

54 001 D.B.S. MEMORANDUM

Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa, Canada



SUMMARY OF CANAL TRAFFIC

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30-7-52

JUNE, 1952

During the current June the volume of freight loaded through the Canals of Canada reached a new high for the month and almost equalled the modern record for any month which was established in May of this year. The total cargo tonnage reported reached 4,127,184 tons up 8 per cent or 306,566 tons over that for June, 1951 at 3,820,618 tons and compares with 3,760,666 tons in the same month of 1950. This increase was mainly the result of greater activity at the Welland Ship Canal. Although the number of vessels loaded through the canals was down slightly to 3,347 from 3,360, the net registered tonnage rose appreciably to 3,874,030 tons from 3,517,603 tons one year earlier. The number of passengers carried also advanced from 5,807 to 7,521 indicating a better tourist season.

SAULT STE. MARIE CANALS - CANADIAN AND UNITED STATES LOCKS: In June, the United States steel strike forced a drastic curtailment of the flow of iron ore through the American locks at Sault Ste. Marie and caused the volume of freight through the combined system to decline from 17,019,645 tons in June, 1951 to 7,688,914 tons, a drop of 54.8 per cent. The strike, had little apparent effect on activity at the Canadian lock, however, as the weight of cargoes moved rose slightly to 372,299 from 353,040 tons, an improvement of some 19,259 tons due to gains in grain, pulpwood and coal. The Canadian lock also reported an increase in the number of vessels handled at 492 as compared to 469, and in the number of passengers carried through at 6,675 against 5,511 one year previously. Eastbound volume at the Canadian Sault totalled 245,260 tons against 229,522 tons in the previous June while the westbound total advanced to 127,039 tons from 123,518 tons. Crude oil downbound through the American locks and mainly for Canadian consumption totalled 313,032 tons versus 268,893 tons one year earlier, a betterment of 16.4 p.c. in this new traffic and reflecting the greatly increased contribution of our western wells to the national petroleum requirements. This traffic is expected to increase steadily as more lake tankers become available and refinery facilities in Southern Ontario are expanded.

WELLAND SHIP CANAL: Freight tonnage recorded for June at the Welland Ship Canal was 2,381,132 tons an advance of 378,614 tons, or 18.9 per cent above the same month last year and establishes a new high for the month. Commodities participating in the greater volume included barley which, at 268,024 tons was 214,162 tons heavier than in June of last year, wheat up from 302,765 to 448,547 tons, oats, petroleum and other oils, iron and steel, pulpwood, sand and soft coal at 744,080 against 686,090 tons. Corn, rye, paper, gasoline and iron ore were somewhat lower this year. Vessels passing through the canal numbered 1,154 with a net tonnage of 2,069,540 as opposed to 996 of 1,746,140 tons. Passengers numbered 622 against only 6 one year earlier as inter-lake service was resumed.

ST. LAWRENCE CANALS: The total tonnage of freight transported through the St Lawrence system amounted to 1,334,984 tons and shows a decline of 4.7 per cent from the June, 1951 total of 1,400,207 tons. Increased shipments of barley, which rose to 218,298 from 45,360 tons in the previous June and in wheat nearly offset the decreases in petroleum and other oils, pulpwood, soft coal, sand and in all other freight. Petroleum and crude oil cargoes dropped to 82,689 from 168,596 tons, soft coal to 280,409 from 387,460 tons and all other freight to 159,598 from 185,543 tons.

The pattern of petroleum traffic through the St. Lawrence is changing under the impact of the flow of western oil to Ontario refineries and will be further affected by the new products pipeline from Sarnia to Montreal. The smaller canals except the Rideau and Trent, reported lighter tonnages of freight handled during the current June.

Prepared in the Public Finance and Transportation Division

SAULT STE MARIE CANALS:

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		Canadian Lock	Canadian & U. S. Locks	Canadian Lock	Canadian & U. S. Locks
<u>East Bound</u>					
Pulpwood	Tons	39,883	118,137	29,068	97,416
Lumber	"	-	-	9,879	9,879
Flour	"	17,535	17,535	15,222	17,022
Wheat	"	44,433	1,342,898	41,634	855,903
Other Grain	"	80,293	641,741	76,078	289,793
Copper	"	-	-	-	-
Iron Ore	"	-	3,188,816	-	13,212,689
Scrap Iron	"	-	7,840	-	13,664
Structural Steel	"	7,115	19,716	13,938	13,938
Stone	"	11,250	11,250	9,000	9,000
Crude Oil	"	-	313,032	9,696	268,893
Other Freight	"	44,751	44,751	25,007	25,007
Total	"	245,260	5,705,716	229,522	14,813,204
Passengers	Number	3,307	3,355	2,791	3,063
<u>West Bound</u>					
Coal, soft	Tons	39,373	1,548,567	14,064	1,598,135
Coal, hard	"	-	26,760	-	22,104
Coke	"	-	-	-	-
Iron Ore	"	-	17,024	-	29,335
Structural Steel	"	219	219	265	7,279
Salt	"	40	40	30	6,638
Oil and Gasoline	"	46,579	123,103	52,772	152,766
Stone	"	-	207,261	-	311,712
Other Freight	"	40,828	60,224	56,387	78,472
Total	"	127,039	1,983,198	123,518	2,206,441
Passengers	Number	3,368	3,411	2,720	3,046
Total Freight	Tons	372,299	7,688,914	353,040	17,019,645
Total Passengers	Number	6,675	6,766	5,511	6,109
Number of Vessels		492	1,913	469 x	3,282x
Registered tonnage	Net	607,709	5,779,372	526,091	13,052,020

WELLAND SHIP CANAL:		JUNE, 1952	JUNE, 1951
Vessels	No.	1,154	996 x
Registered Tonnage	Tons	2,069,540	1,746,140 x
Passengers	No.	622	6
Barley	Tons	268,024	53,862
Corn	"	24,386	30,162
Oats	"	47,188	12,219
Rye	"	9,767	20,335
Wheat	"	448,547	302,765
Flour	"	656	1,922
Gasoline	"	109,097	126,326
Petroleum & Other Oils	"	155,357	176,627
Crude Oil	"	57,973	-
Sugar	"	4,160	4,325
Pulpwood	"	96,468	56,332
Autos and Parts	"	347	98
Paper	"	36,084	46,639
Wood Pulp	"	791	8,988
Soft Coal	"	744,080	686,090
Coke	"	3,000	1,301
Iron Ore	"	191,612	277,726
Sand	"	37,212	31,999
All other freight	"	146,383	164,802 x
Total Freight	"	2,381,132	2,002,518 x
<u>ST. LAWRENCE CANALS:</u>			
Vessels	No.	1,292	1,392
Registered Tonnage	Tons	1,140,917	1,157,524
Passengers	No.	-	-
Barley	Tons	218,298	45,360
Corn	"	9,214	25,171
Oats	"	11,341	8,470
Rye	"	5,826	15,421
Wheat	"	268,882	214,659
Flour	"	496	279
Gasoline	"	150,347	150,490
Crude Oil	"	31,700	-
Petroleum & other Oils	"	50,989	165,596
Sugar	"	-	2,443
Pulpwood	"	80,508	101,780
Autos and Parts	"	168	718
Paper	"	19,203	20,292
Wood Pulp	"	1,500	7,267
Hard Coal	"	-	-
Soft Coal	"	280,409	887,460
Iron Ore	"	19,800	22,096 (a)
Sand	"	26,705	47,162
All other freight	"	159,598	185,543
Total Freight	"	1,334,984	1,400,207

(a) Previously included in all other freight.



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		Ottawa River Canals		Rideau Canal	
		1952	1951	1952	1951
Vessels	No.	126	183	23	23
Registered Tonnage	Tons	30,451	53,624	869	518
Passengers	No.	-	-	(1) 83	71
Total Freight	Tons	26,924	47,031	184	1
Pleasure Craft		763	452	2,783	2,287
		Richelieu River Canal		Trent Canal	
Vessels	No.	59	78	8	6
Registered Tonnage	Tons	9,250	11,868	108	84
Passengers	No.	-	-	(X) -	-
Total Freight	Tons	8,086	10,665	15	15
Pleasure Craft		-	-	1,528	1,487 (b)
		Murray Canal		St. Peter's Canal	
Vessels	No.	3	11	53	72
Registered Tonnage	Tons	1,716	6,536	3,037	1,845
Passengers	No.	-	-	-	18
Total Freight	Tons	-	2,358	572	771
Pleasure Craft		91	73	19	3
		St. Andrew's Canal		All Canadian Canals	
Vessels	No.	138	130	3,347	3,360 x
Registered Tonnage	Tons	10,433	13,373	3,874,030	3,517,603 x
Passengers	No.	(Y) 141	201	7,521	5,807
Total Freight	Tons	2,988	4,012	4,127,184	3,820,618 x
Pleasure Craft		37	85	5,212	4,387 x

(1) Exclusive of 3,721 passengers on sight-seeing pleasure boat cruises.
 Exclusive of 7,739 passengers carried in pleasure craft.
 (X) 5,139 passengers carried in small boats.
 One passenger through one lock recorded as "1".
 (Y) Exclusive of 91 passengers carried in pleasure craft.

(b) Complete figures were not available at time of publishing.

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