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# RAILWAY EXPRESS

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# RAILWAY EXPRESS

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## INTRODUCTION

The organization of express operations in North America dates back to 1839. In that year, a former conductor on the Boston and Worcester Railway named William Frederick Harndon advertised arrangements to carry small parcels and packages between Boston and New York and to attend to the purchase of goods as well as the purchase of drafts, notes and other financial papers. Alvin Adams, also of the United States, followed with a similar service in 1840 and during the next five years express systems were incorporated by numerous others, and operated between the more important towns in the U.S. The celebrated "pony express" was started in 1860 providing service between San Francisco and St. Joseph, Missouri.

The Canadian Express Company was incorporated in 1865 and thus was the pioneer express company in Canada. The Grand Trunk Railway purchased its' capital stock in 1891. The Dominion Express Company was incorporated in 1882 in trust for the Canadian Pacific and the Canadian Northern Express Company appeared in 1902 operating over Canadian Northern lines. On the taking over of the Canadian Northern and Grand Trunk Railways by the Government and the consolidation of the Canadian National System, the express businesses of the two companies were amalgamated under one management from 1921 and named Canadian National Express. The Central Canada Express Company was taken over by Canadian National in 1928 but during the next year, on the formation of the Northern Alberta Railways, the express business formerly handled by Canada Express became a department of the new company. The Northern Alberta Railways Company is a joint operation of the Canadian National and Canadian Pacific Railways. The British America Express Company operated over the Algoma Central lines until 1931.

When there was a general consolidation of railways in the United States during the First World War, the express companies operating on Canadian sections of U.S. railways were amalgamated under the name American Railway Express. This was succeeded in 1930 by the Railway Express Agency, which is now owned by the principal Class 1 railroads in the U.S.

In the beginning, express companies in Canada set their own rates but in 1906 they were placed under the Railway Commission. In 1919 a rate system was established which grouped the country into three main blocks or districts for express

purposes and in 1928 a regular tariff was established for air express between Toronto and Rimouski; the first regular organized air express service in this country.

Express is carried by railways, airlines, motor transport and steamship. In addition to the movement of goods, express companies offer other services, one of which is the transmission of money, through the medium of travellers' cheques, money orders and other types of financial paper.

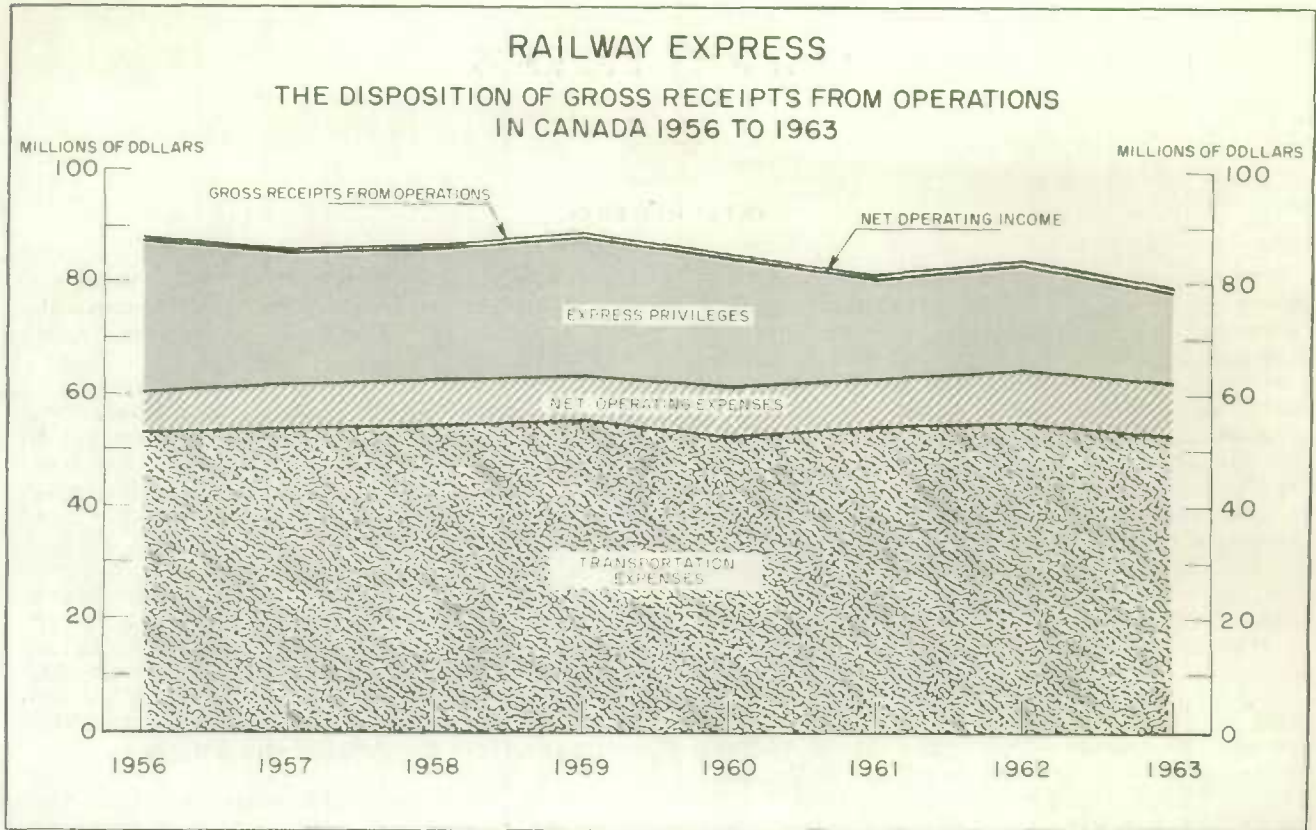
Today, there are two express companies in operation in Canada, the Canadian Pacific Express Company and the Railway Express Agency, and three railways having departments to handle their express services. These are the Canadian National Railways, the Algoma Central and Hudson Bay Railway and the Northern Alberta Railways.

