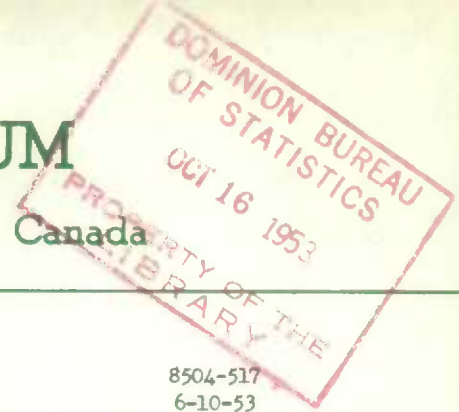


D.B.S. MEMORANDUM

Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa, Canada

SUMMARY OF CANAL TRAFFIC8504-517
6-10-53August, 1953

More freight was transported through the Canadian canals in the month under review than in any other August over the past thirty years. The total amounted to 4,591,325 tons, somewhat below the modern record for any month of 4,628,127 tons established in June of the current year but 442,617 tons or 10.7 per cent more than in August, 1952 when the total reached 4,148,708 tons. All of the canal systems, except the St. Lawrence and the Trent reported gains this August with the Welland showing the greatest improvement. Heavier shipments of soft coal and iron ore locked through the Welland Ship Canal, and wheat and other grains through the Sault Ste. Marie accounted for the greater part of the betterment shown for August. Canadian canal facilities were utilized by a total of 4,134 vessels which aggregated 4,299,849 net tons as compared with the August, 1952 total of 4,021 of 3,969,839 tons. The number of passengers carried rose to 51,323 from 48,325 while the number of pleasure craft lockages advanced to 18,560 from the previous August total of 15,647.

SAULT STE. MARIE CANALS- CANADIAN AND UNITED STATES LOCKS: Eastbound traffic was much heavier this August advancing to 17,262,918 tons from 16,159,690 while the westbound total declined to 1,839,053 from 2,014,721 tons due to reduced shipments of soft coal and stone. Total tonnage for the month aggregated 19,101,971 tons in both directions, a gain of 927,560 tons or 5.1 per cent over the August, 1952 total of 18,174,411 tons. Increases in eastbound cargoes were reported for iron ore which totalled 15,464,556 tons as compared with 14,503,432 in the previous August, structural steel which was up to 67,182 from 9,881 tons other grains up to 467,970 from 439,332 tons, crude oil and pulpwood. Westbound shipments of soft coal declined to 1,396,890 tons from 1,570,413 a year earlier and cargoes of stone amounted to 173,984 tons against 233,661. A total of 4,152 vessels representing a net tonnage of 14,907,085 used the canal as compared with 3,863 vessels of 13,816,673 tons in the corresponding month of 1952. In addition, 102 pleasure craft and 51,929 passengers were locked through the system during the month against 103 vessels and 49,095 passengers during the previous August.

The total amount of freight transported through the Canadian lock, only, rose to 518,446 tons from the August, 1952 total of 424,599 tons, a gain of 93,847 tons or 22.1 per cent due to increased tonnages of wheat, other grains and other freight.

WELLAND SHIP CANAL: Freight tonnage recorded at the Welland Ship Canal for the month of August, amounted to 2,705,756 tons, an advance of 404,585 tons or 17.6 per cent above the same month last year and set a new high for the month of August. Three commodities, iron ore, soft coal and other freight, were mainly responsible for the sizeable increase. The tonnage of iron ore rose to 644,225 tons, a 77.4 per cent gain over the August, 1952 total of 363,055 tons; soft coal shipments weighed 830,163 tons as compared to 732,611 tons in the previous August; and other freight advanced to 211,983 tons from 154,634. Increases were also recorded for corn, paper and sand. Although a large gain was reported for shipments of petroleum and other oils, it was offset by a decline in the total movement of gasoline and crude oil. The tonnage of wheat transported through the canal also decreased to 184,862 tons from 266,636 in the same month of 1952. Vessels passing through the canal numbered 1,169 with a net tonnage of 2,370,618 as opposed to 1,152 of 2,047,924 tons.

ST. LAWRENCE CANALS: The volume of traffic locked through the St. Lawrence system was off slightly to 1,308,217 tons this August as compared with 1,378,790 tons last year. Vessel passages were also down to 1,292 from 1,333 with a correspondingly lower net tonnage of 1,049,085 against 1,155,640. Heavier movements of corn, crude oil, petroleum which advanced to 160,885 tons from 37,843 and other freight, up to 243,639 tons from 149,119 were reported for the month but these gains were more than offset by decreased shipments of wheat which fell to 129,856 tons from 280,259; gasoline which dropped to 1,659 tons from 113,568; soft coal, down to 233,392 tons from 305,449, iron ore and pulpwood.

