

**The Toronto Underground Electric Railway.**—Canada's first underground electric railway, at Toronto, Ont., was one of the planned major developments upon which work was commenced during 1949. The subway or underground railway will run north-south following the line of Yonge St. to Queen St. The opening is scheduled for the late autumn of 1953. The estimated cost of the Yonge and Queen Sts. subways is placed at over \$55,000,000. The total distance covered by the rapid transit lines will be about 9.1 miles, in the most congested areas of the city. The subway will descend from 6 ft. to a maximum of 20 ft. below the street surface. Considerable new equipment is on order and it is proposed to operate trains up to 5 two-car units in length. The ultimate capacity of the System is estimated at 40,000 passengers per hour in both directions. Excavations on the Yonge Street project alone involves the removal of about 1,390,000 cubic yards of material.

### Section 3.—Express Companies

Express service is an expedited freight service on passenger trains, but express companies do not own the means of performing these services; railway facilities are used by virtue of contracts with the railway companies. Express companies in Canada have thus always had close relations with the railways.

Goods are sent by express for quick transit, so that express rates do not generally compete with freight rates. The Dominion Express Company, in pursuance of its contract with the Canadian Pacific Railway, gave, in its first tariff, a rate of two and one-half times the maximum first-class railway freight rate for the same goods carried the same distance. The majority of the contracts between express and railway companies for carrying express freight are on the basis of a percentage of the gross express revenue and the rates paid by the shipper are subject to the approval of the Board of Transport Commissioners. All express companies are organized under powers conferred by Acts of the Federal Government and their business consists in the expeditious shipment of valuable live stock and such perishable commodities as fresh fish, fruit, etc., the forwarding of parcels, and the issue of money orders, travellers cheques, letters of credit and other forms of financial paper.

**Express Company Operations.**—Four express organizations operate in Canada—three Canadian and one American. The Canadian Pacific Express Company, formerly the Dominion Express Company, is a subsidiary of the Canadian Pacific Railway and handles the express business on the railways and the inland and ocean steamship lines of the parent company. The express business of the Canadian National and Northern Alberta Railways is handled by departments of the respective railways. The Railway Express Agency, Incorporated, operates over the Canadian sections of United States railways and over the route from Skagway, Alaska, to points in Yukon Territory. No statistics are available on the volume of traffic carried by express. Much of the traffic consists of parcels and small lots that would make statistical classification and measurement very difficult. However, there is also an important movement in car lots of live stock, fresh fish, fruit, vegetables and other perishable commodities.