During the past few years the two major Canadian railways, in particular, have introduced and are continuing to develop a new integrated service for package freight and less-than-carload-lot shipments. Merchandise Services and Express Freight, as they are called by the C.P.R. and C.N.R., respectively, are an attempt to provide a speedier, low-cost, flexible service for shippers, employing the most efficient use of the various forms of transport. Each of these when organized will operate under one administration. The gradual consolidation of these services has been taking place across the two large systems over the past three or four years and is now nearing completion. The effects of the changing express concept on statistics reported in this series are difficult to measure and will perhaps remain so until the integration processes have been completed.

## Statistical Analysis, 1963

Gross receipts of express business moved by rail in Canada in 1963 totalled \$79,031,998, a decline of 5.8 per cent from \$83,877,337 in 1962. Express privileges (the portion of earnings paid railways for carrying express packages) amounted to \$16,167,030 as compared with \$19,041,953 the previous year. As a result, total operating revenues, declined to \$62,864,968, down 3.0 per cent from \$64,835,384. Operating expenses dropped 3.1 per cent to \$62,127,111 from \$64,086,906 and the resulting net operating income was \$737,857, a slight decrease from \$748,478 in 1962.





A breakdown of operating revenues shows that those incidental to transportation totalled \$76,956,878 in 1963 as compared with \$81,792,579 in 1962. Other revenues such as customhouse brokerage fees, money orders, travellers' cheques, etc. aggregated \$2,075,120 in contrast to \$2,084,758 the previous year.

As in the past, transportation expenses accounted for over 85 per cent of all operating costs. In 1963, this figure totalled \$52,697,774 as compared with \$54,834,257 in 1962.

Investments in real property and equipment at the close of 1963 advanced to \$16,538,190 from \$16,051,397. The amount of outstanding capital stock dropped to \$9,293,257 from \$9,455,089 one year earlier.

The value of financial paper issued during the year under review fell to \$135,523,112 from \$137,434,334 due mainly to a drop of \$1.4 million in domestic and foreign money orders sales.

The number of employees engaged in the rail express business in Canada declined in 1963, dropping to 8,282 from 9,431 a year earlier. Salaries and wages during the same periods totalled \$35,386,525 and \$40,046,861, respectively, indicating an average annual wage of \$4,273 in 1963 as against \$4,246 in 1962. Commissions paid to other than employees amounted to \$2,316,610 as against \$2,530,511.

During 1963 express services provided by the railways were available to Canadians over a combined land, sea and air distance of 74,293 route miles. This compared with 70,985 miles in the previous year.

