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REPORT SHOWS TOTAL OF AUTOS LICENSED

More Than One Million and Six Hundred Thousand in Illinois in 1929

Registration of automobiles in Illinois in 1929 increased at the rate of one every four minutes according to the annual figures of the automobile department of Secretary of State William J. Straton's office.

In announcing the figures Secretary of State Stratton disclosed that the total registration of pleasure cars and trucks in 1929 was 1,615,057 as compared with 1,504,359 in 1928, an increase of 110,698 cars.

The total fees collected by the automobile department of the office in the last 12 months was \$17,086,547.11 as compared with \$15,521,529 collected in 1928. The amount of the increase aggregates \$1,545,017.23.

Pleasure car registration totalled 1,410,883 and trucks 204,174 in 1929. The pleasure car increase over 1928 was 96,880 and the truck increase was 13,818.

Commenting on the annual figures, Secretary of State Stratton said: More in 1930

"Despite this increase of over 110, 000 automobiles in 1929 we are looking forward to an even greater increase in 1930 as there is no indication we are anywhere near the saturation point.

"The increase in the number of automatical and the state of the congestion with its element of danger. I am using every possible opportunity to call attention of the public to the rules for safety. Only by impressing upon the individual driver the necessity for strict compliance with the traffic laws can we hope to reduce the number of fatalities.

"Adoption of the \$100,000,000 bond issue, passage of the state gasoline tax law and increases in the amount of fees collected by this office have added thousands of miles of hard road to the Illinois system.

"Consequently, for years to come the annual report of automobile progress in Illinois will be;

"More cars, more roads, more necessity for careful driving."

Stratton Optimistic as New Year Begins

Illinois business men as a class close their books for 1929 with a feeling of satisfaction and look forward to 1930 with anticipation of another good year, says a statement issued from the office of Secretary of State Wm. J. Stratton, Jan. 1.

Industries of the state are flourishing and expanding and unemployment is being reduced to the minimum.

Evidence of the general prosperity of the whole people of the state is indicated by the sale in 1929 of 1,615,-057 automobile license plates by the automobile department of my office.

The fact that domestic and foreign corporations doing business in Illinois paid the corporation department of this office a total of \$3,959,654.83 in fees last year is expressive of the optimistic attitude which the financial institutions have toward the new year.

The year just ended has been a good one and 1930 begins auspicious-ly.

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