



DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS  
Transportation Division  
OTTAWA

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SUMMARY OF CANAL STATISTICS

FOR DECEMBER AND  
SEASON OF NAVIGATION

1949

The 1949 season of navigation closed at the Canadian Sault on December 14th while the United States locks ceased operations a few days later. The Welland Ship Canal passed the last vessel on December 20th and the St. Lawrence canals closed on December 11th compared with the 6th of the month in 1948. All of the smaller canals were closed by the end of November with the exception of the St. Peter's canal, which ceased operation on January 13, 1950. The major canals enjoyed a season which averaged a week longer than in 1948.

Sault Ste. Marie Canals - Canadian and United States Locks: Traffic through the system during the open days of December was down rather sharply from the corresponding period of 1948, with total tonnage at 862,702 tons, declining 770,104 tons. Eastbound volume dropped from 1,590,419 to 687,050 tons as wheat was 347,294 tons lighter at 331,821 tons and iron ore decreased from 656,606 to 177,775 tons. Other grains were down to 126,977 from 233,307 tons. Westbound freight, however, rose from 42,387 to 175,652 tons due to a gain in soft coal from 12,970 to 157,164 tons.

During the 1949 season of navigation total freight for the system grossed 96,187,769 tons, down 19,706,881 tons from 1948 and compares with 110,887,970 tons in 1947.

The Canadian canal passed 2,301,514 tons during 1949 as against 2,371,062 tons in the previous year, a drop of 69,548 tons. Declines were shown here in soft coal, flaxseed, gasoline, oils, barley, pig iron, pulpwood, coke and other freight, while cats, rye, wheat, paper, hard coal were heavier.

Total eastbound freight for both systems was 84,047,570 tons compared with 95,764,029 tons during the 1948 season, while westbound volume at 12,140,199 tons declined more sharply from 20,130,621 tons due to the decrease in the soft coal movement. Passenger traffic increased slightly from 112,516 in 1948 to 113,005.

Welland Ship Canal: Total freight passing through the Welland in December aggregated 493,527, a gain of 107,037 tons over the 386,490 tons reported for December of 1948. Soft coal rose from 75,463 to 271,001 tons and accounted for most of the advance.

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Barley, oats, sugar and paper also increased but corn, wheat, gasoline and oils, iron ore and all other freight were under December 1948 volume.