July 2, 1964.

Railway Express, 1963

	Algoma Central and Hudson Bay Railway Company	Canadian National Express Company	Canadian Pacific Express Company	Northern Alberta Railways Company	Railway Express Agency Inc.	Total
	dollars					
<b>Operating revenues:</b>						
Transportation:						
Express .....	67,221	44,404,823	26,605,327	321,383	5,225,958	76,624,712
Miscellaneous .....	-	82,291	249,875	-	-	332,166
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>67,221</b>	<b>44,487,114</b>	<b>26,855,202</b>	<b>321,383</b>	<b>5,225,958</b>	<b>76,956,878</b>
Other:						
Customhouse brokerage fees .....	-	32,960	14,548	-	-	47,508
Order and Commission Departments .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rents of buildings and other property .....	-	-	15,631	-	-	15,631
Money orders, domestic and foreign .....	2,527	356,452	327,128	-	-	686,107
Travellers' cheques, domestic and foreign .....	-	3,134	89,769	-	-	92,903
"C.O.D." cheques .....	83	578,880	432,137	-	-	1,011,100
Telegraphic transfers .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Letters of credit .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other revenue, Financial Department .....	-	-	132,029	-	-	132,029
Miscellaneous revenues .....	-	30,466	-	3,149	56,227 <sup>1</sup>	89,842
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>2,610</b>	<b>1,001,892</b>	<b>1,011,242</b>	<b>3,149</b>	<b>56,227</b>	<b>2,075,120</b>
<b>Gross receipts from operations .....</b>	<b>69,831</b>	<b>45,489,006</b>	<b>27,866,444</b>	<b>324,532</b>	<b>5,282,185</b>	<b>79,031,998</b>
Express privileges, Dr. ....	22,800	8,290,976	6,487,196	135,729	1,230,329	16,167,030
<b>Total operating revenues .....</b>	<b>47,031</b>	<b>37,198,030</b>	<b>21,379,248</b>	<b>188,803</b>	<b>4,051,856</b>	<b>62,864,968</b>
<b>Operating expenses:</b>						
Maintenance .....	979	1,566,121	1,541,331	262	298,158	3,406,851
Traffic .....	1,190	184,627	168,517	2,792	106,600	463,726
Transportation .....	50,069	32,552,944	16,534,111	170,096	3,390,554	52,697,774
General .....	4,925	2,105,049	2,092,311	14,913	224,280	4,441,478
Provision for income taxes .....	Cr. 5,128	-	152,700	-	-	147,572
Other taxes .....	-	215,887	742,978	740	10,105	969,710
<b>Total operating expenses .....</b>	<b>52,035</b>	<b>36,624,628</b>	<b>21,231,948</b>	<b>188,803</b>	<b>4,029,697</b>	<b>62,127,111</b>
<b>Income account:</b>						
Operating revenues .....	47,031	37,198,030	21,379,248	188,803	4,051,856	62,864,968
Operating expenses .....	52,035	36,624,628	21,231,948	188,803	4,029,697	62,127,111
Net operating income (or loss) .....	Dr. 5,004	573,402	147,300	-	22,159	737,857
Other income .....	-	-	192,060	-	-	192,060
Other deductions .....	-	-	54,353	-	-	54,353
<b>Net income (or deficit) .....</b>	<b>Dr. 5,004</b>	<b>573,402</b>	<b>285,007</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,159</b>	<b>875,564</b>
<b>Capital stock:</b>						
Common, issued at par value .....	-	1,000,000	4,250,000	-	-	5,250,000
Preferred, issued at par value .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Amounts payable to affiliated companies .....	-	4,043,257	-	-	-	4,043,257
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,043,257</b>	<b>4,250,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,293,257</b>
<b>Investments at December 31, 1963:</b>						
Real property .....	-	-	1,364,869	7,464	-	1,372,333
Equipment .....	5,025	5,737,094	7,410,496	1,923	190,200	13,344,738
Other .....	-	1,821,119	-	-	-	1,821,119
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>5,025</b>	<b>7,558,213</b>	<b>8,775,365</b>	<b>9,387</b>	<b>190,200</b>	<b>16,538,190</b>

See footnote at end of table.

