

**OUR  
IMMIGRATION  
LAWS —**



**PROTECT YOU,  
YOUR JOB  
AND  
YOUR FREEDOM**



## QUICK FACTS ABOUT U. S. IMMIGRATION

Approximately 43,000,000 immigrants have come into the United States since we began keeping immigration records in 1820.

Each year another 300,000 enter permanently under the Immigration and Nationality (McCarran-Walter) Act of 1952. Substantial numbers come in under private bills, introduced by Members of Congress to waive immigration restrictions in individual cases. Thousands of "backdoor" entries are authorized by Executive action in "hardship" cases.

Added tens of thousands are admitted from time to time by special acts of Congress. More than 1,000,000 refugees and displaced persons have been admitted since World War II. Total immigration in the years 1946-1963 was 4,240,933. The United States always has accepted more of the world's immigrants than any other country.

These newcomers are of all races and creeds, and of virtually all national origins.

Restriction and regulation of immigration is needed today as it has been needed in the past to protect the soundness of our economy, and to preserve the composition of the public upon which free institutions and the existence of free society itself must depend.

Bills now before Congress seek to repeal the National Origins Quota safeguards against radical distortion of the nature of the American population. They would vastly increase the total number of immigrants coming into the United States.

Groups supporting these new measures are well financed. Some 90 are organized into an effective and aggressive coalition to destroy our present immigration laws.

Your help is needed now to preserve our basic immigration laws against otherwise certain destruction.

## CALL TO ACTION

**Your Letter, Post Card, Phone Call  
Or Telegram Is Important—Now!**

If bills now pending in Congress are adopted, they would:

- ★ Abolish the National Origins Quota System which assures continuity of the cultural pattern upon which our free institutions and our free society rest;
- ★ More than triple immigration from about 300,000 a year now to an estimated 1,000,000 a year;
- ★ Weaken security screening provisions of the present law against the entry of Communists and other subversives.
- ★ Radically change the nature of overall immigration into the United States; fewer from Northern and Western Europe, vastly increased numbers from Asia and Africa.

These bills will pass unless you act now!

1. Read this booklet. Put copies in the hands of your friends.
2. Write your views opposing any basic change in the McCarran-Walter Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 to Senators and Congressmen listed on the back page.
3. Solicit open public support of the McCarran-Walter Act of 1952 from your own Congressman and Senators.
4. Write letters to newspapers and magazines supporting your views.
5. Urge passage of resolutions by organizations to which you belong, and forward these resolutions to legislators and the press.

This is a non-partisan issue. It is a citizen's crusade. It is a fight to save our protective immigration laws.

Read this booklet and act. Yours may be the decisive action which prevents our immigration controls from being destroyed.

## The Story of Immigration: YESTERDAY



# DISCOVERY & SETTLEMENT 1492 - 1830

America was a vast, empty, undeveloped land when Christopher Columbus discovered it in 1492.

Since then more than 43,000,000 have come from abroad to the United States of America. They, with their offspring, have filled the land with more than 196,000,000 people causing thoughtful patriots to question how many more this land can now absorb and support with its diminishing natural resources.

Explorers and settlers were the first to follow Columbus. The Spanish and Portuguese went to Central and South America. The French went largely to Canada. The English, Scotch, and Scotch-Irish with smaller numbers of Irish, Welsh, Dutch and Germans settled in what was to become the United States.

These wrote the Declaration of Independence, fought the Revolution, fashioned the Constitution with its Bill of Rights, and fixed the cultural, economic and political patterns of the country.

The government they made came from their own Northern and West European cultural and political backgrounds. It was a limited government. Sovereign power was held, not by a king, or a special elite, or by the state, but by the people themselves. The people, through their own representatives, made the laws and shaped the destiny of the nation. It was an English speaking nation with free institutions based upon Anglo-Saxon culture and English common law.

Our founding fathers did not encourage unlimited immigration. For instance—

General George Washington felt that immigration should be limited to "useful mechanics and some particular descriptions of men or professions."

