

Fifteenth Annual Report

OF THE

Commissioner of Motor Vehicles

TO THE

Legislature of the State of New Jersey

FOR THE YEAR

One thousand nine hundred and twenty

TRENTON, N. J.

MACCRELLISH & QUIGLEY CO., STATE PRINTERS.

1921

REPORT.

To the Legislature of the State of New Jersey:

GENTLEMEN—I have the honor to submit herewith the fifteenth annual report of the Department of Motor Vehicles for the year ending December 31, 1920, as required by Section 12 of Chapter 113, P. L. 1906.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

COLLECTION ACCOUNTS.

Paid State Treasurer,	\$3,441,770	32
Cash on hand December 31, 1920,	703,152	47
Commission of agents,	62,166	44
Due from banks,	1,371,441	23
	<u>\$5,578,530</u>	46
Agents' bank balances,	\$1,371,441	23
Collections, December 1, 1919, to December 31, 1920,	3,503,936	76
Collections, December 1, 1920, to December 31, 1920 (account of 1921 business),	703,152	47
	<u>\$5,578,530</u>	46

DETAIL AND CHARACTER OF COLLECTIONS (DECEMBER 31, 1920).

By Agents.

<i>Items.</i>		
227,737 car registrations, classified as follows:		
419 first class, pneumatic tired,	\$1,854	00
183,463 second class, pneumatic tired,	1,334,437	50
20,243 third class, pneumatic tired,	297,960	00
23,612 solid tired vehicles,	654,283	50
	<u>\$2,288,535</u>	00
11,041 motorcycle licenses,	\$22,082	00
2,178 dealers' (3 set) automobiles,	32,670	00
457 dealers' (5 set) automobiles,	11,425	00
17 dealers' (3 set) motorcycles,	255	00
372 livery licenses,	5,580	00
19 manufacturers,	475	00
41,351 transfers,	55,926	00
7,672 duplicate certificates,	7,672	00
72 trailers (pneumatic tires),	216	00
7,312 duplicate tags,	7,058	50
755 trailers (solid tires),	17,925	00
101 tractors (agricultural),	303	00
204,438 automobile drivers' licenses,	883,314	00
8,946 motorcycle drivers' licenses,	8,946	00
133,465 learners' permits,	66,732	50
Interest on deposits—agents,	4,159	64
Miscellaneous collections,	283	25
6 drivers' badges,	3	00
	<u>\$3,413,560</u>	89

By Central Office.

Interest on deposits—Central office,	\$1,873 67
Fines for violation of the law,	87,928 79
Certified copies,	175 50
*Adjustment of fees,	49 00
**Miscellaneous collections,	348 91
	<u>\$3,503,936 76</u>

*ADJUSTMENT OF FEES.

2 auto registrations from second to third class at \$7.50,	\$15 00
17,000 lbs., increased weights on trucks,	34 00
	<u>\$49 00</u>

CLASSIFICATION SOLID TIRED VEHICLES.

(Classified by thousand pounds.)

Lbs.	No.	Lbs.	No.	Lbs.	No.	Lbs.	No.	Lbs.	No.	Lbs.	No.
2	5	8	1492	13	565	18	412	23	316	28	37
3	58	9	1968	14	385	19	339	24	186	29	8
4	461	10	1868	15	702	20	585	25	114	30	36
5	4197	11	1466	16	751	21	837	26	63	..	..
6	2841	12	1101	17	566	22	683	27	88	..	..
7	1482	..	....	..	...	..	...	..	..	..	..

**Miscellaneous receipts.

Gratuities offered to inspectors for examination privileges, confiscated,	\$19 00
Received for damages on inspectors' cars,	17 10
Miscellaneous, 1919 collections, licenses not issued,	17 00
Witness fees,	7 50
Sale of old cars and junk,	258 81
Return of over-payment of bill,	29 50
	<u>\$648 91</u>

TOTAL COLLECTIONS.

Drafts (1920),	\$3,413,560 89
Drafts (1921),	702,964 00
Interest on deposits (Central Office),	1,170 82
Fines,	88,154 75
Certified copies,	178 00
Adjustment of fees,	49 00
Miscellaneous,	648 91
	<u>\$4,206,726 37</u>

COLLECTIONS BY AGENCIES.

Collections made by Agencies during the year and the commissions paid to agents, as compared with collections made in 1919, are as follows:

	1920		1921	
	Collec- tions.	Commis- sions.	Collec- tions.	Commis- sions.
Asbury Park,	\$64,652 05	\$1,600 00	\$54,434 12	\$1,399 94
Atlantic City,	83,645 77	1,900 00	74,319 30	1,600 00
Bound Brook,	16,994 62	500 00	14,426 53	425 00
Bridgeton,	40,277 75	1,100 00	35,277 50	1,000 00
Camden,	187,556 61	2,500 00	154,442 72	2,100 00
Cape May,	36,115 50	1,000 00	31,163 00	900 00
Cedar Run,	8,857 75	250 00	7,742 50	250 00
Dover,	43,509 17	1,100 00	37,048 27	1,000 00
E. Orange,	123,601 85	1,900 00	86,623 41	1,458 33
Elizabeth,	91,023 41	1,900 00	72,293 18	1,600 00
Englewood,	49,357 65	1,400 00	44,931 67	1,000 00
Englishtown,	32,616 00	900 00	26,118 50	650 00
Flemington,	30,293 75	900 00	25,010 75	650 00
Freehold,	23,932 25	650 00	19,531 75	500 00
Hackensack,	71,255 93	1,600 00	56,648 58	1,400 00
Hackettstown,	21,476 71	900 00	26,181 01	900 00
Hammonton,	17,911 42	500 00	17,999 13	425 00
Hoboken,	75,339 67	1,600 00	.....	133 33
Jersey City,	265,780 42	2,500 00	246,413 98	2,500 00
Lakewood,	25,426 13	650 00	19,652 06	500 00
Long Branch,	30,536 89	900 00	27,296 70	900 00
Manasquan,	23,311 75	650 00	19,541 00	500 00
Millville,	4,384 00	395 83	.....	.....
Morristown,	61,674 53	1,600 00	55,007 22	1,600 00
Mount Holly,	75,345 25	1,600 00	63,078 13	1,400 00
Newark (Friend),	201,745 68	2,700 00	333,143 61	2,700 00
Newark (Radcliffe),	346,866 34	2,500 00	154,313 57	2,052 42
New Brunswick,	72,201 02	1,900 00	62,373 34	1,600 00
Newton,	23,025 74	650 00	18,295 01	425 00
New York,	167,867 17	2,700 00	159,458 66	2,100 00
Passaic,	104,511 85	1,900 00	79,452 58	1,600 00
Paterson,	204,862 51	2,500 00	170,850 79	2,300 00
Penns Grove,	18,720 00	437 43	17,766 00	375 00
Perth Amboy,	52,906 31	1,400 00	46,960 14	1,100 00
Philadelphia,	389 25	.....	.....	.....
Phillipsburg,	42,615 00	1,000 00	31,233 50	900 00
Plainfield,	78,155 70	1,900 00	60,712 29	1,400 00
Pleasantville,	22,417 25	500 00	16,898 50	650 00
Rahway,	24,808 65	650 00	21,639 00	500 00
Red Bank,	40,411 75	1,000 00	35,663 70	1,000 00
Salem,	33,573 00	1,000 00	31,218 75	1,000 00
Sea Bright,	11,351 76	250 00	9,969 07	250 00
Somerville,	33,200 25	900 00	28,369 75	900 00
Sussex,	16,242 25	500 00	14,881 75	425 00
Trenton,	216,359 75	2,300 00	180,020 50	2,000 00
Union Hill,	87,816 33	2,100 00	74,855 53	1,400 00
Vineland,	42,405 50	1,100 00	37,445 75	1,000 00
Woodbury (Hutchinson),	66,332 50	1,266 54	61,259 00	1,500 00

	1920	1921		
	Collections.	Commissions.	Collections.	Commissions.
Boonton,		91 66		
Newark, No. 3 (Kirsinger),		175 00		
Ridgewood,		116 66		
Woodbury (Crist),		133 32		
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$3,413,662 39	\$62,166 44	\$2,861,961 80	\$51,869 02
Less revenue stamps,	101 50			
	<hr/>			
	\$3,413,560 89			

REMITTANCES TO THE STATE TREASURER.

Remittances were made to the State Treasurer, monthly, as follows:

1920.	Collections.	Fees.	Balance to State Treasurer.
January,	\$1,257,383 72	\$5,045 40	\$331,915 50
February,	636,193 62	5,162 05	920,422 82
March,	318,492 33	5,124 59	631,029 82
April,	240,811 73	5,212 09	313,369 49
May,	217,141 41	5,162 08	235,599 64
June,	265,263 81	5,162 08	211,979 33
July,	187,383 29	5,162 08	260,101 73
August,	142,012 19	5,120 42	182,221 21
September,	100,346 57	5,141 25	136,880 77
October,	66,238 29	5,095 42	95,216 07
November,	46,458 96	5,028 76	61,143 12
December,	26,210 84	5,750 22	61,890 82
	\$3,503,936 76	\$62,166 44	\$3,441,770 32

The following statement will indicate the business done during a like period in 1919:

1919.			
January,	\$1,497,928 74	\$1,916 55	\$377,473 00
February,	238,141 94	4,524 69	1,118,539 19
March,	182,200 82	4,075 66	233,617 25
April,	172,878 63	3,782 14	178,125 16
May,	162,799 53	4,846 57	169,096 49
June,	185,365 27	4,520 43	157,952 96
July,	161,574 90	3,753 89	180,844 84
August,	119,585 05	4,729 28	157,821 01
September,	77,935 47	4,010 72	114,865 77
October,	62,175 13	4,046 42	73,924 75
November,	44,468 12	3,919 48	58,128 71
December,	26,838 53	7,743 19	59,644 00
	\$2,931,902 15	\$51,869 02	\$2,880,033 13

RETURNS FROM FINES.

