Vast INS Archival Resources Move to National Archives

By Marian L. Smith

A massive collection of historical Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) records, tracing development of U.S. immigration policy and practice from the turn of the century to the late 1950s, was recently transferred to Record Group 85 in the National Archives. This transfer of record material should not go unnoticed by immigration historians. Not only does the set contain files previously believed to have been destroyed; it contains an overwhelming amount of rich historical material which will allow historians and their students to write (and in some cases, rewrite) nearly every facet of American immigration history. The transferred files comprise the INS’s “56,000 series,” also known as the “Old Series” or “subject and policy correspondence files.” Opened within the Treasury Department in the 1880s, the 56,000 series followed the Immigration Service to the Department of Commerce and Labor in 1903, the Labor Department in 1913, and the Department of Justice in 1940. The Central Office of INS in Washington, D.C. used the series to house all manner of documents and correspondence until the 56,000 Series closed in March 1957. It is important to note that INS transferred the 56,000 Series without processing and purging non-record material. As a result, the files document not only the decisions but also the decision process. For instance, policy files contain not only INS policy statements, but every draft in the development of that statement, including annotations, handwritten notes, and formal correspondence indicating who made what changes and why.

Much of the 56,000 Series consists of policy and subject files covering both interpretation and enforcement of laws as well as administration of the Service. Such files generally contain correspondence, policy statements, memoranda, and various related documents. For example, one large, multi-part file contains all INS correspondence with medical officers (usually Public Health Service physicians) concerning medical exclusion policy from 1924 through 1956. Another file covers U.S. land border crossing policy from 1933 to 1951. One of several “fence files” documents proposals for and construction of fencing along the US/Mexican border from 1907 to 1957 (including photographs).

These are general policy files for every aspect of immigration and nationality law, and many of these subjects are further broken down by INS district. Some individual district files contain correspondence between the district office and INS Central Office, requesting official guidance or advice on how to apply various laws and regulations. Other district files hold statistical and textual reports (daily, monthly, or annual) on apprehensions, exclusions, admissions, detentions, deportations, smuggling, and a variety of other topics and activities in each district. Examples include the files holding each district’s monthly reports on the issuance of Certificates of Identity under the Chinese Exclusion Act. Not all subject files broken down by district relate to specific legislation. “Public comment files,” containing all incoming letters written from the general public to the President, Congress, or the Commissioner concerning INS and its operations, were maintained for each district but are not generally limited to comment on any one law or program.

A large number of subject files are unique to each district. For example, while the Central Office and district offices all maintained general files on investigations, there are also individual files for each investigation. Examples include the Boston District’s 1933–34 study of the cranberry workers of upper Cape Cod, or Havana’s investigations throughout the 1930s of illegal entry from Cuba. Investigations of industries range from the case of English mill girls in South Carolina textile mills in 1906 to alleged Nazis in a Maryland shoe factory in 1940, from Greek shoeshine boys in St. Louis in 1912 to Chinese laundries in nearly every major city. Suspected subversive groups and organizations were also subject to investigation, among them the Communist Party, the Hungarian Singing Society, the Scandinavian Seamen’s Club, and the Boy Scouts of America.

Alien Contract Labor (ACL) files can demonstrate the richness of 56,000 Series records. General ACL files trace development of policy throughout the period, while a multitude of case files document application of ACL laws. Case files record the granting and denial of ACL waivers to both large corporations and small businesses in every part of the country. Waiver applications generated files containing much information about a given industry or area. Applications from California wineries for the importation of immigrant vintners, for example, provided data on the industry at large, information about the specific winery in question, documentation of the failure to recruit qualified workers locally, and extensive information about the proposed immigrant vintner. There are ACL files covering every conceivable industry and profession. More than a few such files (continued on p. 8)
News from Libraries, Museums and Historic Sites...

Network Developing among Migration Institutions; Pittsburgh Creating New Immigration House Museum

An Emigration Networking Conference was held at the Ulster-American Folk Park in Strabane, County Tyrone, Northern Ireland, June 3-7, 1996. Arranged by the Centre for Emigration Studies at the Ulster-American Folk Park in cooperation with the British Council, the conference brought together academics, archivists, and representatives of professional organizations involved in immigration/emigration research to explore ways of developing better communications between institutions in North America and Europe. More than forty persons from Canada, Europe, and the United States attended. The Immigration History Society's secretary, June Alexander, participated. In their separate capacities, current IHS Executive Board members Kerby Miller and Deborah Miller and former IHS president Rudolph Vecoli also attended.

