

OFFICE OF COMMERCIAL ATTACHÉ
PEKING, CHINA

March 23, 1922.
File 531.

U.S. D.C.	2 MAY 1922	7 7712
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Director,
Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce,
Washington.

Subject: Census of Motor Cars in China.

Sir:

Mr. Don D. Patterson of the "Weekly Review of the Far East" has with the aid of this office and the various consular offices in China compiled a list, which is in the way of an estimate of the number of passenger cars, motor buses, trucks, trailers, and motor cycles now in use in China. Where registrations have been available these have been given, but in some localities where there is no registration of motor cars it has been necessary to make estimates. The figures are given on an attached memorandum showing that there are approximately 6866 passenger cars, 55 motor buses, 437 trucks, 50 trailers, and 792 motor cycles, a total of 8150 automotive vehicles in use in China.

It is my opinion that these figures are about as accurate as can be procured. There is no data, and it is very difficult to secure data concerning the makes of the different cars, or what portion America or other nations represent in this trade, except by the Maritime Customs Trade Returns, which year by year show the importation of motor vehicles into China from the United States, to be as follows:

1918	.....	Hankwan Taels	641,346	-	47%	of total imported
1919	.....	"	1,404,388	-	59%	" " "
1920	.....	"	2,191,664	-	57%	" " "

Figures for 1921 are not yet available, but it is believed that they will run well over the 1920 figures.

Very truly yours,

Julian Arnold
(JULEAN ARNOLD)
Commercial Attache.

C/B

Inclosure 13860

Copy to 19

2 MAY 1922

FOREIGN SERVICE

MAY 1922

FOREIGN SERVICE

TRADE COMMISSIONER

3 CANTON ROAD
SHANGHAI, CHINABUREAU OF
FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC COMMERCEMotor Car Census of China.

FILE NO.

China

SHANGHAI

March 30, 1922.
File 531RECEIVED
FILES SECTION

JAN 17 1922

Subject: Report on Automobiles and the Year Book of
"Passenger and Motor". Trucks Trailers Cycles
Cars Buses

City

Director,

Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce,

Canton

Washington.

18

1

18

Changchun

B. F. D. C.

1 MAY 1922

7

28

2

Changsha

7

12

3

Dairen

150

50

40

Foochow

Mr. Bateldor's letter of January 31, file #19,

Hankow the question of automobile report by Mr. Hart of the 1

32

Hongkongish Consulate at hand. We have already sent in a

189

Kalgan report on the Shanghai automobile situation and while we

Mukden our figures are very accurate, inasmuch as they were

6

Nanking piled after considerable investigation, he will endeavor

2

Nantongchow in a copy of Mr. Hart's photograph. 1

Nouchwang

9

Peking

We are attaching herewith an estimate which we

35

Shanghai very accurate of the motor population of China. 120

350

Tientsin supplement report which we have already submitted

8

Tsinan Shanghai make for the attention of the "Automotive

8

Tsingtao

36

4

5

Scattered Island

Cities and Points 40 and the purchase by the Bureau of the

5

"China and Far Eastern Finance and Commerce" Yearbook, is

Total estimate but Max. 6566 and is practically as accurate, 50

792

far as the Bureau's standpoint goes, as the Manual which

Grand Total, Automotive Vehicles -- 8150.

Very truly yours,

LAWRENCE W. HOTT
Trade Commissioner.

H/S

Copy to 19

MOTOR CARS IN CHINA

Shanghai 4000
Peking 1200
Tientsin 1800
Hongkong & Canton 2000
Hankow 200

9200 (About 12% are trucks)

Sir:

ROADS

2050 miles (unsurfaced but good for motors)
2000 " (under construction since 1920)
8000 " (projected since 1920)

If the Bureau can furnish us with more details regarding this supposed report, we shall be glad to make further efforts to locate it.

Very truly yours,

ALFRED V. HART
Trade Commissioner.

We have already covered the situation and given you accurate figures on the motor population.