

* * * USE OF CANADIAN PORTS * * *

This paper cancels T.C.S./O.I. 58-5 dated 6 February 58

1. There is a continuing problem with respect to the diversion of Canadian exports and imports through United States ports, with consequent loss of revenue for Canadian inland carriers and port industries and of traffic for shipping serving Canadian ports. Statistics showing the volume and kinds of diverted traffic are circulated annually to Trade Commissioner offices in D.B.S. publication entitled, "Exports of Canadian Produce to Overseas Countries Via the United States and Via Canadian Ports."
2. The Canadian Port Committee, formed in 1952 with representatives from national trading, carrier and port organizations, is constantly keeping the problem under review and examining steps which can be taken to encourage the use of Canadian ports. The Department is represented on the Port Committee by a member of the Transportation and Trade Services Division.
3. Trade Commissioners are well placed to know of instances when shipments have been made through a United States port which might more economically have been made through a Canadian port. Such instances should be reported to the Department in detail. From study of these cases the Port Committee could draw to the attention of traders how existing Canadian facilities can provide comparable service or could suggest improvements to Canadian facilities to minimize repetition.
4. At the same time there may be occasions when a Trade Commissioner will be in a position to exercise a persuasive influence on foreign traders to route their shipments through Canadian ports. Where they have objections to such a course, the reasons for routing shipments through United States ports would be of interest to the Port Committee.

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Original 3 January 61