Fines collected for violations of Motor Vehicle Act amounted to \$87,928.79, this sum showing an increase of \$19,852.99 over the year 1919.

A comparative table follows, showing the collection of fines by months for the years 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919 and 1920:

	1920.	1919.	1918.	1917.	1916.	1915.
Jan.,	\$2,680 25	\$2,131 50	\$1,115 45	\$1,532 85	\$1,163 75	\$753 00
Feb.,	2,472 25	3,125 15	736 00	1,050 25	428 90	836 00
March, ...	1,667 50	3,445 10	1,758 25	1,580 25	362 25	1,361 95
April, ...	3,954 30	2,922 35	4,093 75	2,558 00	1,020 55	1,864 15
May,	6,147 00	4,650 10	6,896 30	4,931 55	3,001 85	1,509 55
June, ...	9,190 00	7,537 00	8,359 00	6,975 00	4,698 15	2,619 35
July,	10,016 00	8,630 40	7,962 05	8,766 35	5,637 25	3,811 65
Aug., ...	9,132 77	6,427 20	7,141 75	6,653 40	5,862 85	4,027 00
Sept., ...	13,023 22	11,376 95	7,406 70	5,903 35	5,907 15	3,907 75
Oct.,	11,662 45	5,899 55	5,323 80	7,038 00	7,017 60	2,543 30
Nov., ...	9,438 50	5,939 75	3,725 00	3,930 85	3,179 00	2,174 10
Dec.,	9,543 75	5,990 75	5,552 60	3,724 50	2,872 80	2,011 65

\$87,928 79 \$68,075 80 \$60,070 65 \$54,664 25 \$41,161 10 \$27,420 85

The fines collected during the year 1920 by counties is as follows:

Atlantic,	\$4,746 30
Bergen,	14,727 84
Burlington,	424 00
Camden,	1,991 00
Cape May,	200 00
Cumberland,	535 00
Essex,	20,159 50
Gloucester,	87 50
Hudson,	7,177 00
Hunterdon,	60 00
* Mercer,	11,071 25
Middlesex,	8,636 00
Monmouth,	3,446 50
Morris,	814 90
Ocean,	687 50
Passaic,	3,772 00
Salem,	459 50
Somerset,	277 00
Sussex,	65 00
Union,	8,332 00
Warren,	259 00
	\$87,928 79

* Includes the sum of \$7,430.25 collected by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles.

RECAPITULATION.

The following table will show a general recapitulation of increase and percentage of increase in department work and revenue:

	1919.	1920.	Per- centage of Increase.
Gross receipts,	\$2,932,902 15	\$3,503,936 76	19.5
Receipts from auto licenses,	1,897,157 50	2,288,535 00	20.6
Receipts from drivers' licenses,	754,617 00	883,314 00	17.
Receipts from motor cycle licenses, ..	22,832 00	22,082 00	*00.3
Receipts from fines;	68,075 80	87,928 79	29.
Number of auto licenses,	190,873	227,737	19.
Number of motor cycle licenses,	11,416	11,041	*00.3
Number of drivers' licenses,	251,539	294,438	17.
Agents' commissions,	\$51,869 02	\$62,166 44	19.6
Interest on deposits,	2,638 90	6,036 31	128.
Dealers' licenses,	1,751	2,671	50.8
Trailer licenses,	699	827	18.
Transfers,	39,173	41,351	5.5

*Decrease.

AGENTS' FEES.

The compensation paid to agents has been determined by adding the car registrations and drivers' licenses issued through each agency for the year 1920, as a basis of compensation for the year 1921; all overhead office charges, such as rentals, clerical assistants, etc., are defrayed by the agent.

Agency.	Items.	Compensation, 1920.	Compensation, 1921.	Class.	Basis of Rating.
Newark, No. 2, ...	47364	\$2,500 00	\$2,700 00	Special	Above 20,000
Newark, No. 1, ...	35938	2,700 00	2,700 00	"	" "
Trenton,	33896	2,300 00	2,700 00	"	" "
Paterson,	32621	2,500 00	2,700 00	"	" "
Camden,	30212	2,500 00	2,700 00	"	" "
Jersey City,	29984	2,500 00	2,700 00	"	" "
New York City, ...	22799	2,700 00	2,700 00	"	" "
East Orange,	18543	1,900 00	2,200 00	A	15,000 to 20,000
Passaic,	17303	1,900 00	2,200 00	A	" " "
Newark, No. 3 (Estimated),			2,200 00	A	" " "
Hoboken,	17146	1,600 00	2,200 00	A	" " "
Elizabeth,	14483	1,900 00	1,900 00	B	10,000 to 15,000
Plainfield,	14251	1,900 00	1,900 00	B	" " "
Atlantic City,	14148	1,900 00	1,900 00	B	" " "
Union Hill,	13330	1,900 00	1,900 00	B	" " "
Mt. Holly,	11420	1,600 00	1,900 00	B	" " "
Asbury Park,	11203	1,600 00	1,900 00	B	" " "
Hackensack,	10635	1,600 00	1,900 00	B	" " "
Morristown,	10526	1,600 00	1,900 00	B	" " "
Woodbury,	10149	1,600 00	1,900 00	B	" " "
New Brunswick, ...	11968	1,900 00	1,900 00	B	" " "