Railway Express, 1963 - Continued

	Algoma Central and Hudson Bay Railway Company	Canadian National Express Company	Canadian Pacific Express Company	Northern Alberta Railways Company	Railway Express Agency Inc.	Total
<b>Tax accruals:</b>						
Newfoundland .....	\$ -	-	-	-	-	-
Prince Edward Island.....	\$ -	5	-	-	-	5
Nova Scotia .....	\$ -	56	1,055	-	-	1,111
New Brunswick .....	\$ -	40	4,922	-	-	4,962
Quebec .....	\$ -	13,293	19,380	-	4,639	37,312
Ontario .....	\$ Cr. 1,085	16,424	60,873	-	3,440	79,652
Manitoba.....	\$ -	-	33	-	730	763
Saskatchewan .....	\$ -	-	60	-	-	60
Alberta .....	\$ -	-	7	115	-	122
British Columbia.....	\$ -	925	39	265	1,296	2,525
Northwest Territories.....	\$ -	-	-	-	-	-
Yukon .....	\$ -	-	-	-	-	-
Federal Income Tax .....	\$ Cr. 4,043	-	152,700	-	-	148,657
Other government of Canada .....	\$ -	185,144	656,609	360	-	842,113
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>\$ Cr. 5,128</b>	<b>215,887</b>	<b>895,678</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>10,105</b>	<b>1,117,282</b>
<b>Financial paper issued:</b>						
Money orders sold, domestic and foreign .....	\$ -	65,721,105	41,693,423	-	-	107,414,528
Travellers' cheques sold, domestic and foreign	\$ -	923,798	9,056,136	-	-	9,979,934
"C.O.D." cheques issued.....	\$ 8,451	-	17,897,066	-	184,430	18,089,947
Telegraphic transfers.....	\$ -	-	38,703	-	-	38,703
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>\$ 8,451</b>	<b>66,644,903</b>	<b>68,685,328</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>184,430</b>	<b>135,523,112</b>
<b>Equipment inventory:</b>						
Road vehicles used in express service:						
Motor trucks.....	No. -	1,010	762	-	41	1,813
Trailers, road equipment: Semi-trailers and full trailers .....	" -	65	162	-	-	227
Automobiles.....	" -	-	6	-	-	6
Road vehicles used in cartage service:						
Trucks .....	" 1	-	313	-	-	314
Trailers .....	" -	-	263	-	-	263
Automobiles.....	" -	-	2	-	-	2
Platform vehicles:						
Trucks, hand .....	" -	-	-	19	86	105
Trucks, motor driven .....	" -	42	66	-	-	108
Other.....	" -	4,137	-	-	-	4,137
<b>Employees, salaries and wages:</b>						
Full time employees:						
Number .....	..	4,533	3,683	11	55	8,282
Salaries and wages.....	\$ 9,224	19,998,872	15,055,008	55,258	239,989	35,358,351
Part time employees:						
Number .....	..	-	3	..	-	..
Salaries and wages .....	\$ 26,338	-	3	1,836	-	28,174
Commissions paid.....	\$ 2,200	1,519,160	766,983	27,722	545	2,316,610
<b>Express offices:</b>						
Number in Canada at Dec. 31, 1963.....	62	1,318	1,096	45	24	2,545
Number of offices selling money orders .....	4	1,624	1,140	-	-	2,764
Number of branch offices selling money orders	-	1,162	1,974	-	-	3,136

See footnotes at end of table.



