

### Subsection 1.—Milage and Equipment

Construction was begun in 1835 on the first railway in Canada—the short link of 14.5 miles between Laprairie and St. Johns, Que.—but only 66 miles were in operation by 1850. The first great period of construction was in the 1850's when the Grand Trunk and the Great Western Railways were built as well as numerous smaller lines. The building of the Intercolonial and the Canadian Pacific railways contributed to another period of rapid expansion in the 1870's and 1880's. In the last period of extensive railway building (1900-17), the Grand Trunk Pacific, National Transcontinental and Canadian Northern Railways were constructed.

There has been little change in total track milage since the late 1920's, although in recent years the development of a number of large projects in districts far removed from transport facilities and the opening up of the Northwest Territories has necessitated the building of branch lines. Those completed up to 1956 are listed in the 1957-58 Year Book, p. 815, and those completed from that year to 1962 are mentioned in subsequent editions. In 1963, work continued on the 430-mile Great Slave Railway being built by the CNR for the Federal Government. At year-end, 226 miles of track had been completed and clearing, grading, bridge and trestle work progressed on the remaining portion; the right-of-way is being opened for service as construction proceeds. Other new line completions during 1963 included a 61-mile extension by the CNR in the Mattagami Lake region of northwestern Quebec; a 15-mile branch line from Nepisiguit Junction in New Brunswick to a zinc-copper mining property; and an eight-mile extension from Chisel Lake to Staff Lake in northern Manitoba. A branch line extending some 16 miles south from Bredenbury, Sask., was completed by the CPR. In 1963, the PGE began construction of a 100-mile extension from Summit Lake, 35 miles north of Prince George, to Fort St. James; it is scheduled for completion in 1965.

#### 1.—Railway Track Milage Operated, 1900-63

NOTE.—Figures of total milage of first main track operated for 1835-1909 are given in the 1941 Year Book, p. 546; for 1911-14 in the 1954 edition, p. 786; for 1916-24 in the 1955 edition, p. 830; and for 1926-49 in the 1956 edition, p. 792.

FIRST MAIN TRACK MILAGE		TRACK MILAGE BY AREA AND TYPE				
Year	Miles in Operation	Area and Type of Track	1960	1961	1962	1963
	No.		No.	No.	No.	No.
1900.....	17,657	First Main—				
1905.....	20,487	Newfoundland.....	934	933	935	934
1910.....	24,731	Prince Edward Island.....	284	279	279	279
1915.....	34,892	Nova Scotia.....	1,316	1,298	1,270	1,315
1920.....	38,805	New Brunswick.....	1,783	1,783	1,782	1,771
1925.....	40,350	Quebec.....	5,228	5,224	5,349	5,361
1930.....	42,047	Ontario.....	10,245	10,188	10,137	10,117
1935.....	42,916	Manitoba.....	5,056	4,954	4,897	4,880
1940.....	42,565	Saskatchewan.....	8,721	8,606	8,588	8,577
1945.....	42,352	Alberta.....	5,679	5,689	5,683	5,683
1950 <sup>1</sup> .....	42,979	British Columbia.....	4,386	4,338	4,337	4,329
1951.....	42,956	Yukon Territory.....	58	58	58	58
1952.....	42,953	United States.....	339	339	339	339
1953.....	43,163					
1954.....	43,132	Totals, First Main.....	44,029	43,689	43,654	43,623
1955.....	43,444					
1956.....	43,652					
1957.....	43,890	Second main.....	2,243	2,150	2,081	2,016
1958.....	44,125	Other main.....	45	48	48	56
1959.....	44,209	Industrial.....	1,248	1,262	1,266	1,265
1960.....	44,029	Yard and sidings.....	11,628	11,633	11,710	11,551
1961.....	43,689					
1962.....	43,654					
1963.....	43,623	<b>Grand Totals<sup>2</sup>.....</b>	<b>59,193</b>	<b>58,782</b>	<b>58,759</b>	<b>58,511</b>

<sup>1</sup>Newfoundland included from 1950.  
55 miles in 1962 and 61 miles in 1963.

<sup>2</sup>Excludes joint track amounting to 52 miles in 1960, 53 miles in 1961,