

present seminar, which will, in the words of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, "give governments an opportunity to exchange their ideas and experience" by bringing together "key people for short periods of time to stimulate their thinking and through their leadership to encourage greater awareness in matters relating to human rights."

SEAWAY AT MIDSUMMER

During the current navigation season to the end of July, according to preliminary statistics issued by the Canadian and United States Seaway authorities, 8 million tons of cargo were carried through the St. Lawrence canals and nearly 12 million tons through the Welland canal. These figures show increases of 49 per cent and 19 per cent, respectively, over the volume of cargo during the corresponding period in 1958.

Cargo movement through the new Seaway canals during the month of July was 2,493,000 tons, somewhat lower than the figure reported for June, but 51 per cent greater than the traffic through the old St. Lawrence canals in July, 1958.

VESSEL PASSAGES

To the end of July there were 2,981 vessel passages upbound and downbound through the St. Lambert lock. Through vessel passages for the Welland canal in the same period numbered 3,476.

WELLAND CANAL

Welland Canal statistics for July show a continuation of the substantial increase in upbound traffic as compared with 1958. Total cargo for July was 3,755,000 tons, also below the figure for June, but 22 per cent greater than in July 1958.

Mr. George Hees, Minister of Transport, has announced that improvements will be undertaken this fall which will increase the potential capacity of the Welland canal by about 25 per cent.

The Minister's statement follows:

"Toward the end of the session of Parliament, I informed the House that engineers of the St. Lawrence Seaway Authority were studying ways and means of increasing the potential capacity of the Welland canal. Such a study has now been made, and I am glad to announce that tenders will be called in mid-October for the construction of some 7,000 feet of tie-up walls in the Welland canal. These walls, when completed, will provide tie-up facilities above Lock 1; at the entrance walls below and above Locks 2 and 3; and below and above the guard gate. These facilities will permit the

movement of a ship into a lock, or through the guard gate, immediately the lock is ready to receive it or the guard gate is opened.

"At the present time the capacity of the canal is 27 or 28 lockages per day; that is, 13 or 14 each way per day. The extension of tie-up walls mentioned above will have the immediate effect of increasing its potential capacity by about 25 per cent. The tie-up walls will be constructed during the winter of 1959-1960 and should be ready for the opening of navigation in April 1960. Engineering surveys have not yet been completed, but an approximate estimate of the cost of the work is \$7,500,000.

"Intensive study will also be made of the possibility of reducing lockage time by improvement in the hydraulic characteristics of the lock filling and emptying system. This, however, will require considerable time and its immediate effect, if possible, would not compare with the result anticipated from the extension of tie-up walls.

"A complete review of the maintenance pattern of the equipment for lock operation is also being undertaken, in order that the possibility of breakdowns will be reduced to a minimum.

"Under operating regulations in effect this year, certain equipment, calculated to assist in the expeditious passage of vessels through the locks was recommended, but not made compulsory. The Authority is giving close attention to the experience this year of the various types of ships transitting the Welland canal and the new Seaway. Some changes in the regulations are contemplated, particularly as regards the required equipment, to be effective commencing with the opening of navigation in 1960. The shipping trade will be given advance notice of such changes.

LORD MOUNTBATTEN AT C.N.E.

Earl Mountbatten of Burma, Chief of the Defence Staff of the United Kingdom, opened the 81st Canadian National Exhibition on August 26 in Toronto.

In his opening address Lord Mountbatten recalled that once before, in 1948, he had opened the C.N.E. which, he said, was the greatest annual show window. He referred to the fact that HMS *Scarborough*, on which he had travelled to Canada, had led the first British Squadron to sail to Toronto, 1,000 miles inland. The St. Lawrence Seaway had made it possible for the NATO fleet of 19 ships to reach this Great Lakes port and anchor off its waterfront.

Lord and Lady Mountbatten paid brief visits to Ottawa and Washington before returning to the United Kingdom.