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GENERAL RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT
OF STATE

STATE

CONSULAR TRADE REPORTS

1930

SHANGHAI

FROM

SHANGHAI

TO

Box No.

651
AMERICAN CONSULAR SERVICE.
American Consular Service.
American Consulate General,
Shanghai, China, November 8, 1929.
Shanghai, China, November 8, 1929.

Subject: Rules and Regulations for Driving
Motor Vehicles.

THE HONORABLE
THE SECRETARY OF STATE,
WASHINGTON.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose herewith a copy

of a self-explanatory despatch No. 6243 of this

1/ date, with enclosure, from this Consulate General
rules and regulations for the execution of motor
vehicles which have been issued by the Bureau of
the subject above mentioned.

Public utilities of the Municipality of Shanghai,
the largest in China, have been increasing steadily,
and I have the honor to be, Sir, introd. the Auto-
mobile Club of China. Your obedient servant, believed

to be accurately, though no responsibility can be assumed
for the same.

Edwin S. Cunningham,
American Consul General.

It is a matter of great regret that a coupon

Enclosure: not to be accomplished in full of the authorities

L/ Copy of Shanghai Consulate General
despatch No. 6243, with enclosure.

A true copy of the original was given in the port of Shanghai. There is a recip-

rociprocal provision between the French Consul General and

In Quintuplicate.

The International Settlement of Shanghai for motor ve-

vehicles issued by them. In 1929 the Chinese authori-

ties authorized the Consul General to issue the new regu-
The Automobile Club of China.

(Affiliated to the Royal Automobile Club of Great Britain and Ireland, the Automobile Association of London, the Automobile Club of America, the Singapore Automobile Club, and the Royal Java Motor Club).

SHANGHAI, 20th July 1929.

The following Rules and Regulations for Driving Motor Vehicles have been received from the Bureau of Public Utilities of the Municipality of Greater Shanghai, and are published and circulated for the information of Members.

By Order of the Committee
BECK & SWANN
Secretaries,
17 The Bund
Translation of Motor Car licence - not to be conflicted with the Drivers' or Chauffeurs licence or permit.

Licence No.

MUNICIPALITY OF GREATER SHANGHAI.
Private Motor Car Driving Licence.

Date of Issue.
Date of Re-issue.
Date of Changing Car.
Date of Transferring.

Effective period - One year - from 1st January 18th Year to 31st December, 18th Year.

Make of Motor Car.
Style of Car.
Engine Number.
Position of Engine No.
Car Owner.
Address.

PRIVATE MOTOR CAR.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Season Tax $</th>
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<th>Number of Special Area</th>
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Municipality of Greater Shanghai.

Rules for Motor Car Driving Licence.

(1) Application should be made to the Bureau of Public Utilities for registration and inspection of the car, if qualified, a driving licence and a number plate will be issued by the Bureau; payment of tax and a number plate will be made to the Bureau Finance, after which the car can be driven within the area of this Municipality.

(2) Driving licences and Number plates may only be used in respect of the car applied for and no transfer or change of same is permissible without the permission of the Bureau of Public Utilities.

(3) Whilst driving the car in the territory of this Municipality the Rules for Control of Land Communications must be strictly observed.

(4) Taxation of vehicles is levied according to Horse Power on a scale fixed by the Bureau of Finance, and same is payable within the first 15 days of each season or month. Driving without payment of tax during this period will be dealt with as an omission to pay taxes.

(5) In the case of cars laid up the number plate and licence should be returned to the Traffic Department of the Bureau of Public Utilities or to the nearest Traffic Department within 5 days (The number plate and licence of mechanically operated vehicles should be returned to the General Traffic Department); failure to do so will be dealt with as per Article No. 6.

(6) The applicant must pay full tax whether the car is in use or not until the number plate and licence have been returned.

(7) Application must be made to the Bureau of Public Utilities for renewal of motor car licences on expiration of same. In cases where cars are not being used, the plate and licence must be returned within 5 days, after which period same will be treated as being lost.

(8) The Bureau of Public Utilities have the right to question the car owner or chauffeur at any time whilst driving on territory within their jurisdiction. He should comply with their requests.

Memo of Breach of Regulations.

Date ...........................................

Reason ........................................

Penalties ........................................

Art. 1. Motor vehicles as stated in the Rules include (a) Private Motor Cars (b) Private Lorries and Trucks (c) Public Motor Cars (d) Public Lorries and Trucks (e) Motor Cycles and Motor Cycle Vans, and vehicles which are mechanically driven, but exclude those driven by electricity, running on rails.

Art. 2. For offending one of the following Items, besides the car being forfeited, the owner will be prosecuted at law:

(1) Forging number plate and licence.
(2) Making steel licence plate secretly.

