Appendix B:

Primary Sources
Appendix B1: Looking Backward

Cartoon caption: Looking Backward. They Would Close to the New-Comer the Bridge that Carried Them and Their Fathers Over.

Coolidge Hits Exclusion in Approving Alien Bill: Need for New...

Los Angeles Times (1883-Current File): May 27, 1924;
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pg. 1

COOLIDGE HITS EXCLUSION IN APPROVING ALIEN BILL

Need for New Immigration Act Is Held to Outweigh Objections to Needless Slap at Japan

[BY A. F. NIGHT WIRE]

WASHINGTON, May 26.—Deploiring its provision for Japanese exclusion, but heartily approving its main features, President Coolidge today signed the immigration bill.

Steps were taken immediately by the Department of Labor to prepare for administration of the law, which provides for further restriction of immigration after June 30 when the existing quota law expires, and for total exclusion of Asiatic immigration after that date.

The President approved the bill reluctantly, issuing a statement after he had affixed his signature in which he said he regretted the impossibility of severing from the measure the exclusion provision which he and Secretary Hughes had opposed strongly during the course of the legislation through Congress.

"There is scarcely any ground for disagreement as to the result we want, but this method of securing it is unnecessary and deplorable at this time," the President said with reference to the exclusion section.

"If the exclusion provision stood alone I should disapprove it without hesitation, if sought in this way at this time."

ACTS ON BILL AS WHOLE

The President pointed out that the bill put before him was a comprehensive act dealing with the whole subject of immigration and setting up improved administrative machinery and also that the exist-
Appendix B2: Johnson-Reed Act Article

In the statement in Congress expressing gratification over the signature of the bill by the President, although they had held that he should have vetoed the measure they could command sufficient strength to press it over his veto. Chairman Johnson of the House Immigration Committee, one of the strongest of the exclusion advocates, called at the White House after the bill was approved, and was presented with the pen with which the President had signed the measure.

Matsumoto Hanabusa, the Japanese Ambassador, whose note of April 1 suggesting "grave consequences" if the exclusion section was adopted had the effect of making an issue of the exclusion provision, called at the State Department after the President had signed the bill. The Ambassador was furnished with a copy of the President's statement, but at the Japanese Embassy it was said he would have no statement to make "at this time."

The steps taken by the Labor Department to secure effective administration of the new law when it goes into force, July 1, include the redrafting of regulations governing national quotas. These quotas under the new act amount to 2 per cent of the number of nationals of the respective nations resident in the United States at the time of the 1890 census and will result in a considerable restriction of immigration over the present law, as well as changing the greatest immigration flow from the countries of Southern Europe to those of Northern Europe.

TEXT OF STATEMENT

The President's statement accompanying his approval of the bill follows:

"In signing this bill which in its main feature I heartily approve, I regret the impossibility of severing from it the exclusion provision, which, in the light of existing law, affects especially the Japanese."

"I gladly recognize that the enactment of this provision does not imply any change in our sentiment of admiration and cordial friendship for the Japanese people, a sentiment which has had and will continue to have abundant manifestation."

Secretary Hughes, who had opposed vigorously the proposal to exclude Japanese immigrants by law, holding that exclusions should be accomplished by diplomatic arrangement, conferred with the President just before the bill was approved.

EXCLUSIONISTS HAPPY

Proponents of Japanese exclusion in Congress expressed gratification over the signature of the bill by the President, although they had held that he should have vetoed the measure they could command sufficient strength to press it over his veto. Chairman Johnson of the House Immigration Committee, one of the strongest of the exclusion advocates, called at the White House after the bill was approved, and was presented with the pen with which the President had signed the measure.

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"In signing this bill which in its

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immigration and setting up the necessary administrative machinery. The present quota act of 1921 will terminate on June 30, next. It is of great importance that a comprehensive measure should take its place, and that the arrangements for its administration should be provided at once in order to avoid hardship and confusion.

I must therefore consider the bill as a whole, and the imperative need of the country for legislation of this general character. For this reason the bill is approved.

MISSIONARIES FEEL EFFECT OF EXCLUSION

[BY CABLE AND ASSOCIATED PRESS]

TOKIO, May 26.—The smaller native Christian churches have been dealt a damaging blow by the passage of the American immigration bill with its clause excluding Japanese, according to the Doshu Shimbu and other papers. These journals declare the action in the American bill has made the Japanese distrust the missionaries and their teachings and has been influential in causing many Japanese Christians to leave the churches.

