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STRATTON'S REPORT
PROSPERITY BOOST

Secretary of State Sees Good
Prospects As Indicated By
Present Conditions

Prosperity of the business institu-
tions of the State is reflected in the
reports of the various departments
of Secretary of State William J. Strat-
ton's office for the first four months
of the year.

Every department shows a sub-
stantial increase both as to the
amount of business transacted and
fees collected over the same period
of the year. Notwithstanding this in-
creased activity, the business in the
office was transacted with the same
dispatch that prevailed under former
secretary of state Louis I. Emmers-
on.

The total increase in fees for the
first four months of 1929 over that
period of 1928 is \$1,741,186.41.

Auto Fees Largest

Of this increase the automobile de-
partment supplies the major portion
or \$1,567,161.63 while \$174,004.78 is
credited to the corporation, executive,
index and securities departments.

The large increase in the automo-
bile department results from a reg-
istration of 1,170,033 passenger cars
and 168,885 trucks as compared with
1,059,931 passenger cars and 153,845
trucks in the first four months of
last year. In the period recorded the
secretary of state has collected \$14,-
444,819.86 in motor license fees alone
as compared with \$12,902,447.33 in
1928.

All of the funds collected by the
automobile department are paid by
Secretary of State Stratton directly
into the road fund in the state treas-
urer's office and can be expended by
the legislature only for road work.
Estimating the automobile depart-
ment this year will collect \$15,000,-
000 and the average cost per mile of
hard road at \$30,000 a mile, the col-
lections from this one department of
the secretary's office would build 500
miles of pavement.

Healthy Business Condition

A healthy business condition also
is indicated in the report of the cor-
poration department. In the first
four months of 1928 the secretary
of state issued articles of incorpora-
tion to 2184 domestic corporations
and licensed 269 foreign concerns as
compared with 2470 domestic con-
cerns and 316 foreign companies au-
thorized to transact business in the
same period this year.

Seeking County Share
of Paved Road Refund

R. M. Lobdell, county superintend-
ent of highways has enlisted the aid
of Senator Ray Paddock and Repre-
sentatives Richard Lyons and Lee Mc-
Donough to have Governor Emmers-
on secure at once part payment on
the \$650,000 owed Lake county by
the state for paved roads built and
turned over to the state.

Lobdell and a delegation of super-
visors recently called on Governor
Emmerson and secured his promise
of at least part payment in the near
future of the \$650,000. The highway
superintendent has hopes of having
the money paid to the county before
June 1, so it can be used on this year's
paving program.

The governor promised to send
definite word as to the amount Lake
county will receive by the middle of
this month so that the paving pro-
gram can be adjusted to meet finan-
cial conditions. Word has not yet
been received from the state execu-
tive but Lobdell expects to receive
word from him shortly.

Passenger business on the rail-
roads continues to fall off, but any-
way the railroads running down to
Washington must get a lot of business
from office seekers.

"She's just buried her fourth hus-
band, hasn't she?"
"Divorced, my dear, not buried—
she never makes any bones about
these things."

Congress should not try to solve
all the problems of the country at
the present session, but leave a few
for next winter's meeting.

It is claimed the country has many
unsung heroes, but some alleged her-
oes would sing about themselves if
anyone would listen.

Father: "Why were you kept in
at school?"
Son: "I didn't know where the
Azores were."
"In future just remember where you
put things."

The sight of the trained wild ani-
mals of the circus, should encourage
us to try to control the boys in our
homes.

Spring weather has been called
very slow in coming this year, but
anyway we all get our bills on time.

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