

Seamen Shipped and Discharged.—Seamen shipped and discharged at Canadian ports under the provisions of the Canada Shipping Act during the years ended Mar. 31, 1944-53, are shown in Table 20.

20.—Seamen Shipped and Discharged at Canadian Ports, Years Ended Mar. 31, 1944-53

NOTE.—Figures from 1918 are given in the corresponding table of previous Year Books beginning with the 1941 edition.

Year	Seamen Shipped	Seamen Discharged	Year	Seamen Shipped	Seamen Discharged
	No.	No.		No.	No.
1944.....	26,068	20,491	1949 ¹	50,379	49,544
1945.....	29,230	25,056	1950.....	45,677	43,194
1946.....	30,361	27,042	1951.....	40,241	40,535
1947.....	43,973	42,205	1952.....	43,724	40,664
1948.....	59,768	60,793	1953.....	42,723	36,610

¹ Figures for Newfoundland are included from Apr. 1, 1949.

Canadian Government Merchant Marine Limited.—The circumstances under which the Canadian Government became possessed of, and responsible for, the operations of a merchant marine are explained in the 1934-35 Year Book, p. 776. A table showing the operating results from 1919 to 1936 is given in the 1937 Year Book, p. 689.

The original fleet of the Canadian Government Merchant Marine Limited consisted of 66 vessels with a total deadweight tonnage of 391,212. The original cost of the fleet was \$79,661,921 and the capital loss thereon was \$74,239,356. The total capital recovery of \$5,422,565 was as follows: (1) the sale of 56 vessels for \$2,378,018; (2) the proceeds of insurance on four vessels lost amounting to \$2,111,475; and (3) the sale of six vessels for \$933,072 to the Canadian National (West Indies) Steamships Limited.

The Charter of the Canadian Government Merchant Marine Limited and its subsidiary companies, although inactive since 1936, was not surrendered and in 1940 the Company was reconstituted and, on behalf of the Government of Canada, operated certain ships seized in prize and either requisitioned for use by the Canadian Government or condemned by the Court. When settlement with the owners of requisitioned ships for charter hire had been completed, the organization once more became inactive.

Canadian National (West Indies) Steamships Limited.—In conformity with the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement of 1926 (16-17 Geo. V, c. 16) the Federal Government has provided direct steamship services to the West Indies through the medium of Canadian National (West Indies) Steamships Limited.

At the end of 1953, the Canadian National Steamships owned and operated eight vessels in service between Canada and the British West Indies.