

Section 2.—Travel Between Canada and Other Countries

The total number of persons crossing the International Boundary into Canada in 1952 was nearly 48,000,000, an increase of more than 4,000,000 over the previous record established in 1951. American travellers accounted for over 26,000,000 of the entries, and nearly 22,000,000 were residents of Canada returning after visits to the United States.

Although there were more visitors to Canada from the United States than ever before, there was not a corresponding increase in the expenditures in Canada by American travellers. There were substantial increases, however, both in the number of Canadians travelling in the United States and in their expenditures in that country. Consequently, the principal change in Canada's travel account in 1952 was the excess of payments over receipts in the account with the United States which appeared for the first time. A credit balance of \$154,000,000 in 1948, when Canadian expenditures were restricted, was reduced progressively year by year to only \$12,000,000 in 1951 and was replaced by a debit balance of \$37,000,000 in 1952.

Compared with 1951, there was an increase of nearly 3,000,000 in the number of Canadian travellers returning during 1952 after visiting the United States and an increase of over 1,000,000 in the number of United States residents entering Canada. Although the number of visits to Canada by residents of the United States exceeded visits of Canadians to the United States by nearly 5,000,000 or 22 p.c., expenditures by Canadians in the United States exceeded expenditures of Americans in Canada by nearly \$37,000,000 or 14 p.c. Thus, residents of Canada spent an average of \$20.08 per capita in the United States during 1952, and residents of the United States spent an average of \$1.62 per capita in Canada. Rising purchases of merchandise by Canadian travellers in the United States made up a considerable part of the increase in expenditures.

There was also an adverse trend in the balance on overseas travel account during 1952, the increase in payments being higher than the increase in receipts. Canadians spent \$42,000,000 in overseas countries in 1952, \$8,000,000 more than in 1951, whereas expenditures in Canada of travellers from overseas countries increased by only \$2,000,000. Thus, the debit balance in Canada's travel account with overseas countries advanced from \$18,000,000 in 1951 to \$24,000,000 in 1952. With the additional \$37,000,000 debit balance in Canada's account with the United States, the total deficit was \$61,000,000 in account with all countries.

United States Travel Expenditures in Canada.—Expenditures by residents of the United States travelling in Canada decreased by \$1,000,000 from \$258,000,000 in 1951 to \$257,000,000 in 1952. Aggregate expenditures of the non-automobile traffic increased by \$8,000,000 or 8 p.c. when compared with 1951. Expenditures of traffic by common carrier had reached \$122,000,000 in 1949 and declined to \$112,000,000 in 1950 and \$106,000,000 in 1951. The increase in 1952, however, was not sufficient to offset a decrease of \$9,000,000 in expenditures of non-residents travelling in Canada by automobile, the first decline to be registered since 1943. Such expenditures had risen year by year from a low of \$17,000,000 in 1943 to a peak of \$152,000,000 in 1951. Lower average expenditures per visit for both the non-permit and customs-permit travellers were recorded in 1952, the decrease being consistent for both types of travel and distributed throughout the year. Average expenditures for automobile travellers on customs permits (excluding