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SUMMARY OF CANAL STATISTICS
FOR DECEMBER AND
SEASON OF NAVIGATION
1950

With the tonnage of all freight reaching a modern record of 27,417,849 tons, a very active season of navigation was recorded on Canadian Canals during 1950. This is the greatest volume since 1914 when the number of American locks at the Sault was increased and represents a gain of 3,044,097 tons or 12.5 p.c. over the 1949 traffic. The season concluded at the Canadian lock of the Sault on December 15th compared with December 14th in 1949. The American locks also closed on the 15th; the Welland Ship Canal passed the last vessel on December 20th, the same day as one year earlier while the St. Lawrence closed on December 14th against the 11th in 1949. The smaller canals were all closed before the end of November except the St. Peter's which ceased operations on January 13th of the current year. The main canals in toto reported a season which averaged shorter by nearly a week compared with 1949 but was about equal to 1948.

Sault Ste. Marie Canals - Canadian and United States Locks: Freight passing through the System during the fifteen open days of December rebounded sharply from the same period of 1949 to total 2,019,059 tons compared with 862,702 tons one year earlier, a gain of 133 p.c. Eastbound traffic rose from 687,050 to 1,945,289 tons bolstered by a huge advance in the movement of iron ore from 177,775 to 1,070,404 tons. Wheat and other grain were up 90 p.c. and 74 p.c. respectively. Westbound traffic however declined from 175,652 to 73,770 tons due to reduced soft coal shipments. Some 427 vessels used the canals compared with 245 in December, 1949.

During the 1950 season of navigation freight on the Systems totalled 106,195,738 tons in comparison with 96,187,769 tons in 1949 and 115,894,650 tons in 1948 when wheat and iron ore were heavier. The increase over 1949 was thus 10.4 p.c. or 10,007,969 tons. Freight through the Canadian lock was little changed from 1949 and totalled 2,301,763 tons. Total eastbound traffic for the System advanced 5,195,461 tons over 1949 to 89,243,031 tons with iron ore, steel stone and other freight supplying the gain. Iron ore rose from 71,744,269 to 79,976,650 tons. However, wheat dropped from 8,039,106 to 5,704,496 tons while other grain, flour, and scrap iron declined from 1949. Westbound volume increased from 12,140,199 tons in 1949 to 16,952,707 tons with soft coal up nearly 4,626,000 to 13,301,020 tons. Iron ore, steel and stone Westbound registered good gains but oil and gasoline dropped from 1,067,711 to 826,205 tons.

The number of vessels eased from 21,819 in 1949 to 21,004 and passengers dropped from 113,005 to 63,366. Registered net tonnage of vessels however rose 4.7 p.c. over the preceding year.

Welland Ship Canal.

December freight through the Welland weighed 652,010 tons up 158,483 tons or 32 p.c. over the same period of 1949. All grains were heavier. Gasoline rose from 41,150 to 75,383 tons

and petroleum and other oils to 183,179 tons from 104,407 tons one year earlier. Pulpwood and paper, iron ore sand and other freight rose sharply with the last named up from 3,396 to 50,824 tons. Soft coal declined 61,870 tons to 209,131 tons.

The 1950 season produced 14,719,346 tons of freight, an increase of 7.6 or 1,027,137 tons over 1949 volume. Corn advanced from 410,727 to 655,505 tons and other grains from 70,328 to 115,849. Flour, gasoline, implements, iron and steel, sugar, salt, and autos also were heavier. Paper rose from 252,042 to 319,001 tons, while woodpulp and pulpwood joined in the advance. Soft coal aggregated 4,997,307 tons up nearly 1,423,900 tons. Iron ore increased from 1,236,365 to 1,478,056 tons. Other ores, sand gravel and stone and miscellaneous freight posted good gains with the last named up 119,248 tons over 1949 to total 664,338 tons. The rail strike in the last week of August encouraged movement by canalers.

St. Lawrence Canals:

Some 75,101 tons of freight were locked through in the first two weeks compared with 42,428 tons during the eleven days of navigation in December, 1949. Wheat, gasoline, petroleum, paper and sand showed good gains. Soft coal rose from 12,852 to 25,334 tons while other freight jumped from only 250 tons to 10,566 tons.

A most active season was recorded on the St. Lawrence system, the total volume of freight reaching 9,969,271 tons - a new all time high-which compares with 7,960,194 tons in 1949, 7,378,010 tons in 1948 and the previous peak of 9,236,318 tons attained in 1938. The increase over 1949 was thus 2,009,077 tons or 25.2 p.c. and is remarkable considering the limiting draft of 14 feet at the principal locks. This record ten million ton year should no doubt be far surpassed with the construction of a Deep Seaway and the movement of Labrador iron ore into the Great Lakes.

