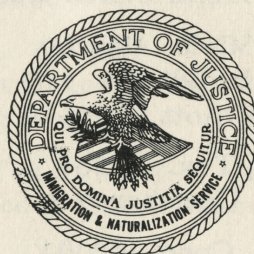


Our Immigration

A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF
IMMIGRATION TO THE
UNITED STATES



M-85

Rev. 1967

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Immigration and Naturalization Service

OFFICES--Continued

List of offices of the Immigration and Naturalization Service from which information concerning matters referred to in this pamphlet may be obtained.

Anchorage, Alaska 99501
U.S. Post Office & Courthouse
Bldg., Room 143, Box 939

Atlanta, Ga. 30309
881 Peachtree Street, N. E.

Baltimore, Md. 21202
707 North Calvert Street

Boston, Mass. 02203
John F. Kennedy Federal Bldg.
Government Center

Buffalo, N.Y. 14202
68 Court Street

Chicago, Ill. 60604
Courthouse & Federal Office Bldg.
219 South Dearborn Street

Cleveland, Ohio 44113
600 Standard Building
1370 Ontario Street

Denver, Colo. 80202
17027 Federal Office Building

Detroit, Mich. 48207
Federal Building
333 Mt. Elliott Street

El Paso, Tex. 79984
343 U.S. Courthouse

Hartford, Conn. 06101
135 High Street

Helena, Mont. 59601
Federal Building

Honolulu, Hawaii 96809
595 Ala Moana Boulevard

Kansas City, Mo. 64106
819 U.S. Courthouse
811 Grand Avenue

Los Angeles, Calif. 90012
300 North Los Angeles Street

Miami, Fla. 33130
Room 1402 Federal Building
51 S. W. First Avenue

Newark, N.J. 07102
1060 Broad Street

New Orleans, La. 70113
New Federal Building
701 Loyola Avenue

New York, N.Y. 10007
20 West Broadway

Omaha, Nebr. 68102
New Federal Building
215 North 17th Street

Philadelphia, Pa. 19102
128 North Broad Street

Phoenix, Ariz. 85025
230 North First Avenue

Port Isabel, Tex. 78566
Route 3
Los Fresnos, Tex.

Portland, Maine 04112
319 U.S. Courthouse

Portland, Oreg. 97205
333 U.S. Courthouse
Broadway & Main Streets

St. Albans, Vt. 05478
45 Kingman Street

St. Paul, Minn. 55101
1014 New Post Office Bldg.
180 E. Kellogg Blvd.

San Antonio, Tex. 78206
U.S. Post Office & Courthouse

San Francisco, Calif. 94111
Appraisers Building
630 Sansome Street

San Juan, P.R.
255 Ponce de Leon
Hato Rey, P.R. 00917

Seattle, Wash. 98134
815 Airport Way, South

Washington, D.C. 20536
1025 Vermont Avenue, N.W.

Contents

	Page
Introduction	v
Colonial Period to 1820	1
Early Immigration, and Official Records (1820-1880)	2
Opposition to Immigration	4
First General Laws—The Flood of Immigrants (1881-1920)	5
Conditions Affecting Immigration	6
The Period 1921-1940	8
Nonquota Immigration	10
World War II (1941-1945)	11
The Postwar Period (1946-1962)	11
War Brides	12
Displaced Persons and Refugees	13
Orphans	16
Western Hemisphere Immigration	17
Alien Population	18
Immigrant Inspection	19

INTRODUCTION



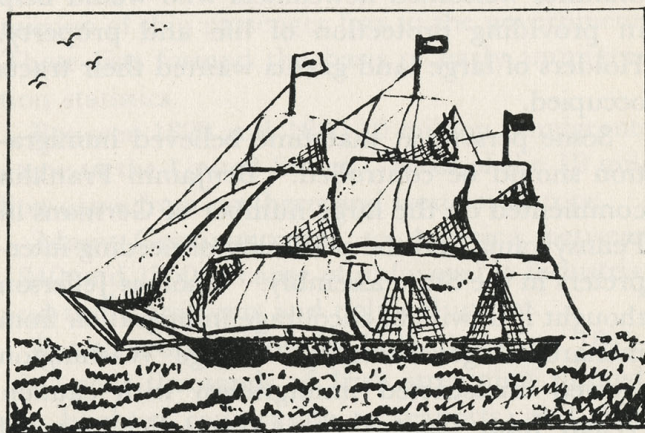
The great movement of peoples to our shores differed from other world migrations not only in size but also in character.

