

in dollar value. We have important nickel mines which provide a necessary commercial metal that is coming into increasing use throughout the world today. We have resources in other useful commercial metals, such as lead, zinc and copper, and we have recent evidence to warrant the assumption that we shall find large deposits of iron, which of course is one of the most useful and necessary materials in our modern civilization. A wise and prudent development of these resources will create new wealth, give employment to our people and raise the total amount of the national income, so that the financial burdens which the federal, provincial and municipal governments have to carry will be more easily met.

But we have in this country another resource, a peculiar resource, honourable senators, which I submit is capable of almost indefinite expansion. That is the tourist industry, to which this report relates. We are fortunate also in respect of this resource. Alongside of us is a country of 140 million people who live in a temperate and sub-tropical zone. Our American friends are great travellers. Among their other admirable qualities is that of curiosity, the desire to inform themselves, to see new lands and new scenes, and to experience new adventures. The population of the United States is a vast reservoir from which tourists will come to Canada to get acquainted with the Canadian people and, incidentally, help us in our national economy.

What attractions have we to offer? I need not speak to honourable senators particularly on this point. We have the great Rocky Mountain ranges in western Alberta and on the Pacific coast. We have the prairies, with their northern lakes, their forests and their fishing. We have Ontario, whose northern parts are in many respects a tourists' paradise. We have the province of Quebec, which in my humble judgment may prove the strongest attraction to our American visitors. The French-Canadian civilization, if I may so describe it, varies a little bit from that of the rest of the country. One can travel in the province of Quebec and see villages and ancient churches that remind one of the France of several hundred years ago. That is an attraction which is peculiarly tempting to our American friends. Then we have the Maritime Provinces. It was my good fortune a few weeks ago to spend a week with some friends on the island of Cape Breton. There we have scenery that appeals in all its attractiveness as effectively as do the highlands of Scotland.

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: Its lakes and its streams, the character of its people, the sea—all these things have a powerful attraction for our American friends. There is an additional reason for this: in the New England states there are descendants by the tens of thousands of Canadians from the Maritime Provinces, who within the last fifty or sixty years emigrated to the United States. Naturally these people desire to visit the country of their parents and grandparents.

What at the moment the tourist business is worth to Canada in dollars and cents may be somewhat difficult to estimate. I am afraid our tourist statistics are not as complete as they might be; but anyone who has travelled across this country in the last two months must have been struck by the fact that American tourists are to be found everywhere. I have observed their presence particularly in this city of Ottawa. I am told that my home city of Winnipeg has had the greatest influx of American tourists in its history, and that these tourists are constantly in the jewellery and general-merchandise stores buying souvenirs of Canada to take home.

The American tourist who comes to Canada leaves some good American dollars with us, which, by the way, if effectively marshalled, would help materially in maintaining our international balance of payments. I would estimate that this year's tourist business may be worth at least \$250,000,000, and it must not be forgotten that we derive that benefit from tourists without sending out anything in exchange. When we develop the attractiveness of our mountain scenery, build good roads and provide accommodation, what we are doing, in effect, is exporting our scenery without in the slightest degree lessening its future value or attractiveness.

Some Hon. SENATORS: We are increasing it.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: I would say a word or two about the recommendations in the report. My observation has led me definitely to the conclusion that the great bulk of our American tourist traffic comes in by motor car. If we are to reach the maximum of possibilities of this traffic we must pay attention to a few things at least, and the recommendations in the report direct attention to them. The first requisite is good hard-surface roads. It was interesting to hear the remarks of the honourable chairman of the committee (Hon. Mr. Buchanan) in support of his motion for adoption of the report. What he had to say of the money being spent by Britain and Switzerland