

IMMIGRATION TIDE IS AT LOWEST EBB

Nearly Million Fewer Aliens Come to the United States During Last Fiscal Year.

DEPARTURES SHOW DECREASE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—The tide of immigration to the United States ebbed to its lowest point in more than twenty years during the last fiscal year, according to figures made public today in the annual report of Secretary Wilson of the Department of Labor.

The total number of immigrant aliens, the report shows, fell from 1,318,480 in the previous year, to 326,700 in the period ending June 30, last. All admitted arrivals of aliens, immigrant and non-immigrant, were only 424,244, as compared with 1,402,801 the year before.

Departures Show Decrease. Departures of aliens, emigrant and non-emigrant, likewise show a notable decrease. For the fiscal year of 1914, departures were 622,829; for 1915, 284,174. The fiscal year of 1915 covers the period of sailing home of reservists from the beginning of the European war till June 30, last. During that time the emigrant aliens, presumably including the number sailing to join the colors in Europe, were 204,674, compared with 205,225 the previous twelve months. The non-emigrant aliens departing totaled 120,109 for 1915, and 208,467 for 1914, showing a net decrease for all alien departures of 88,358.

Excess of arrivals over departures, aliens alone being considered, was only 14,009 in 1915. In 1914 the excess was 182,275.

Of the 326,700 immigrant aliens admitted to the United States in the 1915 fiscal year, 13,281 were under 14 years of age, 24,472 were from 14 to 44 years old, and 20,246 were 45 or over. Those over 14 who could neither read nor write numbered 26,027, those able to read, but not write, were 283, making the total number of illiterates over 14, 26,310, or 13 per cent.

Several Thousand Excluded. Reported aliens numbered 26,075. This included 24,111 excluded at ports and sent back to their country of origin, and 2,564 arrested and expelled from the country. Of those excluded, 1,725 were denied admission because they were contract laborers.

Immigrants admitted to the country showed to customs officials money in their possession aggregating \$19,548,000, an average of \$69 each. Each of 26,711 immigrants had more than \$50, while 135,744 had less than \$50 each. One hundred and ninety thousand claimed to have paid their own passage across the Atlantic, 128,146 said that their passage had been paid by relatives, and 7,897 that it had been paid by persons other than relatives. With reference to excursions, the report asserts:

"Conditions during the last year were so abnormal that securing a permanent job in previous years are difficult. Excursions in 1913 amounted to 1.36 per cent of the number applying; in 1914 this was increased to 2.3 per cent, and in the last year the increase has been so great as to reach 5.3 per cent."

OPERATION TO BRING RECOVERY TO O'MEARA

HASTINGS, Neb., Dec. 16.—(Special Telegram.)—Arthur O'Meara of Lexington is recovering from an operation last night for an injury to the knee received in making a flying tackle of Ross, colored star, in a foot ball game between the Hastings and Lincoln high schools six years ago, when O'Meara was a member of the Hastings eleven. For a long time the injury was thought to be permanent, but the doctors now expect a complete recovery.

DEATH RECORD.

Mrs. Serena Perrod. TABLE ROCK, Neb., Dec. 16.—(Special.)—Mrs. Serena Perrod, one of the early settlers of this vicinity and who lived here many years, died Monday at the residence of her grandson, Leslie Finn, near Blusville, Neb., aged 89 years. She had been twice married and came with her first husband, James Dobson, to this county and settled north of town in 1852. The interment was in Table Rock cemetery. She is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Michael Wert, living six miles north of Table Rock, and several grandchildren.

Isaac Brown. TABLE ROCK, Neb., Dec. 16.—(Special.)—Isaac Brown, an old soldier, who has been an invalid for several years, and for the last two years confined to his room with a constant attendant, died Monday and was buried yesterday in the Fairview city cemetery. He lived for many years southwest of here near the state line, having come to Pawnee county from Ohio more than half a century since. He is survived by a wife and several children, who lived in Montana and from whom he has been separated for a great many years.

Benjamin T. Coons. STELLA, Neb., Dec. 16.—(Special.)—Benjamin T. Coons died at his home in Humboldt last evening. The funeral will be held at Prairie Union church and burial will be held at Prairie Union cemetery. Mr. Coons was born in Moran county, Illinois, April 19, 1828, and came to Brownsville, Neb., in 1868. He purchased a farm one mile south of Stella in 1879 and sold it in 1903, buying the Wyatt place and moving to town. He moved to Humboldt twelve years ago, where his wife died ten years ago. Eight children survive.