Thomas Jefferson saw the new government as a unique combination of the freest elements of English law and political custom. He was concerned that unrestricted immigration of peoples from lands unacquainted with principles of representative government might undo the careful work of our Founding Fathers. "Yet," he said, "from such we are to expect the greatest number of immigrants."

Even if these could throw off the principles of the governments they left, Mr. Jefferson feared that they would merely pass "from one extreme to the other. It would be a miracle were they to stop precisely at the point of temperate liberty."

He added, "In proportion to their numbers they will share legislation with us. They will infuse into it their spirit, warp or bias its direction, and render it a heterogeneous, incoherent mass."

While not encouraging immigration for these reasons, the Founding Fathers did not discourage it by federal legislation, either. They depended upon state controls. Immigration increased. Population, aided by immigration, rose from 26,000 in 1640 to 2,500,000 in 1775, and up to 12,866,000 by 1830.



## The Immigration Story: YESTERDAY



### FILLING AN EMPTY LAND 1830 - 1880

Westward expanding America needed able men to work the mines, lay the rails, till the soil, and build the towns.

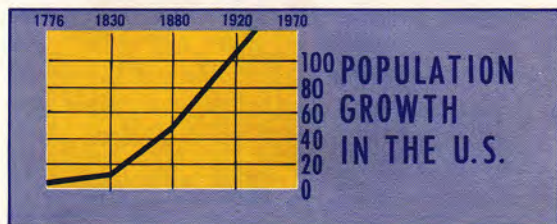
During the growing years immigration was actively encouraged.

Congress aided Polish exiles to settle in Illinois and Michigan in 1834. The Homestead Act of 1862 drew others through cheap grants of land. Entrepreneurs advertised abroad for immigrant workers for the expanding mills, mines, factories and farms.

Between 1830 and 1880 a total of 10,189,000 immigrants came to the United States. Of these, 8,989,800 were from Northern Europe and 654,000 were from Canada and Newfoundland.

But immigration brought problems. Chinese were being imported for lewd and immoral purposes as well as for contract labor in the West. The unscrupulous advertised for immigrant workers, not to fill waiting jobs, but to depress wages of American workers.

Americans became aware of the growing political power of the newcomers, many of whom seemed to support boss rule rather than free democratic processes, as Jefferson had foreseen.



## INDUSTRIALIZATION 1880 - 1920



By 1880 the United States' population reached 50,155,700. The empty land was filling up. Americans began to restrict immigration by acts of Congress.

An 1875 law prohibited the entry of convicts and prostitutes, and the import of Chinese coolies as contract labor.

A Chinese Exclusion Act was passed in 1882 in the belief that unrestricted immigration from Asia would turn our then sparsely populated Western States over to domination by Asian races, languages, customs, political thought and problems.

Industrialization here and abroad was bringing a dramatic change in U. S. immigration. Rural people from Northern Europe were taking jobs in home industries or emigrating to farm lands in Australia and elsewhere. Advertisements abroad, stressing high wages and freedom of opportunity here, began to draw larger numbers of immigrants from Southern and Eastern Europe. While 73.6 percent of immigration was from Northern Europe in 1880, a total of 59 percent was coming from Southern and Eastern Europe by 1920.

Their coming brought new problems of education and assimilation. Many of these newcomers held onto their own languages, customs and cultural heritages. They were slow to adopt the dominant American customs and values. As the Founding Fathers had foreseen, Americanization for many was time consuming, costly and painful, and sometimes it didn't take place at all.

Many immigration laws were passed. These were codified in the Immigration Act of 1917. This Act excluded, not only convicts and prostitutes, but also anarchists, those advocating the overthrow of our government, contract laborers, and those likely to become public charges.

Despite these minor qualitative exclusions, immigration increased. From 1880 to 1920 legal immigration totaled 23,465,000—more than double the total for the previous fifty years. By 1920 U. S. population had increased to 105,710,600.

## **WARS, REFUGEES AND DOMESTIC PROBLEMS 1920 - 1950**



The revolutions and wars from 1914 on uprooted peoples all over the world. Literally millions became exiles or refugees—fleeing poverty and oppression, and seeking entry into a more peaceful, prosperous land.

