

The Knowledge Bank at The Ohio State University

Ohio State Engineer

Title: Sales Tax

Issue Date: Nov-1938

Publisher: Ohio State University, College of Engineering

Citation: Ohio State Engineer, vol. 22, no. 1 (November, 1938), 13.

URI: <http://hdl.handle.net/1811/35554>

Appears in Collections: [Ohio State Engineer: Volume 22, no. 1 \(November, 1938\)](#)

Sales Tax

Did you ever wonder how much money the State of Ohio gathers in every week and every month from the pennies, dimes and dollars you pay out whenever you purchase anything, and for which you receive in return some torn-up pieces of official paper? The report, issued on October 7 by Clarence H. Knisley, Treasurer of State, on sales of prepaid tax receipts in Ohio, brings to light some interesting facts about the collections made in this state under the Sales Tax Law.

A comparison for the first nine months of 1938 with the same period of 1937 shows sales tax receipts totaling \$27,372,147 for this year, as compared with \$37,104,875 last year. Collections for the week ending October 24, 1938 were \$794,018 as compared with \$1,000,053 for the week ending October 25, 1937. These figures indicate how heavy a toll the general falling-off of business takes on the state's income from this source.

By far the largest amount collected in any one denomination is that obtained from one-cent receipts. From January 1 to September 24, 1938, the total amount collected in one-cent denominations was \$5,628,351 from more than half a billion total sales. The second largest amount of \$2,887,350 was obtained in three-dollar denominations. Three cent denominations ranked third with a total amount of \$2,563,470.

A subject of major interest to those who are daily paying the tax, about which nothing is said in the report, of course, concerns the possibility of the sales tax being abolished in the near future. Judging from the present inertia of the sales tax system and the lack of

opposition to it, the chances for an early repeal of the Sales Tax Law seem distressingly remote. If a million dollars a week were pouring into your purse with no apparent objection from the donors, is it likely that you in sudden benevolence would decide to stop the flow? You hardly would; nor in all probability will the State of Ohio for a long time to come.
