55.—Sea-Going and Inland Vessels (Exclusive of Coasting Vessels and Ferriage) Arrived at and Departed from Canadian Ports, fiscal years ended Mar. 31, 1911-35.

Note.—For the years 1868-1910, see Canada Year Book 1911, p. 380.

Fiscal Year.	British.		Canadian.		Foreign.		
	No.	Tons Register.	No.	Tons Register.	No.	Tons Register.	Total Tonnage.
1911 1912 1913 1914	6,870 6,766 7,307 7,418 6,949	12,712,337 13,342,929 13,896,353 15,711,849 13,931,091	29,670 27,949 42,624 30,234 29,359	16,380,146 18,069,983 20,677,938 17,026,121 17,504,751	40, 892 45, 399 47, 303 55, 835 48, 635	18,337,062 21,560,215 23,275,492 29,181,513 22,168,311	47,429,54 52,973,12 57,849,78 61,919,48 53,604,15
1916	6,817 7,387 7,337 6,099 5,511	12,417,944 16,144,873 16,959,790 14,054,166 12,320,994	37,900 39,978 34,786 37,023 37,388	17,372,836 20,290,252 19,890,461 17,567,061 16,869,619	75,411 74,850 70,781 52,273 52,827	27,930,318 29,277,419 29,952,237 21,607,821 20,302,920	57,721,09 65,712,54 66,802,48 53,229,04 49,493,53
1921 1922 1923 1924	4,526 4,239 4,869 5,187 5,763	10,545,619 10,471,403 13,868,905 15,158,994 16,463,204	39,877 36,679 59,364 53,945 44,432	22, 236, 962 20, 029, 572 26, 423, 287 28, 216, 588 26, 620, 979	50,370 61,114 87,199 80,700 84,084	21,866,049 26,164,278 32,110,991 31,571,791 34,854,868	54,648,63 56,665,25 72,403,18 74,947,37 77,939,05
1926 1927 1928 1929	6,515 6,448 6,253 6,400 5,634	17,749,067 18,117,525 18,738,027 21,625,660 20,171,383	34,010 34,015 38,497 39,038 40,251	23,149,028 25,692,591 28,453,951 29,792,258 29,137,798	55,109 62,344 67,771 75,745 107,925	34,348,732 33,521,543 36,611,819 42,317,309 40,129,608	75,246,82 77,331,65 83,803,79 93,735,22 89,438,78
1931 1932 1933 1934 1935	5,826 5,754 6,323 6,831 7,678	20,008,005 19,025,391 20,865,151 22,480,487 23,676,256	33,877 30,978 28,725 31,869 33,579	29,541,844 27,683,791 24,318,372 25,846,968 28,622,280	83,383 72,577 64,388 57,693 55,763	41.362,027 36,727,215 31.083,962 34.297,917 34,136,283	90,911,87 83,436,39 76,272,48 82,625,37 86,434,81

Section 1.—Ocean Shipping.

Canadian ocean shipping dates back to the days of early European fishermen who frequented the shores of Newfoundland and the Maritime Provinces. Later on exploration and settlement produced a larger volume of traffic. The first oceangoing vessels in Canada were probably built by Pont-Gravé, one of the first settlers in New France, and soon afterwards Talon and Hocquart, intendants of the colony, realizing the advantages offered to the industy by the timber resources available, gave it every encouragement. Shipyards were established at Quebec and other points along the St. Lawrence, and these, together with later establishments in the Maritime Provinces and on the western coast, have formed the principal bases of Canadian shipping on the Atlantic and the Pacific.

Canadian shipping attained some prominence in the days of fast wooden sailing vessels, and also at a later date when steam power first came into use. In 1833 the Royal William, a Canadian ship built to ply between Quebec and Halifax, crossed the Atlantic from Pictou to London, the first vessel to navigate the Atlantic under steam power. At the present time, in addition to other lines of less importance, both the Canadian Pacific and the Dominion Government operate fleets on the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.*

Since the dates between which free navigation is possible down the St. Lawrence are so very important to Central Canada and also have an important influence upon the volume of Atlantic shipping through the port of Montreal, the following historical table is provided showing these dates since 1911.

^{*}The Dominion Government sold the merchant marine in April, 1936, but still operates the West Indies Steamships. (See p. 724).