

Section 2.—Statistics of Steam Railways.

The mileage of steam railways in operation in Canada is given by years for each year from 1850 to 1934 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 1917 and the subsequent falling-off in the rate of increase.

In total railway mileage Canada now ranks fourth with 42,270 miles, the United States, Soviet Russia and British India being the only countries with greater total mileages, and in miles per capita only Australia has a greater average, Canada's density being one mile of line for each 256 persons (exclusive of 339 miles, chiefly main lines of Canadian railways crossing over United States territory).

1.—Record of Steam Railway Mileage as at June 30, 1835-1919, and Dec. 31, 1919-34.

Year.	Miles in Operation.	Year.	Miles in Operation.	Year.	Miles in Operation.	Year.	Miles in Operation.	Year.	Miles in Operation.	Year.	Miles in Operation.
	No.		No.		No.		No.		No.		No.
1835.....	-	1862...	2,189	1877...	5,782	1892...	14,564	1907...	22,446	1921...	39,191 ¹
1836-46..	16	1863...	2,189	1878...	6,226	1893...	15,005	1908...	22,966	1922...	39,358 ¹
1847-49..	54	1864...	2,189	1879...	6,858	1894...	15,627	1909...	24,104	1923...	39,654 ¹
1850.....	66	1865...	2,240	1880...	7,194	1895...	15,977	1910...	24,731	1924...	40,059 ¹
1851.....	159	1866...	2,278	1881...	7,331	1896...	16,270	1911...	25,400	1925...	40,350 ¹
1852.....	205	1867...	2,278	1882...	8,697	1897...	16,550	1912...	26,840	1926...	40,350 ¹
1853.....	506	1868...	2,270	1883...	9,577	1898...	16,870	1913...	29,304	1927...	40,570 ¹
1854.....	764	1869...	2,524	1884...	10,273	1899...	17,250	1914...	30,795	1928...	41,022 ¹
1855.....	877	1870...	2,617	1885...	10,773	1900...	17,657	1915...	34,882	1929...	41,380 ¹
1856.....	1,414	1871...	2,695	1886...	11,793	1901...	18,140	1916...	36,985	1930...	42,047 ¹
1857.....	1,444	1872...	2,899	1887...	12,184	1902...	18,714	1917...	38,369	1931...	42,280 ¹
1858.....	1,863	1873...	3,832	1888...	12,163	1903...	18,988	1918...	38,252	1932...	42,409 ¹
1859.....	1,994	1874...	4,331	1889...	12,628	1904...	19,431	1919 ² ...	38,329 ¹	1933...	42,336 ¹
1860.....	2,065	1875...	4,804	1890...	13,151	1905...	20,487	1919 ³ ...	38,495 ¹	1934...	42,270
1861.....	2,146	1876...	5,218	1891...	13,838	1906...	21,423	1920...	38,805 ¹		

¹Revised since the publication of the 1934-35 Year Book.

²June 30.

³Dec. 31.

The operated mileage in the different provinces is given for recent years in Table 2. Construction was most active in Saskatchewan and Alberta during the period covered, as will be seen from the increased mileage recorded in these provinces.