

CANALS.

Canal Systems.—There are six canal systems under the control of the Dominion Government in connection with navigable lakes and rivers. They consist of the canals (1) between Port Arthur or Fort William and Montreal; (2) from Montreal to the international boundary near Lake Champlain; (3) from Montreal to Ottawa; (4) from Ottawa to Kingston and Perth; (5) Trenton, Lake Ontario, to Lake Huron (not completed); and (6) the St. Peter's canal from the Atlantic ocean to Bras d'Or Lakes, Cape Breton. The total length of the waterways comprised within these systems is about 1,594 statute miles, the actual mileage of canals constructed being 117.2.

Canal Traffic.—For the calendar year 1916 the total volume of traffic through the canals of the Dominion amounted to 23,583,491 tons, as compared with 15,198,803 tons in 1915, 37,023,237 tons in 1914 and 52,053,913 tons in 1913, the record year. The increase of 8,384,688 tons in 1916, as compared with 1915, is at the rate of 55 p.c., whilst in 1915 the decrease of 21,824,434 tons, as compared with 1914, was one of 58.9 p.c. This decrease was mainly due to a diversion of both Canadian and American traffic to the American canal at Sault Ste. Marie, owing to the availability on the American side of a new and larger lock. The total tonnage in 1916 was made up of 16,096,529 tons of American traffic, as compared with 8,409,380 tons in 1915, and of 7,486,962 tons of Canadian traffic, as compared with 6,789,423 tons in 1915. In 1916 the American traffic represented 68.3 p.c. of the total, as compared with 55.3 p.c. in 1915, and the Canadian traffic represented 31.7 p.c. of the total, as against 44.7 p.c. in 1915. The movement of Canadian grain by canal in 1916, following the excellent harvest of 1915, was the largest on record. Of Canadian wheat the total quantity moved through the canals of Canada and the United States at Sault Ste. Marie was 185,003,667 bushels, of which 82,807,342 bushels passed through the Canadian canal and 102,196,325 bushels passed through the American canal. In addition, 3,805,384 barrels of wheat flour representing, at $4\frac{1}{2}$ barrels per bushel, 17,124,228 bushels of wheat passed through the canals; so that the total movement of Canadian wheat by canal in 1916 was 202,127,895 bushels. Of oats 57,743,636 bushels, of barley 8,679,607 bushels and of flaxseed 4,931,569 bushels passed through the Canadian and American canals at Sault Ste. Marie in 1916.

Expenditure and Revenue for Canals.—In Table 39 is given the annual expenditure and revenue for canals from the beginning up to the year 1916. The column of expenditure chargeable to capital includes all the items for canals specified, and also certain items which apply to the canals as a whole; but the other columns do not include certain sums which are mostly common to all the canals, as, for instance, in 1916, \$49,491 chargeable to income, \$103,445 for staff and \$36,507 for repairs. If these items be added, the total expenditure on the Dominion canals for the year ended March 31, 1916, was \$7,956,354, comprising \$6,142,149 charged to capital, \$447,156 charged to income,