Albert C. Leeper. AUBURN, Neb., Dec. 16.—(Special.)—Albert C. Leeper, an old-time resident and pioneer settler of the county, died at his home three miles northwest of town last night after an illness covering about two years. Leeper came here from Illinois in 1851. He was 70 years of age at his death. He is survived by two sons and three daughters and a widow. The funeral will be Friday and interment at Sheridan cemetery. Mr. Leeper was quite a prominent citizen and took an active part in politics.

Complete Hastings Census. HASTINGS, Neb., Dec. 16.—(Special Telegram.)—The federal census of Hastings was completed today and the supervisor and his assistant left for Washington. The result will be announced by the census bureau Saturday.

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ACCUSES COLLECTOR OF PORT OF SAN FRANCISCO



HERMAN D. LEMPHRE.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 16.—Herman D. Lemphre, the attorney for the German consulate here, has given out a sensational statement flaying United States Attorney John W. Preston, who caused the arrest of C. G. Crowley, the ex-detective; Louis Smith and Baron von Bruckner, in connection with the alleged bomb plots against allied munition ships, and intimating that Collector of the Port Davis had violated the neutrality of the United States in allowing munition ships to sail from San Francisco.

RITCHIE ANSWERS BECKMAN

Bridgeport Man Says Criticism of Commissioner Due to Failure to Follow Law.

BRIDGEPORT, Neb., Dec. 16.—(Special.)—William Ritchie, Jr., attorney for bondholders of the Alliance Irrigation district, in an interview here today discussed the charges in the reply of Land Commissioner Beckman to the resolution of criticism passed by the state irrigation conference here last week. Mr. Ritchie said: "Land Commissioner Beckman in his public interview regarding the purchase of irrigation bonds by the State Board of Educational Lands and Funds misses the issue which the irrigation congress raised, and digresses in a discussion of the relative merits of the bonds of a particular irrigation district. "The irrigation congress did not censure Mr. Beckman for his failure to buy any particular issue of irrigation bonds. It does not demand or expect him to purchase any issue of bonds which he finds is not ill-edged. "Law in Case is Plain. "While the bonds which Mr. Beckman assails in his reply can be proved to be first-class in every particular, that is not the crux of the irrigation matter. "As attorney for the bondholders of the Alliance Irrigation district I asked Mr. Beckman for his attitude regarding the purchase of irrigation district bonds. He stated that he did not favor buying any irrigation district bonds at all, no matter how good they might be. He did not at that time question the merits of the particular bonds which he was told the board would be asked to purchase, nor were the merits of such bonds discussed with him in any but a general way. He was told that he would not be expected to buy any irrigation district bonds that were not absolutely good. "The irrigation congress takes the stand that since the legislature has provided that the State Board of Educational Lands and Funds may buy irrigation district bonds, the board has not the right to turn down such bonds regardless of their merits. "Security is Good. "It seems to the members of the irrigation congress under the circumstances since the state buys bonds for a permanent investment and is not concerned in the question as to whether or not the securities they purchase will find a ready market, and is only concerned in the question as to whether or not the principal and interest will be forthcoming as promised; and since great tracts of land are dependent for their fertility, and a vast part of the state is dependent for its development on the ability of irrigation districts to float their bond issues, such facts should entitle gilt-edged irrigation district bonds to at least an equal footing with school district and municipal bonds, which always find a ready market, and that irrigation district bonds should not be refused consideration altogether regardless of their merits."

BONDS LEGAL INVESTMENTS

Revised Trail Hitters' Count. HASTINGS, Neb., Dec. 16.—(Special Telegram.)—It was discovered today that the revised count shows a total of 1,142 "trail hitters" in the recent revival, instead of 1,772 as announced on Monday. The original number included some 509 active church workers who went forward in the first day and were counted among the converts.

FORMER COUNSEL FOR NEW HAVEN MADE \$700,000

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—Warren D. Chase, a Hartford attorney, testified today at the New Haven hearing that Edward D. Robbins, former general counsel of the New Haven, made a personal profit of almost \$700,000 out of transactions which the government charges he engineered in behalf of the road. Robbins' services, Chase said, were utilized in the transfer of properties of the Metropolitan Steamship company, the old Charles W. Morse concern, to the late Governor John F. Hill of Maine, and which also involved the transfer to the Pacific coast of the steamships Harvard and Yale. The government charges that it was the purpose of Robbins to get these two boats out of the way for the benefit of the New Haven. Robbins, it was indicated by his counsel today, was indicated by the transaction purely for personal profit. Chase said he acted as Robbins' agent in the transactions.

