

areas and small urban centres transact all of the functions of the city office. In larger 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 are approximately 46,000 miles of airmail and air stage routes. However, the railways are still the principal means of distant mail transport.

At Mar. 31, 1964 there were 11,260 post offices in operation and letter-carrier delivery, performed in 188 urban centres, employed over 9,000 uniformed carriers. Rural mail routes are generally circular in pattern and average about 26 miles in length. Some 1,319 side services transport mail between post offices, railway stations, steamer wharves and airports, and 1,878 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 430 such services were in operation in 1964, many of them replacing or reducing conveyance by rail. In 1964 there were 1,017 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. Over 50,000,000 miles are travelled annually on about 9,000 land mail services; 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 \$925,000,000 annually that they represent.

**10.—Post Offices in Operation, by Province, as at Mar. 31, 1963 and 1964**

Province	1963	1964	Province or Territory	1963	1964
	No.	No.		No.	No.
Newfoundland.....	661	673	Saskatchewan.....	1,248	1,205
Prince Edward Island.....	107	106	Alberta.....	1,062	1,048
Nova Scotia.....	830	803	British Columbia.....	906	901
New Brunswick.....	536	530	Yukon Territory.....	20	19
Quebec.....	2,414	2,423	Northwest Territories.....	43	42
Ontario.....	2,704	2,709			
Manitoba.....	805	801	<b>Canada.....</b>	<b>11,336</b>	<b>11,260</b>