Earlier mass migrations consisted of tribes and distinct racial groups. Immigrants to this country consisted of men of all races, cultures, and creeds—a pageant of all the nations.

Among them have been great champions of human liberty, staunch defenders on land and sea, skilled workers, great leaders, artists, engineers, inventors, musicians—experts and artisans in every field of human endeavor.

These immigrant Americans and their descendants have contributed brain, brawn, and inventive genius to build a Nation which today stands unrivalled anywhere on earth.

COLONIAL PERIOD TO 1820



The few colonists who came to America in the early 1600's touched off a migration which became the greatest mass movement of people in history.

Early English settlers set up colonies of slightly more than 100 persons at Jamestown and Plymouth. A small band of Dutch settled New Amsterdam, while a few French set up outposts along the Mississippi River, later settling in Louisiana. A group of Swedes settled at Fort Christina, Delaware, and groups of Spaniards established colonies in the Southwest and Florida.

From these small beginnings the colonial population grew to 52,000 by 1650 and by 1700 totaled 275,000. More and more colonists began to come to this new land where men sought relief from oppression and intolerance. Some came to share the adventure of opening the vast new frontier.

The white population reached 1 million by 1750 and when the first census was taken in 1790 the population had swelled to 3,227,000.

Studies of the 1790 census show that more than 75 percent of the population at that time was of British origin. Germans accounted for 8 percent and smaller percentages had origin in the Netherlands, France, Sweden, and Spain.

Each colony set up its own standards for the selection of immigrants, and policies varied from colony to colony during this early period.

In general, immigration was encouraged. Communities welcomed newcomers who would help in providing protection of life and property. Holders of large land grants wanted their tracts occupied.

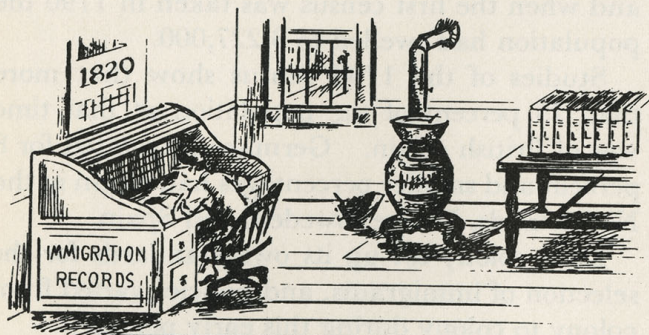
Some persons at that time believed immigration should be controlled. Benjamin Franklin commented on the large number of Germans in Pennsylvania and the possibility of needing interpreters in the State assembly. Thomas Jefferson thought it unwise to encourage immigration from monarchical governments. George Washington viewed unrestricted immigration with caution. When John Quincy Adams was Secretary of State in 1819, he stated that the government had never officially encouraged emigration from Europe. Adams declared that immigrants were not to expect favors. He added, however, that those who became citizens could expect the same rights as natives.

There were no Federal laws governing admission of aliens to the United States for almost a hundred years after this Nation was founded.

The Alien Act of 1798 empowered the President to order any alien he deemed dangerous to this country to depart from the United States, but this law expired after two years.

Meanwhile, the population of the United States continued to grow, and immigrants, sons of immigrants and grandsons of immigrants continued to push steadily westward.

EARLY IMMIGRATION, AND OFFICIAL RECORDS (1820-1880)



Immigration records were first kept in 1820, following an act passed in 1819 requiring submission of ship passenger lists to the government. These lists formed the basis of early immigration statistics.

Between 1820 and 1880 10 million immigrants came to the United States. Most of the 10 million came from northern and western Europe.

Many Germans came to America between 1840 and 1850 because of unfavorable industrial and trade prospects and political unrest.

Potato crop failures in Ireland during 1845-1847 sent thousands of Irish streaming through the blighted countryside to seaports, and ships bound for America.

Others at that time also felt the "push" of economic and other pressures at home and the persistent "pull" of free land and good wages in the United States.

