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ADMINISTRATION OF CANADA'S HARBOURS

The following address was made on October 11 by Mr. George Hees, then Minister of Transport, to the Industrial and Municipal Relations Conference of the Lake Ontario Development Association at Peterborough, Ontario:

"...Now that the St. Lawrence Seaway is in its second season of operation, ports on the Lakes are naturally wondering what the future will bring. That is a thing on which none of us can speak with too much certainty, but I would like to explain to you how the Government approaches matters of port maintenance and expansion, and the responsibility of the departments concerned.

GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBILITY

"The responsibility for the administration of all harbours in Canada ultimately rests with the Minister of Transport. These harbours fall into three categories:

1. The National Harbours Board was established in 1936 to operate a series of major harbours considered to be essential to the national economy. It is responsible for both administration and construction in the harbours of Montreal, Three Rivers, Chicoutimi, Quebec City, Saint John, Halifax, Churchill, and Vancouver. The Board reports directly to me, rather than through my department.
2. Local commission harbours, established by separate Acts of Parliament, report to the Department of Transport in the first instance. These harbours include Toronto, Hamilton, Belleville, Oshawa, Windsor, the Lakehead,

Winnipeg - St. Boniface, New Westminster, North Fraser, Nanaimo and Port Alberni. They are administered by commissioners appointed by the Federal Government and by the various city and municipal councils. As you may know, it is the policy of the Government to look favourably upon the establishment of local harbour commissions when local initiative to promote the harbour is forthcoming, when there are significant prospects for long-term development, and when the revenues are sufficient to support a separate administration. If such a commission is established, it is understood that the federal and municipal works and property in the harbour area are transferred to the commissioners for administration. The commission collects all harbour dues, wharfage, and other revenues, which are then used directly in the operations of the port concerned....

3. The third main category of harbours in Canada comprises public harbours, in general administered by my department under the Canada Shipping Act and The Harbours and Piers Act.

HARBOUR WORKS

"So far, I have been talking about administration, but obviously there must be structures in a harbour to administer. The National Harbours Board generally handles the construction, maintenance, and dredging needs in its own ports, with the exception of dredging in certain cases like, say, Saint John, New Brunswick, where, by a special arrangement,

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