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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

OTTAWA - CANADA



Memorandum

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SUMMARY OF CANAL STATISTICS
FOR DECEMBER AND
SEASON OF NAVIGATION, 1955

DOMINION BUREAU
OF STATISTICS

MAR 26 1956

PROPERTY OF THE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

The 1955 season of navigation varied within a few days of the 1954 season for the Welland Ship Canal, and the St. Lawrence system, while five of the smaller canals had somewhat longer periods. The Canadian lock at Sault Ste. Marie opened April 11 and closed December 12, making the same number of days, namely 246, for both the 1955 and 1954 seasons. The American locks, which opened April 8 and closed December 16, were in operation 253 days, 3 more than in the preceding year. The St. Lawrence system opened April 10, and closed December 12, as against April 13 and December 11 in 1954, thus making 4 additional days of navigation. The Welland Ship canal opened March 30, five days later than in 1954, and closed on the same date, December 17, reducing the 1955 season by five days.

The total volume of freight locked through the eleven Canadian canals during the 1955 season of navigation amounted to 34,873,583 tons, a record high in recent years and a gain of 4,802,882 tons, or 16 per cent, over the 1954 total of 30,070,701 tons. The St. Lawrence, Welland Ship and five of the smaller canals reported an increase in freight traffic, while the Sault Ste. Marie Canadian lock recorded a decrease. Increased shipments of rye, bituminous coal, iron ore, fuel oil and other freight through the St. Lawrence canals; and oats, barley, bituminous coal, iron ore, crude oil, gasoline and other freight through the Welland Ship canal were mainly responsible for the overall advance in 1955. Increases were also reported for the number of vessel passages, the registered net tonnage of vessels, the number of pleasure craft lockages and the number of passengers. The number of vessels cleared through the locks totalled 28,171, up from 25,292, while the registered net tonnage rose to 32,683,545 from 29,442,595 in the previous year. The number of pleasure craft lockage increased to 57,605 from 54,031 in 1954, and the number of passengers rose to 195,206 from 116,231.

ST. LAWRENCE CANAL: The total freight transported through the St. Lawrence system during the 1955 season of navigation increased to 11,446,620 tons from 9,637,034 tons in 1954, a gain of 1,809,586 tons or 18.8 per cent, which constitutes a post war record. Commodities which moved in heavier volume included rye, bituminous coal, iron ore, fuel oil, and other freight. Rye shipments advanced to 186,472 tons from 44,275; bituminous coal rose to 1,597,600 tons from 1,469,129; iron ore increased to 1,750,567 tons from 297,396; fuel oil to 983,820 tons from 699,965 and cargoes of other freight totalled 1,983,682 tons as against 1,589,992 in the 1954 season. Decreases were recorded for wheat, corn, barley, crude oil and paper. Wheat shipments decreased to 2,027,383 tons from 2,372,468 and corn to 141,556 tons from 280,317.

(Continued on page 6)

Prepared in the Public Finance and Transportation Division,
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SUMMARY OF CANAL STATISTICS