British, French, Norwegians and Swedes also entered in large numbers to begin a new life.

Making the voyage to America was not easy or comfortable. Sailing ships were overcrowded. Many vessels required 3 or 4 months to make the crossing. Ship supplies of food and water were often exhausted before the ship made port. Sanitary and ventilation facilities were poor. Smallpox, cholera, typhus and other diseases took their toll. Only the rugged in body and spirit survived the rigors of those early crossings.

Mounting criticism of such travel conditions brought laws designed to improve accommodations on passenger ships. Such acts were passed in 1819, 1847, 1848, and 1855. The Act of 1848 required passenger ships to carry adequate food supplies and to provide a cookstove for steerage passengers.

It was during the middle and late 1800's that the steamship entered the travel picture. Sailing vessels carried 96 percent of all passengers who arrived in New York in 1856. Four percent came by steamship.

Just 4 years later—in 1860—a large portion of the passenger traffic had shifted to steamships.

By 1873, the 1856 ratio was reversed and 96 percent of all arrivals came by steamships, which had reduced the voyage to about 2 weeks.

The steamship brought a new era in immigration. Steamship agents solicited passengers among prospective European immigrants. Land speculators and industrial interests also urged people to come. Immigrants established here provided funds for friends and relatives desiring to come to America.

Opposition to Immigration

Not all Americans favored immigration. In the early 1830's a group known as the "Nativist" movement sprang from opposition to immigration. The chief aim of that group was to curb the mounting flow of immigration.

Interest in the movement dropped during the Mexican War and following the discovery of gold in California, but was revived following a marked increase in immigration in 1850. The anti-immigration group became the "Know-nothing" political party which achieved little strength and was rarely heard of after 1860. A decline in immigration after outbreak of the Civil War in 1861 undoubtedly affected interest in the movement.

Congress authorized an Immigration Bureau in the State Department in 1864. This Bureau functioned until 1868, and during its existence, immigration rose from about 193,000 in 1864 to nearly 316,000 in 1867.

During that period various States passed immigration laws. The State laws were aimed at keeping out persons likely to become public charges. The United States Supreme Court held that these State laws were unconstitutional and the States then called on Congress to pass similar laws.

The policy of national regulation of immigration began in 1875 when Congress passed a law to prevent entry of persons suffering from certain physical and mental weaknesses.

FIRST GENERAL LAWS THE FLOOD OF IMMIGRANTS

(1881-1920)



The first general immigration statute was enacted on August 3, 1882. That act provided for a head tax of 50 cents and barred admission of persons likely to become public charges, convicts and mental incompetents.

The year 1882 also marked the beginning of legislation barring entry of Chinese. Congress at that time passed the "Chinese Exclusion Act."

Few Chinese had come to the United States before 1850. Between 1850 and 1882, however, some 200,000 Chinese came here. The big increase in Chinese immigration was attributed to famine in the Canton region of China and demand for labor following discovery of gold in California. Shipping companies also encouraged Chinese to come to the United States.

Chinese were first employed as laborers in gold mining camps, and later large numbers were employed in railroad construction. As the number of Chinese increased, the Orientals met increasing opposition from labor groups in most fields. This opposition forced Chinese to turn to employment in agriculture, domestic service and small business.

Congress adopted the first contract labor law on February 26, 1885. It was designed to protect the pay scale of American labor by preventing importation of cheap foreign labor.

Immigration to the United States mushroomed after 1880.

Between 1881 and 1920, 23 and one-half million aliens were admitted for permanent residence. Nearly 90 percent came from Europe.

Peak immigration, reached during the years 1905-1914, totaled 10,121,940 immigrants. More than a million were admitted yearly during 1905, 1906, 1907, 1910, 1913, and 1914.

In 1914, the year World War I broke out in Europe, 1,218,000 immigrants came to the United States. After 1914 immigration showed a decided slump, reaching a low of 110,000 in 1918.

Travel difficulties were accountable for much of the decline during the war years. In 1919, immigration increased to 141,000, and climbed to 430,000 in 1920.

That period also brought a shift in the sources of immigrants. Between 1881 and 1890, 80 percent of the European immigrants came from northern and western Europe. Between 1911 and 1920 only 23 percent came from the north and west, while 77 percent came from southern and eastern Europe.

