

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS.

TELEGRAPHS.

The Canadian Telegraph Systems include lines owned and operated by the Dominion Government and the lines owned and operated by railway and telegraph chartered companies. The Government telegraph service for the year ended March 31, 1915, had a total length of 11,497 miles of lines of which 314 knots, calculated as statute miles, were submarine cables. During the year 1914-15 about 1,185 miles of new lines were constructed. The number of offices was 870, and the messages sent numbered 377,849. Details as to the location of the lines and points connected are given in the Report for March 31, 1915, of the Minister of Public Works (No. 19, 1916). The total expenditure on the Government telegraph lines for the year was \$632,677, and the receipts were \$225,944, signal service messages, meteorological service messages and fisheries bulletins being handled free. Table 58 gives the telegraph statistics for the years ended June 30, 1909-15, of the chartered companies, as compiled from information supplied to the Census and Statistics Office. Two companies failed to report for 1915.

Telegraph Statistics.—The report on telegraph statistics for 1915, issued by the Department of Railways and Canals, shows that the number of land messages handled by telegraph organizations in the year ended June 30, 1915, was 9,952,135, as compared with 11,980,869 in 1914. Cablegrams numbered 977,389, as compared with 983,061 in 1914. Employees in the service of telegraph organizations numbered 6,243, of whom 3,677 were male and 333 were female operators; other officers and employees numbered 2,233. Salaries and wages amounted to \$2,946,327, as compared with \$3,214,140 in 1914. The aggregate of salaries and wages in 1915 was equal to 71.3 p.c. of operating expenses, as compared with 75.8 p.c. in 1914.

Wireless Telegraph Coast Stations.—Table 59 shows the name, situation and range in nautical miles of the radiotelegraph or wireless telegraph coast stations, as operated by the Department of the Naval Service, and Table 59 the number of messages and words handled and the cost of maintenance for the stations of the east and west coasts and of the Great Lakes. For the year 1914-15 the total number of messages was 174,017, as compared with 312,560 in 1913-14, and of words handled 3,055,543, as compared with 4,869,262 in 1913-14.

TELEPHONES.

The report for 1915 of the Department of Railways and Canals on Telephone Statistics shows that the number of telephones in Canada in 1915 was 533,090, as compared with 521,144 in 1914, and the wire mileage was 1,452,360 in 1915, as compared with 1,343,090 in 1914. In 1915 the gross revenue from telephones was \$17,601,673, as against \$17,297,269, and the net revenue \$4,764,958 as against \$4,414,867. The number of telephone employees was 15,072, as compared with 16,799, and the salaries and wages amounted to \$8,357,029, as compared with \$8,250,253. The general progress of telephones in Canada since 1912 is shown in Table 61.