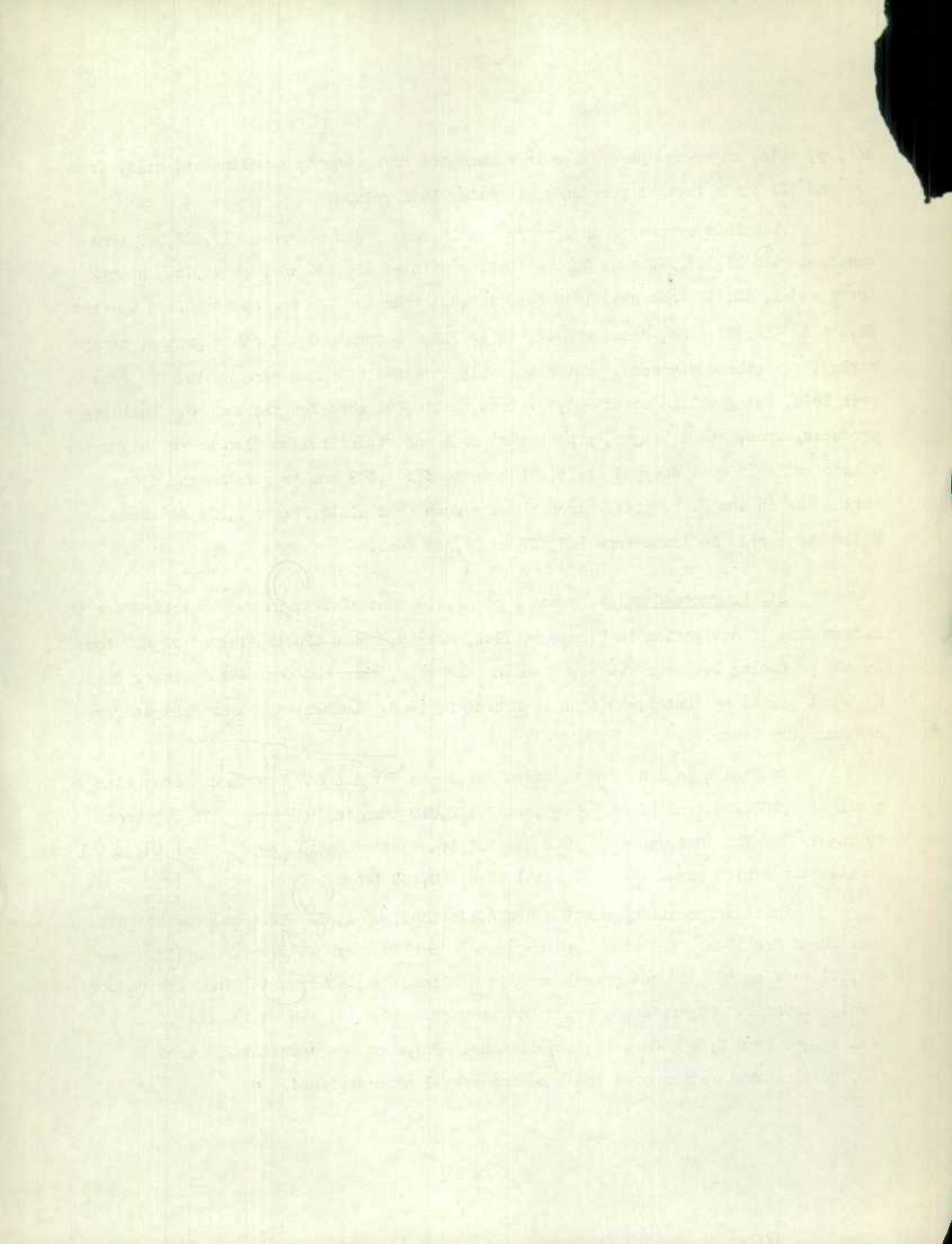
The 1949 season of navigation totals show a new record of 13,692,209 tons compared with 13,437,849 tons during 1948, a gain of 254,360 tons or 2 p.c. Wheat increased 1,442,331 tons over 1948 to 3,190,654 tons for the season, corn was up from 61,425 to 410,727 tons, oats from 76,512 to 211,025 tons and all other grains, except barley, registered advances. Petroleum oils at 1,599,864 tons were up 167,145 tons over 1948, but gasoline eased 101,777 tons to 740,681 tons for the season. Building products, iron, steel, sugar, paper, hard coal and other freight also moved in greater volume but soft coal dropped 1,471,401 tons to 3,573,309 due to strikes and 3 day work weeks in the U. S. pits. Iron ore was down from 1,645,952 to 1,236,365 tons while other ores declined from 156,547 to 91,183 tons.

St. Lawrence Canals: A total of 42,428 tons of freight were reported for the eleven days of navigation in December, 1949, nearly double the traffic of 21,827 tons in the preceding December. Coal, gasoline and oils, corn and oats were heavier while no wheat passed against 1,920 tons in December, 1948. Lumber and other freight were considerably lower.

An active season of navigation was shown for the St. Lawrence system with a total of 7,960,194 tons of cargo against 7,378,010 tons in 1948 and 7,179,594 tons during 1947. The increase over 1948 was 582,184 tons or nearly 8 p.c., and the total constitutes a high since the 1939 total of 8,340,165 tons.

Wheat shipments aggregated 2,223,162 tons, up 1,335,215 tons over 887,947 tons shown for 1948. All other grains, except barley, were heavier. Gasoline rose 305,593 tons to 896,437 but petroleum oils declined 204,365 tons in line with reduced foreign imports. Sugar, iron, paper and iron ore advanced. The shipments of soft coal sagged from 2,644,484 to 1,309,931 tons. Pulpwood was down 168,202 tons to 420,482 tons while other ores and sand and gravel also declined.