Art. 3. For offending one of the following Items a bond shall be paid of:

(a) $50.00
(b) $80.00
(c) $15.00, but at such time as application has been made to the Bureau of Public Utilities for registration and inspection and a number plate, and the tax and penalty have been paid to the Bureau of Finance for the licence, the bond will be returned.

(1) No number plate and licence.
   (a) Fine $20.00
   (b) $30.00
   (c) $8.00
(2) No number plate, licence and steel licence plate.
   (a) Fine $20.00
   (b) $30.00
(3) Borrowing number plate and licence from others.
   (a) Fine $24.00
   (b) $36.00
   (c) $10.00 and withdrawal of number plate and licence for cancellation.

Art. 4. For offending one of the following Items the car shall be detained or a bond be paid:

(a) $20.00
(b) $40.00
(c) $10.00
The car or bond will not be returned until the offence has been rectified and penalty paid:

(1) No number plate at front.
   (a) Fine $3.00
   (b) $4.50
   (c) $0.50
(2) No number plate front and rear.
   (a) Fine $4.00
   (b) $6.00
   (c) $0.50
(3) Failing to fix small number plate.
   (c) Fine $2.00
(4) Failure to carry driving licence.
   (a) (b) Fine $3.00
   (c) (d) " $4.50
   (e) " $1.00
(5) Front number plate not placed in proper position.
   (Front plate should be nailed in such a position on the car as to be fully seen and not covered nor
   attached on the slope or reversed).
   (a) (b) Fine $2.00
   (c) (d) " $3.00
   (e) " $0.30
(6) Rear plate not in a proper position (rear plate should
   be nailed in a fully exposed position on the car and
   a red lamp must be shown at night).
   (a) (b) Fine $3.00
   (c) (d) " $4.50
   (e) " $0.40
(7) Fixing the small number plate in an improper way
   (same should be nailed before the seat and is not
   permitted to be covered with anything).
   (c) Fine $1.50
(8) No red light at the rear number plate.
   (a) (b) Fine $2.50
   (c) (d) " $4.00
   (e) " $0.30
(9) Showing wrong number plate and licence (for wrong
   period).
   (a) (b) Fine $6.00
   (c) (d) " $8.00
   (e) " $2.00
(10) Number of Number plate not coinciding with that of
     Licence.
     (a) (b) Fine $6.00
     (c) (d) " $8.00
     (e) " $2.00
(11) The number of small licence plate not coinciding with
     that of Number plate or Licence.
     (b) Fine $6.00
     (d) " $8.00
     (e) " $2.00
(12) Taking passengers or loading cargo in a private
     vehicle.:
     (a) (b) Fine, equal to one seasons tax of Public
     Motor Car.
(13) Taking passengers in vehicle using a “Trade Licence”
     (a) (e) Fine, equal to one seasons tax of a
     Public Motor Car.
(14) Offenders failing to comply with punishment upon
     receipt of second notice.
     (a) (b) (c) (d) and (e) Fine $10.00

Art. 5. For offending one of the following Items a bond shall be paid.
   (a) (b) $20.00
   (c) (d) $40.00
   (e) $10.00
   The bond may be returned subject to penalties after appyling
   the Bureau of Public Utilities for the purpose
   of amending the offence.
   (1) Steel Plate not clear (if the steel plate is
defaced from decay or wear and tear the holder
   should apply to the Bureau of Public Utilities
   for a re-print of same).
       (b) Fine $2.00
       (d) " $3.00
   (2) Front number plate spoiled and no application
   made immediately for a new one.
       (a) (b) Fine $1.50
       (c) (d) " $2.00
       (e) " $0.20
   (3) Rear number plate spoiled and no application
   made immediately for changing to a new one.
       (a) (b) Fine $2.50
       (c) (d) " $3.50
       (e) " $0.30
   and must apply for a new plate.
   (4) Small number plate spoiled; no application
   made immediately for a new one.
       (c) Fine $1.00 and a new plate must be
       obtained.
   (5) Characters of licence not clear or spoiled, and
   application for new one not made immediately.
       (a) (b) Fine $1.00
       (c) (d) " $1.50
       (e) " $0.30
   and must change to new licence.
   (6) For falsely applying for a number plate and
   licence which has already been obtained but
   not returned.
       (a) (b) Fine $20.00
       (c) (d) " $30.00
       (e) " $3.00
   and await investigation of explanation. The
   applicant will be suitably dealt with if he has
   committed a malpractice.
   (7) For changing a car without reporting same.
       (a) (b) Fine $14.00
       (d) " $21.00
       (e) " $4.00
   Provided the degree of the new car is bigger
   than the original one the additional tax must
   be paid to the Bureau of Finance.
(8) For substituting a car without notice being given
   (a) (b) Fine $10.00
   (c) (d) " $15.00
   (e) " $20.00

