

AMONG THE AUTOMOBILISTS.

COL. FOWLER'S REPORT OF IMPORTATIONS OF CARS. Gathering in of Stray Autos Added to Duties of White Wings—Chairman Morrell Has New Idea of Keeping Track of Contestants in Tours.

Col. E. S. Fowler, appraiser of the Port, yesterday gave out a statement of duty on the importation of 107 automobiles, including eight domestic cars, of the total appraised value of \$379,881.25, were imported in July, 1906, compared with ninety-eight cars, valued at \$437,700, during the corresponding month of 1905.

The lack of gathering in stray automobiles has added to the duties of New York's army of white wings. Capt. Gibson, deputy commander in chief, sent word out yesterday in the form of Special Order No. 71 instructing the motor of duty to be treated as incursions and removed to one of the three municipal incursion yards. The order was aimed especially at cases for the motor of duty, in which a practice of leaving cars standing on the street for hours or of backing machines up against the curbstone white repairs were being made.

The deputy commissioner said that in addition to blocking the streets needlessly the two prevalent practices of allowing cars to stand for hours resulted in pools of lubricating oil and grease on the streets, and that no one could walk on the pavement without smearing clothes with the grease. The division heads were told to notify all the garage and repair men in their districts before the motor of duty is ordered. So far three cars have been gathered in, of which one is still in the incursion yard on West Fifty-sixth street.

One of the machines was returned to its owner without cost, as the motor of duty belonging to a woman who had left it in front of a residence where she was making a call. The other car was one which had been left unguarded repeatedly, and the owner was assessed \$25 to compensate the city for the trouble it had been put to. He got it for \$4, though, because he said that it was all the money he had with him.

Robert Lee Morrell, chairman of the good roads committee of the New York State Automobile Association and former head of the A. A. A. racing board, yesterday made a new suggestion for the motor of duty, and in keeping track of competing cars in such contests as the Glidden tour. His plan would be to have as many numbered flags as there were competing cars in the contest. The first car out every morning would be given a flag, which would be followed in order each day by cars carrying the numbered flag, No. 1 being first and the others following in order. None of the competing cars would be allowed to use the flag, unless a leading car was overtaken by misfortune of any kind. Then, for in front of the trouble, the motor of duty would carry flag No. 1, the car carrying flag No. 2 would exchange flags when it overtook the disabled competitor. This procedure could be continued indefinitely until the trouble was remedied, when the car that started out with the motor of duty flag might continue on its way carrying flag No. 33 or whatever flag the car was able to assume its journey.

If an accident happened to the car in which the officials started out, one of them might be transferred to the first car that came along, which thereafter would carry the official car for the remainder of the day's run and also keep its place as a contestant. The trouble would be alleviated to some extent made up at the beginning and ending of each day's run of the flags carried by each car, and it is Mr. Morrell's hope that the scoring of a large number of cars would be simplified by a car on which repaired repairs have been made should be permitted to keep an equal score with the motor of duty car, with no repairs or adjustments had been necessary.

It is the opinion of the committee that a good plan to run next year's contest for the Glidden trophy over the route of the proposed highway between New York and Albany, which would give a journey of about 1,000 miles. Mr. Morrell favors this route for the reason that it would have a tendency to encourage in the proposed highway, and in this account would serve the double purpose of being a road and a source of revenue. The route would also have the advantage of touching a sufficient number of points in the State so that the motor of duty would be able to accommodate the tourists at the night stops would not be a complete problem. Another advantage would be that storage facilities would be comparatively easy to secure.

Jefferson De Mont Thompson, chairman of the trophies shot for in the open matches, Association, is expected to return to this city about August 8, bringing further news regarding the entry of foreign cars in the Vanderbilt cup race.

STATE MATCHES AT CREEDMOOR. Programme for the Three Days Shooting on the Ranges. CREEDMOOR, N. Y., Aug. 1.—With twenty-four hours welcome break in the work on the State range, the gentlemen and naval officers of New York State will be on edge to-morrow for the curtain raiser in the three day State rifle matches. These matches are of greater interest to the guardians than the open matches, just finished, and are expected to be the most successful of the Seventy-first captured every team match in the open meet in which the navy, marines and New Jersey teams competed, but the Seventh carried off the regimental honors.

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