Sault Ste. Marie Canal

DECEMBER

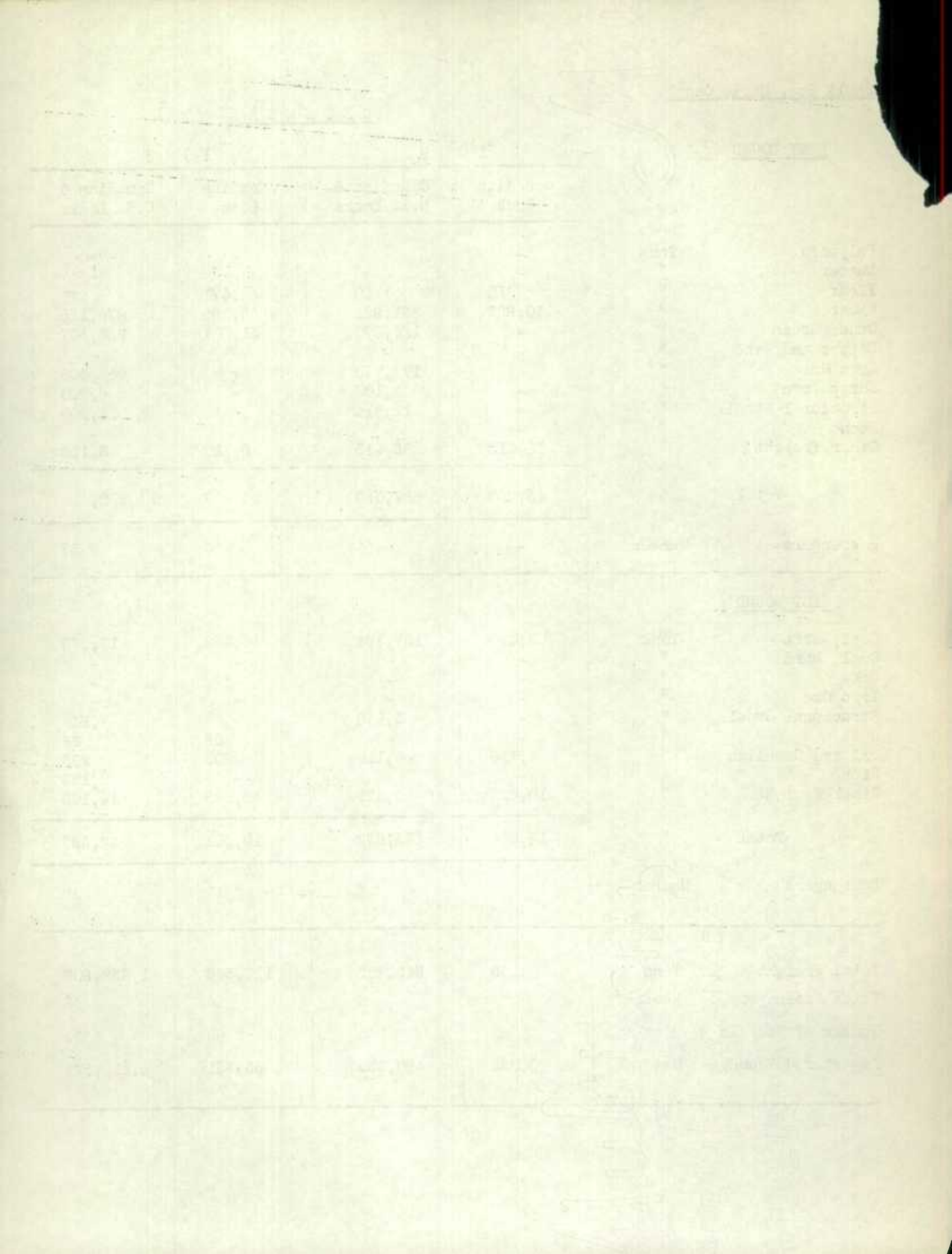
EAST BOUND

		1949		1948	
		Canadian Lock	Canadian & U.S. Locks	Canadian Lock	Canadian & U.S. Locks
Pulpwood	Tons	-	-	-	-
Lumber	"	-	-	-	-
Flour	"	50	50	471	471
Wheat	"	10,827	331,821	55,085	679,115
Other Grain	"	-	126,977	31,001	233,307
Copper and Zinc	"	-	-	-	-
Iron Ore	"	-	177,775	-	656,606
Scrap Iron	"	-	5,100	-	6,900
Structural Steel	"	-	12,914	-	5,900
Stone	"	-	-	-	-
Other Freight	"	32,413	32,413	8,120	8,120
<b>Total</b>	"	<b>43,290</b>	<b>687,050</b>	<b>94,677</b>	<b>1,590,419</b>
Passengers	Number	-	4	24	37

WEST BOUND

Coal, soft	Tons	2,410	157,164	5,422	12,970
Coal, hard	"	-	-	-	-
Coke	"	-	-	-	-
Iron Ore	"	-	-	-	-
Structural Steel	"	-	3,940	-	7,847
Salt	"	-	-	66	66
Oil and Gasoline	"	4,119	4,119	205	205
Stone	"	-	-	-	7,129
Other Freight	"	10,429	10,429	13,998	14,170
<b>Total</b>	"	<b>16,958</b>	<b>175,652</b>	<b>19,691</b>	<b>42,387</b>
Passengers	Number	-	2	-	6