Heavier Shipments were shown during 1950 for corn up from 329,782 tons in 1949 to 498,948 tons, and in flour, gasoline, pig iron, petroleum doubling at 1,165,897 tons against 584,279 tons and in iron and steel increased 37,878 tons to 66,594 tons. Salt, beverages, and autos improved. Paper advanced from 120,540 to 189,036 tons, woodpulp from 32,436 to 56,109 tons and pulpwood rose 247,992 tons to 668,474 tons for the season. Lumber also gained. Soft coal totalled 2,278,223 tons against 1,309,931 in 1949 and hard coal and coke advanced considerably. Ore shipments rose appreciably while sand gravel and stone amounted to 303,520 tons compared with 279,091 tons one year earlier. All other freight grossed 897,148 tons or nearly 200,000 more.

Passengers carried shrank to only 28 with the cessation of the Canada Steamships' colorful Rapids service against 13,328 reported for 1949. This is a decided loss to the tourist industry. Passenger steamers have dared this historic waterway for over a century.

Traffic was also heavier in 1950 on the Ottawa, Murray, Trent and Rideau Canals while the St. Peter's, Recheleu and St. Andrew's were lower than 1949.

Sault Ste. Marie Canal

D E C E M B E R

<u>EAST BOUND</u>		1950		1949	
		Canadian Lock	Canadian & U.S. Locks	Canadian Lock	Canadian & U.S. Locks
Pulpwood	Tons	-	-	-	-
Lumber	"	-	-	-	-
Flour	"	60	60	50	50
Wheat	"	22,334	630,635	10,827	331,821
Other Grain	"	33,267	221,332	-	126,977
Copper and Zinc	"	-	-	-	-
Iron Ore	"	-	1,070,404	-	177,775
Scrap Iron	"	-	6,888	-	5,100
Structural Steel	"	-	5,617	-	12,914
Stone	"	-	-	-	-
Other Freight	"	10,353	10,353	32,413	32,413
Total	"	66,014	1,945,289	43,290	687,050
Passengers	Number	-	14	-	4
<u>WEST BOUND</u>					
Coal soft	Tons	3,200	35,643	2,410	157,164
Coal hard	"	-	-	-	-
Coke	"	-	-	-	-
Iron Ore	"	-	-	-	-
Structural Steel	"	-	-	-	3,940
Salt	"	32	32	-	-
Oil and Gasoline	"	5,773	5,773	4,119	4,119
Stone	"	-	21,540	-	-
Other freight	"	10,708	10,782	10,429	10,429
Total	"	19,713	73,770	16,958	175,652
Passengers	Number	-	10	-	2
Total Freight	Tons	85,727	2,019,059	60,248	862,702
Total Passengers	Number	-	24	-	6
Number of Vessels		69	427	52	245
Registered Tonnage	Net	93,511	1,457,064	50,052	480,939

Welland Ship Canal

		December 1950	December 1949
Vessels	No.	335	249
Registered Tonnage	Tons.	651,118	550,236
Passengers	No.	4	-
Barley	Tons.	37,068	28,099
Corn	"	5,555	2,352
Oats	"	2,102	1,445
Rye	"	-	-
Wheat	"	31,494	26,295
Flour	"	-	-
Gasoline	"	75,383	41,150
Petroleum and Other Oils	"	183,179	104,407
Sugar	"	354	482
Pulpwood	"	8,500	-
Autos and Parts	"	-	-
Paper	"	13,310	12,900
Wood Pulp	"	700	-
Soft Coal	"	209,131	271,001
Coke	"	-	-
Iron Ore	"	17,472	-
Sand	"	16,938	2,000
All other freight	"	50,824	3,396
Total Freight	"	652,010	493,527
<u>St. Lawrence Canals:</u>			
Vessels	No.	72	54
Registered Tonnage	Tons.	71,342	50,637
Passengers	No.	-	-
Barley	Tons.	-	-
Corn	"	6,749	8,355
Oats	"	-	1,445
Rye	"	-	-
Wheat	"	5,427	-
Flour	"	-	-
Gasoline	"	7,440	7,090
Petroleum and Other Oils	"	16,965	12,436
Sugar	"	-	-
Pulpwood	"	-	-
Autos and Parts	"	-	-
Paper	"	2,010	-
Wood Pulp	"	-	-
Hard Coal	"	-	-
Soft Coal	"	25,344	12,852
Sand	"	600	-
All other freight	"	10,566	250
Total Freight	"	75,101	42,428