Yet, how many of these teeming, impoverished millions could the United States accept? How many could we educate, assimilate into our free society, and place in useful jobs?

Americans had started to ask such questions as early as 1920. Immigration had exceeded over a million a year in 1913 and 1914. After a drop during World War I, it climbed again to 805,228 in 1921.

Moreover, an era of world revolution and population explosion had begun.

Communists had seized power in Russia, and were calling for revolution in every other country of the world. They were using immigration to infiltrate Communist revolutionaries into the United States. At this time, too, a post-war depression hit the United States. These new conditions forced a decision.

Rationing, which had worked fairly during World War I, was applied to immigration. Under the nation's first immigration quota law in 1921, quotas were set for those seeking entry into the United States. Quotas were limited to 3 percent of the foreign-born of each nationality in the United States in 1910. The total quota was set at 357,803.

By basing immigration quotas upon the composition of the United States, legislators sought (1) to prevent a distortion of relationships among groups already within the United States,

(2) to avoid destructive competition and discrimination among immigrants seeking to be first in a "first-come, first-served" line, and (3) to hold down immigration to numbers and types which could be assimilated.

Total immigration dropped to 309,556 in 1922, but rose to 522,919 in 1923, with 35 percent of these entering under exceptions to the quota system. The exceptions—or non-quota immigrants—included immigrants from Canada and independent countries of Central and South America; aliens who had lived in these countries five years before entry into the United States; and certain classes of men, such as ministers.

When immigration rose to 706,896 in 1924 with 46 percent coming on a non-quota basis, Congress cut the quotas to 2 percent of the foreign-born of each nationality living in the United States in 1890, and reduced the total quota to 164,667.

The New York TIMES editorialized, March 1924: "The country has a right to say who shall and who shall not come in . . . The basis of restriction must be chosen with a view not to the interest of any group or groups in this country, whether racial or religious, but rather with a view to the country's best interests as a whole."

Immigration dropped from a total of 5,735,811 in the decade of 1911-1920 to 4,107,209 in the decade of 1921-1930, and to 528,451 in the 1931-1940 economic depression period.

A new series of liberalizing immigration laws passed just after World War II opened our doors to war brides, displaced persons, political escapees, refugees and exiles, and, for the first time in 60 years, Chinese. Immigration increased to 1,035,039 in the decade of 1941-1950.

These measures helped many worthy people to escape oppression abroad, but they further complicated, rather than improved, overall conditions inside the United States.



## THE McCARRAN-WALTER ACT OF 1952

By 1947 immigration was governed by a maze of some 200 legislative enactments, plus treaties, proclamations, rules and regulations as well as by the basic immigration laws of 1917 and 1924.

In addition, an increasing number of Communist agents were found to be moving into the United States legally as immigrants and illegally across extensive United States borders.

Congress called for an intensive investigation in 1947. The outcome, five years later, was the McCarran-Walter Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952. This codified the immigration laws and broadened many of them.

Here, in capsule form, are some of its major provisions:

*Quota Immigration.* The Act set a total overall quota of 154,657 a year, with individual country quotas set at one-sixth of one percent of the number of inhabitants in the United States who in 1920 traced their origins to a particular country. Thus was secured the national origins quota concept which has been the law of the land since 1924.

Special preference (50% of each quota) is given, first, to certain groups whose skills or services are deemed to be in demand in the United States because of education or ability; second, to parents of adult American citizens (30% of each quota); third, to spouses and children of permanent resident aliens (20% of each quota); fourth, to brothers, sisters and adult sons and daughters of United States citizens, and other quota immigrants (unused portions of quotas for the first three preference groups above). All races are eligible for immigration and naturalization.

*Non-quota Immigration.* The Act broadened provisions of prior laws to admit spouses or children of United States citizens, as well as natives of

independent countries of the Western Hemisphere, and others into the United States on a non-quota basis. Since 1952 non-quota immigration each year has been more than twice that of quota immigration.