Total Freight	Tons	60,248	862,702	114,368	1,632,806
Total Passengers	Number	-	6	24	43
Number of Vessels		52	245	69	499
Registered Tonnage	Net	50,052	480,930	83,731	1,113,521



Wallend Ship Canal

		December 1949	December 1948
Vessels	No.	249	229
Registered Tonnage	Tons	550,236	358,420
Passengers	No.	-	-
Barley	Tons	28,099	23,302
Corn	"	2,352	13,249
Oats	"	1,445	-
Rye	"	-	-
Wheat	"	26,225	60,947
Flour	"	-	-
Gasoline	"	41,150	43,050
Petroleum and Other Oils	"	104,407	131,029
Sugar	"	482	-
Pulpwood	"	-	-
Autos and Parts	"	-	-
Paper	"	12,900	12,100
Wood Pulp	"	-	-
Soft Coal	"	271,001	75,463
Coke	"	-	-
Iron Ore	"	-	-
Sand	"	2,000	6,300
All other freight	"	3,396	21,050
<b>Total Freight</b>	"	<b>493,527</b>	<b>386,490</b>

St. Lawrence Canals:

Vessels	No.	54	31
Registered Tonnage	Tons	50,637	29,096
Passengers	No.	-	-
Barley	Tons	-	-
Corn	"	8,355	2,434
Oats	"	1,445	-
Rye	"	-	-
Wheat	"	-	1,920
Flour	"	-	-
Gasoline	"	7,090	2,200
Petroleum and Other Oils	"	12,436	10,135
Sugar	"	-	-
Pulpwood	"	-	-
Autos and Parts	"	-	-
Paper	"	-	-
Wood Pulp	"	-	-
Hard Coal	"	-	-
Soft Coal	"	12,852	3,606
Sand	"	-	-
All other freight	"	250	1,532
<b>Total Freight</b>	"	<b>42,428</b>	<b>21,827</b>



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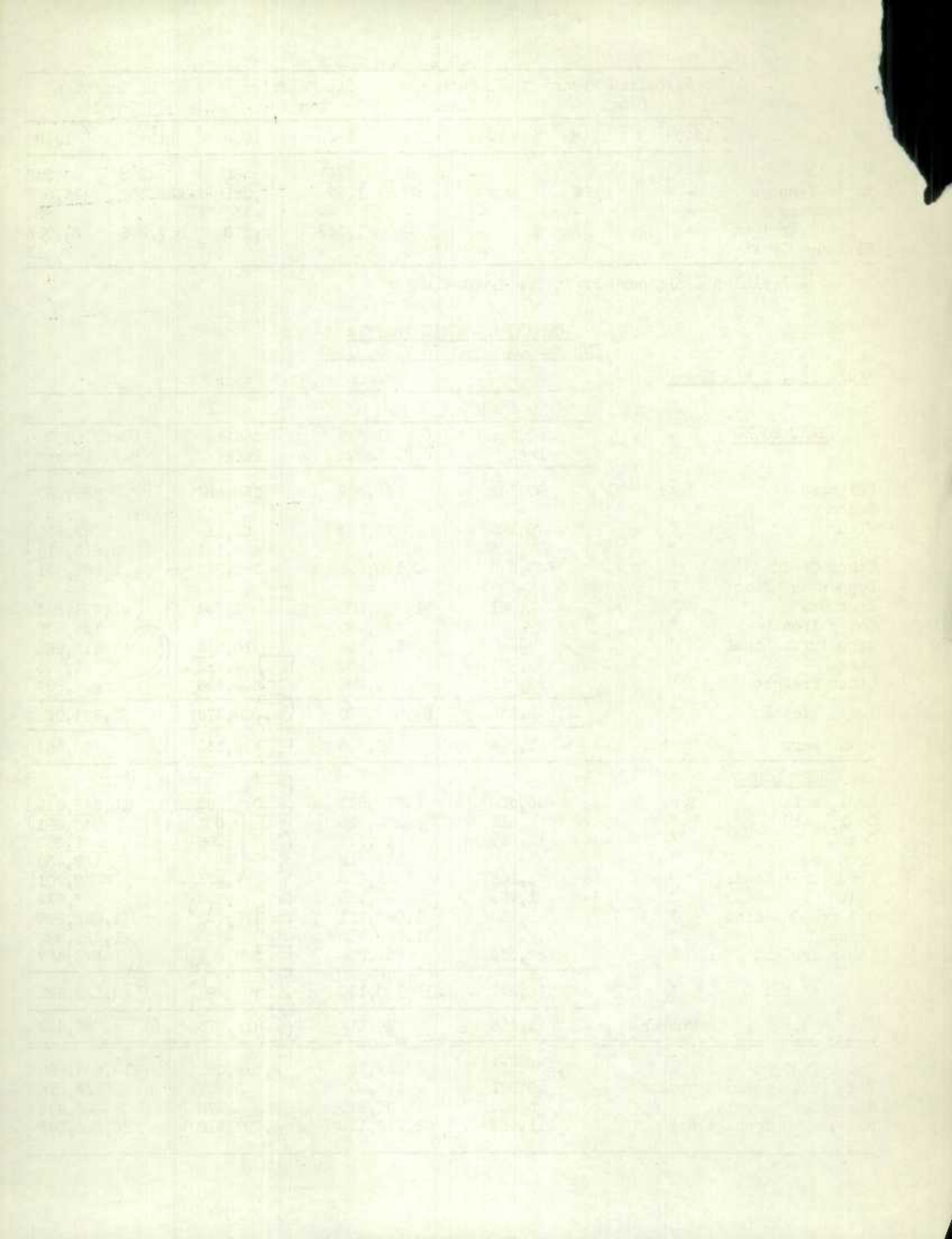
	Richelieu River Canal		Murray Canal		St. Peter's Canal		All Canadian Canals	
	1949	1948	1949	1948	1949	1948	1949	1948
Vessels	-	4	-	1	37	62	302	306
Reg'd Tonnage	-	465	-	80	1,679	4,085	652,604	475,877
Passengers	-	-	-	-	-	330	-	354
Total Freight	-	5	-	-	1,043	2,278	597,246	524,968
Pleasure Craft	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	13