During the period 1881-1920 slightly more than 4 million Italian immigrants arrived. Also, almost 4 million immigrants came from Austria-Hungary and more than 3 million from Russia.

Conditions Affecting Immigration

Causes which contributed to the shift in principal immigration sources included reduction of famine and political and religious intolerance in Ireland, Germany, and England.

Industrialization in England and Germany resulted in high employment. In addition the birth-rate in northern and western Europe was declining.

At the same time, conditions in southern Europe encouraged people to seek homes elsewhere. There was a lag in agricultural, political and social reforms. In some instances religious and political oppression increased. Birthrates were high and employment lagged. In addition,

improvements in travel tended to encourage emigration.

Information about the United States was easily obtained. American employers and steamship agents actively stimulated immigration, and immigrants in the United States continued to urge, and aid, friends and relatives abroad.

Conditions in the United States also had a sharp effect on immigration. By 1880 most of the public lands suitable for agriculture had been taken up. The frontier had disappeared.

Between 1881 and 1920 the proportion of agricultural workers declined from 50 percent of the working force to a little more than 26 percent.

The same period was one of unmatched development and growth of industry in the United States. Industrial expansion greatly increased the demand for labor—a need which could not be met by the native population.

Workers in manufacturing and mechanical occupations had increased from 24 to 30 percent. Those in trade and transportation rose from 12 to 25 percent.

The need for industrial manpower thus became the greatest “pull” favoring immigration. Labor processes were simplified, enabling industry to absorb untrained and unskilled workers.

By 1880, immigration had become a problem requiring more attention by the Congress. In addition to the Chinese exclusion law and the contract labor law, Congress passed several acts between 1880 and 1920.

A second general immigration law was adopted in March 1891. That law provided for medical inspection of all arriving aliens. It also barred entry of paupers, polygamists, and those suffering from certain diseases. Another provision called for deportation of all aliens who had entered the United States illegally.

In 1893 Congress established boards of special inquiry which conducted hearings in the cases of aliens thought to be inadmissible under the law. The boards determined whether such persons could enter the United States.

The 1893 law also required shipping companies to furnish manifests (passenger lists) to the government.

In 1903, Congress passed a general immigration law which excluded the insane, professional beggars and anarchists.

Congress broadened this law in 1907 to bar entry of the feeble-minded, those with disabilities making them unable to work, and individuals who had committed certain crimes. Children under 16, not accompanied by their parents, were also barred.

Public sentiment favoring more selective immigration became strong after the great immigration of 1905-1914. A commission was appointed in 1907 to study the problem, and its report, generally known as the "Dillingham Report," was published in 1911.

However, no selective immigration legislation was passed until 1917. The 1917 Act included all previous grounds for barring entry of certain aliens. In addition, that act barred from entry persons coming from a geographical area known as the "Asiatic Barred Zone." The "Barred Zone" included most of Asia and the Pacific islands. Another provision of the act required that immigrants must be able to read and write.

The act provided for deportation of aliens who had entered the United States illegally or committed certain crimes.

THE PERIOD 1921-1940

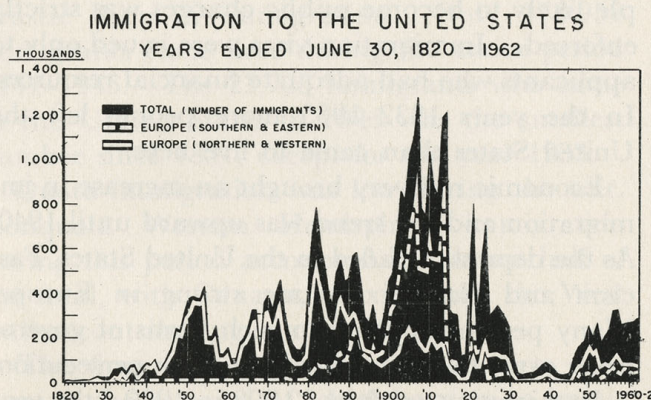
Almost 5 million immigrants were admitted to the United States during the years 1921-1940. More than 4 million of these came during the 1920's.

