

Section 3.—Water Traffic and Services

Complete statistics, comparable with those given for the railways, showing all the freight carried by water, are not available. Indeed it would be very difficult to obtain a record of the traffic handled by small independent coasting vessels. However, there is a record of the number and tonnage of ships calling at all ports at which there are customs collectors, of cargoes of vessels trading between Canadian and foreign ports and of all cargoes that pass through the canals.

Subsection 1.—Shipping

A brief description of the early development of Canadian shipping is given at pp. 597-598 of the 1941 edition of the Year Book. Shipping statistics are compiled from reports collected by customs officers at customs ports: consequently they are affected by customs regulations and include only data for vessels trading in and out of ports at which such officers are employed.

For years prior to and including the year ended Mar. 31, 1937, the statistics were summarized by the customs officer at each port and compiled by the Department of National Revenue; for subsequent years, compilations were made by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Effective Apr. 1, 1940, each vessel departing from port makes a statistical report which is forwarded to the Bureau and from these reports all compilations of shipping statistics are made.

With this change of procedure, changes have been made in the recording of the data. Cargoes are required to be reported in tons of 2,000 lb. or in tons of 40 cu. ft. Although previous reports did not define the ton, it is quite probable that for many cargoes the long ton of 2,240 lb. was used. Reports are not made now for vessels of less than 10 registered net tons and the tonnage of tugs is the gross ton and not the net ton used for cargo vessels. Fishing vessels are not required by customs regulation to report when operating from certain ports; consequently, the data are not on the same basis as data for cargo vessels.

18.—Vessels Entered at Canadian Ports, 1936-46

Year Ended Mar. 31	In Foreign Service ¹		In Coasting Service		Total	
	No.	Net Tons Register	No.	Net Tons Register	No.	Net Tons Register
1936	37,800	41,746,953	69,809	42,979,361	107,609	84,726,314
1937	41,755	45,030,914	73,033	45,973,830	114,788	91,004,744
1938	42,582	45,603,055	75,537	44,471,834	118,119	90,074,889
1939	43,601	44,775,116	73,386	45,386,457	116,987	90,161,573
1940	46,241	46,666,396	78,212	44,361,232	124,453	91,027,628
1941	25,122	32,579,900	79,951	50,471,166	105,073	83,051,066
Calendar Year						
1941	26,203	31,452,400	77,592	48,111,082	103,795	79,563,482
1942	24,066	25,640,763	73,366	43,990,764	97,432	69,631,527
1943	22,901	26,345,562	65,066	40,300,778	87,967	66,646,340
1944	23,786	28,356,681	64,999	43,776,497	88,785	72,133,178
1945	24,431	29,655,984	65,410	48,098,201	89,841	77,754,185
1946	26,461	30,367,071	67,014	45,559,014	93,475	75,926,085

¹ Sea-going and inland international.