Native Christian leaders are quoted in the Vernacular press as saying that few Japanese believe in Christianity as it is taught by missionaries here, considering it a hum and the missionaries possessed of Christian humanity, justice and brotherhood false.

These leaders are quoted as saying the effect of the exclusion clause will be the divorcing of native churches from the American mission bodies, which may in the long run be beneficial as encouraging the remaining Japanese Christians to stand unsupported by foreigners.

PROTEST BEING REPEALED IN TOKIO

[BY CABLE AND ASSOCIATED PRESS]

TOKIO, May 27.—The signing of the immigration bill by President Coolidge surprised nobody here. During the past fortnight the Foreign Office has been working on a protest against the provision of the bill excluding Japanese from the United States anticipating its final enactment.

The Cabinet, it is understood, at a meeting this morning discussed the protest, which will be sent to Ambassador Hanchana in Washington in a few days.

The protest, it was learned, will be based on alleged violation of Japan’s treaty rights under the first article of the treaty of commerce and navigation between the United States and Japan.

SAY CITY OIL PLANT BURNS [BY A. R. NIGHT WIRE]

SAN FRANCISCO, May 26.—The lubricating oil plant of the Dominion Oil Company in the Potrero district was destroyed by fire today, with a loss estimated at $50,000. The cause of the fire is unknown.
ITALIANS SEE INJUSTICE IN U. S. IMMIGRATION ACT

ROME, April 16—The Coupriero d’Italia, in a leading editorial today entitled “Trenches Set by America Against Italian Labor,” says that the reduced emigration to America is the result of a crisis from which the whole world is suffering and which is felt in America perhaps more than in many European countries. Italy’s lesson, the editorial declares, should be to improve the quality of her exported labor.

Continuing, the newspaper characterizes the American emigration laws as “unjust, one-sided, and advantageous to Anglo-Saxon, German, and Scandinavian emigrants to the injury of Slavs and Italians, as well as to the yellow and black races.”

These curious nationalist theories, it asserts, “are due to a group of pure Anglo-Saxons and intransigent Americans mixed with Puritanic, theosophic, vegetarian, and anti-alcoholic elements,” and result in a hostility toward Italians which it hopes is more noisy and apt than substantial, but which it declares implies an unjust lack of appreciation of Italian labor compared with that of other countries.
ALIEN BILL PASSED BY SENATE, 62 TO 6; EXCLUDES ASIATICS: COLT AND WELLER ONLY REPUBLICANS COUNTED AGAINST MEASURE.

QUOTA OF 2 PER CENT IS ON CENSUS OF 1890

Maximum Number Admitted in Year Estimated by Reed at 150,000.

The immigration bill of 1924, carrying substantially the same provisions relating to Asiatic exclusion and other important changes in basic pol...
Appendix B2: Johnson-Reed Act Article

Policy recently approved by the House, was passed last night by the Senate by a vote of 62 to 6.

On the final roll call, as upon every important test vote taken since the measure was first reported, the Senate registered its decision by a larger majority, proportionally, than in the House, where the vote on passage was 322 to 71.

The six senators opposing the bill in its amended form on the last roll call were Chairman Colt, Rhode Island, and Weller, Maryland (Republicans), and Bayard, Delaware: Gerry, Rhode Island; King, Utah, and Walsh, Massachusetts (Democrats).

As it goes to conference, the new bill contains few changes which are expected to prolong discussion. Attention, however, has been called to the possibility of important changes being worked out there. Slight differences in phraseology exist between the House and Senate drafts in many sections, one of them the vital "Japanese exclusion" provision, and, while no evidence has been shown on either side of the Capitol of a disposition to recede in the slightest degree, parliamentary observers called attention to the possibilities offered for modifications in conference.

President Remains Silent.

White House spokesmen declared President Coolidge had no comment to offer upon the Senate action, nor upon the situation which has grown out of the failure of Congress to accept the view of the State Depart-

ment against bringing the Japanese into the definitely excluded classes.

