

NEW RECORDS IN TRAVEL

Travel between Canada and other countries reached a new record in 1956, approximately 3 per cent higher than the previous record established in 1955, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. A substantial expansion in travel to other countries by Canadians was responsible for this record in volume during the past year.

Visits to Canada by residents of other countries number 27.7 million (28.3 million in 1955), while Canadians reciprocated with 27.2 million visits (24.8 million) to other countries during the same periods. The aggregate volume of all travel amounted to 54.9 million visits during 1956 as compared with 53.2 million in the preceding year.

Expenditures in Canada by travellers from other countries reached an all-time record in 1956 in spite of the small decline in the number of visits. Visitors from all countries left approximately \$337 million in Canada during the year, an increase of \$9 million or 3 per cent over 1955. Receipts from residents of the United States advanced to a record \$309 million, some \$6 million or 2 per cent higher than in 1955. Receipts from overseas countries reached \$28 million during the past year, a new record for this segment of travel (\$25 million in 1955). Receipts from residents of overseas countries were 12 per cent higher than in 1955 and the increase in the number of visits amounted to about 9 per cent.

The expansion in travel to other countries by residents of Canada gained momentum during 1956. A comparison with 1955 showed a gain of 9 per cent in the number of visits by Canadians to other countries, whereas the same comparison in 1955 revealed an increase of 6 per cent over 1954. The number of visits to other countries by Canadians advanced from 24.8 million in 1955 to 27.2 million in 1956, the change amounting to an increase of over 2 million visits during the year. Percentage-wise, the interest in travel to overseas countries continued to be more predominant in 1956. During the past three years, travel by residents of Canada to overseas countries has maintained a rate of expansion amounting to a 20 per cent increase each year.

Expenditures on travel in other countries by residents of Canada also reached a new

record in 1956. Canadians spent nearly half a billion dollars travelling in other countries during the past year, an increase of \$49 million or 11 per cent more than the previous year. Compared with an increase of 3 per cent in our receipts, the momentum in travel by Canadians has extended the gap between debit balance established in 1955. The debit balance on travel account with the United States increased from \$60 million in 1955 to \$82 million in 1956, and with overseas countries from \$61 million in 1955 to \$79 million in 1956. The total debit balance on account with all countries stands at a record \$161 million for the past year as compared with \$121 million in the preceding year and \$84 million in 1954.

VEHICLE PERMITS

A new record for the month of August was established in the number of foreign vehicles entering Canada on travellers' vehicle permits. The month's total was 574,926, an increase of 9 per cent over last year's August entries of 526,738. Entries for the Labour Day weekend were made in August, hence the new record may not be indicative of a general increase in traffic. January-August entries increased 5.6 per cent to 1,946,904 from 1,843,937. Increases were posted for all provinces both in August and the eight months.

Provincial totals for August were: Newfoundland and Nova Scotia - by ship - 3,582 vehicles (3,514 a year ago); New Brunswick, 31,931 (29,606); Quebec, 84,897 (79,887); Ontario, 366,675 (329,450); Manitoba 9,288 (8,639); Saskatchewan, 3,829 (3,814); Alberta, 13,561 (13,176); British Columbia, 59,267 (56,829); and Yukon Territory, 1,896 (1,832).

Eight-month entries - gains being recorded in all provinces - ranged from a rise of 0.2 per cent in Newfoundland and Nova Scotia to 14.6 per cent in Yukon Territory. Totals were: Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, 9,586 vehicles (9,567 last year); New Brunswick, 122,039 (113,408); Quebec, 308,313 (292,377); Ontario, 1,193,170 (1,123,781); Manitoba, 37,456 (34,030); Saskatchewan, 16,355 (14,749); Alberta, 41,601 (40,179); British Columbia, 211,965 (210,244); and Yukon Territory, 6,419 (5,602).

plants is being estimated at \$500,000,000.

Sites contemplated for the plants are the Long Branch Rifle Ranges in the western part of Metropolitan Toronto, and a lakeshore property in the Burlington Bay area. Negotiations are at present under way for the two sites.

The plants will have a capacity of 1,800,000 kilowatts each, much greater than that of Toronto's Richard L. Hearn plant which is one

STEAM PLANTS PLANNED: Two large steam plants for the generation of electricity, both larger than any existing similar plant in the world, are being planned by the Ontario Hydro-Electric Power Commission. Chairman James S. Duncan announced recently. Providing present negotiations and planning are successful, preliminary construction work should start before the end of the year and both plants should be completed by 1968. Total cost of the two