	December, 1955			December, 1954		
	Up	Down	Total	Up	Down	Total
<u>ST. LAWRENCE CANALS</u>						
Vessel Passages	Number	78	99	177	149	291
Registered Net Tonnage of Vessels	Tons	54,410	86,226	140,636	124,529	232,127
Passengers	Number	-	-	-	-	-
Pleasure Craft	"	-	-	-	-	6
<u>COMMODITIES</u>						
Wheat	Tons	-	16,955	16,955	-	84,164
Corn	"	-	9,534	9,534	-	9,572
Oats	"	-	10,659	10,659	-	10,295
Barley	"	-	4,592	4,592	-	7,137
Rye	"	-	-	-	-	-
Flaxseed	"	-	18,454	18,454	-	945
Other grain	"	-	-	-	-	-
Flour	"	-	92	92	-	288
Mill products.	"	-	-	-	-	-
Coal, anthracite	"	-	-	-	-	-
Coal, bituminous	"	-	25,849	25,849	-	4,470
Iron ore	"	-	-	-	-	-
Petroleum, crude	"	-	-	-	-	-
Sand, gravel, crushed stone	"	-	-	-	-	-
Pulpwood	"	-	-	-	-	-
Gasoline	"	-	1,300	1,300	-	-
Fuel oil	"	-	-	-	19,180	3,400
Petroleum oils & other pet. products	"	-	-	-	-	-
Autos, trucks and parts	"	-	27	27	-	114
Wood pulp	"	-	-	-	-	-
Paper	"	-	-	-	-	-
All other freight	"	15,892	21,585	37,477	39,123	74,623
TOTAL FREIGHT	"	15,892	109,047	124,939	58,303	155,885
<u>WELLAND SHIP CANAL</u>						
Vessel Passages	Number	144	189	333	155	319
Registered Net Tonnage of Vessels	Tons	331,221	376,688	707,909	263,851	588,351
Passengers	Number	-	-	-	-	-
Pleasure Craft	"	-	-	-	-	-
<u>COMMODITIES</u>						
Wheat	Tons	-	132,045	132,045	923	185,600
Corn	"	-	30,896	30,896	-	8,796
Oats	"	-	19,207	19,207	-	11,110
Barley	"	-	46,626	46,626	-	32,855
Rye	"	-	-	-	-	8,586
Flaxseed	"	-	18,336	18,336	-	1,508
Other grain	"	-	46,028	46,028	-	62,670
Flour	"	-	-	-	-	638
Mill products	"	-	-	-	-	-
Coal, anthracite	"	-	-	-	-	-
Coal, bituminous	"	-	196,723	196,723	-	92,630
Iron ore	"	14,790	-	14,790	-	-
Petroleum, crude	"	100	58,009	58,109	-	66,269
Sand, gravel, crushed stone	"	3,899	-	3,899	2,117	-
Pulpwood	"	-	-	-	-	-
Gasoline	"	3,500	12,098	15,598	8,850	10,100
Fuel oil	"	9,960	49,139	59,099	16,350	40,024
Petroleum oils & other pet. products	"	-	1,400	1,400	-	-
Autos, trucks and parts	"	143	-	143	-	-
Wood pulp	"	-	-	-	4,000	-
Paper	"	14,550	-	14,550	12,480	-
All other freight	"	17,900	33,649	51,549	10,215	14,155
TOTAL FREIGHT	"	64,842	644,156	708,998	54,935	534,941

WELLAND SHIP CANAL

Vessel Passages	Number	144	189	333	155	164	319
Registered Net Tonnage of Vessels	Tons	331,221	376,688	707,909	263,851	294,500	588,351
Passengers	Number	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pleasure Craft	"	-	-	-	-	-	-

COMMODITIES

Wheat	Tons	-	132,045	132,045	923	185,600	186,523
Corn	"	-	30,896	30,896	-	8,796	8,796
Oats	"	-	19,207	19,207	-	11,110	11,110
Barley	"	-	46,626	46,626	-	32,855	32,855
Rye	"	-	-	-	-	8,586	8,586
Flaxseed	"	-	18,336	18,336	-	1,508	1,508
Other grain	"	-	46,028	46,028	-	62,670	62,670
Flour	"	-	-	-	-	638	638
Mill products	"	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coal, anthracite	"	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coal, bituminous	"	-	196,723	196,723	-	92,630	92,630
Iron ore	"	14,790	-	14,790	-	-	-
Petroleum, crude	"	100	58,009	58,109	-	66,269	66,269
Sand, gravel, crushed stone	"	3,899	-	3,899	2,117	-	2,117
Pulpwood	"	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gasoline	"	3,500	12,098	15,598	8,850	10,100	18,950
Fuel oil	"	9,960	49,139	59,099	16,350	40,024	56,374
Petroleum oils & other pet. products	"	-	1,400	1,400	-	-	-
Autos, trucks and parts	"	143	-	143	-	-	-
Wood pulp	"	-	-	-	4,000	-	4,000
Paper	"	14,550	-	14,550	12,480	-	12,480
All other freight	"	17,900	33,649	51,549	10,215	14,155	24,370
TOTAL FREIGHT	"	64,842	644,156	708,998	54,935	534,941	589,876

