

Annotated Bibliography

Quotas and Quibbles: A Series of Restrictive Immigration Acts of the Early 20th century

Primary Sources

Government Bills, Documents, Resolutions, Reports, Pamphlets, Testimonies

Laughlin, Harry H. *Classification Standards to be Followed in Preparing Data for the Schedule*

“Racial and Diagnostic Records of Inmates of State Institutions.” Government Printing Office, 1922. *Proquest Congressional*. Accessed 20 Dec. 2017.

This is a pamphlet prepared by Harry H. Laughlin, expert Eugenicist to the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization in 1922. The pamphlet contains information from a study of the race, crimes, and the diseases of the inmates in the State Institutions. Laughlin was a proponent of the bill and provided statistics such as these. While this contains no direct criticism of immigrants, it does highlight the unfavorable qualities of immigrants, including defects such as ‘color blindness’ or ‘stubbornness.’ This will act as a supplementary source in not only exhibiting the anti-immigration view but also expanding on the ideal “human” from a eugenicist perspective.

United States, Congress, Dillingham Commission. *Reports of the Immigration Commission*.

Government Printing Office, 1911. *Archive.org*. Accessed 18 Dec. 2017.

This report concludes the findings of the Dillingham commission (1907-11), which was created to study the recent influx of immigrants and their possible origin and consequences. This information is valuable because the report is one of the earliest to support immigration reduction in the early 1900s. Congressmen cited these findings in support of the Act because its findings mainly determined immigrants of southern and western Europe to be a threat (higher criminal convictions, unskilled - costly welfare, diseased, etc.).

---, ---, House, Committee on Immigration and Naturalization House. *Restriction of Immigration*.

Government Printing Office, 1924. *Proquest Congressional*. Accessed 30 Nov. 2017.

68th Congress, 1st session.

This 1924 letter is written by Secretary of Labor James J. Davis to the committee developing the bill. He provides his draft of the bill, which includes suggestions to make the bill “less restrictive” and give a separate quota for relatives of those in the U.S., military veterans, professors, religious instructors and laborers. In one section, he places emphasis on making exceptions for laborers from Canada and Mexico. These suggestions are valuable because it provides a starting point to look into the economic effect of the bill. I want to use this bill to look further into if immigrants helped stimulate

the economy and why they became so restricted into the U.S (and how that was evident in the actual bill).

---, ---, House, Committee on Immigration and Naturalization. *Letter from Secretary of Labor to Chairman of Committee on Immigration and Naturalization, House of Representatives, transmitting suggestions in connection with impending immigration legislation.* Government Printing Office, 1924. *Proquest Congressional*. Accessed 30 Nov. 2017. 68th Congress, 1st session, House Executive Document L1.2:Im6.

This transcript from a hearing on the what would be become the Immigration Act of 1924 provides a discussion between members of the committee on the specific provisions of the bill. With different disputes on certain aspects (like the census, details to incorporate from previous past immigration guidelines), this source will be used to see the thought process behind the final draft. It includes provisions that were discussed but not included in the final draft allowing us to compare the two and further look into why certain areas were or weren't included

---, ---, House. 1864 Immigration Act (An act to encourage immigration). Government Printing Office, 1864. *US Immigration Legislation Online*, The University of Washington-Bothell Library. 38th Congress, 1st session.

This bill, enacted under President Abraham Lincoln, was to encourage immigration from other nations. Due to labor shortages from the Civil War, this act validated labor contracts

with immigrants before they arrived and removed compulsory military service. In addition, it created the position of Commissioner of Immigration and the office of Superintendent of Immigration for New York City. This act was later voided under the Alien Contract Labor Law which prohibited Aliens under contract to perform labor the United States and its' territories.

---, ---, House, Committee on Immigration and Naturalization. *Eugenical Aspects of Deportation*. Testimony of Harry H. Laughlin, Government Printing Office, 1921. *ProQuest Congressional*. Accessed 20 Dec. 2017. 69th Congress, 1st session.

Harry H. Laughlin, an expert in the Eugenics movement, explains his findings in a study done on the deportable-status of immigrants in state and federal institutions. His studies find that only a small percentage (5%) of his subjects can be deported. The reason being naturalization, the subject living past five years in the US, or become inadequate. Laughlin presents his studies to call for stricter accountability of immigrants, as well as amendments to expand the US's control of deportation. He compares the reason why to

invest in the issue to the reasons of past acts which based immigration on economic or asylum concerns his being a biological concern. This hearing is valuable in a couple of ways. First, this hearing was two years after the 1924 act so it reveals the extent of the Eugenicists (who were major supporters of the 1924 act) goal regarding immigration which seems to be to rid *all* of the existing out instead of just preventing future influxes of the weak. It also provides empirical evidence to the Eugenicists argument.

