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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

SUMMARY OF CANAL STATISTICS

FOR

DECEMBER

AND

SEASON OF NAVIGATION

1926



Navigation was late in opening in 1926, being over three weeks later than in 1925 at the Sault Ste. Marie canals, over two weeks later at the Welland canal and approximately one week later at the St. Lawrence canals. Bad weather set in early in December and shipping was greatly reduced, the vessel passages at the Sault Ste. Marie locks numbering only 318 for December, 1926, as against 490 for December, 1925. Despite these handicaps the traffic through the St. Lawrence canals was only 1.3 per cent less than the record made in 1925 and on the Welland canal only 7.5 per cent less.

The traffic on both the St. Lawrence and Welland canals was affected by the poor oat crop which was not only small, but of poor quality. Canadian oats through the St. Lawrence canal fell off 157,334 tons and United States oats were lighter by 92,078 tons. Rye shipments also were lighter, Canadian rye declining 54,978 tons and United States rye 22,999 tons. Barley and corn showed increases and while United States wheat shipments were practically the same as in 1925, Canadian wheat increased by 100,916 tons, or 3,363,860 bushels. The bituminous coal traffic down the canal was lighter by 210,872 tons, which was replaced in the Montreal market to some extent with Nova Scotia coal and pulpwood upbound fell off 11,688 tons.

The changes in traffic on the Welland canal were much the same as on the St. Lawrence canals, except that the decrease in bituminous coal was 321,397 tons and upbound pulpwood showed an increase of 4,478 tons.

Only in 1916, 1917 and 1923 was the traffic heavier through the Canadian and United States locks at Sault Ste. Marie than it was in 1926. Iron ore traffic was heavy, amounting to 57,647,399 tons, wheat traffic was lighter than in 1925 by 20,863,097 bushels and other grains were 49,330,459 bushels lighter. Bituminous coal tonnage increased by 978,041 tons and anthracite coal increased by 561,505 tons, and the total traffic showed an increase over 1925 of 3,809,916 tons.

The total traffic on all Canadian canals during the year amounted to 13,477,663 tons, which was 653,004 tons less than in 1925.

Below are the principal items of traffic on the canals for December and for the season of 1926.

SUMMARY OF CANAL STATISTICS
FOR DECEMBER, 1926

<u>Sault Ste. Marie Canal:</u>		December	December
<u>Canadian & American Locks:</u>		1926	1925
Vessels	No.	313	490
Registered Tonnage	Tons	924,139	1,364,227
Passengers	No.	35	51
Flour	Barrels	535,670	778,040
Wheat	Bushels	29,324,626	42,675,715
Other Grains	"	5,197,963	804,582
Iron Ore	Tons	7,616	-
Soft Coal	"	266,394	213,786
Hard Coal	"	17,000	-
Total Freight	"	1,386,749	1,836,790

<u>Sault Ste. Marie Canal:</u>			
<u>Canadian Lock:</u>			
Vessels	No.	81	126
Registered Tonnage	Tons	92,064	171,038
Passengers	No.	34	46
Barley	Tons	1,008	4,204
Oats	"	4,180	10,241
Wheat	"	22,366	31,209
Flour	"	9,543	23,463
Total Freight	"	62,124	84,259

<u>Welland Canal:</u>			
Vessels	No.	108	100
Registered Tonnage	Tons	67,639	84,272
Barley	"	682	-
Corn	"	4,962	6,113
Oats	"	3,740	6,885
Wheat	"	9,724	10,607
Soft Coal	"	23,205	27,490
Total Freight	"	62,849	69,455

<u>St. Lawrence Canals:</u>			
Vessels	No.	236	135
Registered Tonnage	Tons	85,576	102,204
Passengers	No.	-	-
Barley	Tons	1,642	-
Corn	"	4,452	6,091
Oats	"	1,530	8,101
Wheat	"	23,255	24,656
Petroleum and Oils	"	730	-
Hard Coal	"	2	-
Soft Coal	"	24,095	22,796
Total Freight	"	72,276	86,556

<u>St. Peter's Canal:</u>			
Vessels	No.	79	83
Registered Tonnage	Tons	6,038	5,725
Passengers	No.	-	-
Total Freight	Tons	3,157	2,694

Other canals closed.