SUMMARY OF CANAL STATISTICS

		December, 1955		December, 1954	
		Canadian Lock	Canadian & U.S. Locks	Canadian Lock	Canadian & U.S. Locks
SAULT STE. MARIE CANALS					
<u>EASTBOUND</u>					
Vessel Passages	Number	43	238	44	195
Registered Net Tonnage of Vessels	Tons	40,775	661,939	54,659	507,533
Passengers	Number	-	4	4	4
<u>COMMODITIES</u>					
Wheat	Tons	21,484	779,338	18,710	568,229
Corn	"	-	-	-	32,518
Oats	"	3,845	29,371	13,272	51,422
Barley	"	7,143	141,954	12,236	124,472
Rye	"	364	13,479	-	24,107
Flaxseed	"	-	30,816	1,508	13,677
Other grain and mill products	"	5,811	27,465	9,269	9,269
Flour	"	472	940	4,437	4,437
Iron ore	"	-	234,024	-	27,022
Sand, gravel, crushed stone	"	1,200	1,200	820	820
Petroleum, crude	"	-	-	-	16,149
Pulpwood	"	-	-	-	-
Paper and wood pulp	"	954	954	4,845	4,845
All other freight	"	12,188	37,925	9,111	47,654
TOTAL		53,461	1,297,466	74,208	924,621
<u>WESTBOUND</u>					
Vessel Passages	Number	43	180	44	150
Registered Net Tonnage of Vessels	Tons	47,079	409,518	59,155	330,808
Passengers	Number	-	-	2	2
<u>COMMODITIES</u>					
Coal, anthracite	Tons	-	-	-	-
Coal, bituminous	"	3,229	93,596	-	28,219
Iron ore	"	-	5,628	-	-
Sand, gravel, crushed stone	"	-	10,448	-	23,252
Gasoline	"	3,200	3,200	2,600	2,600
Fuel oil	"	-	-	-	4,629
Petroleum oils & other pet. products	"	388	388	801	801
Autos, trucks and parts	"	113	377	29	29
All other freight	"	11,869	18,439	12,597	17,397
TOTAL		18,799	132,076	16,027	76,927
TOTAL Vessel passages	Number	86	418	88	345
" Registered Net Tonnage of Vessels	Tons	87,854	1,071,457	113,814	838,341
" Passengers	Number	-	4	6	6
" Pleasure Craft	"	-	-	2	2
" Freight	Tons	72,260	1,429,542	90,235	1,001,548
<u>OTHER CANALS</u>					
<u>December, 1955</u>					
	Vessel Passages	Registered Net Tonnage of Vessels	Passengers	Pleasure Craft	Total Freight
	No.	Tons	No.	No.	Tons
Ottawa River Canals	-	-	-	-	-
Rideau Canal	-	-	-	-	-
Richelieu River Canal	1	204	-	-	215
Trent Canal	-	-	-	-	-
Murray Canal	-	-	-	-	-
St. Peter's Canal	7	298	-	-	83
Canso Canal	56	7,289	-	-	2,830
St. Andrew's Canal	-	-	-	-	-
All Canadian Canals	660	944,190	-	-	909,325
<u>December, 1954</u>					
Ottawa River Canals	-	-	-	-	-
Rideau Canal	-	-	-	-	-
Richelieu River Canal	1	121	-	-	122
Trent Canal	-	-	-	4	-
Murray Canal	-	-	-	-	-
St. Peter's Canal	26	1,877	-	-	893
St. Andrew's Canal	-	-	-	-	-
All Canadian Canals	725	906,290	6	12	895,314

SEASON OF NAVIGATION

TOTAL TRAFFIC THROUGH CANADIAN CANALS DURING 1955

Canal	Vessel Passages	Registered Net Tonnage of Vessels	Passengers	Pleasure Craft	Total Freight	Freight Tonnage Compared with 1954
	No.	Tons	No.	No.	Tons	(Increase +) (Decrease -)
St. Lawrence	10,388	9,046,387	33	905	11,446,620	+ 1,809,586
Welland Ship	9,333	19,058,112	109	43	20,893,222	+ 3,378,964
Sault Ste. Marie	4,908	4,119,754	193,901	585	2,201,075	- 406,893
Ottawa River	952	235,654	-	6,137	206,525	+ 15,715
Rideau	138	4,488	(1) 543	22,734	413	- 1,077
Richelieu River	701	100,008	38	-	97,130	- 12,308
Trent	66	1,016	(2) -	24,984	102	- 68
Murray	53	21,330	-	1,801	667	+ 395
St. Peter's	784	27,324	48	4	6,518	+ 3,287
Canso	495	31,104	29	-	13,199	+ 13,199
St. Andrew's	353	38,368	(3) 505	412	8,112	+ 2,082
TOTAL	28,171	32,683,545	195,206	57,605	34,873,583	+ 4,802,882

