

U.S. House of Representatives
Certain Reports of Immigrant Inspector
Marcus Braun (1906)

CERTAIN REPORTS OF IMMIGRANT INSPECTOR MARCUS
BRAUN.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE AND LABOR,

TRANSMITTING,

IN RESPONSE TO THE INQUIRY OF THE HOUSE, CERTAIN RE-
PORTS MADE BY IMMIGRANT INSPECTOR MARCUS BRAUN.

JANUARY 17, 1906.—Referred to the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization
and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, January 12, 1906.

SIR: In response to a resolution adopted by the House of Representa-
tives on January 6, 1906, I have the honor to transmit herewith
copies of certain reports made to the Department of Commerce and
Labor by Immigrant Inspector Marcus Braun during the period from
August, 1904, to July, 1905, inclusive.

The various exhibits mentioned in said reports, which are written
or printed in numerous foreign languages, and some of which have not
been translated into English, are on file in the Department, and will
of course be furnished if it is deemed that they are necessary to the
understanding of the reports.

Respectfully,

V. H. METCALF,
Secretary.

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR,
OFFICE OF MARCUS BRAUN,
SPECIAL IMMIGRANT INSPECTOR,
New York, August 12, 1904.

SIR: I have the honor to report as follows, pursuant to authority
and instructions contained in Bureau letter No. 43006, bearing date

CERTAIN REPORTS OF IMMIGRANT INSPECTOR MARCUS
BRAUN.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE AND LABOR,

TRANSMITTING,

IN RESPONSE TO THE INQUIRY OF THE HOUSE, CERTAIN RE-
PORTS MADE BY IMMIGRANT INSPECTOR MARCUS BRAUN:

JANUARY 17, 1906.—Referred to the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization
and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, January 12, 1906.

SIR: In response to a resolution adopted by the House of Representa-
tives on January 6, 1906, I have the honor to transmit herewith
copies of certain reports made to the Department of Commerce and
Labor by Immigrant Inspector Marcus Braun during the period from
August, 1904, to July, 1905, inclusive.

The various exhibits mentioned in said reports, which are written
or printed in numerous foreign languages, and some of which have not
been translated into English, are on file in the Department, and will
of course be furnished if it is deemed that they are necessary to the
understanding of the reports.

Respectfully,

V. H. METCALF,
Secretary.

THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR,
OFFICE OF MARCUS BRAUN,
SPECIAL IMMIGRANT INSPECTOR,
New York, August 12, 1904.

SIR: I have the honor to report as follows, pursuant to authority
and instructions contained in Bureau letter No. 43006, bearing date

Washington, March 2, 1904, authorizing and instructing me "to proceed to such points in Europe, Asia Minor, and elsewhere as may in my judgment be necessary, for the purpose of investigating the conditions governing emigration thence to the United States, under the personal instructions which have already been given." I likewise make this report in pursuance to instructions received subsequent to the general instructions contained in above communication, and which were transmitted to me to Budapest, Paris, and other places.

Taking the information and experience I acquired during my trip to Europe last year and during my subsequent two trips to Mexico as a basis, I mapped out for myself a plan of travel, which I was afterwards obliged to change slightly by reason of unforeseen events, and sailed on March 5, 1904, on board the steamship *Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse*, bound for Bremen, Germany, arriving at the latter port on March 12, 1904.

On my arrival at Bremen I found that in the interval elapsing between my departure from the United States as aforesaid and my arrival in Europe, and while I was on board ship, certain conditions governing emigration from central and eastern Europe had arisen which prompted me to alter my route of travel and plan of action, and I so reported to you in my communication bearing date Hamburg, Germany, March 16, 1904, wherein I also informed you that a steamship-ticket rate war was imminent, which prediction was soon thereafter borne out by later events.

I covered almost the same ground on this trip as on my last year's tour of investigation, in addition to which I traveled through the following countries: Servia, Bulgaria, Montenegro, European Turkey, Asia Minor, Syria, Palestine, Egypt, and Spain, returning to the United States via Mexico and Cuba, as per your instructions.

I noted with satisfaction a marked improvement in the handling of emigrants who present themselves as passengers at the offices of the various steamship companies at the respective ports of embarkation, this improvement being especially noticeable in the more rigid physical examination of such emigrants before they are allowed on board ship. I am obliged to state, however, that this is only the case in a limited number of instances, while in many other respects I found not only no improvement, but, on the contrary, a condition of things which convinced me beyond any doubt that some European governments, agencies, and private individuals are continuing to regard this country the dumping ground of thousands of their undesirable people.

