

improved highways, national parks and many other attractions. The desire to travel has been stimulated by modern progress in the form of better roads, comfortable transport facilities, more leisure and improved working conditions.

Expenditures of travellers from other countries in Canada have comparable effects on the balance of payments with the export of commodities and, similarly, the expenditures of Canadian travellers in other countries influence the balance of payments as the import of goods from abroad. Hence a most important factor is the balance of revenue remaining after total disbursements by Canadian travellers abroad have been deducted from total receipts left in Canada by departing non-residents. Expenditures in Canada during 1948 by residents of other countries rose to a new high of \$283,000,000*, while the expenditures of Canadian travellers in other countries dropped to \$134,000,000 from \$167,000,000 in the previous year. As a result, net receipts were approximately \$148,600,000 compared with a previous high of \$90,000,000 in 1929 and a low of \$45,000,000 in 1933.

The industry of catering to visitors from other countries has become one of major importance and employment created by the effects of an inflow of tourist funds is widely distributed throughout Canada. Although the whole Canadian economy benefits as a result, the benefit is of particular significance to some otherwise unproductive parts of the country which have natural tourist attractions. The tourist trade has raised the standard of living in such places and the influx of visitors has given them a better understanding of Canada.

Some light is thrown on the flexibility of the traffic and on Canada's capacity to provide overnight accommodation for transients by an investigation into the average number of travellers from the United States who remained overnight in Canada at various seasons of the year 1948. The number of United States travellers requiring overnight accommodation varied from a minimum of 32,000 for an average night in February to a maximum of 254,000 for an average night in August. It can be assumed that the averages mentioned are exceeded on most Saturdays and Sundays and indications are that when Labour Day and Independence Day fall close to a weekend the accommodation provided far outstrips the averages.

United States Travel Expenditures in Canada.—Expenditures in Canada during 1948 by travellers from the United States totalled \$270,000,000,* an increase of 12 p.c. over the previous high point of \$241,000,000 established in 1947. In 1948 the short-term traffic made up approximately 24 p.c. of the total expenditures compared with 19 p.c. in 1947, whereas the longer-term traffic accounted for 76 p.c. of the total compared with 81 p.c. in the previous year. Average expenditure rates by non-permit motorists entering Canada for periods of less than 48 hours were approximately 39 p.c. higher than in 1947 and those of all short-term motorists were 60 p.c. higher. Heavier spending by short-term motorists reflects increased purchases of foodstuffs and other commodities that were more plentiful or at more attractive prices in Canadian border communities as well as increased outlays on recreation. Total expenditures of motorists entering on customs permits, who are entitled to remain for 48 hours or longer or to leave by a point

* Subject to revision.