

c 7

# D.B.S. MEMORANDUM

THE LIBRARY  
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS  
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

54-001  
~~2-12-53~~

Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa, Canada

---

SUMMARY OF CANAL TRAFFIC

8504-517

2-12-53

October, 1953

Although seven of the ten major Canadian canal systems reported heavier traffic this October than in the similar period of 1952, the total tonnage of freight was down to 4,043,738 tons from 4,158,938, a decline of 115,200 tons or 2.8 per cent. Increases registered at the Sault Ste. Marie and Welland Ship canals were more than offset by a decrease of 234,967 tons at the St. Lawrence. Shipments of barley, gasoline, pulpwood, soft coal and iron ore transported through the St. Lawrence canals were lighter this October. The Ottawa and Richelieu canals also reported freight traffic decreases. A total of 3,189 vessels, aggregating 3,882,554 net tons used the facilities of the canals during the month, 199 less than the October, 1952 total of 3,388 vessels of 3,830,132 tons. In addition, 2,066 pleasure craft and 282 passengers were locked through the canals as compared with 1,311 and 131, respectively in the corresponding period one year earlier.

SAULT STE. MARIE CANALS - CANADIAN AND UNITED STATES LOCKS: The volume of freight transported through the combined locks of the Sault Ste. Marie canal was down this October to 15,163,322 tons from 16,548,960 tons in the previous October, a decrease of 1,385,638 tons or 8.4 per cent. Both the eastbound and westbound traffic were lower this October. Eastbound cargoes totalled 13,874,871 tons as compared with 15,110,132 tons a year ago as three basic commodities were moved in lighter quantities. Wheat shipments which totalled 952,234 tons in October, 1952 fell to 668,384 tons in the month under review, iron ore declined to 11,892,865 tons from 13,119,461 and crude oil shipments were down to 407,605 tons from 428,966. The tonnage of other grain rose, however, to 665,976 tons from the previous year's total of 444,296 tons. Westbound traffic declined to 1,288,451 tons from 1,438,828 due mainly to a lower volume of soft coal, stone and iron ore. The tonnage of freight shipped through the Canadian lock, however, showed an improvement over October of the previous year. The total amounted to 442,668 tons as compared with 387,595 tons, an increase of 55,073 tons resulting from increased shipments of other grain eastbound and soft coal westbound.

During the month vessel passages numbered 2,931 against 3,323 in the preceding October while the net registered tonnage declined correspondingly to 12,838,517 tons from 13,802,646.

WELLAND SHIP CANAL: During the month of October, 1,067 vessels totalling 2,223,006 net tons transported 2,399,493 tons of freight through the Welland Ship canal. In the previous October, 1,140 vessels of 2,074,165 net tons carried 2,326,346 tons of freight. The increase thus amounted to 73,147 tons or 3.1 per cent. Increased tonnages were reported for such commodities as soft coal which advanced to 855,109 tons from 602,029; other freight which rose to 320,695 tons from 194,977; oats which was up to 36,331 tons from 7,492; wheat, paper and crude oil. Decreases were reported for iron ore which aggregated 280,184 tons as compared with the October, 1952 total of 511,274 tons; gasoline which declined to 39,523 tons from 105,110, petroleum which dropped to 124,550 tons from 147,007; pulpwood at 50,422 tons as against 94,088; rye and woodpulp.

ST. LAWRENCE CANALS: The amount of freight locked through the St. Lawrence canal system during October totalled 1,146,726 tons a decrease of 234,967 tons or 17.0 per cent from the October, 1952 total of 1,381,693 tons. Shipments of corn, oats, crude oil, petroleum and other oils, paper and other freight were all heavier this October but these increases were much less than the decreases recorded for barley, gasoline, pulpwood, soft coal and iron ore. Cargoes of barley totalled 142,148 tons as compared with 204,398 in the previous October; gasoline totalled 8,880 tons as against 111,171; pulpwood was down to 56,288 tons from 98,376, soft coal declined to 169,032 tons from 271,824; and iron ore was down to 24,589 tons from 51,672.

Price per year \$1.00

Prepared in the Public Finance and Transportation Division.

SAULT STE. MARIE CANALS:

		1953		1952	
		Canadian Lock	Canadian & U.S. Locks	Canadian Lock	Canadian & U.S. Locks
<u>EAST BOUND</u>					
Pulpwood	Tons	29,778	76,678	27,286	47,086
Lumber	"	-	-	-	-
Flour	"	10,462	10,462	16,512	16,512
Wheat	"	55,814	668,384	51,794	952,234
Other Grain	"	125,361	665,976	70,111	444,296
Copper	"	-	-	-	-
Iron Ore	"	-	11,892,865	-	13,119,461
Scrap Iron	"	-	38,192	-	24,893
Structural Steel	"	-	43,443	18,846	23,446
Stone	"	15,600	15,600	8,130	8,130
Crude Oil	"	-	407,605	9,540	428,966
Other Freight	"	53,988	55,666	45,108	45,108
TOTAL	"	291,003	13,874,871	247,327	15,110,132
Passengers	Number	35	104	49	134
<u>WEST BOUND</u>					
Coal, soft	Tons	51,993	928,505	35,835	977,082
Coal, hard	"	-	32,622	2,900	26,920
Coke	"	-	-	-	-
Iron ore	"	-	19,000	-	43,683
Structural Steel	"	-	5,653	6	3,718
Salt	"	1,680	13,641	6,490	14,072
Oil and Gasoline	"	43,633	86,578	38,971	78,195
Stone	"	5,638	118,198	-	197,050
Other Freight	"	48,721	84,254	56,066	98,108
TOTAL	"	151,665	1,288,451	140,268	1,438,828
Passengers	Number	57	120	29	104
TOTAL FREIGHT	Tons	442,668	15,163,322	387,595	16,548,960
TOTAL PASSENGERS	Number	92	224	78	238
Pleasure Craft	"	16	16	13	13
Number of Vessels		489	2,931	431	3,323
REGISTERED TONNAGE	NET	656,337	12,838,517	574,997	13,802,646

WELLAND SHIP CANAL

		October, 1953	October, 1952
Vessels	Number	1,067	1,140
Registered Tonnage	Tons	2,223,006	2,074,165
Passengers	Number	-	-
Pleasure Craft	"	-	-
Barley	Tons	194,831	185,447
Corn	"	40,561	40,608
Oats	"	36,331	7,492
Rye	"	6,230	23,708
Wheat	"	283,976	263,526
Flour	"	1,400	540
Gasoline	"	39,523	105,110
Crude Oil	"	73,064	65,171
Petroleum & other oils	"	124,550	147,007
Sugar	"	3,730	4,427
Pulpwood	"	50,422	94,088
Autos and Parts	"	168	379
Paper	"	52,755	44,330
Wood Pulp	"	8,307	11,794
Coke	"	787	784
Soft Coal	"	855,109	602,029
Iron Ore	"	280,184	511,274
Sand	"	26,870	23,655
All Other Freight	"	320,695	194,977
<b>TOTAL FREIGHT</b>	"	<b>2,399,493</b>	<b>2,326,346</b>

ST. LAWRENCE CANALS:

Vessels	No.	1,165	1,312
Registered Tonnage	Tons	928,989	1,100,040
Passengers	No.	-	-
Pleasure Craft	"	12	8
Barley	Tons	142,148	204,398
Corn	"	21,117	5,561
Oats	"	25,470	3,611
Rye	"	-	22,290
Wheat	"	237,273	243,897
Flour	"	2,620	540
Gasoline	"	8,880	111,171
Crude Oil	"	72,660	27,300
Petroleum & other Oils	"	53,991	47,442
Sugar	"	-	-
Pulpwood	"	56,288	98,376
Autos and Parts	"	6	391
Paper	"	31,145	25,066
Wood Pulp	"	10,867	12,248
Hard Coal	"	-	4,196
Soft Coal	"	169,032	271,824
Iron ore	"	24,589	51,672
Sand	"	46,580	43,840
All other Freight	"	244,060	207,870
<b>TOTAL FREIGHT</b>	"	<b>1,146,726</b>	<b>1,381,693</b>



1010701945

		Ottawa River Canals		Rideau Canal	
		1953	1952	1953	1952
Vessels	No.	160	206	26	20
Registered Tonnage	Tons	39,108	50,958	832	741
Passengers	No.	-	-	(1) 108	53
Pleasure Craft	"	396	159	1,131	728
TOTAL FREIGHT	Tons	33,645	43,810	729	110
		Richelieu River Canal		Trent Canal	
Vessels	No.	91	88	4	3
Registered Tonnage	Tons	15,273	15,160	46	41
Passengers	No.	-	-	X -	-
Pleasure Craft	"	-	-	419	293
TOTAL FREIGHT	Tons	15,517	17,154	117	8
		Murray Canal		St. Peter's Canal	
Vessels	No.	10	11	37	39
Registered Tonnage	Tons	3,523	5,793	824	1,167
Passengers	No.	-	-	31	-
Pleasure Craft	"	42	51	-	6
TOTAL FREIGHT	Tons	-	-	395	261
		St. Andrew's Canal		All Canadian Canals	
Vessels	No.	140	138	3,189	3,388
Registered Tonnage	Tons	14,606	7,070	3,882,554	3,830,132
Passengers	No.	(Y) 51	-	282	131
Pleasure Craft	"	50	53	2,066	1,311
TOTAL FREIGHT	Tons	4,448	1,961	4,043,738	4,158,938

1 (Exclusive of 684 passengers on sight seeing pleasure boat cruises.  
(Exclusive of 2,455 passengers carried in pleasure craft.

X (1,831 passengers carried in small boats.  
(One passenger through one lock recorded as "1".

Y (Exclusive of 97 passengers carried in pleasure craft.