

7.—Summary of Highway Traffic at Canadian Border Points by Province 1955 and 1956—
concluded

Province or Territory	CANADIAN VEHICLES RETURNING					
	After Stay of 24 Hours or Less		After Stay of Over 24 Hours		Commercial Vehicles	
	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Atlantic Provinces.....	1,367,434	1,615,748	97,943	127,366	124,443	137,853
Quebec.....	952,817	1,086,593	310,199	373,757	135,755	183,390
Ontario.....	2,367,938	2,759,531	480,086	478,872	223,384	232,944
Manitoba.....	144,013	136,752	67,869	65,979	25,081	28,125
Saskatchewan.....	65,055	75,043	32,040	31,486	10,217	12,156
Alberta.....	58,247	64,567	65,534	65,050	12,272	13,138
British Columbia.....	534,473	569,786	186,150	203,723	31,653	31,297
Yukon Territory.....	1,069	1,495	381	387	289	355
Totals.....	5,491,046	6,309,515	1,240,202	1,346,620	563,094	639,258
Percentage change 1955-56.....	+14.9		+8.6		+13.5	

PART IV.—THE GOVERNMENT AND FOREIGN TRADE

Section 1.—Foreign Trade Service and Associated Agencies concerned with the Development of Foreign Trade*

Foreign trade contributes substantially to the welfare and prosperity of Canadians, largely because the productive capacity of Canada is greater than the ability of its population to consume the output of farms, factories, forests, fisheries and mines. Every effort is made, therefore, to establish and maintain close commercial relations with other countries whose markets are essential to the Canadian economy. It is appreciated, however, that two-way trade should be encouraged in order that goods and services may be accepted in partial payment for the products Canada is in a position to export. Furthermore, many commodities that are not indigenous to this country must be imported. Some of these are required for industrial processes and others may be classed as consumer goods necessary for the maintenance of the Canadian standard of living.

Although many private firms have established connections in other countries that enable them to maintain a steady flow of goods in either direction, others require the assistance of government agencies in finding markets or sources of supply. Import and export controls imposed by many countries for a variety of reasons, together with postwar foreign exchange difficulties, present problems that no single firm or even an association of manufacturers, exporters or importers can solve without assistance from government representatives.

The Department of Trade and Commerce and associated agencies are at the disposal of exporters and importers engaged directly in the development of Canada's commercial relations with other countries. Services obtainable from the various branches, divisions and agencies are described below.

Canadian Trade Commissioner Service.—The Canadian Trade Commissioner Service is one of the important instruments in the continuous effort to increase Canadian international trade, to give world-wide distribution to Canadian products and to locate the best sources of supply for imports. Headquarters are at Ottawa, and 58 offices are maintained in 45 countries, staffed with trained Canadian trade officials and commodity specialists. The work of the Trade Commissioners in the field is co-ordinated in Ottawa by five Area Trade Officers. These Officers are familiar with every aspect of foreign trade

* Prepared in the several Branches and Divisions concerned and collated in the Trade Publicity Branch, Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa.