



Interior of the new Central Station of the C.N.R. at Montreal.

conditions which can be economically useful to all countries with northern areas.

As an essential part of continental defence during the Second World War, the Canadian north was equipped with a system of land and air transport and communications which for several years were put to great practical use. Joint weather stations are still maintained by Canada and the United States. Educational and health services have been pioneered in Yellowknife, the region's only large town.

The Yukon Territory, made famous by the discovery of gold in the Klondike region in 1896, has continued to yield this metal, and production has been worth more than a million dollars each year since 1945. A sharp decline in population followed the boom years at the turn of the century, but transportation into the territory is now possible by road, air, rail, and river, and it is expected that this accessibility will attract not only tourists but also those who may develop further the Yukon's resources.

Generally speaking the potentialities of the north can as yet only be guessed: its place in the Canadian economy remains a promising question mark.



Canadian railroads are turning to diesel locomotives.

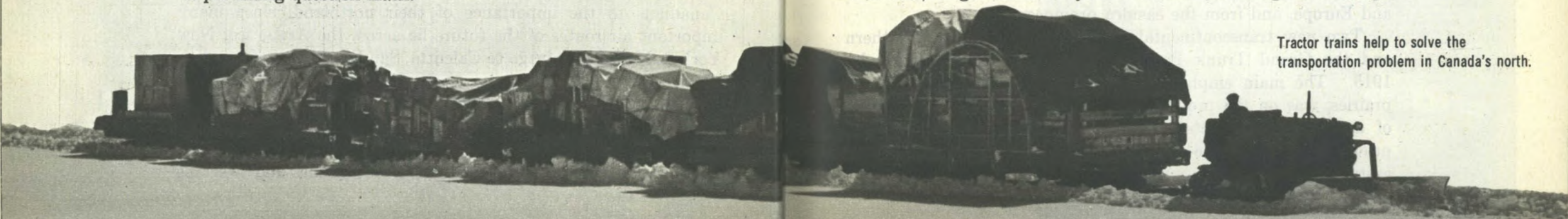
Without extensive transportation facilities, the settlement and economic exploitation of the far-flung regions of Canada would have been an impossibility. More perhaps than in any other country, transportation in Canada is the backbone of the nation, politically and economically; and fundamental to Canada's transportation are the railways.

The Transportation System

Canada's present total of 43,022 miles (69,265 kilometers) of railway is surpassed only by the railway mileage of two countries, the United States and the Soviet Union, both with populations far greater than that of Canada.

The Railways

The railway network is based upon two transcontinental systems, the Canadian Pacific, a joint-stock corporation which began trans-continental operations in 1885, and the Canadian National, a government system formed following the amalga-



Tractor trains help to solve the transportation problem in Canada's north.