These conditions, coupled with the arrogant and widespread assumption that this country is but an asset of a large number of Europeans, subject only to their desires and orders, is such that if universally known in this country, it would drive the blood of humiliation into the face of every good American, and a description of which would defy the pen of a Macaulay. The most humiliating feature of this condition of affairs is my discovery that the people who thus succeed in swamping this country with an element absolutely detrimental to the Union are aided to a very large extent by residents of the United States, the majority of whom are citizens, and therefore in a favorable position to aid every attempt of evading our immigration laws, both in letter and spirit.

I shall attempt to prove in this report, by uncontrovertible evidence, that, while the number of aliens shipped to this country who are inad-

missible under our laws because of disease is considerably diminished, immigrants inadmissible for reasons other than disease are constantly brought into the country in large numbers by the concerted action of some European governments and steamship agencies, by bankers, and schemers of all sorts.

The very large sums of money annually sent to Europe from the United States (according to last year's reports \$50,000,000 were thus sent to Austria and Hungary alone) have had a magnetic effect on some European governments, and has awakened in them the desire to multiply these shipments to the greatest extent possible. They have enacted laws with the ostensible intention of restricting emigration, but which, if closely scrutinized, disclose the peculiar tendency of opposition to emigration, but do not seem to lay any obstacles in the way of temporary sojourn in the United States of its people. So long as these European governments can exercise some control over their people who thus emigrate to the United States, they not only do not object to such emigration, but by every act and exercise of official power they try to further it. It seems, indeed, and by some people in authority abroad it is freely admitted, that they consider and regard this country as adjuncts and colonies of their own, the only difference of acquiring these colonies being that instead of acquiring them with war ships and soldiers they populate our country with their people in a manner and with instructions and teachings which subsequently inure to the benefit of their home governments, and naturally to our detriment. There are several methods by which these ends are accomplished—literature that savors of home patriotism, banners and flags, priests, school teachers, bankers, and others are sent here to spread and keep alive the patriotic spirit for the fatherland in the minds of these "colonists." They succeed in a great many instances in these efforts by representing to these people that unless they adhered to the principles and spirit of home patriotism their government would leave them without protection in "barbaric America."

This is especially true with regard to the emigration from Italy and Hungary. It would appear on the surface that both these Governments are actually opposed to emigration, but having learned from experience during the last decade that it is hardly possible for them to restrict emigration to any appreciable extent, they have concluded upon the lesser of two evils—that of regulating and directing emigration to our country in such a manner as to enable them to reap all the material benefits without losing their subjects or their control over them. It is certainly an undeniable truth that these two Governments, at least, do not regard this exodus of their people in the light of emigration, but merely as a temporary absence abroad for the purpose of earning money and bringing it back.

It is strictly in line with this system that these Governments have become careful lest physically defective emigrants leave the country, they being anxious that their "colonists" should gain admission to the United States, for only in such cases do they reap the benefit above outlined and still retain their subjects. So cautious are they in this respect that emigrants are quizzed and instructed after passing satisfactory medical examinations, and the Italian Government even goes to the extent in this respect of having an official accompany every emigrant ship, who during the trip across instructs the emigrants and impresses them especially with the injunction not to

renounce their allegiance to the Kingdom of Italy, for such renunciation would at once deprive them of the powerful protection of Italy in this country. This method has been in vogue on the part of Italy for a number of years and is being so carefully carried out as not to conflict with our laws and not to be in the least offensive. Shrewd and effective as this method may be the Government of Hungary went still further, as you will notice in the course of this report from evidence and exhibits which I succeeded in collecting.

The Austrian Government likewise enacted a new law for the "protection" of its emigrants, but having profited by the experience of the enterprise of the Hungarian Government, it is somewhat more cautious, and has eliminated, as far as possible, everything objectionable.

