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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

S. N. D. NORTH, DIRECTOR

SPECIAL REPORTS

OCCUPATIONS

AT THE TWELFTH CENSUS

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR,
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS,
Washington, D. C., January 4, 1904.

SIR:

I have the honor to transmit herewith a special report on occupations. The publication of the statistics of occupations in the form of a special report was authorized by my predecessor, Hon. William R. Merriam, in order to insure the completion on or before July 1, 1902, of the main reports of the Twelfth Census, in conformity with the terms of the act of March 3, 1899, under which that census was taken.

For this reason, it was decided to limit the statistics of occupations in the main report on population to a presentation for states, territories, and principal cities of the number of persons, distinguished by sex, engaged in specified occupations, and to reserve the detailed classification by general nativity, color, age periods, parentage, conjugal condition, and months unemployed, for more complete presentation in a separate report.

The figures presented in the general tables of this report are based upon the returns of more than 53,000 enumerators, obtained in the general enumeration of population made as of June 1, 1900, in answer to one of 27 items of inquiry on the population schedule. The inquiry with respect to occupations related to persons 10 years of age and over and called for the occupation, trade, or profession of each person of that age gainfully employed; but the inquiry was confined to a simple statement of the kind of work done or character of service rendered, as the temporary organization of the census and the limited time given for preparation prevented any effort to distinguish employers from employees, or to ascertain whether the work was done at home or in a shop or factory, or to identify the employee with the establishment in which employed, as is done in some European countries.

The special report on occupations has been prepared in the division of population, under the supervision of Mr. William C. Hunt, chief statistician for population; the textual discussion has been contributed in part by Dr. Joseph A. Hill and Mr. William S. Rossiter, of the division of publications, while the maps and diagrams have been prepared in the geographical division, under the direction of Mr. Charles S. Sloane, acting geographer.

Very respectfully,



Director.

Hon. GEORGE B. CORTELYOU,
Secretary of Commerce and Labor.