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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
SAM. L. ROGERS, DIRECTOR

RELIGIOUS BODIES

1916

PART I
SUMMARY AND GENERAL TABLES



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THIS REPORT IS PUBLISHED IN TWO PARTS, AS FOLLOWS:

PART I—SUMMARY AND GENERAL TABLES.

PART II—SEPARATE DENOMINATIONS:
HISTORY, DESCRIPTION, AND STATISTICS.

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE,
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS,
Washington, D. C., February 28, 1919.

SIR:

I have the honor to transmit herewith Part I of a special report on religious bodies, in which are presented a summary of the results and general tables, representing conditions, as near as may be, at the close of the year 1916. Part II presents the statistics and a descriptive statement of the history, doctrine, polity, and work or general activities of each separate denomination.

The statistics presented in this report rest upon the returns for the local church organizations as collected by the Bureau of the Census under the authority of section 7 of the permanent census act as amended by an act approved June 7, 1906. This is the second collection and publication of the statistics of religious bodies under the permanent census organization, and it also constitutes the sixth collection of these statistics by the Federal Government.

The statistics for this report were collected mainly by correspondence, but partly by the employment of special agents. The work was conducted under the supervision of Mr. William C. Hunt, chief statistician for population, assisted by Dr. Edwin M. Bliss, expert special agent.

The delay in the completion of the report on religious bodies was due to numerous interruptions during its preparation on account of urgent war work.

Very respectfully,

SAM. L. ROGERS,
Director of the Census.

Hon. WILLIAM C. REDFIELD,
Secretary of Commerce.