

and customs officials may decide to stamp the "transit sheets".) When the Carnet is issued, a page for the material's exit from Canada and another for its re-entry into Canada will be added by Carnet Canada.

Prior to the material's departure from Canada, a customs official must examine the goods and validate the Carnet with his signature and an official stamp. He will also remove the first voucher. Forgetting this vital first step will only lead to a great many complications later. At each subsequent customs point (entry to or exit from any "Carnet" country), you must ensure that the Carnet is again signed and stamped and the appropriate voucher detached. Remember that you have a 40% deposit riding on your ability to play by the basic rules of Carnet procedure. And do not forget that on your return to Canada you must not allow yourself to be carried away with the euphoria of your tour's success and omit to go through the required re-entry inspection, signing and stamping.

It has been noted that a Carnet is a "merchandise passport" and like a passport it should be guarded carefully. A Carnet can really eliminate a lot of the hassle of touring, but the complications that can be caused by losing a Carnet are no less than those caused when a passport is lost — except you do not have to make a substantial deposit to obtain a passport.

If you do everything right and return the entire used Carnet to the issuing department of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, your security bond will either be returned or cancelled.

Full details about using the Carnet system may be obtained by contacting the head office of Carnet Canada, a division of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, 1080 Beaver Hall Hill, Suite 1630, Montreal, Quebec, H2Z 1T2, (514) 866-4334.

TOURING IN THE UNITED STATES

Although we happen to share the longest undefended border in the world with our southern neighbours, it will not excuse you from following, to a large degree, the procedure described here for other countries. In fact, if anything because of the number of forms and the time taken to process them, you are advised to start dealing with the formalities at the earliest possible stage and allow for their completion to take between two and three months.

As your application to enter and perform in the U.S. will be considered by both the U.S. Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service and the Department of Labor, and as you will almost certainly have to apply for an exemption from withholding taxes from the U.S. Internal Revenue Service, to be forewarned is to be forearmed.

It is definitely preferable to use the Carnet system when entering the United States to ensure the most efficient passage of your material into that country.

Where union jurisdiction over performing facilities in the United States exists, it tends to be more comprehensive than in Canada. It is vital that you check into any and all areas in which you will have to observe existing collective agreements and their financial impact on your tour. You could find, for example, that unless your truck driver is a member of the same union as the carloaders you will need to unload your truck, nobody will touch your material.

The Maine State Commission on the Arts and the Humanities has published an extremely useful pamphlet on this subject called "Crossing the Border". You can obtain a free copy by writing to the Touring Office of the Canada Council, P.O. Box 1047, Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 5V8, (613) 238-7413.