



# THE IMMIGRATION HISTORY NEWSLETTER

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## *Migration at the Movies: One Professor's Nominees*

By Alan M. Kraut

From an op-ed-page pulpit in the *Washington Post* (Jan. 24, 1996), Henry Kissinger recently thundered, "In an age when far more people gain their understanding of the past from movies and television than from the written word, the truth is not a responsibility filmmakers can shrug off as an incidental byproduct of creative license." Even if intended to skewer movie producer Oliver Stone more than to shield history from those who would profit by its distortions, Kissinger's point is a timely reminder. Perhaps cinematic artists who take their scripts from history books have special responsibilities. Historians fond of film in the classroom certainly do.

Using film to teach immigration and ethnic history is rewarding but risky. The visual learners of the television generation who sit in our lecture halls and seminars enthusiastically devour movies. The right choice can whet their appetite for articles and monographs on the subject. Even a bad movie can be a right choice if it is useful in demonstrating how a group's identity and experience can be distorted. The wrong choice can reinforce the very ethnic stereotypes that instructors are trying to subvert as they lead their students toward a more complex, nuanced perspective on the past. The inclusion of immigration historians on documentary film projects is a hopeful sign that those committed to doing history on the screen care as much about the content and interpretation as they do about the art.

What to choose? Should one shun Hollywood and assume that low-budget filmmakers alone recoil from selling out the past for a buck? Not necessarily. A sprightly commercial flick originally pitched for profit can sometimes prime the pump of intellectual curiosity far more readily than a made-for-the-classroom production by "professional educators," correct in length and politics, and about as engaging as 1950s high school hygiene slides on eating a better breakfast.

There are many filmographies; see the librarians or the media center on your campus. There are also fine books of essays that may be helpful in explaining how particular ethnic groups have been treated by filmmakers. Two especially useful volumes are *The Kaleidoscopic Lens: How Hollywood Views Ethnic Groups* ed. Randall Miller (1980), and more recently *Hollywood as*

*Mirror: Changing Views of "Outsiders" and "Enemies" in American Movies* ed. Robert Brent Toplin (1993). A splendid book of essays on the relationship of particular movies to the historical record is *Past Imperfect: History According to the Movies* ed. Mark C. Carnes (1995).

What follows is something else. Over the past twenty years I have made increasing use of film in teaching my freshman/sophomore course, "The Ethnic Experience in America." I also use many of the same films in a variety of upper-level courses on immigration and ethnicity. This is not a comprehensive list, merely the names and descriptions of a few films that have worked for me in the classroom. All are available on video cassette.

The first film shown in my immigration course is always Charlie Chaplin's *The Immigrant* (20 min., 1917; Mutual). A silent film, it fits nicely into a class period, allowing time for discussion. It is a fine introduction to the issue of the immigrant journey from the newcomer's perspective. Few students fail to share Chaplin's angst as he traverses the ocean and trudges through his first days in a new land.

Although I have not yet used it in a course, *Out of Ireland* (111 mins., 1994; American Focus) seems the best visual vehicle for treating the Irish. The video, a Public Broadcasting Service documentary, has already become a St. Patrick's Day perennial, and features respected scholars such as Hasia Diner and Kerby Miller discussing the 1846 famine and the post-famine diaspora. The images, drawn from a wide variety of sources, are very engaging. Although the documentary is too long for class periods at most universities, students can see it on their own and discuss it at a subsequent class meeting.

For late 19th century immigration, I use documentary wizard Charles Guggenheim's *Journey to America* (58 min., 1989; PBS Video). Guggenheim produced a shorter 29-min. version entitled *Isle of Hope, Isle of Tears*, for the National Park Service to use as an orientation film on Ellis Island. The eleven historians of the Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island History Committee, myself included, were consultants. Stephan Thernstrom and I served as historical consultants for the longer version, which extends to the experience of newcomers after arrival. Guggenheim's vision is often somber, and bleaker than that of those who made the

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### News from Libraries, Museums and Historic Sites...

## ***New Czech and Slovak Museum Dedicated by Three Presidents; Controversy Arises over Irish Exhibit in New York City***

On October 21, 1995, the National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library opened in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, to an exceptional glow of publicity when three presidents--Bill Clinton of the United States, Václav Havel of the Czech Republic, and Michal Kováč of the Slovak Republic--jointly took part in the dedication. The new facility was the culmination of five years planning and fund-raising, with significant support from the community, from the local Hall-Perrine Foundation, and from the Western Fraternal Life Association, which began as a Czech fraternal society nearly a century ago.

The new building has an impressive location along the west bank of the Cedar River, on a site leased to the museum by the city of Cedar Rapids. It contains 18,000 square feet, including exhibition space, a community meeting hall, the library, and administrative offices. Visitors enter the building through the Roman L. Hruska Grand Hall, which runs through the building to a terrace overlooking the river. Museum exhibition space will be developed in four sections: one on the culture and society of the Czech and Slovak homelands; one containing cultural artifacts from the museum's permanent collections; one on the immigration experience and immigrant life in America; and one for temporary exhibitions. The library contains about 10,000 volumes, 90% of which are in Czech and Slovak (the majority in Czech). The works have been arranged by categories but are not yet catalogued. Researchers should contact the library at least a week in advance to discuss their needs with the staff and make an appointment; some materials are in storage and advance notice is required to retrieve the materials. The museum and library are open Tuesdays through

Saturdays, 9:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. For further information, contact John Rocarek, National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library, 30 16th Ave. SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404-5904; telephone (319) 362-8500.

On March 13, a few days before St. Patrick's Day, the Museum of the City of New York opened its new exhibit, "Gaelic Gotham: A History of the Irish in New York," with controversy still simmering over the project's development. The controversy divided both the historical professionals and the Irish-American community of the city.