---, ---, House, Committee on Immigration and Naturalization. *Correspondence with Executive Departments*. Government Printing Office, 1924. *Proquest Congressional*. Accessed 20 Dec. 2017. 68th Congress, 1st session.

This document is a compilation of short correspondences between members of the Executive Branch and the Committee on the Act. The messages cover numerous topic areas, with the most helpful ones being (1) A history and denunciation of the Communist party in Russia given by Assistant Secretary of the State and (2) Multiple exchanges from the Japanese Ambassador discussing the unfairness of the Act towards Asians, but Japan specifically. This source will be useful in contextualizing the attempt of a compromise (or the lack thereof) between Communist opponents and Japan with Congress.

---, ---, House. 1924 Immigration Act. Government Printing Office, 1924. *US Immigration Legislation Online*, The University of Washington-Bothell Library. Accessed 19 Jan. 2018. 68th Congress, 1st session, House Bill H.R. 7995.

This is the final bill before it was sent off and approved by President Coolidge. The Immigration Act of 1924 redefined non-quota immigrants (wife or unmarried child of husbands in the US, those who presided in US territories, etc.) and quota immigrants. The percentage was cut down 3% to 2% of the current population of the particular country, the former being set in the Emergency Quota Act of 1921. This Act used the 1890 census compared to the more recent one in 1910 which was used in the EQA 1921. As a result, the census skewed quotas against Southern and Western Europeans. This is vital to our project as this is the main subject of our project. Having this firsthand will allow us to form our own conclusions and react to the provisions of the bill rather than through a secondary source.

---, ---, House. 1921 Emergency Quota Law. Government Printing Office, 1921. *US Immigration Legislation Online*, The University of Washington-Bothell Library. Accessed 12 Jan. 2018. 67th Congress, 5th session, House Bill H.R. 4075.

This is the final 1921 Immigration Act Bill/Emergency Quota Act. This bill was the first to set a numerical limitation of immigration. It set a 3% quota of new foreigners allowed in each year based on the 1890 census.

Political Cartoons

Alley, James. P, "Come Unto Me, Ye Opprest!", *Memphis Commercial Appeal*, 5 July 1919.

HERB: Resources for Teachers, <https://herb.ashp.cuny.edu/items/show/643>.

This comic shows the impact of the red scare. The unsuspecting Statue of Liberty offers to take in the oppressed immigrant, however the immigrant turns out to be a European Anarchist, holding a bomb and a knife to demonstrate the perceived threat of foreigners.

"Close the Gate." *Chicago Tribune. Baruch College*. Accessed 20 Feb. 2018. Cartoon.

This cartoon references the common term "undesirables" used to refer to immigrants. The immigrant with the sunken body is depicted with a ticking bomb on its head, demonstrating the fear of immigrants infiltrating the U.S. with radical ideas. The bomb symbol was perhaps used in light of the 1920 Wall Street Bombing, in which, an anarchist group bombed the financial district of NYC, killing almost forty people.

Dalrymple, Louis. "The High Tide of Immigration – A National Menace." *Judge*, 1903. *City University of New York*. Cartoon.

This cartoon shows Uncle Sam clinging onto a flag labeled 'liberty' and a rock labeled 'danger to American ideas and institutions,' as floods of immigrants wash up with hats and bandanas that say anarchist, illiterate, etc. It expresses a strong feeling that American Institutions (the government) would be threatened by immigrants because they would bring in radical beliefs or wouldn't be able to participate productively in society.

---, "The unrestricted dumping ground." *Judge*, 1903. *New York Public Library*. Cartoon.

This satirical cartoon demonstrates distaste for immigrants, particularly those from Southern Europe. In the cartoon, hybrid human-rats with mafia-style hats and swords in mouth flood into America. Uncle Sam looks disapproving and in the background is late William McKinley, who was assassinated by an anarchist.

Evans, Raymond. "The Americanese wall - as Congressman [John Lawson] Burnett would build it." *Puck*, vol. 79, 25 Mar. 1916. *Library of Congress*. Cartoon.

In this cartoon, an immigrant family has just reached America and is greeted with a wall with pens and books. Uncle Sam looks over, suspicious of the incoming immigrants as

'land of the free' flag flies in the background. This cartoon exemplifies the extra barrier that the literacy test added to Immigrants coming in; they had arrived to America but then a literacy test stops them. The flying flag in the background is mocking the literacy test highlighting the hypocritical nature of the Act. Despite what this comment shows though, the literacy act was not able to curtail immigrants from coming in because many could pass them.

Gilliam, Victor F. "The Immigrant: An acquisition or a detriment?" *Judge*, 19 Sept. 1903.

Library of Congress. Accessed 5 Feb. 2018. Cartoon.

The *Judge* was a satirical magazine that published between 1881 to 1947. In this 1903 comic, an immigrant fresh to America is bombarded with criticisms and praises. Representative of the immigration debate at the time, several of the views are that "he cheapens my labor;" "he is brawn and muscle for my country;" "he brings disease;" and "he is a menace." This is useful because it demonstrates an overall view of the debate.