A proposal, "Co-ordinating Migration Studies in Europe and America," by Eric Montgomery, chairman of the Ulster-American Folk Park, served as the conference's working paper. It proposed a feasibility study to examine the possibility of establishing a network of European and North American institutions which could, among other functions, cooperate in compiling lists of the repositories of emigration/immigration records. Building on the recommendations of the 1990 "Conference on Documenting the Emigration Experience in the United States" held at the Immigration History Research Center at the University of Minnesota, the proposal called for establishing a "clearing house" that could serve as a "bridge" between Europe and North America and within North America itself. Specifically, this clearing house would more closely link those institutions and associations currently involved in researching, collecting, teaching, and publishing the historical and cultural background of emigration from Europe as well as settlement in North America. The proposal suggested that the IHS should have a role in any such endeavor.

During extensive discussions, participants' opinions of the proposal varied. It was recognized that cooperative institutional ventures should ultimately extend beyond the parameters of the transatlantic migration. The conference named a steering committee comprising ten persons from the United States, Canada, and Europe, as well as the Chairman and the Director of the Ulster-American Folk Park; a representative from the Association of European Migration Institutions will be designated later. The committee was charged with developing a mission statement, exploring ways to further cooperation among institutions, and investigating other suggestions advanced at the conference. IHS Secretary June Alexander is on the steering committee.

At its first meeting, held on September 14 in Washington, D.C., the steering committee proposed organizing the Association of North American Migration Institutions (ANAMI) and identified several organizations in North America that should be invited to join. Over time, the number of participants is expected to increase. Briefly stated, the objectives of ANAMI would be "to promote and facilitate migration studies" by improving communications among those who are responsible for the custody, use, and interpretation of the record of immigration. Eric Pumroy, Director of the Library and Archives at the Balch Institute, agreed to compose the letter inviting institutions to participate and also to coordinate the organizational meeting. The steering committee tentatively scheduled this meeting with the responding institutions for December 3, 1996 at the Balch Institute in Philadelphia, where representatives can outline a plan of action and formulate a charter.

—June G. Alexander

The Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania has since 1992 been following the painstaking process of turning an immigrant family's house in the Lawrenceville neighborhood of Pittsburgh into a house museum depicting twentieth century working-class immigrant life. The project was born when the historical society became aware of a vacant house which still contained the papers, furnishings and artifacts of the Polish-American family which had occupied it from the 1920s into the 1980s. The first family members to live in the house were Anthony and Frances Kins; Anthony was a worker at the Pittsburgh Malleable Iron Company a block away. The society contacted the owner, also the last family member to occupy the house, Gertrude Kins, who was in a nursing home. Gertrude Kins and her brother Ray agreed to donate the family papers of the Kins family (originally the Kozioziemski family) and the contents of the house to the historical society. The historical society then turned to its advisory Polish Collections Committee and to various Polish ethnic organizations for contributions of funds to acquire the house itself.

After the purchase of the house in November 1992, the house was secured and the contents removed to storage and sorted out. Research for the house museum project then went forward with an architectural study to plan preservation and restoration; study of the artifacts and family papers; oral histories with surviving family members; and consultation with scholars to determine significant themes for interpretive development. The large (5000 sq. ft.) house had been subdivided, with an apartment at the rear of the first floor formerly occupied by Gertrude Kins. This led to a decision to present the main part of the house as reflecting the era of the first generation (1920-1940), while the rear apartment will reflect the life style of the second generation (1940-60). Interpretive plans were developed with the assistance of a grant from the National Endowment for
the Humanities. Besides the Polish organizations, civic groups and societies from the Lawrenceville neighborhood have also become involved in the project. Fundraising for restoration is now underway with a $10,000 grant received from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission; and the Polish-American groups are playing an active role in further fundraising efforts. It is hoped that the house will be open to the public in 1998 or 1999.


