

present functioning in respect of these several modes of transport. The finding or determination of the Commission upon any question of fact within its jurisdiction is binding and conclusive and no order or decision may be questioned or reviewed except on appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada upon a question of law or a question of jurisdiction with leave of a judge of that Court, or by the Governor in Council. However, a party to an application for a licence under the Aeronautics Act or the Transport Act may appeal to the Minister of Transport from a final decision of the Commission.

The Commission has jurisdiction under more than a score of Acts of Parliament, including the Railway Act, the Aeronautics Act and the Transport Act, over transportation by railway, by air and by inland water, and over communication by telephone and telegraph.

*Railway Transport.*—Under the Railway Act the jurisdiction of the Commission is, stated generally, in respect of construction, maintenance and operation of railways that are subject to the legislative authority of the Parliament of Canada, including matters of engineering, location of lines, crossings and crossing protection, safety of train operation, operating rules, investigation of accidents, accommodation for traffic and facilities for service, abandonment of operation and uniformity of railway accounting. The Commission also has certain jurisdiction over telephones and telegraphs, including regulation of the telephone tolls of The Bell Telephone Company of Canada and over tolls for the use of international bridges and tunnels.

Except for certain statutory rates, and subject to certain powers of the Commission to deal with rates that it finds to be contrary to public interest, the railways are free to charge rates as they wish. However, rates must be compensatory, and the Commission may prescribe tolls for captive shippers if such tolls take undue advantage of a monopoly situation favouring the railways (see also p. 792).

*Air Transport.*—The Commission is responsible for the economic regulation of commercial air services in Canada and is also required to advise the Minister of Transport in the exercise of his duties and powers in all matters relating to civil aviation. The regulatory function relates to Canadian air services within Canada and abroad and to foreign air services operating into and out of Canada. It involves the licensing of all such services and the subsequent regulation of the licensees in respect of their economic operation and the provision of service to the public. The Commission issues regulations, approved by the Governor in Council, dealing with the classification of air carriers and commercial air services, accounts, records and reports, traffic tolls and tariffs, and various other matters. All regulations, rules and orders issued by the former Air Transport Board continue in force until repealed or amended by the Canadian Transport Commission.

On Oct. 20, 1966, the Minister of Transport tabled in the House of Commons a "Statement of Principles for Regional Air Carriers", which assigns to the Commission the responsibility for initiating measures to implement the policy set out therein. In this connection, the Commission has under review the route structures of regional air carriers.

The Commission takes an active part in the work of the International Civil Aviation Organization and, when appropriate, undertakes bilateral negotiations for the exchange of traffic rights. At present, Air Canada and Canadian Pacific Airlines Limited are Canada's designated international scheduled carriers.

*Water Transport.*—Under the Transport Act, the Commission entertains applications for licences for ships to transport goods or passengers for hire or reward between places in Canada on the Great Lakes and on the Mackenzie and Yukon Rivers, except goods in bulk on waters other than the Mackenzie River. Before granting a licence, the Commission must be satisfied that public convenience and necessity require such transport. The Commission also has regulative powers over tolls for such transport.

In addition, the Commission administers subsidies paid by the Federal Government for the maintenance of certain coastal and inland water shipping services; the services and the amounts paid for the years ended Mar. 31, 1966 and 1967 are given on p. 842.