

Inspector Finds Autos Increase By 58 Per Cent

Wheelage Tax Records Show Duluth's Gain Since War Ended.

THE actual number of licensed automobiles used on the streets of Duluth so far this year shows an increase of 58 per cent over 1918, according to records of Morris J. Segal, city license inspector. In 1918 there were 2,944 automobiles that paid the wheelage tax, so far this year there are already 4,650. The number may reach 4,800 by Dec. 31, according to Mr. Segal.

The number of automobiles on the Duluth streets has more than trebled since 1915. Collections from the wheelage tax have increased from \$20,498 in 1915 to \$58,000 thus far in 1919.

In 1916 1,659 automobiles were taxed, and 2,258 in 1917.

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LARGE INCREASE SHOWN IN DULUTH'S AUTO TOTAL

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"More people own automobiles and people are running their automobiles more frequently," Mr. Segal said. "In 1918 quite a number of cars were not used, as a war conservation measure. They are all out, all that are able to be out, this year.

"People learned to save money during the war. They bought Liberty bonds. Now these Liberty bonds are turning into automobiles and fur

coats. That's why so many people who never before owned automobiles came out with new cars this year."

Motorcycles show little or no gain, according to Mr. Segal's figures on vehicles on the streets of Duluth. There were 45 taxed in 1918, and 48 so far this year. The report also shows that horses are being literally driven off the street, a decrease of several score being recorded in all classes of wagons. There are less than 1,000 horse drawn vehicles taxed in the entire city.

Another vehicle that is becoming less common, according to Mr. Segal, is the baby carriage. He hasn't caught one this year to plant his yellow tag on.