"Gaelic Gotham" had been under development since 1991, when the National Endowment for the Humanities granted the museum \$250,000 for the project. The proposal for the grant was primarily the work of the archivist and Irish-American scholar Marion Casey, and other scholars who were involved say that both the proposal and the grant assumed that she would remain as guest curator with primary responsibility for carrying out the plan. However, differences developed between the museum administrators and Ms. Casey over her contractual role and the scope of the project. Critics also charged that the exhibit was being reduced from what had been envisioned in the proposal. Ultimately, Ms. Casey was let go, and a number of historian-consultants withdrew from the project in protest. These included Kerby Miller of the University of Missouri and Ronald Bayor of the Georgia Institute of Technology.

The previous consultants were replaced by historians with expertise in immigration, labor and ethnicity, but their experience was not primarily in Irish-American matters. Leaders in the Irish-American community also joined the protest, com-

plaining that the exhibit had lost touch with the Irish community and that their history was now being portrayed by outsiders who might interpret Irish-Americans in terms of outmoded stereotypes. Some who had promised to lend artifacts to the exhibit withdrew them, and some Irish cultural groups declined to take part in the collateral events that attended the opening of the exhibit.

The museum defended itself primarily on the grounds of preserving professional decisions from outside, non-professional influence; on those grounds, they had refused to show plans and scripts for the exhibit to Irish community representatives before the show opened. Critics complained, however, that the museum had reneged on its understandings with the N.E.H., and had compromised the professional quality of the exhibit by rejecting recent scholarship. Professor Bayor charged that the museum's director, Robert R. Macdonald, had tried to make the case seem like that of protestors from the public who demanded changes in the Enola Gay exhibit at the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum. But, said Bayor, "the issues were very different. This was not a group of non-historians and non-scholars trying to dictate the script for an exhibit but rather a group of scholars from the Irish community who were trying to get the director to fulfill the original agreement and plan."

Paul Goldberger, who reviewed the exhibit for the *New York Times*, thought the exhibit generally light on interpretation and judgment, and probably not very objectionable to most Irish-Americans. "Most visitors will come away from this exhibition seeing it more as a great Irish attic than as the presentation of a particular point of view," he said. The exhibit continues until October 27.

The Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies, Philadelphia, has announced the availability of Resident Research Fellowships to encourage and facilitate scholarly access to its unique resources, particularly for scholars visiting from outside the Philadelphia area. Fellows receive a stipend of \$500 per month, plus free accommodations in the Balch Fellows Residence, a spacious and comfortably appointed townhouse near the Institute. The fellowships are open to both U.S. citizens and foreign nationals who are holders of the Ph.D. or its equivalent, Ph.D. candidates, and independent scholars. Applicants in any relevant field of scholarship may apply. Fellowships may be taken for a period of one to three months, between 10 June and 10 September 1996.

Applicants should submit the following: (1) a cover sheet stating name, title of project, expected period of residence, institutional affiliation, mailing address, telephone numbers and e-mail if available, and social security number; (2) a letter (not to exceed three single-spaced pages) which briefly describes the project and how it relates to existing scholarship, states the specific relevance of the Balch Institute's collections to the project, and indicates expected results of the research (such as publications); (3) a curriculum vitae; and (4) one letter of reference (doctoral candidates must use their dissertation advisor). Applicants are strongly encouraged to consult the Library staff by mail, e-mail, or phone regarding the collections relevant to their proposed work. Address applications or inquiries to: Eric L. Pumroy, Director of the Library & Archives, The Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies, 18 South Seventh Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106. Telephone: (215) 925-8090. E-Mail address: balchlib@hslc.org. Applications received by May 15, 1996 will be guaranteed consideration. A fall program of fellowships is also planned; deadlines for fall applications have not yet been set.

Representatives from institutions and organizations interested in migration studies in Europe and America have been invited to a conference in County Tyrone, Northern Ireland, June 3-5, 1996. The subject of the conference is "Coordinating Migration Studies in Europe and America." The organizing agency is the publicly-funded Ulster-American Folk Park, directed by John Gilmour, and its related Centre for Emigration Studies.

Subjects to be discussed at the conference include: developing better communication between American and European institutions involved in migration studies; adapting computer technology to the purpose of linking information about resources; seeking better co-ordination among American institutions; developing some sort of "clearing house" for migration resources and projects in America.

There will be representation from the Immigration History Society at the conference, and a report on the proceedings will appear in the November newsletter.

The Library Company of Philadelphia has opened an exhibition, "An African American Miscellany," which will run until September 27, 1996. It contains many additions to the African American collections acquired during the past quarter-century. A recent grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities will allow the Library Company to undertake a project to complete cataloging titles of its Afro-Americana collection into the database of the Research Libraries Information Network. Over the last four years, grants from the U.S. Department of Education have funded the cataloging of 6,000 titles of the 10,500-title collection; the remaining 4,500 will be completed with this grant. The collection of books and pamphlets by or about African-Americans consists mostly of works from the 18th and 19th centuries.

Two major archival institutions celebrated their anniversaries during the spring of 1996. To celebrate its 30th anniversary,

the Immigration History Research Center at the University of Minnesota held a conference (March 28-30) on "Immigrant Cultures and the Performing Arts." The celebration featured music and theater performances and a wide range of scholarly sessions on all aspects of the arts.

In Philadelphia, the Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies held a series of events and lectures to celebrate its 25th anniversary, which will continue through the year. The official "birthday party" occurred on April 17, and included a forum on current immigration policy questions; speakers were Susan Forbes Martin of the U.S. Commission on Immigration Reform, and Tsiwen Law, attorney and immigration-law specialist. On the same evening, the Balch opened an anniversary exhibition drawn from its collections of the past quarter-century. Titled "Hidden Treasures, 1971-96," the exhibit reflects the cultures of many ethnic communities, and will run through March 1997.

The Government of Canada has announced the establishment of four Centres of Excellence for Research on Immigration and Integration. The Centres, located in Montreal, Toronto, Edmonton and Vancouver, involve fifteen leading Canadian universities, and are part of international initiatives to examine the impact of immigration throughout the world, particularly the impact on cities. The government has planned \$8 million (Can.) funding for six years. Information: John Oliver, Public Affairs, Canadian Ministry of Citizenship; (819) 994-2424.

The Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies, Philadelphia, has acquired the records of the Russian Brotherhood Organization, a fraternal benefit organization for Russian immigrants, covering the period ca. 1890-1980. Included in the collection is a set of the organizational newspaper *Pravda* and other publications issued by its press.

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## Conferences and Meetings...

The Franco-American Center of the University of Maine, in conjunction with the University of Angers, will hold a colloquium on the topic "Cultural Identity in French America: Legacy, Evolution and the Challenges of Renewal," May 22-26, 1996 at the University of Maine and in Bar Harbor. Information: Jim Bishop, Franco-American Center, 164 College Ave., Orono Maine 04473.

The German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C. will sponsor a conference, "New Approaches to Migration Research: German-Americans in Comparative Perspective," to be held April 22-24, 1997, at the Texas Agricultural and Mechanical University in College Station, Texas. Proposals accepted until May 31, 1996. Papers drawing comparison with ethnic groups other than German are welcomed. Contact for further information: Walter D. Kamphoefner, Dept. of History, Texas A. and M. University, College Station, Texas 77843-4236. E-mail: e301wk@acs.tamu.edu

Paper proposals will be received until June 1, 1996 for the 29th annual conference of the Italian American Historical Association, to be held November 14-16 in Pittsburgh. The theme: "A Tavola! Food, Tradition and Community among Italian Americans." Proposals should be sent to Samuel J. Patti, 1177 Harvard Road, Pittsburgh PA 15205. Participants should be members of the IAHA; contact the organization at 209 Flagg Place, Staten Island NY 10304.

The Washburn Humanities Center, in association with the University of Maine and the University of Southern Maine, will hold its annual conference on northern New England in the nineteenth century June 6-8, 1996 in Livermore Falls, Maine. Focus of this year's conference is "Cultures: Folk, Popular, Ethnic, Artistic, Literary, Political." Contact:

Washburn Humanities Center, Norlands, RFD 2, Box 1740, Livermore Falls, ME 04254.

The National University of Colombia will hold a symposium, "International Scientific Migrations Today," June 24-27, 1996 at Santafe de Bogota, Colombia. Contact: Luz Stella Parrado, Avenida El Dorado 44A-40, A.A. 241980, Santafe de Bogota, Colombia.

St. Antony's College, Oxford will sponsor a conference, "Racializing Class, Classifying Race," to be held at Oxford, July 11-13, 1997. The conference will examine the state of scholarship on the interplay between race, ethnicity and labor in the United States, Africa and Great Britain. Paper proposals welcome until Aug. 23, 1996. Contact for information: Peter Alexander, St. Antony's College, Oxford OX2 6JF, England. For E-mail: peter.alexander@sant.ox.ac.uk

The 1996 Mid-America Conference on History will be held Sept. 12-14 in Topeka, Kansas. Organizers are seeking additional papers on ethnic history. Contact: Bill Cecil-Fronsman, Dept. of History, Washburn University, Topeka, Kansas 66621.

The Southeastern American Studies Association will hold its biennial meeting Feb. 27-Mar. 2, 1997 at Seaside, Florida. Theme: "American Communities: Past and Present." Proposals for papers and panels accepted until Sept. 15, 1996. Address: Lynne Adrian, Dept. of American Studies, Box 870214, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487-0214.

The University of Michigan-Flint will hold an interdisciplinary conference September 20-21, 1996: "Defining Community, Reexamining Society." The idea of community will be explored by scholars from many disciplines. Proposals closed April 20. Contact for information: Nora Faires, Dept. of History, Univ. of Michi-

gan-Flint, Flint MI 48502-2186.

The Institut d'histoire de l'Amerique francaise will hold its 1996 conference October 4-5, near Sherbrooke, Quebec. Theme: "Histoire, Femmes et Societes." Proposals closed March 31. Information: Giles Vandal, Departement de sciences humaines, Univ. de Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke, Quebec J1K 2R1.

The Communal Studies Association will hold its 23rd annual conference Oct. 10-12, 1996 in Amana, Iowa. Proposals can be sent to Jonathan Andelson, Dept. of Anthropology, Grinnell College, Grinnell IA 50112.

The New England Region of the American Conference for Irish Studies will hold a conference at Providence College in Providence, Rhode Island on Oct. 11-12, 1996. General theme is "Ireland and Western Civilization." Proposals accepted until June 1, 1996. Contact: Paul O'Malley, Dept. of History, Providence College, Providence RI 02918-2730.

Marquette University and the Milwaukee County Historical Society plan a conference celebrating the 150th anniversary of the chartering of the city of Milwaukee, to be held in that city Oct. 24-26, 1996. Papers are solicited (by June 7) on all aspects of the city's history; papers on ethnicity are particularly welcomed. Contact: Thomas Jablonsky, Institute for Urban Life, Marquette University, Brooks Hall 100, P.O. Box 1881, Milwaukee, WI 53201-1881.

The Conrad Weiser Homestead will sponsor a symposium Nov. 1-2, 1996, "The Life and Legacy of Conrad Weiser," celebrating the 300th birthday of the German-American pioneer. The symposium will be held in Reading, PA. Information: Jim Lewars, Conrad Weiser Homestead, 28 Weiser Rd., Womelsdorf PA 19567.

The American Society for Ethnohistory will meet in Portland, Oregon Nov. 7-10, 1996. Proposals accepted until May 31. Contact: Jacqueline Peterson, Dept. of History, Washington State University, 1812 E. McLoughlin Rd., Vancouver WA 98663.

Cleveland State University and its Sacred Landmarks Initiative will sponsor an interdisciplinary conference, "The Church and the City," to present scholarly research on the aesthetic, architectural, historical, cultural and social impacts of religious institutions and structures on American life. The conference will take place in Cleveland Nov. 15-16, 1996. Proposals accepted until June 1, 1996. Address Patricia Burgess, Urban Center, Levin College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland State University, 1737 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44115.