Agency.	Items.	Compensation, 1920.	Compensation, 1921.	Class.	Basis of Rating.
Englewood,	8563	1,400 00	1,600 00	C	8,500 to 10,000
Perth Amboy,	8286	1,400 00	1,400 00	D	7,000 to 8,500
Dover,	7543	1,100 00	1,400 00	D	" " "
Bridgeton,	7431	1,100 00	1,400 00	D	" " "
Phillipsburg,	7296	1,000 00	1,400 00	D	" " "
Vineland,	7162	1,100 00	1,400 00	D	" " "
Ridgewood (Est'd),			1,400 00	D	" " "
Red Bank,	6608	1,000 00	1,100 00	E	6,000 to 7,000
Cape May,	6386	1,000 00	1,100 00	E	" " "
Salem,	6133	1,000 00	1,100 00	E	" " "
Millville (Est'd), ..	795	500 00	1,100 00	E	" " "
Boonton (Est'd), ..			1,100 00	E	" " "
Somerville,	5468	900 00	1,000 00	F	5,000 to 6,000
Flemington,	5257	900 00	1,000 00	F	" " "
Long Branch,	5242	900 00	1,000 00	F	" " "
Englishtown,	5035	900 00	1,000 00	F	" " "
Lakewood,	4458	650 00	900 00	G	4,000 to 5,000
Newton,	4211	650 00	900 00	G	" " "
Rahway,	4149	650 00	900 00	G	" " "
Hackettstown,	4024	900 00	900 00	G	" " "
Manasquan,	3888	650 00	650 00	H	3,000 to 4,000
Freehold,	3801	650 00	650 00	H	" " "
Pleasantville,	3504	500 00	650 00	H	" " "
Penns Grove,	3021	500 00	650 00	H	" " "
Sussex,	3001	500 00	650 00	H	" " "
Philadelphia (Est.),			650 00	H	" " "
Hammononton,	2854	500 00	500 00	I	2,500 to 3,000
Bound Brook,	2766	500 00	500 00	I	" " "
Sea Bright,	1734	250 00	350 00	J	1,500 to 2,000
Cedar Run,	1586	250 00	350 00	J	" " "
Franklin Furnace, (Estimated),			250 00	L	1,000 to 1,500

BANK BALANCES.

At the close of business on December 31, 1920, the following balances were in the hands of banks to the credit of the Motor Vehicle Department, the balances representing the amount of business audited by the department account of 1921 registrations.

Agency.	Amount.	Agency.	Amount.
Asbury Park,	\$8,035 83	Englewood,	10,262 58
Atlantic City,	28,838 80	Englishtown,	18,833 15
Boonton,	13,237 00	Flemington,	4,889 50
Bound Brook,	1,281 24	Franklin Furnace,	4,113 50
Bridgeton,	16,718 00	Freehold,	3,781 50
Camden,	57,429 09	Hackensack,	23,990 00
Cape May,	5,925 01	Hackettstown,	4,847 15
Cedar Run,	3,065 25	Hammononton,	6,469 75
Dover,	20,593 75	Hoboken,	27,543 75
East Orange,	23,747 75	Jersey City,	52,257 52
Elizabeth,	49,216 75	Lakewood,	2,429 70

Agency.	Amount.	Agency.	Amount.
Long Branch,	5,536 00	Phillipsburg,	11,639 00
Manasquan,	6,078 25	Plainfield,	27,408 50
Millville,	3,721 50	Pleasantville,	9,887 00
Morristown,	32,757 25	Rahway,	7,312 50
Mt. Holly,	9,762 27	Ridgewood,	16,985 79
Newark, No. 1,	\$149,973 65	Red Bank,	19,827 00
Newark, No. 2,	156,189 33	Salem,	17,532 45
Newark, No. 3,	42,411 50	Sea Bright,	3,569 50
New Brunswick,	33,545 17	Somerville,	13,219 50
Newton,	7,195 50	Sussex,	4,911 50
New York City,	47,788 80	Trenton,	127,850 00
Passaic,	26,626 50	Union Hill,	62,125 80
Paterson,	76,443 76	Vineland,	13,546 58
Penns Grove,	7,716 65	Woodbury,	28,508 25
Perth Amboy,	9,612 07		
Philadelphia,	4,253 00		
			\$1,371,441 23

GROSS RECEIPTS OF THE DEPARTMENT BY YEARS.

The gross receipts of the department by years follows:

1906....	Commissioner J. B. R. Smith,	\$67,963 00
1907....	Commissioner J. B. R. Smith,	92,763 25
1908....	Commissioner J. B. R. Smith,	188,742 94
1909....	Commissioner J. B. R. Smith,	247,424 21
1910....	Commissioner J. B. R. Smith,	322,649 66
1911....	Commissioner J. B. R. Smith,	413,786 27
1912....	Commissioner Job H. Lippincott,	496,653 35
1913....	Commissioner Job H. Lippincott,	661,084 40
1914....	Commissioner Job H. Lippincott,	814,535 30
1915....	Commissioner William L. Dill,	1,063,207 71
1916....	Commissioner William L. Dill,	1,402,695 05
1917....	Commissioner William L. Dill,	1,923,163 63
1918....	Commissioner William L. Dill,	2,431,756 70
1919....	Commissioner William L. Dill,	2,931,902 15
1920....	Commissioner William L. Dill,	3,503,936 76

COMPARISON OF LICENSES ISSUED DURING THE PAST SIX YEARS.

