

### ST. MARY'S LOCKS AND CANALS

The St. Mary's Rapids are about half a mile wide and three-quarters of a mile long. The fall ranges from 17 to 21 feet with the varying stages of water.

The first canal was built on the Canadian side of the river by the North-West Fur Company in 1797. The lock was 38 ft. long, 8 ft. 9 ins. wide with a lift of 9 feet. It is still preserved as a historic relic on the grounds adjoining the General Offices of the Paper Company.

The Canadian canal is one and one-eighth miles long, 150 feet wide and 23 ft. deep, with a lock 900 feet long and 60 feet wide, having 22 feet of water on the sills. It was built during 1888-95.

On the American side there are four locks. The Weitzel lock, 515 feet long and 80 feet wide, with 17 feet of water, was completed in 1881. The Poe Lock is 800 feet long, 100 feet wide and has 22 feet of water on the sills. It was built in the years 1887-1896. The third and fourth locks, 1,350 feet long and 80 feet wide, with 24½ feet of water, were opened to traffic in 1914 and 1919 respectively, taking six years to build.

The American locks are filled or emptied in about nine minutes and the gates opened in 1½ minutes. The Canadian lock can be operated in about ten minutes. Electricity generated by water power is used for operating the Canadian and the third and fourth American locks, the other two locks being operated by hydraulic power.