The Norwegian-American Contemporary History Project, directed by Odd Lovoll of St. Olaf's College, Minnesota, is in the second year of its two-year endeavors. It attempts to determine what has become of the descendants of the estimated 800,000 immigrants from Norway between 1825 and 1925, as well as the approximately 50,000 who have arrived in America from Norway since the Second World War. The plan is to survey Norwegian-American descendants beyond the third generation, and even up to the eighth. The extensive field-work thus far involves over a thousand in-depth interviews and questionnaires of over 10,000 Norwegian-Americans. Questions concern such things as the occupations, businesses, organizational life of contemporary Norwegian-Americans, and, in particular, whether their churches still serve luteisk. Results on these and other questions will be compiled in a book planned for publication in 1998. The English-language version will be published by the University of Minnesota; the Norwegian version will be published by the University of Oslo Press. For further information about the project, address Michael Foote, Scandinavian-American Studies, St. Olaf College, 1520 St. Olaf Ave., Northfield MN 55057. E-mail: foote.m@stolaf.edu

The Immigration History Research Center at the University of Minnesota is now looking forward to occupying new quarters, when a new University of Minnesota archives facility reaches completion in 1998. The construction of the new building was made possible by a bond issue approved by the Minnesota legislature, which provides $38.5 million for the project. The IHRC will occupy the building along with six other units of the university library. The location is on that part of the university campus on the west bank of the Mississippi River in Minneapolis. Collections storage space for the facility will be carved in underground caverns carved from the sandstone, 80 feet beneath the surface.

The Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies, Philadelphia, will offer Resident Research Fellowships during the summer of 1997. Fellowships are available to scholars who require access to the Balch's collections on American immigration and ethnicity in order to further their research. Fellows will receive a stipend of $500 a month, plus free accommodation in the Balch Fellows' Residence near the Institute. 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. Fellowships may be taken for a period of one to three months during the period May 15-September 15, 1997. Application deadline is March 1, 1997. Inquiries should be addressed to Eric L. Pumroy, Director of the Library and Archives, Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies, 18 S. Seventh St., Philadelphia PA 19106. Telephone: (215) 925-8090, ext. 215. E-mail: balchlib@hslc.org

The Australian National University is inviting applications for visiting fellowships in its Humanities Research Centre in 1998. The theme for research and conferences at the Centre in 1998 will be "Home and Away: Journeys, Migrations, Diasporas." The majority of grants made will be for studies relating to this theme. Obtain application forms and further information from the Centre Administrator, Humanities Research Centre, Australian National University, 'Canberra ACT 0200, Australia. E-mail: administration.hrc@anu.edu.au

The Asian-American Studies Center at the University of California at Los Angeles has announced the annual Alexander Saxton History Essay Award for the best student essay on Asian-American history. The award is open to work at either the college or the graduate level. The award is $150 plus publication in Amerasia Journal. Deadline for submission is Dec. 31, 1996. Submissions and further information: Editors, Amerasia Journal, Asian-American Studies Center, 3230 Campbell Hall, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1546.

The Michigan State University Museum has acquired the John and Selma Appel Collection of Immigrant Cartoons and Caricatures. The collection was donated by the Appels, and includes cartoons, prints, postcards, trade cards, stereopticon slides, and historical material regarding immigrant stereotypes. The Museum is now preparing the collections for study and use. Additional information: Lynne Swanson, Michigan State University Museum, East Lansing MI 48824.

The University of Texas at Arlington and its History Department are offering a $500 prize for the best research essay on "Creolization in the Americas: Cultural Adaptations to the New World." The winning essay will be published as part of vol. 32 of the Walter Prescott Webb Memorial Lecture Series. Deadline for submission is Feb. 1, 1997. Information: Webb Lectures Committee, Dept. of History, P.O. Box 19529, Univ. of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, TX 76019-0529.

The projected Encyclopedia of African American Associations is seeking writers for assigned entries in the one-volume reference work. For a list of entries and further information, contact Nina Mjavikij, Dept. of History, Ball State University, Muncie IN 47306. E-mail: 00n0mjajvikij@bsuvc.bsu.edu (continued on p.9)
Conferences and Meetings...

The Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies has announced its 1996-97 schedule of forums sponsored by the Faculty Associates of the Balch. The first forum, scheduled for Oct. 25, featured John Higham (Johns Hopkins University), speaking on "Strangers in the Land Revisited: the Question of American Pluralism." Commentators were Elijah Anderson (Univ. of Pennsylvania) and Gary Gerstle (Catholic University of America). Remaining programs, all scheduled for Fridays at 2:00 P.M., were:

Nov. 15, Russell Kazal (Univ. of Pennsylvania), "Assimilation on the Rebound: Reflections on the Re-emergence of a Historical Concept"; Feb. 21, Deborah Dash Moore (Center for Judaic Studies, Univ. of Pennsylvania), "The Strange Career of the Judeo-Christian Tradition: the Experience of the Jewish G.I. during World War II"; March 21, Judith Goode (Temple Univ.), "Koreans and Puerto Ricans in Philadelphia: How Interethnic Relations are Shaped by Local Situations and Racialist Discourse"; April 18, Ewa Morawska (Univ. of Pennsylvania), "A Historical Ethnography in the Making: Jewish Entrepreneurs in an American Mill Town, 1890-1940 (A Self-Reflexive Account)". Commentators on these remaining programs will be announced.

All forums take place at the Balch Institute, 18 South 7th St., Philadelphia. For further information: (215) 925-8099.

The John Balch Italian American Institute of Queens College, City University of New York, is holding regular meetings of its Italian-American Studies Seminar during the academic year 1996. The remaining sessions for the year are: December 2, Fred Gardaphe, Columbia College of Chicago, "Paesans with Power: the Italian-American Intellectual"; Feb. 10, 1997, Rudolph Vecoli, Univ. of Minnesota, "Italians and Multi-Culturalism"; March 17, Richard Gambino, Queens College, discussing his recent research; April 14, Nunzio Pernicone (Drexel Univ.), "Carlo Tresca, Italian Immigrant Radical"; May 12, Donna Gabaccia(Univ. of North Carolina, Charlotte), "Italians and the Business of Food." Seminars take place at 6:00 P.M. on the dates indicated at the Calandra Institute, 25 W. 43d St., 10th floor, New York City. The public is welcome. For information call (718) 997-4543.


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The International Society for the Comparative Study of Civilizations will hold its annual meeting May 8-10, 1997.
at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. Theme: "Civilizations and Religion: What is Their Relationship?" Included will be sessions on religious activity as a factor in intercivilizational encounters, as through migrations, missionary efforts, etc. Deadline: Nov. 15, 1996. Information: Ellen Z. Berg, 4862 Reservoir Rd. NW, Washington DC 20007.


The University of Charleston plans an international conference on the migration of Huguenots: "Out of New Babylon: The Huguenot and their Diaspora." Meeting dates are May 15-17, 1997. Contact: Randy Sparks, History Dept., 66 George St., Univ. of Charleston, Charleston SC 29424-0001. E-mail: sparksr@cofc.edu

The Third Biennial Conference of the Center for Working Class Studies at Youngstown State University will be held June 11-14, 1997 at Youngstown, Ohio. Proposals in 250-300 words should be sent by Jan. 2, 1997 to Sherry Linkon, American Studies Program, Youngstown State Univ., Youngstown OH 44555. E-mail: sjlinkon@cc.ysu.edu

The Institut Français de Londres in London, England will hold a conference on "The French Émigrés in Europe, 1789-1814" July 4-7, 1997 in London. Topics include émigrés in host countries including Britain, Denmark, Poland, Portugal, Spain and the United States. Proposals considered until April 1, 1997. Contact: Philip Mansel, The Flat, 13 Prince of Wales Terrace, London W8 5PG, UK. E-mail: 101553.251@compuserve.com

The Society for Historians of the Early American Republic will hold its 19th annual meeting July 17-20, 1997 at Pennsylvania State University, University Park. Papers on immigration and ethnicity during the period 1789-1848 are welcome. Proposals by Jan. 15, 1997 to Jan Lewis, Dept. of History, Rutgers Univ.-Newark, Newark NJ 07102. E-mail: jalewis@andromeda.rutgers.edu

The Norwegian American Historical Association of Norway will hold its 1997 seminar June 23-26 at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology in Trondheim. Theme: "Norwegians-Americans in a Multicultural America." Participants should be members of the NAHA. Proposals: Ingeborg Kongslien, Vindemveien 20, N-0373 Oslo, Norway. Information: David Mauk, English Dept., NTNNU, N-7055 Dragvoll, Norway. E-mail: davmauk@alfa.avh.unit.no

Concordia University, Montreal, plans an International Conference on the Hindu Diaspora, to be held in Montreal Aug. 22-23, 1997. The organizers hope to provide through interdisciplinary approaches the opportunity for comparative consideration of the experience of diaspora Hindus in various parts of the world. For proposals and information, T.S. Rulmani, Chair of Hindu Studies, Department of Religion, Concordia Univ., 145 Maisonneuve, west, Montreal, Quebec H3G 1M8.


