

### PART III.—ROAD TRANSPORTATION.\*

Since the recent development of highways in Canada has been almost exclusively for the purpose of providing roadbed for motor vehicle traffic, highways and motor vehicles are treated in this edition as features of the same form of transportation, instead of being dealt with in separate parts of the chapter as in former editions. After an introductory section which briefly summarizes provincial regulations regarding motor vehicles and motor traffic, the whole subject of road transportation is dealt with under the headings of facilities, finances, and traffic, similarly to the treatment of other forms of transportation.

#### Section 1.—Provincial Motor Vehicle and Traffic Regulations.†

*NOTE.*—In this Section, it is obviously impossible to include the great mass of detailed regulations in force in each province. The purpose in view is to provide only the more important general information. For detailed regulations for specific provinces the sources of information are given on p. 666. See also "The Highway and Motor Vehicle in Canada", an annual bulletin published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and obtainable from the Dominion Statistician, price 25 cents.

**General.**—The licensing of motor vehicles and the regulation of motor vehicle traffic lies within the legislative jurisdiction of the Provincial Governments in Canada. Regulations which apply in all the provinces may be summarized as follows:—

**Operators' Licences.**—The operator of a motor vehicle must be over a specified age (usually 18 years) and must carry a licence, obtainable only after prescribed qualification tests and renewable annually. Special licences are required for chauffeurs, beginners, and operators under 18 years of age who have become qualified.

**Motor Vehicle Regulations.**—In general, all motor vehicles and trailers must be registered annually, usually for the calendar year, with the payment of specified fees, and must carry two registration plates, one on the front and one on the back of the vehicle (one only, for the back, in the case of trailers). A change in ownership of the vehicle must be recorded with the registration authority. However, exemption from registration is granted for a specified period (usually at least 90 days) in any year to visiting private vehicles registered in another province or a State which grants reciprocal treatment. Further regulations require a safe standard of efficiency in the mechanism of the vehicle and in its brakes, and provide for its equipment with non-glare headlights and a proper rear light, with a satisfactory locking device, a muffler, a windshield wiper, and a rear-vision mirror.

**Traffic Regulations.**—In all the provinces, vehicles keep to the right-hand side of the road. Motorists are everywhere required to observe traffic signs, lights, etc., placed at strategic points on highways and roads. While permissible speeds vary in different provinces, slower speeds are always required in cities, towns and villages, in passing schools and public playgrounds, at road intersections, railway crossings, or at other places or times where the view of the highway for a safe distance ahead is in any way obscured. Motor vehicles must not pass a street car which has stopped to take on or discharge passengers except where safety zones are provided. Accidents resulting in personal injury or property damage must be reported to a provincial or municipal police officer and any driver involved must not leave the scene of accident until he has rendered all possible aid.

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† The information in this Section has been revised from material provided by the officials in charge of the administration of Motor Vehicle and Traffic Acts and Regulations in the individual provinces.