In 1921, Congress passed a quota law, which was the first legislation placing a limit on the number of immigrants who could come to the United States. The quota in that act was based on the 1910 census.

Some 350,000 persons were permitted to come

to the United States annually under the 1921 quota act.

Congress adopted a permanent quota law in 1924. From 1924 to 1929 the quota was set at 2 percent of the foreign-born residents in the United States in 1890. This reduced the yearly quota to 164,667.



The "National Origins" provisions of the 1924 Act became effective in July 1929. That part of the act set up a quota for each nationality. All quotas were a certain percentage of the foreign-born residents of each nationality in the United States in 1920. In 1929 the annual quotas totaled 153,714.

The 1924 Act was the first law to admit certain aliens as "nonquota" immigrants. Persons admitted as "nonquota" under that act included those born in Western Hemisphere countries, their wives, husbands and children. The Western Hemisphere group was the largest single source of nonquota immigrants.

The nonquota Western Hemisphere countries are: Canada, Mexico, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

Other nonquota immigrants included wives, husbands, and children of United States citizens, clergymen and their families, and persons who previously had been American citizens.

The 1924 Act also required that aliens who sought to enter the United States must first obtain immigration visas from a United States consular officer.

An economic depression began in the United States in 1930. A sharp decline in immigration followed. A provision of the law excluding people likely to become public charges was strictly enforced. Immigration visas were issued only to applicants who had adequate financial resources. In the years 1932–1935 more people left the United States than came to live here.

Economic recovery brought an increase in immigration and the trend was upward until 1940. As the depression faded in the United States, Fascism and Nazism became strong in Europe. Many persons opposed to such forms of government came to this country to escape persecution.

Immigration reached 82,998 in 1939—the year in which World War II broke out in Europe—and declined to 70,756 in 1940.

Nonquota Immigration

Nonquota immigration to the United States from 1925 through 1940 nearly equaled quota immigration and in some years exceeded it.

Western Hemisphere immigration averaged more than 125,000 a year from 1925 to 1929, and dropped to a yearly average of 18,000 in the 1930's. This included sharp increases in immigration from Canada and Mexico after passage of the 1924 Act, which lessened the flow of European labor.

Nonquota immigration from Canada, which was the principal source of Western Hemisphere immigration, averaged nearly 75,000 a year from 1925 to 1929. The Canadian average dropped to 13,000 yearly during the 1930's.

Mexican nationals, attracted by higher wages and better living conditions in the United States, entered the country at the average of 50,000 a year between 1925 and 1929.

Between 1929 and 1939 the Mexican immigration average dropped to 3,000, and almost 5 times

as many Mexicans left the United States as came in during that period.

WORLD WAR II (1941–1945)

The chaotic conditions existing throughout the world during the Second World War caused a drastic drop in immigration. Only 170,952 immigrants came here during the entire period 1941–1945. The 23,725 immigrants who came to the United States in 1943 was the smallest number since 1831, except for the year 1933.

Quota immigration was low during the war. Nonquota Western Hemisphere immigration during this period accounted for almost half of the total, with Canada, Mexico, and the West Indies contributing almost 70,000.

The first of a series of legislative acts concerning the removal of racial barriers to immigration and naturalization came in 1943, when Congress repealed previous acts which had excluded Chinese. A Chinese quota of 105 was proclaimed and Chinese immigrants were declared eligible for naturalization.

Shortly after the war, a 1946 Presidential Proclamation increased the Philippine quota from 50 to 100, and the Filipinos were declared eligible for naturalization. In the same year, Congress extended naturalization privileges to Indian racial groups and made such persons eligible to participate in the quota of 100 established for India.

THE POSTWAR PERIOD (1946–1962)

The two basic laws that have governed immigration from 1946 to 1962 are the Immigration Act of 1924, as amended, and the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 (known as the Walter-McCarran Act). Both of these laws set an immigration policy of numerical restriction on immigration through the use of the quota system.

Almost four million immigrants came to the United States during 1946–1962. More than a

million of these were from the United Kingdom (371,863), Germany (493,704), and Italy (285,329), and nearly nine hundred thousand others from Canada (440,146) and Mexico (454,362).

