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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

SAM. L. ROGERS, DIRECTOR

INDIAN POPULATION

IN THE

UNITED STATES AND

ALASKA

1910

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE,
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS,
Washington, D. C., June 1, 1915.

SIR:

I have the honor to transmit herewith a report on the Indian population of the United States and Alaska in 1910. This report furnishes detailed statistics and, wherever possible, comparative data concerning Indians, the information for 1910 being derived in part from the returns made on the general population schedule and in part from inquiries made on a special schedule as to stock and tribe and purity of blood. This special report on Indians covers the following topics: Population; proportion of mixed-bloods; sex distribution; age distribution; stocks and tribes, in detail by purity of blood, tribal mixture, sex, and age; fecundity and vitality; marital condition; school attendance; illiteracy; inability to speak English; occupations; and Indians taxed and not taxed.

The report was prepared under the supervision of William C. Hunt, chief statistician for population. The text and tables for the first six topics named were prepared by Dr. Roland B. Dixon, expert special agent, and the work was completed in March, 1912, and a bulletin based thereon, giving the distribution of the Indian population according to stock, tribe, blood, sex, age, and fecundity and vitality, was issued June 26, 1913. The text and tables for the remaining topics were prepared by Dr. F. A. McKenzie, expert special agent, but work on these sections of the report was discontinued in February, 1912, because of the large reduction in the Thirteenth Census temporary force, and was not resumed until May, 1914. The tabulations (except for occupations) were substantially completed prior to the suspension of the work in February, 1912, and the more recent work in 1914 consisted largely of the examination and verification of the tabulated results and the preparation of the general tables and textual matter. The completion of the entire report has necessarily been considerably delayed, but the statistics presented have a permanent historical value, as it is not likely that another effort will be made to secure through the census special data regarding Indians as a separate and distinct element of the population.

Respectfully,

Sam. S. Rogers

Director of the Census.

To HON. WILLIAM C. REDFIELD,
Secretary of Commerce.

INDIAN POPULATION.

INTRODUCTION.

This report gives the principal statistics relating to the Indian population of the United States and of Alaska collected at the Thirteenth Decennial Census, taken in 1910.

The statistics of Indians were gathered in part by means of the general population schedule and in part by means of a special schedule containing, in addition to the questions found on the general schedule, inquiries as to tribe and purity of blood. The special schedules were used in all the districts containing Indians on reservations and throughout counties where as many as 20 Indians were returned at the census of 1900.

Special agents, most of whom had had some experience in the service of the Office of Indian Affairs, were appointed for the collection of statistics by means of the special schedule. In the conduct of the field work and in the preparation of schedules, the Bureau of the Census was effectively aided by the Office of Indian Affairs and the Bureau of American Ethnology.

At the Thirteenth Census the general enumeration of population, including Indians, in the United States proper was made as of April 15, 1910, but in Alaska

the date of enumeration generally was December 31, 1909, or a time as near that date as was permitted by climatic considerations, the inaccessibility of certain regions, and the varying conditions arising from the wide dispersion of a small population over a large area; in fact, in some localities, where it was impracticable to undertake the field work on or immediately following December 31, the enumeration was begun prior to that date, while in others it was deferred until late in winter or until early spring.

The topics covered by this special report on Indians are 12 in number, namely, population; proportion of mixed-bloods; sex distribution; age distribution; stocks and tribes, in detail by purity of blood, tribal mixture, sex, and age; fecundity and vitality; marital condition; school attendance; illiteracy; inability to speak English; occupations; and Indians taxed and not taxed.

Inquiries were also made on the special Indian schedule as to graduation from educational institutions, allotments, residence on own lands, and whether living in civilized or aboriginal dwellings, but the answers were so deficient or manifestly inaccurate as to render the results of little or no value.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE INDIAN POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES: 1910.

[In the case of Kansas and Pennsylvania the base figures are exclusive of Indians in Haskell Institute and Carlisle Indian School, respectively.]

