Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa, Canada

SUMMARY OF CANAL TRAFFIC

JULY, 1952

8504-517 5-9-52

The total tonnage of cargoes locked through the Canadian Canals during July declined but slightly from the record 3,842,436 tons established in July of last year. The current figure of 3,833,800 tons was, however, only 8,636 tons less than this record. Both the Sault Ste. Marie and the Welland Ship canals reported less activity this July while the St. Lawrence system registered a gain. Although the number of vessel passages was down to 3,846 from 3,925, the net registered tonnage of the vessels passing rose from 3,614,903 to 3,749,817 tons, a gain of 3.7 per cent which indicates a continuing trend towards the employment of larger vessels in the Great Lakes service. The number of passengers carried shows an improvement of 6,100, rising to 35,498 from 29,398 in the corresponding period in 1951, and suggests a revived popularity for this tourist attraction.

SAULT STE. MARIE CANALS - CANADIAN AND UNITED STATES LOCKS: The cessation of iron ore shipments from the lakehead to lower lake ports caused by the United States steel strike resulted in a drastic reduction in the volume of freight handled by the Sault Ste. Marie canals during July. The total tonnage dropped to 5,146,624 tons from 17,538,564 in the corresponding period one year earlier. As there had been grain congestion at the Lakehead, some of the iron ore carriers were diverted to this traffic and, consequently, the movements of wheat and other grains increased considerably. Wheat advanced from 892,161 to 1,208,475 tons, or by 35.5 per cent and other grains from 351,060 to 561,428 tons, a rise of 59.9 per cent. The tonnage of crude oil was also heavier this July, at 350,501 tons against 306,392 while pulpwood declined to 102,170 from 132,892 tons.

Traffic westbound, also, eased during the current July, falling to 1,504,0% tons as compared with 1,701,171 tons due to lighter tonnages of soft coal, and stone, which at 1,071,255 and 154,741 tons were down from 1,239,303 and 238,347 tons, respectively. Other freight totalled 129,550 tons, a gain of 76,279 tons over the July, 1951 total of 53,271 tons.

WELLAND SHIP CANAL: Traffic through the Welland was only 6,698 tons less than in the preceding July and amounted to 2,060,288 tons. Commodities which were transported in heavier quantities include barley which advanced from 59,801 to 257,464 tons, oats up from 11,398 to 30,658 tons and soft coal which rose 33.9 per cent to 645,581 tons from 482,234. Iron ore shipments, due to the above-mentioned U.S. strike, were very much lower this July at 93,015 tons, down from 301,139. Wheat and all other freight were, also, moved in lighter volume decreasing to 314,772 and 151,118 tons respectively from 405,235 and 175,370 tons. The number of vessels passing through the system was up from 1,136 to 1,159 and showed a correspondingly higher registered tonnage which aggregated 1,913,995 tons as compared to 1,827,274.

ST. LAWRENCE CANALS: The amount of freight passing through the St. Lawrence system during July added to 1,410,209 tons and surpassed the July, 1951 total of 1,356,322 by 53,887 tons or by 4 per cent. The much larger volume of barley shipments which advanced from 43,285 to 247,437 tons more than offset the losses sustained by lighter movements of wheat which declined to 249,075 tons from 274,394, gasoline, down to 133,155 from 162,355 tons, and in petroleum oil, pulpwood, paper, iron ore and sand.

The smaller canals showed heavier freight movement this July on the Richelieu, St. Andrews and Rideau.

From the opening of navigation to July 31st, a total of 14,617,859 tons of freight have moved through the Canadian canals. This is 1,057,403 tons or 7.8 per cent more than for the comparable period of last year.

Prepared in the Public Finance and Transportation Division

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ALT STE MARIE CANALS:		1 9 5 2		1951	
		Canadian	Canadian &	Canadian	Canadian
		Look	U.S. Looks	Lock	U.S. Look
East Bound					
Pulpwood	fons	31,902	102,170	35,626	152,892
Lumber	*	7,400	7,400	7,853	7,863
Plour	-	13,703	13,703	8,720	10,620
Theat	**	38,834	1,208,475	53,269	892,161
Other Grain		76,610	561,428	90,943	351,060
Copper	**	-	-	-	-
Iron Ore	**		1,343,826		14,063,291
Sorap Iren	**		12,908		22,083
Structural Steel	**	-	5,772	12,513	19,668
Stone	*	10,190	10,190	5,660	5,660
Crude Oil	*	8,425	350,501	8,368	306,392
Other Freight	*	20,470	28,165	20,146	25,716
Total	10	207,534	3,642,528	243,098	15,837,393
Passengers	Number	17,694	17,775	13,860	14,479
West Bound		38 340		0.000	
Coal, soft	Tons	13,143	1,071,255	25,776	1,239,303
Coal, hard		-	22,004	2,651	10,402
Coke		-	-	1,954	1,954
Iren Ore	00	-	-	1,100	28,826
Structural Steel	79	432	432	17	8,040
Salt	**	3,017	21,946	78	7,468
Oil and Gasoline	**	42,519	104,168	36,899	118,560
Stone	*	•	154,741	-	238,347
Other Preight	10	45,801	129,550	46,446	53,271
Total	*	104,912	1,504,096	114,921	1,701,171
Passengers	Number	17,441	17,547	14,405	15,011
Total Freight	Tons	312,446	5,146,624	358,019	17,538,564
Total Passengers	Number	35,136	35,322	28,265	29,490
Number of Vessels		807	1,983	917*	3,760
Registered Tonnage	Net	543,065	4,360,522	617,175	13,567,012