D E C E M B E R

	St. Peter's Canal		All Canadian Canals	
	1950	1949	1950	1949
Vessels	44	37	520	392
Reg'd Tonnage	2,828	1,679	818,799	652,604
Passengers	-	-	4	-
Total Freight	1,100	1,043	813,938	597,246
Pleasure Craft	-	-	-	-

SUMMARY OF CANAL TRAFFIC
FOR SEASON OF NAVIGATION, 1950

Sault Ste. Marie Canal

Season of Navigation

		1950		1949	
		Canadian Lock	Canadian & U.S. Locks	Canadian Lock	Canadian & U.S. Locks
EAST BOUND					
Pulpwood	Tons	143,988	443,120	97,102	465,508
Lumber	"	-	-	-	-
Flour	"	60,484	63,201	70,120	73,243
Wheat	"	402,170	5,704,496	491,005	8,039,106
Other Grain	"	529,892	2,379,647	640,340	3,140,393
Copper and Zinc	"	-	-	-	-
Iron Ore	"	-	79,976,650	2,961	71,744,269
Scrap Iron	"	-	122,356	-	134,490
Structural Steel	"	7,466	193,204	-	129,751
Stone	"	48,040	58,084	41,600	50,604
Other Freight	"	247,452	302,273	232,011	270,206
Total	"	1,439,492	89,243,031	1,575,139	84,047,570
Passengers	Number	29,482	31,787	41,503	56,693
WEST BOUND					
Coal, soft	Tons	224,383	13,301,020	205,936	8,675,037
Coal, hard	"	15,072	295,504	21,514	273,425
Coke	"	-	-	14,917	14,917
Iron Ore	"	-	292,341	-	137,712
Structural Steel	"	7,917	79,565	6,106	61,993
Salt	"	745	46,956	1,759	54,193
Oil and Gasoline	"	219,356	826,205	93,785	1,067,711
Stone	"	5,108	1,508,624	-	1,230,915
Other Freight	"	389,690	602,492	382,358	624,296
Total	"	862,271	16,952,707	726,375	12,140,199
Passengers	Number	27,283	31,579	9,418	56,312
Total Freight	Tons	2,301,763	106,195,738	2,301,514	96,187,769
Total Passengers	Number	56,765	63,366	50,921	113,005
Number of Vessels		3,666	21,004	3,692	21,819
Registered Tonnage Net		3,544,194	80,319,285	4,111,487	76,718,138

Welland Ship Canal

Season of Navigation

		1 9 5 0	1 9 4 9
Vessels	No.	7,270	7,132
Registered Tonnage	Tons	12,760,321	12,307,886
Passengers	No.	4,843	13,059
Barley	Tons	290,991	309,404
Corn	"	655,505	410,727
Oats	"	124,203	211,025
Rye	"	13,525	60,441
Flaxseed	"	147,164	206,999
Wheat	"	2,299,280	3,190,654
Other Grains	"	115,849	70,328
Flour	"	23,175	12,545
Hay and Straw	"	-	-
Other Mill Products	"	2,034	3,473
Fruit and Vegetables	"	-	-
Potatoes	"	-	-
Fish	"	790	1,276
Dressed Meats	"	-	-
Other Packing-House Products	"	-	-
All other Animal Products	"	-	-
Gasoline	"	851,751	740,681
Petroleum and other Oils	"	1,356,630	1,559,864
Agricultural Implements	"	2,657	1,604
Cement, Bricks, Lime & Plaster	"	62,739	93,551
Iron, Pig and Bloom	"	64,435	93,614
Iron and Steel, other	"	54,653	18,250
Sugar	"	56,440	53,958
Salt	"	83,091	66,301
Beverages	"	45	140
Autos and Parts	"	2,932	2,711
Paper	"	319,001	252,042
Wood Pulp	"	47,150	32,086
Pulpwood	"	527,855	504,186
Logs, Posts, Poles, Piling	"	-	-
Firewood	"	-	-
Lumber, Mill and Cooperage Stock	"	1,690	-
Other Forest Products	"	2,500	-
Hard Coal	"	62,408	77,977
Soft Coal	"	4,997,207	3,573,309
Coke	"	34,977	29,802
Copper Ore	"	-	-
Iron Ore	"	1,478,056	1,236,365
Other Ore	"	128,572	91,183
Sand, Gravel and Stone	"	247,703	202,623
All other Freight	"	664,338	545,090
Total	"	14,719,346	13,692,209

