

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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Memorandum

SUMMARY OF CANAL STATISTICS

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MAY, 1956

The amount of freight transported through the eleven Canadian canals during May totalled 4,852,494 tons, an increase of 241,933 tons or 5.2 per cent over the May 1955 total of 4,610,561 tons. An increase in freight traffic was reported by the St. Lawrence and Welland Ship canals this May while a decrease was registered at the Canadian lock at Sault Ste. Marie and four of the smaller systems. Commodities responsible for the overall advance over the previous May include bituminous coal and iron ore. The number of vessel passages advanced to 3,871 from 3,668 while the registered net tonnage declined to 4,335,770 tons from 4,520,704. The number of passengers carried this May rose to 1,396 from 1,321 while the number of pleasure craft lockages dropped to 1,214 from 2,523.

Sault Ste. Marie Canals - Canadian and United States Locks: Although the volume of freight transported through the Canadian lock declined this May to 270,295 tons from 316,041, the total shipped through the combined system rose to 17,015,501 tons from 16,206,360, an advance of 809,141 tons or 5 per cent, due mainly to increased eastbound shipments of iron ore and crude oil which advanced to 12,845,090 tons from 11,868,388 and 132,522 tons from 68,812 respectively, and westbound cargoes of bituminous coal which rose to 1,549,576 tons from 1,250,507. The number of vessel passages increased to 3,049 from 2,852 while the registered net tonnage rose correspondingly to 13,330,782 tons from 12,817,411.

Welland Ship Canal: Freight traffic cleared through the Welland Ship canal rose this May to a total of 2,834,742 tons, a gain of 153,380 tons or 5.7 per cent over the May 1955 total of 2,681,362. Commodities which contributed to the overall increase this May include: bituminous coal which totalled 731,685 tons as compared with 692,629 tons one year earlier; iron ore which advanced to 728,884 tons from 384,505; flaxseed which rose to 71,470 tons from 34,773 and fuel oil which was up to 124,143 tons from 95,647. Decreases were reported, however, for wheat, barley, pulpwood and gasoline; wheat declined to 282,471 tons from 351,930; barley dropped to 162,691 tons from 281,107 and shipments of pulpwood decreased to 27,736 tons from 66,328. A total of 1,134 vessels, equal to 2,401,476 registered net tons, was cleared through the system as compared with the May 1955 total of 1,291 vessels of 2,552,936 net tons.

St. Lawrence Canals: The volume of freight transported through the St. Lawrence system during May amounted to 1,695,203 tons as compared with 1,553,845 tons in May 1955, a gain of 141,358 tons or 9.1 per cent. Although the tonnage of a number of commodities including barley, rye, flaxseed, and fuel oil was lower than in the previous May, an overall increase was reported as the tonnage was higher for such commodities as wheat, corn, crude oil, and considerably higher for iron ore. Wheat shipments advanced to 229,362 tons from 202,110; corn rose to 37,240 tons from 20,113; crude oil tonnage increased to 50,240 tons from 43,625 and cargoes of iron ore totalled 343,161 tons as against 86,561 in the previous May. Vessel passages numbered 1,486 aggregating 1,278,454 registered net tons as compared with 1,530 vessels of 1,342,754 net tons.

Prepared in the Public Finance and Transportation Division.

Transportation and Public Utilities Section.

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SUMMARY OF CANAL STATISTICS

	M A Y, 1 9 5 6					Cumulative Tons of freight - 1956
	Number of vessel passages	Registered net tonnage of vessels	Number of passengers	Number of pleasure craft	Tons of freight	
ALL CANADIAN CANALS	3,871	4,335,770	1,396	1,214	4,852,494	7,582,415
Canso Canal	428	23,428	-	-	2,120	12,935
Murray Canal	1	8	-	29	-	-
Ottawa River Canals	176	42,202	-	107	35,100	38,700
Richelieu River Canal	95	14,709	160	-	14,503	20,536
Rideau Canal	7	331	26(1)	534	16	16
St. Andrew's Canal	-	-	-	-	-	-
St. Lawrence Canals	1,486	1,278,454	-	24	1,695,203	2,420,661
St. Peter's Canal	74	2,070	-	-	508	535
Sault Ste. Marie Canal	466	573,034	1,111	14	270,295	446,172
Trent Canal	4	49	-(2)	506	7	7
Welland Ship Canal	1,134	2,401,476	99	-	2,834,742	4,642,853

M A Y, 1 9 5 5

Cumulative -1955

ALL CANADIAN CANALS	3,668	4,520,704	1,321	2,523	4,610,561	7,309,633
Canso Canal	-	-	-	-	-	-
Murray Canal	5	2,318	-	94	-	300
Ottawa River Canals	169	42,475	-	275	38,700	41,525
Richelieu River Canal	107	16,582	4	-	19,698	22,418
Rideau Canal	22	1,009	87	1,009	6	6
St. Andrew's Canal	-	-	-	-	-	-
St. Lawrence Canals	1,530	1,342,754	-	58	1,553,845	2,188,983
St. Peter's Canal	118	4,947	-	4	900	1,147
Sault Ste. Marie Canals	423	557,642	1,225	31	316,041	416,899
Trent Canal	3	41	-	962	9	9
Welland Ship Canal	1,291	2,552,936	5	-	2,681,362	4,638,346

