

Information on Canadians returning to Canada via the United States was secured for the first time in 1958. Of the estimated 42,000 such re-entries, a larger proportion reported visits to countries which are most easily reached by travel through the United States such as Mexico, the West Indies Federation, Central America, Bermuda and Hawaii, than was reported by persons returning direct to Canada. Mexico attracted 22 p.c. compared with 4 p.c. of those returning direct, while 12 p.c. visited the West Indies Federation compared with 6 p.c. of the direct re-entries. However, a comparison of travel to European countries showed the opposite trend—only 6 p.c. of re-entries via the United States had visited the United Kingdom compared with 26 p.c. of those returning direct, 11 p.c. had visited the United Kingdom plus other European countries compared with 31 p.c., and 10 p.c. reported trips to European countries only as compared with 19 p.c. of the direct re-entries. Length of stay also showed variation, with travellers averaging five days in the United States in addition to spending 36 days in the United Kingdom, 64 days in the United Kingdom and other Europe combined and 60 days in other Europe only. Similar figures for those returning direct revealed lengths of stay averaging 55 days in the United Kingdom, 66 days in other Europe and the United Kingdom combined, and 58 days in other European countries only. Length of stay in countries easily reached by travel through the United States did not differ significantly from that recorded by residents returning direct from overseas. Recreation was the main purpose of trip for almost 59 p.c. of the Canadians re-entering via the United States and 42 p.c. of those returning direct. However, 44 p.c. of those returning direct from overseas specified visits to friends or relatives as compared with only 22 p.c. of the indirect re-entries. The percentages of the two groups reporting on other purposes of trip showed little variation. The majority of those travelling for recreation or health visited areas with warmer climates such as Hawaii and some of the more southerly Commonwealth countries, especially during the first quarter of the year when about 72 p.c. went for recreation and 12 p.c. for health.

Expenditures by Canadians in overseas countries reached a new record of \$129,000,000 in 1958. The rate of expansion has been progressively more moderate in the past few years, the 6-p.c. increase in 1958 comparing with a 14-p.c. increase in 1957. In 1957, for the first time since 1951, receipts from overseas visitors showed a greater percentage gain than the travel payments to overseas countries but in 1958 the former trend was re-established and the growth in payments exceeded that of receipts by approximately 1 p.c. As a result, the debit balance between receipts and payments in the overseas account advanced \$5,000,000 over 1957 to a new high of \$89,000,000 or 46 p.c. of Canada's total deficit on travel account in 1958.

Tourist Information.—Tourist information generally is supplied by the Canadian Government Travel Bureau, Ottawa, and detailed information on the National Parks and Historic Sites is available from the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources, Ottawa. For advice regarding specific provinces or particular cities or resorts, application should be made to the provincial or municipal Bureau of Information concerned.

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,

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