/ Includes 4 pleasure craft for Trent Canal

SUMMARY OF CANAL TRAFFIC  
FOR SEASON OF NAVIGATION, 1949

Sault Ste. Marie Canal

		Season of Navigation			
		1 9 4 9		1 9 4 8	
		Canadian Lock	Canadian & U.S. Locks	Canadian Lock	Canadian & U.S. Locks
<u>EAST BOUND</u>					
Pulpwood	Tons	97,102	465,508	158,884	688,930
Lumber	"	-	-	-	-
Flour	"	70,120	73,243	61,119	62,552
Wheat	"	421,005	8,039,106	422,133	6,613,419
Other Grain	"	640,340	3,140,393	552,912	2,584,431
Copper and Zinc	"	-	-	-	-
Iron Ore	"	2,961	71,744,269	2,734	85,231,804
Scrap Iron	"	-	132,400	-	125,970
Structural Steel	"	-	129,751	16,878	112,984
Stone	"	41,600	50,604	41,720	45,945
Other Freight	"	232,011	270,206	249,398	297,994
Total	"	1,575,139	84,047,570	1,505,778	95,764,029
Passengers	Number	41,503	56,693	48,135	56,464
<u>WEST BOUND</u>					
Coal, soft	Tons	205,936	8,675,037	274,363	16,558,048
Coal, hard	"	21,514	273,425	9,804	360,671
Coke	"	14,317	14,317	1,800	1,800
Iron Ore	"	-	137,712	-	198,430
Structural Steel	"	6,106	61,993	1,923	42,701
Salt	"	1,759	54,193	4,093	47,578
Oil and Gasoline	"	93,785	1,067,711	175,097	1,022,967
Stone	"	-	1,230,915	-	1,322,999
Other Freight	"	382,358	624,296	398,204	575,427
Total	"	726,375	12,140,199	865,284	20,130,621
Passengers	Number	9,418	56,312	15,572	56,052
Total Freight	Tons	2,301,514	96,187,769	2,371,062	115,894,650
Total Passengers	Number	50,921	115,005	63,707	112,516
Number of Vessels		3,692	21,819	4,075	23,896
Registered Tonnage Net		4,111,487	76,718,138	4,797,518	86,848,565

