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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

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S. N. D. NORTH, DIRECTOR

SPECIAL REPORTS

CENTRAL ELECTRIC LIGHT AND
POWER STATIONS

1902

PREPARED UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF WILLIAM M. STEUART
CHIEF STATISTICIAN FOR MANUFACTURES



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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR,
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS,
Washington, D. C., September 1, 1905.

SIR:

I have the honor to transmit herewith a report on the central electric light and power stations of the United States for the year ending June 30, 1902. This report has been prepared in the Bureau of the Census, under the supervision of Mr. W. M. Steuart, chief statistician for manufactures, in accordance with the provisions of section 7 of the act of Congress of March 6, 1902.

This report is the third of a series of reports on the generation and utilization of electric current. The first related to street and electric railways; the second to municipal electric fire alarm and police patrol service, and was published as Census Bulletin 11; the fourth is now in course of preparation and relates to telephones, telegraphs, and ocean cables.

The data for this report were collected by the regular clerical force of the office and published November 30, 1903, as Census Bulletin 5.

The schedule of inquiry was formulated after consultation with experts and persons identified with the industry in different sections of the country, but the absence of a uniform system of accounting in central electric stations made it impossible to prepare a schedule that could be easily applied to the conditions prevailing in the different plants. Nevertheless, the canvass, as a whole, was satisfactory, and, with a few exceptions, complete returns were secured from all of the central electric stations that were in operation during any portion of the year.

The statistics do not include isolated electric light and power plants installed in manufacturing establishments, hotels, office buildings, etc., for the purpose of furnishing light and power primarily for the use of the individuals, firms, or corporations operating such establishments. The text of the report has been prepared by Mr. Thomas Commerford Martin, of New York city, expert special agent.

Very respectfully,



Director.

Hon. VICTOR H. METCALF,
Secretary of Commerce and Labor.