

Table 78 gives the number of messages and words handled and the cost of maintenance for the Government stations of the east coast, the west coast, the Great Lakes, the Hudson bay and Hudson strait. For the year 1931-32, the total number of messages was 307,869, as compared with 396,727 in 1930-31, 440,912 in 1929-30, 456,239 in 1928-29, 404,144 in 1927-28 and 402,023 in 1926-27, and of words handled 6,936,062, as compared with 8,534,982 in 1930-31, 9,167,302 in 1929-30, 8,942,945 in 1928-29, 7,695,757 in 1927-28 and 7,347,794 in 1926-27.

78.—Business and Cost of Maintenance of Radiotelegraph Stations for the fiscal years ended Mar. 31, 1931 and 1932.

Station.	1931.			1932.		
	Messages Handled.	Words Handled.	Cost of Maintenance.	Messages Handled.	Words Handled.	Cost of Maintenance.
	No.	No.	\$	No.	No.	\$
East Coast.....	119,651	2,496,089	212,838	99,979	2,203,391	209,500
Great Lakes.....	27,782	431,019	79,294	21,220	332,868	78,978
West Coast.....	223,574	4,680,209	134,043	156,690	3,288,519	145,875
Hudson Bay and Strait.....	25,720	927,665	82,470	29,980	1,111,284	76,751
Totals.....	396,727	8,534,982	508,645	307,869	6,936,062	511,104

Section 2.—Radiotelephony.

Transatlantic Radiotelephone Service.—A radiotelephone service between Canada and Great Britain was first made available to the Canadian public, through the medium of the Bell Telephone Co. *via* the transatlantic radio circuit operated by the American Telegraph and Telephone Co. from New York, in March, 1928.

In 1932 a direct circuit with Great Britain was opened through the medium of the beam station of the Canadian Marconi Company at Drummondville, P.Q.

Approximately \$250,000 is expended annually by the Radio Branch of the Department of Marine for the suppression of inductive interference in the interests of broadcast listeners. This service is entirely free. Upwards of 100 men and 24 fully equipped cars are engaged in this work. Radio broadcasting throughout the Dominion is at present carried on by private enterprise.

Radio Broadcasting.—Broadcasting of the human voice by radio first commenced in Canada with test programs carried out by the Canadian Marconi Company in Montreal during the winter evenings of 1919. Regular organized programs were commenced in December, 1920, by the same company, on a wavelength of 1,200 metres.

In April, 1922, the establishment of broadcasting stations on a general scale commenced, 52 private, commercial and amateur broadcasting licences being granted during the fiscal year 1922-23. During the fiscal year 1931-32, 66 broadcasting stations were in operation in the Dominion, and the number of licensed receiving sets was 598,358. The licence fee for a broadcasting station is \$50 per annum, and for a receiving set \$2 per annum.