HYMENEAL

Lester Humphrey. Miss Bernice Humphrey, daughter of Benjamin Humphrey, and William H. Lacey were married by Rev. Charles W. Savidge Wednesday at 4 o'clock at the residence of the bride's parents, 108 Elm street. The witnesses were Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Fick of Trosky, Pipestone county, Minn.

Hege-Dahlstrom. Irene Dahlstrom of Omaha and Henry H. Hege of Fremont were married Thursday afternoon by Rev. Charles W. Savidge.

SNOW COVERS THE WESTERN COUNTRY

From Five to Seven Inches in the Western Part of State—Snows Hard Here.

STREETS SLIPPERY IN MORNING

The first touch of real winter struck the country between the Rocky mountains and the Mississippi Wednesday night. According to the railroads there was snow over the entire area, accompanied by high winds, seriously interfering with the wire service, both telegraph and telephone.

A 7 yesterday morning when the reports came to railroad headquarters here, it was still snowing most of the way from the lakes to the mountains and from far up in Minnesota, down into Kansas. At that hour the snowfall was reported at one to four inches, the heaviest fall being out in the western part of Nebraska and through eastern Colorado and Wyoming.

The snow was drifting considerably, but there was not enough so that it seriously interfered with traffic, though trains were somewhat slow, especially those moving west and north against the strong head wind.

Heavy Fall of Snow.

Along the Northwestern there was light snow from Omaha to Norfolk and from there west it ranged in depth from four to six inches most of the way through to Lander. Along Long Pine and north into South Dakota the snowfall was around six inches, with wind enough to cause considerable drifting.

The Burlington and Union Pacific found the heaviest snow in the western part of the state and through Colorado. From North Platte on the Union Pacific and from McCook on the Burlington, through to Denver, the snow at 4 o'clock had fallen to a depth of five to seven inches. With a strong wind, there was some drifting.

Not Very Cold.

Temperatures throughout Nebraska range from 10 to 40 degrees above zero, the coldest points being reported from up in the northwest corner of the state. Along the Missouri valley and south and east the temperatures were above freezing, and at many points in this section, sleet accompanied the snow.

In the city the streets are in terrible condition. They are covered with a sheet of ice and traffic over them is maintained with great difficulty, the horses being unable to keep their feet unless just sharp-shod. Here a drizzling rain commenced to fall shortly before midnight, later turning into sleet and freezing to the pavement as fast as it fell. Later on the sleet turned to snow and at intervals during the morning the fall was heavy, until at noon it was a couple of inches deep.

JACK THE SLASHER CUTS FURNITURE AT HOTEL

HASTINGS, Neb., Dec. 16.—(Special Telegram.)—A mysterious "Jack the Slasher," supposed to be the one who ruined some carpets and rugs in the Fonetelle hotel in Omaha last night, slashed the leather upholstery of the furniture in the lobby and billiard room of the Clarke hotel. In each case a long slit was made in the leather and only the costliest pieces were attacked. The damage is estimated at about \$500.

TEN PER CENT OF SALARY FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS

CHICAGO, Dec. 16.—Officials of the Crane company announced today that the company's annual Christmas gift to its employees will consist this year of 10 per cent of the annual salary of each man or woman employed for more than six months. Ten thousand employees throughout the country will share in the company's gift, which will total more than \$200,000.

WINNER OF ONE OF THE BEE'S PRETTY DOLLS LAST WEEK



Does this little "mamma" look as if she loved her "baby"? It is Gladys McGiffin, 510 South Thirty-fifth avenue, and "Mary," the doll she won in The Bee contest last week, with 1,717 pictures.

Crowe and Hartman Still Held by the Los Angeles Police

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 16.—Joseph Landers, a wrestler, who being held with F. B. Hartman, proprietor of a liquor store, and Michael Crowe, a former Omaha policeman, on suspicion of arson in attempting yesterday to burn the store of Hartman, was released late last night by the police. There was not sufficient evidence to justify holding Landers, it was stated today. Hartman and Crowe are still detained by the police.