The Israel Association of American Studies will hold its annual meeting Nov. 27-28, 1996 in Jerusalem. Theme: "The Americanization of America." Proposals closed March 1. Information: Emily Budick, Dept. of American Studies, Hebrew Univ. of Jerusalem, Mt. Scopus, Jerusalem 91905, Israel.

The German Marshall Fund of the United States will sponsor a three-day conference on "Immigration and the Welfare State: Germany and the United States in Comparison," to take place in Berlin, Germany Dec. 12-14, 1996. Proposals closed March 1, 1996. Information: Hermann Kurthen, Dept. of Sociology, Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-32210.

Proposals are being received until Jan. 15, 1997 for the conference of the Collegium for African American Research, to be held April 24-27, 1997 in Liverpool, England. Theme of the conference is "Mapping African America." Organizers hope to bring together scholars with common interests encompassing

African-American studies in the United States, Latin-America and the Caribbean. Contact: Maria Dietrich, Englisches Seminar/Amerikanistik, Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität, Johannisstr. 12-20, D-48143 Münster, Germany.

Several panels are being planned on the subject "Refugees in the Emerging Global Order: Changing Perceptions and International Responses," for the meeting of the International Studies Association in Toronto, March 22-26, 1997. Proposals should be received by June 1, 1996; for information contact Kurt Mills, Centre for Refugee Studies, York Univ., North York, Ontario, Canada, M3J 1P3.

The Great Lakes American Studies Association plans a conference at Indiana University in Bloomington March 7-8, 1997. Theme of the conference is "Trans-National, National and Regional Cultures in an International Age." Proposals are due Oct. 15, 1996. Information: Sherry Linkon, American Studies Program, Youngstown University, Youngstown OH 44555-3415.

Carleton University will hold the third Carleton Conference on the History of the Family in Ottawa, Canada, May 15-17, 1997. Proposals accepted until Nov. 1, 1996. Contact: Roderick Phillips, Dept. of History, Carleton Univ., Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1S 5B6.

## NECROLOGY

Jacob Rader Marcus, the dean of American ethnic historians, died at his Cincinnati home on Nov. 14, 1995 in his 100th year. He transformed American Jewish history from a filiopietistic recording of group contributions into a scholarly field: Born in Connellsville, Pennsylvania on March 5, 1896, he enrolled at Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati in 1911 and was associated with it almost continuously until his death. After earning a B.A. from the University of Cin-

cinnati in 1917, he served in the American Expeditionary Forces in the First World War and was mustered out as a sergeant. He was ordained a rabbi at Hebrew Union College in 1920 and took a Ph.D at the University of Berlin in 1925. At his death, he was the oldest Reform rabbi in the United States, and still held the Milton and Hattie Kurtz Distinguished Service Chair in American Jewish History at Hebrew Union College. Of his nearly 300 publications, the three-volume *Colonial American Jew* and the four-volume *United States Jewry* are the most enduring, and form a seven volume sequence covering the entire span of the American Jewish experience. While his works have certain "old-fashioned" characteristics, Marcus, true to his teachers, spoke of his histories as "scientific"; there was a significant social element in his work. As he put it, "I am...committed to the thesis that the story of the Jew in this land lies not in the vertical eminence of the few but in the horizontal spread of the many."

Marcus not only wrote American Jewish history, he preserved it by collecting its documents and creating the American Jewish Archives--now renamed the Jacob R. Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives--which also publishes a journal and has fellowship programs for its users.

Knowing Jacob Marcus was an exhilarating experience. He worked actively until a few weeks before the end. He left two books in press: a one-volume history of American Jews, since published, and a large book of documents that contains much of the evidence that he drew upon.

--Roger Daniels

Edward George Hartmann, professor emeritus of history at Suffolk University in Boston, died on October 26, 1995. He was best known for his pioneering work, *The Movement to Americanize the Immigrant* (1948); he also published *Americans from Wales* (1967) and many other works about his German and Welsh ancestry.

### THEODORE SALOUTOS BOOK AWARD, 1995

The annual Theodore Saloutos Award for the outstanding book of the year in American immigration history was made to Lucy Salyer, University of New Hampshire, for her book *Laws Harsh as Tigers: Chinese Immigrants and the Shaping of Modern Immigration Law*. The following citation was read at the annual dinner of the Immigration History Society in Chicago, April 30, 1996.

The 1995 winner of the Theodore Saloutos Prize in Immigration History is Lucy E. Salyer's *Laws Harsh as Tigers: Chinese Immigrants and the Shaping of Modern Immigration Law*, published by the University of North Carolina Press. Building on a body of recent work on the encounters of Chinese Americans with immigration law, Professor Salyer has written a major legal history on the place of legislation, litigation, and administrative bureaucracy in shaping immigration policy beginning in 1882. She has compellingly chronicled how exclusionary laws were enacted and how its victims challenged them through litigation. As such, *Laws Harsh as Tigers* effectively centers the narrative of anti-Chinese prejudice and anti-Asian immigration in the analysis of immigration and immigration law more broadly. Moreover, it demonstrates the agency of Chinese Americans who through their active dissent worked to redefine immigration law. *Laws Harsh as Tigers*, however, is much more than a study of Chinese immigrant exclusion. For Professor Salyer points to the ambiguous legacy of Chinese resistance to exclusion: by effectively contesting immigration law, immigrants ironically and unintentionally contributed to the growth of legal doctrines that endowed the Bureau of Immigration with increasing power. Immigration history as a result was transformed from a judicial to an administrative process. This shift began in the late nine-

teenth century, when the success of Chinese immigrants in the courts encouraged officials to lessen the jurisdiction of the courts and expand the bureaucratic administrative power in reviewing Chinese immigration cases. By 1924, an administrative due process had been created that was defined, and would continue to be defined, primarily by the Bureau of Immigration itself. The implications were sweeping. Even today, Professor Salyer argues, immigration agencies are treated as administrative pariahs and immigration law remains a "resident alien" not totally integrated into American legal culture. If the story of immigrant restriction originated with Chinese Americans in California, it has become an issue national in scope and enormous in its political implications. Professor Salyer has contributed greatly to our understanding of that process.