The following table shows the number of licenses issued by months as compared with 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918 and 1919:

PASSENGER AUTOMOBILE AND TRUCK REGISTRATIONS.

	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
January,	26,839	46,055	69,157	72,020	103,651	90,433
February,	12,088	9,957	9,474	14,093	15,687	39,870
March,	7,327	4,118	7,781	17,106	12,139	20,706
April,	6,841	8,940	11,227	15,432	11,092	16,558
May,	5,185	7,894	7,814	10,173	9,579	13,016
June,	5,132	7,555	7,940	8,296	10,163	14,675
July,	4,565	5,707	7,147	6,796	8,262	9,976
August,	3,208	4,800	4,406	4,854	5,758	7,389
September,	2,804	3,501	4,069	2,678	4,809	6,054
October,	2,068	2,779	3,371	1,995	4,623	4,611
November,	1,682	1,991	1,926	1,427	3,404	3,171
December,	493	1,044	652	649	1,706	1,278
	78,232	104,341	134,964	155,519	190,873	227,737

MOTOR CYCLE REGISTRATION.

	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
January,	1,633	2,222	2,553	1,541	2,721	1,306
February,	1,445	1,413	1,515	1,285	1,446	1,377
March,	2,086	902	1,535	2,856	1,642	1,430
April,	1,686	2,244	2,501	2,148	1,419	1,914
May,	1,321	1,792	1,558	1,394	1,030	1,369
June,	1,202	1,232	1,157	1,083	1,054	1,530
July,	804	826	890	876	736	739
August,	613	657	627	625	576	606
September,	411	436	393	348	368	389
October,	345	277	315	192	248	251
November,	161	146	126	135	137	103
December,	27	62	28	34	39	27
	11,616	12,209	13,198	12,517	11,416	11,041

DRIVERS' LICENSES (AUTOMOBILE).

	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
January,	39,494	52,907	82,993	81,587	116,698	94,933
February,	7,505	14,076	12,390	16,292	22,322	55,165
March,	6,788	5,054	8,912	20,514	15,545	28,965
April,	7,654	9,957	14,162	20,373	15,079	20,520
May,	6,739	10,593	12,105	15,085	15,048	19,588
June,	8,060	11,666	11,779	14,416	17,740	24,256
July,	7,499	9,309	11,931	11,476	16,818	17,181
August,	5,418	8,691	8,556	9,178	11,902	12,312
September,	4,353	5,442	5,963	5,136	7,592	9,392
October,	3,191	5,178	4,798	3,521	6,785	6,399
November,	2,633	3,250	3,095	2,342	4,174	4,146
December,	782	1,732	884	1,102	1,835	1,581
	100,126	137,855	177,568	201,022	251,539	294,438

MANUFACTURERS AND DEALERS.

	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
January,	269	540	754	844	1,031	1,151
February,	185	111	112	142	158	418
March,	75	51	77	106	112	420
April,	44	55	89	103	93	160
May,	22	36	45	68	88	135
June,	33	39	55	45	81	176
July,	24	21	29	32	68	57
August,	20	30	24	15	53	68
September,	18	19	18	6	42	55
October,	8	6	12	2	27	23
November,	10	4	8	7	9	8
December, .....	....	2	1	2	3	.....
	634	708	1,224	1,372	1,751	2,671

LEARNERS' PERMITS.

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
January,	2,922	1,485	3,917	1,035
February,	3,928	2,342	5,728	2,665
March,	5,167	6,380	8,967	6,808
April,	9,261	13,804	11,362	11,334
May,	10,895	15,955	14,632	14,437
June,	12,337	17,266	17,953	23,571
July,	13,783	15,668	16,347	19,484
August,	11,524	14,069	14,702	16,652
September,	8,705	8,257	10,752	14,226
October,	7,116	6,308	9,856	10,299
November,	4,129	4,663	6,040	7,773
December,	2,193	3,784	5,080	5,181
	91,960	109,981	125,337	133,465

APPROPRIATIONS.

The appropriations for departmental maintenance for the year 1920 were as follows:

Commissioner, for salary,	\$1,500 00
Compensation, inspectors, clerks, etc.,	72,298 50
Inspectors, for expenses and equipment,	26,000 00
Postage, expressage, and incidentals,	5,000 00
Blanks and stationery,	8,000 00
Liability insurance of inspectors,	500 00
Purchase of autos,	5,000 00
Refunds to applicants,	300 00
Automobile markers,	60,000 00
Filing cabinets,	3,000 00
Automobile insurance,	3,500 00
Printing laws,	3,000 00
Deficit 1919 accounts,	1,541 74
	<u>\$176,640 24</u>

There was expended for department maintenance, .. \$175,346 91
 Agents' commissions, 62,166 44

Total department expenditures for 1920, \$237,513 35

The cost of maintaining the department for the year 1920 amounted to 6.8% of the gross receipts.