- (1) Exclusive of 26,658 passengers on pleasure boat cruises and 60,529 passengers carried in pleasure craft.
(2) 98,455 passengers carried in pleasure craft.
(3) Exclusive of 1,194 passengers carried in pleasure craft.
One passenger through one lock station recorded as "1".
One pleasure craft through one lock station recorded as "1".

		ST. LAWRENCE CANALS		WELLAND SHIP CANAL	
		1955	1954	1955	1954
Vessel Passages	Number	10,388	9,449	9,333	8,479
Registered Net Tonnage of Vessels	Tons	9,046,387	8,173,908	19,058,112	16,747,693
Passengers	Number	33	4	109	40
Pleasure Craft	"	905	759	43	41
COMMODITIES					
Wheat	Tons	2,027,383	2,372,468	2,738,209	2,800,655
Corn	"	141,556	280,317	214,023	313,716
Oats	"	192,723	189,019	317,544	283,306
Barley	"	882,352	963,343	1,234,722	1,199,617
Rye	"	186,472	44,275	186,268	48,384
Flaxseed	"	242,230	262,347	358,911	363,444
Other grain	"	41,450	28,503	226,507	263,890
Flour	"	13,520	18,711	14,733	56,919
Mill products	"	9,320	15,252	8,631	9,440
Coal, anthracite	"	3,887	4,965	4,466	4,344
Coal, bituminous	"	1,597,600	1,469,129	5,417,812	4,984,168
Iron ore	"	1,750,567	297,396	4,397,907	2,298,853
Petroleum, crude	"	268,215	301,150	1,004,032	868,791
Sand, gravel, crushed stone	"	243,242	209,981	172,076	166,622
Pulpwood	"	438,614	493,028	509,566	516,001
Gasoline	"	101,616	122,736	422,926	370,174
Fuel oil	"	983,820	699,965	845,764	1,056,751
Petroleum oils & other pet. products	"	129,755	-	450,555	-
Autos, trucks and parts	"	2,127	1,418	3,682	2,272
Wood pulp	"	35,679	43,821	53,385	55,448
Paper	"	170,810	229,218	367,761	422,188
All other freight	"	1,983,682	1,589,992	1,943,742	1,429,275
TOTAL FREIGHT	"	11,446,620	9,637,034	20,893,222	17,514,258

