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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

OTTAWA - CANADA



Memorandum

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

Price per year \$1.00

SUMMARY OF CANAL STATISTICSSEPTEMBER, 1954

Although the volume of freight transported through seven of the ten Canadian canals during September was less than in the corresponding month of 1953, the total tonnage rose to 3,943,108 tons from 3,853,971, an increase of 89,137 tons or 2.3 per cent. This is the first monthly increase reported since August 1953 and was due mainly to a heavier volume of wheat and iron ore shipped through the St. Lawrence canals. The number of vessel passages, excluding pleasure craft, amounted to 3,435 as compared with 3,324 in the previous September while the registered net tonnage declined 52,805 tons to 3,672,833 tons from 3,725,638. The total number of passengers and pleasure craft cleared through the ten systems this September rose to 13,290 and 5,991 from 11,290 and 5,683, respectively, a year earlier.

SAULT STE. MARIE CANAL - CANADIAN AND UNITED STATES LOCKS: The tonnage of freight transported through the combined locks of the Sault Ste. Marie canal was down this September to 11,322,949 tons from 17,222,041 in the corresponding month of 1953, a decrease of 5,899,092 tons or 34.3 per cent, all of which was in the eastbound flow of goods. Decreased shipments of iron ore, which declined to 8,212,781 tons from 14,092,417, crude oil, which dropped to 78,123 tons from 458,924 as a result of the operation of the Superior, Wisconsin-Sarnia, Ontario pipe line, other grain which fell to 430,891 tons from 563,968, flour, scrap iron and structural steel lowered the eastbound total to 9,753,456 tons from 15,832,225 in September, 1953. Increases were reported, however, for wheat which advanced to 818,135 tons from 517,210 and other freight which totalled 94,314 tons as compared with 50,461 in the previous September. Westbound traffic rose to 1,569,493 tons from 1,389,816 as the tonnage of soft coal increased to 1,161,468 tons from 1,027,840 and stone shipments rose to 193,321 tons from 145,605. The number of vessels locked through the system declined to 2,168 from 3,243 with a corresponding decrease in registered net tonnage to 8,761,598 tons from 13,637,698. The number of passengers carried increased to 13,594 from 11,263.

WELLAND SHIP CANAL: Commodities which were transported in greater volume through the Welland Ship Canal during September include wheat which totalled 451,004 tons as compared with 197,736 a year earlier, sand, which rose to 40,775 tons from 9,604, rye, petroleum, pulpwood sugar and other freight. The total tonnage, however, declined slightly to 2,157,589 tons from 2,188,888 as shipments of iron ore declined to 289,254 tons from 485,207. The tonnage of soft coal dropped to 503,422 tons from 633,861 and cargoes of barley decreased to 151,974 tons from 165,979. Lighter shipments were also reported for corn, gasoline, paper and crude oil. Vessel passages rose to 1,023 from 1,015 while the aggregate registered net tonnage declined slightly to 1,980,275 tons from 2,027,542.

ST. LAWRENCE CANALS: Freight traffic through the St. Lawrence system rose to 1,394,320 tons, a gain of 222,869 tons or 19 per cent over the September, 1953 total of 1,171,451 tons due mainly to the increased shipments of wheat to overseas markets, which amounted to 341,355 tons as against 164,902 in the previous September. The iron ore traffic was also heavier this September advancing to 97,000 tons from 26,223 and, in addition, gains were reported for such commodities as oats, rye, petroleum, pulpwood and sand. Decreases were recorded for soft coal, corn, gasoline, crude oil, woodpulp, other freight, and barley which declined to 139,988 tons from 170,440. Vessel lockages numbered 1,339 totalling 1,111,738 net tons as compared with 1,172 vessels of 929,690 tons in the previous September.

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

8504-517
26-10-54

SAULT STE. MARIE CANALS:		1954		1953	
		Canadian Lock	Canadian & U.S. Locks	Canadian Lock	Canadian & U.S. Locks
EAST BOUND					
Pulpwood	Tons	26,140	74,040	21,158	70,860
Lumber	"	-	-	-	-
Flour	"	14,108	14,108	15,916	15,916
Wheat	"	26,133	818,135	49,619	517,210
Other Grain	"	81,018	430,891	161,168	563,968
Copper	"	-	-	-	-
Iron Ore	"	-	8,212,781	-	14,092,417
Scrap Iron	"	-	-	-	21,529
Structural Steel	"	13,424	15,954	6,108	30,890
Stone	"	15,110	15,110	10,050	10,050
Crude Oil	"	5,950	78,123	-	458,924
Other Freight	"	64,215	94,314	42,969	50,461
TOTAL	"	246,098	9,753,456	306,988	15,832,225
Passengers	Number	6,907	7,141	5,296	5,665
WEST BOUND					
Coal, soft	Tons	19,041	1,161,468	26,539	1,027,840
Coal, hard	"	-	18,050	6,380	11,887
Coke	"	-	10,042	-	-
Iron ore	"	-	37,843	-	12,320
Structural Steel	"	37	9,720	-	5,000
Salt	"	20	20	3,163	3,163
Oil and Gasoline	"	43,571	84,131	62,092	96,280
Stone	"	-	193,321	-	145,605
Other Freight	"	34,668	54,898	44,992	87,721
TOTAL	"	97,337	1,569,493	143,166	1,389,816
Passengers	Number	6,237	6,453	5,266	5,598
TOTAL FREIGHT	Tons	343,435	11,322,949	450,154	17,222,041
TOTAL PASSENGERS	Number	13,144	13,594	10,562	11,263
Pleasure Craft	"	33	33	40	40
Number of Vessels		600	2,168	671	3,243
REGISTERED TONNAGE	NET	515,144	8,761,598	700,504	13,637,698