HEARINGS BEFORE COMMISSIONER.

2,031 cases were heard before the Commissioner sitting as a magistrate.

457 licenses were revoked; 185 names were placed on the prohibitory list to be denied driving licenses; 65 licenses were sus-

pending; 25 reciprocity privileges were revoked; 28 car registrations were revoked; 8 motor cycle registrations were revoked, and 2 motor cycle operators' licenses were revoked.

301 licenses were restored.

Fines amounting to \$7,430.25 were imposed and collected by the Commissioner.

The number of hearings by months were:

January,	54	August,	321
February,	72	September,	273
March,	116	October,	217
April,	185	November,	114
May,	263	December,	98
June,	318		
July,	0		2,031

A complete compilation of revocations, suspensions, etc., follows:

Licenses revoked,	457
Blacklisted,	185
Suspended,	65
Reciprocity privilege revoked,	25
Registrations revoked,	28
Motor cycle registrations,	8
Motor cycle operators' licenses revoked,	2
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The causes for the action in the above revocations, blacklists and suspensions were as follows:

Driving while intoxicated,	314
Driving without consent of owner,	50
Accident,	52
Failing to answer summons,	61
Speeding,	54
Sec. 17; driving without license,	52
Reckless driving,	35
Larceny and receiving,	6
Driving under legal age limit,	12
Offering bribe to inspector,	1
Robbery at point of gun,	1
Receiving stolen cars,	2
Stealing apples,	1
Insolence and abuse toward inspector,	2
Manslaughter,	13
Setting fire to garage,	2
Apoplexy,	1
No license in possession,	5
Improper registration,	14
Accessory to theft,	1
Loaning license,	8
Driving after license had been suspended,	1
Theft of car,	7

Immoral conduct,	1
Racing,	4
Inability to speak English,	2
Failing to transfer,	8
Misuse of dealer's plates,	4
Failing to report accident,	2
Allowing boy to drive,	4
Assaulting road inspector,	1
Taking examination before rejection period of three weeks had expired,	1
Morally unfit,	9
Ignoring officer,	1
Physically unfit,	8
Helping applicant at examination,	1
Refusing right of way,	1
Assault and battery,	2
Disorderly conduct,	2
Overloading,	1
Failing to pay fine,	1
Enforcing prostitution,	1
No lights; section four,	1
Impersonating; obtaining license under false pretense,	1
Failing to answer letter,	2
Traffic Act violations,	4
Refusing to stop engine on ferry,	1
Misrepresenting age,	4
Unable to read or write,	1
Using permit without licensed driver,	2
Passing standing trolley,	2
Driving through railroad gates,	1

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The Commissioner, sitting as a magistrate, devoted 145 days in the hearing of complaints, holding his court on these days in the following cities:

48 days in the City of Newark.
25 days in the City of Paterson.
20 days in the City of Passaic.
52 days in the City of Trenton.

The Commissioner again acknowledges with sincere appreciation the courtesies extended to him by the officials of the cities of Newark, Paterson and Passaic.

Not only have these officials placed a commodious court room at the disposal of the Commissioner, often adjourning important meetings of their own in order that a room might be available for the use of the Motor Vehicle Court, but they have given publicity to the presence of the Commissioner in their city on given days, and caused City Hall attaches to assist the Court.

ACCIDENT REPORTS.

3,304 reports of accidents were received, such reports being made in compliance with the law which requires that all accidents involving personal injury or property damage exceeding ten dollars must forthwith be reported to the department.

VIOLATIONS.

The efficiency reports of our inspectors show the following summary:

Violations reported to Trenton by inspectors,	1,625
Violations adjusted on road and at examinations,	9,872
Arrests by inspectors for violations,	1,391
Summons served by inspectors for violations,	1,580
Total number of violations,	14,468

In addition to the above, the inspectors investigated 441 cases consisting of reports and communications sent to the department at Trenton, and referred to the inspectors for investigation and report.

The above figures are in addition to the reports of violations received at the main offices from various sources, and which may be classified as follows:

Complaints from private individuals of reckless driving, speeding, light violations, disregard for road rules, and rights of complainant,	4,500
Reports of magistrates of every case tried before them, numbering in the aggregate approximately,	18,000
Cases tried personally before the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles,	2,031
Accidents reported in compliance with the law requiring such reports from person causing accident,	3,304
Total number carded and filed,	27,835

WORK OF THE INSPECTORS.

The inspectors adjusted during their work in the field 9,872 cases of minor violations; made 1,391 arrests, which were heard before local magistrates, and served 1,580 summons, also reported to the main office for adjustment by the Commissioner 1,625 cases.

The inspectors collected in fines the sum of \$32,453.

The amount of new registrations and license fees collected by inspectors totaled \$54,523.50.