*Aliens Excluded.* The Act excludes from immigration incurables (including feeble-minded, insane, drug addicts), those with contagious diseases, alcoholics, beggars, vagrants, prostitutes, procurers, criminals, the illiterate, anarchists, members of the Communist Party or any other totalitarian party, subversives, those likely to become public charges, and those who seek to enter the United States by fraudulent means, or who have been deported.

*Nonimmigrants.* These are aliens who enter the United States temporarily, and include foreign government officials, students, businessmen on business, the foreign press, and others. Admission of nonimmigrants has been tripled under the 1952 Act.

*Deportation.* Aliens can be deported for violation of the terms of their conditional entry into the United States, for fraudulent entry, for committing crimes in the United States, for becoming a public charge, for engaging in subversive activities. The number of deportations has declined in recent years.

The McCarran-Walter Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 was enacted by a Democratic Congress over the veto of President Harry S. Truman, who opposed immigration restriction for political reasons.

In supporting the Act against critics in 1950 and 1952, Senator Patrick A. McCarran said: "The solution of the problems of Europe and Asia will not come through a transplanting of those problems en masse to the United States. A solution remains possible only if America is maintained strong and free; only if our institutions, our way of life, are preserved by those who are part and parcel of that way of life . . . If enemies of this legislation succeed in riddling it to pieces, or in amending it beyond recognition, they will have contributed more to promote this nation's downfall than any other group since we achieved our independence as a nation."

## The Story of Immigration: TOMORROW?



## NEW ANTI-McCARRAN-WALTER BILLS

Those who ignore reality and favor political expediency are now backing two kinds of bills which would destroy America's immigration laws with their basis in the national origins quota system.

The so-called Hart Bill (S. 747), introduced by Senator Philip Hart, Mich., in the 88th Congress, would distribute quotas to countries based on the relation of the size of their populations to world population, or on recent immigration to the United States as shown in the last census.

This measure would increase immigration from the total of 306,260 in 1963 to an estimated 1,000,000 a year. Further, it would discriminate in favor of immigration from the most populous and socially and economically deprived countries and areas, such as Africa, India and China.

The so-called Kennedy-Johnson Bill (S. 1932—H. R. 7700), introduced by Senator Hart, Michigan, and Rep. Emanuel Celler, New York, at the request of the late President John F. Kennedy, would place admittance of immigrants on a first-come, first-served basis. It would discriminate in favor of those who are most aggressive in trying to enter the United States, and those best able to have political pressures applied inside the United States to gain them favored places in the waiting line. If enacted into law, the Kennedy-Johnson Bill would:

1) Abolish the national origins quota system of selecting immigrants.

2) Base the admission of immigrants of Asian ancestry not on ancestry, as it is now, but upon place of birth. Chinese born in an independent

country of the Western Hemisphere would enter the United States on a nonquota basis without restriction on numbers.

3) Extend nonquota status to Islands such as Tobago, Trinidad and Jamaica, and increase the number of refugees the United States could admit as its "fair share" in sheltering the world's refugees.

4) Quotas, instead of being set by law as at present, would be determined by a politically appointed seven-man Immigration Advisory Board.

Total immigration under this measure would be increased severalfold by an increase in annual quotas to 165,000, by extension of nonquota immigration to additional peoples and nations and by the requirement that all quotas be used.

Countries with the greatest population pressures, and with the greatest economic and political troubles would furnish the bulk of the immigrants, thus passing their problems along to us. Under this pressure, the United States could become the foster home for millions seeking escape from Asian poverty.

In the name of ending discrimination in immigration, the pending bills would discriminate against the interests of virtually all present American citizens, and permanent resident aliens.

The Kennedy-Johnson Bill's first-come, first-served formula would change immigration from an alien privilege and make it an alien right.



## The Story of Immigration: TOMORROW?



## IMPACT UPON YOUR JOB, YOUR SOCIETY AND YOUR FREEDOM

The way to judge an immigration law or regulation is to consider its effect upon the United States; its effect upon your job, your society and your freedom. Ask yourself . . .

If a vastly increased tide of immigrants—with dominant percentages from Asia and Africa—flows into the United States, . . . whose tax money will educate them to the American principles of government and economics?

. . . who will support them until they learn our language and find jobs?

