

Traffic Tickets 'Unfixable' In New York

By SAUL PETT

NEW YORK—John M. Murtagh, New York city's chief magistrate, has nothing personal against motorists who think they can fix or ignore traffic tickets.

He just wants to make their lives as miserable as possible, and thinks other cities ought to spread this type of misery. He has been conducting a continuous crusade on the matter in New York.

Murtagh fined one trucking firm a record-breaking \$4,700 for ignoring 467 parking summonses. He fined one individual \$2,200 and sentenced him to 30 days for trying to forget about 84 traffic tickets. The judge also had used his influence to go across state lines to get the licences of out-of-state violators revoked.

The guy who tries to fix or forget a traffic ticket, Judge Murtagh thinks, is normal except for a few conceits.

"He has to think of himself above the common herd," the judge says. "He is too proud to submit to authority. His vanity demands special consideration."

He is humiliated by paying a fine like anybody else.

With strait-laced judges and a complicated mechanical brain for processing tickets, Murtagh believes the fix is virtually impossible in New York city.

The mechanical brain consists of 39 machines rented by the city for \$80,000 a year from International Machines, Inc. Judge Murtagh says New York is the only city in the United States using these machines.

New York issues more than 1,000,000 traffic summonses a year. In the last month, revenue from fines was \$60,000 higher than it was in the same month last year. Since the machines were installed early in 1950, the number of traffic violators who ignored summonses has dropped from 15 to 5 per cent.

Here's how it works:

A cop on the beat gives out a traffic ticket, on which there are two stubs. He keeps one, and turns the other into his precinct house. The precinct forwards the stub and the officer's affidavit to the Traffic-Summons Control Bureau by the next morning.

There the machines record, reproduce, and collate with other past offenses, the name and address of the violator, date of the offense, license number, summons number, precinct involved, make of car and badge number of the ticket-issuing patrolman. The machines also automatically assign the case to a traffic court docket and later record in detail each disposition.

The machines handle about 5,500 tickets a day and, among

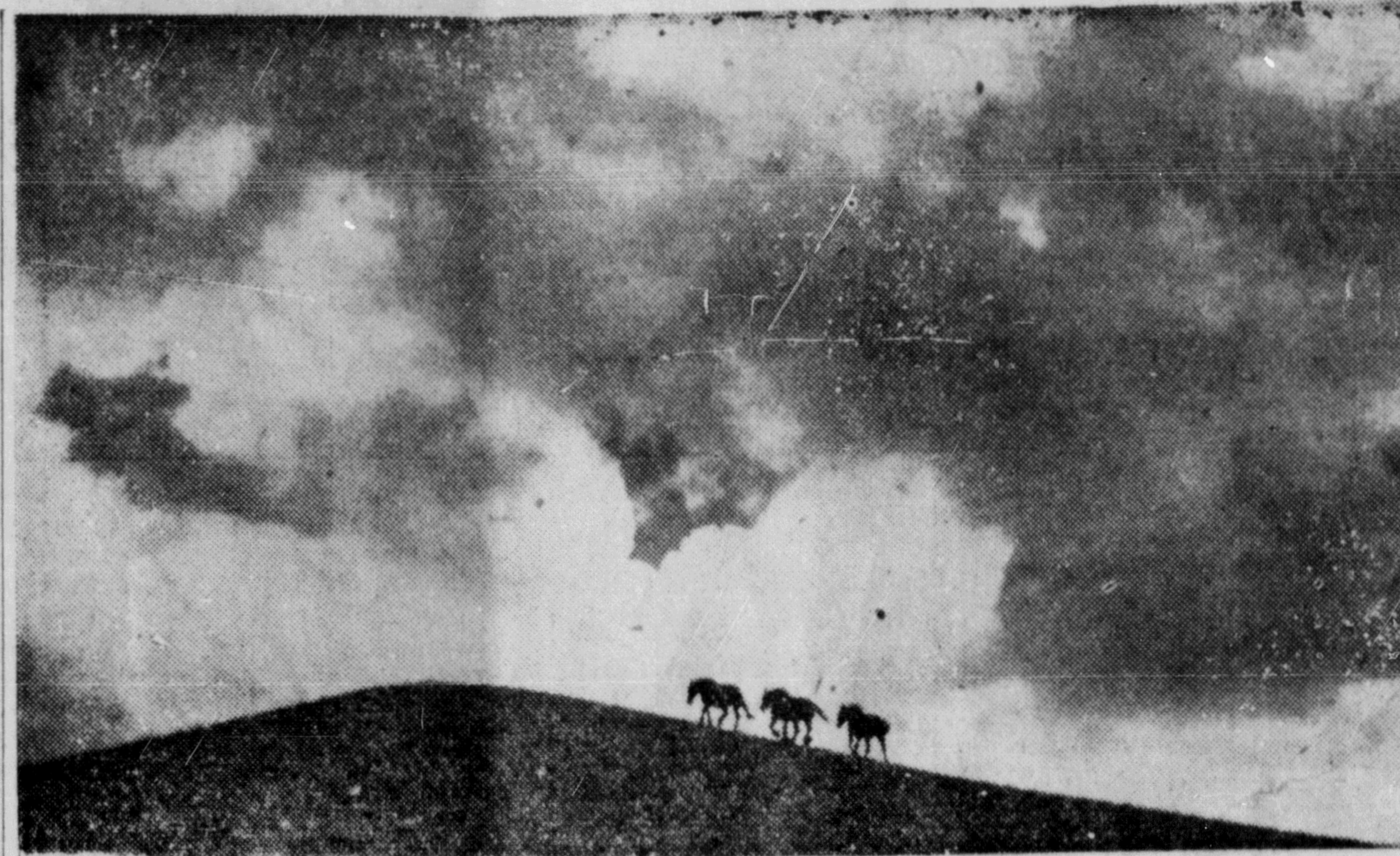
other things, put the finger on missing summonses (all tickets carried by policemen are consecutively numbered), altered license numbers on tickets and judges with a tendency toward passing too many suspended sentences.