#### Other New Publications Noted...

Anderson, Philip, Dag Blanck and Peter Kivisto (eds.), *Scandinavian Immigrants and Education in North America*. Chicago: Swedish-American Historical Society, 1995.

Barton, H. Arnold. "After the Great Migration: Swedish-America and Sweden since 1940." *Swedish-American Historical Quarterly* 46 (1995): 332-358.

Bergquist, James M. "The Val J. Peter Newspapers: The Rise and Decline of a Twentieth-Century German-Language Newspaper Empire." *Yearbook of German-American Studies* 29 (1994): 117-128.

Barkan, Elliott R. *And Still They Come: Immigrants and American Society, 1920 to the 1990s*. Wheeling, IL: Harlan Davidson, 1996.

Bayor, Ronald H. *Race and the Shaping of Twentieth-Century Atlanta*. Chapel Hill: Univ. of North Carolina, 1996.

Bayor, Ronald H. and Timothy Meagher (eds.). *The New York Irish*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins U., 1996.

Berrol, Selma. *Growing Up American: Immigrant Children in America*. New

York: Twayne, 1995.

Brimelow, Peter. *Alien Nation: Common Sense about America's Immigration Disaster*. New York: Random House, 1995.

Biržiška, Vaclavas (comp.). *Lithuanian Publications in the United States, 1874-1910*. Chicago: Institute of Lithuanian Studies, 1994.

Buhle, Paul and Dan Georgakas (eds.). *The Immigrant Left in the United States*. Albany: State Univ. of N.Y., 1996.

Charr, Easurk E. *The Golden Mountain: The Autobiography of a Korean Immigrant, 1895-1960*, 2nd ed., ed. Wayne Patterson. Urbana: Univ. of Illinois, 1996.

Cutler, Irving. *The Jews of Chicago: from Shtetl to Suburb*. Urbana: Univ. of Illinois, 1996.

del Castillo, Richard G., and Richard A. Garcia. *Cesar Chavez: A Triumph of Spirit*. Norman: University of Oklahoma, 1995.

Eisen, George and David K. Wiggins (eds.). *Ethnicity and Sport in North American History and Culture*. Westport, Conn.: Praeger, 1995.

Friedman-Kasaba, Kathie. *Memories of Migration: Gender, Ethnicity and Work in the Lives of Jewish and Italian Women in New York, 1870-1924*. Albany: State Univ. of N.Y., 1995.

Fong, Colleen, and Judy Yung. "In Search of the Right Spouse: Interracial Marriage among Chinese and Japanese Americans," *Amerasia Journal* 21 (1995-96): 77-98.

Gabaccia, Donna. *From the Other Side: Women, Gender and Immigrant Life in the United States, 1820-1990*. Bloomington: Univ. of Indiana, 1994.

Gieske, Millard. *Norwegian Yankee: Knute Nelson and the Failure of American Politics, 1860-1923*. Norwegian-American Historical Association, 1995.

Gonzales, Theo. "'We Hold a Neatly Folded Hope': Filipino Veterans of World War II on Citizenship and Political Obligation," *Amerasia Journal* 21 (1995-96): 155-174.



- Green, Nancy L. *Et ils peuplèrent l'Amérique: L'odyssée des émigrants*. Paris: Gallimard, 1994.
- Green, Nancy L. "La main d'oeuvre immigrée et l'industrie du vêtement: Au-delà de la culture et du capital," *Sociologie du Travail* 36:2 (Spring 1994), 165-184.
- Gurock, Jeffrey and Marc Lee Raphael, *An Inventory of Promises: Essays on American Jewish History in Honor of Moses Rischin* (Brooklyn, NY: Carlson, 1995).
- Gutiérrez, David G. (ed.). *Between Two Worlds: Mexican Immigrants in the United States*. Wilmington, DE: Scholarly Resources, 1996.
- Gutiérrez, David G. *Walls and Mirrors: Mexican Americans, Mexican Immigrants, and the Politics of Ethnicity*. Berkeley: Univ. of Calif., 1995.
- Hein, Jeremy. *From Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia: A Refugee Experience in the United States*. New York: Twayne, 1995.
- Hoerder, Dirk, and Leslie Page Moch (eds.). *European Migrants: Global and Local Perspectives*. Boston: Northeastern Univ. Press, 1996. Includes essays by the editors and by James Jackson, Jr., Walter Nugent, Donna Gabaccia, Steve Hochstadt, Ewa Morawska, Nancy L. Green, and Samuel Bailly.
- Hollinger, David. *Postethnic America*. N.Y.: Basic Books, 1996.
- Jones, Richard C. *Ambivalent Journey: U.S. Migration and Economic Mobility in North-Central Mexico*. Tucson: Univ. of Arizona, 1995.
- Kar, Snehendu, and Kevin Campbell, Amanda Jimenez and Sangeeta R. Gupta. "Invisible Americans: An Exploration of Indo-American Quality of Life," *Amerasia Journal* 21 (1995-96): 25-52.
- Lavender, Abraham D. *Jewish Farmers of the Catskills: A Century of Survival*. Gainesville: Univ. Press of Florida, 1995.
- Lemke-Santangelo, Gretchen. *Abiding Courage: African American Migrant Women and the East Bay Community*. Chapel Hill: Univ. of North Carolina, 1996.
- Lieberson, Stanley and Kelly S. Mikelson. "Distinctive African American Names: An Experimental, Historical and Linguistic Analysis of Innovation." *American Sociological Review* 60 (1995): 928-946.
- Light, Ivan and Carolyn Rosenstein. *Race, Ethnicity and Entrepreneurship in Urban America*. Hawthorne, NY: Aldine de Gruyter, 1995.
- Linenthal, Edward D. *Preserving Memory: The Struggle to Create America's Holocaust Museum*. New York: Viking, 1995.
- Maffi, Mario. *Gateway to the Promised Land: Ethnic Cultures on New York's Lower East Side*. New York: New York Univ., 1995.
- McMahon, Eileen M. *What Parish Are You from? A Chicago Irish Community and Race Relations*. Lexington: Univ. Press of Ky., 1995.
- Metress, Seamus. *The American Irish and Irish Nationalism: A Sociohistorical Introduction and Annotated Bibliography*. Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Press, 1995.
- Müller, Sally. "Changing Faces of the Central Valley: The Ethnic Presence." *California History* 74 (1995): 174-189.
- Mulas, Francesco. *Studies on Italian-American Literature*. Staten Island, NY: Center for Migration Studies, 1995.
- Nagel, Joane. "American Indian Ethnic Renewal: Politics and the Resurgence of Identity," *American Sociological Review* 60 (1995): 947-968.
- O'Connor, Thos. H. *The Boston Irish: A Political History*. Boston: Northeastern Univ., 1995.
- Olson, James S. and Judith E. Olson. *Cuban Americans: From Trauma to Triumph*. New York: Twayne, 1995.
- Palmer, Ransford W. *Pilgrims from the Sun: West Indian Migration to America*. New York: Twayne, 1995.
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- Pula, James S. *Polish Americans: An Ethnic Community*. New York: Twayne, 1995.
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### Migration at the Movies...