Greene, Sidney Joseph. "Step by Step." *New York Evening Telegram*, 1 Nov. 1919.

City University of New York. Cartoon.

This cartoon reflects the American sentiment during the first Red Scare, with regards to the Bolshevik revolution in Russia and the violent frenzy it was causing in the United States. This demonstrates the fears that were present in the United States, which made citizens more cautious of foreign ideas and persons. This cartoon shows particular relevance to our project because it shows exactly why the Red Scare was scary for Americans - due to the riots, strikes, & murders.

"The only way to handle it." *Retrieving the American Past, Clash of Cultures*, Department of

History at The Ohio State University and Pearson Custom Publishing, 1921. Accessed 18 Jan. 2018. Cartoon.

This cartoon depicts what the 1921 Immigration does in a satirical way. Immigrants are being enclosed in a funnel, reflective of the 3% quota set by the act. This cartoon visualizes how extreme the act was in cutting off immigration.

"The Proposed Emigrant Dumping Site." *Judge*, vol. 17, no. 440, 1890. *Cornell University*

Library. Cartoon.

This cartoon depicts a disgusted Lady Liberty lifting up her dress in order to avoid the mass of immigrants coming in, particularly from Europe. A comment says "Mr. Wisdom,

if you're going to make this island a garbage heap, I am going back to France." This demonstrates the hatred for immigrants that occurred, comparing them to garbage.

"Uncle Sam's Great, Unnecessary Burden." *Eastern Press. SIRS Decades*. Accessed 1 Dec.

2017. Cartoon.

The political cartoon titled "Uncle Sam's Great, Unnecessary Burden" depicts Uncle Sam carrying a basket full of rowdy looking immigrants on the path towards "good citizenship" that is marked by poverty, crime, insanity, and pauperism, demonstrating the widespread anti-immigrant sentiment. The caption cites that this was in response to an inquiry by the commissioner-general of immigration who found that 14,000 immigrants were residing in the jails, public hospitals, asylums, and other public facilities of New York State.

Letters

Alliance Klan #1. "Letter to Coolidge from Alliance Klan #1." Received by President Calvin

Coolidge, 15 May 1924. *SIRS Decades*. Accessed 1 Dec. 2017. Letter.

This source from 1924 is a letter in which the women of the Ku Klux Klan, a major stakeholder in the conflict, voice support for the Johnson-Reed Immigration Bill, writing that they are "devoted to the sublime principles of pure Americanism."

Ayer, John E. "Letter to Crime and Law Enforcement Commission." Received by Crime and

Law Enforcement Commission, 23 May 1929. *SIRS Decades*. Accessed 1 Dec. 2017.

Letter.

This source is a letter written by a resident of Seattle, Washington named John E. Ayer to the Crime and Law Enforcement Commission in 1929, addressing what he believed to be reasons for the crime wave sweeping the nation since the end of World War I. He cites immigration, the invention of the automobile and liquor traffic as causes for the increase in crime. The letter, in the personal words of a concerned citizen, is useful in understanding the anti-immigrant sentiment during that time period.

Ku Klux Klan. "Guarding the Gate Against Undesirables." *Current Opinion*, 1 Apr. 1924. *Ohio State University*. Accessed 18 Jan. 2018.

Written by the Ku Klux Klan, this article focuses on the immigrants themselves and why in particular, they are not wanted. It claims that it is 100% certain that Polish people will not assimilate, because for example the Polish have requested that the United States will allowed continued use of Polish language in non-secular schools and churches. This article will be used to display the main points of the Klan -- that they saw immigrants as a threat to a 'Pure America.'

National Catholic Welfare Conference. "NCWC Protest to Congress Against the 1924

Immigration Bill." Jan. 1924. *American Catholic History Classroom*, The Catholic University of America. Letter.

In this letter, the National Catholic Welfare Conference writes in protest of the pending 1924 Immigration Act. They first declare that some degree of restriction is needed but this act was made purposefully to discriminate against certain ethnic groups. They assert that immigrants often want to become American and take proper actions to do so. The NCWC organization was formed in 1919, composed of American Catholic Bishop and Clergy. Regarding Immigration, they protested against restrictive bills and helped immigrants getting established in America.

Articles

"Immigration Bill reported to the House." *New York Times* [New York City], 10 Feb. 1994.

ProQuest Newspapers. Accessed 18 Dec. 2017.

This 1924 *New York Times* article reports on the recent immigration bill that Representative Albert Johnson (R-WA) proposed to the House, which was the first draft of the Immigration Act of 1924. The article takes excerpts from the bill explaining why a new quota is needed. The bill also states that American prosperity doesn't depend on alien laborers, supporting it with the reason that the U.S. only had one spell of unemployment during 1910-1920 in which immigration rates were low due to war in Europe and another quota law. The article also discusses the political consequences for President Coolidge if he supports this bill where he could lose electoral votes in the upcoming election. This source will be useful to describe the initial defense for why a new quota had to be set if there was one already in place.