SEASON OF NAVIGATION
SAULT STE. MARIE CANALS

		1955		1954	
		Canadian Lock	Canadian & U.S. Locks	Canadian Lock	Canadian & U.S. Locks
<u>EASTBOUND</u>					
Vessel Passages	Number	2,370	10,996	2,064	8,435
Registered Net Tonnage of Vessels	Tons	1,699,938	45,874,816	1,677,708	33,850,829
Passengers	Number	98,237	100,483	58,245	59,820
<u>COMMODITIES</u>					
Wheat	Tons	262,844	6,227,891	217,596	6,304,976
Corn	"	-	124,562	22,993	454,079
Oats	"	104,328	639,860	212,595	1,017,545
Barley	"	172,481	2,083,607	416,494	2,012,645
Rye	"	14,743	311,184	16,421	350,743
Flaxseed	"	16,428	558,568	30,439	570,683
Other grain and mill products	"	200,527	239,645	184,285	195,132
Flour	"	75,350	79,349	96,918	97,918
Iron ore	"	-	89,209,421	-	62,409,641
Sand, gravel, crushed stone	"	117,636	117,636	55,400	58,050
Petroleum, crude	"	8,280	600,976	14,070	630,148
Pulpwood	"	116,332	429,722	173,179	460,625
Paper and wood pulp	"	193,923	198,866	192,667	197,454
All other freight	"	206,783	867,834	128,921	456,294
TOTAL		1,489,655	101,689,121	1,761,978	75,215,933
<u>WESTBOUND</u>					
Vessel Passages	Number	2,538	10,945	2,285	8,587
Registered Net Tonnage of Vessels	Tons	2,419,816	45,857,590	2,416,203	33,832,430
Passengers	Number	95,664	97,966	56,769	58,388
<u>COMMODITIES</u>					
Coal, anthracite	Tons	6,777	300,085	-	47,716
Coal, bituminous	"	119,710	9,051,235	202,143	7,302,652
Iron ore	"	-	187,444	-	173,828
Sand, gravel, crushed stone	"	-	1,515,452	6,470	1,163,207
Gasoline	"	109,620	349,325	148,473	328,874
Fuel oil	"	147,737	390,704	93,685	255,636
Petroleum oils & other pet. products	"	19,841	20,767	44,051	54,534
Autos, trucks and parts	"	6,291	54,608	4,682	30,438
All other freight	"	301,444	994,994	346,486	842,531
TOTAL		711,420	12,864,614	845,990	10,199,416
TOTAL Vessel passages	Number	4,908	21,941	4,349	17,022
" Registered Net Tonnage of Vessels	Tons	4,119,754	91,732,406	4,093,911	67,683,259
" Passengers	Number	193,901	198,449	115,014	118,208
" Pleasure Craft	"	585	585	381	381
" Freight	Tons	2,201,075	114,553,735	2,607,968	85,415,349

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF CANADIAN CANAL TRAFFIC DURING 1955

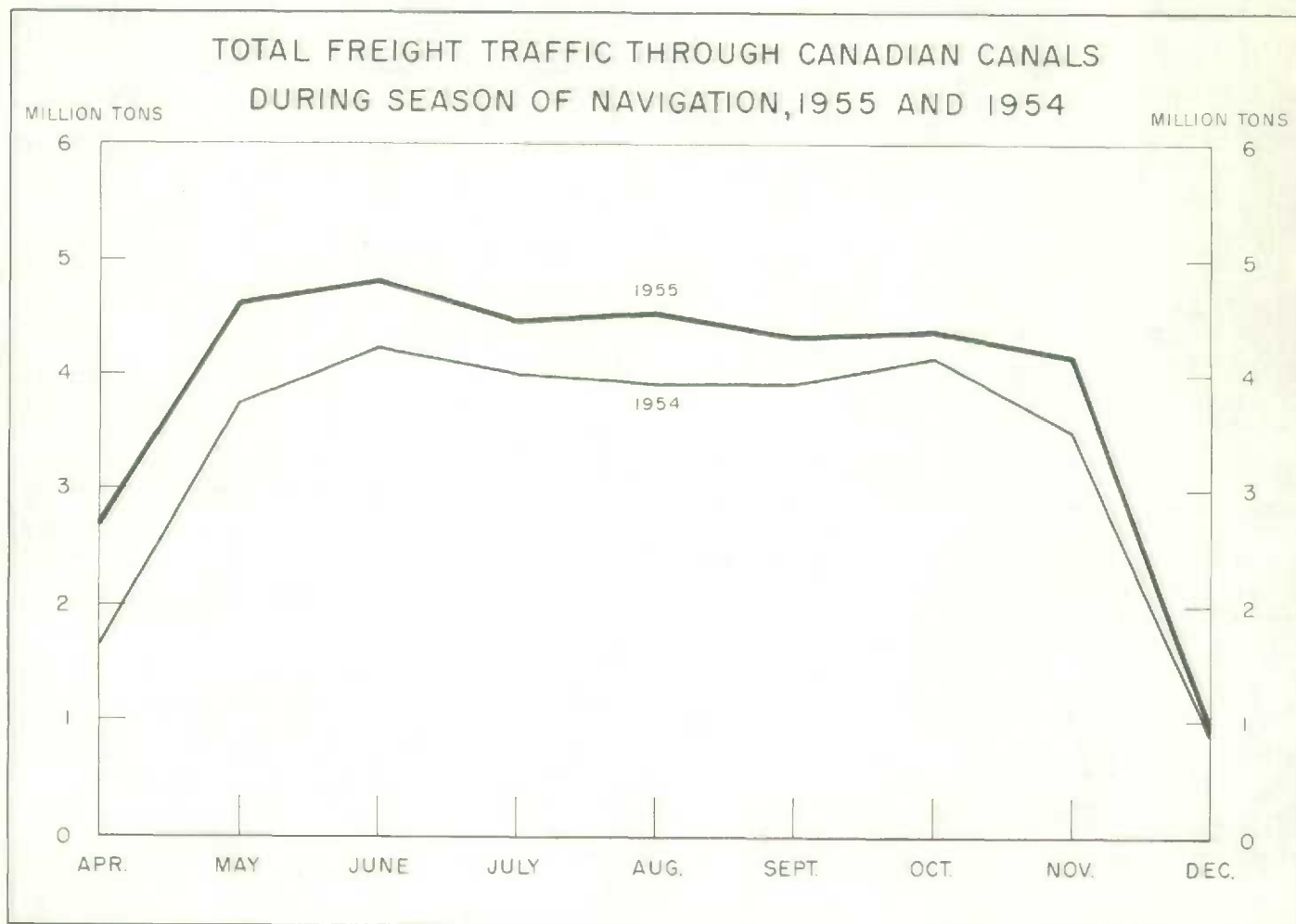
MONTH	Vessel Passages	Registered Net Tonnage of Vessels	Passengers	Pleasure Craft	Total Freight
	No.	Tons	No.	No.	Tons
April	1,796	2,745,060	39	38	2,699,072
May	3,668	4,520,704	1,321	2,523	4,610,561
June	3,861	4,586,586	17,367	6,168	4,809,532
July	4,043	4,174,917	70,858	23,936	4,455,977
August	4,423	4,256,575	85,567	16,755	4,531,213
September	3,614	3,848,513	19,693	6,508	4,318,622
October	3,263	3,890,151	276	1,517	4,384,800
November	2,843	3,716,849	85	160	4,154,481
December	660	944,190	-	-	909,325
TOTAL	28,171	32,683,545	(1) 195,206	57,605	34,873,583

