

CHURCH MEMBERS IN UNITED STATES 33,000,000

Census for 1906 Shows Great Growth in Six Years—Roman Catholics Have Largest Increase.

That the church members in the United States numbered nearly 33,000,000 in 1906; that there were a billion and a quarter dollars invested in church edifices; that every day eight new churches sent their spires skyward; that males formed considerably less than half the total church membership; that a larger percentage of Catholic males than Protestant males were members; that in sixteen states the majority of the total church membership were Roman Catholic; but that of the grand total of church members reported for the United States, 61.6 per cent were Protestants and 38.7 per cent were Roman Catholics; these are the salient and conspicuous facts appearing in the proofsheets of a United States census bureau bulletin, prepared by Chief Statistician William C. Hunt of the division of population of the United States census bureau.

The bulletin will be issued this month. It is in the nature of an abstract of the comprehensive report now in press, giving the results of the fifth census of religious bodies in the United States.

It is stated that the United States census statistics of church membership by sex were collected for the first time in 1906. Of the total number of members reported by the various religious bodies and classified by sex, 43.1 per cent were males and 56.9 per cent females. Among the Protestants the difference was greater, only 39.3 per cent being males. In the Roman Catholic churches there were relatively more males; the number forming 49.3 per cent of the total membership.

Fewer males than females were found among the Latter-Day Saints, the Lutherans, Disciples, Methodists, Baptists, Presbyterians and Protestant Episcopalians, the percentages of male members decreasing in the order shown, and there being but 35.5 per cent male among the Episcopalians. Among the Christian Scientists only 27.6 per cent were males, and of the Shakers but 21.3 per cent; but in the Greek Orthodox church 93.9 per cent were male, as practically all Greek immigrants have been males.

Of the total estimated population of continental United States in 1906, the church members formed 39.1 per cent, the church members formed 39.1 per cent, as against 32.7 per cent for 1890, amounting to 6.4 per cent more in 1906 than 1890. Of this 6.4 per cent increase, the Roman Catholic church is credited with 4.4 per cent and the Protestants with 1.8 per cent; the remainder being divided among all other denominations.

It is stated in the bulletin that the total number of members reported by the various religious bodies for 1906 was 32,936,445, of which number the Protestants were credited with 20,287,742 and the Roman Catholics with 12,079,142. Of the Protestant bodies the Methodists numbered 5,749,838; the Baptists 5,662,234; the Lutherans 2,112,494; the Presbyterians 1,830,555, and the Disciples or Christians 1,142,359.

Of the total 32,936,445 church members 61.6 per cent were Protestants; 38.7 per cent Roman Catholics, and 1.7 per cent members of other religious organizations. The rate of increase shown for the Roman Catholic church is 93.5 per cent, which is more than twice that for all protestant bodies combined. The Methodists reported 17.5 per cent of all Protestant church members; the Baptists 17.2 per cent.

The total number of local religious organizations in 1906 is given as 212,230, an increase since 1890 of 47,078, or 28.5 per cent. The Protestants are credited with an increase in this particular amounting to 27.8 per cent; the Roman Catholic church 21.9 per cent; the Jewish congregations 231.9 per cent and the Latter-Day Saints 38.3 per cent.

The Methodists reported the largest number of local organizations, 64,701; the Baptists reported 54,880; the Presbyterians 15,506; the Lutheran, 12,703, and the Roman Catholics 12,482.

Other interesting features of the bulletin are those showing that the total seating capacity of churches was 58,536,830, an increase over the 1890 United States census figures of 34.4 per cent; that the rate of increase was practically the same for both Protestants and Roman Catholics, and kept pace with the increase in population; and that \$1,257,575,867 was invested in church edifices in 1906. The total amount of debt was \$108,050,946, or 8.6 per cent of the total value; of this total the Protestant bodies owed \$53,301,254 and the Roman Catholics \$49,488,055. In sixteen states a majority of the church members were Roman Catholic; in twenty-nine states Protestants and in one, Utah, Latter-Day Saints.