		September, 1954	September, 1953 *
<u>WELLAND SHIP CANAL</u>			
Vessels	Number	1,023	1,015
Registered Tonnage	Tons	1,980,275	2,027,542
Passengers	Number	-	536
Pleasure Craft	"	-	5
Barley	Tons	151,974	165,979
Corn	"	33,638	52,625
Oats	"	45,275	45,845
Rye	"	19,186	12,732
Wheat	"	451,004	197,736
Flour	"	3,949	2,000
Gasoline	"	54,463	63,607
Crude Oil	"	81,923	83,051
Petroleum & other oils	"	148,845	110,887
Sugar	"	5,177	2,910
Pulpwood	"	78,098	72,360
Autos and Parts	"	125	157
Paper	"	43,859	51,962
Wood Pulp	"	8,130	9,819
Hard Coal	"	-	-
Soft Coal	"	503,422	633,861
Iron Ore	"	289,254	485,207
Sand	"	40,775	9,604
All Other Freight	"	198,492	188,546
TOTAL FREIGHT	"	2,157,589	2,188,888
<u>ST. LAWRENCE CANALS:</u>			
Vessels	Number	1,339	1,172
Registered Tonnage	Tons	1,111,738	929,690
Passengers	Number	-	-
Pleasure Craft	"	78	124
Barley	Tons	139,988	170,440
Corn	"	46,473	51,509
Oats	"	33,026	27,212
Rye	"	18,442	4,270
Wheat	"	341,355	164,902
Flour	"	2,500	2,340
Gasoline	"	11,400	13,280
Crude Oil	"	40,100	54,000
Petroleum & other oils	"	97,526	81,975
Sugar	"	-	-
Pulpwood	"	91,412	89,106
Autos and Parts	"	107	22
Paper	"	27,505	27,144
Wood Pulp	"	7,200	8,071
Hard Coal	"	-	1,000
Soft Coal	"	169,121	178,949
Iron Ore	"	97,000	26,223
Sand	"	40,402	37,280
All other freight	"	230,763	232,828
TOTAL FREIGHT	"	1,394,320	1,171,451

* Revised.



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		Ottawa River Canals		Rideau Canal	
		1954	1953	1954	1953
Vessels	No.	148	138	27	30
Registered Tonnage	Tons	35,477	36,160	1,245	895
Passengers	No.	-	-	(1) 111	133
Pleasure Craft	"	855	726	3,063	2,875
TOTAL FREIGHT	Tons	30,050	30,550	61	225
		Richelieu River Canal		Trent Canal	
Vessels	No.	117	86	6	9
Registered Tonnage	Tons	18,119	11,875	78	133
Passengers	No.	-	-	X -	-
Pleasure Craft	"	-	-	1,817	1,718
TOTAL FREIGHT	Tons	16,310	9,992	12	47
		Murray Canal		St. Peter's Canal	
Vessels	No.	4	17	79	64
Registered Tonnage	Tons	2,288	7,590	1,927	1,653
Passengers	No.	-	-	-	3
Pleasure Craft	"	58	143	-	-
TOTAL FREIGHT	Tons	-	500	223	97
		St. Andrew's Canal		All Canadian Canals	
Vessels	No.	92	122	3,435	3,324
Registered Tonnage	Tons	6,542	9,596	3,672,833	3,725,638
Passengers	No.	Y 35	56	13,290	11,290
Pleasure Craft	Tons	87	52	5,991	5,683
TOTAL FREIGHT	Tons	1,108	2,067	3,943,108	3,853,971

(1) Exclusive of 2,043 passengers on sight seeing pleasure boat cruises
Exclusive of 7,994 passengers carried in pleasure craft.

X 6,996 passengers carried in small boats
One passenger through one lock recorded as "1"

Y Exclusive of 347 passengers carried in pleasure craft.