	May, 1956		May, 1955		Cumulative-1956	Cumulative-1955
	Canadian lock	Canadian and U.S. locks	Canadian lock	Canadian and U.S. locks	Canadian and U.S. locks	Canadian and U.S. locks

SAULT STE. MARIE CANALS
EASTBOUND

Number of vessel passages	199	1,513	194	1,427	2,222	1,860
Registered net tonnage	198,312	6,661,863	207,735	6,406,215	10,000,269	8,226,759
Number of passengers	552	576	552	577	585	581

Commodities (Cargo tons)

Newsprint and wood pulp	23,266	23,266	24,854	24,854	34,872	47,647
Pulpwood	5,900	40,512	14,820	67,670	40,512	67,670
Wheat	31,125	1,028,313	28,346	1,426,263	2,252,729	1,880,104
Barley	22,868	251,866	28,752	313,369	533,807	528,947
Oats	11,476	99,038	12,617	148,586	184,672	188,074
Corn	-	-	-	89,972	1,362	100,052
Rye	1,773	112,872	1,713	100,255	143,996	144,969
Flaxseed	3,371	92,442	1,891	48,744	125,440	70,494
Flour	11,910	11,910	15,444	15,444	17,499	16,868
Other grain & mill products	22,740	30,913	22,281	23,022	56,453	26,127
Iron ore	-	12,845,090	-	11,868,388	18,009,194	14,835,779
Manufactured iron & steel	11,816	16,378	15,799	32,541	25,005	57,757
Fig iron	-	33,234	7,681	47,837	46,739	62,239
Scrap iron	2,400	46,042	-	32,712	67,994	46,600
Sand, gravel and stone	21,600	21,600	9,406	9,406	24,400	9,406
Petroleum, crude	2,750	132,522	2,780	68,812	228,817	100,666
Other petroleum products	3,860	3,860	-	-	6,560	3,000
All other freight	4,075	10,544	1,564	1,564	11,299	2,099
TOTAL FREIGHT	180,930	14,800,402	187,948	14,319,439	21,811,350	18,188,498

(1) (Exclusive of 1,567 paying passengers on sight seeing pleasure boat cruises.
(Exclusive of 1,289 passengers carried in pleasure craft.

(2) 1,827 passengers carried in small boats.

One passenger through one lock station recorded as "1".
One pleasure craft through one lock station recorded as "1".

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	May, 1956		May, 1955		Cumulative -1956	Cumulative -1955
	Canadian lock	Canadian and U.S. locks	Canadian lock	Canadian and U.S. locks	Canadian and U.S. locks	Canadian and U.S. locks
SAULT STE. MARIE CANALS						
WESTBOUND						
Number of vessel passages	267	1,536	229	1,425	2,367	1,968
Registered net tonnage	374,722	6,668,919	349,907	6,411,196	10,596,552	8,798,715
Number of passengers	559	591	673	712	598	727
Commodities (Cargo tons)						
Cement	-	39,399	-	23,607	60,305	45,357
Coal, bituminous	20,150	1,549,576	22,409	1,250,507	2,471,611	1,829,229
Coal, anthracite	-	45,797	-	86,702	65,692	105,327
Coke	-	6,027	-	11,721	6,027	11,721
Iron ore	-	56,479	-	20,160	96,379	31,457
Manufactured iron & steel	754	31,178	200	30,360	50,363	48,572
Salt	4,309	10,915	695	8,678	21,697	8,814
Sand, gravel and stone	1,900	338,161	-	264,386	423,598	364,785
Gasoline	5,890	42,766	28,002	63,760	62,747	86,685
Fuel oil	26,115	51,773	20,843	50,215	84,683	59,675
Other petroleum products	662	662	1,389	1,389	5,881	23,528
Autos, trucks & parts	619	7,385	1,172	10,819	11,241	12,249
All other freight	28,966	34,981	53,383	64,617	73,847	86,128
TOTAL FREIGHT	89,365	2,215,099	128,093	1,886,921	3,434,071	2,713,527
SAULT STE. MARIE CANALS						
TOTAL						
Number of vessel passages	466	3,049	423	2,852	4,589	3,828
Registered net tonnage	573,034	13,330,782	557,642	12,817,411	20,596,821	17,025,474
Number of passengers	1,111	1,167	1,225	1,289	1,183	1,308
Number of pleasure craft	14	14	31	31	15	37
Tons of freight	270,295	17,015,501	316,041	16,206,360	25,245,421	20,902,025
	May, 1956		May, 1955	1956	1955	
	Up	Down	Total	Total	Cumulative Total	
WELLAND SHIP CANAL						
Number of vessel passages	567	567	1,134	1,291	1,834	2,138
Registered net tonnage	1,218,207	1,183,269	2,401,476	2,552,936	4,113,724	4,503,400
Number of passengers	-	99	99	5	99	9
Number of pleasure craft	-	-	-	-	-	1
Commodities (Cargo tons)						
Wheat	21,377	261,094	282,471	351,930	569,803	556,080
Corn	-	34,933	34,933	18,660	52,138	44,459
Oats	-	18,903	18,903	64,732	47,643	76,847
Barley	4,390	158,301	162,691	281,107	270,580	393,508
Rye	4,413	72,423	76,836	95,553	103,552	122,159
Flaxseed	3,466	68,004	71,470	34,773	81,681	48,957
Other grain	-	29,338	29,338	14,757	48,679	38,608
Flour	-	1,258	1,258	2,522	1,258	3,163
Mill products	-	1,813	1,813	-	3,482	-
Coal, anthracite	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coal, bituminous	-	731,685	731,685	692,629	1,430,859	1,737,410
Coke	-	3,908	3,908	n.a.	3,908	n.a.
Iron ore	376,981	351,903	728,884	384,505	871,016	397,442
Petroleum, crude	-	131,094	131,094	120,720	303,592	234,408
Sand, gravel and stone	-	1,600	1,600	24,727	33,826	41,666
Salt	-	13,040	13,040	n.a.	22,750	n.a.
Pulpwood	14,910	12,826	27,736	66,328	30,936	66,328
Gasoline	15,321	15,050	30,371	61,954	60,867	101,557
Fuel oil	68,045	56,098	124,143	95,647	176,067	185,296
Petroleum oils & other petroleum prod.	48,929	23,939	72,868	63,826	90,443	100,824
Iron and steel	12,129	3,864	15,993	n.a.	20,178	n.a.
Autos, trucks and parts	865	216	1,081	413	1,638	578
Wood pulp	7,157	3,153	10,310	7,510	12,411	11,204
Newsprint	46,084	650	46,734	54,288	77,701	95,317
Other manufactured products	23,532	40,621	64,153	n.a.	81,369	n.a.
All other freight	69,646	81,783	151,429	244,781	246,476	382,535
TOTAL FREIGHT	717,245	2,117,497	2,834,742	2,681,362	4,642,853	4,638,346