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	22,530	108,910	39,046	96,382
Lumber	"	-	-	-	-
Flour	"	13,498	13,498	12,131	12,131
Wheat	"	92,682	610,169	46,502	606,959
Other Grain	"	162,403	467,970	91,591	439,332
Copper	"	-	-	-	-
Iron Ore	"	-	15,464,556	-	14,503,432
Scrap Iron	"	-	13,776	-	13,731
Structural Steel	"	4,070	67,182	-	9,881
Stone	"	14,050	14,050	10,020	10,020
Crude Oil	"	2,950	450,275	13,612	413,571
Other Freight	"	72,561	52,532	54,251	54,251
TOTAL	"	384,744	17,262,918	267,153	16,159,690
Passengers	Number	25,317	26,105	24,124	24,707
<u>WEST BOUND</u>					
Coal, soft	Tons	34,328	1,396,890	35,934	1,570,413
Coal, hard	"	2,350	9,250	-	8,670
Coke	"	-	-	-	-
Iron Ore	"	-	46,293	-	20,168
Structural Steel	"	230	230	243	3,104
Salt	"	-	7,560	20	5,159
Oil and Gasoline	"	45,879	103,809	72,532	104,348
Stone	"	-	173,984	-	233,661
Other Freight	"	50,915	101,037	48,717	69,198
TOTAL	"	133,702	1,839,053	157,446	2,014,721
Passengers	Number	25,066	25,824	23,777	24,388
Total Freight	Tons	518,446	19,101,971	424,599	18,174,411
Total Passengers	Number	50,383	51,929	47,901	49,095
Pleasure Craft	"	102	102	103	103
Number of Vessels		1,077	4,152	1,068	3,863
Registered Tonnage	NET	796,013	14,907,085	696,623	13,816,673

WELLAND SHIP CANAL

		August, 1953	August, 1952
Vessels	Number	1,169	1,152
Registered Tonnage	Tons	2,370,618	2,047,924
Passengers	Number	-	11
Pleasure Craft	"	21	10
Barley	Tons	193,115	196,922
Corn	"	49,359	15,727
Oats	"	40,307	42,382
Rye	"	4,903	-
Wheat	"	184,862	266,636
Flour	"	2,241	2,141
Gasoline	"	64,317	96,504
Crude Oil	"	96,623	149,021
Petroleum & Other Oils	"	150,056	78,671
Sugar	"	7,035	3,480
Pulpwood	"	122,287	127,768
Autos and Parts	"	208	190
Paper	"	58,650	39,099
Wood Pulp	"	10,860	5,974
Coke	"	-	4,079
Soft Coal	"	830,163	732,611
Iron Ore	"	644,225	363,055
Sand	"	34,562	22,277
All Other Freight	"	211,983	154,634
TOTAL FREIGHT	"	2,705,756	2,301,171

ST. LAWRENCE CANALS:

Vessels	Number	1,292	1,333
Registered Tonnage	Tons	1,049,085	1,155,640
Passengers	Number	-	-
Pleasure Craft	"	228	156
Barley	Tons	181,058	191,766
Corn	"	42,024	11,520
Oats	"	27,198	31,246
Rye	"	4,903	4,361
Wheat	"	129,856	280,259
Flour	"	1,901	2,141
Gasoline	"	1,659	113,568
Crude Oil	"	53,000	37,950
Petroleum & Other Oils	"	160,885	37,843
Sugar	"	2,700	-
Pulpwood	"	123,382	129,782
Autos and Parts	"	32	65
Paper	"	35,627	19,689
Wood Pulp	"	6,125	3,994
Hard Coal	"	4,935	-
Soft Coal	"	233,392	305,449
Iron Ore	"	16,556	27,568
Sand	"	39,345	32,470
All Other Freight	"	243,639	149,119
TOTAL FREIGHT	"	1,308,217	1,378,790

		Ottawa River Canals		Rideau Canal	
		1953	1952	1953	1952
Vessels	No.	179	150	95	37
Registered Tonnage	Tons	44,153	37,883	1,786	1,012
Passengers	No.	-	-	(1) 817	279
Pleasure Craft	"	1,811	885	8,144	7,233
TOTAL FREIGHT	Tons	38,515	32,400	251	91
		Richelieu River Canal		Trent Canal	
Vessels	No.	121	92	21	21
Registered Tonnage	Tons	16,851	10,958	332	266
Passengers	No.	3	-	X -	-
Pleasure Craft	"	-	-	7,670	6,743
TOTAL FREIGHT	Tons	15,415	9,149	17	43
		Murray Canal		St. Peter's Canal	
Vessels	No.	14	30	95	76
Registered Tonnage	Tons	7,667	9,910	2,786	1,972
Passengers	No.	9	8	5	-
Pleasure Craft	"	494	428	-	7
TOTAL FREIGHT	Tons	104	-	681	205
		St. Andrew's Canal		All Canadian Canals	
Vessels	No.	71	62	4,134	4,021
Registered Tonnage	Tons	10,558	7,651	4,299,849	3,969,839
Passengers	No. (Y)	106	126	51,323	48,325
Pleasure Craft	"	90	82	18,560	15,647
TOTAL FREIGHT	Tons	3,923	2,260	4,591,325	4,148,708

1 (Exclusive of 13,135 passengers on sight seeing pleasure boat cruises.
(Exclusive of 23,956 passengers carried in pleasure craft.

X (29,968 passengers carried in small boats.
(One passenger through one lock recorded as "1".

Y Exclusive of 329 passengers carried in pleasure craft.