(continued from page 1)

journey. Still, the work has strengths, particularly its breadth of vision, taking the immigrant through each step of the journey.

Few films provoke as much discussion as director Joan Micklin Silver's *Hester Street* (90 min., 1975; Midwest), based on Abraham Cahan's story "Yekl." A low-budget documentary that had a brief commercial run, *Hester Street* is the story of an Eastern European Jew, Jake, who comes to America and fervently assimilates. He dutifully sends for his wife and son, only to find that he has changed, but they have not. He can embrace his son, once he has shaved the boy's *payot* (ritual earlocks). However he has lost all appetite for his *sheitel*-wearing orthodox wife Gitl, preferring instead an Americanized immigrant woman whom he has met at dancing class and from whom he has borrowed money. The sign on the wall of the dancing school, "No Yiddish spoken here," in Yiddish, is one of many contradictions and ambiguities depicted in this fine film. In the end, the couple divorces. Jake marries his "American lady," but becomes disillusioned with his new mate, who is a stickler for hard work and forced savings; meanwhile, Gitl (played by Carol Kane) finds love with one who cherishes religious tradition as much as she does. As Joyce Antler observed in *Past Imperfect* (p. 181), the film "succeeds in portraying the inexorable process of assimilation, while suggesting that it affects males and females differently."

An alternative (or perhaps a supplement) to *Hester Street* is *The Free Voice of Labor* (60 min., 1980; Pacific Street Film Project). The closing of the Yiddish newspaper *Freie Arbeiter Stimme* in 1977 provides the occasion for discussing radical politics and labor organizing among Eastern European Jewish immigrants. Historian of radicalism Paul Avrich was a consultant and appears on camera; but the real stars are the aging but very ar-

ticulate immigrant radicals themselves. Yiddish labor music and some excellent photographs and film footage enliven this gem.

The *Godfather* movies cannot be ignored, simply because most students have seen them and are prepared to talk about them. I do not show these films. However, I discuss them in class as examples of films that nourish ethnic stereotypes of the most offensive sort.

For the World War II era, two films are especially useful. I use "*Without Due Process*": *Japanese Americans and World War II* (52 min., 1992; New Dimension Media) to treat the internment of the Japanese. Our colleague and IHS president, Roger Daniels, had a hand in this project as an advisor. Although pitched at the secondary-school level, it works well with freshmen and sophomores. Students are properly appalled and some are even moved to tears by the interviews with those recalling their youth in the camps. Equally stirring is *America and the Holocaust: Deceit and Indifference* (90 min., 1994; Fine Cut Productions), written, directed and produced by Martin Ostrow for the television series "The American Experience." As a consultant on the piece, I am not a disinterested critic. However, I believe that it offers a balanced view grounded in current scholarship. David Wyman and other academic experts appear, as do survivors. The story of a son who emigrates to the United States and makes unsuccessful efforts to get visas for his parents, who then become victims of the Final Solution, makes powerful cinema supported by sound history. Those unable or unwilling to view Franklin D. Roosevelt's limited response on the refugee issue with a critical eye expressed some reservations when the documentary was first aired.

The most recent wave of immigration has inspired many fine films. I always show my classes the non-documentary *El Norte* (139 min., 1983; Independent Productions). It is the stirring tale of a sister and brother in flight from the political

turmoil in Guatemala. They travel north and eventually reach the United States, only to find further danger and disillusionment as they seek to understand American culture and to get an economic toehold. On the Asian experience, I have begun to use *Rebuilding the Temple: Cambodians in America* (60 min., 1991; Direct Cinema), a documentary by Claudia Levin and Lawrence Hott of Florentine Films. It tells the story of 150,000 Cambodians who fled to the United States in the wake of murderous persecution by the Khmer Rouge. The film documents the refugees' efforts to adjust to life in the West, and the central role played by their Khmer-Buddhist culture in that adjustment. Students often express admiration for these newcomers who struggle to preserve their traditions by building temples for holding religious ceremonies.

The latest arrivals include Europeans as well as Asians and Latinos. The last film in the course is the story of a familiar institution--the corner diner--and how it has served as a vehicle for economic mobility for Greek immigrants in New York. Even students whose only experience with diners is from "Seinfeld" cannot resist the warmth of the personalities that appear in this documentary. The owner, his family, his waiters all talk of their dreams, the American Dream, and their mixed feelings about having come to America. *One on Every Corner: Manhattan's Greek-owned Coffee Shops* (45 min., 1984; Techniarts Video) is an effective way to suggest that the struggles and ambivalences of previous generations remain a constant of the immigrant experience.

Immigrants have often gone to the movies to learn about life in the United States. Perhaps, then, it is only appropriate that we use film in the classroom to learn about them. As Siskel and Ebert might say, "See you in class!"