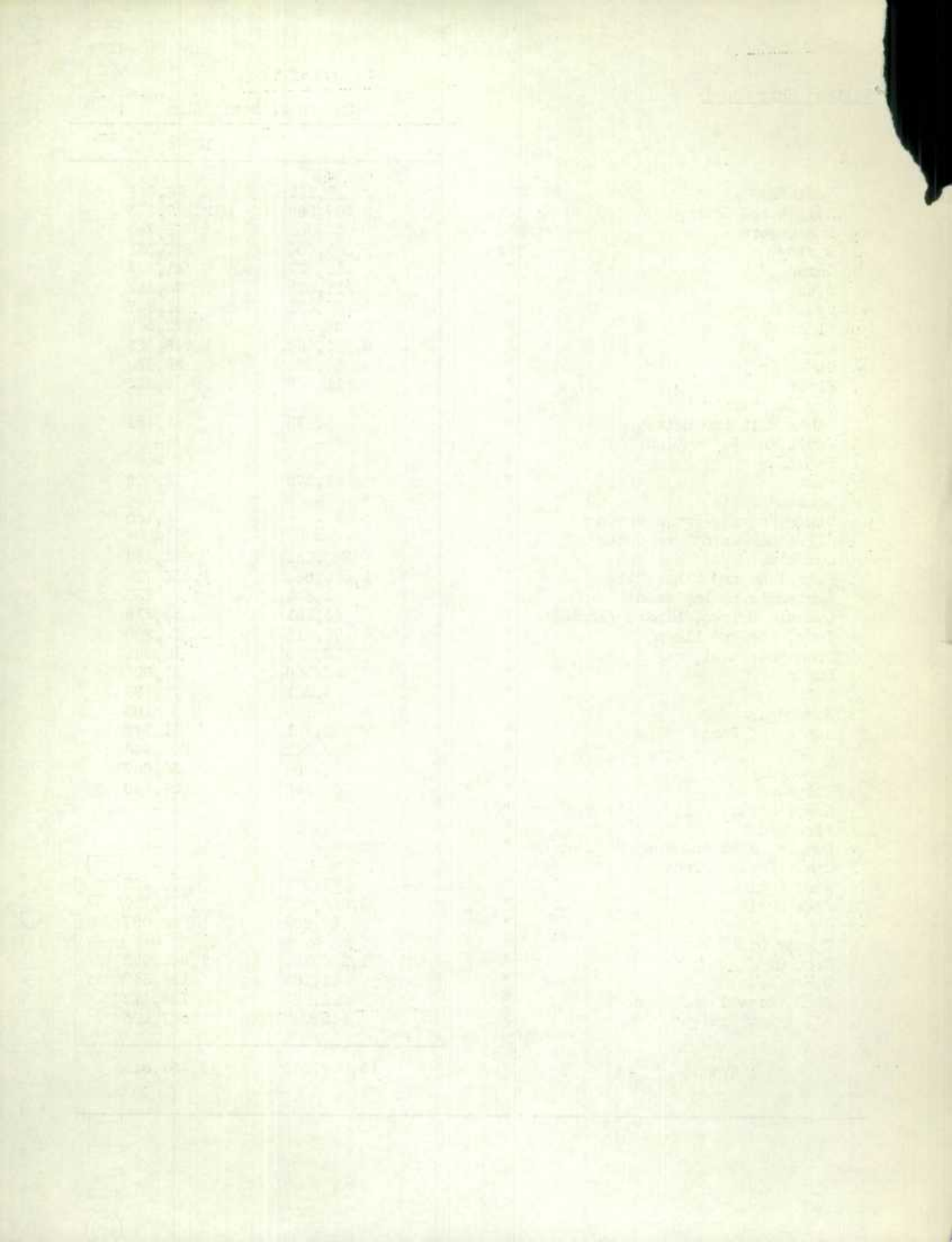


Welland Ship Canal

Season of Navigation

		1 9 4 9	1 9 4 8
Vessels	No.	7,132	6,546
Registered Tonnage	Tons	12,307,886	12,147,553
Passengers	No.	13,059	5,790
Barley	Tons	309,404	325,331
Corn	"	410,727	61,425
Oats	"	211,025	76,512
Rye	"	60,441	49,647
Flaxseed	"	206,999	172,367
Wheat	"	3,150,654	1,748,323
Other Grains	"	70,328	28,030
Flour	"	12,545	5,532
Hay and Straw	"	-	-
Other Mill Products	"	3,473	2,451
Fruit and Vegetables	"	-	-
Potatoes	"	-	-
Fish	"	1,276	2,008
Dressed Meats-	"	-	-
Other Packing-House Products	"	-	3,450
All other Animal Products	"	-	-
Gasoline	"	740,681	842,458
Petroleum and other Oils	"	1,599,864	1,432,719
Agricultural Implements	"	1,604	250
Cement, Bricks, Lime & Plaster	"	93,551	55,215
Iron, Pig and Bloom	"	93,614	79,200
Iron and Steel, other	"	18,250	10,041
Sugar	"	53,958	27,822
Salt	"	66,301	72,789
Beverages	"	140	183
Autos and Parts	"	2,711	1,377
Paper	"	252,042	205,940
Wood Pulp	"	32,086	36,667
Pulpwood	"	504,186	522,598
Logs, Posts, Poles, Piling	"	-	-
Firewood	"	-	-
Lumber, Mill and Cooperage Stock	"	-	-
Other Forest Products	"	-	-
Hard Coal	"	77,977	70,203
Soft Coal	"	3,573,309	5,044,710
Coke	"	29,802	42,087
Copper Ore	"	-	-
Iron Ore	"	1,236,365	1,645,952
Other Ore	"	91,183	156,547
Sand, Gravel and Stone	"	202,623	188,312
All other Freight	"	545,090	527,103
<b>Total</b>	"	<b>13,692,209</b>	<b>13,437,849</b>

