

The majority continue to serve on 1,000 to 5,000 watts on the shared channels, the CBC stations occupying the clear channels allocated to Canada and operating mainly on 50,000 watts.

Network Operations.—Network operation in Canada (the process of having two or more stations broadcasting the same program at the same time) is at present restricted to the CBC by its own regulations. The CBC also has sole right, except in the case of four stations, to bring commercial and other network programs in from the United States. Some privately owned stations do, however, serve as outlets, either basic or supplementary, for CBC network programs. All stations must carry CBC or other programs when required by the CBC to do so. Food, drug and medicine continuity used on Canadian broadcasting stations must be approved in advance of broadcast by the Department of National Health and Welfare.

Television.—Government policy concerning citizen applications for television licences was undergoing revision as this Chapter went to press.

PART VIII.—THE POST OFFICE

The Canada Post Office Department was created at the time of Confederation in 1867, by the Canada Post Office Act to superintend and manage the postal service of Canada under the direction of a Postmaster General. For almost a century prior to Confederation, postal services in the Canadian provinces had been controlled by the British Postmaster General and administered by his deputies. Under the French régime a courier service had been organized as early as 1703 between Quebec, Three Rivers and Montreal, while in 1734 a post road was constructed over the same route and post houses, complete with post horses and vehicles, were established for the use of travellers.

Functions.—The basic task of the Canadian Postal Service is the handling and transmission of postal matter—letters, parcels, newspapers, magazines, etc.—and in discharging this duty it maintains a wide variety of services—post offices and air, railway, land and water transportation facilities.

This basic task involves many associated functions which include the sale of postage stamps and other articles of postage; the furnishing of information to the public respecting postage rates and other postal matters; the registration of letters and other articles of mail; the insuring of parcels; the acceptance of C.O.D. articles for mail and dispatch; the sorting, making up and dispatching of ordinary and registered mail to other offices; the sorting and delivery of incoming mail of all kinds; the transaction of money-order and Post Office Savings Bank business.

All functions of the Postal Service, as far as the public is concerned, are centred in the post offices, of which 12,305 were in operation at Mar. 31, 1952, as against 12,390 at the same date in 1951. Postage paid in 1951-52 by means of postage stamps amounted to \$65,093,099 (\$57,178,573 in 1951). Post office money orders are issued for any amount up to and including \$100 at more than 7,000 post offices, for payment in Canada or in almost every country in the world. Orders payable in Canada only for amounts under \$16 are issued at more than 4,000 additional post offices. Post Office Savings Banks are in operation in all parts of the country and on Mar. 31, 1952, had total deposits of \$38,031,232, an increase of \$369,312 over the \$37,661,920 deposited in 1951.