After the war, immigration increased rapidly each year from 1946 (108,721) to 1950 (249,187), and reached its peak in 1957 (326,867). The natural impetus to immigration after the cessation of hostilities was added to by the adverse conditions in other parts of the world, and also by legislation during this period which allowed groups such as war brides, refugees, and orphans to enter, either under relaxed restrictions or outside the allotted quotas.

Quota immigrants numbered only 9,045 in 1943, but after World War II quota immigration rose to a high of 197,460 in 1950. The excess of quota admissions over the allotted quota of 154 thousand was due to the mortgaging of future quotas under the Displaced Persons Act. The Act of September 11, 1957, removed these mortgages on quotas and restored the full use of the quotas, making about 8,200 numbers available per year.

Nonquota immigration, which had accounted for 53 percent of the total during the war, when travel and other restrictions held down quota immigration, dropped in relative importance from almost three-fourths of the total in 1946 to about one-fifth in 1950, when many displaced persons were being admitted as quota immigrants under special legislation. Since then, nonquota immigration increased in relative size, accounting for 51 percent of the total in 1953, and in each year from 1955 to 1962 was over 60 percent of the total figure.

War Brides

The "War Brides Act" of December 28, 1945, speeded admission of alien wives and husbands of United States Armed Forces personnel and their children by waiving some of the excluding provisions of the Act of 1924, such as certain visa and physical requirements.



Between July 1946 and June 30, 1950, a total of 114,691 brides, 333 husbands, and 4,669 children entered the United States under the War Brides Act.

Alien fiancées and fiancés of United States Armed Forces personnel were admitted as non-immigrants under a 1946 act and became permanent residents upon their subsequent marriage to citizens.

Both the War Brides Act and the Fiancées Act expired in December 1948, and Congress passed a law extending benefits under the acts for a short time in 1949.

Most war brides came from Great Britain, Northern Ireland, Germany, Italy, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. Some 50 percent of the war brides were from English speaking countries.

Displaced Persons and Refugees

Of the 3.9 million immigrants who came to the United States between 1946-1962, over 700,000 were refugees. First to be admitted were displaced persons. In June 1948, Congress authorized the admission of over 400,000. Since the quota would have limited the number of entries, the law provided that future quotas could be charged for current admissions. The law also required that a job and housing should be available to the immigrant. Ninety percent of the 406,026 immigrants subsequently

admitted to the United States under this law came under the auspices of religious and social agencies. Others were provided homes and jobs by private citizens—often relatives.

The displaced persons represented many religious faiths and diverse cultural backgrounds. Three-fourths of them came from Poland, Germany, Latvia, the U.S.S.R., and Yugoslavia. Often they came in large family groups. Indicative of their satisfaction with their new country was the fact that many of them made application for United States citizenship through naturalization very soon after arrival.

There were still many refugees when the Displaced Persons Act expired. Its successor, the Refugee Relief Act of 1953, provided that 209 thousand persons who had fled, escaped, or been expelled from Communist dominated countries could be admitted.

The Refugee Relief Act, unlike the Displaced Persons Act, did not require a charge to quotas. In accordance with the provisions of the law, American citizens sponsored the 189,017 aliens admitted and gave assurance of housing and jobs for them. The group admitted under this law included 6,130 Hungarians who had escaped into Austria following the revolution in Hungary in October 1956. An additional 31,915 Hungarians were paroled into the United States on an emergency basis.

An act approved July 25, 1958, provided that the status of these parolees could be adjusted to that of permanent residents if they had been here for two years. As of June 30, 1962, 30,664 had adjusted their status under the 1958 act.

One section of the Act of September 11, 1957, provided for the distribution of approximately 18,000 visas which remained unissued when the Refugee Relief Act expired on December 31, 1956, to refugees, expellees, and their families. Although these visas were to have been available without time limit, almost all of them have already been used.

Certain close relatives, including parents, of

persons previously admitted under the terms of the Refugee Relief Act, were granted admission under 1959 legislation.

When Congress found another situation in which refugees were made homeless, special nonquota admission was granted to Portuguese nationals displaced from their homes in the Azores by earthquake and floods. The same law that admitted this group also allowed Netherlands nationals who were refugees from their homes in Indonesia to enter as nonquota immigrants. In all, 20,325 persons have been admitted under this act since its passage (September 2, 1958) to June 30, 1962.