. . . who will make room for them so that they will have a place to live?

. . . whose jobs will they take?

These questions are harsh, but realistic.

The vast, empty, undeveloped land discovered by Christopher Columbus has filled up. The country which needed manpower in the 1880's now has a manpower surplus.

We have more workers than we have jobs. The late President John F. Kennedy stated on March 23, 1963 that we had 5,000,000 unemployed, 14,000,000 working part-time, and 2,000,000 being displaced each year by advancing technology and automation.

President Kennedy warned that if our economy did not grow faster, we faced chronic troubles "characterized by the economic waste and the human tragedy of unemployment, by higher welfare payments and weaker consumer markets, by recurrent problems of crime and delinquency and unstable labor relations."

Such conditions already can be seen where people now are pouring into the United States

from nonquota areas. Forty thousand Puerto Rican migrants coming into New York City each year depress wages, increase crime rates, complicate already complex health and education problems, and cost New York's taxpayers \$35,000,000 a year in welfare costs. Over 55,000 Mexican immigrants annually are establishing a Spanish culture in the American Southwest and are adding to racial discord, social and economic distress there.

Today, the United States also faces decades of severe dislocations as a result of the movement to integrate 20,000,000 Negroes.

A "War Against Poverty" already occupies us with the population now within our borders. Last year the Federal Government spent over 4 billion dollars for our own poor—in addition to billions provided by state and local governments and by private charity.

Nor do we need more population. United States population has exploded upwards from 2,500,000 in 1776 to an estimated 196,000,000 by the end of 1964. At present rates of growth it will reach 372,000,000 by the year 2,000.

These are the realities which are ignored by those who seek to undermine and destroy the McCarran-Walter Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952, to increase the inflow of immigrants from 300,000 to an estimated 1,000,000 a year, and to create a disproportionately greater immigration into the United States of peoples from Asia and Africa who, history shows, will have the greatest difficulties in becoming assimilated into American life.

Of course, Americans want to extend a helping hand to others in trouble. But cool heads note—

World population, now around 3 billions, will reach 6 billions in 35 years. There are 35 million more Asians a year. Latin Americans, who now number about 200 million, will increase to an estimated 600 million in 45 years. They can enter the United States on a non-quota basis.

How many can the United States accept without being swamped? How many of the world's poor and huddled masses, can we now take in and yet survive as a free people in a free society?



## A TIME FOR ACTION

Our liberty and our free society, based upon a balance of the numbers and kinds of people in our country, can be drowned in a matter of years by a human tidal wave if the restrictions of the McCarran-Walter Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 are destroyed.

The time to act is now. Re-read the CALL TO ACTION.

Write to Senators and Congressmen listed below. Start to work now to save the McCarran-Walter Act, as a bulwark of our national solvency and our freedom!

SEND YOUR LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS TO YOUR OWN SENATORS AND CONGRESSMAN AND TO:

Joint Committee on Immigration and Nationality Policy, U. S. Congress, Washington, D. C.

|                                  |                         |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Rep. Michael A. Feighan,<br>Chm. | Sen. James O. Eastland  |
| Rep. Emanuel Celler              | Sen. Olin Johnston      |
| Rep. Frank Chelf                 | Sen. John L. McClellan  |
| Rep. Arch A. Moore, Jr.          | Sen. Everett Dirksen    |
| Rep. Richard A. Poff             | Sen. Kenneth B. Keating |

Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration and Nationality, U. S. Senate, Washington, D. C.

|                         |                    |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| James O. Eastland, Chm. | Edward M. Kennedy  |
| Olin Johnston           | Everett Dirksen    |
| John L. McClellan       | Kenneth B. Keating |
| Sam J. Ervin, Jr.       | Hiram L. Fong      |

House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration and Nationality, U. S. House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

|                          |                    |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Michael A. Feighan, Chm. | Richard H. Poff    |
| Frank Chelf              | Arch A. Moore, Jr. |
| Peter W. Rodino, Jr.     |                    |

*Distributed by*

The American Committee on Immigration Policies  
*To defend and strengthen our Immigration Laws*

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