Alan M. Kraut is Professor of History at the American University. Comments? Other suggestions? Send them to the editor for inclusion in a future issue.



### News from Libraries ...

(continued from page 3)

The Immigration History Research Center at the University of Minnesota has acquired the following archival materials: papers of Michael J. Anuta, lawyer and immigration scholar; papers of Joel Halpern, anthropologist; papers of Edward Paikens, immigrant from Latvia; papers of George Pozzetta, scholar of Italian-American immigration; papers of Josephine Wtulich, sociologist and scholar of Polish immigration; additional papers of Peter Zuzolo, former president of the Order of Sons of Italy; additional papers of Hryhor Luznycky, Ukrainian-American educator and journalist. The IHRC has received a grant from the International Research and Exchanges Board to begin work on a primary resource guide on post-World War II Baltic migration. Work on the guide is under the supervision of archivist Astra Apsitis and curator Joel Wurl. They may be addressed at IHRC, 826 Berry St., St. Paul MN 55114.

The Cincinnati Historical Society has opened the Nippert Collection of German Methodism, containing records of the German Methodist Church in America and Germany, Switzerland and China, 1779-1974. For information contact Jonathan Dembo, Archivist, Cincinnati Historical Society, 1301 Western Ave., Cincinnati OH 45203.

The Historical Society of Rockland County, New York, has received a grant from the New York State Archives and Records Administration to survey Latino-American communities within the county.

The Community Memorial Museum of Sutter County, California is currently displaying "The Road Not Forgotten: The Journey of Japanese Descendants in Butte, Colusa, Sutter and Yuba Counties (1889-1995)." The exhibit focuses on everyday life in the Japanese-American community. It runs through Sept. 1996.

The Cincinnati History Museum has on display "Hidden History: An African American Sampler," which focuses on African-American cultural and community life. Through August 31, 1996.

The Stearns County (Minn.) Historical Society has mounted an exhibition, "Waves of Hope: Stories of Immigration," on display at the Stearns County Heritage Center in St. Cloud. It covers immigration into the county from the Germans of the 1850s to the Vietnamese of the 1970s.

The Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, has an exhibit, "Beyond Gum San: A History of the Chinese in Nevada." It runs from May 18, 1996 through June, 1997.

At the Arts and Industries Building of the Smithsonian Institution on the mall in Washington, D.C.: "Visual Journal: Harlem and D. C. in the Thirties and Forties," exhibiting works of various Afro-American photographers. Through Oct. 6, 1996.

The Museum of the Chinese in the Americas, 70 Mulberry St., New York City, has opened a new permanent exhibition: "Where is Home? Chinese in the Americas."

Current exhibits at the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia are "American Jews at Work: Selections from the Collection," and "The Challenge of Piety: Satmar Hasidism in America." Through July 21, 1996.

### Publications noted...

(continued from page 7)

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MINUTES OF THE 1996 EDITORIAL BOARD MEETING  
AND OF THE 1996 BUSINESS MEETING  
OF THE IMMIGRATION HISTORY SOCIETY  
Chicago, Illinois, March 30, 1996

## PERSONALS

Ron Bayor opened the meeting of the Editorial Board at 4:37 p.m. He reported that subscriptions have increased significantly; active members are 771 (348 individual, 423 institutional). The next two issues of the *Journal* will include lists of books that were not reviewed in the *Journal* because persons who agreed to review them subsequently failed to do so and also failed to return the books. It was suggested that the published list include a note that persons who already own these books should submit their names to the book review editor for consideration as possible reviewers of these works. Bayor will consider this suggestion. The meeting adjourned at 4:45.

Philip Gleason opened the business meeting at 4:46 p.m. Because Roger Daniels was in Europe, Gleason conducted the 1996 meeting. Daniels' presidential report noted that the Pozzetta fund still needs contributions, the Society has not undertaken any new endeavors, and, overall, the Society is healthy but could use new members.

Alan Kraut's treasurer's report indicated that, with \$16,596.11 in the General Fund and \$2,017.77 in the Qualey Fund, the Society has a closing balance of \$18,613.88, the largest balance in the organization's history.

June Alexander reported that Elliott Barkan, Peter Kivisto, and Walter Nugent had been elected to the Executive Board for the term 1996-1999. An updated directory will be sent to all members in the fall 1996. Several persons suggested, and she agreed to request, e-mail addresses for inclusion in the 1996 directory.

Jim Bergquist reported on his first year as newsletter editor. The cost of producing the November newsletter was \$402.62. He has sufficient material and proposes producing a twelve-page newsletter in May 1996. The costs would be close to \$500. It was agreed that Bergquist should increase the number of pages in future issues.

With no old business on the agenda or offered from the floor, discussion turned to new business items. The meeting considered a proposal that IHS bylaws be amended to require that persons appointed to IHS committees remain Society members for the duration of their terms. After lengthy discussion and considering several revisions, the meeting unanimously approved adding the following amendment to the IHS bylaws: "Membership on the Executive Board and IHS committees shall be limited to IHS members in good standing."

The second new business item involved establishing a policy concerning IHS sponsorship or financial support for ethnic conferences. In the fall 1995, the IHS received a request both to sponsor and financially contribute to a scholarly conference. In a close vote, the Executive Board decided to co-sponsor but not to contribute financially to the endeavor. The meeting approved the Board's actions. After extensive discussion of the ramifications of sponsoring and/or contributing financially to conferences, the following policy statements were adopted: 1) "The Immigration History Society does not ordinarily co-sponsor outside conferences"; and 2) "The Immigration History Society does not ordinarily provide funding for outside conferences."

With no other business or announcements, the meeting adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

June Alexander  
IHS Secretary

At the 1996 meeting of the American Historical Association in Atlanta, the biennial William Gilbert Award, for the best article on the teaching of history, was awarded to Nora Faires (Univ. of Michigan-Flint) and John J. Bukowczyk (Wayne State Univ.). The award-winning article, "The American Family and the Little Red Schoolhouse: Historians, Class and the Problem of Curricular Diversity" appeared in *Prospects: An Annual of American Cultural Studies* in 1994.

