

NEW SEAWAY BRIDGE

The St. Lawrence Seaway Authority has called for tenders for a major portion of the sub-structure of a new high-level highway bridge to cross the North Channel of the St. Lawrence River between Cornwall and Cornwall Island. The tenders are to be received up to June 2. In December last year, the Seaway Authority and the United States entity, the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, handed over to the Cornwall International Bridge Co. the ownership and operation of a new high-level suspension highway bridge which the two Seaway entities had built over the South Channel, between Cornwall Island and the United States mainland.

The sub-structure work called for under this new contract will comprise eight concrete piers and an abutment on the South or Cornwall Island side of the river and 15 concrete piers on the North or mainland side. The work will extend over a distance of some 2300 feet and is to be finished by June 30, 1960.

The entire bridge and approaches will be about a mile long and will be composed of a series of continuous-truss-type spans. It will involve one or two other sub-structure contracts, one more for the steel superstructure and one or more for the road-finishing, deck, lighting etc. The bridge, which will have a 27-foot roadway, is expected to be completed in 1962.

The firm of H.H.L. Pratley of Montreal has been retained by The St. Lawrence Seaway Authority as consultants for the design, plans and specifications and to supervise the construction of the new North Channel bridge. The firm has, with the approval of the Authority, retained Foundation of Canada Engineering Corporation Ltd. as associate consultants for the design and supervision of construction of the substructure.

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EXPORTS IN FIRST QUARTER

Canada's domestic exports were valued at \$1,034,000,000 in the first three months of 1959 and, as a small increase in export prices was more than offset by a volume decline, were thus some 3 per cent lower than in the same period of 1958, according to final and detailed figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Exports of foreign produce at \$24,000,000 were about 4 per cent higher than in the first quarter of 1958; and in March 1959, domestic exports were valued at \$373,900,000 and re-exports at \$10,000,000. The latest figures confirm the advance release of April 21, which reported total exports as being \$1,058,000,000 in the first quarter of 1959 and \$383,000,000 in the month of March.

The United States and the United Kingdom provided a market for a respective 61 per cent and 16 per cent of Canada's first quarter

exports and, in each case, this was somewhat higher than in the first three months of 1958. The Commonwealth, European and Latin American shares in the export total all declined by less than 1 per cent to about 6 per cent, 9 per cent and 4 per cent, respectively, and exports to all other countries as a group were responsible for almost 4 per cent of the total, slightly more than in the same period of 1958.

Contrary to the aggregate movements in the first quarter, exports in March 1959 increased in both value and volume and the pattern of trade also differed as between month and quarter in that exports to the United States increased and those to other foreign countries declined in value in March.

Among the principal commodities, the more significant declines in the first three months of the year were in the export of beef cattle, aluminum, copper, nickel, newsprint paper and, to a lesser extent, petroleum, wheat and wheat flour. Exports of farm implements and machinery, uranium, planks and boards, wood pulp and fish were considerably higher than in the first quarter of 1958. In contrast to the quarterly trend, exports of nickel increased somewhat in March and those of grains other than seeds declined.

Exports to the United States in the first quarter of 1959 at \$632,600,000 were less than 1 per cent lower than in the same period of 1958. Reductions in exports of newsprint paper and beef cattle contributed greatly to the overall decline, and exports of aluminum, copper and petroleum were also lower. The aggregate reductions were substantially offset by significant increases in exports of uranium, planks and boards and wood pulp.

Exports to the United Kingdom increased by almost 3 per cent in the first three months of 1959 and were valued at \$161,100,000. There were large increases in exports of barley, uranium and canned fish and smaller increases in wheat and aluminum exports. Exports of nickel and copper fell sharply and those of newsprint paper and planks and boards were also considerably lower than in the corresponding period of 1958.

Exports to the Commonwealth at \$63,800,000 were some 14 per cent lower than in the first quarter of 1958. The overall decline was very largely determined by contrary movements of wheat to three Commonwealth countries. Canadian-financed shipments to India, which had been valued at more than \$13,000,000 in the first quarter of 1958, declined to less than \$500,000 in 1959. On the other hand, exports of the Union of South Africa and Pakistan increased by about \$6,000,000 and \$2,000,000, respectively.

Exports to Europe declined by almost 18 per cent to \$94,600,000 in the quarter from \$115,000,000 a year ago. Much of the regional reduction resulted from a sharp fall in exports of military aircraft to the Federal

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