WELLAND SHIP CANAL:		JULY, 1962	JULY, 1951
Vessels	No.	1,159	1,136
Registered Tonnage	Tons	1,913,995	1,827,274*
Passengers	No.	6	2
Barley	Tons	257,464	59,901
Corn		11,586	15,054
Oats		30,658	11,898
Rye		6,751	13,365
Wheat	*	\$14,772	405,235
Flour	*	200	•
Gasoline	*	104,841	117,123
Petroleum & Other Oile		168,303	250,904
Crude Oil	69	75,727	
Sugar	60	3,927	6,248
Pulpwood	100	101,272	118,683
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Autos and Parts	-	245	165
Paper	00	42,144	40,137
Wood Pulp	**	6,145	4,824
Soft Coal	"	646,581	482,234
Coke	10	4,755	5,808
Iron Ore	**	93,015 42,784	301,139 69,610
All other freight		161,118	175,370
Total Preight		2,060,288	2,066,986
ST. LAWRENCE CANALS:			
Vessels	No.	1,540	1,318
Registered Tonnage	Tons	1,224,038	1,083,820
Passengers	No.	-	-
Berley	Tons	247,437	43,285
Corn	*	12,709	7,234
Oats	16	25,349	
Rye	99	5,146	9,932
Wheat	W	249,075	274,394
Flow	19	200	1,643
Gasoline		133,155	162,355
Crude Oil		28,100	
Petroleum & other Oils	te te	86,270	155,885
Sugar		2,927	5,551
Pulpwood	•	89,678	116,690
Autos and Parts		67	653
Paper	*	21,445	26,683
Wood Pulp	*	5,714	3,590
Hard Coal	*	2,025	3,400
Soft Coal	"	274,064	274,088
Iron Ore	99	19,629	39,004 (
Sand	*	31,035	49,138
All other Preight		176,184	182,797
Total Freight	M2	1,410,209	1,356,322

⁽a) Freviously included in all other freight



		Ottawa River Canals		Rideau Canal		
		1952	1951	1952	1951	
Vessels	No.	142	172	31	34	
Registered Tonnage	Tons	33,253	49,947	657	724	
Passengers	No.		•	(1) 211	146	
Total Preight	Tons	28,294	42,614	136	104	
Pleasure Craft		1,277	1,009	7,586	7,720	
		Richelieu	Richelieu River Canal		Trent Canal	
Vessels	No.	127	113	24	14	
Registered Tonnage	Tons	16,220	15,555	367	306	
Passengers	No.	-	-	(X) -	-	
Total Freight	Tons	18,279	16,923	39	98	
Pleasure Craft		•	•	6,843	7,116	
		Murray Canal		St. Peter's Canal		
Vessels	No.	22	10	74	70	
Registered Tonnage	Tons	5,355	4,850	1,709	1,808	
Passengers	No.	-	•	30	82	
Total Freight	Tons		-	351	454	
Pleasure Craft		417	390	10	14	
		St. Andrew's Canal		All Canadian Canals		
Vessels	No.	120	141	3,846	3,925*	
Registered Tonnage	Tons	11,178	13,444	3,749,817	3,614,905+	
Passengers	No.	(Y) 116	903	35,498	29,398	
Total Freight	Tons	3,758	1,916	3,833,800	3,842,436	
Pleasure Craft	+	56	84	16,189	16,333*	

^(*) Hevised

⁽¹⁾ Exclusive of 7,174 passengers on sight seeing pleasure boat cruises Exclusive of 21,681 passengers carried in pleasure craft

 ⁽X) 23,742 passengers carried in small boats
one passenger through one lock recorded as "1"
(Y) Exclusive of 237 passengers carried in pleasure craft