The Institute of Early American History and Culture and the University of Haifa will sponsor a conference in Haifa, Israel, Jan. 19-21, 1998. Theme: "More than Cool Reason: Black Responses to Enslavement, Exile and Resettlement." The conference will explore how African identity and culture changed during the diaspora. Proposal deadline is Feb. 1, 1997. Information: Ronald Hoffman, Institute of Early American History and Culture, P.O. Box 8781, Williamsburg, VA 23187-8781. E-mail: IEAHCI@facstaff.wm.edu

The Organization of American Historians will hold its 1998 meeting in Indianapolis, April 2-5. The program committee solicits proposals on the general theme of "boundaries," by which they mean "the lines of distinction that define and separate people and groups within societies or nations." Proposals dealing with race and ethnicity would be appropriate to this theme. Proposals due by January 17, 1997, to OAH, 112 North Bryan St., Bloomington, IN 47404-4199.

The Society for German-American Studies will hold its 22nd annual symposium May 28-31, 1998 in the Pauluskirche in Frankfurt, Germany. Abstracts of 20-minute papers may be submitted to La Vern J. Rippley, St. Olaf College, Northfield MN 55057-1098. Deadline is December 31, 1996.

The International Institute of Social History in Amsterdam will hold its next biennial European Social Science History Conference in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, March 5-7,1998. Abstracts of proposals for this conference should be sent in by April 30, 1997. Sessions in both migration and ethnicity are being organized. For information, contact Leo Lucassen (Leiden Univ.) by E-mail: LACJLUCASSEN@ullet.leidenuniv.nl (continued on p. 8)
New Publications Noted...


International Migration Review, vol. 30 no. 2 (Spring 1996), is a special issue on "Ethics, Migration and Global Stewardship."


Lothrop, Gloria R. "The Untold Story: The Effect of the Second World War on


INS Archival Resources...
(continued from page 1)

concern the (usually successful) efforts to import Canadian hockey players and, since 1915, Caribbean baseball players. Similar in many ways are "school" and "student" files created when educational institutions applied for approval to accept international students; these files document each foreign student's admission.

Not all imported workers immigrated under individual ACL waivers. Large program files survive on imported labor programs, the earliest of which cover the admission of agricultural labor during World War I. Others document the importation of Canadian and Mexican railroad workers and Canadian woodsmen from the 1930s through the 1950s. Most massive, of course, are the files kept on the Mexican Agricultural Labor Program, later called the Bracero Program, from its inception through 1957. Other "workers" gained admission under treaty, such as the several troupes of Chinese actors and circus performers whose bonds were renewed annually from at least 1914 until repeal of the Chinese Exclusion Act in 1943.

Administrative subject files cover all aspects of INS personnel and financial issues. Service-wide and district "force files" detail the number and types of positions at each office and suboffice over time. Financial records abound. Among those of possible interest are the contract and expense files for each INS enemy alien internment camp operated during World War II. Contracts and regulations in those files illuminate the development of relationships between the camps and nearby towns, and the role such Federal installations played in a local wartime economy. World War II records offer some inkling of the massive size of this record set. INS administrative and policy records on the enemy alien internment program alone fill at least 80 storage boxes (which would convert to more than 200 of the smaller "Archives boxes").

Interfiled throughout the 56,000 Series are countless alien and citizen case files referred to INS's Central Office before 1950. Individual case files account for half or more of all 56,000 Series files and should be a valuable resource for scholars as well as genealogists. These case files only exist within the 56,000 Series because they raised questions about or challenges to established policy or procedure. Resolution of each required a decision and, as noted above, 56,000 Series files typically contain every scrap of paper underlying each decision.