JAMES CROSS CHEYENNE PIONEER POSTMAN, IS DEAD

CHEYENNE, Wyo., Dec. 16.—(Special.)—James A. Cross, 59, a civil war veteran and Indian fighter, who served continuously for thirty years in the service of the Cheyenne postoffice, died Monday night at Hot Springs, S. D., where he went about two months ago. The body was brought to Cheyenne for interment. Mr. Cross came west immediately after the civil war and saw some exciting service in the Indian campaigns. Later he was attached to the quartermaster's corps at Old Camp Carlin, near Cheyenne. When Camp Carlin was abandoned he entered the postal service here, being the city's first carrier. A widow and two sons survive him. One son, W. L. Cross, is here, and the other, T. J. Cross, in the Panama canal zone.

SNOW NO BLOCK TO LIVE STOCK MEN

Farmers' Co-Operative Grain and Live Stock Association Delegates Visit Stock Yards.

TALKS ON ROAD BUILDING

Snow or no snow the delegates to the Nebraska Farmers' Co-operative Grain and Live Stock State association leaped on street cars yesterday morning and went to South Omaha to see the buying and selling of live stock in operation on the big market there.

They had been invited to make this trip and they had looked forward to it. No snow could block them. They went to the Exchange building to visit at the various offices where all of them have acquaintances among commission men. They played through the snow in the cattle yards to witness the handling of the stock there; came back to the sheep barns to see the way the sheep are handled in their excellent sheltered pens, and were greatly pleased with the fine new system of hog pens or "hog parlors," as they are now called, since they are solid concrete and steel, every inch of the acres and acres of them under rain-and-snow-proof sheds as thoroughly fireproof as the cement floors on which the hogs walk.

Swiss Thinks Pope and Wilson Able to End War in Europe

(Correspondence of the Associated Press.)

BERNE, Switzerland, Dec. 16.—General Wille, commander-in-chief of the Swiss army, a soldier of the school of Hindenburg and Joffre, today expressed the belief that the time had come for "the two most powerful forces in the world" to combine to put an end to the European war. These two forces, he said, were the president of the United States and the pope at Rome.

General Wille also discussed with a correspondent of the Associated Press the subject of military preparedness, describing that condition as not only a defense of the state and its citizens, but as a powerful force for discipline and efficiency in civil life and the pursuits of industry and commerce.

In suggesting a peace proposal at this time from President Wilson and Pope Benedict, General Wille said: "A united appeal from these two most powerful influences in the world, seconded as it would be by other neutrals, could not but be heeded by all the warring nations." General Wille said he was not himself a Catholic, yet the powerful influence exerted by the pope was recognized in Europe without regard to religion.

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Into the Lives of Eighteen Households These Handsome, New Aeolian Player Pianos. Will bring Christmas Joy with all its attendant pleasure and interest. \$10 Down and \$10 Monthly. Quickly Pays for One of These Instruments. Total Price Is \$450. Pleasing, beautiful music for the entire family, real and efficient aid to the children's music-study, a delightful piano that all can play, and that is perfect for hand playing and music-lesson practice—all this The Aeolian Player Piano supplies. Yet its cost is so low that few are the families which may not afford it. These Player Pianos are perfect new instruments. They have full scale, 88-note player actions with special patented expression devices found only on players of Aeolian manufacture. You cannot possibly duplicate these instruments in musical capability in any other Omaha store for less than \$600. As pianos, they have fine tone, perfect action—quality in every essential to satisfy the critical musician. The cases are beautiful, figured mahogany or oak in high polish. A bench, scarf and selection of music accompanies each instrument. IMPORTANT—But eighteen of these Player Pianos are ready for immediate delivery. We suggest that you make your selection as early as possible tomorrow. FOUR SPECIAL BARGAINS IN USED PLAYER PIANOS: \$450 Schubert Player Piano \$195, \$500 Clough & Warren Player Piano \$290, \$550 Schmoller & Mueller Player Piano \$300, \$600 Schmoller & Mueller Player Piano \$325. Our line of Aeolian Pianola Player Pianos includes The Steinway, Weber, Steck, Wheelock, Stuyvesant, Stroud and Aeolian, the Standard Players of the world. Schmoller & Mueller Piano Co. 1311-13 Farnam St., Omaha, Neb. Exclusive Aeolian Representatives.

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