"Keep on Guarding the Gates." *Current Opinion*, 1 June 1923. *Ohio State University*. Accessed 16 Jan. 2018.

This article illustrates the generally-shared outlook on immigration at the time, agreeing that immigrants of Poland, Sicilian, etc. were unskilled, low-people, that would make America ignorant. Included is a quote from Harry H. Laughlin, the 'expert' eugenicist, appointed by Albert Johnson, who says that maintaining these types of immigrants drags the economy for no good reason and that his 'findings' concluded that this generation of immigrants was worse than their parents. This article demonstrates the common view on southern-eastern Europeans but more importantly, the direct views of Laughlin. Laughlin was a prominent character in these Acts, providing testimonies and findings to Congress.

"New Yorkers fight Immigration Bill as Racially Unfair." *New York Times* [New York], 25 Feb.

1924. *ProQuest Historical Newspapers*.

In this article of The New York Times, it details the New York Democrats protest to the 1924 bill. The protest text remarks that immigration is a selective process but should be fair to all those healthy. It labels the bill as a danger to industrial prosperity and unfairly biased toward Nordics. This is used to demonstrate protest towards the bill which was heavily supported.

Odell, George T. "Alien Quota Fight in Next Congress." *Christian Science Monitor*, 24 Apr.

1924. *ProQuest Historical Newspapers*. Accessed 21 Nov. 2017.

This 1924 article explains the rising tension the proposed bill caused among different groups. In this article, Odell documents the Industrialists, Aliens, and Ruralists. Industrialists benefit from the labor. Aliens oppose it because it directly targets them and limits them from opportunities. Ruralists are divided over which immigrants are they trying to limit and different specific details of the restrictions. This piece is key because it provides a contemporary look at the divide in Congress, especially as the bill was gaining momentum and advancing through the bill-making process.

Reed, David A, Senator, From Pennsylvania. "America of the Melting Pot comes to an End."

New York Times (1923-Current file): 1. Apr 27 1924. *ProQuest*. Web. 22 Dec. 2017.

David Reed, the senator that sponsored the Johnson-Reed bill, describes in an article by the *New York Times* the effects of new immigration legislation. He says that the chief aim is to preserve the current racial type of America. Also included are two maps showing how the flow of immigrants from European countries will change. Reading the intents of the legislation from the sponsoring senator himself is the most direct and credible source of information.

Ward, Robert DEC. "Our New Immigration Policy." *Foreign Affairs*, vol. 3, no. 1, 24 Sept.

1924, pp. 99-110. *EBSCO*,. Accessed 1 Dec. 2017.

This article, written months after the bill was passed, confronts the fallacies of the "Melting Pot" perception of the United States. It is written by American climatologist Robert Ward, who was also an activist for immigration reform and eugenics. This source will help my project by allowing us to understand a unconventional and personal account of the general feeling of immigrants in the decade before. It will be key in contextualizing the short-term impact of the act and understanding the perspective from those who didn't make the law, who more closely, interacted with immigrants during the time.

"What other papers are saying – Immigration and Labor." *The Washington Post*, 4 Dec. 1920.

ProQuest Historical Newspapers.

This 1920 *Washington Post* article places excerpts of other newspapers, such as a *Chicago Tribune* article on the effects of the 1917 Literacy Act, which aimed to keep out illiterate immigrants (& usually unskilled, poorer immigrants.) It says that because America is turning its back to unskilled workers, it will harm skilled workers' wages. Unskilled immigrants do the jobs Americans don't want to do so the skilled jobs pay more. This displays why employers might want immigrants because if not, the economy could fault.

"Will not change Immigration Law." *New York Times*, 21 Feb. 1923. *ProQuest Historical*

Newspapers.

This article explains the general counsel of the National Association of Manufacturer's opposition to the bill but not to the idea of restriction. The NAM cite a labor shortage and would support a bill that didn't restrict laborers as much. One representative of the Immigration Restriction League counters and remarks there is in fact, no labor shortage. This article displays the various sides; one open to a less restrictive bill but another not willing to budge.

Speeches

Clancy, Robert H. "An 'Un-American Bill'." Congress, 8 Apr. 1924, Washington D.C. Speech transcript.

Republican Representative Robert H. Clancy of Detroit spoke publicly against the immigration acts. In this speech he defends the "Americanism" of Jewish, Italian, and Polish immigrants and attacks the quota provisions as racially discriminatory and "un-American." I found this source interesting because initially it seemed like sentiments

against immigrants were much stronger and overwhelming in society, however, this source made me realize that the conflict was more two-sided and intense. I will use this to portray one side of the conflict and to demonstrate how there were indeed people who foresaw bad consequences for passing the Act.