Transfer to the National Archives means the entire 56,000 Series will become available to researchers for the first time. Unfortunately, there is no finding aid allowing archivists to provide ready reference. An alphabetical subject index yielding file numbers (NARA microfilm T-458) is available in Main Archives room 400 in downtown Washington, but does not provide the location data archivists usually need to retrieve a file, which must then be screened for Privacy Act purposes. Locating requested files might not be such a problem with a small set of files, but the 56,000 Series is so large that, without a finding tool, referencing the set could become an unworkable burden on Archives staff.

To solve this problem, the INS is working with the National Archives on a contract that would create an automated index find aid to the 56,000 Series. The goal is to produce a database of information about each of the half-million or more 56,000 files, which then can be searched by subject/keyword, geographic location, date, and selected other fields.

Researchers must keep in mind the current lack of a finding aid if they seek access to the 56,000 Series at the National Archives. Those interested in doing so should contact a Civil Reference archivist at the Main Archives room 7th and Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20408) well in advance of any visit. Meanwhile, the INS historian remains available to consult with serious researchers about the possible location of desired files. Additionally, for those studying INS's World War II enemy alien internment program, a catalog of those files is available by writing the INS History Office.

Marian L. Smith is the Historian, Immigration and Naturalization Service. This article is an outgrowth of an address to the annual meeting of the Immigration History Society in Chicago, March 30, 1996. Ms. Smith welcomes questions or comments; address her at Room 1100, 425 "T" Street, NW, Washington, DC 20536; telephone (202) 514-2837.

Conferences and Meetings...
(continued from p. 5)

To order abstract submission forms for the Amsterdam meeting, send e-mail to ESSHC@ilsg.nl The conference for the year 2000 will be in Paris.

The 39th Missouri Conference on History will be held in St. Louis, April 24-26, 1997. Theme: "History, Identities and Borders: Toward an Interdisciplinary Perspective." Deadline for submissions: Jan 1, 1997. Send abstracts to Louis Gertes, Dept. of History, Univ. of Missouri-St. Louis, 8001 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis MO 63121.

The Georgia Association of Historians will hold its annual meeting at Morehouse College in Atlanta, April 11-12, 1997. The theme of the conference is "intersections." Undergraduate and graduate students who are eligible to submit their papers to the competition sponsored by the GAH and the National Archives-Southeast Region are also invited to participate. Proposals are due Dec. 15, 1996. Contact: Alice Taylor-Colbert, Shorter College, 315 Shorter Ave., Box 256, Rome GA 30165.

The Nineteenth-Century Studies Association will hold its sixteenth annual conference, "Ordinary People; Everyday Lives," at Davidson College, Davidson, North Carolina, March 20-22, 1997. Proposals closed November 1, 1996. For information: Phyllis Floyd, Kresge Art Center, Dept. of Art, Michigan State University, East Lansing MI 48824-1119. E-mail: Floyd@pilot.msu.edu

Send announcements of conferences to the editor (addresses on p. 1). Deadlines are April 1 and October 1.
News from Libraries...
(continued from page 3)

At the Immigration History Research Center at the University of Minnesota, recent archival acquisitions include: Supplementary papers of Michael Anuta, Ukrainian-German lawyer; papers of Don Binkowski, Polish-American jurist and ethnic leader; supplementary papers of Orest Horodysky, Ukrainian refugee; records of the International Institute of Minnesota, 1960-1971; records of the International Institute of Toledo, 1950-1990; supplementary papers of Paul Karvonen, music professor; supplementary papers of Hryhor Luzynycky, Ukrainian-American journalist; records of the Midwest Fnnfest festival, 1994; records of the United Finnish Brotherhood and Sisterhood, San Francisco, 1890-1990. The IHRC has received a $60,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to arrange and describe the previously-acquired records of the American Council for Nationalities Service and the U.S. Committee for Refugees. Information: Joel Wurl, curator, Immigration History Research Center, 826 Berry St., St. Paul MN 55114.