St. Lawrence Canals

Season of Navigation

		1950	1949
Vessels	No.	10,147	8,870
Registered Tonnage	Tons	8,233,472	7,029,775
Passengers	No.	28	13,328
Barley	Tons	167,324	182,160
Corn	"	498,948	329,782
Oats	"	78,351	157,652
Rye	"	8,555	60,111
Flaxseed	"	128,853	153,282
Wheat	"	1,891,827	2,223,162
Other Grains	"	2,995	4,990
Flour	"	20,628	12,318
Hay and Straw	"	-	-
Other Mill Products	"	867	5,616
Fruit and Vegetables	"	-	-
Potatoes	"	-	-
Fish	"	790	1,225
Dressed Meats	"	-	-
Other Packing-house Products	"	-	-
All other Animal Products	"	4,139	4,399
Gasoline	"	917,482	896,437
Petroleum and Other Oils	"	1,165,897	584,279
Agricultural Implements	"	-	-
Cement, Bricks, Lime and Plaster	"	558	219
Iron, Pig and Bloom	"	1,500	650
Iron and Steel, other	"	66,594	28,716
Sugar	"	56,402	55,790
Salt	"	73,991	60,301
Beverages	"	528	140
Autos and Parts	"	7,871	4,046
Paper	"	189,036	120,540
Wood Pulp	"	56,109	32,436
Pulpwood	"	668,474	420,482
Logs, Posts, Poles, Piling	"	-	50
Firewood	"	32	-
Lumber, Mill and Cooperage Stock	"	41,402	34,122
Other Forest Products	"	-	-
Hard Coal	"	36,752	22,720
Soft Coal	"	2,278,223	1,309,931
Coke	"	24,453	8,989
Copper Ore	"	-	-
Iron Ore	"	252,816	230,993
Other Ore	"	127,206	38,335
Sand, Gravel and Stone	"	303,520	279,091
All other Freight	"	897,148	697,230
Total	"	9,969,271	7,960,194



SEASON OF NAVIGATION, 1950

		Ottawa River Canal		Rideau Canal	
		1950	1949	1950	1949
Vessels	No.	1,117	1,212	135	176
Registered Tonnage	Tons	340,084	330,205	4,456	6,922
Passengers	No.	-	8	(1) (2) 505	615
Total Freight	Tons	294,604	282,330	1,215	1,163
Pleasure Craft Lockages		3,411	4,771	18,494	18,489
		Richelieu River Canal		Trent Canal	
		1950	1949	1950	1949
Vessels	No.	692	733	76	996
Registered Tonnage	Tons	104,526	111,554	1,175	z -
Passengers	No.	8	38	x -	-
Total Freight	Tons	105,373	106,481	602	418
Pleasure Craft Lockages		-	-	17,202	17,367
		Murray Canal		St. Peter's Canal	
		1950	1949	1950	1949
Vessel	No.	66	55	669	799
Registered Tonnage	Tons	33,988	24,110	30,005	36,999
Passengers	No.	-	-	111	165
Total Freight	Tons	2,969	700	7,805	12,679
Pleasure Craft Lockages		837	1,056	105	64
		St. Andrew's Canal		All Canadian Canals	
		1950	1949	1950	1949
Vessels	No.	416	554	24,254	24,219
Registered Tonnage	Tons	52,123	74,931	25,104,344	24,033,869
Passengers	No.	1,995	3,082	64,255	81,216
Total Freight	Tons	14,901	16,064	27,417,849	24,373,752
Pleasure Craft Lockages		200	412	41,162	43,150

(1) Exclusive of 17,213 passengers on Sight-Seeing Pleasure Boat Cruises

(2) Exclusive of 50,009 passengers on pleasure crafts

x) 62,421 passengers carried in small boats

z) Tonnage unavailable

One passenger through one lock recorded as "1"

TRAFFIC ON CANADIAN CANALS

1950

Canal	Vessels No.	Registered Tonnage	Passengers Number	Tons	Freight Tonnage compared with 1949 (Increase +) (Decrease -)
Sault Ste. Marie	3,666	3,544,194	56,765	2,301,763	+ 249
Welland Ship	7,270	12,760,321	4,843	14,719,346	+ 1,027,137
St. Lawrence	10,147	8,233,472	28	9,969,271	+ 2,009,077
Ottawa River	1,117	340,084	-	294,604	+ 12,274
Rideau	135	4,456	505	1,215	+ 52
Richelieu River	692	104,526	8	105,373	- 1,108
Trent	76	1,175	-	602	+ 184
Murray	66	33,988	-	2,969	+ 2,269
St. Andrew's	416	52,123	1,995	14,901	- 1,163
St. Peter's	669	30,005	111	7,805	- 4,874
Total †	24,254	25,104,344	64,255	27,417,849	+ 3,044,097

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