The Senate bill was described by its author, Senator Reed (Republican) of Pennsylvania, as "even more restrictive than that passed by the House. Both measures adopt 2 per cent of the census of 1890 as the basis for fixing quotas, but the House bill permits certain nonquota classifications which are not included in that of the Senate. Among the exceptions are the children and other dependent relatives of citizens, and skilled labor and families.

A maximum admittance of 150,000 a year is fixed by the Senate bill, against an estimated "quota total" of 162,000 in the Johnson bill, exclusive of exemptions. Senator Reed estimated the House bill actually would provide for the legal admission of "twice the total," or 324,000.

These new estimates compared with the existing law, show a reduction of 220,000 under the Senate bill and of about 208,000 under the House measure.

Quota for Americans Rejected.

In the final hours of debate the Senate refused to extend the quota restrictions to North and South American countries, as proposed by Senator Willis (Republican), of Ohio. Democratic and Republican leaders joined in opposing the move as tending to destroy the work of years toward Pan-American harmony.

Points of variance with the House bill, which will be ironed out in conference, were pointed out to the Sen-

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Appendix B2: Johnson-Reed Act Article

The system of visé certificates provided by the Senate instead of the "stampet passport" system approved by the House. The "mechanics and objects" are the same, Senator Reed explained.

The failure of the Senate to authorize any exceptions from quota limitation.

The deletion by the Senate for future operation of a national-origin system of selection, based upon the entire population of the United States, if Congress approves a survey and report on the subject made by the Secretaries of Interior, Commerce and Labor.

The Simmons amendment, adopted by the Senate yesterday, which authorizes immigration authorities to give preference to farm labor when any State certifies a shortage exists in that necessity.

Simmons Move to Aid Farmers.

Senator Simmons (Democrat), of North Carolina, who proposed the latter amendment, urged its adoption as a method of assisting farmers to recover from their present unfavorable economic situation. Their difficulties, he said, were measurably due to the high cost of manual labor they employed.

Senator Reed, opposing the proposal, declared past records failed to show that agriculturalists admitted as such went in any considerable number to farming sections, and con-
Appendix B3: History of the United States

Peter H. Schweitzer Collection of Jewish Americana
Cartoon caption: COLUMBIA.— “HANDS OFF, GENTLEMEN! AMERICA MEANS FAIR PLAY FOR ALL MEN.”

Appendix B4: Ethnic map of Russia

“The open deck space reserved for steerage passengers is usually very limited, and situated in the worst part of the ship, subject to the most violent motion, to the dirt from the stacks and the odors from the hold and galleys... the only provisions for eating are frequently shelves or benches along the sides or in the passages of sleeping compartments. Dining rooms are rare and, if found, are often shared with berths installed along the walls. Toilets and washrooms are completely inadequate; saltwater only is available.”

“The ventilation is almost always inadequate, and the air soon becomes foul. The unattended vomit of the seasick, the odors of not too clean bodies, the reek of food and the awful stench of the nearby toilet rooms make the atmosphere of the steerage such that it is a marvel that human flesh can endure it... Most immigrants lie in their berths for most of the voyage, in a stupor caused by the foul air. The food often repels them... It is almost impossible to keep personally clean. All of these conditions are naturally aggravated by the crowding.”

Appendix B5: Steerage to America

Steerage to America
by Ben Field

Wrapped in the folds of a ragged shawl,
Out on the undefiled,
With scarcely strength to lift and crawl,
But patient yet and happy-styled,
A mother there suckles her child.

Sodden in face and weary-eyed,
With hearts where misery wells,
Up they struggle nor may abide
The horror-hole of fearful smells,
The depths of gloom where torpor dwells.

Little children with tear-stained cheeks,
And girls who’ve dreamed of love,
And grimy men whose clothing reeks—
They shout and sing and fight and shove
As the sea gulls call and circle above.

Sad wrecks of men parted from home,
Youth with a heart to dare,
Low crime and dearth which always roam,
Faces once sweet and pure and fair—
G-d pity and help and may G-d care!

Deep in the slough where souls despond,
With features wan and mild,
An inborn love of Heaven beyond
And of bluest waters, silver tiled,
A mother there suckles her child.

Field, Ben. “Steerage to America.” Overland Monthly and Out West Magazine (1868-1935); Nov 1926;
Vol. LXXXIV, Number 11; American Periodicals, pg. 358
Appendix B6: Linchuk family portrait

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