Railway Express, 1963 - Concluded

	Algoma Central and Hudson Bay Railway Company	Canadian National Express Company	Canadian Pacific Express Company	Northern Alberta Railways Company	Railway Express Agency Inc. <sup>1</sup>	Total
<b>Route mileage covered:<sup>4</sup></b>						
In Canada:						
By railway <sup>7</sup> .....	322.10	23,051.68	15,740.28	922.50	792.00	40,828.56
By steamship lines .....	-	5,256.00	791.00	-	523.00	6,570.00
By motor carriers lines .....	-	15,410.50	741.00	5.20	1.00	16,157.70
By airlines .....	-	10,703.00	-	-	-	10,703.00
By miscellaneous lines .....	-	34.10	-	-	-	34.10
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>322.10</b>	<b>54,455.28</b>	<b>17,272.28</b>	<b>927.70</b>	<b>1,316.00</b>	<b>74,293.36</b>
Outside Canada:						
By railway, U.S.A. ....	-	43.79	225.72	-	135,991.00	136,260.51
By steamship .....	-	-	2,679.00	-	4,379.00	7,058.00
Other .....	-	-	-	-	81,778.00	81,778.00
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>43.79</b>	<b>2,904.72</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>222,148.00</b>	<b>225,096.51</b>
<b>Grand totals .....</b>	<b>322.10</b>	<b>54,499.07</b>	<b>20,177.00</b>	<b>927.70</b>	<b>223,464.00</b>	<b>299,389.87</b>
<b>Route mileage covered, by area:<sup>4</sup></b>						
Newfoundland .....	-	7,378.13	-	-	-	7,378.13
Prince Edward Island .....	-	517.68	-	-	-	517.68
Nova Scotia .....	-	2,740.57	274.96	-	-	3,015.53
New Brunswick .....	-	2,785.70	531.23	-	-	3,316.93
Quebec .....	-	6,836.78	1,638.95	-	96.00	8,571.73
Ontario .....	322.10	12,002.96	4,189.54	-	534.00	17,048.60
Manitoba .....	-	5,067.94	1,669.15	-	66.00	6,803.09
Saskatchewan .....	-	9,042.50	3,889.80	-	-	12,932.30
Alberta .....	-	5,865.16	2,291.05	900.80	-	9,057.01
British Columbia .....	-	2,217.86	2,787.60	26.90	620.00	5,652.36
Northwest Territories .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yukon .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
United States .....	-	43.79	225.72	-	217,769.00	218,038.51
Ocean-going mileage .....	-	-	2,679.00	-	4,379.00	7,058.00
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>322.10</b>	<b>54,499.07</b>	<b>20,177.00</b>	<b>927.70</b>	<b>223,464.00</b>	<b>299,389.87</b>
<b>Accidents:</b>						
Persons injured .....	No.	139	228	-	-	367
Persons killed .....	"	-	2	-	-	2
	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	
<b>Summary, 1958-62:</b>						
Gross receipts from operations .....	\$ 88,834,704	\$ 84,986,847	\$ 81,098,805	\$ 83,877,337	\$ 79,031,998	
Express privileges, Dr. ....	\$ 25,061,221	\$ 23,242,445	\$ 17,875,713	\$ 19,041,953	\$ 16,167,030	
Operating Expenses (excluding taxes) .....	\$ 62,017,819	\$ 59,850,881	\$ 61,361,317	\$ 62,812,087	\$ 61,009,829	
Net operating revenues (before taxes) .....	\$ 1,755,664	\$ 1,893,521	\$ 1,861,775	\$ 2,023,297	\$ 1,855,139	
Tax accruals .....	\$ 1,177,138	\$ 1,272,149	\$ 1,313,477	\$ 1,274,819	\$ 1,117,282	
Capital .....	\$ 7,720,202	\$ 7,536,673	\$ 7,816,489	\$ 9,455,089	\$ 9,293,257	
Investments at December 31 .....	\$ 16,075,776	\$ 16,656,566	\$ 16,410,738	\$ 16,051,397	\$ 16,538,190	
Financial paper issued .....	\$ 155,035,926	\$ 146,029,950	\$ 140,519,846	\$ 137,434,334	\$ 135,523,112	
<b>Employees:<sup>8</sup></b>						
Number .....	11,411	10,733	10,454	9,431	8,282	
Salaries and wages .....	\$ 42,673,976	\$ 40,206,239	\$ 42,408,663	\$ 40,046,861	\$ 35,386,525	
Commissions paid .....	\$ 2,985,627	\$ 2,736,817	\$ 2,733,174	\$ 2,558,148	\$ 2,316,610	
Mileage covered in Canada .....	67,522.75	62,154.42	65,523.20	70,984.53	74,293.36	

<sup>1</sup> Breakdown not available.  
<sup>2</sup> Included with "Money orders sold".  
<sup>3</sup> Included with "Full time employees".  
<sup>4</sup> Conducts business as C.P. Express Co. agents.  
<sup>5</sup> Excludes an estimated 10,040 airline miles over which express services are provided.  
<sup>6</sup> Includes duplications.  
<sup>7</sup> Includes electric line mileages.  
<sup>8</sup> Includes full and part time employees.  
 .. Figures not available.

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