In July 1960, Congress passed a law giving the Attorney General authority to parole certain refugees into the United States who had fled from Communist countries and could not return because of fear of persecution because of their race, religion, or political beliefs.

This law was extended indefinitely in June 1962, just before it was scheduled to expire, since the continuing need of a pathway to the free world for these people was evident. This extension of the law allows the United States to continue participation with other countries in the resettlement of the refugees remaining in Europe and to assist in closing refugee camps which have been in existence since World War II.

By the end of December 1962, 10,322 persons had been paroled into this country under the provisions of this law.

After the January 1959 fall of the Batista government in Cuba, many Cubans who were opposed to Fidel Castro's policies or fearful of persecution under this regime fled to the United States. A recognition of our responsibility to provide a haven from oppression led to the granting of parole into this country for many of these people who did not fully meet the legal requirements for admission, primarily because visas and other documents could not be obtained.

By the end of June 1962, over 125,000

Cubans were in the United States in temporary status.

In May 1962, President Kennedy authorized the parole into this country of several thousand Chinese in Hong Kong, to help relieve the crowded conditions caused by the horde of persons who entered that colony to escape the tyranny of the Communist rulers on the Chinese mainland. Many Chinese who are relatives of United States citizens and resident aliens, and those possessing special skills needed in this country, will be able to come here under this program.

Orphans

The most touching group of immigrants who have been admitted to the United States are the orphan children who have been brought to this country as the adopted children of citizens, or those children who are brought here to be adopted. The loss of their homes and parents has marked these children as a group greatly in need of assistance.

In recognition of their plight, special provisions relating to orphans have been included in most of the recent legislation pertaining to immigration. The Displaced Persons Act authorized 5,000 special nonquota visas for orphans. Five hundred more were issued in 1953 when the Displaced Persons Act had expired, and in the same year the Refugee Relief Act provided 4,000 additional nonquota visas. When these were exhausted they were supplemented by 925 admissions under parole.

An important provision of a 1957 act allowed, for a limited time, the admission of an unlimited number of adopted orphans.

From 1948, when the first legislation admitting orphan children was passed, to the end of 1962, over 19,000 have been admitted under the various legislative programs. Three-fourths of these children have come here from the five countries (Germany, Italy, Greece, Japan, and Korea) where war and its aftermath have made

many children lose their homes and parents, and where large numbers of American servicemen and civilians have been stationed.



The tragic situation of these children and the continuing need for legislation to allow them to enter this country resulted in the first permanent law regarding orphans, which was enacted in September 1961. This law amended the 1952 Immigration and Nationality Act to provide that eligible orphans be admitted for permanent residence as children of citizens.

Western Hemisphere Immigration

Immigration since World War II has included not only Europeans who were refugees, and quota immigrants, but it also included a large number of immigrants from Mexico, Canada, and other Western Hemisphere countries.

Immigration of Canadians rose after World War II, but remained far below the high number of Canadians who came here during the 1920's. Expanding economy and industrialization in Canada held Canadian immigration to the United States below 30,000 a year until 1957, when 33,000 Canadian immigrants were admitted. Since 1957, immigration from Canada has approximated 30,000 in 1958, 1960, 1961, and 1962, with a drop to 23,000 in 1959,

reflecting adverse economic conditions in some areas of the United States and improved conditions in western Canada.

Mexican immigration to the United States averaged 8,000 a year just after the Second World War, but rose suddenly to 18,000 in 1953, jumped to 65,000 in 1956, declined to 23,000 in 1959, and rose again to 55,000 in 1962.

The large increase in Mexican immigration followed "Operation Wetback" in the Southwest in 1954, when Immigration Service officers rounded up Mexicans who had entered the country illegally and sent them back to Mexico.

Many of these illegal entrants were engaged in agricultural labor in the Southwest. Mexicans who had entered illegally for agricultural jobs have since been replaced by legally contracted laborers who come to the United States for farm work under an agreement with the Mexican Government.

ALIEN POPULATION

The Alien Registration Act, passed in 1940, required registration and fingerprinting of all aliens who were in the United States or who sought to enter. Under this law 5,009,857 aliens registered. Sixty-four percent of the total were from Italy, Canada, Great Britain, Poland, Mexico, Russia, and Germany.

