

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC COMMERCE
JULIUS KLEIN, Director

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT
OF THE
UNITED STATES

1924

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LETTER OF SUBMITTAL

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE,
BUREAU OF FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC COMMERCE,
Washington, July 1, 1925.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith for publication the forty-seventh annual issue of the Statistical Abstract of the United States. As in previous years, this publication has been prepared in the Division of Statistical Research, of which E. Dana Durand is chief. It represents, however, a digest of data collected by all statistical agencies of the National Government, as well as those of a considerable number of private agencies and one or two States. Many of these offices and agencies have been of great assistance in furnishing advance data and also in the actual preparation of the tables used in the Abstract. Special mention in this connection is due the following offices of the Federal Government: The Bureau of Census and the Bureau of Fisheries of the Department of Commerce; the Bureau of Agricultural Economics and the Weather Bureau of the Department of Agriculture; the Bureau of Education of the Department of the Interior; the Statistical Division of the Income Tax Unit, Treasury Department; the Veterans' Bureau; the Interstate Commerce Commission; the United States Shipping Board; and the Division of Analysis and Research of the Federal Reserve Board. Valuable aid has also been given by the Bureau of Railway Economics; the New York Produce Exchange; and the Bureau of Canals, State of New York.

The revision of the Statistical Abstract, begun in the 1922 issue and carried through in large part in the 1923 issue, has now been completed for all sections of the book. The aim of this revision was to coordinate the Statistical Abstract with the Commerce Yearbook and at the same time to secure more complete and better balanced covering of the field of economic and social statistics. The most conspicuous change in the present issue is the discontinuance of the table, "Statistical Record of the Progress of the United States." The data formerly carried in this table have been transferred to the various sections of the Abstract to which they relate, with the exception of a very limited amount of the statistical material for early years, which has been omitted altogether.

It may be noted that by various methods of condensation, and especially through the expression of numerous figures in thousands or in millions, it has been possible to reduce the number of pages in the Statistical Abstract and at the same time to increase materially the total volume of statistical material presented. By actual count the average page in the present issue contains approximately one-third more items than the average page in the issue of 1921 before the process of revision was begun.

In the present issue there has been a rearrangement of the order of the main sections without any important change in the order of the tables within each section. In particular, the statistics of waterways, foreign commerce, agriculture, mines, and manufactures have been transferred to the end of the volume. This change was made not with a view of any greater logic in the arrangement but for the purely practical reason that the statistics of these subjects, in general, become available each year somewhat later than those relating to other subjects, and in order to expedite the printing of the volume it was considered desirable to put them last.

Respectfully,

JULIUS KLEIN,
Director of Bureau.

To Hon. HERBERT HOOVER,
Secretary of Commerce.