Coolidge, Calvin. "Address Accepting the Republican Presidential Nomination." 14 Aug. 1924.

The American Presidency Project, edited by Gerhard Peters and John T. Wolley.

Accessed 14 Jan. 2018. Speech.

In his acceptance speech for the Republican nomination for the 1924 election, Coolidge justifies the reason behind the 1924 Immigration Act as to keep America American and he claims that he tried to minimize the harshness of the 1924 Immigration Act. This speech displays Coolidge's "keeping America American" rhetoric.

"First Annual Message." 6 Dec. 1923. *The American Presidency Project*, edited by Gerhard Peters and John T. Wolley.

This was the first annual address President Coolidge made since the death of his predecessor, President William Harding. In regards to immigration policy, he defends immigration reform, explaining that the economic and social states warrant limited immigration, though he is still careful not to criminalize immigrants.

"Third Annual Message," 8 Dec. 1925. *The American Presidency Project*, edited by Gerhard Peters and John T. Wolley.

In Coolidge's third annual message, regarding immigration and aliens, he justifies why the immigration Acts needed to be passed. He acknowledges that a conclusion of the effectiveness of the act cannot yet be determined, but he does say it would be a protection to wage earners in the United States. He is hard on the fact that despite foreigners are beneficial in some ways, they must now follow the rules and quotas set in place. In this speech, he is again, careful not to criminalize or offend aliens.

Smith, Ellison DuRant, April 9, 1924, *Congressional Record*, 68th Congress, 1st Session

(Washington DC: Government Printing Office, 1924), vol. 65, 5961–5962.

Democratic Smith takes an extreme view regarding immigration, proposing that the door should be shut completely. He reasons that America's resources couldn't accommodate to an increasing population. His later argument shifts to a very purebred American view - recognizing that if the government were to fail, it would be because of people with weak

principles and skill - which aren't Americans. This will be used to show a radical point of view of the debate of immigration.

Images/Advertisements

Americanization Day. 1915. New England Historical Society.

This image is promoting the Americanization Movement. This movement was to help immigrants become assimilated into American culture. In this picture, it advocated for citizens attend local 'Citizens Celebrations' to help immigrants feel American and pledge allegiance to the country. This will be used to demonstrate how the Americanization movement was promoted to American-born citizens.

Cassel, J.H. Stripped! 1917. Library of Congress.

This image depicts an "enemy alien" being stripped of the American Flag - representing his sense of citizenship in America. This image, drawn in 1917, reflects the increasing hostility to foreigners within America.

President Coolidge with Mrs. Coolidge, John J. Pershing, and others. 1924. Library of Congress.

Photograph of Coolidge signing into law the Immigration Act of 1924 on the White House South Lawn along with appropriation bills for the Veterans Bureau.

Pro-immigration poster. Windsor Public Library.

This poster is a picture of an industrial plant with the caption that they do the tiring and unappealing work that heavily helps America. It demonstrates the stake that many manufacturers have in the debate, wanting a surplus of cheap labor. This poster will be used to illustrate the benefits of less-restricted immigration.

Rogers, William Adams. The Breath of the Hun. 1918. Library of Congress.

This image depicts a supernatural ghost, labeled "enemy alien menace" infiltrating New York City. This image, drawn at the end of WWI, in 1918, reflects the negative sentiment towards aliens at the end of WWI. Americans started to feel a nationalist sentiment during the war, which was still present at the end and in the immigration debates.

"The Making of an American." Education Film Magazine, 1920. Wikipedia. Advertisement.

This is an advertisement for the 1920's short film 'The Making of an American,' which targeted immigrants and promoted the learning of English, demonstrating that it would facilitate getting jobs and rising in ranks faster. Produced by the State of Connecticut Department of Americanization, this film was apart of Americanization efforts to help assimilate immigrants.

Other

Garis, Roy Lawrence. "The Emergency Quota Legislation, 1921-1924; The Immigration Act of 1924." *Immigration restriction : a study of the opposition to and regulation of immigration into the United States*, 1927, pp. 142-203. *Archive.org*.

This contemporary study acts as defense of the Immigration Act 1924, as well as, comparison to the Immigration Act of 1921. Despite both bills being very similar, the study discredits the 1921 Immigration Act, writing that it was 'drastic' and not based on historical facts. The study also responds to criticisms that the 1924 Immigration Act was harsh, by citing humane provisions and parts that encouraged immigration as families. This study demonstrates a biased but contemporary look at the legislation, particularly providing insight into why a second revised bill was created. It shows the (then) present "expert studies" for the acts.

Lazarus, Emma. "The New Colossus." *Poetry Foundation*.

This poem is the well-recognized epitome of the welcoming character of immigrants that the U.S. embodied before the 1920s. "Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free" demonstrates how the U.S. was a welcoming place for immigrants wanting a better life.