(9) For transferring the name of licence holder without notice being given
   (a) (b) Fine $4.00
   (c) (d) " $6.00
   (e) " $1.00

(10) For changing car owner's address, altering licence and painting different color on the body of a car without reporting the matter to the Bureau of Public Utilities.
    (a) (b) Fine $2.00
    (c) (d) " $3.00
    (e) " $0.50

Art. 6. For offending the following:
(1) Passengers sitting in an improper place or overloading.
   (a) (b) Fine $4.00
   (c) (d) " $6.00

(2) Using an extraordinary horn.
   (a) (b) (c) (d) and (e) Fine $2.00 and such horn to be forfeited.

(3) No head light at night when car is driving.
   (a) (b) Fine $4.00
   (c) (d) " $6.00
   (e) " $1.00

(4) No light at rear of the car at night when it is driving.
   (a) (b) Fine $3.00
   (c) (d) " $4.50
   (e) " $0.50

(5) Disobeying the signs or indications of traffic communications.
   (a) (b) (c) (d) and (e) Fine $2.00

Art. 7. For offending any one of the following Items the number plate and licence will be temporarily withdrawn until the car or its accessories have been repaired and inspected by the Bureau of Public Utilities and same are in order.
(1) Body of the car is in a bad condition.
(2) Battery is not in perfect order, and causes the car to stop constantly.
(3) Brake is out of order.
(4) Wheels in a sloping and shaken condition.

Art. 8. If the above mentioned infringements are discovered and dealt with by the Bureau of Police they will issue a receipt; if discovered and dealt with by the Bureau of Public Utilities they will issue the receipt; in either case signed and sealed by the Directors of the Bureaux respectively.

Art. 9. If the car has been dealt with under Article 7 by the Bureau of Police or Bureau of Public Utilities and been issued with a document signed by the Directors of the Bureaux, it may be driven back to its original place or to the Works for repairing or to the Bureau of Public Utilities for re-inspection without further penalties, but same is not allowed to take any passengers or to load cargo.

Art. 10. If the car has been dealt with under the above mentioned penalties and discovered again at another place on the same day, besides Articles 2 and 6, further penalties are exempted, provided a receipt for the previous penalty or bond is shown.

Art. 11. If there are any other malpractices or breaches of traffic regulations which are not provided for in the Rules, they will be decided and dealt with by the Bureau of Public Utilities or Bureau of Police.

Art. 12. The Rules may be amended from time to time when same are deemed imperfect.

Art. 13. The Rules are to be in force on the date of promulgation by the Municipality of Greater Shanghai.
Art. 10. When the car-owner is changed, the Bureau of Public Utilities should be applied to for transfer to the name of the new car-owner.

The procedure of applying for transference and transfer fee to be provided for under separate rules.

Art. 11. The Bureau of Public Utilities should be notified of any change of the car-owner's address.

Art. 12. The mutual exchange or substitution of number plates and driving licences of different cars is not allowed.

Art. 13. The Bureau of Public utilities should not be wrongfully requested to grant inspection and registration of cars which have already been registered and qualified. If discovered, a penalty will be imposed, the amount of which to be provided for under separate rules.

Art. 14. Horns shall be fixed on motor cars and motor cycles, but extraordinary and unduly noisy horns are not permitted.

Art. 15. Bicycles shall be fixed with bells instead of horns.

Art. 16. All car-owners shall observe the regulations for vehicles and the rules and penalties for inspection of vehicles promulgated by the Bureau of Public Utilities.

Section III — Drivers of Vehicles.

Art. 17. Motor car chauffeurs, carriage mafos, handcart coolies, riksha pullers and any others used for driving vehicles are all named "vehicle drivers".

Art. 18. No person is allowed to drive a vehicle if any one of the following applies:

(a) Disease or disability which impairs one's ability to drive.

(b) Under the age of 17 or over 50 (no limitation for paid chauffeurs over 50 years old).

(c) Intoxication.

Art. 19. Motor car Chauffeurs and Motor Cycle Drivers should apply to the Bureau of Public Utilities for registration and examination; if qualified, drivers' licences will be issued. The procedure for applying for registration and examination to be provided for under separate rules.

Art. 20. Driver's licence should always be kept with the car in order that it may be inspected by the inspectors and police of the Bureaus of Public Utilities and Public Safety respectively.

Art. 21. If drivers find anything left in vehicles by passengers, same should be handed to the nearest police station for recognition and return to owner, and they must not conceal it.
Section IV — Driving.

