

urban areas postal stations and sub-post offices have full functions similar to the main post office, including a general delivery service, lock-box delivery and letter-carrier delivery.

The Operating Service of the Post Office Department is organized into 14 Districts, each under a District Director. These District Directors and the Postmasters, Toronto and Montreal, report directly to the Assistant Deputy Postmaster General. The Assistant Deputy Postmaster General has the responsibility of conducting the normal field operations of the Postal Service. The operating and support functions required in the provision of postal service to the public are the responsibility of the local postmasters who receive technical and administrative assistance from District Offices at strategic points.

Postal service is provided in Canada from Newfoundland to the west coast of Vancouver Island and from Pelee Island, Ont., (the most southerly inhabited point of Canada) to settlements and missions far into the Arctic. Canada's airmail system provides several transcontinental flights daily, intersected by branch and connecting lines radiating to every quarter and linking up with the United States airmail system. All first-class domestic mail up to and including eight ounces in weight is carried by air between one Canadian point and another, whenever delivery can thus be expedited. Air stage service provides the only means of communication for many areas in the hinterland. There were approximately 46,000 miles of airmail and air stage routes in 1963. However, the railways are still the principal means of distant mail transport.

At Mar. 31, 1963 there were 11,336 post offices in operation and letter-carrier delivery, performed in 186 urban centres, employed over 9,113 uniformed carriers. Rural mail routes are generally circular in pattern and average about 26 miles in length. Some 1,680 side services transport mail between post offices, railway stations, steamer wharves and airports, and 1,874 stage services convey mail to and from post offices not located on railway lines. Transportation of mail by motor vehicle on highways is expanding and more than 400 such services were in operation in 1963, many of them replacing or reducing conveyance by rail. In 1963 there were 995 city mail services transporting mail to and from post offices, postal stations and sub-post offices, collecting mail from street letter-boxes and delivering parcel post. The 9,196 land mail service couriers employed travelled approximately 54,000,000 miles during the year; both land mail and coastal mail services are performed under contract.

The larger post offices in Canada may be described as intricate industrial plants where mail is unloaded, cancelled, transported and shipped by semi-automatic means. Conveyor belts, automatic chutes and other devices increase output of mail matter without increasing staff and all the larger offices are provided with the latest mechanical equipment. In some areas householder mail is carried by mailmobile. In most cities, postage stamps may be obtained at any time from automatic vending machines, and a curbside mail receptacle in which patrons may deposit mail without leaving their automobiles is coming into use. Electronic equipment checks money orders and accounts for the \$900,000,000 annually that they represent.

16.—Post Offices in Operation, by Province, as at Mar. 31, 1962 and 1963

Province	1962	1963	Province or Territory	1962	1963
	No.	No.		No.	No.
Newfoundland.....	660	661	Saskatchewan.....	1,266	1,248
Prince Edward Island.....	107	107	Alberta.....	1,070	1,062
Nova Scotia.....	869	830	British Columbia.....	916	906
New Brunswick.....	555	536	Yukon Territory.....	20	20
Quebec.....	2,414	2,414	Northwest Territories.....	40	43
Ontario.....	2,680	2,704			
Manitoba.....	804	805	Canada.....	11,401	11,336