"Minutes of meeting of Committee on Immigration of the Eugenics Research Association."

Eugenics Research Association, Feb. 1920, Harvard Club, New York City. *Eugenics Archive*. Accessed 17 Dec. 2017.

This source is the minutes of a meeting of the Eugenics Research Association, in which members of the immigration committee (of the Association) voice their support for immigration reduction laws. In the notes, the stance taken criticizes the lax immigration system and other countries for sending their exiled convicts. This source is useful because of the more practical stance it takes on of immigration in comparison to other Eugenacists or Eugenicist organizations. In the project, it will be used to demonstrate Eugenacists

earlier view of the immigration process (compared to the later ones where the organizations and people simply cited the immigrants at fault, not the United States).

Republican Party Platforms: “Republican Party Platform of 1920,” June 8, 1920. Online by

Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, *The American Presidency Project*.

<http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/?pid=29635>.

This speech is following the passage of the 1921 Immigration Act. The Republican party notes their concerns and issues they hope to resolve with a future permanent immigration act. Their position focuses on the naturalization of the immigrant population and incoming immigrants should have similar values. They also note that immigrants should be of high physical standard. They mention specifically of the lack of permission immigrants have to protest the government.

Republican Party Platforms: “Republican Party Platform of 1924,” June 10, 1924. Online by

Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, *The American Presidency Project*.

<http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/?pid=29636>.

This platform was put out by the Republican Party in 1924, months after the major 1924 Immigration Act was passed in May. They state that America should stay America, in regards to its cultures and values. They also promote a seamless naturalization process for immigrants to assimilate into American culture and values. They also justify it saying that the economic conditions and social conditions warranted the need for the act. This platform gives a look into the ‘official’ position on why the act was passed; it wasn’t offensive because the platform had to appeal non-voters also.

Secondary Sources

Journals/Magazines

Allerfeldt, Kristofer, Dr. “‘And We Got Here First’: Albert Johnson, National Origins and

Self-Interest in the Immigration Debate of the 1920s.” *Journal of Contemporary History*,

vol. 45, no. 1, Jan. 2010, pp. 7-26. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/40542903. Accessed 19

Dec. 2017.

Dr. Allerfeldt is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Exeter with extensive knowledge on the last half of the 19th century and first half in the 20th century, with a special

interest in ethnicity, immigration, bigotry, and criminology. This article's main highlight is Albert Johnson, who was the sponsor of the Immigration Act of 1924, as well as other immigration legislation. Allerfeldt approaches the subject of immigration by exposing Johnson's struggle to unite his own party but also the strong protest from the other side, who were really close to staving off the bill but only if they had more time. This article provides a totally different approach to the subject but also highlights the imbalance Johnson had among the bill supporters. It will be useful for chronicling the lack of compromise of both sides but mainly to prompt more research into the struggle between the proponents of the bill.

Lauret, Maria. "Americanization Now and Then: The 'Nation of Immigrants' in the Early Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries." *American Studies*, vol. 50, no. 2, May 2016, pp. 419-47. *ProQuest Research Library Prep*. Accessed 19 Dec. 2017.

Lauret is a professor of American Literature and Culture at the University of Sussex. In her article, she surveys the long-term effect of Americanization on the American psyche. She claims that Americanization helped long-term change an ethnic shame to ethnic pride. She reasons that in the 1960's, as third to fourth-generation immigrants entered into the higher education system where the civil rights movement was gaining momentum, they applied that logic to themselves. Because of the Americanization that had happened, the descendants became more distant with their history their native country. The Civil Rights movement invigorated the descendants to take ethnic pride in themselves, becoming hyphenated Americans (Asian,African, etc.- American). This source will be used to signify the Acts impact on immigrants' perception of their identity.

Telzrow, Michael E. "The Story of Immigration in America." *The New American*, vol. 22, no. 4, 20 Feb. 2006, pp. 33-38. *ProQuest Research Library*. Accessed 22 Dec. 2017.

Telzrow has a masters degree in history and museum studies from the University of Central Florida. This article gives an in-depth look at American Immigration. He details communities to help easily assimilate immigrants during a huge surge of immigrants in the 1800s. Immigration then was threatened by an increase of nativist sentiment and restrictionist policies. Despite this, mass-groups of immigrants were able to assimilate into American culture with the help of the 'Americanization' movement through schools. This movement had a long-lasting effect on immigrants because America was successful at the cultural and political assimilation of groups of people from many different cultures. This source provides a positive outlook on the highly exclusive Immigration Act. It will be helpful in understanding how the Act impacted American Identity by helping bind it together.

Web Articles/Webpages

“Americanization.” *Clash of Cultures in the 1910s and 1920s, Immigration Restriction & The Ku Klux Klan*, Ohio State of University.