A summary of the above follows:

Cars with headlights not properly equipped,	1,074
Cars not equipped with mirrors,	594
Cars with swinging numbers,	463
New registrations,	5,215
New licenses,	2,712
Speeding and reckless driving,	982
No license cards in possession,	860
Passing standing trolley and traffic violations,	402

For the purpose of apprehending flagrant violations of the reciprocity law, the inspectors were detailed from time to time at the ferries and at the principal coast resorts, and the following sums were collected by the inspectors as the result of this detail:

	Regis- trations.	Amount.	Drivers' Licenses.	Amount.
Inspector Burton,	155	\$990 00	75	\$225 00
Inspector Boutillier,	99	765 50	...	...
Inspector Baldwin,	375	3,753 50	175	525 00
Inspector Coleman,	73	575 00	25	75 00
Inspector Cooper,	527	5,855 50	220	660 00
Inspector Cruikshank,	12	180 00	10	30 00
Inspector Dennen,	107	947 50	59	177 00
Inspector Dyekman,	125	988 50	21	63 00
Inspector Fitzpatrick,	209	2,146 00	51	153 00
Inspector Koopman,	101	962 00	43	129 00
Inspector Lanning,	416	2,896 00	307	921 00
Inspector Lovett,	469	3,936 00	410	1,230 00
Inspector Martens,	5	75 00	9	27 00
Inspector Merrill,	12	160 00	10	30 00
Inspector Parker,	212	1,590 00	75	225 00
Inspector Pedigree,	749	6,506 00	401	1,203 00
Inspector Sawyer,	212	2,760 50	99	297 00
Inspector Snyder,	31	247 25	6	18 00
Inspector Stag,	315	2,890 50	121	363 00
Inspector Teel,	269	2,290 50	190	570 00
Inspector Thompson,	16	127 50	12	36 00
Inspector Weigand,	273	2,465 00	172	516 00
Inspector Wintermute,	62	565 25	12	36 00
Inspector Wyckoff,	401	3,414 50	209	627 00
	5,215	\$46,387 50	2,712	\$8,136 00

Total revenue for above work, \$54,523 50.

During the year the inspectors in their road patrol work covered 194,979 miles, with a total gas consumption of 12,932 gallons.

Eighty-five days and evenings were spent in examining the registration certificates and drivers' licenses of all operators met on the roads, especial attention being given on these occasions to brake equipment of cars, head-lamp violations and motor num-

bers. Every city and town of note in the State was visited during the year, on which occasions the department had the co-operation of the local police authorities.

EXAMINATION OF DRIVERS' LICENSES.

A total of 74,738 applicants were examined by the inspectors for drivers' licenses, of which number 7,908 were rejected as incompetent.

The examinations by months, and the cities and towns where the same were held, will be shown by the tabulation below:

1920.	Passed.	Rejected.
January,	2,806	258
February,	882	54
March,	3,121	225
April,	7,784	690
May,	9,833	937
June,	10,056	1,095
July,	9,539	1,138
August,	8,031	999
September,	5,610	882
October,	4,792	833
November,	2,709	580
December,	1,667	217
	66,830	7,908
1920.	Passed.	Rejected.
Asbury Park,	2,310	234
Atlantic City,	2,951	361
Bridgeton,	1,200	183
Camden,	4,814	639
Cape May,	1,246	68
Dover,	920	53
Englewood,	1,636	189
Hackettstown,	728	32
Jersey City,	6,472	686
Long Branch,	1,904	106
Morristown,	1,333	85
Newark,	19,053	2,194
New Brunswick,	2,494	446
Passaic,	4,157	475
Paterson,	3,568	490
Phillipsburg,	732	39
Salem,	927	136
Sussex,	306	20
Toms River,	263	28
Trenton,	6,183	1,003
Newton,	343	17
Plainfield,	2,466	257
Hoboken,	824	77
	66,830	7,908

The examination of applicants for drivers' licenses was instituted in 1913, and each subsequent year has shown a marked increase in the number of applicants as shown by the following abstract:

Year.	Passed.	Rejected.	Total Examined.
1913,	9,403	1,453	10,856
1914,	22,847	2,732	25,579
1915,	36,622	3,782	40,404
1916,	47,441	7,210	54,651
1917,	53,868	6,616	60,484
1918,	58,650	7,042	65,692
1919,	66,729	6,061	72,790
1920,	66,830	7,908	74,738

The city of Hoboken was designated as an examining point on May 1, 1920, but because of the small number of applicants for drivers' licenses applying there during the summer, this city was eliminated from our fall and winter schedule, effective November 1, 1920, and it is not contemplated to examine in the city of Hoboken during the current year.

On May 1, 1921, with a view to lessening the congestion which now obtains at the City Hall, Newark, during the days when we examine there, it is the purpose of this department to hold examinations in the cities of Elizabeth, East Orange and Perth Amboy, examining in Elizabeth and East Orange on every Monday and in Perth Amboy every Wednesday, thus eliminating the necessity for examinations in the city of Newark on Monday, and confining examinations to this city to one day per week.

FATALITIES DURING THE YEAR.