Today's Stocks

(Courtesy S. D. Johnston Co. Ltd.)

VANCOUVER	
American Standard	.18
Bralorne	6.40
B R X	.04 1/2
Congress	.07
Cronin Babine	.36
Giant Mascot	.90
Indian Mines	.16
Pioneer	2.02
Premier Border	.24 1/2
Privateer	.06 1/2
Reeves MacDonald	4.00
Reno	.04
Sheep Creek	1.40
Silbak Premier	.50
Taku River	.07
Vananda	.03 1/4
Salmon Gold	.03
Spud Valley	.04 1/2
Silver Standard	2.12
Western Uranium	4.05
Oils	
Anglo Canadian	7.60
A P Con.	.48
Calmont	1.70
Home Oil	13.50
Mercury	.25
Okalta	4.00
oyal Canadian	.20
TORONTO	
Athona	.11 1/4
Aumaque	.17
Bevcourt	1.14
Buffalo Canadian	.22 1/2
Consol. Smelters	36.75
Conwest	3.75
Eldona	.18 3/8
East Sullivan	8.30
Giant Yellowknife	10.00
God's Lake	.47
Hardrock	.12
Harriena	.09
Heva	.10 1/2
Duvex	.80
Joliet Quebec	.40
Little Long Lac	.68
Lynx	.15
Madsen Red Lake	1.85
McLeod Cockshutt	.41
McKenzie Red Lake	3.70
Moneta	.37
Negus	.45
Noranda	78.50
Louvicourt	22 1/2
Pickie Crow	1.58
Petrol Oil & Gas	1.11
Senator Rouyn	.15
Sherrit Gordon	4.35
Steep Rock	6.50
Silver Miller	1.85
Upper Canada	1.81
Golden Manitou	6.35

HIGH RATIO
Apartments and flats constitute up to 56 per cent of all Quebec dwellings.



GATHERING STORM—Silhouetted against a sky darkened by gathering thunder clouds, three horses plod homewards to a farm near Yorkton, Sask., in this striking photo. (CP PHOTO)



DARING RESCUE—Three members of a rescue party pause for a rest on the steep, snow-covered mountain as they bring injured Ken Northcote of Mission, B.C., on a stretcher to a waiting United States Coast Guard helicopter, Northcote, on a government mapping survey when he fell down a cliff, suffered bone fractures and a punctured lung. (CP PHOTO)

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CANADIAN NATIONAL

Minister, Secretary Both Familiar With Newspapers; One as Censor

Canada's Minister of Resources and Development, Hon. Robert H. Winters, who is co-ordinator for innumerable government departments, is a newspaperman in his "spare" time.

A director of the Lunenburg Progress-Enterprise, weekly paper in his home town, Mr. Winters writes a weekly column but otherwise has little to do with the paper's operation.

His private secretary, R. L. (Bob) Elliott is also known to Canadian newspapermen and especially those who served as correspondents in the last war. Mr. Elliott was one of those men reporters tried to trip. He was a press censor.

Builds Seismograph Least Sun From Odds and Ends Record Here Last Month

HAMILTON, Ont. (CP)—Want to know about earthquakes? Edward Mantle maintains that all you need is an alarm-clock, an old watch, a mirror from a woman's compact, two dry-cell batteries, a phonograph needle and a few other odds and ends.

Mr. Mantle is one of Canada's few amateur seismologists. So successful has he been that his records of major earthquakes have received official recognition by the Dominion Observatory at Ottawa.

A tool-maker at the Steel Company of Canada, Mr. Mantle first restricted his interest in earthquakes to reading books. In 1935, at the time of the Timiskaming earthquake, he decided to play an active role.

He admits that his first efforts to build a seismograph were rather crude and none too sensitive. Then he visited the meteorological bureau at Toronto and got some advice about how to improve his home-made instrument.