Art. 22. Vehicles shall be driven in accordance with Articles as provided for under the Rules with the exception of Articles 5 and 6 of Rules for controlling of Roads promulgated by the Municipality of Greater Shanghai.

Art. 23. Drivers should notice the traffic signals and obey the police directions when driving.

Art. 24. The driving of cars on any road in excess of the standard of speed as fixed by the Bureau of Public Utilities is not permitted.

Art. 25. All vehicles must keep to the left side of the roadway; slow moving vehicles should keep close to the footpath, thus allowing faster moving traffic to pass on the off side.

Art. 26. Cars taking a left hand turn must do so as close to the footpath on their left as possible, or turning to the right must pass the central intersection of the road before turning, thus making a wide sweep and entering the cross road on its own left hand side.

Art. 27. Cars driven near bridges, road intersections or kerbs, must reduce their speed. If a traffic signal, “Stop”, is shown cars should be stopped immediately.

Art. 28. Cars driven near intersections of roads, congested streets or any other places where traffic should follow directly behind the preceding vehicle and they must not pass other cars travelling in the same direction.

Art. 29. Cars driven in narrow streets or near obstacles on the road should stop at an adjacent wide place, or drive back in order to let cars travelling in an opposite direction pass.

Art. 30. Of cars driven in the same direction, slow moving cars should let the faster ones proceed first.

Art. 31. When cars are driving in file, each car should keep a safe distance from the car in front.

Art. 32. Drivers desiring to overtake cars in front, travelling in the same direction, besides tramcars, must pass on right hand or off side of the vehicles they pass, and are not permitted to pass through without having a clear view ahead.

Art. 33. Vehicles are not allowed to pass tramcars on the left hand or near side at the time when passengers are boarding and alighting from the tramcars.

Art. 34. Drivers desiring to turn or reverse their vehicles should do so at a place where vehicles and pedestrians are not congested. In the case of a motor car, other vehicles in the vicinity must be warned by proper hand signals.

Art. 35. If vehicles pass through the intersection of a road, they must be driven on the left side of the position where the pointsman (if any) is stationed.

Art. 36. Vehicles are not permitted to drive abreast.

Art. 37. Two cars driven in opposite directions should keep a safe distance from each other.

Art. 38. Passengers are not allowed to board or alight from any vehicle whilst same is in motion.

Art. 39. Persons are not allowed to sit or hold on to an improper place in any vehicle in motion.

Art. 40. The following indications or signals should be given to other vehicles, pedestrians or constables of any manoeuvre which the driver of a motor vehicle may wish to make:

(a) I am about to stop! — Hold the arm up vertically, palm to the front.

(b) I am slowing down! — Stretch out the arm horizontally and move hand up and down.

(c) I am turning to the left! — For right hand driven cars the driver stretches out his arm horizontally to the side and moves it forward slowly; in the case of left hand drive, extends his arm out horizontally, palm facing front.

(d) I am turning to the right! — For right hand driven cars the driver extends his arm horizontally, palm facing front; in the case of left hand drive, extend arm horizontally to the side and move it forward slowly.

(e) I am going ahead! — Extend right arm in front vertically, palm facing to the left and move same forward; in the case of left hand drive extend left arm, palm facing the right.

(f) I want you to pass me! — Right (or left) hand drive must stretch out his right (or left) arm downwards and move it backwards and forwards.

Art. 41. Drivers shall warn pedestrians or vehicles by showing a hand signal or blowing a horn before any motor car is turned to the left or right or in passing the intersections of roads.

Art. 42. Loud noises and offensive smoke fumes from the exhaust are not permitted whilst driving on the roads.

Art. 43. Lights must be shown if a car is driven before sun rise and after sun set or during the time of fog. Motor vehicles must be fitted with side lamps (small power lights) and head lamps (high power lights) at the front, and a red lamp shining white towards the number plate, at the rear. No head lamps are permitted to be turned on in congested areas.

Art. 44. Vehicle horns and bells should not be blown or rung continuously except in time of necessity.

Art. 45. Vehicles are not allowed to drive along the roads by using the tram tracks.

Art. 46. One trailer only is permitted if required.

Art. 47. Fire Engines, Ambulances, and Electric Repairing Cars have right of way when proceeding on duties of emergency, and other vehicles should be slowed down or stopped by warning.
Section X — Penalties.

Art. 78. Persons who infringe the various Articles of these Rules shall pay monetary penalties, and be dealt with separately if the infringements are more serious.

Art. 79. Officials dealt with under the above Article, besides monetary penalties, are to be dealt with also according to their positions.

Section XI — Appendix.

Art. 80. The Rules may be amended from time to time provided same are found to be imperfect.

Art. 81. The Rules to be operative on the day of promulgation.