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SUMMARY OF CANAL STATISTICS

	May, 1956			May, 1955	1956	1955
	Up	Down	Total	Total	Cumulative Total	
<u>ST. LAWRENCE CANALS</u>						
Number of vessel passages	736	750	1,486	1,530	2,151	2,136
Registered net tonnage	627,424	651,030	1,278,454	1,342,754	1,874,942	1,903,103
Number of passengers	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of pleasure craft	-	-	24	58	32	67
<u>Commodities (Cargo tons)</u>						
Wheat	-	229,362	229,362	202,110	481,112	441,312
Corn	2,488	34,752	37,240	20,113	48,773	43,329
Oats	-	14,305	14,305	27,399	27,909	32,509
Barley	-	176,456	176,456	265,398	215,261	296,272
Rye	-	74,510	74,510	105,230	81,037	113,671
Flaxseed	-	14,059	14,059	35,671	22,174	40,598
Other grain	-	2,270	2,270	4,071	5,286	7,739
Flour	-	1,054	1,054	1,945	1,054	2,430
Mill products	-	5,248	5,248	-	5,248	1,977
Coal, anthracite	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coal, bituminous	168	221,792	221,960	224,577	300,382	333,134
Coke	-	3,908	3,908	n.a.	3,908	n.a.
Iron ore	343,161	-	343,161	86,561	450,993	94,921
Petroleum, crude	50,240	-	50,240	43,625	63,790	60,500
Sand, gravel and stone	-	35,100	35,100	41,603	37,800	43,403
Salt	-	13,638	13,638	n.a.	20,348	n.a.
Pulpwood	24,012	-	24,012	43,600	27,612	43,600
Gasoline	3,900	5,500	9,400	8,839	14,325	14,489
Fuel oil	128,251	7,075	135,326	149,080	177,981	192,251
Petroleum oils & other petroleum prod.	13,207	6,827	20,034	12,350	28,609	21,200
Iron and steel	17,616	891	18,507	n.a.	21,988	n.a.
Autos, trucks and parts	200	244	444	160	722	187
Wood pulp	5,692	-	5,692	4,042	12,135	9,781
Newsprint	18,806	340	19,146	25,159	34,614	41,490
Other manufactured products	32,246	11,029	43,275	n.a.	52,911	n.a.
All other freight	108,883	87,973	196,856	252,312	284,689	354,190
TOTAL FREIGHT	748,870	946,333	1,695,203	1,553,845	2,420,661	2,188,983

CANSO CANAL

Number of vessel passages	221	207	428	-	649	-
Registered net tonnage	12,487	10,941	23,428	-	47,385	-
Number of passengers	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of pleasure craft	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Commodities (Cargo tons)</u>						
Grain	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fruit and vegetables	-	-	-	-	462	-
Fish	47	812	859	-	884	-
Coal	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coke	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ores	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pulpwood	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gasoline	371	-	371	-	546	-
Petroleum oils and other petroleum prod.	-	-	-	-	1,028	-
Iron and steel	-	-	-	-	-	-
Newsprint	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other freight	243	647	890	-	10,015	-
TOTAL FREIGHT	661	1,459	2,120	-	12,935	-