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SUMMARY OF CANAL TRAFFICMAY, 1950

A fairly active month was reported by the Canadian canal systems during May when for the first full month of this season a total of 3,609,322 tons of freight was locked through compared with 3,587,191 tons in the same period last year, the gain being limited to 22,131 tons. May of 1948 showed 3,292,730 tons while the previous high for the month was 3,946,215 tons recorded in 1942. Traffic was heavier this May at the Canadian Sault, through the St. Lawrence system and on the Richelieu in comparison with last year's volume. The coal movement was accelerated subsequent to the settlement of the labour trouble in the U. S. mines.

Sault Ste. Marie Canals - Canadian and United States Locks:- Total freight moving through both systems during May weighed 13,512,174 tons against 15,803,330 tons one year earlier; the decline was all on the American side with the Canadian locks checking 343,772 tons compared with 280,839 tons in May of last year. Increases in total traffic for the both systems were registered in wheat eastbound, up from 1,030,007 in May, 1949, to 1,203,856 tons and in other grain which rose 147,177 tons to 417,768 tons. Steel and coal were considerably heavier. Declines were shown in pulpwood and in iron ore eastbound, which dropped from 11,765,641 to 9,160,827 tons, and in stone, oil and gasoline, and other freight upbound. Vessel passages numbered 2,546 for both systems as against 3,164 in the previous May.

Welland Ship Canal:- Traffic was lighter this May at 1,872,166 tons compared with 2,071,952 tons last year as 782 vessels were recorded against 1,013. Passenger volume was down sharply. Heavier movements of barley, corn, oats, flour, gasoline, sugar, paper, sand, coke and miscellaneous freight were experienced but wheat dropped from 520,318 tons in May, 1949, to 392,802 tons and petroleum from 180,904 to 117,394 tons. Pulpwood, soft coal and iron ore were much lighter this May with iron ore down from 173,320 to 62,483 tons.

St. Lawrence Canals:- Total freight was up from 1,191,401 to 1,329,434 tons following a slow April. Vessel passages numbered 1,479 against 1,256 one year earlier. Gains were fairly general with barley, oats, corn, gasoline, petroleum, sugar, pulpwood, autos, paper, woodpulp, coal and all other freight recording good advances over the previous May's volume. Corn jumped from 5,527 to 96,442 tons, while petroleum was up from 87,785 to 137,694 tons. Lighter shipments of wheat, down from 403,136 to 292,312 tons, and rye and sand were shown.

Among the lesser canals, the Richelieu had 16,763 tons of freight compared with 12,866 tons in May of 1949. The Rideau was busier while the St. Andrew's was not yet open.

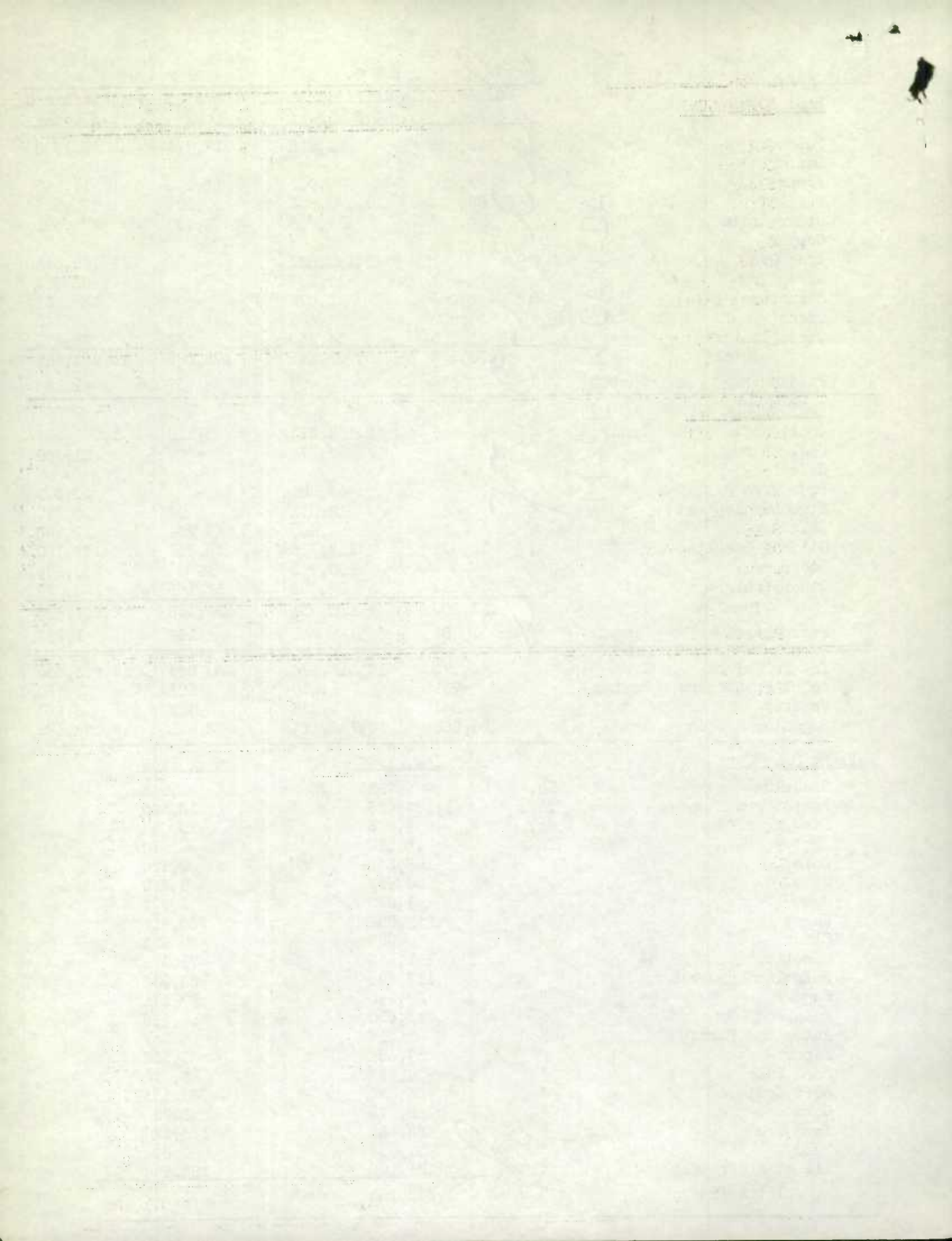
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Sault Ste. Marie Canals:

		1950		1949	
<u>EAST BOUND</u>		Canadian Lock	Canadian & U.S. locks	Canadian Lock	Canadian & U.S. Locks
Pulpwood	Tons	13,000	31,418	17,774	95,378
Lumber	"	-	-	-	-
Flour	"	5,814	7,033	11,143	11,143
Wheat	"	85,700	1,203,856	39,604	1,030,007
Other Grain	"	94,313	417,768	74,790	270,591
Copper	"	-	-	-	-
Iron Ore	"	-	9,160,827	-	11,765,641
Scrap Iron	"	-	19,835	-	26,565
Structural Steel	"	2,325	21,676	-	11,157
Stone	"	4,600	4,600	4,640	4,640
Other Freight	"	25,020	34,230	30,432	36,273
Total	"	230,572	10,901,243	178,383	13,251,395
Passengers	Number	647	698	357	1,188
<u>WEST BOUND</u>					
Coal, soft	Tons	51,559	2,106,683	30,178	1,960,557
Coal, hard	"	-	37,674	-	21,789
Coke	"	-	-	-	-
Iron Ore	"	-	58,506	-	30,809
Structural Steel	"	464	12,071	96	10,717
Salt	"	-	4,860	264	12,258
Oil and Gasoline	"	12,939	117,738	13,762	162,150
Stone	"	-	190,743	-	253,576
Other Freight	"	48,238	82,656	58,156	100,079
Total	"	113,200	2,610,931	102,456	2,551,935
Passengers	Number	84	741	166	1,262
Total Freight	Tons	343,772	13,512,174	280,839	15,803,330
Total Passengers	Number	731	1,439	523	2,450
Vessels	"	334	2,546	418	3,164
Registered Tonnage Net		420,688	10,195,114	602,821	12,098,485

Welland Ship Canal:

		May, 1950	May, 1949
Vessels	No.	782	1,013
Registered Tonnage	Tons	1,233,633	1,918,523
Passenger	No.	1,575	10,054
Barley	Tons	42,664	36,270
Corn	"	108,553	9,188
Oats	"	20,797	8,779
Rye	"	1,675	1,792
Wheat	"	332,802	520,318
Flour	"	907	592
Gasoline	"	111,158	71,376
Petroleum and other Oils	"	117,394	180,904
Sugar	"	20,145	10,171
Pulpwood	"	11,530	47,468
Autos and Parts	"	217	357
Paper	"	37,492	27,596
Wood Pulp	"	4,167	6,446
Soft Coal	"	705,874	784,153
Coke	"	2,078	1,926
Iron Ore	"	62,483	173,320
Sand	"	31,037	6,800
All other freight	"	201,193	184,496
Total Freight	"	1,872,166	2,071,952



St. Lawrence Canals:

		May, 1950	May, 1949
Vessels	No.	1,479	1,256
Registered Tonnage	Tons	1,156,453	1,047,613
Passengers	No.	-	-
Barley	Tons	22,033	21,741
Corn	"	96,442	5,527
Oats	"	15,113	2,486
Rye	"	1,675	4,883
Wheat	"	292,312	403,136
Flour	"	907	592
Gasoline	"	130,114	119,408
Petroleum and other Oils	"	137,694	87,785
Sugar	"	20,095	8,169
Pulpwood	"	31,730	27,054
Autos and Parts	"	1,197	147
Paper	"	25,535	12,200
Wood Pulp	"	8,856	4,546
Hard Coal	"	2,560	-
Soft Coal	"	322,340	304,493
Sand	"	40,800	46,900
All other freight	"	180,031	142,334
Total Freight	"	1,329,434	1,191,401

		Ottawa River Canal		Rideau Canal		Richelieu River Canal	
		1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949
Vessels	No.	181	224	23	15	117	78
Registered Tonnage	Tons	52,642	55,251	839	633	17,051	12,402
Passengers	No.	-	-	1/ 2/ 64	6	-	-
Total Freight	Tons	45,834	47,282	195	20	16,763	12,866
Pleasure Craft		276	351	657	939	-	-
		Trent Canal		Murray Canal		St. Peter's Canal	
Vessels	No.	5	78	14	11	136	115
Registered Tonnage	Tons	63	-	5,599	4,238	7,889	4,920
Passengers	No.	x 94	1,381	-	-	-	-
Total Freight	Tons	12	67	-	-	1,146	1,731
Pleasure Craft		-	420	38	61	31	3
		St. Andrew's Canal		All Canadian Canals			
		1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949
Vessels	No.	-	33	3,071	3,165		
Registered Tonnage	Tons	-	5,131	2,944,857	3,651,556		
Passengers	No.	-	70	2,464	10,653		
Total Freight	Tons	-	1,092	3,609,322	3,587,191		
Pleasure Craft		-	41	1,002	1,815		

1/ Exclusive of 494 passengers on sight seeing pleasure cruise boats.

2/ Exclusive of 1,587 passengers on pleasure crafts.

x One passenger through one lock or bridge to be recorded as "1".

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