DOESN'T LIKE THE OUTLOOK

Oregon Valley Land Company Comes in for Scolding by Prominent Man Who Investigates.

E. T. Rehfield, attorney, and newspaper man of Guthrie, Okla., who recently passed through here on his way to Lakeview to make an investigation of that section of the country which is now being put on the market by the Oregon Valley Land company, returned last night. In speaking of the methods employed by this company to dispose of this land, Mr. Rehfield stated as follows:

"It is one of the most gigantic frauds ever perpetrated on the American public, and it is my intention to go to Portland for the purpose of consulting with the United States District Attorney and if possible have this concern enjoined from continuing any further with this swindle—for such it is. The literature that has been sent out by this company is full of misrepresentations, and the foregoing statement of mine is based on what I saw from a personal investigation on the ground. For instance, in the Oregon Valley News, which was published last June in Kansas City by this concern, it states: 'The rainfall in Eastern Oregon is well distributed. Grain is sown in the autumn, about the time the rain begins, remains in the ground during the period of greatest precipitation (usually in the form of snow), matures and ripens with the decreasing rainfall of early spring and summer, and is harvested from July to October, the driest part of the year.' This is not true, as grain is sowed in the spring, and they have not harvested there yet, as the grain is not ripe. This same circular states: 'People are beginning to realize the wonderful possibilities in diversified farming, and that no section of the Union offers a safer or surer reward for this industry than does Oregon, thousands of acres heretofore devoted to the raising of wheat and other cereals have been seeded to orchard and meadow grasses, and the feeding of cattle, sheep and hogs has, in many cases, taken the place of exclusive grain farming in whole or in part.' It will be noted that this applies to Oregon in general, which in itself is misleading as regards this particular proposition. As far as hogs are concerned, I never saw any on my journey over there, except at Bly, which is in Klamath county, and farmers told me over there that alfalfa gets badly frost-bitten and for a commercial plant does no good.

"The above are only a few of the misrepresentations which have been sent by this company in their literature, of which I have copies. I made an inspection of the irrigation ditch with which it is proposed to put this land under water, and the very manner in which it is constructed thus far stamps it as a poor makeshift, and in my opinion, it will never hold water. I might add that this same paper also states, as follows: 'Irrigation is not necessary for ordinary crops, nor is it necessary for the growing of fruits or berries, but greatly increases the value of the land should the owner desire to engage in what is known as intense farming, the raising of sugar beets, vegetables, etc. To any one acquainted with this section the palpable misrepresentation is apparent.

"In conclusion, I will say that the people of Lakeview and Lake county in general are in no ways responsible for any of the foregoing conditions. It is simply the work of this company, its hirelings, who are found in evidence around Lakeview. The people of Lakeview and Lake county, as a matter of fact, are not advised as to the kind of literature that has been sent out by this concern, and when Dr. Daly was shown these misrepresentations by me he was perfectly surprised, as it was the first time he saw them. The people of Lakeview, as a whole, are composed of first-class people, and if they did but understand the bad effect that this despicable scheme will have on the future of Oregon, they would rise up in a body and stop it, for I am sure from what I saw of them they are not of that kind.

"Another disgraceful feature in connection with this matter is the selection of the auctioneer, who, according to the first literature sent out, was to be selected by the contract holders, but it now appears from a conversation which I had with Mr. Martin that the company has arranged for all of this, and they will appoint the auctioneer themselves, or to put it in his own words, 'We have to have a man who understands the business; we have the man already here.' This man is Charles A. Muler of Harper, Kas., who is one of the tools of the company, and the boasting of this man for the place by the Lake County 'Examiner' in their issue of August 19th is only one proof among many that they are on the payroll of this concern. It will also be noticed that all of the money paid in on this land is deposited at Kansas City, not Lakeview, due doubtless to the fact that people who are there on the ground will make a demand for the return of their hard-earned money after looking the situation over.