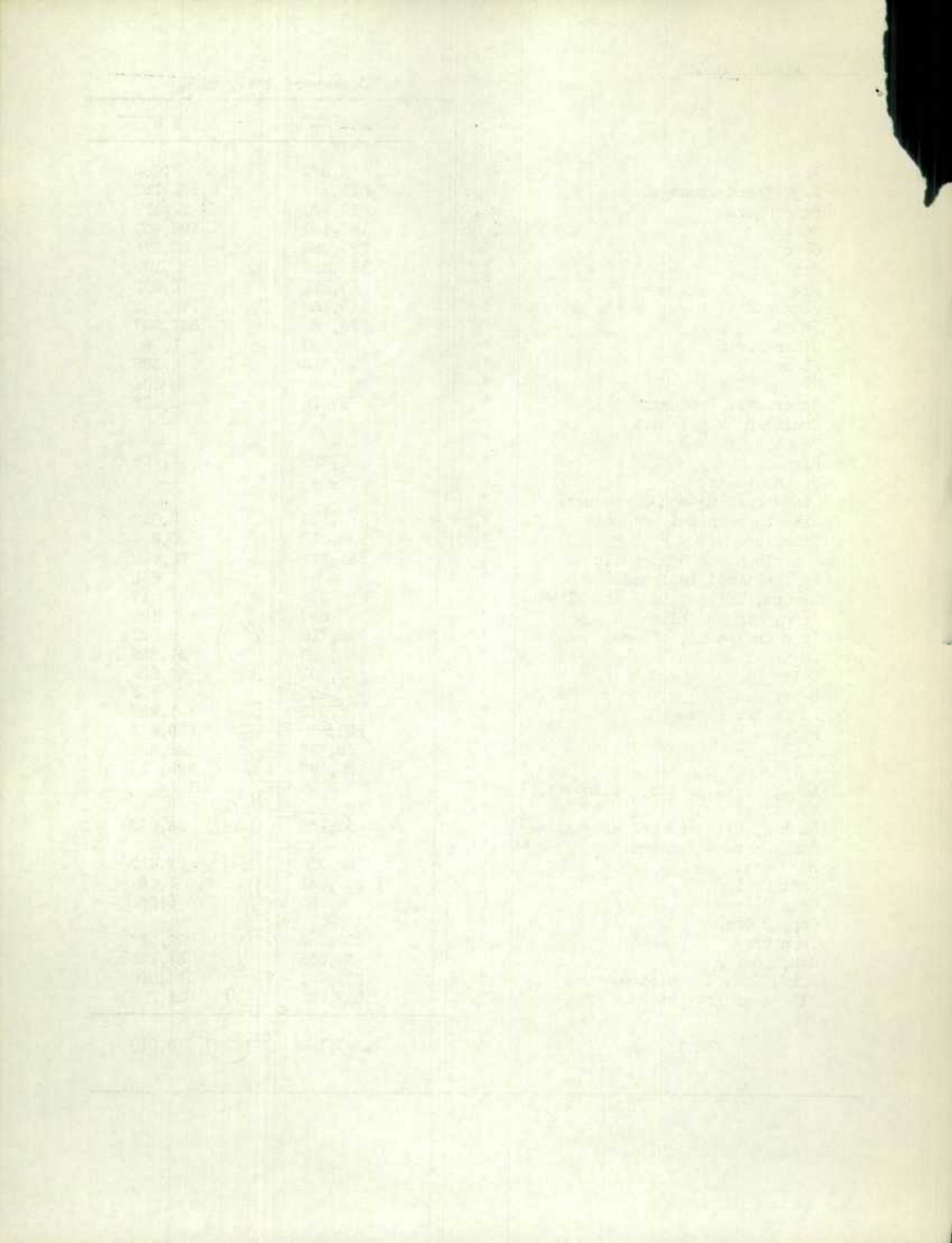




St. Lawrence Canals:

Season of Navigation

		1 9 4 9	1 9 4 8
Vessels	No.	8,870	8,063
Registered Tonnage	Tons	7,029,775	6,329,182
Passengers	No.	13,328	12,417
Barley	Tons	182,160	186,430
Corn	"	323,782	55,375
Oats	"	157,652	35,199
Rye	"	60,111	42,892
Flaxseed	"	153,282	125,902
Wheat	"	2,223,162	887,947
Other Grains	"	4,990	1,780
Flour	"	12,318	6,388
Hay and Straw	"	-	106
Other Mill Products	"	5,616	1,472
Fruit and Vegetables	"	-	-
Potatoes	"	-	-
Fish	"	1,225	2,258
Dressed Meats	"	-	-
Other Packing-house Products	"	-	-
All other Animal Products	"	4,399	2,612
Gasoline	"	896,437	590,844
Petroleum and Other Oils	"	584,279	788,642
Agricultural Implements	"	-	648
Cement, Bricks, Lime and Plaster	"	219	17
Iron, Pig and Bloom	"	650	125
Iron and Steel, other	"	28,716	9,020
Sugar	"	55,790	31,656
Salt	"	60,301	66,829
Beverages	"	140	303
Autos and Parts	"	4,046	1,258
Paper	"	120,540	88,875
Wood Pulp	"	32,436	42,554
Pulpwood	"	420,482	588,774
Logs, Posts, Poles, Piling	"	50	-
Firewood	"	-	-
Lumber, Mill and Cooperage Stock	"	34,122	38,033
Other Forest Products	"	-	-
Hard Coal	"	22,720	27,432
Soft Coal	"	1,309,931	2,644,484
Coke	"	8,989	5,382
Copper Ore	"	-	-
Iron Ore	"	230,993	92,437
Other Ore	"	38,335	87,123
Sand, Gravel and Stone	"	279,091	314,010
All other Freight	"	697,230	611,203
Total	"	7,960,194	7,378,010





SEASON OF NAVIGATION, 1949

		Ottawa River Canal		Rideau Canal	
		1949	1948	1949	1948
Vessels	No.	1,212	1,106	176	144
Registered Tonnage	Tons	330,205	306,827	6,922	5,821
Passengers	No.	8	-	(1) 615	240
Total Freight	Tons	282,330	263,343	1,163	1,323
Pleasure Craft Lockages		4,771	3,844	18,489	18,443
		Richelieu River Canal		Trent Canal	
Vessels	No.	733	605	996	554
Registered Tonnage	Tons	111,554	94,314	-	59,915
Passengers	No.	38	-	-	-
Total Freight	Tons	106,481	91,365	106	38,681
Pleasure Craft Lockages		-	157	17,367	13,948
		Murray Canal		St. Peter's Canal	
Vessels	No.	55	97	799	816
Registered Tonnage	Tons	24,110	37,234	36,999	42,509
Passengers	No.	-	-	165	456
Total Freight	Tons	700	2,939	12,679	20,573
Pleasure Craft Lockages		1,056	983	64	-
		St. Andrew's Canal		All Canadian Canals	
Vessels	No.	554	612	24,219	22,643
Registered Tonnage	Tons	74,931	72,864	24,033,869	23,943,307
Passengers	No.	3,082	2,930	81,270	85,540
Total Freight	Tons	16,064	18,696	24,373,440	23,559,313
Pleasure Craft Lockages		412	370	43,150	38,784

(1) Exclusive of 19,104 passengers at Ottawa.

TRAFFIC ON CANADIAN CANALS

1949

Canal	Vessels No.	Registered Tonnage	Passengers Number	Tons	Freight Tonnage compared with 1948 (Increase +) (Decrease -)
Sault Ste. Marie	3,692	4,111,487	50,921	2,301,514	- 69,548
Welland Ship	7,132	12,307,886	13,059	13,692,209	+ 254,360
St. Lawrence	8,870	7,029,775	13,382	7,960,194	+ 582,184
Ottawa River	1,212	330,205	8	282,330	+ 18,987
Rideau	176	6,922	615	1,163	- 160
Richelieu River	733	111,554	38	106,481	+ 15,116
Trent	996	-	-	106	- 38,575
Murray	55	24,110	-	700	- 2,239
St. Andrew's	554	74,931	3,082	16,064	- 2,632
St. Peter's	799	36,999	165	12,679	- 7,894
TOTAL /	24,219	24,033,869	81,270	24,373,440	+ 749,599

/ Includes duplications and is affected by the proportion of the total traffic at Sault Ste. Marie using the Canadian Lock.

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