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SUMMARY OF CANAL TRAFFIC

SEPTEMBER, 1950

The Canadian canal systems continued very active during September and freight passing through the canals totalled 3,695,543 tons - an all-time high - and 468,480 tons or 14.5 p.c. above September, 1949, when 3,227,063 tons were tallied. There were 3,281 vessels using the facilities during the month compared with 3,107 last year. Passengers numbered 5,496, down from 7,099 in the previous September, due to cessation of passenger service on the St. Lawrence and very little Welland traffic. Large gains were shown in the movement of soft coal, iron ore, pulpwood, paper, corn, sand, petroleum and miscellaneous freight. Wheat declined sharply from 1949 levels.

Some of the increased traffic was likely due to diversions from rail occasioned by the late August strike.

Sault Ste. Marie Canals - Canadian and United States Locks: Total freight tonnage for the system during September rose to 15,594,194 tons, an increase of 2,589,703 tons or 19.9 p.c. over the same month last year. Both eastbound and westbound traffic boomed with east, or downbound, amounting to 13,191,504 tons against 11,680,924 tons during the previous September. Gains were shown in pulpwood up from 41,120 to 71,034 tons, iron ore at 12,300,956 against 9,945,328 tons and in flour, scrap iron, steel, stone and other freight which advanced 7,176 tons to 37,184 tons. Wheat declined sharply from 1,304,561 to 460,857 tons and other grains eased from 319,520 to 249,137 tons downbound. The movement west totalled 2,402,690 tons, an increase of 1,079,123 tons over September, 1949, when work stoppages in the U. S. coal mines cut shipments. Soft coal passing upwards grossed 1,926,335 tons compared with 969,299, and most of the other commodities were considerably heavier. Stone rose from 120,211 to 183,922 tons. Canadian locks handled 307,938 tons against 218,353 tons one year earlier. Passenger traffic improved over September, 1949 on the Canadian side but dropped from 9,945 to 5,351 for the total system.

Welland Ship Canal: Traffic through the Welland during September grossed 1,976,840 tons compared with 1,814,735 tons last year and 1,838,629 tons in 1948. The gain of 162,105 tons over 1949 reflected increases in corn up from 48,706 to 91,331 tons, rye, flour, gasoline, pulpwood, paper, soft coal which rose from 362,474 to 632,463 tons, coke, iron ore at 305,424 against 119,905 tons, sand, and in all other freight which increased over 71,000 tons to 200,879 tons for the month. Declines were confined to barley, oats, wheat dropping from 619,216 to 220,511 tons, and petroleum oils. Passenger traffic shrank from 1,040 to only 4, the leading excursion vessel having been burnt at its dock in Toronto last fall.



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St. Lawrence Canals: A total of 1,352,164 tons were reported in September for the St. Lawrence system, a gain of 18.4 p.c. or 209,716 tons over the corresponding period of 1949. Corn, rye, flour, petroleum, pulpwood, paper, woodpulp, soft coal, sand and miscellaneous freight advanced sharply. Petroleum and other oils totalled 166,080 tons against 48,990 tons one year earlier, pulpwood was up nearly 30,000 tons to 110,090 tons, paper more than doubled at 35,158 against 15,884 tons and soft coal jumped from 145,529 to 308,534 tons. All other freight totalled 260,083 tons compared with 195,347 tons a year previous. The rail strike in late August had encouraged water shipments and several vessels benefitted from the additional traffic between Quebec and Ontario. Declines were confined to wheat off from 373,362 to 190,132 tons and barley, oats and hard coal. Passenger traffic was nil against 1,167 in September of 1949 when service was available downbound.

The smaller canals registered over-all improvement with the Ottawa system freight at 42,662 tons against 35,385 tons and St. Andrew's up from 1,569 to 4,836 tons. Pleasure craft on all Canadian canals totalled 6,024 during the month compared with 5,559 one year earlier.