(1) Exclusive of 186,836 passengers carried in pleasure craft or on pleasure boat cruises.

WELLAND SHIP CANAL: The volume of freight locked through the Welland Ship canal amounted to 20,893,222 tons as compared with a total of 17,514,258 in the 1954 season, an increase of 3,378,964 tons or 19.3 per cent. Commodities contributing to the advance included oats, rye, bituminous coal, iron ore, crude oil, gasoline and other freight. Rye shipments rose to 186,286 tons from 48,384; bituminous coal advanced to 5,417,812 tons from 4,984,168; iron ore increased to 4,397,907 tons from 2,298,853; gasoline went to 422,926 tons from 370,174 and other freight totalled 1,943,742 tons as against 1,429,275 in the preceding season. Decreases were reported for wheat, corn, fuel oil and paper. Wheat declined to 2,738,209 tons from 2,800,655; corn decreased to 214,023 tons from 313,716; fuel oil dropped to 845,764 tons from 1,056,751 and paper to 367,761 tons from 422,188.

SAULT STE. MARIE CANAL - CANADIAN AND UNITED STATES LOCKS: Freight traffic transported through the combined locks at Sault Ste. Marie during 1955 was higher than that recorded for the previous year. The amount of freight rose to 114,553,735 tons as compared with 85,415,349, an increase of 29,138,386 tons or 34.1 per cent, mainly due to increased traffic in iron ore and bituminous coal. Eastbound shipments of iron ore rose to 89,209,421 tons from 62,409,641 and other freight increased to 867,834 tons from 456,294, whereas wheat and corn shipments declined respectively to 6,227,891 tons from 6,304,976 and to 124,562 tons from 454,079. Westbound shipments of bituminous coal increased to 9,051,235 tons from 7,302,552 and stone rose to 1,515,452 tons from 1,163,207.

The amount of freight cleared through the Canadian lock totalled 2,201,075 tons, a decrease of 406,893 tons or 15.6 per cent from the 1954 total of 2,607,968 tons. A decrease in grain shipments contributed to the decline.





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