

54 001 CR

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

OTTAWA - CANADA

Published by Authority of the Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce



Memorandum

Price per year \$1.00

SUMMARY OF CANAL STATISTICSMAY, 1954

The volume of freight transported through the Canadian canals during May amounted to 3,736,311 tons, a decrease of 666,463 tons or 15.1 per cent from the May, 1953 total of 4,402,774 tons which is the modern record for this particular month. The St. Andrew's canal and the three major systems reported lighter traffic this May, while the remaining six small canals registered slight gains. Decreased shipments of wheat, barley, pulpwood, soft coal, gasoline and petroleum oils accounted for the lower total. The number of vessels locked through the canals during May totalled 3,115 as compared with 3,389 in the corresponding month of 1953 while the registered net tonnage declined to 3,767,392 tons from 4,334,408. In addition, a total of 2,277 pleasure craft passed through the locks as against 2,682 in May, 1953 and the number of passengers carried totalled 1,265 as compared with 4,797.

SAULT STE. MARIE CANAL - CANADIAN AND UNITED STATES LOCKS: In the month under review, 12,934,914 tons of freight were shipped through the Sault Ste. Marie system, 5,129,175 tons or 28.4 per cent less than the May, 1953 total of 18,064,089 tons. Both the eastbound and westbound totals were lower this May. Eastbound traffic amounted to 11,766,658 tons as compared with the May, 1953 total of 16,145,395 tons as lighter shipments were reported for iron ore, which declined to 10,152,764 tons from 13,581,816, wheat, which dropped to 814,334 tons from 1,205,258, other grain which was down to 495,072 tons from 660,688, crude oil to 97,652 tons from 476,517, pulpwood, structural steel and stone. Traffic westbound eased to 1,168,256 tons from 1,918,694 as cargoes of soft coal declined to 825,505 tons from 1,465,440 and stone to 145,271 tons from 232,975. The number of vessel passages was also lower than in the previous May totalling 3,137 as compared with 3,353 with a corresponding drop in registered net tonnage to 10,455,150 from 14,251,043 tons.

Although eastbound traffic through the Canadian lock rose slightly to 265,670 tons from 259,213, an overall decrease of 17,364 tons was recorded as westbound cargoes declined to 93,080 tons from 116,901.

WELLAND SHIP CANAL: The tonnage of all commodities shipped through the Welland Ship canal in the current May declined to 2,167,713 tons from 2,525,684 a year earlier, a decrease of 357,971 tons or 14.2 per cent. As at the Sault, shipments of wheat, barley, pulpwood, and coal were considerably below the May, 1953 totals. The volume of wheat locked through the canal amounted to 206,264 tons as compared with 388,676 tons; barley shipments declined to 133,411 tons from 328,130; pulpwood fell to 31,178 tons from 44,640, and the gasoline and petroleum oil tonnages dropped to 39,230 and 101,313 tons from 60,370 and 128,873 tons, respectively. Minor decreases were also reported for soft coal, corn, oats, rye and woodpulp, whereas increases were recorded for paper, crude oil, sand and other freight which rose to 219,181 tons from 158,000. The number of vessel lockages totalled 1,065 with an accumulated net tonnage of 2,088,260 as compared with 1,236 vessels of 2,345,976 tons in the similar month of 1953.

ST. LAWRENCE CANALS: During the month of May, 1,176 vessels totalling 1,015,416 net tons transported 1,156,283 tons of freight through the St. Lawrence canal system. In the previous May, 1,362 vessels of 1,243,555 tons carried 1,456,133 tons of cargo through the series of locks. The decrease in freight traffic thus amounted to 299,850 tons or 20.6 per cent as barley shipments declined to 105,469 tons from 307,812, cargoes of wheat dropped to 275,825 tons from 330,866, soft coal tonnage fell to 219,117 tons from 250,261 and pulpwood was down to 17,348 tons from 38,430. Other commodities which show decreases this May include gasoline, petroleum, corn, rye and paper.

Freight traffic on the Richelieu River canal rose to 15,645 tons from 8,997 and on the Ottawa to 36,865 tons from 34,900.

Prepared in the Public Finance and Transportation Division,
Transportation and Public Utilities Section.

