

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

HERBERT HOOVER, Secretary of Commerce

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

WILLIAM M. STEUART, Director

Chief functions

The taking of the decennial census covering population, agriculture, manufactures, mines and quarries, and forest products.

Decennial report of national wealth, public debt, and taxation, including principal financial statistics of Federal, State, county, city, and township governments.

Annual financial statistics of State and municipal governments, including sources of revenue, objects of payments, debt, tax levies.

Decennial statistics relating to inmates of institutions, including paupers, insane, prisoners, and juvenile delinquents.

A quinquennial census of agriculture, a biennial census of manufactures, a quinquennial census of electrical public utilities, including electric railways, light and power stations, telephones, telegraphs, etc.

Annual statistics of births, deaths, marriages, and divorces.

Quarterly statistics of leaf tobacco stocks and of production, stocks, and consumption of fats and oils.

Monthly or semimonthly statistics of cotton ginning; cotton stocks and consumption; the production, stocks, and consumption of hides and leather; the production of shoes; and statistics of active textile machinery and of production in an increasing number of other industries.

The compilation and publication, in the "Survey of Current Business," of monthly commercial and industrial statistics.

BUREAU OF FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC COMMERCE

JULIUS KLEIN, Director

Chief functions

The compilation of timely information concerning world market conditions and openings for American products in foreign countries secured through commercial attachés and trade commissioners of the Department of Commerce and the foreign service of the Department of State. The distribution of such information to American business through weekly "Commerce reports," special bulletins, confidential circulars, the news and trade press, correspondence, and personal contact.

The maintenance of commodity, technical, and geographical divisions to afford special service to American export industries.

The compilation and distribution of names of possible buyers and agents for American products in all parts of the world and publication of weekly lists of specific sales opportunities abroad.

The maintenance of district and cooperative offices in 33 cities in the United States to expedite delivery of market information to business men and to keep the department advised as to the urgent requirements of American trades and industries.

The publication of official statistics on imports and exports. The study of the processes of domestic trade and commerce, with a view to their improvement and the dissemination of information obtained for the benefit of the public, as well as of those directly concerned.

BUREAU OF STANDARDS

GEORGE K. BOGGESS, Director

Chief functions

Custody of standards of measurement, quality, performance, or practice adopted or recognized by the Government. Development and construction of such standards when necessary. Testing and calibration of apparatus and comparison of standards used by scientific or other institutions with those in the custody of the bureau.

Determination of physical constants and properties of materials.

The testing of materials and establishment of standards and processes in cooperation with commercial firms or organizations.

Industrial researches covering structural, engineering, and miscellaneous materials, radio, radium, mechanical appliances, sugar technology, leather, paper, rubber, and textiles; clay products, glass, and refractories, metals and metallurgy, and similar groups of subjects.

The collection and dissemination of information showing approved methods in building, planning, and construction, including building materials and codes and such other matters as may encourage, improve, and hasten construction and housing.

Studies on simplified commercial practices and establishment of such practices through cooperative business organizations.

The bureau publishes a series of scientific and technical publications, reporting the results of its researches and giving technical data fundamental to industry.

The director has supervision of the preparation of technical specifications through the Federal Specifications Board.

BUREAU OF FISHERIES

HENRY O'MALLEY, Commissioner

Chief functions

The propagation of useful food fishes, including lobsters, oysters, and other shellfish, and their distribution to suitable waters.

Investigations of fish culture, fish diseases, and for the conservation of fishery resources and the development of commercial fisheries.

The study of the methods of the fisheries and fishery industries and the utilization of fishery products.

The collection of statistics of fisheries.

The administration of the Alaska salmon fisheries, the fur-seal herd on the Pribilof Islands, and the law for the protection of sponges off the coast of Florida.

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES

GEORGE R. PUTNAM, Commissioner

Chief functions

The establishment and maintenance of lighthouses, lightships, buoys, and other aids to navigation on the sea and the lake coast and on the rivers of the United States, including Alaska, Hawaiian Islands, and Porto Rico.

The publication of Light Lists, Buoy Lists, and Notices to Mariners, including information regarding all aids to navigation maintained by the Lighthouse Service.

COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

E. LESTER JONES, Director

Chief functions

The survey of the coasts of the United States and the publication of charts needed for the navigation of the adjacent waters, including Alaska, the Philippine Islands, Hawaii, Porto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and the Canal Zone.

A comprehensive geodetic system, extending into the interior, connects and coordinates the surveys of the coasts, and is designed to furnish accurately determined points and elevations in all parts of the country. These are available as a basis for Federal, State, and municipal surveys, and engineering projects of every kind. The magnetic declination has been determined at a large number of stations throughout the country, and the results are available for the use of surveyors and engineers.

The technical operations include base measures, triangulation, traverse, precise leveling, the determination of latitude and azimuth, the determination of difference of longitude by telegraph or radio, magnetic observations and researches, the preparation of magnetic maps, the determination of the force of gravity, topography, hydrography, deep-sea soundings, water temperatures, tidal and current observations.

The results are published in the form of charts on various scales, annual reports, coast pilots, tide tables (published annually in advance), current tables, digests of geodetic publications, and special publications.

BUREAU OF NAVIGATION

D. B. CARSON, Commissioner

Chief functions

General superintendence of commercial marine and merchant seamen.

Supervision of registering, enrolling, licensing, numbering, etc., of vessels under the United States flag, and the annual publication of a list of such vessels.

The enforcement of the navigation and steamboat inspection laws and the laws governing radio communication, as well as duties connected with fees, fines, tonnage taxes, refunds, etc., originating under such laws.

STEAMBOAT INSPECTION SERVICE

GEORGE UHLER, Supervising Inspector General

Chief functions

The inspection of vessels, the examination and licensing of the officers of vessels, and the administration of laws relating to such vessels and their officers. The certification of able seamen who form the crews of merchant vessels.

The inspection of vessels, including the types of boilers; the testing of all materials subject to tensile strain in marine boilers; the inspection of hulls and of life-saving equipment.

The investigation of violations of the steamboat-inspection laws.