

stations and 60 television stations reported. Operating revenue of the broadcasting industry for the year amounted to \$377.5 million, an increase of 15.2% over 1972. Of the total, radio accounted for \$162.7 million or 43.1% and television for \$214.8 million or 56.9%. Revenue from national and network time sales represented 57.5% of the total air time sales and local time sales were 42.5%. Operating expenses in 1973 at \$502.2 million were 15.5% higher than in 1972. However, total operating revenue, plus the net cost of operating the CBC, which is financed from its parliamentary grant, exceeded these expenses, resulting in a net profit after depreciation and interest charges of \$57.6 million for 1973 compared to \$51.5 million in 1972.

In 1973 there were 21,162 employees engaged in the broadcasting industry, an increase of 1,038 or 5.2% over 1972. Salaries and wages paid by the industry totalled \$240.6 million. Fringe benefits, including such expenses as staff pensions and hospitalization insurance, totalled \$16.6 million. After adjustment on account of other income and expenses and income taxes, the final net profit of the private sector of the broadcasting industry in 1973 was \$30.6 million compared with \$27.9 million in 1972.

Statistics of the cable television industry. Table 16.7 presents financial statistics of the Canadian cable television industry. This industry, comprising 362 operating systems, reported an increase of 29.9% in total operating revenue for the year ended August 31, 1973, rising to \$106.9 million from \$82.5 million for the previous year. Subscription revenue from individual subscribers and multi-outlet contracts accounted for \$99.5 million. Operating expenses before deducting interest and depreciation charges rose from \$42.5 million to \$54.4 million in 1973, resulting in net operating revenue of \$52.6 million compared with \$39.9 million in the previous year. After deducting interest, depreciation and making other adjustments, the industry achieved a net profit to August 31, 1973 of \$22.5 million compared with \$16.8 million earned in the previous year.

16.3 Postal service

The basic function of the Canadian Postal Service is to receive, convey and deliver postal matter with speed and security. To do this, it maintains thousands of post offices and uses air, rail, road and water transportation facilities. Associated functions include: sales of stamps and other articles of postage, registration of letters and other mail for dispatch, insuring parcels, accounting for COD articles and transaction of money-order business. Because of its transcontinental facilities, the Post Office assists other government departments with such tasks as selling hunting permits, collecting annuity payments, distributing income tax forms and Public Service employment application forms, and displaying official posters.

Post offices are established wherever the population warrants. In rural areas and small urban centres they transact all the functions of a city office. In larger urban areas, postal stations have functions similar to the main post office, including general delivery service, lock-box delivery and letter-carrier delivery. Canada's larger post offices are complex semi-automated plants with conveyors and chutes, parcel and bag sorting machines, wrapomatic parcel sealing machines, photo-electric counters and intercom systems. Outside the post office building there are mail-mobiles, automatic stamp-vending machines and curbside mail boxes.

The operating service of the Post Office Department is organized into four regions, each headed by a general manager reporting directly to the Deputy Postmaster General. The regions are divided into districts, each headed by a district director. The operating and support functions required to provide postal service to the public are the responsibility of local postmasters who receive technical and administrative assistance from district and regional offices at strategic points.

Postal service is provided throughout Canada. The country's airmail system utilizes most transcontinental flights, supported by many branch and connecting lines, and links up with United States domestic and other international airmail systems. First-class domestic mail is carried by air between Canadian points whenever this expedites delivery. Air stage routes provide an all-class mail service to many northern areas which can be served only by air. There are over 46,000 miles of airmail and air stage routes.

The Assured Mail Program, guaranteeing next-delivery-day service of first-class letters if mailed early in the day, launched in Toronto in 1971, was extended to all major Canadian cities in 1972. By late 1973 the country was completely coded with postal coding machines operating