8504-517:16-6-54

SAULT STE. MARIE CANALS:		1954		1953	
		Canadian Lock	Canadian & U.S. Locks	Canadian Lock	Canadian & U.S. Locks
<u>EAST BOUND</u>					
Pulpwood	Tons	21,305	67,847	30,878	69,380
Lumber	"	-	-	-	-
Flour	"	13,996	13,996	14,212	14,212
Wheat	"	52,579	814,334	70,051	1,205,258
Other Grain	"	103,791	495,072	73,926	660,688
Copper	"	-	-	-	-
Iron Ore	"	-	10,152,764	-	13,581,816
Scrap Iron	"	7,570	23,250	-	20,958
Structural Steel	"	7,800	7,800	7,223	55,196
Stone	"	-	2,150	8,140	8,140
Crude Oil	"	-	97,652	3,010	476,517
Other Freight	"	58,629	91,293	51,773	53,230
TOTAL	"	265,670	11,766,658	259,213	16,145,395
Passengers	Number	491	516	566	596
<u>WEST BOUND</u>					
Coal, soft	Tons	10,580	825,505	34,302	1,465,440
Coal, hard	"	-	3,137	3,392	14,373
Coke	"	-	20,080	-	-
Iron ore	"	-	-	-	30,179
Structural Steel	"	1,902	19,334	323	5,982
Salt	"	-	16,028	3,063	8,136
Oil and Gasoline	"	35,233	73,099	27,886	64,682
Stone	"	-	145,271	-	232,975
Other Freight	"	45,365	65,802	47,935	96,927
TOTAL	"	93,080	1,168,256	116,901	1,918,694
Passengers	Number	517	543	586	613
TOTAL FREIGHT	Tons	358,750	12,934,914	376,114	18,064,089
TOTAL PASSENGERS	Number	1,008	1,059	1,152	1,209
Pleasure Craft	"	15	15	25	25
Number of Vessels		419	3,137	438	3,353
REGISTERED TONNAGE	NET	592,451	10,455,150	684,125	14,251,043

		May, 1954	May, 1953
WELLAND SHIP CANAL			
Vessels	Number	1,065	1,236
Registered Tonnage	Tons	2,088,260	2,345,976
Passengers	Number	30	3,516
Pleasure Craft	"	-	-
Barley	Tons	133,411	328,130
Corn	"	29,481	43,079
Oats	"	33,338	35,168
Rye	"	-	10,756
Wheat	"	206,264	388,676
Flour	"	5,267	627
Gasoline	"	39,230	60,370
Crude Oil	"	103,523	62,480
Petroleum & other oils	"	101,313	128,873
Sugar	"	8,272	5,969
Pulpwood	"	31,178	44,640
Autos and Parts	"	268	358
Paper	"	61,600	50,045
Wood Pulp	"	9,070	14,458
Hard Coal	"	-	1,260
Soft Coal	"	754,895	778,192
Iron Ore	"	408,151	412,303
Sand	"	23,271	2,300
All Other Freight	"	219,181	158,000
TOTAL FREIGHT	"	2,167,713	2,525,684
ST. LAWRENCE CANALS:			
Vessels	No.	1,176	1,362
Registered Tonnage	Tons	1,015,416	1,243,555
Passengers	No.	-	-
Pleasure Craft	"	24	30
Barley	Tons	105,469	307,812
Corn	"	19,138	22,281
Oats	"	25,358	21,829
Rye	"	-	12,050
Wheat	"	275,825	330,866
Flour	"	4,245	877
Gasoline	"	12,700	17,078
Crude Oil	"	55,500	39,550
Petroleum & other Oils	"	87,259	104,345
Sugar	"	1,963	3,038
Pulpwood	"	17,348	38,430
Autos and Parts	"	188	266
Paper	"	29,320	31,410
Wood Pulp	"	8,292	10,225
Hard Coal	"	-	4,570
Soft Coal	"	219,117	250,261
Iron Ore	"	14,198	10,855
Sand	"	35,800	34,700
All other freight	"	244,563	215,690
TOTAL FREIGHT	"	1,156,283	1,456,133



		Ottawa River Canals		Rideau Canal	
		1954	1953	1954	1953
Vessels	No.	173	166	45	41
Registered Tonnage	Tons	42,562	40,482	2,865	1,542
Passengers	No.	-	-	(1) 218	127
Pleasure Craft	"	195	329	1,270	1,389
TOTAL FREIGHT	Tons	36,865	34,900	231	55
		Richelieu River Canal		Trent Canal	
Vessels	No.	90	63	3	3
Registered Tonnage	Tons	14,557	9,658	41	38
Passengers	No.	-	-	X	-
Pleasure Craft	"	-	-	759	833
TOTAL FREIGHT	Tons	15,645	8,997	13	5
		Murray Canal		St. Peter's Canal	
Vessels	No.	28	9	104	42
Registered Tonnage	Tons	7,985	5,148	2,148	1,869
Passengers	No.	-	-	-	-
Pleasure Craft	"	14	59	-	13
TOTAL FREIGHT	Tons	200	-	433	192
		St. Andrew's Canal		All Canadian Canals	
Vessels	No.	12	29	3,115	3,389
Registered Tonnage	Tons	1,107	2,015	3,767,392	4,334,408
Passengers	No.	9	2	1,265	4,797
Pleasure Craft	"	-	4	2,277	2,682
TOTAL FREIGHT	Tons	178	694	3,736,311	4,402,774

(1) Exclusive of 1,874 passengers on sightseeing pleasure boat cruises
Exclusive of 3,303 passengers carried in pleasure craft

X 2,656 passengers carried in small boats
One passenger through one lock recorded as "1"