

THE CENSUS BUREAU

Task May Be Completed In the Time
Limit Fixed By Law.

FULL FORCE OF HANDS ARE KEPT

The Bureau's Two Reports on Cotton
Recognized as a Success— Advance
Information.

Washington, Special.—The annual report of Hon. W. P. Merriam, Director of the Census, was made public Sunday. Speaking of the prospect of meeting the legal requirement for the completion of the four principal reports by July 1, 1902, Mr. Merriam says: "The work of tabulating the returns and results of the field work of the enumerators and special agents of the twelfth census has progressed with reasonable celerity. The law provides that the four principal reports shall be placed in the hands of the public by the first of July, 1902, and this requirement has rendered it absolutely necessary to maintain a clerical force adequate to complete the work within the prescribed period. The statisticians made estimates of the time needed to finish the particular branch assigned them.

"The plans so submitted have been interfered with, owing to the absence of clerks from duty, owing to sickness or annual leave. It was hoped by the first of November a large number of employees could be dispensed with, but inasmuch as the work has been retarded owing to difficulty of maintaining the clerical force at its maximum, it is not likely that there will be any material reduction until after the first of the year. The officials of the office believe that their allotted task will be completed in ample time."

The director gives a list of prosecutions for violation of the law in connection with the census work, saying of them: "It was hardly to be expected out of agents employed in the field worked, about 55,000 in all, that there would not be some who would prove incompetent and unfaithful to duty. The Director has endeavored to enforce the census act to the letter, and through the assistance of the Attorney General has proceeded against all offenders."

The report includes detailed statements from the different chiefs of divisions in the bureau. Mr. S. N. D. North, chief of the manufacturing division, reports that the work of his division is rapidly drawing to completion. Speaking of the success of the bureau's two reports on cotton, Mr. North says:

"This office has secured from cotton producers, cotton exchanges, cotton factories and cotton manufacturers an overwhelming approval of the services rendered by these reports. I am, therefore, led to recommend that Congress pass a joint resolution authorizing the Census Office to make a similar canvass of the cotton ginneries annually. Under its present organized system of machinery this office will be able to publish this cotton report as early as the month of May or June, in each year, or three to four months in advance of their possible publication through agencies of any other kind. The commercial advantages resulting from these earlier, more accurate and detailed statistics as to the volume of the annual cotton crop are too obvious to be further dwelt upon."

Alabama Majority.

Birmingham, Ala., Special.—The returns from the election for the ratification or the rejection of the new constitution are not coming in as rapidly as expected. It will take the official count by each county on Saturday to definitely determine the result. Chairman Oscar Underwood, of the Democratic State campaign committee, adheres to his claim of 27,000 majority, and Chairman Shelley, of the anti-ratification committee, claims that he has a majority of 20,000. It appears probable that the majority for ratification of the new constitution will be about 25,000, but it does not seem that it will be less than that.

Killed Deputy Sheriff.

Tallulah, La., Special.—J. H. Carson, a deputy sheriff, was shot and killed Saturday, by a bridge laborer, named DeLee, employed on the Vicksburg Shreveport & Pacific Railroad. DeLee had previously shot and wounded two fellow-employees, Russell and White, and Carson was trying to arrest him. DeLee was arrested. The crime has created intense excitement.

By Tel-graph.

A body of Cape Dutch in the British service tamely surrendered to Boers, and collusion is expected.

Lord Kitchener reports that the chain of British blockhouses in South Africa has been extended.

At the opening of the twenty-eighth annual convention of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, in Fort Worth, Texas, President Lillian M. Stevens said liquor is one of the chief resources of anarchy.

The Gathmann dynamite gun was tested at Sandy Hook, N. J., but failed to injure the target.

Mary E. Wilkins, the novelist, was quietly married to Dr. Charles F. Freeman, of Metuchen, N. J.

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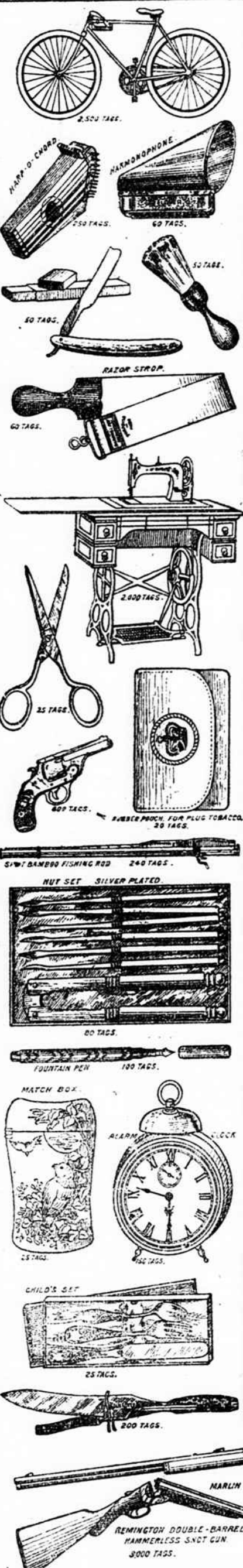
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