

Owing to new - and temporary - war-time legis-  
lation introduced by the United States, announced on  
June 6 and effective from July 1, 1940, in connection  
with manpower registration and recruitment, every Canadian  
citizen was, as already mentioned, required to present a  
viséd passport before being permitted to enter the United  
States. This necessitated the opening of branch Canadian  
passport offices in order to cope with the demand. These,  
including the principal office in Ottawa, numbered eight:  
at St. Stephen (later moved to Moncton), Montreal, Toronto,  
Windsor, Sault St. Marie, Winnipeg, and Vancouver. After  
a year, most of these offices were closed; but Moncton,  
Windsor and Vancouver retained offices for some three  
years. Mr. A .L. Cooper has recollections of his period  
in charge of the Passport Branch Office in Windsor (June -  
October, 1940). During the summer months the heat was in-  
tense and there was no air-conditioning. Passport appli-  
cants queued up and came in daily by the scores; some  
were on urgent business, some were trippers and sight-  
seers. At that time, Canadian border-crossing numbered  
about 500,000 in a year. Often there was great urgency,  
and the issuance of such passports, which necessarily took  
some time to check the application and to prepare the docu-  
ments, had to be speeded up, with what priorities urgency  
demanded. On one occasion a hearse containing a corpse  
had to wait in front of the Office until the driver could  
obtain his passport; in another case an ambulance taking  
a critically ill person across the border had likewise to  
stand outside the Office while the documents could be