Sault Ste. Marie Canals:

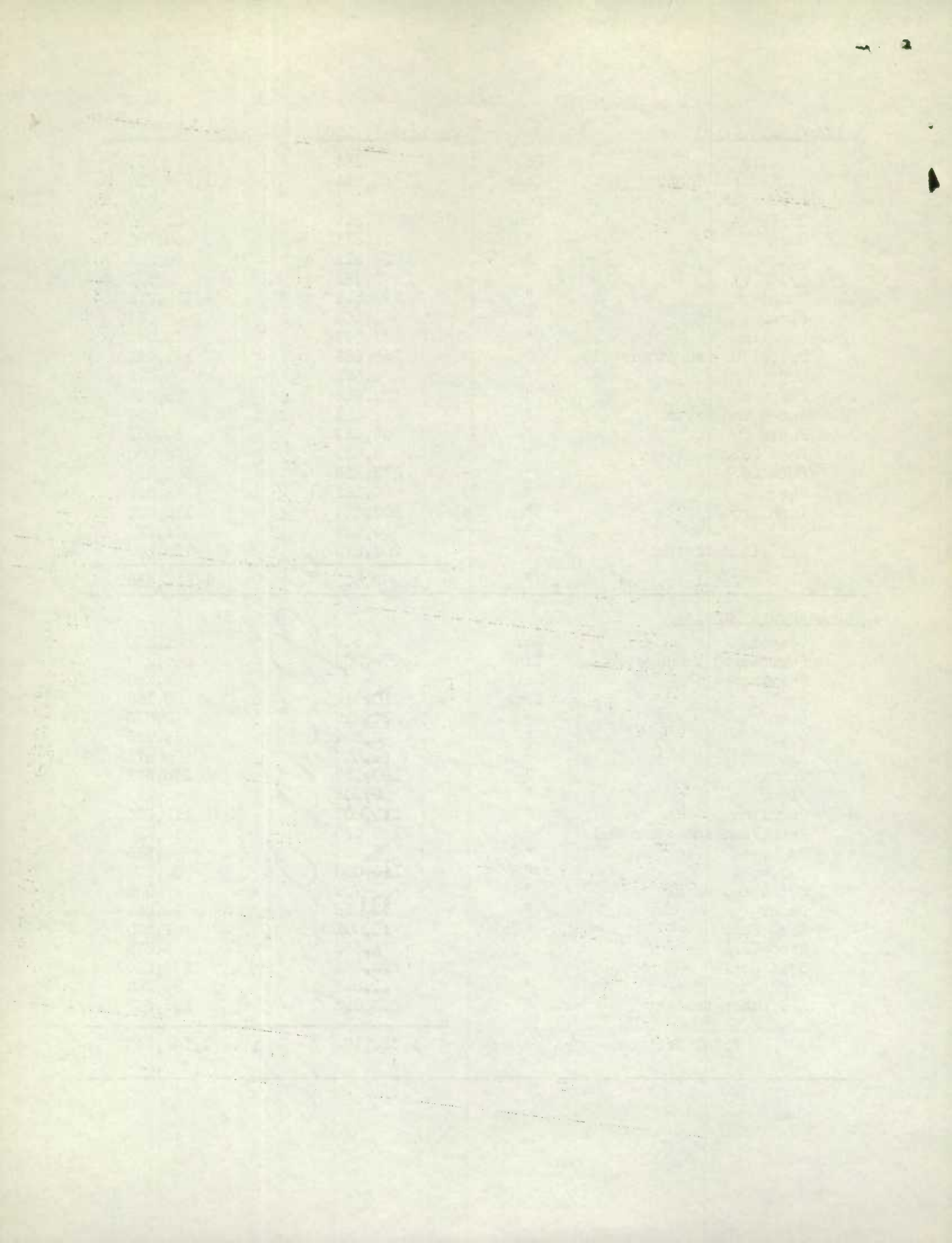
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<u>EAST BOUND</u>		Canadian Lock	Canadian & U.S. Locks	Canadian Lock	Canadian & U.S. Locks
Lumber	Tons	-	-	-	-
Pulpwood	"	30,222	71,034	6,820	41,120
Flour	"	10,821	10,821	9,123	9,123
Wheat	"	42,738	460,857	26,192	1,304,561
Other Grains	"	52,618	249,137	66,799	319,520
Copper and Zinc	"	-	-	-	-
Iron Ore	"	-	12,300,956	-	9,945,328
Scrap Iron	"	-	27,225	-	7,383
Structural Steel	"	-	27,890	-	18,081
Stone	"	6,400	6,400	5,800	5,800
Other Freight	"	37,182	37,184	26,781	30,008
Total	"	179,981	13,191,504	141,515	11,680,924
Passengers	Number	2,446	2,675	3,397	5,412
<u>WEST BOUND</u>					
Coal, soft	Tons	30,464	1,926,335	18,950	969,299
Coal, hard	"	9,168	47,573	2,899	16,493
Coke	"	-	-	4,323	4,323
Iron Ore	"	-	46,324	-	6,048
Structural Steel	"	3,650	15,237	344	4,004
Salt	"	272	7,111	216	5,031
Oil and Gasoline	"	34,530	97,478	9,174	130,522
Stone	"	-	183,922	-	120,211
Other Freight	"	49,873	78,710	40,932	67,666
Total	"	127,957	2,402,690	76,833	1,323,567
Passengers	Number	2,455	2,676	916	4,533
Total Freight	Tons	307,938	15,594,194	218,353	13,004,491
Total Passengers	Number	4,901	5,351	4,313	9,945
Number of Vessels		470	2,918	373	2,847
Registered Tonnage	Net	518,189	11,587,391	444,068	10,702,216