Farther east, in such countries as Servia, Macedonia, Turkey, Greece, Montenegro, Asia Minor, and Syria, the Governments have not as yet concerned themselves with the question of emigration, but in principle they are opposed to it; yet it would be idle to assume that agitation in respect to emigration is not as brisk as elsewhere, the only difference being that in these countries the propaganda for emigration is of an entirely different character than elsewhere. Here the business is attended to by societies and private individuals existing and residing partly in the United States and partly in the countries enumerated. The object in view is twofold. The one, of course, is material gain, the other is political agitation, which latter is carried on under the protection of American citizenship, defying the Governments of both their native and their adopted countries, and causing the United States diplomatic representatives and consulates an enormous amount of trouble.

I shall now enumerate some of the facts and conditions I found and ascertained in the course of my trip of investigation, citing only individual instances, reinforced by exhibits, which will support and bear out my allegations and findings.

Immediately upon my arrival on the European continent I noticed a feverish activity among the various steamship agents with reference to the business from Hungary. I saw tons of enticing literature shipped to that country, and I learned that enormous commissions were being offered to subagents. I searched for the reason for this sudden zeal and ascertained that it was caused partly by the newly enacted Hungarian emigration law and partly by the agreement made between the Hungarian Government and the Cunard Steamship Line, by reason of which practically every other steamship company was barred from doing business in that country. The steamship companies which thus saw themselves debarred from doing business in Hungary were certainly not going to submit readily to this exclusion; hence this tremendous effort of their agents to retain or gain the business.

I was pleased to note that the promise made last year by Mr. Alexander Selley, royal Hungarian counselor to the ministry of the interior, to the effect that the enactment of the new emigration law, section 17 of which provides in substance that "no person or persons are permitted to act as steamship ticket agents unless duly licensed and authorized to do so by the Government, and that such agents must be salaried officers and receive no commission upon the sale of tickets," and further, that "when a would-be passenger presents himself for emigration such agent shall use every effort to dissuade him from his intention, and shall sell a ticket to him only in the event that his

efforts at dissuasion should fail," would do away with the agitation of secret and other emigrant agents, was actually being carried out, but great was my surprise to find upon reaching the Hungarian border that from the standpoint of the United States immigration laws we had gone from bad to worse, for not a single promise which the new Hungarian emigration law was supposed to guarantee has been kept.

I was confronted with a most paradoxical situation of things. I experienced the bewildering spectacle of hundreds upon hundreds of agents licensed and privileged by the Hungarian Government carrying on and conducting an almost unheard-of activity to get emigrants in direct and open violation of their own laws, and encouraged by this zeal the secret agents of F. Missler, in Bremen, and of others, did certainly not remain far behind in like efforts.

It was at this time that I learned of that famous clause contained in the agreement referred to between the Hungarian Government and the Cunard Line, by the terms of which said Government guarantees to the Cunard Steamship Company for their line, "Fiume to New York," 30,000 third-class (steerage) passengers per year, or a penalty of 100 crowns for every emigrant lacking said number.

I could not possibly believe this to be true, and all my efforts to obtain some definite information in this respect proved futile. I finally decided to take the bull by the horns, as it were, and called on the above-named Mr. Selley, who, in his capacity as counselor, is not only the head of the police department of the Kingdom of Hungary, but has also had charge of the emigration and the laws governing same; he was the sponsor of the new Hungarian emigration law, and made all the arrangements for its execution. Mr. Selley was exceedingly proud of his achievement, and, directing my attention to what he termed the signal success of said law, wished to know my opinion about it. I replied that from my standpoint, as a United States emigrant official, I thought this law to be a very good one, provided it would be executed, but I suggested that in my opinion a serious mistake had been made by guaranteeing a specified number of emigrants to the Cunard Steamship Company, to which Mr. Selley replied as follows—I am quoting his language literally: "Why, we can very readily guarantee 30,000 a year, since we had 106,000 emigrants last year."

I told Mr. Selley that I believed that particular provision of the agreement to be wrong in the extreme, and that it might meet with serious objection in the United States. This remark was met by Mr. Selley with the intimation that the matter was an entirely Hungarian affair, and none of our business.

I was not certain whether the contract referred to, and particularly the provision guaranteeing the said number of emigrants, was a violation of our existing immigration laws, and, therefore, sent the Department the following cablegram:

"Hungarian Government just signed twelve years' agreement guaranteeing annually 30,000 emigrants for new Cunard Line, Fiume to New York. Please cable whether this constitutes violation."

I received your reply both by cablegram and letter, containing instructions that I make a full investigation of the importance of this agreement and the circumstances connected therewith.