The Internal Security Act of 1950 required aliens in the United States to report their addresses to the Immigration and Naturalization Service during January of each year, in the interest of national security. Under this act, 2¼ million address reports were filed in 1951.

The requirement that aliens annually report their addresses was continued under the 1952 Immigration and Nationality Act. Since 1955, there has been an increase each year in the number reporting and in January 1961 the figure passed the 3 million mark.

While the same seven countries (Mexico, Canada, United Kingdom, Germany, Italy,

Poland, and Russia) accounted for about three-fifths of the aliens recorded in both 1940 and 1963, the Mexican nationals moved from fifth to first place (and from eight to eighteen percent) in the totals. This is, in part, due to the fact that proportionately fewer persons of Mexican nationality have been naturalized during this period.

In 1940, more than half of the 5 million aliens in the United States resided in the eastern section of the country (New England, the Middle and South Atlantic States) with heavy concentrations in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and Connecticut. As has the total population, the alien population has shifted to the south and west. Since 1960, California has had the greatest number of alien residents, replacing New York as the leader.

IMMIGRANT INSPECTION

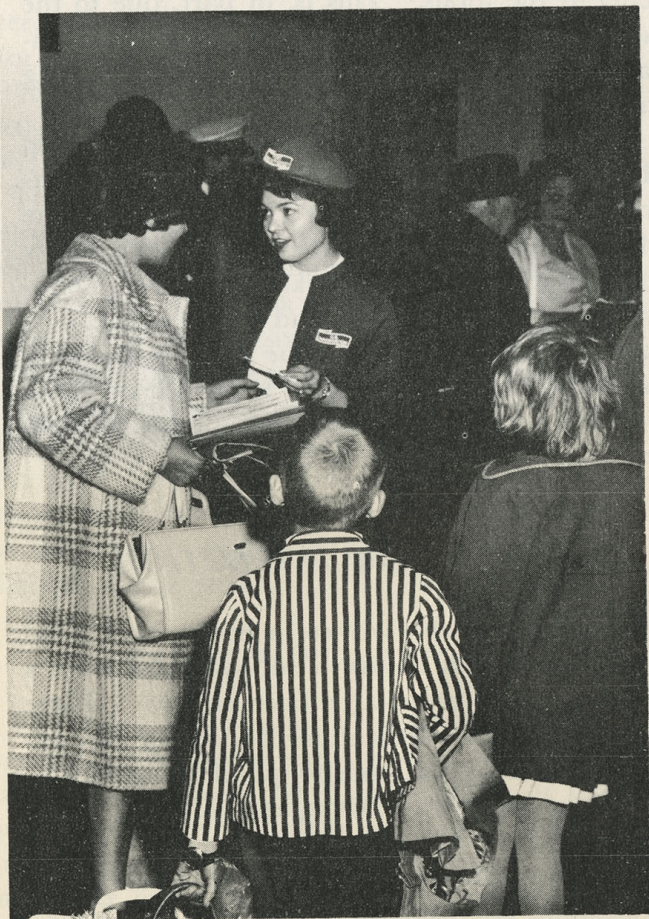
Every alien who wishes to enter the United States must first obtain a suitable visa from a United States consular officer abroad. These officers provide information concerning visa applications and grant visas to qualified applicants.

When an alien arrives at a United States port of entry he is questioned by an Immigrant Inspector of the Immigration and Naturalization Service. In recent years the Service has conducted inspections aboard ships as they approach the harbor. The United States Public Health Service conducts a medical examination of each alien at the time of entry.

Since World War II, arrival of immigrants and visitors by air has become more frequent. To facilitate international travel the Service has stationed Immigrant Inspectors abroad in parts of Canada and in Bermuda and the Bahamas to provide immigration inspection at those foreign points.

The Service also conducts en route inspection of passengers aboard some ships coming to Honolulu and the west coast of the United

States, and on others plying between South American ports and San Juan, Puerto Rico.



Port receptionist assisting in inspection of passengers.

The most active ports of entry for both air and water arrivals are New York, Miami, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and San Juan. In addition, numerous ports of entry are scattered along the Canadian and Mexican borders.

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