Bruce M. Stave, University of Connecticut, John F. Sutherland, Manchester Community Technical College, and Aldo Salerno, Nassau Community College, received the 1995 Homer D. Babbidge Award of the Association for the Study of Connecticut History. They were recognized for their book *From the Old Country: An Oral History of European Migration to America* (Twayne, 1994).

June Namias (Univ. of Alaska, Anchorage) was appointed a Mayers Fund Fellow at the Huntington Library, San Marino, Calif., January-May 1996.

Barbara M. Posadas (Northern Illinois Univ.) has been appointed to a four-year term on the Organization of American Historians Committee on the Status of Minority Historians and Minority History. She also has been elected to the board of the Urban History Association.

Peter D'Agostino (Stonehill College) was awarded a Fulbright Junior Faculty Fellowship to study at the Centro Studi Emigrazione in Rome, Jan.-July 1996. He will study the migration of Italian religious orders to the Americas.

Sally Miller (Univ. of the Pacific) was appointed a Fulbright lecturer at the University of Turku in Finland for spring 1996.

**IHS News Notes...****THEODORE SALOUTOS BOOK AWARD**

Closing date for submissions for the annual Theodore Saloutos Memorial Award for the outstanding book in American immigration history is December 31, 1996. To be eligible, books should be copyrighted 1996. Inquiries should be addressed to the chair of the Prize Committee, Prof. Hasia Diner. Her address until Sept. 1, 1996: American Studies Dept., Univ. of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742. Her address after Sept. 1, 1996: Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies, New York University, New York City NY 10003. Prof. Diner will send instructions as to delivery of books to committee members.

**IMMIGRATION HISTORY SOCIETY  
MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY**

A new and updated membership directory will be mailed to all IHS members during the fall of 1996. This directory is now in preparation using the present mailing list. To help insure accuracy, please *carefully examine the mailing label on this issue of your Newsletter*. If there are errors, or if you prefer that a different address be published in the new directory, notify the IHS Secretary, June Alexander (3410 Bishop St., Cincinnati OH 45220-1831). Members who wish to have their e-mail address included in the directory should send a *typed* copy of that address to June Alexander. To be included in this issue of the directory, all corrections and additions must be received by August 30, 1996.

**GEORGE POZZETTA  
DISSERTATION AWARD**

At the annual dinner of the IHS on March 30 in Chicago, the annual George Pozzetta Dissertation Research Award for 1996 was given to Russell Kazal, doctoral candidate at the University of Pennsylvania, for research on the topic, "Becoming Old Stock: Religion and the Winning of German-American Identity in Philadelphia, 1900-1930."

The IHS invites applications for the 1997 Pozzetta Dissertation Research Award. Eligible are Ph.D. candidates who have passed their qualifying exam by Dec. 1, 1996 and whose theses concern American immigration, emigration, or ethnic history. The grant is for \$750 to cover expenses in researching the dissertation. Applicants should submit the following: a 3-5 page descriptive proposal in English, detailing the significance of the work, its methodology, sources, and collections to be consulted; a proposed budget; a brief curriculum vitae; and a supporting letter from the major advisor. Deadline for submission is Dec. 15, 1996; the winner will be announced about Feb. 15, 1997. Send all materials in triplicate hardcopy to Prof. Victor Greene, History Dept., University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milwaukee WI 53201. Inquiries: telephone (414) 229-3965 or E-mail [vicgre@csd.uwm.edu](mailto:vicgre@csd.uwm.edu)

**Activities Report for the Immigration History Newsletter**

Mail your information for the next Newsletter to:

James M. Bergquist, Department of History, Villanova University, Villanova PA 19085-1699  
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*New Publications? Awards? Conferences Planned? Research Projects? Give us full details in the space below. Attach additional sheet for more information. Return by October 1, 1996.*

## THE IMMIGRATION HISTORY SOCIETY

## OFFICERS OF THE IHS

...was founded in 1965 to promote the study of the history of immigration to the United States and Canada from all parts of the world, including studies of the background of emigration in the countries of origin; to promote the study of ethnic groups in the United States, including regional groups, native Americans and forced immigrants; to promote understanding of the processes of acculturation and of conflict; to furnish through the *Immigration History Newsletter* information as to research, organizations, meetings and publications in the field of immigrant history; to help organize sessions on immigration and ethnicity at meetings of learned societies; and generally to serve the field of immigration-ethnic history with special reference to professional scholarship.

## MEMBERSHIP

...in the Immigration History society includes subscriptions to the quarterly *Journal of American Ethnic History* and the semiannual *Immigration History Newsletter*. Dues for individuals: one year, \$30; 2 years, \$55; 3 years, \$75. Dues for institutions: one year, \$72; 2 years, \$138; 3 years, \$184. Students: 1 year, \$15. Patrons: 1 year, \$100 (individuals or institutions who wish to provide more substantial financial support to the Society will have their names listed on the inside cover of the *Journal*). For domestic first-class mail, add \$32 per year. For all subscriptions outside U.S.A., add \$32 per year for surface mail, or \$48 per year for airmail. Membership dues should be sent to *Journal of American Ethnic History*, Dept. 8010, Transaction Periodicals Consortium, Rutgers University, New Brunswick NJ 08903.

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Inquiries about the Society should be directed to the appropriate officer. This newsletter was edited with additional assistance and support from the staff of the Library, Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies. Newsletter submissions and questions about editorial matters should be sent to the newsletter editor at the address above. Requests for back issues should be sent to the editor; to purchase back issues, send \$2.00 per copy (by check made out to Villanova University).

Subscriptions to the *Immigration History Newsletter* are part of membership in the Society. Members' changes of address should be sent to *Immigration History Newsletter*, Dept. 8010, Transaction Periodicals Consortium, Rutgers University, New Brunswick NJ 08903.

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