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D.B.S. MEMORANDUM

DOMINION BUREAU
OF STATISTICS

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Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa, Canada

PROPERTY OF THE
LIBRARYSUMMARY OF CANAL TRAFFIC

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JULY, 1953

CANAL TRAFFIC CONTINUES AT RECORD LEVEL: During the month of July, the volume of freight passing through all Canadian canals amounted to 4,617,437 tons, slightly less than the new modern record of 4,628,127 tons, which was reached in the previous month, but well above the July, 1952, total of 3,833,800 tons, the increase being 783,637 tons or 20.4 per cent. All three of the major canal systems shared in the advance. The overall gain was due to increased shipments of such commodities as iron ore, wheat, and miscellaneous freight. The number of vessels locked through during July rose to 4,188, aggregating 4,429,568 net tons as compared with 3,846 vessels of 3,749,817 tons for the month of July, 1952. Passenger traffic also showed an improvement over the previous July, rising from 35,498 to 37,085, while the number of pleasure craft lockages for all the canals except the Trent, figures for which are not yet available, climbed to 11,087 from 9,673.

SAULT STE. MARIE CANAL - CANADIAN AND UNITED STATES LOCKS: In July last year, due to strikes in the United States iron ore mines and steel mills, only 1,343,826 tons of iron ore had been locked through the Sault Ste. Marie canals. In the current July, however, with production back to normal eastbound shipments of iron ore amounted to 14,931,140 tons, which raised the total volume of freight through the combined system to 18,657,993 tons from 5,146,624 a year earlier. Other eastbound commodities, which were moved in heavier quantities this July include crude oil, which amounted to 497,191 tons as compared with 350,501 tons; structural steel, which rose to 51,592 tons from 5,772; other freight and flour. Wheat shipments declined to 950,031 tons from the July, 1952, total of 1,208,475 tons. Total traffic westbound remained approximately the same as in the previous July as decreases in oil and gasoline, stone and other freight were offset by gains in soft coal and iron ore. Freight through the Canadian lock, only, rose from 312,446 tons to 448,004, a gain of 43.4 per cent. The number of vessel passages, passengers, and pleasure craft were all higher this July.

WELLAND SHIP CANAL: The volume of freight transported through the Welland Ship canal during July amounted to 2,682,989 tons, a new high for the month and the second highest total for any month, being exceeded only in June of this year. It surpassed the July, 1952, total of 2,060,288 tons by 622,701 or 30.2 per cent. Commodities, which account for this advance include wheat, which rose to 493,365 tons from 314,772 in July of the preceding year; iron ore amounting to 555,247 tons as compared to 93,015; all other freight, which was up to 205,357 tons from 151,118; soft coal and corn. Lighter cargoes were reported for barley, gasoline and sand. Vessel passages numbered 1,274, up 115 over the previous July, while the net registered tonnage of the vessels rose to 2,429,063 from 1,913,995.

ST. LAWRENCE CANALS: The tonnage of freight locked through the St. Lawrence system over the thirty-one days of July amounted to 1,430,804 tons, a slight increase over the July, 1952, total of 1,410,209 tons. Commodity increases were reported for wheat, which advanced to 402,760 tons from 249,075 in the corresponding period of 1952; petroleum, which totalled 117,836 tons as compared with 86,270; other freight up to 249,298 from 176,184 tons; crude oil, paper and sand. Barley shipments declined to 198,101 tons from 247,437, gasoline from 133,155 tons to 6,100 due to the new pipeline; and soft coal which decreased to 188,826 from 274,064 tons.

Although the number of vessels passages rose to 1,471 from 1,340, the net registered tonnage was lower at 1,211,008 tons as compared with 1,224,038.

Prepared in the Public Finance and Transportation Division

Price per year \$ 1.00

SAULT STE. MARIE CANALS:

		1953		1952	
		Canadian Lock	Canadian & U.S. Locks	Canadian Lock	Canadian & U.S. Locks
<u>EAST BOUND</u>					
Pulpwood	Tons	36,606	88,528	31,902	102,170
Lumber	"	-	-	7,400	7,400
Flour	"	19,260	19,260	13,703	13,703
Wheat	"	81,930	950,031	38,834	1,208,475
Other Grain	"	125,872	538,709	76,610	561,428
Copper	"	-	-	-	-
Iron Ore	"	-	14,931,140	-	1,343,826
Scrap Iron	"	-	19,776	-	12,908
Structural Steel	"	6,100	51,592	-	5,772
Stone	"	12,610	12,610	10,190	10,190
Crude Oil	"	9,000	497,191	8,425	350,501
Other Freight	"	42,915	44,600	20,470	26,155
TOTAL	"	334,293	17,153,437	207,534	3,642,528
Passengers	Number	18,281	18,908	17,694	17,775
<u>WEST BOUND</u>					
Coal, soft	Tons	40,171	1,168,465	13,143	1,071,255
Coal, hard	"	-	-	-	22,004
Coke	"	-	-	-	-
Iron Ore	"	702	22,430	-	-
Structural Steel	"	57	3,087	432	432
Salt	"	15	7,355	3,017	21,946
Oil and Gasoline	"	29,777	72,248	42,519	104,168
Stone	"	-	138,327	-	154,741
Other Freight	"	42,989	92,644	45,801	129,550
TOTAL	"	113,711	1,504,556	104,912	1,504,096
Passengers	Number	18,581	19,289	17,441	17,547
Total Freight	Tons	448,004	18,657,993	312,446	5,146,624
Total Passengers	Number	36,862	38,197	35,135	35,322
Pleasure Craft	"	185	185	137	137
Number of Vessels		954	3,932	807	1,983
Registered Tonnage	NET	716,710	14,782,362	543,065	4,360,522

WELLAND SHIP CANAL

		July, 1953	July, 1952
Vessels	Number	1,274	1,159
Registered Tonnage	Tons	2,429,063	1,913,995
Passengers	Number	-	6
Pleasure Craft	"	18	19
Barley	Tons	207,527	257,464
Corn	"	23,826	11,586
Oats	"	31,480	30,658
Rye	"	11,791	6,751
Wheat	"	493,365	314,772
Flour	"	687	200
Gasoline	"	68,381	104,841
Crude Oil	"	93,063	168,303
Petroleum & Other Oils	"	126,082	75,727
Sugar	"	4,952	3,927
Pulpwood	"	107,228	101,272
Autos and Parts	"	599	245
Paper	"	46,153	42,144
Wood Pulp	"	5,698	5,145
Coke	"	5,231	4,755
Soft Coal	"	666,285	645,581
Iron Ore	"	555,247	93,015
Sand	"	30,037	42,784
All Other Freight	"	205,357	151,118
TOTAL FREIGHT		2,682,989	2,060,288

ST. LAWRENCE CANALS

		July, 1953	July, 1952
Vessels	No.	1,471	1,340
Registered Tonnage	Tons	1,211,008	1,224,038
Passengers	No.	8	-
Pleasure Craft	"	246	171
Barley	Tons	198,101	247,437
Corn	"	10,073	12,709
Oats	"	28,921	25,349
Rye	"	12,312	5,146
Wheat	"	402,760	249,075
Flour	"	630	200
Gasoline	"	6,100	133,155
Crude Oil	"	40,150	28,100
Petroleum & Other Oils	"	117,836	86,270
Sugar	"	1,100	2,927
Pulpwood	"	87,524	89,678
Autos and Parts	"	676	67
Paper	"	31,446	21,445
Wood Pulp	"	6,962	5,714
Hard Coal	"	1,984	2,025
Soft Coal	"	188,826	274,064
Iron Ore	"	2,520	19,629
Sand	"	43,585	31,035
All Other Freight	"	249,298	176,184
TOTAL FREIGHT		1,430,804	1,410,209



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		Ottawa River Canals		Rideau Canal	
		1953	1952	1953	1952
Vessels	No.	188	142	27	31
Registered Tonnage	Tons	44,624	33,233	866	657
Passengers	No.	-	-	(1) 142	211
Pleasure Craft	"	1,453	1,277	8,663	7,586
TOTAL FREIGHT	Tons	37,820	28,294	174	136
		Richelieu River Canal		Trent Canal	
Vessels	No.	108	127	18	24
Registered Tonnage	Tons	14,070	16,220	308	367
Passengers	No.	8	-	-	-
Pleasure Craft	"	-	-	(x) -	6,843
TOTAL FREIGHT	Tons	13,969	18,279	14	39
		Murray Canal		St. Peter's Canal	
Vessels	No.	6	22	81	74
Registered Tonnage	Tons	2,868	5,355	2,275	1,709
Passengers	No.	-	-	15	30
Pleasure Craft	"	473	417	-	10
TOTAL FREIGHT	Tons	-	-	689	351
		St. Andrew's Canal		All Canadian Canals	
Vessels	No.	61	120	4,188	3,846
Registered Tonnage	Tons	7,776	11,178	4,429,568	3,749,817
Passengers	No.	(y) 50	116	37,085	35,498
Pleasure Craft	"	49	56	11,087	16,516
TOTAL FREIGHT	Tons	2,974	3,758	4,617,437	3,833,800

1 (Exclusive of 7,299 passengers on sight-seeing pleasure boat cruises.
(Exclusive of 23,951 passengers carried in pleasure craft

x Not available

y Exclusive of 163 passengers carried in pleasure craft.