The seismograph now has a permanent place in a nook behind his furnace, just between the furnace-pipes and coal bin. For 24 hours it ticks away, keeping a permanent record on a piece of photographic paper.

It was cold, dull and damp June, according to the meteorological report and the sun shined for only 72 hours—lowest record.

The weather office said that inches of rain fell over this last month and the warmest was on June 17 when the mercury rose to 63.4 degrees. Hottest day the previous month was also on the 17th, when the temperature rose to 68.7 degrees.

The sunshine figure of 72 compares with 173 hours of sun in June, 1951, although there were 3.61 inches of rain in June last year.

Mean temperature last month was 49 degrees and, the report says, there were 16 days of measurable precipitation. Coldest day was on June 7 when the mercury dropped to 39.8 degrees.

EXPECTING GUESTS
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Negro Blue Singers Rated Tops

By JAMES BACON

HOLLYWOOD—Ethel Waters, a gal who should know, says there are only two white singers who could cross tonisls with negro blues singers.

Miss Waters picked Ella Mae Morse and Mel Torme as the two who come closest to threatening the negro blues monopoly.

"I don't know what it is they've got," she added, "but my ear tells me they've got it."

"All your girl singers today try to copy Ella Fitzgerald, but they can't do it," said Ethel. "The negro feels the blues differently than the white person."

TRUE BLUE LOVE

Although Ethel is recognized as one of the top dramatic actresses on Broadway, she apparently considers singing her great love.

"It's my bread and butter," she commented.

Currently her non-singing talents are earning her enough Hollywood money to buy cake. She is out here for the movie version of her Broadway hit, "Member of the Wedding."

Singing, however, is where she made her first fame. She was the first of her sex ever to sing "St. Louis Blues," and she also introduced the old time hit "Dinah." In the talkies' first technicolor musical she sang "Am I Blue," still a classic on her recording.

She rates the late Bessie Smith and Ma Rainey among the greatest of the negro blues singers.

"I never sang the blues like they did. I didn't have a loud enough voice."

Then, glancing down at her buxom figure, she smiled: "Of course, in those days I had a good shape. They used to call me 'Long Goodie.'" That, she explained, referred to her then-slender figure.

CAPSULE REVIEW

"The Quiet Man" is John Ford's best picture since "The Informer," but much, much funnier. Best scene: John Wayne and Victor McLaglen stage a real knock-down, drag-out fight across the Irish countryside, finally land in front of a pub. Time out is taken while the participants take a friendly drink and then resume the fight.

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Bank Awards Contract For New Building

TERRACE.—Contract has been awarded by the Bank of Montreal for erection of a two-storey building to house its new branch here.

Designed to meet growing banking needs of the district, the new building will be located on the west side of Kalum Street between Lazelle and Lakelse Avenues, according to a bank announcement. Northwest Construction Ltd. of Prince Rupert are contractors.

Construction, under direction of architects Sharp and Thompson, Berwick, Pratt, is expected to be completed in six months.

Bank of Montreal recently opened a branch in Kitimat which is operating full time with a staff of three.

Two other banks in Terrace now are the Royal Bank and the Bank of Nova Scotia.

Runs Private Zoo In Bushland Area

SHARBOT LAKE, Ont. (CP)—Where do a deer's horns go after they are shed? Just ask Joe Vinkle.

Joe operates a gas station and lunch room in the lonely northern bushland of the Rideau Lakes, but his main interest is his little private zoo.

On his half-acre of land Joe has 13 deer and five fawns; two bear cubs, Henry and Harry, a peacock; a 50-pound beaver, and a monkey. Each presents a new problem in care and feeding.

Each evening Joe spends an hour cutting fresh brush for his deer herd. He explains: "They need fresh elm leaves in their diet, or they will get mangy and sickly. That is why animals seen in city zoos lose the wild sheen in their coats."

The bear cubs are being brought up on the bottle. Harry is ticklish and has a tarry. Henry is quiet.

The peacock enjoys riding in the back seat of Joe's car.

The beaver lives in the same hut with the peacock all winter. Joe says they got along fine because "a beaver won't attack anything, not even an insect or a mouse."

The monkey is a woman-hater. She chatters angrily whenever a woman approaches.

Oh yes, about those deer horns. Joe claims porcupines eat them. "In one day flat, a porcupine can grind up the horn of a two-year-old buck."



QUEBEC PREMIER—Premier Maurice L. Duplessis, leader of the governing Union Nationale party and a member of the Quebec Legislature for 25 years for his home-town constituency of Three Rivers, sees his third straight mandate in the provincial elections July 16. The 62-year-old veteran of Quebec politics has been leading the Union Nationale since Conservatives, dissatisfied Liberals and Nationalists merged in 1936. (CP PHOTO)

PURSE STRINGS

Canada's per capital expenditure on household operation in 1951 was \$111.

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