The number of persons killed in New Jersey by automobile during the year 1920 totalled 322. This compares with 243 fatalities in 1919 and 197 in 1918.

Activities of Department Respecting Recovery of Stolen Cars.

In 1920, ninety-two garages were visited and the numbers checked up with the license plates to see that proper registration had been made, and an examination of the numbers was also made to learn whether or not Section 62 of the Motor Vehicle Act had been violated by the parties in whose possession these cars were found. In every case where a garage was visited attempt was made to get in touch with the proprietor direct, and where successful, the requirements and penalties of the law re-

specting violations having to do with changed motor numbers and legal bills of sale, was made plain. A few cases will serve to show the value of keeping in close touch with the stolen car situation as well as the benefits accruing from the New Jersey law, which deals with the mutilation of manufacturer and motor numbers.

On December 19, 1919, the department received information from Dr. James W. Ware, Avenue "C" and 46th Street, Bayonne, New Jersey, to the effect that he had in his possession a car which he believed had been stolen. After securing the component parts numbers of this car, it was identified as the property of Hyman Schulman, of 104 West 27th Street, New York City. It was stolen on February 27, 1919. The car was insured in the Hartford Fire Insurance Company, who, having adjusted the claim with the original owner, assigned the title to Dr. Ware.

On August 3, 1920, the department was advised to the effect that a car had been found by Mr. William Oliver, of Closter, New Jersey, on which all numbers had been changed. After securing two of the original component parts numbers, we established the car was stolen from Edward A. Weed, of 638 Maple Street, Westfield, New Jersey, on December 28, 1918. Mr. Weed meanwhile having adjusted the loss with the Great American Insurance Company, Mr. Oliver was given title to the car by the company.

In November, 1920, we ascertained that John Biggio, of Wanaque, New Jersey, was in possession of a Hudson automobile, and that two different police departments had seized the car as a stolen machine, although unable to establish proper ownership, and in each case the car was later returned to Mr. Biggio. An inspection of this car showed that the motor number had been altered, the serial number removed, and the frame number hidden by a patch which had been put on to reinforce the frame. Several component parts numbers, however, were secured, and after great effort we established this car was one that had been stolen on March 10, 1918, from George P. Dickey, of Denver, Colorado. This Hudson car was later delivered to the Home Insurance Company of New York.

The department wishes to emphasize that in no instance have the activities of its inspectors been actuated by other than a conscientious desire to be of service to the automobile owners. No rewards have been paid and no tender of reward has been made, nor would one be accepted if offered.

RIGHT OF WAY.

Under the common law a driver has the right of way if, proceeding at a rate of speed which under the circumstances of the time and locality was reasonable, he should reach the point of crossing in time to go safely on in advance of an approaching vehicle, the latter being sufficiently distant to be checked, and, if needs be, stopped, before it should reach him (New Jersey Electric Company *v.* Miller, 59 Law 423, Court of Errors). This rule is modified by the statute known as the Traffic Act, which gives to the man who comes from the right the right of way. The courts of New Jersey have pointed out the application of the Traffic Act in *Erwin v. Rabinowitz*, 100 Atlantic Reporter 184, in which the Court of Errors and Appeals says:

"Where it appeared to the one who had the right of way that the other was not yielding this right, he could not recklessly proceed, but was bound to stop or to turn aside, if he could by the exercise of due care do so."

From this it will be seen that the man who has the right of way must also be careful. So many drivers who have the right of way think this gives them a right to go ahead irrespective of consequences and usually resulting in injury and lawsuits, and it is our desire to point out to motor drivers that the right of way as defined by the Traffic Act does not relieve them from the duty to be careful, and furthermore, that this right of way applies to all public highways whether one of the intersecting streets is a main artery of travel or otherwise.

INTOXICATED DRIVING.

The department chronicles a remarkable increase in the number of revocation of drivers' licenses as the result of the licensee being convicted of operating a car while under the influence of intoxicating liquor, and in this connection regrets that convictions for an infraction of our law so serious as that of intoxicated driving have been so difficult to obtain. During the year 1919, 115 licenses for intoxicated driving were revoked. For the year 1920 the number has increased to 314. Whether the lack of inability of enforcement of the Prohibition Law is responsible for the remarkable gain in the number of intoxicated persons operating motor vehicles during the last year, the fact remains that this species of violation is not on the wane,

and that there is little likelihood of its abatement until the Motor Vehicle Act is made so drastic that the possibility of reversal following a conviction will be very remote.

CONCLUSIONS.

Many recommendations which the department would ordinarily embrace in this report have been made a part of the Report of the Traffic Commission, which recently reported to our Legislature, and this report we heartily concur in, urging especially the enactment into law of the new Motor Vehicle Act, effective January 1, 1922. It will, therefore, not be necessary to repeat here our conclusion as embraced in the Traffic Commission Report.

I cannot close this report without a sincere reference to the loyalty of those who have worked unselfishly with me during the last twelve months. Their work is reflected in the remarkable growth of the department, and to them the State is much indebted, and I am pleased to publicly acknowledge my appreciation for their efforts.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM L. DILL.

Commissioner of Motor Vehicles.