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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

E. DANA DURAND, DIRECTOR

SPECIAL REPORTS

TELEPHONES: 1907



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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR,
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS,
Washington, D. C., October 6, 1910.

SIR:

The act of Congress of June 7, 1906, amendatory of section 7 of the act approved March 6, 1902, provides that statistics concerning telephones shall be collected by the Bureau of the Census at quinquennial periods.

I have the honor to submit herewith the first report prepared in conformity with the requirements of this law. The report presents statistics concerning the physical equipment, service, and financial operations of the commercial and mutual telephone systems of the country and the independent rural telephone lines for the year ending December 31, 1907. This is the second census of the telephone industry that has been taken since the Bureau of the Census was made a permanent office. The first census covered the year ending December 31, 1902, and was taken in accordance with the provisions of section 7 of the act of Congress of March 6, 1902.

In order to preserve the comparability of the data, the same form of schedule was used to collect statistics at both censuses, and, as nearly as possible, the same form of presenting the data has been followed in both reports. The statistics were collected and the report prepared under the supervision of Mr. William M. Steuart, chief statistician for manufactures. Mr. T. Commerford Martin, of New York City, was the consulting expert special agent of the office and prepared the portion of the report dealing with the technical features of the industry, with the assistance of Mr. Franklin H. Reed, of Chicago. Acknowledgment should also be made of the services of Mr. Story B. Ladd, who prepared the analytical tables and verified the text.

Very respectfully,



Director of the Census.

HON. CHARLES NAGEL,
Secretary of Commerce and Labor.