

Motor Vehicle Division

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Over three million dollars that could have been put to better use was spent last year when the State's highways bore witness to 7,669 accidents resulting in \$3,114,465 in property damage.

This was the most glaring of the hundreds of statistical breakdowns amassed by the Motor Vehicle Division as it kept tabs on the ever-changing traffic picture for the State.

An interesting point in the Division's roundup for the fiscal year 1958-59 was the fact that of the 7,669 accidents reported, over 1,700 involved drivers from out of the State.

This underlines the increasing responsibility of the State Highway Department as the State's roads continue to receive a disproportionate increase of interstate traffic.

Heavier traffic patterns, more vehicles on the road and more licensed drivers showed up in the growing amount of business transacted by the Motor Vehicle Department.

For the fiscal year ending June, 1959, the Department showed a net increase of 5.9% in the number of business transactions recorded. Net income climbed along to a new high of \$4,199,206.05, an increase of better than \$13,000 over the previous year.

Almost 22,000 new car titles were issued during this period, an increase of 5% over the previous year and almost 75,000 used car titles issued for an increase of 4,800.

Also adding to the income the State received through the Department—and accounting for a forecast of even busier years ahead—was the monthly average of 1304 temporary instruction permits issued for an average increase of 157 a month over the previous fiscal year.