The Institute for Socio-Economic Population Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences, in conjunction with the Kennis Institute for Advanced Russian Studies at the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington DC, is sponsoring a research project on "Women in Search of Jobs Abroad: Female Labour Migration from Russia." Interested parties may seek further information from Dr. Elena Titiuikanova, Institute for Socio-Economic Population Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences, 27 Krasikova Str., Moscow 117218, Russia. E-mail: isepp@glas.apc.org

The Center for Southwest Research at the library of the University of New Mexico, has announced the opening of the papers of Dennis Chavez (1888-1962), the first native-born Hispanic to serve in the United States Senate, and Senator from New Mexico from 1936 to 1962. The papers contain 383 cubic feet of material concerning Chavez's career as a politician. For further information contact Beth Silbergleit, Center for Southwest Research, Zimmerman Library, Univ. of New Mexico, Albuquerque NM 87131. E-mail: bsil@umn.edu

The Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies, Philadelphia, has acquired records of the St. Andrew's Society of Philadelphia, a Scots immigrant organization, 1786-1990; and oral histories and audiotapes from the South Asians in Philadelphia Oral History Project, conducted summer 1996. The Balch Institute is in the process of mounting its guides to manuscripts and microfilms and its guide to museum collections. The home page of the Balch is http://www. libertynet.org/~balch

The Ellis Island Immigration Museum has on display an exhibit about the Swedish emigrant experience, "From One Life to Another." It contains major portions of an exhibit mounted earlier this year in Stockholm in commemoration of the 150th Swedish Immigration Jubilee. The exhibit will be at Ellis Island through Jan. 20, 1997.


Green Mountain College in Poultney, Vermont, has been designated by the Welsh-American Genealogical Society as the official repository of its collections and records.

A Danish Centre for Migration and Ethnic Studies has been established at South Jutland University. For information: South Jutland Univ. Centre, Niels Bohrs Vey 9, DK-6700 Esbjerg, Denmark.

An ongoing exhibit at the Brooklyn Historical Society, 128 Pierrepont St., Brooklyn Heights, N. Y., is "New Neighbors: Sunset Park's Chinese Community."


The Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii, 2454 S. Beretania St., Honolulu, has an ongoing exhibit: "Strength and Diversity: the Story of the Japanese American Women in Hawaii."


The San Francisco Main Library, 100 Larkin St., is exhibiting through Nov. 30, 1996 "Gateway to Gold Mountain," about the Angel Island Immigration Station, known from 1910 to 1940 as the "Ellis Island of the West."

The National Science Foundation and Cambridge University Press are undertaking a new "millennial edition" of the widely-used reference volume Historical Statistics of the United States, Colonial Times to the Present, last published as a U.S. government document in 1975. The U.S. Census Bureau will serve in an advisory capacity. Persons who have suggestions or inquiries concerning the scope, contents, or format of the new edition may contact Richard Sutch, Dept. of Economics, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720-3830.

E-mail: rsutch@econ.Berkeley.edu
NECROLOGY

E. Digby Baltzell, sociologist at the University of Pennsylvania and the man who coined the term "WASP" for the elite cultural group which dominated the American establishment, died Aug. 17, 1997 in Boston at the age of 80.

Baltzell first gained fame as an academic writer in 1958, when he published *Philadelphia Gentlemen: The Making of a National Upper Class*, a study of the elite which exercised authority over the city's power structure, frequently to the exclusion of competing ethnic and racial groups. He expanded this theme in *The Protestant Establishment: Aristocracy and Caste in America* (1964), in which he first used the acronym "WASP" for "White Anglo-Saxon Protestant." He later claimed that he used the term only as a convenient abbreviation to fit into columns of statistical tables. In an era with a rising interest in ethnicity, the term was seized upon by others in discussions of the nation's ethnic relations. Baltzell himself argued that the WASPs could be regarded as an ethnic group, and criticized the "Protestant Establishment" for its failure to admit other groups into the power structure.

Baltzell taught at Pennsylvania from 1947 until his retirement in 1986, and continued to teach one course each year after his formal retirement. His undergraduate sociology course was one of the most popular at the university.

Merle Curti, professor emeritus at the University of Wisconsin, died March 9, 1996 at the age of 98. Curti, best known for his studies in intellectual and cultural history, left his own mark on the developing study of immigration history. His *The Roots of American Loyalty* (1946) included serious consideration both of nativism in American thought and of the immigrants' devotion to their adopted country. His study of Trempealeau County, Wisconsin, *The Making of an American Community* (1959), included statistical analysis of the immigrant groups in the county and became a model for future "community" studies. Among the historians of immigration whom he influenced by his teaching and counsel were John Higham, William Hoglund, Rudolph Vecoli, Edward George Hartmann, and Robert Ernst.

