

The Government of Canada has contributed to ICAO by granting privileges and immunities of a diplomatic character to the Organization itself, to the internationally recruited staff and to the representatives of the Member States permanently located at the Headquarters or attending meetings. Negotiations are under way between ICAO and the Government of the Province of Quebec and also with the authorities of the City of Montreal for similar privileges. When the arrangement was made for the establishment of the Headquarters premises at Montreal, it was agreed that rental charges would not include any profit element. Pursuant to this arrangement, Canada has contributed approximately \$70,000 annually towards rent. At the request of the Council of ICAO for further financial assistance in alleviating to some extent the high cost of maintaining the Organization at Montreal, the Government of Canada has offered, subject to approval by Parliament, further to subsidize the rent of ICAO in an amount which, together with the present contribution, will make a total contribution of approximately \$200,000 per annum. On the basis of this offer, rent of ICAO will compare very favourably with that of other specialized agencies located in Europe.

Canada's contribution towards the operating expenses of ICAO represents approximately 5 p.c. of the total annual budget which is about \$3,000,000.

PART VI.—WIRE COMMUNICATIONS*

Section 1.—Telegraphs

The early history of telegraphic communication in Canada is given in the 1934-35 Year Book, p. 778.

Federal Government Telegraph and Telephone Service. †—The function of the Telegraph and Telephone Section of the Department of Transport is to furnish wire communications for outlying and sparsely settled districts where commercial companies do not enter into the field and where the population must receive adequate communication services in the public interest. These services include: telegraph and telephone services to scattered settlements along the coast of Cape Breton Island; cable services to Campobello, Grand Manan and other islands in the Bay of Fundy, to Prince Edward Island and to a number of small islands in the Gulf of St. Lawrence; cable connections with Pelee and Manitoulin Islands in Ontario as well as telephone lines on the latter; some lines to northern outlying districts in Saskatchewan; telegraph lines from Edmonton to the Athabaska and Peace River country in Alberta in addition to an extensive telephone system in the latter area; telegraph and telephone communications around the coast of Vancouver Island, B.C., and adjacent islands; service to fishing, lumber and mining centres in the interior; and an overland telegraph and telephone line serving communities from Ashcroft, B.C., to Dawson, Yukon Territory.

As at Mar. 31, 1951, the Telegraph and Telephone Service comprised 7,608 miles of pole line, 23,095 miles of wire, 224.5 nautical miles of submarine cable, 49 radio stations and 405 offices. The number of messages handled during the year was 1,340,454, producing a gross revenue of \$674,464 and a net revenue of \$610,601.

* Except where otherwise noted, this Part has been revised in the Public Finance and Transportation Division, Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The Division issues annual reports dealing with telegraph and telephone statistics.

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