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Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa, Canada

DOMINION BUREAU
OF STATISTICS

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PROPERTY OF THE
LIBRARYSUMMARY OF CANAL TRAFFIC8504-517
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A new modern maximum for canal traffic through Canadian canals was reached in June when a total of 4,628,127 tons of freight were reported compared with the previous high of 4,402,774 in May of this year. The increase over June, 1952 was an encouraging 21.2 p.c. or 500,223 tons with all major systems showing good gains. Heavier movements of grain, petroleum, coal, iron ore and miscellaneous freight contributed to the advance. During June 3,638 vessels totalling 4,503,539 registered net tons were locked through Canadian canals against 3,347 vessels of 3,874,030 tons in the same month last year. Pleasure craft numbered 5,861 compared with 5,364 in June of 1952. Passenger traffic during June eased to 7,189 from 7,521 a year earlier.

SAULT STE. MARIE CANALS - CANADIAN AND UNITED STATES LOCKS: Total freight through the combined system jumped from 7,688,914 tons in June last year to 18,314,887 tons largely on the strength of iron ore shipments which had been depressed by steel strikes in the United States last summer. Total iron ore eastbound rose from some 3,189,000 to 14,241,000 tons. Structural steel, scrap iron, crude oil and other freight posted good gains. The down bound movement of crude oil, mainly Canadian, increased from 313,032 to 438,192 tons or by over 40 p.c. as Alberta wells were much more active. The total eastbound volume was 16,479,689 tons against 5,705,716 last June while westbound freight was lower at 1,835,198 tons versus 1,983,198. Canadian locks reported 416,465 tons for the month compared with 372,299 tons a year earlier. Vessel passages for the combined systems rose from 1,913 to 3,408 or by 78 p.c.

WELLAND SHIP CANAL: A very active June was indicated on the Welland when 2,730,556 tons of freight were passed, an advance of 349,424 tons or 14.7 p.c. over the corresponding period of 1952. Vessels passing increased by 161 to 1,315 and passenger traffic improved by 102 to 724.

Commodities showing heavier volume included barley up 14,578 tons to 282,602; corn rye advancing from 9,767 to 43,651 tons, flour, petroleum and other oils at 155,663 against 57,973 tons for June 1952; paper at 52,300 versus 36,084 tons; woodpulp, soft coal, iron ore sharply higher at 468,805 tons compared to 191,612 and all other freight which posted an increase of 53,922 tons over the previous June to 200,305 tons.

ST. LAWRENCE CANALS: Freight volume passing during June aggregated 1,431,006 tons compared with 1,334,984 tons in the same month of 1952 for an advance of 96,022 tons or 7.2 p.c. Commodities moving in greater volume this June included barley up from 218,298 to 280,596 tons; corn advancing from 9,214 to 25,247 tons; oats, rye sharply higher at 34,345 versus 5,826 tons and flour. Crude oil rose from 31,700 to 51,850 tons but gasoline shipments were drastically reduced due to diversion to the new pipeline from Montreal to Hamilton, the total dropping from 150,347 to 16,902 tons. Petroleum and other oils, however, were appreciably increased from 50,989 to 108,575 tons. Autos, paper, woodpulp, hard coal, sand and other freight showed betterment with all other freight amounting to 201,499 tons against 159,598 tons a year earlier.

The minor canals registered an overall gain in freight volume this June notably on the Ottawa and Richelieu systems.

During the navigation period to the end of June Canadian canals reported freight tonnage at some 12,338,000 compared with 10,785,000 tons in the similar period last year, an impressive increase of 1,553,000 tons or 14.4 p.c.

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	34,102	69,306	39,883	118,137
Lumber	"	-	-	-	-
Flour	"	9,225	9,225	17,535	17,535
Wheat	"	55,089	1,083,805	44,433	1,342,898
Other Grain	"	108,474	497,209	80,293	641,741
Copper	"	-	-	-	-
Iron Ore	"	-	14,240,818	-	3,188,816
Scrap Iron	"	-	11,536	-	7,840
Structural Steel	"	6,000	52,203	7,115	19,716
Stone	"	11,760	11,760	11,250	11,250
Crude Oil	"	3,025	438,192	-	313,032
Other Freight	"	63,100	65,635	44,751	44,751
TOTAL	"	290,775	16,479,689	245,260	5,705,716
Passengers	Number	2,985	3,173	3,307	3,355
<u>WEST BOUND</u>					
Coal, soft	Tons	28,584	1,373,435	39,373	1,548,567
Coal, hard	"	-	6,950	-	26,760
Coke	"	-	-	-	-
Iron Ore	"	-	63,710	-	17,024
Structural Steel	"	2,816	6,986	219	219
Salt	"	3,000	13,328	40	40
Oil and Gasoline	"	40,273	72,293	46,579	123,103
Stone	"	-	198,726	-	207,261
Other Freight	"	51,017	99,770	40,828	60,224
TOTAL	"	125,690	1,835,198	127,039	1,983,198
Passengers	Number	3,246	3,492	3,368	3,411
Total Freight	Tons	416,465	18,314,887	372,299	7,688,914
Total Passengers	Number	6,231	6,665	6,675	6,766
Pleasure Craft	"	47	47	70	70
Number of Vessels		596	3,408	492	1,913
Registered Tonnage	MET	787,289	14,200,337	607,709	5,779,372

