

Trans-Canada Air Lines.—Air traffic over the Trans-Canada Air Lines was greatly increased in 1948-49 by the addition of 20 40-passenger North Star aircraft to the Company's fleet, thus enabling modern air transportation to be provided on a large scale. Travel and shipping time has been reduced by the introduction of this faster and larger Canadian-built equipment. The new aircraft were placed in transcontinental service on June 1, 1948, flying two round trips daily between Montreal and Vancouver with stops at Toronto, Winnipeg and Calgary and reducing transcontinental travel time to 14 hours.

Local services in the Prairie Provinces in 1948-49 were extended by including Brandon and Yorkton on the Winnipeg-Regina route. The prairie cities of Lethbridge, Edmonton, Saskatoon, Regina, Medicine Hat and Swift Current were linked by feeder service to the mainline route. Flight frequency of the Ontario service between Toronto, North Bay, Porquis Junction and Kapuskasing was placed on a daily basis. A second daily flight was added between Toronto, Sault Ste. Marie, the Lakehead and Winnipeg. Direct operations commenced between Sydney, N.S., Moncton and Saint John, N.B.

In the domestic service of Trans-Canada Air Lines, 562,170 passengers, 2,772,985 ton miles of mail and 1,581,879 ton miles of commodity traffic were carried during the year ended Mar. 31, 1949. This compares with 438,549 passengers, 1,311,764 ton miles of mail and 645,771 ton miles of commodity traffic in the previous year. These figures include the emergency service provided in British Columbia in a three-week period in the early summer when all surface connections with that Province were severed by floods. Flying its larger aircraft across the Rocky Mountains in as many as six round flights a day, Trans-Canada Air Lines moved 9,000 persons, and 600,000 lb. of food and other essential cargo. Included also was the general carriage of first-class mail by air at unchanged postal rates. As a result of this service, Canadians now enjoy the most inexpensive air-mail service in the world.

At the end of 1949, the Trans-Canada Air Lines fleet consisted of 20 four-engined North Stars and 27 twin-engined DC-3's.

1.—Passenger, Freight and Mail Traffic of Trans-Canada Air Lines, 1939-48

Source: Trans-Canada Air Lines Annual Report.

Year	Revenue Passenger Traffic ¹		Revenue Freight Traffic ²		Mail Traffic
	No.	Passenger miles	lb.	ton miles	ton miles
1939.....	21,569	12,068,661	67,729	41,749	306,252
1940.....	53,180	28,782,217	138,773	79,584	442,036
1941.....	85,154	44,248,124	286,116	132,352	720,150
1942.....	102,762	51,334,839	527,635	247,314	1,072,571
1943.....	140,276	78,508,427	1,114,206	526,363	1,623,802
1944.....	156,884	84,425,354	1,117,747	510,760	1,760,486
1945.....	183,121	106,088,111	1,261,935	500,687	1,571,180
1946.....	305,442	155,777,319	1,453,743	513,493	1,210,716
1947.....	427,967	179,808,562	2,041,315	764,105	1,275,909 ³
1948.....	532,555	249,575,544	4,313,297	1,608,102	2,294,088

¹ Includes non-scheduled service. carried from Oct. 15 to Dec. 31.

² Includes excess baggage.

³ Includes first-class mail