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Twenty Reasons why Immigration Should be Further Restricted Now.

1. Because our present laws are not sufficiently stringent and cannot effectually keep out the criminals and paupers of other countries, there being no adequate means of ascertaining, through the steamship companies or through our inspectors, the truth of the answers given by each immigrant to the questions asked. The only information as to whether immigrants are or have been paupers, or have been convicted of crimes in their own countries, is that given by the immigrants themselves.

2. Because foreign courts of law and foreign governments, acting in their strongest self-interest, are shifting the responsibility for and support of their own criminals and paupers upon this country, by allowing them their freedom on the condition of their emigration to the United States.

3. Because American character is of more importance to preserve and develop than American wealth, and before calculating how much immigrants add to the wealth of our country we should consider whether they at present add to the well-being of society, the purity of government, of morals and of standards of living, and the integrity of our institutions.

4. Because the quantity of our immigration has been increasing and its quality deteriorating during the last few years. In 1869 the immigrants from Austria-Hungary, Italy, Russia and Poland were about 1-100th of the number from the United Kingdom, France, Germany and Scandinavia; in 1880 about 1-10th; in 1894 nearly equal to it. In 1889-93 the former class amounted to 934,395, or 37.6 per cent of the total immigration.

5. Because in former years the immigrant required some strength of purpose to leave his native land and

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ndergo the hardships and expense of the voyage, whereas now, owing to the low rates of steerage passage from Europe, almost any discontented pauper can readily come to us. (Note that the steerage rates from Liverpool, Hamburg and Genoa to the United States average \$15-\$18, while the rates to Australia and Africa average \$65.)

p 7 26 6. Because, although immigration does to a certain extent contribute to the wealth of a country, yet a large number of immigrants become paupers and criminals or are otherwise a tax upon our communities. An ex-president of the Board of Education of New York City has stated that it costs \$29.40 a year to educate a child in a grammar school in that city, and \$110 a year to maintain a criminal in the penitentiary. In Massachusetts the total cost of state and county prisons in 1893 was \$164 per prisoner.

7. Because our foreign-born population, which is 14.77 per cent of the total, furnishes one third of all our insane and nearly one half of all our paupers (Census of 1890.)

8. Because the undesirable classes of immigrants have come in upon us in such numbers of late years that they have neither been assimilated nor Americanized, the result being that many of them remain a menace to our institutions by reason of their foreign language, habits, customs and political beliefs.

cw 9. Because it is for the interest of the workingmen and of the trades unions that none but honest, industrious, healthy and fit immigrants shall be allowed to enter the United States as competitors. The protection which an American workingman needs is against those classes of laborers who come here with lower standards, lower aims, lower desires and lower morals. The competition of his equals need not and ought not to be feared, but the unlimited freedom of immigration of other classes, now allowed, tends to depress wages and degrade the high standards of living and character of the American citizen.

10. Because we already have to meet the problem of the Unemployed. Can we afford to increase our burdens in this connection? In 1893, in Massachusetts, out of 603,847 males usually employed in wage-earning occupations, 178,628 or 29.6 per cent were unemployed, and of the total unemployed 11 per cent were unskilled laborers and 6 per cent farm laborers. p 776

11. Because in 1892 the number of immigrants having no occupation at all, or who were farmers, laborers and servants, was 439,711 or 87.4 per cent of the total immigration. Only 9.4 per cent of the immigrants during 1892 were skilled laborers. p 776

12. Because to the large numbers of our unemployed are added the thousands of immigrants with no occupation or skill. In times of industrial depression our skilled workers are thus deprived of the opportunities of employment in unskilled occupations to tide them over till better times, and our unskilled labor is reduced to a starvation basis through being underbid by immigrants who are willing to live in a way utterly incompatible with American habits and character. In times of ordinary business activity the same results are produced, though in a less degree.

13. Because many foreigners come here every year without any intention of becoming American citizens, but simply to stay for a short time and take home to their native lands what they have earned. These "birds of passage" have no interest in this country other than that of making all the money they can during their stay here, and are a source of serious competition to our workmen.

14. Because whereas formerly our immigrants settled largely over the West and in the country districts, the undesirable classes now tend to group themselves in colonies of their own nationalities in our cities. These foreign colonies, besides seriously retarding the assimilation of those foreigners who live in them, are often sources of social disturbance. Of a total foreign-born population of 9,249,547 in 1890, 4,081,927 or 44 per cent, were found in

the 124 principal cities of the United States.

15. Because, by freely admitting to our shores thousands of undesirable immigrants who come to us merely to escape from the burdens which have made them discontented at home, we are preventing them from facing circumstances as they exist in their own country, are creating false speculative hopes, which may never be realized, and destroying that prudence which is their best possession.

16. Because at the present time, when there is but small immigration, further restrictions can be imposed with the least hardship to future immigrants and the least injustice to all classes.

17. Because, as soon as our financial prospects brighten considerably, the tide of immigration will sweep in upon us again, probably in greater volume than ever before, and we should be prepared in time.

18. Because such legislation can now be perfected calmly and carefully, without the danger of undue haste and excitement which might be present were the tide of immigration at its height.

19. Because the immigration of recent years is largely composed of elements unfitted to absorb democratic ideas of government, or to take part in the duties and responsibilities of citizenship under such a form of government.

20. Because the best service that Americans can render to the world is to preserve the American Republic and the high standard of American citizenship, and this cannot be done unless steps are at once taken to debar from our shores all those who are unfitted to become American citizens.

For publications and membership addresses,
THE SECRETARY OF THE IMMIGRATION RESTRICTION LEAGUE, 428 EXCHANGE BUILDING, BOSTON.

The League advocates a stricter regulation of immigration, but not the exclusion of any immigrants whose character and standards fit them to become citizens.