This article provides a brief but detailed account of the development of the Americanization movement in the states. It describes the efforts taken to help assimilate immigrants: combined efforts in public and private schools, as well as programs in various state and localities. The Government sponsored these programs, as well, by distributing pamphlets and producing films. It concludes that the Americanization movement, besides just trying to assimilate immigrants also tried to reduce tensions between two groups (immigrants and anti-immigrants). This will be useful in explaining an overview of what the Americanization movement was and what it entailed.

Coyne, Kevin. “The Knights vs. the Klan.” *Knights of Columbus*, 1 Nov. 2017.

This article describes the riffs between the Knights of Columbus (Catholic organization) and the Ku Klux Klan during the early twentieth century. The KOC, despite being a Christian organization, advocated for an open and diverse nation compared to the complete opposite view that the KKK adopted. In fact, the KOC helped compile/release a series of three pieces of literature to dispel criticisms of non-white Americans. We will use this article to show an example of support for immigration: the Organizations.

“Economic Impact of Immigration in the Twenty-First Century.” *Gale Student Resources in Context*, Gale, 2018. *Student Resources in Context*. Accessed 21 Feb. 2018.

This article, from database, Gale Resources focuses on the economy and how it is affected by immigration currently. It explains that immigrants were mainly seen as a source of cheap labor, not specific to skilled or unskilled. Because of the mass-influx of cheap labor compared to Americans, large employers enjoyed the benefits of a more lax immigration policy. However, native-born Americans got displeased and blame immigrants on taking their jobs or that they weren't key for a thriving American economy.

Lombardo, Paul. “Eugenics Laws Restricting Immigration.” *Eugenics Archive*.

Paul Lombardo is an American legal historian from the University of Virginia. In this essay, he chronicles the start of the eugenics movement, citing increased fear of diseases because of 1890s outbreaks and the pressure the federal government came under as a result of these fears. He describes calls for actions by specific groups (Immigration Restriction League and Advocates for American workers). This is useful because he explains how the eugenics movement actually manifested itself in actions, for example, Ellis Island workers more closely examined incoming immigrants.

Yeselson, Richard. "The Return of the 1920s." *The Atlantic*, 30 Dec. 2015,

www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2015/12/the-return-of-the-1920s/422163/.

Accessed 1 Dec. 2017.

This article in *The Atlantic* draws broad parallels between the current concerns opposing immigration and the 1920s, when there was a similar situation. This connection is something I would like to highlight in the effect/changes part of my project, seeing how there are patterns in American history that repeat. I like this source because it provides detailed context, citing very specific incidents that frame the Immigration Act of 1924, such as the Palmer Raids, 1919 Worker Strikes, books that championed eugenics, and specific people who played key roles in the conflict. This article tells the history like a story, which is useful in understanding the progression of events and how they evolved over time.

Books

Higham, John. *Strangers in the land : patterns of American nativism, 1860-1925*. 2nd ed.,

Rutgers, The State University, 2002. *EBSCO eBook Collection*.

Higham, an American historian, and scholar of American culture and ethnicity chronicles American Nativism. He writes how American nativism has persisted through history; its embedment in every social level and its distinctive patterns. He connects the rises and falls of nativism to political, societal, economic and intellectual events of the time. The source will be helpful in seeing the idea of the 'American identity' in a broad context. His analysis will allow us to see the changes in attitude before and after the Act whether if it helped repair communist fears or promoted racism.

Ngai, M. Mae. *Impossible Subjects: Illegal Aliens and the Making of America*. Princeton, 2004.

This hardcover book, written by the University of Columbia History Professor Mae Ngai, investigates the origin of illegal aliens and why and when they became such a polarizing policy matter and how they impact what we believe today. I want to use this source to understand why, suddenly, in 1924, America closed its open-door policy that had been in place for decades. In addition, this source will help show how the long-term, may have played a part in perpetuating distinct racial and ethnic divides that we see today.

Tichenor, Daniel J. "Progressivism, War, Policymaking." *Dividing Lines: The Politics of*

Immigration Control in America, Princeton, Princeton University Press, 2002. *Google Books*.

This book gives a brief overview of many bills dealing with immigration. However, this is only used as a supplementary source to show a brief comparison between the 1921 and 1924 Acts. The bills were structured very similar, so this shows the changes between the different bills.

PhD dissertations

Miller, Alyce, P.h.D. . *From Immigrants to Activists: Immigration, Nativism, Welfare Reform and the Mobilization of Immigrant Voters in the Late Nineteenth and Late Twentieth Centuries*. 2012. University of North Carolina at Greensboro, PhD dissertation.
University of North Carolina at Greensboro Library.