WELLAND SHIP CANAL

		June, 1953	June 1952
Vessels	Number	1,315	1,154
Registered Tonnage	Tons	2,492,673	2,069,540
Passengers	Number	724	622
Pleasure Craft	"	11	14
Barley	Tons	282,602	268,024
Corn	"	37,383	24,386
Oats	"	30,848	47,188
Rye	"	43,651	9,767
Wheat	"	406,664	448,547
Flour	"	1,548	656
Gasoline	"	38,882	109,097
Crude Oil	"	112,553	155,357
Petroleum & Other Oils	"	155,663	57,973
Sugar	"	4,260	4,160
Pulpwood	"	89,556	96,468
Autos and Parts	"	956	347
Paper	"	52,300	36,084
Wood Pulp	"	4,783	791
Coke	"	2,464	3,000
Soft Coal	"	761,931	744,080
Iron Ore	"	468,805	191,612
Sand	"	35,402	37,212
All Other Freight	"	200,305	146,383
TOTAL FREIGHT	"	2,730,556	2,381,132

ST. LAWRENCE CANALS

		June, 1953	June, 1952
Vessels	Number	1,304	1,292
Registered Tonnage	Tons	1,156,787	1,140,917
Passengers	Number	6	-
Pleasure Craft	"	53	68
Barley	Tons	280,596	218,298
Corn	"	25,247	9,214
Oats	"	17,356	11,341
Rye	"	34,345	5,826
Wheat	"	266,916	268,882
Flour	"	1,198	496
Gasoline	"	16,902	150,347
Crude Oil	"	51,850	31,700
Petroleum & Other Oils	"	108,575	50,989
Sugar	"	-	-
Pulpwood	"	77,506	80,508
Autos and Parts	"	1,025	168
Paper	"	26,391	19,203
Wood Pulp	"	1,796	1,500
Hard Coal	"	4,548	-
Soft Coal	"	258,631	280,409
Iron Ore	"	19,925	19,800
Sand	"	36,700	26,705
All Other Freight	"	201,499	159,598
TOTAL FREIGHT	"	1,431,006	1,334,984



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		Ottawa River Canals		Rideau Canal	
		1953	1952	1953	1952
Vessels	No.	174	126	35	22
Registered Tonnage	Tons	44,134	30,451	1,151	869
Passengers	No.	6	-	(1)	83
Pleasure Craft	"	823	763	3,197	2,783
TOTAL FREIGHT	Tons	36,902	26,924	78	184
		Richelieu River Canal		Trent Canal	
Vessels	No.	67	59	14	8
Registered Tonnage	Tons	10,410	9,250	204	108
Passengers	No.	-	-	x	-
Pleasure Craft	"	-	-	1,607	1,528
TOTAL FREIGHT	Tons	11,082	8,806	39	15
		Murray Canal		St. Peter's Canal	
Vessels	No.	7	3	69	53
Registered Tonnage	Tons	3,467	17,16	1,884	3,037
Passengers	No.	-	-	-	-
Pleasure Craft	"	110	91	-	10
TOTAL FREIGHT	Tons	-	-	-315	572
		St. Andrew's Canal		All Canadian Canals	
Vessels	No.	57	138	3,638	3,347
Registered Tonnage	Tons	5,540	10,433	4,503,539	3,874,030
Passengers	No.	(y) 40	141	7,189	7,521
Pleasure Craft	"	13	37	5,861	5,364
TOTAL FREIGHT	Tons	1,684	2,988	4,628,127	4,127,904

1 (Exclusive of 3,576 passengers on sight-seeing pleasure boat cruises.
 (Exclusive of 8,436 passengers carried in pleasure craft.

x (5,568 passengers carried in small boats.
 (One passenger through one lock recorded as "1".

y Exclusive of 43 passengers carried in pleasure craft.