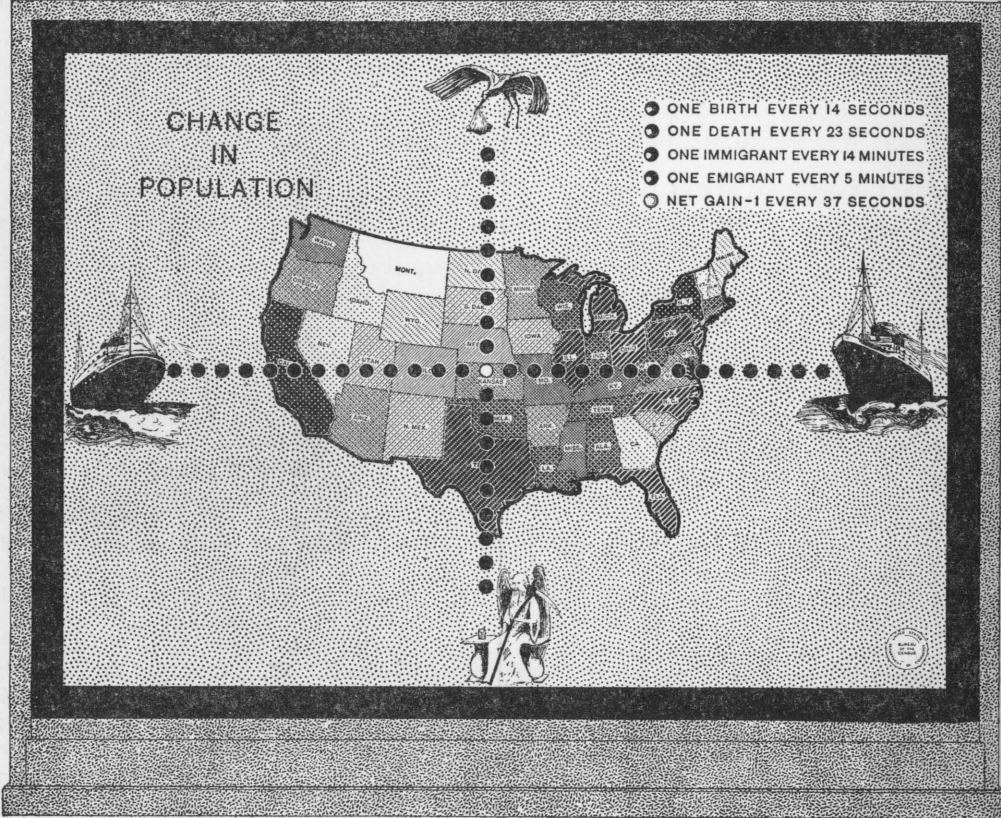
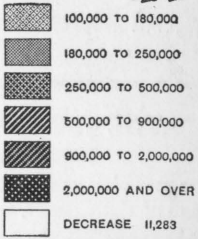
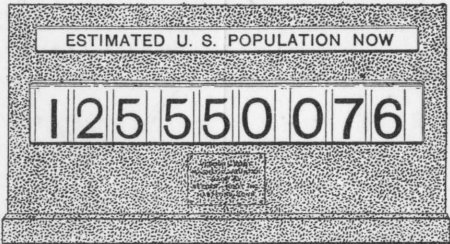
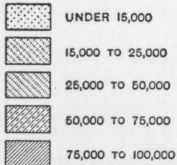


POPULATION INCREASE
1920-1930



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

DANIEL C. ROPER - - - SECRETARY

THE CENSUS BUREAU

WASHINGTON, D. C.

The complex and detailed activities of the Bureau of the Census, the greatest statistical office in the world, are the outgrowth of nearly a century and a half of periodical, and in recent years continuous, statistical work, which had its inception in the Constitutional provision for a decennial enumeration of the population as a basis for the apportionment among the States of their Representatives in Congress.

THE DECENNIAL CENSUS

The first decennial census, taken in 1790, was little more than a mere count of the population; but as the value of census information became widely recognized, inquiries in regard to age, school attendance, occupation, etc., were added. Data on manufactured commodities and mineral products were first collected in 1810, and the earliest statistics of agriculture are those for 1840; but the census of 1850 was the first to be taken along modern lines, and its reports present the earliest statistics that are comparable with those for more recent years.

The Fifteenth Decennial Census was a much greater undertaking than any preceding census. It covered population, agriculture and horticulture, irrigation, drainage, manufactures, mines and quarries, distribution, and unemployment, and its results were published in 32 quarto volumes containing a total of more than 40,000 pages. These reports relate to 122,775,046 persons grouped in 29,904,663 families; to 6,288,648 farms; to 210,959 manufacturing establishments, giving

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

WILLIAM LANE AUSTIN - - DIRECTOR

employment to 10,330,728 persons; to 11,602 mines and quarries; and to 1,543,158 retail stores and 169,702 wholesale establishments, with a total of 6,115,182 employees.

THE PERMANENT CENSUS BUREAU

Since the beginning of the twentieth century, the Bureau of the Census has been in continuous existence. It makes, at decennial, quinquennial, biennial, annual, semiannual, quarterly, and monthly intervals, scores of inquiries covering many of the major aspects of American life, industry, and commerce and ranging in importance from the decennial population census to the numerous monthly inquiries relating to production, shipments, and stocks of various commodities. Data on births, deaths, marriages and divorces, financial statistics of cities and states, and cotton ginning and consumption are now collected annually. The census of manufactures was taken at five-year intervals from 1899 to 1919 but has been taken biennially since 1919. The censuses of electrical industries and of agriculture have been taken every fifth year, the former since 1902 and the latter since 1919. The censuses of religious bodies and wealth, public debt, and taxation have been taken decennially.

Abraham Lincoln once said, "If we could first know where we are and whither we are tending we could better tell what to do and how to do it." It is the function of a great statistical office such as the Bureau of the Census to show where we are by compiling current, up-to-date statistics, and to show also whither we are tending by conducting periodical statistical surveys by censuses.