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<u>Welland Ship Canal</u>		<u>September, 1950</u>	<u>September, 1949</u>
Vessels	No.	964	954
Registered Tonnage	Tons	1,685,084	1,598,734
Passengers	No.	4	1,040
Barley	Tons	8,945	51,061
Corn	"	91,331	48,706
Oats	"	20,922	48,213
Rye	"	9,781	572
Wheat	"	220,511	619,216
Flour	"	4,564	837
Gasoline	"	107,347	78,071
Petroleum and other Oils	"	155,686	171,441
Sugar	"	4,555	4,472
Pulpwood	"	100,252	93,211
Autos and Parts	"	503	416
Paper	"	45,437	30,052
Wood Pulp	"	9,439	2,000
Soft Coal	"	632,463	362,474
Coke	"	5,185	1,323
Iron Ore	"	305,424	119,905
Sand	"	53,616	41,321
All other freight	"	200,879	129,866
Total Freight	"	1,976,840	1,814,735

St. Lawrence Canals:

Vessels	No.	1,342	1,166
Registered Tonnage	Tons	1,075,269	946,947
Passengers	No.	-	1,167
Barley	Tons	10,012	23,169
Corn	"	84,016	46,872
Oats	"	6,854	51,995
Rye	"	4,810	675
Wheat	"	190,132	373,362
Flour	"	5,321	910
Gasoline	"	110,803	111,354
Petroleum and other Oils	"	166,080	48,990
Sugar	"	3,204	4,513
Pulpwood	"	110,090	80,178
Autos and Parts	"	709	306
Paper	"	35,158	15,884
Wood Pulp	"	10,091	3,100
Hard Coal	"	1,352	5,378
Soft Coal	"	308,534	145,529
Sand	"	44,855	34,286
All other freight	"	260,083	195,347
Total Freight	"	1,352,184	1,142,448



		Ottawa River Canal		Rideau Canal	
		1950	1949	1950	1949
Vessels	No.	151	147	21	18
Registered Tonnage	Tons	49,384	49,686	803	756
Passengers	No.	-	-	<u>1/</u> <u>2/</u> 54	93
Total Freight	Tons	42,062	35,305	211	245
Pleasure Craft		595	603	2,830	2,535
		Richelieu River Canal		Trent Canal	
Vessels	No.	63	100	8	145
Registered Tonnage	Tons	10,339	15,852	114	-
Passengers	No.	-	-	x -	-
Total Freight	Tons	9,853	13,179	21	138
Pleasure Craft		-	-	2,414	1,897
		Murray Canal		St. Peter's Canal	
Vessels	No.	2	3	126	98
Registered Tonnage	Tons	4,568	1,713	3,176	2,381
Passengers	No.	-	-	10	14
Total Freight	Tons	-	-	1,018	1,011
Pleasure Craft		96	462	31	4
		St. Andrew's Canal		All Canadian Canals	
Vessels	No.	128	103	3,281	3,107
Registered Tonnage	Tons	16,829	10,797	3,363,755	3,061,934
Passengers	No.	537	442	5,496	7,099
Total Freight	Tons	4,836	1,569	3,695,543	3,227,063
Pleasure Craft		53	58	6,024	5,559

1/ Exclusive of 1,058 passengers on sight-seeing pleasure cruise boats.

2/ Exclusive of 6,840 passengers on pleasure crafts.

x 7,627 passengers carried in small boats. One passenger through one lock recorded as "1".

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