Five of these boats, known as the "Lady" ships, were specially constructed for passenger service on this route, while the remaining seven vessels previously formed part of the Canadian Government Merchant Marine fleet, and were taken over by the Canadian National (West Indies) Steamships, Ltd., for operating purposes, under entrusting agreements with the companies which respectively owned such ships. The investment in vessels at Dec. 31, 1929, amounted to \$9,633,306, mainly made up of the construction cost of the "Lady" ships and the present day valuation of the other seven ships, together with the cost of conversion for use in the West Indies service of three of the latter.

The first annual report of the Canadian National (West Indies) Steamships, Ltd., is for the year ended Dec. 31, 1929, during which operating revenues amounted to \$3,332,683 and operating expenses to \$3,780,524, or a net operating loss of \$447,841. After debiting \$227,315 for depreciation and \$442,739 representing interest on notes and advances, the total book loss for the year was \$1,117,896.

## PART X.—TELEGRAPHS.

### Section I.—Telegraph Statistics.<sup>1</sup>

The Toronto, Hamilton and Niagara Electro-Magnetic Telegraph Co., organized by a group of Toronto men, was the first to establish an electric telegraph service in the pre-Confederation province of Canada. It was formally organized on Oct. 22, 1846, and its Toronto-Hamilton line was opened on Dec. 19 of the same year. In January, 1847, the line was completed to Queenston, whence there was a connecting line to Buffalo. The Montreal Telegraph Co. commenced the construction of a line to Toronto in February, 1847, and began actual operation between the two cities on Aug. 3 of the same year. By the end of the year it had 540 miles of wire in use, 9 offices and 35 employees, and had sent out 33,000 messages. Both the Montreal and the Toronto companies were incorporated by special Acts at the 1847 session of the Legislature. In 1852 the Toronto, Hamilton and Niagara Co. sold out to the Montreal company.

The British North American Electrical Association was also formed in 1847, with the object of connecting Quebec with the Maritime Provinces, but for some years its line went no farther than Rivière du Loup, though it was finally extended to Woodstock, N.B., where it connected with the American Telegraph Co., which already had lines in New Brunswick. The New Brunswick Telegraph Co. built a line connecting Saint John with the Maine lines in 1848, and in the following year extended it to Amherst, N.S., where it connected with the Nova Scotia line, bringing Halifax for the first time into telegraphic communication with New York.

<sup>1</sup> Revised by G. S. Wrong, B.Sc., Chief of the Transportation and Public Utilities Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, which issues an annual report dealing with telegraph statistics.