

Transportation

and Communications

No one who travels from coast to coast can fail to realize the importance of transportation to the life of Canada. A narrow strip of populated land, four thousand miles long, could scarcely have developed as a political entity before the era of the railroad. Moreover, as most production takes place at some distance from the sea and as one-third of Canada's total production is designed for export, a well-integrated transportation system is vital.

Large navigable waterways extend inland in Canada. Here an English freighter docks at Hamilton, Ontario

The Railways

Canada has more miles of railroad per capita than any country in the world and a total mileage of more than fifty-eight thousand. Its history, indeed, is tied up with its railways and every schoolboy knows the story of Sir William Van Horne, the builder of the Canadian Pacific, who in the 1880's thrust his line through mountain walls and erected dynamite factories along the right of way to blast aside the Precambrian barrier.

There are two transcontinental railway systems in Canada, the Canadian Pacific, a private company, and the publicly-owned Canadian National, the nation's largest corporation and employer. The CPR was



Mountainous barriers had to be overcome as Canada's railroads were pushed through to the Pacific Coast. Here a modern diesel unit hauls a freight train through the Rocky Mountains