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SUMMARY OF CANAL STATISTICS
FOR SEASON OF NAVIGATION, 1926

Sault Ste. Marie Canal: Canadian & American Locks:	Season of Navigation	
	1926	1925
Vessels	No. 20,898	20,651
Registered Tonnage	Tons 71,280,829	69,237,687
Passengers	No. 52,757	57,095
Flour	Barrels 9,797,310	9,289,330
Wheat	Bushels 271,969,576	292,832,673
Other Grains	" 99,774,528	149,104,987
Iron Ore	Tons 57,647,399	53,874,364
Soft Coal	" 12,955,388	11,977,347
Hard Coal	" 1,461,494	899,989
Total Freight	" 85,681,615	81,871,699

Sault Ste. Marie Canal: Canadian Lock:		
Vessels	No. 3,350	3,534
Registered Tonnage	Tons 4,951,971	5,687,547
Passengers	No. 32,099	34,743
Barley	Tons 56,418	112,115
Oats	" 83,755	235,981
Wheat	" 325,875	445,158
Flour	" 407,111	373,348
Total Freight	" 1,423,275	1,634,970

Welland Canal:		
Vessels	No. 5,528	5,866
Registered Tonnage	Tons 5,053,046	5,567,136
Barley	" 373,306	326,341
Corn	" 58,679	51,076
Oats	" 315,526	583,897
Rye	" 210,901	287,019
Wheat	" 2,348,850	2,261,218
Pulpwood	" 292,437	287,959
Soft Coal	" 661,957	1,052,375
Sand	" 244,351	149,639
Total Freight	" 5,214,514	5,640,298

St. Lawrence Canal:		
Vessels	No. 13,528	12,556
Registered Tonnage	Tons 6,642,413	6,630,227
Passengers	No. 82,128	82,848
Corn	Tons 56,837	36,405
Oats	" 316,472	565,884
Rye	" 208,117	286,094
Wheat	" 2,351,068	2,250,426
Petroleum & Oils	" 124,888	68,740
Pulpwood	" 663,221	674,909
Hard Coal	" 78,755	96,293
Soft Coal	" 811,378	1,011,858
Sand	" 351,956	241,231
Total Freight	" 6,123,701	6,206,988

Ottawa Canal:		
Vessels	No. 2,573	2,246
Registered Tonnage	Tons 430,953	317,855
Passengers	No. 23,010	28,545
Total Freight	Tons 321,456	214,940

Rideau Canal:		
Vessels	No. 1,070	1,496
Registered Tonnage	Tons 78,477	105,036
Passengers	No. 2,981	4,359
Total Freight	Tons 56,052	85,785

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SUMMARY OF CANAL STATISTICS
FOR SEASON OF NAVIGATION 1926.

		Season of Navigation	
		1926	1925
<u>Chambly Canal:</u>			
Vessels	No.	1,453	1,476
Registered Tonnage	Tons	176,075	183,541
Passengers	No.	833	661
Total Freight	Tons	204,042	203,720
<u>Trent Canal:</u>			
Vessels	No.	2,220	2,701
Registered Tonnage	Tons	86,658	98,458
Passengers	No.	49,727	53,936
Total Freight	Tons	27,692	36,302
<u>Murray Canal:</u>			
Vessels	No.	376	493
Registered Tonnage	Tons	117,309	46,703
Passengers	No.	7,582	3,377
Total Freight	Tons	895	1,174
<u>St. Peter's Canal:</u>			
Vessels	No.	1,008	1,196
Registered Tonnage	Tons	69,483	81,363
Passengers	No.	208	213
Total Freight	Tons	43,545	35,691
<u>St. Andrew's Canal:</u>			
Vessels	No.	402	384
Registered Tonnage	Tons	80,966	71,843
Passengers	No.	14	-
Total Freight	Tons	62,491	70,799

TRAFFIC ON CANADIAN CANALS, 1926

Canal	Freight Tonnage	Compared with 1925	
		Increase	Decrease
Sault Ste. Marie	1,423,275		211,695
Welland	5,214,514		425,784
St. Lawrence	6,123,701		83,287
Chambly	204,042	322	
St. Peter's	43,545	7,854	
Murray	895		279
Ottawa	321,456	106,516	
Rideau	56,052		29,733
Trent	27,692		8,610
St. Andrew's	62,491		8,308
TOTAL	13,477,663		693,004



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