

The operating service of Canada Post is organized into four regions divided into districts. The operating and support functions required to provide postal service 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 74 030 km of airmail and air stage routes.

By the end of the fiscal year 1975-76 there were 8,506 postal facilities in operation in Canada. With the growth in urban density, letter-carrier service grew to provide more convenient service to city dwellers. By the end of March 1976, an additional 272,085 new points of call were added to the 5,236,843 already being served through 12,480 full and 469 partial letter-carrier routes from 279 post offices. Rural and suburban services were reduced slightly owing to the lessened demand. The number of rural routes decreased by 14 to 4,942 and suburban service was reduced by one to 44.

Revenue and expenditure of the post office for the year ended March 31, 1976 were \$568.0 million and \$768.3 million, respectively; gross revenue receipts were received mainly from postage, either in the form of postage stamps and stamped stationery, postage meter and postage register machine impressions, or in cash. During the year 34 million money orders were issued having a value of \$1,089.0 million.

16.4 The press

Daily newspapers published in Canada in 1977 numbered 120, counting morning and evening editions separately. Combined circulation was about 5.2 million — about 82% in English and 18% in French (Table 16.8). Publishers' surveys show that each newspaper is read by an average of three persons.

Daily newspaper advertising net revenue in 1975 was \$565.0 million and circulation revenue was \$120.3 million. In 1977, there were 17 daily newspapers with a circulation in excess of 100,000, accounting for 59% of total circulation. There were 12 dailies published in French, 10 of them located in Quebec. Although the circulation of daily newspapers blankets the more populous areas well beyond publishing points, smaller cities and towns and rural areas are also served by 825 weekly newspapers catering to local interests. There were 274 newspapers and periodicals published in Canada by ethno-cultural groups.

About 27% of Canada's daily newspapers are privately owned or independent. There are three major newspaper chains in the country, Southam Press Ltd. (14 dailies), Thomson Newspapers Ltd. (35 dailies) and FP Publications Ltd. (nine dailies). Both Southam and Thomson Newspapers are publicly owned companies with shares traded on Canadian stock exchanges. Papers in the Thomson chain are concentrated in the smaller cities. Southam accounts for about 21% of total daily circulation, Thomson for 10% and FP for about 20%.

In addition to their own news-gathering staffs and facilities, Canadian newspapers subscribe to a number of syndicated agencies and wire services, the largest being The Canadian Press which is a co-operative agency owned and operated by Canadian dailies. Largely by teletype and wirephoto transmission, it provides its 110 member newspapers with world and Canadian news and also serves radio and television stations. CP has its own news-gathering staff and each member newspaper provides important local news for transmission to fellow members. Members share the cost in ratio to their circulations.

CP carries world news from Reuters (the British agency), from The Associated Press (the United States co-operative) and from Agence France-Presse (of France) and these agencies receive CP news on a reciprocal basis. CP maintains a French-language service in Quebec.

United Press International of Canada, the second major news wire service in Canada, is a private company and a part of United Press International World Service. It