

to transmit programmes on an experimental basis during the latter part of 1918. The first television stations in Canada were established in Montreal and Toronto in 1952. Today, in Canada, we have a total of 327 sound and television broadcasting stations. These stations are linked together by wire and microwave facilities provided by the telegraph and telephone companies, making possible the simultaneous broadcast of sound and television programmes in virtually all settled parts of the country.

The development of telecommunications in Canada has been a joint effort by Government and by private industry.

In the field of public communications, for examples the accomplishments of the railways, the member companies of the Telephone Association of Canada and the Canadian Overseas Telecommunication Corporation have been outstanding. The Railways and the Telephone Association, each in their own way, have provided an integrated country-wide system, which has done much to bring our people closer together and to overcome any narrow regionalism.

Both the Railways and the Telephone Association were quick to realize the advantages of microwave for long-haul, high capacity circuits and so today have the Trans-Canada Telephone Microwave System spanning our country from coast to coast and the Joint Railway System serving south-western Ontario and the area between Montreal and the eastern seaboard.

In keeping with Canada's development, the government-owned Canadian Overseas Telecommunication Corporation has reduced our dependence on foreign-owned international communication systems by establishing Canadian-owned facilities such as radiotelephone and radiotelegraph circuits to various countries; and by sharing in the ownership of the Trans-Atlantic Telephone cable and its connecting microwave system.

Canadians have every reason to be proud of their country's progress in the establishment of television services. We have been matched by few countries. If this growth continues, the shortage of VHF channels may soon require us to face up to the problems of ultra high frequency operation in some areas. Because of our vast area and long distances between communities, satellite television stations are finding a useful role.

Although the growth of television in Canada has been spectacular, sound broadcasting has not fallen by the wayside. It continues to enjoy profitable and active role in our society.

In addition to public communications and broadcasting there are a multitude of "special services", made up of a wide variety of operations in military, aviation, marine and industrial fields.