"One of their folders says about the climate as follows: 'Mild, balmy, healthful, invigorating, free from malaria. Winters mild, always moderate, cool in summer, pleasant in winter, etc., etc.' As to this feature I can say that during my recent trip there this week, one morning water was found frozen in a pail which was left out.

"It is my intention to notify all of my home papers immediately to send warning to all probable investors in this scheme to stay at home. One thousand dollars cash is offered and all expenses of inspection if conditions are not as good as represented in the literature of this concern. I am the holder of two contracts, and am going to lay claim to the \$1,000, but the expenses of my trip will be borne by myself, as I feel I am well repaid if I can save good, worthy people their homes and money by staying away and keeping out of this scheme."

EMBEZZLEMENT AT SILVER LAKE

The cause of Attorney Moore's sudden and hurried journey to Silver Lake last week was due to the arrest of C. P. Westcott, confidential clerk of F. M. Crisman, one of the merchants of that place.

The charge laid is for embezzlement of \$7,000. Westcott waived examination and was placed under \$5,000 bonds for appearance in the October term of court in Lakeview. Failing to secure the bonds, he was given in charge of Deputy Sheriff Arthur, who brought him to Lakeview Tuesday night and placed him in the county jail to await trial.

It appears that Mr. Crisman had implicit confidence in Westcott, and practically placed his entire extensive business, including funds for others, in his hands for safe keeping, and that the result was not altogether satisfactory to the former.

It does not appear as yet what Westcott did with the money. It will probably come out at the trial.—Lakeview Examiner.

STILL LOVES HIS NATIVE LAND

Will Educate Son at a New Jersey Institution of Learning.

Dr. George Martin, one of the leading dentists of Berlin, Germany, is in the city on a visit to his brothers, Alex Jr. and William. Dr. Martin of Berlin is one Oregon boy who has made his mark abroad in his profession, and although he would not admit it, it is known that he counts among his patrons a goodly number of the titled people in Germany. In speaking of this city, he stated that it had been five years since he had visited here, and during that time this place had grown beyond anything he could imagine. While the Doctor has been prosperous abroad, he still has the love of his native mother country at heart, and doubtless intends that his children will be inspired with the same feeling, for he has made arrangements to place one of his boys in a private school at Lawrenceville, N. J., so that he will grow up Americanized. Dr. Martin returned to Oakland Thursday morning, where he rejoined his family and will make a tour of the East before returning to Germany. He will sail on the 27th of September.

If Dr. William Martin, who is now up on Crystal Creek, should return home, fix his whiskers up similar to those of his brother George and change clothes with him, he could go on to Berlin and manipulate the Emperor's molars without him knowing the difference, so striking is the resemblance between the two brothers.

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SPECIAL RESORT FOR TOURISTS

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF

THE FIRST TRUST AND SAVINGS BANK

at Klamath Falls, in the State of Oregon, at the close of business, June 23, 1909.

RESOURCES	DOLLARS
Loans and Discounts	\$ 50,969.55
Bonds, securities, etc.	2,394.27
Banking house, furniture and fixtures	450.74
Due from approved reserve banks	3,627.56
Checks and other cash items	55.48
Cash on hand	4,952.49
Total	62,360.10

LIABILITIES	DOLLARS
Capital stock paid in	\$ 25,000.00
Undivided profits, less expenses and taxes paid	1,508.73
Due to banks and bankers	1,553.21
Individual deposits subject to check	15,946.54
Demand certificates of deposit	55.00
Time certificates of deposit	2,285.00
Certified checks	200.00
Savings deposits	9,811.57
Total	62,360.10

State of Oregon,)
County of Klamath, ss.
I, J. W. Siemens, cashier of the above mentioned bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
Correct—Attest: J. W. SIEMENS, Cashier.
G. W. WHITE,
GEO. T. BALDWIN, Directors.

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