

AUTO LICENSE FEES SOON 25 MILLIONS

Secy. of State's Office Sees This Total as Result of Rapid Increase

With the constant increase in the number of automobiles in the state, the secretary of state's office is fast approaching the time when it will collect and turn into the state treasury, twenty-five million dollars each year, says a report from Springfield.

Fees collected by the various departments of Secretary of State William J. Stratton's office in the first three months of this year exceeded those collected in the same period of 1929 by \$1,805,779.54.

The automobile department leads all others with a total for January, February, and March of \$15,361,214.54 as compared with \$13,555,355 collected in the first three months of 1929. The collections of the other departments aggregated \$374,714.24.

Sales Increase

Records of the automobile department show that Illinois motorists purchased 103,485 more license plates in the first three months of this year than were bought in the same period last year. The passenger car total to date is 1,151,076. The truck total is 164,218. The increase in passenger cars in 92,076 and in trucks 11,409. Trailers showed an increase of 1,096 in the same period.

Last year's collections by the automobile department exceeded \$17,000,000 and if the automobile registrations for the rest of the year is proportionate, the fees collected by this department alone for 1930 will approach \$20,000,000. The corporation department last year collected over \$4,100,000 and indications point to an increase in this department this year to \$4,500,000.

The collections of the automobile department under the law must be expended solely for road work. Other collections go into the general revenue fund and reduce the amount necessary to be raised by direct taxation.

Rebuilding of South Pier at Waukegan to Be Resumed Next Month

Rebuilding of the portion of the south government pier in the Waukegan harbor which was partially completed last year, will be resumed about May 1st, according to Major H. J. Wild of the district office of the United States Engineering department in Chicago, and indications are that I. D. Lain, Waukegan contractor, will do the work.

The south pier, about a half mile in length, was rebuilt with a concrete base from the point reaching out into the lake, into the bend about half way to shore, by the Carson Engineering Co. last year, and the present plan is to fill in with a concrete base from the shore out to the bend in the pier, to connect with the new work done last year.

Lain was the only local bidder after the job and with five other contractors, submitted their estimates of the cost of construction. Major Wild said that the Lain bid was low at approximately \$7,500.00 and indica-

tions are that they will be awarded the contract.

Waukegan's three hospitals, the Victory Memorial, St. Therese and the Lake County General, were given an honorary endorsement as superior hospitals at the meeting of the National Hospital Council held in Baltimore, Md., last week.

A doctor predicts that in 50 years all men will be bald. But they will still be buying hair tonic from bald-headed barbers.

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