

## PART X.—TELEGRAPHS.\*

The early history of telegraphic communication in Canada, given on p. 778 of the 1934-35 Year Book, is not repeated in this volume in order to economize space.

**Dominion Government Telegraph Service.**—This service is operated by the Telegraph Branch of the Department of Public Works. Its general object has been to furnish rapid communication for outlying and sparsely settled districts where the amount of business is so small that commercial companies will not enter the field but where the public interests require that there should be communication. Thus these facilities include: telegraph and telephone services to scattered settlements around the coasts of Cape Breton island; cable services to Campobello, Grand Manan and other islands in the bay of Fundy, to Prince Edward Island, Magdalen islands and Anticosti island in the gulf of St. Lawrence; telegraph or telephone services along the north shore of the gulf of St. Lawrence from Quebec to the straits of Belle Isle; cable connections with Pelee and Manitoulin islands in Ontario; some lines to northern outlying districts in Saskatchewan; lines from Edmonton to the Athabaska and Peace River country in Alberta; telegraph or telephone communications around the coast of Vancouver island and to fishing, lumbering and mining settlements along the coast of the mainland of British Columbia, as well as to isolated mining centres in the interior; and finally the overland telegraph line to Dawson and other settlements in Yukon. All these services, on Mar. 31, 1934, comprised 8,864 miles of pole line, 10,782 miles of wire, 326 knots of cable and 705 offices, with 535 salaried employees engaged in operation and maintenance, as well as 171 other persons. The lines in operation amounted to 3,767 miles of pole line in British Columbia and an additional 555 miles in Yukon, 1,675 miles in Quebec, 1,442 in Alberta and 877 miles in Nova Scotia, as well as smaller mileages in New Brunswick, Ontario and Saskatchewan.

**Telegraph Systems.**—The Canadian telegraph systems are composed of lines owned by the Dominion Government and by chartered railway and telegraph companies. The lines previously owned by the Great North Western Telegraph Co., the Grand Trunk Pacific Telegraph Co., the Canadian Northern Railway Co. and the National Transcontinental Railway are now owned by the Government and are operated by the Canadian National Telegraph Co. (formerly Great North Western Telegraph Co.).

The Canadian system, in proportion to population, is one of the most extensive in the world, and is operated under considerable climatic and geographic disadvantages. In the operation of railways and in the receipt and dispatch of market and press reports, its services to the nation are invaluable.

**Telegraph Statistics.**—A brief summary table giving the more important figures of the operation of Canadian telegraphs from 1920 to 1934 follows. For details, see the Annual Report on Telegraph Statistics published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

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