DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR,

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

S. N. D. NORTH, DIRECTOR

SPECIAL REPORTS

INSANE AND FEEBLE-MINDED
IN HOSPITALS AND
INSTITUTIONS

1904

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR,
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS,

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith a report on the insane in hospitals, and on the feeble-minded in special institutions for this class. The report is issued in accordance with the provisions of section 7 of the act of Congress of March 6, 1902.

The investigation was made under the direction of Mr. John Koren, expert special agent, who is responsible for the methods pursued and the scope of the inquiry, as well as for the textual treatment of the results.

The first part of the report deals with the inmates of public and private hospitals for the insane in the United States. It covers the number of insane present in hospitals on December 31, 1903, and the number of admissions, discharges, deaths, and transfers during 1904. For the first time in these reports the movement of the insane population has been measured for the space of one year and studied in the light of personal statistics.

The second part of the report treats of the feeble-minded in the United States who are inmates of public and private institutions especially designed for them; and, in the main, the same method of inquiry was followed as in regard to the insane.

The work of collecting and compiling the data was performed by the regular clerical force of the Bureau, under the supervision of the late William A. King, chief statistician for vital statistics.

Very respectfully,

[Signature]

Hon. Victor H. Metcalf,
Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

Director.