Michael Durkan, librarian of Swarthmore College, died June 10, 1996 in Wallingford, Pa. at the age of 70. Known as a scholar and bibliographer of Irish literature, he was also involved in Irish-American studies. He moderated an Internet bulletin board for the American Conference for Irish Studies.

PERSONALS

Roger Daniels (University of Cincinnati), president of the IHS, is teaching in the fall 1996 semester at the University of Calgary in Canada, where he is the first recipient of the Fulbright Chair in North American Studies.

David Gutierrez (University of California, San Diego) has been elected to the Nominating Committee of the Organization of American Historians.

Deborah Dash Moore (Vassar College), completed a five-month term as a Skirball fellow at the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies. During the fall term 1996, she will be in residence at the Center for Judaic Studies at the University of Pennsylvania.

Grants were made by the Recovery Project for U.S. Hispanic Literature to the following for their 1996 research projects: Deena Gonzalez (Pomona College), "Chicana Bequest: 19th-Century New Mexico Willmakers"; Gabriel Melendez (University of New Mexico), "Cuarenta Anos de Legislador: Recovering Neo-Mexican Biography"; Charles Weeks (St. Andrew's Episcopal School), "Texts in Context: The Nogales Dispute, 1791-1792, An Episode in Spanish-Indian Relations in the Lower Mississippi Valley."

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 and nominations should be addressed to the chair of the Saloutos Prize Committee, Prof. Hasia Diner, Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies, New York University, 7 E. 12th St., New York City NY 10003.

Copies of the book must be received by all three members of the committee by December 31, 1996. Send books to Prof. Diner at the above address; and also to: Prof. Jon Gjerde, Dept. of History, Univ. of California, Berkeley CA 94720; and Prof. Cheryl Greenberg, W.E.B. DuBois Institute, Harvard Univ., 26 Church St., Cambridge MA 02138. The 1996 prize will be awarded at the Society's annual dinner in April 1997.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

In 1997 the Immigration History Society will elect a Vice-President-President-Elect for the three-year term 1997-2000. The vice-president will succeed to the IHS presidency in 2000. In 1997 the society will also fill three positions on the Executive Board for the three-year term 1997-2000. Send suggestions for these four positions to the Chair of the Nominations Committee, Gary Momino, Department of History, University of South Florida, 4202 East Fowler Ave., SOC 107, Tampa FL 33620-8100. Other members of the committee are: Tyler Anbinder (George Washington Univ.); Sue Fawn Chung (University of Nevada-Las Vegas); Donna Gabaccia (University of North Carolina-Charlotte); Dirk Hoerder (University of Bremen). The deadline for submitting suggestions to the chair is January 15, 1997. Ballots will be mailed in late February 1997.

GEORGE POZZETTA DISSERTATION AWARD

The Immigration History Society announces competition for the George R. Pozzetta Dissertation Award. It invites applications from any Ph.D. candidate who will have completed qualifying exams by Dec. 1, 1996, and whose thesis focuses on U.S. immigration, emigration, or ethnic history. The grant is $750 for expenses to be incurred in researching the dissertation. Applicants must submit a 3-page descriptive proposal in English, discussing the significance of the work, and the methodology, sources and collections to be consulted. Also included must be a proposed budget, a brief curriculum vitae, and a supporting letter from the major advisor. Submission deadline is Dec. 15, 1996, with the winner to be announced around Feb. 15, 1997. Send all material in triplicate hardcopy (no FAXes accepted) to Prof. Thos. Dublin, Dept. of History, SUNY-Binghamton, Binghamton NY 13902-6000. Inquiries: telephone (717) 663-2339, or e-mail: tdublin@bingvm.binghamton.edu

Correction: The research topic of the winner of the 1996 Pozzetta Dissertation, Russell Kazal, was misstated in the May 1996 issue of the Newsletter. His correct topic is: "Becoming Old Stock: Religion and the Waning of German-American Identity in Philadelphia, 1900-1930."

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

The Immigration History Society will hold its annual meeting and awards dinner in conjunction with the annual convention of the Organization of American Historians in San Francisco, April 17-20, 1997. Information concerning these events will be included with the election ballots mailed in late February 1997.

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
or FAX a copy to (610) 519-4450 or send information via E-Mail to: bergquist@ucis.vill.edu

Your name and affiliation:

THE IMMIGRATION HISTORY SOCIETY

...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 semianual 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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