

**BIENNIAL REPORT OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE OF
THE STATE OF TEXAS, 1910**

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Biennial Report of the Secretary of State of the State of Texas, 1910 by W. B. Townsend

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W. B. TOWNSEND

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BIENNIAL REPORT
OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE

OF THE
STATE OF TEXAS *Dept. of
state*

1910

W. B. TOWNSEND
SECRETARY OF STATE



AUSTIN, TEXAS
AUSTIN PRINTING CO.
1911

REPORT OF SECRETARY OF STATE.

To His Excellency, T. M. Campbell, Governor of Texas:

Acknowledging with profound gratitude the many courtesies extended me, and the able counsel given me by your Excellency in the administration of the varied and difficult duties of this Department, I have the honor to submit herewith my biennial report, covering the period of two years beginning September 1, 1908, and ending August 31, 1910. This period of time covers five months of the administration of my predecessor, Captain W. R. Davie, and nineteen months of my own, making the full period of twenty-four months.

This report does not embrace the returns of the general election held November 8, 1910, which will be furnished in a supplementary report, so soon as the returns thereof are received and can be tabulated and printed.

RECEIPTS OF THE DEPARTMENT.

The records of this Department show that the receipts thereof from all sources for the period of the administration of W. R. Davie embraced in this report were \$59,664.54; that the receipts from all sources of my administration were \$1,294,576.77, aggregating a total of \$1,354,241.31 for the full period covered by this report. The receipts from all sources for the two years preceding this report were \$879,897.01, showing a net increase of \$474,344. Within the period of two years covered by this report the records show that there were 2950 domestic corporations chartered and 288 foreign corporations obtained permits to do business in Texas. For the two years previous, covering a corresponding period of time, there were filed 2683 domestic corporations and 152 foreign corporations obtained permits to do business in this State, showing an increase of 267 domestic corporations and 136 foreign corporations.

For the full period of four years ending September 1, 1910, embraced in your administration, there have been filed in this Department 5633 domestic corporations, while 440 foreign corporations have obtained permits to do business in this State. For the four years previous to your administration there were filed 4461 domestic corporations and 249 foreign corporations obtained permits to do business in the State. This was the most prosperous period in the Department's history up to this time, but by comparison you will observe that there were 1172 more domestic corporations filed and 191 more foreign permits granted under your administration than during any like period heretofore.

No better illustration could be made that capital is not afraid to invest in Texas than the comparisons shown herein.

The number of charters above mentioned that have been filed covering the period of this report does not embrace the charters to railroad companies and amendments to same which were approved by the Attorney General and filed and recorded in this Department.

Of these the records show that 42 charters of railroad companies, aggregating a total capital stock of \$6,328,500, and an approximate mileage of 6350 miles, were filed and recorded, while there were seventeen amendments to railroad charters filed and recorded increasing capital stock, extending their lines and changing places of business, etc.

From the records of this Department I find that the number of pardons, restorations of citizenship and the right of suffrage, remissions and commutations, embraced in the period of this report are:

Pardons	393
Restorations of citizenship and right of suffrage.....	189
Remissions of fines and forfeitures.....	48
Commutations of sentence.....	6

GROWTH OF THE DEPARTMENT.

No better illustration can be given as to the growth of this Department and the wonderful development of the State than the net receipts of the Department for the past ten years, which are as follows:

For the year ending August 31, 1901.....	\$311,815 16
For the year ending August 31, 1902.....	253,969 37
For the two years 1903 and 1904, ending Aug. 31, 1904..	441,169.88
For the two years 1905 and 1906, ending Aug. 31, 1906..	603,566 75
For the year ending August 31, 1907.....	371,781 33
For the year ending August 31, 1908.....	508,115 68
For the year ending August 31, 1909.....	593,275 36
For the year ending August 31, 1910.....	760,965 95

And as a further illustration of the remarkable development of the State and the growth of the Department during the four years preceding your administration, the net receipts of this Department were \$1,044,736.63, while for the four years of your administration the net receipts are \$2,234,138.32, an increase of \$1,189,401.69. These receipts go to the State's general revenue and have contributed to the continued reduction of the State's tax rate and lessened the tax burdens on the masses of the people. The remarkable increase here shown in receipts would have been impossible without the corporation tax and fee laws enacted during the present administration. As before remarked, the period of four years preceding your administration was the greatest in point of increase of any like period in the history of the State to that time, and when compared with the still greater increase for the last four years show conclusively that capital is not afraid of Texas, notwithstanding the unwarranted criticism in some quarters of legislation that has been passed by the Thirtieth and Thirty-first Legislatures.

In conclusion, I desire to express to you my thanks for the many kindnesses, frequent indulgences and able counsel of your Excellency,

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the Attorney General's Department for its able advice and counsel, and also to my chief clerk, Mr. H. M. Little, and my entire office force, who have labored harmoniously, industriously and faithfully to discharge every duty assigned them.

Very respectfully,

W. B. TOWNSEND,
Secretary of State.

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