

during the last semi-annual inspection period, 1st July, 1938, to 31st December, 1938, as compared with the first period 1st January, 1937, to 30th June, 1937, when these vehicles were first brought under the Transport Licensing Act.

Period.	Brakes.		Lights.		Steering.	Wind-screen-wiper.	Rear-vision Mirror.	Warning-device.	Door-fastenings.
	Foot.	Hand.	Head.	Tail.					
	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
1/1/37 to 30/6/37	16	17	9	28	30	18	20	7	6
1/7/38 to 31/12/38 ..	12	11·2	10·2	18	22·8	4	6·7	5·1	1·8

(3) *Other Vehicles*.—A system of compulsory semi-annual inspection of all motor-vehicles other than those under (1) and (2) was introduced into the Dominion during the year 1937, and this inspection is in the main being executed by 1,435 approved motor garages. At the onset an understanding was given that at the expiry of two years the city authorities where the population exceeds 20,000, or where the number of registered vehicles exceeds 4,000, that had the necessary facilities to undertake all the inspection work in their areas would be made the sole examining authorities in those areas.

Some of the larger cities have already made, or are making, arrangements to install special equipment which will enable them to deal satisfactorily with the inspection of all vehicles in their areas.

The inspection of a motor-vehicle for a Warrant of Fitness involves a check of brakes, lights, steering, wheel-alignment, windscreen-wiper, rear-vision mirror, warning-device, and door-fastenings.

The following gives the number of warrants issued to motor-vehicles and the percentage “correct in every detail” for each period since the regulation has been in force :—

Period ending						No. of Warrants issued.	Percentage Correct in every Detail.
September, 1937	..	..	..	..	..	178,354	21
March, 1938	..	..	..	..	..	188,711	45
September, 1938	..	..	..	..	..	198,482	53
March, 1939	..	..	..	..	..	204,892	55

The following table gives the percentages of defects as revealed by the inspections:

Period.		Brakes.		Lights.		Steering.	Wind-screen-wiper.	Rear-vision Mirror.	Warning-device.	Door-fastenings.
		Foot.	Hand.	Head.	Tail.					
		Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
1937.										
1st ..	..	30	28	70	17	16	17	6	4	3
2nd ..	..	21	19	33	10	10	7	2	3	2
1938.										
1st ..	..	21	23	23	9	8	6	1·5	3	1·5
2nd ..	..	24	23	19	9	9	5	1·5	3	1·5

From a perusal of these figures it is evident that almost every detail involved in the inspection has shown an improvement during the various six-monthly periods, but the figures also indicate the necessity for the test being conducted periodically.

The inspection of motor-cycles for a Warrant of Fitness includes a check of brakes, lights, steering-gear, silencer, foot-rests, and warning-device.

The following gives the percentage of defects revealed by the inspection of motor-cycles :—

Period.		Brakes.	Lights.		Steering, &c.	Silencer.	Foot-rests.	Warning-device.
			Head.	Tail.				
		Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
1937.								
First ..	..	9	29	20	3	8	3	9
Second ..	..	6	15	13	1	3	2	4
1938.								
First ..	..	5	12	11	2	2·5	2	4
Second ..	..	4	9	9	1	2	1·5	4

It may be stated that the manner in which the motoring public has co-operated with the Government in the policy of regular vehicle inspection indicates that it is fully appreciative of the efforts being made to reduce road accidents to a minimum.