This dissertation, written by Alyce Miller who has a Ph.D in History from UNC. In Chapter 2, she writes about the foundations of the anti-immigration rhetoric from 1675 - 1965. What is useful about this is that she looks in-depth into the immigration debate over time. She states the anti-alien tone is rooted back to the early/mid-1800s. Riots in congested alien populations initiated this sentiment, though it eventually turned into a political movement late-mid 1800s. Moving on to the 1900s, she explains the development of the sentiment, particularly the Ku-Klux-Klan. It demonstrates also *why* they had this feeling beyond the superficial reasoning of racial prejudice.

Murphy, Kevin C. *Uphill All the Way: The Fortunes of Progressivism, 1919-1929*. 2013.
Columbia University, PhD thesis.

This dissertation by Kevin C. Murphy, who earned a Ph.D in American History from Columbia University, with focus on the “20th-century American politics and culture.” In the section “America and the World: Immigrant Indigestion,” he thoroughly chronicles the immigration debate. What I utilized was the information about the pushback against the proposed Immigration Act of 1924. He speaks about the ‘vociferous dissenters’ in Congress, one being Fiorella La Guardia, congressmen and later Mayor for New York/New York City (respectively.) It also talks about various Newspapers who condemned the act, deeming that it was “disgraceful & unworthy of America,” instead praised the incoming immigrants who had “a light in their eyes” and to see “a smile that stirs the slumbering pulse of human brotherhood.” I will use the source to display the pushback on organizations & Congress had, especially because individual articles/sources are hard to come by to show the resistance.

Data/Statistics

“Chapter 1: The Nation’s Immigration Laws, 1920 to Today.” *Pew Hispanic*, Pew Research Center, 28 Sept. 2015. Accessed 1 Dec. 2017.

This source by the Pew Hispanic Research Center provides specific statistics about immigration to the United States both before and after the passing of the 1924 Immigration Act, including a demographic breakdown. It offers charts and graphs to illustrate trends and focuses on the numerical changes caused by the Johnson-Reed Act. Knowing the straight numbers involved in this topic will be important in understanding how certain attitudes and ideas about immigrants were formed.

Lewis, Jeffrey B., Keith Poole, Howard Rosenthal, Adam Boche, Aaron Rudkin, and Luke

Sonnet (2017). “Emergency Immigration Act of 1921: Roll Vote No. 250.” 66th Cong. 1st sess. Voteview: Congressional Roll-Call Votes Database. <https://voteview.com/>

This is a record of the final vote to pass the 1921 Immigration Act in the House. The total vote was 316-60. 81% of those who voted, voted yes but overall 72% voted yes to pass the bill to the Senate. This act was supported by both major parties.

Lewis, Jeffrey B., Keith Poole, Howard Rosenthal, Adam Boche, Aaron Rudkin, and Luke

Sonnet (2017). “Emergency Immigration Act of 1921: Roll Vote No. 387.” 66th Cong. 1st sess. Voteview: Congressional Roll-Call Votes Database. <https://voteview.com/>

This is a record of the final vote to pass the 1921 Immigration Act in the Senate. The total vote was 66-2. 97% of those who voted, voted yes but overall 67% voted yes to pass the bill to the President.

Lewis, Jeffrey B., Keith Poole, Howard Rosenthal, Adam Boche, Aaron Rudkin, and Luke

Sonnet (2017). “Immigration Act of 1924: Roll Vote No. 55.” 68th Cong. 1st sess. Voteview: Congressional Roll-Call Votes Database. <https://voteview.com/>

This is a record of the final vote to pass the Immigration Act of 1924. The total vote was 329-76. 81% of those who voted, voted yes but overall 76% voted yes to pass the bill to the Senate.

Lewis, Jeffrey B., Keith Poole, Howard Rosenthal, Adam Boche, Aaron Rudkin, and Luke

Sonnet (2017). "Immigration Act of 1924: Roll Vote No.126." 68th Cong. 1st sess.

Voteview: Congressional Roll-Call Votes Database. <https://voteview.com/>

This is a record of the final vote to pass the Immigration Act of 1924. The total vote was 72-11. 87% of those who voted, voted yes but overall 75% voted yes to pass the bill to the President to be signed.

Statistical Abstract of the United States (Washington, D.C. Government Printing Office, 1929),

100.

This chart shows the set 1924 quotas for different regions across Europe. The bias towards Northwest Europe and Scandinavia can clearly be seen, making up 86.5% of the overall amount. his table will be used to show the annual immigration quotas and will reflect the intentions of the 1924 Immigration Act.

U.S. Department of Homeland Security. "Total Immigrants from each Region and Country, by

Decade, 1820–2010." Raw data.

This is data that breaks down the incoming immigrants by region and decade. From this, the impact of the Immigration Acts can be seen. Immigration totals is cut down from 8,000,000 immigrants to 700,000 in 3 decades.

"US Immigration (1840-1920)." Map.

This is a map that shows where immigrants are coming from during the years from 1840-1920. The majority come from Great Britain & Ireland, however, close behind, is immigrants from Southern & European countries. It also shows the immigrants incoming from Canada, Asia, & Mexico.