

SUGGESTIONS FOR EUROPEAN TOURIST

Information Given by Chicago Motor Club for Those Who Take Own Cars

In response to numerous inquiries from car owners who contemplate touring Europe this summer in their own automobiles, the touring bureau of the Chicago Motor club issued a statement outlining some of the important regulations governing motor travel abroad.

The statement was based on reports received from the foreign travel division of the American Automobile association, with which the motor club is affiliated. The A.A.A. predicted that because the requirements in shipping a car abroad and driving in foreign parts have been greatly simplified in the past year, the number of motor tourists this year will doubtless be double that of last year.

The A.A.A. has representatives at nineteen foreign ports and is affiliated with thirty-five European motor clubs by virtue of its membership in the Alliance Internationale de Tourisme.

Passport Facilities Aid

"The American facilities for issuing passports," says the foreign travel division, "together with the arrangements made by steamship lines to handle cars, and the readiness of foreign governments to eliminate customs barriers, have brought motoring abroad almost on a par with the simplicity surrounding travel in this country."

The national motoring body attributes the demand for travel information to the fact that the average American motorist is broadening his travel horizons.

It is pointed out that the first step in arranging for a trip abroad is the securing of passports, which is now comparatively easy for resident Americans through federal agents in all parts of the nation. Greatly improved services are also available in connection with other requirements for the abroad. Some of these are:

1.—The motor car is now virtually a part of the regular baggage. Steamship lines now transport them uncrated and at a flat rate, based on weight, or cubic foot displacement.

2.—The A.A.A. will take complete charge of arranging for passport visas and also for delivery of necessary travel documents and licenses by port representatives upon arrival of the motorist in Europe.

3.—Customs barriers have been virtually eliminated as a result of foreign governments authorizing the issuance of papers allowing the motor tourist to travel at will, and with a minimum of trouble from customs officers at border lines.

Further Directions

The A.A.A. statement continues: "After passports have been secur-

ed and the automobile it placed on board the steamship, the car owner is well on the way to an enjoyable motor vacation. Our port representatives meet all ships on which accredited motorists are traveling, deliver all licenses for the car, arrange to pass it through customs, secure gas and oil, and start the owner on his journey.

"Through arrangements with the Alliance Internationale de Tourisme, we secure for the motorist a document known as the Garnet de Passages en Douanes, which is an international travel pass covering Great Britain, the Irish Free State, France, Italy, Belgium, Austria, Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Hungary, Algeria, Tripoli and Tunisia.

Another Form

"For motorists desiring to visit countries not included in the above list, there is another form of passport, the triptyque, which is a customs passport for one country. These are now issued for Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Finland, Poland, Portugal, Rumania, Greece, Spain, Jugoslavia.

"The motorist to whom a garnet or triptyque is issued passes the customs without being called upon to deposit dues at the frontier. This is made possible through deposit of security with the A.A.A."

The foreign travel division advised parties contemplating motor trips abroad to make their plans early and suggested that application for any details in regard to contemplated trips be made either to local A.A.A. clubs or directly to the foreign travel division of the A.A.A. at national headquarters in Washington.

There is one thing that we insist on and that is a prohibitive tariff on green beans with strings attached.

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