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Trade Promotion Series 
Dhananjayrao Gadgil Library
GIPE-PUNE-045589

MOTOR VEHICLE REGULATIONS AND TAXATION IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES



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FOREWORD

Exports of American automotive products reached a total valuation of \$563,853,995 in 1929, an increase of 8 per cent over 1928, and represented approximately 10 per cent of the United States production.

In view of the importance of these exports, the regulations and internal taxation on motor vehicles in foreign countries, in so far as they tend to restrict sales of American automotive products abroad, are of vital interest to the American automotive industry. Construction requirements throughout the world are generally met by standard American vehicles, but the problem of local taxation is more difficult. This is particularly true in the case of taxation based on horsepower and weight, the American automobile having a much greater horsepower rating and weight than European vehicles in its price class.

A questionnaire was sent to foreign representatives of the Departments of State and Commerce a few years ago on the subject of automotive regulations and taxation, and the information contained in the replies was published early in 1927 as Trade Information Bulletin No. 463. Since that time so many requests have been received for a revision that another questionnaire was sent out; this publication includes the information secured.

While an endeavor has been made to make this publication as nearly complete as possible, it was found impossible to publish all the information secured. It is suggested that American exporters make specific request of the automotive division of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce for further data on the countries in which they are most interested.

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OCTOBER, 1930.