I immediately set out to comply with these instructions, but I soon noticed that my movements were being watched, and I had considerable difficulty in obtaining the necessary information. I then made

arrangements with a number of reliable and confidential agents to secure, if possible, a copy of the agreement referred to and other information. Having completed these arrangements, I left to continue my tour of investigation, as above outlined, and under the instructions received from you.

I returned after an absence of one month, and was then immediately put in possession of the necessary information, which convinced me, beyond any doubt, that while the newly enacted Hungarian emigration law read fairly and smoothly, in its execution it was nothing but a farce. The law referred to seems to have been enacted for no other purpose excepting to appease that portion of the people of Hungary who are opposed to emigration; but in so far as the United States is concerned it was the grossest imposition practiced upon our people under the cloak of sincerity. The law referred to is but a dead letter, and it is rather its nonobservance and systematic violation which seems to be licensed and privileged by the Hungarian Government.

I have seen and observed agitation and secret propaganda enticing to emigration during my previous two trips, and I so reported to your Bureau, but what I was met with this time in that respect absolutely defies description. The passage of this famous law seems to have opened an era of such strenuous activity tending to emigration en masse, among the very agents who are licensed and privileged by the Government, and who are the people from whom the enforcement of the law should be expected, that I am unable to cite a parallel. The press, too, is printing day by day columns upon columns of articles and pages upon pages of advertisements offering inducements for emigration, for or against the Cunard Line's ships or the other continental steamship lines, as the case may be. I procured a very large number of specimens of such literature, but I attach hereto only a few of these newspapers containing such reading matter and advertisements, together with translations thereof, marked "Exhibit X 1" to "Exhibit X 48," respectively.

I respectfully recommend a careful perusal of the translations of these articles or extracts therefrom. They will show with absolute certainty that the enactment of the Hungarian emigration law has become a farce in its execution, in so far as the same is applicable to emigration to the United States, for never was there so much advertising and alluring reading matter printed and written concerning emigration than just after the enactment of said law.

During my absence of one month from Budapest, as aforesaid, the publication in the United States of the clause of said agreement guaranteeing to the Cunard Line 30,000 third-class passengers annually, as well as the subsequent introduction of the two restrictive bills in the United States Congress, so agitated the public mind at Hungary that a regular press campaign ensued against the United States in general and against our Bureau of Immigration in particular. We were charged in public print with all sorts of iniquities—with being in the pay of the steamship trusts, and that the report which I made to Washington with respect to the said agreement was an absolute untruth. Indeed, Mr. Ludwig Levai, the Hungarian commissioner of emigration, worked himself into such a pitch of excitement when I met him that he threatened "to direct the Hungarian emigration to other countries" if this "anti-Hungarian" feeling should continue in the United States. He in particular charged the United States Government and the United

States Congress with being in the pay of the steamship trusts (see Exhibit X), denying at the same time that there was any undue agitation, inciting to emigration, in the Kingdom of Hungary.

Mr. Levai denied in detail that the agents in Hungary received any commissions upon the sale of tickets; that an agreement guaranteeing 30,000 emigrants to the Cunard Line had been made by the Hungarian Government; in fact, he denied everything he had admitted to me in a personal interview only one month before.

I thereupon sought and obtained an interview with Count Stephen Tisza, premier of Hungary, which interview lasted about forty-five minutes and at which Dr. Frank Dyer Chester, the United States consul-general, was present.

I briefly reported this interview to the Bureau, and beg to repeat at this time that in Count Tisza I encountered the only official, of those I met in connection with this investigation, who was absolutely sincere in the matter; but he, too, seemed to labor under the misapprehension and misinformation that a prejudice existed in the United States against Hungarians. He conceded, however, officially, the existence in the agreement referred to, of the clause guaranteeing the 30,000 emigrants to the Cunard Line, trying to convince me at the same time that this was not done for the purpose of promoting emigration, but, on the contrary, to restrict it.

I assured Count Tisza in the course of this interview that our Bureau of Immigration did not discriminate between race, creed, or nationality; that every emigrant was welcome in the United States, provided he does not belong to the class or classes barred by our immigration laws. I told him, in addition, that the United States were disinclined to tolerate interference on the part of any government, or, for that matter, of any individual having the moral or national backing of any government, with any emigrant after his landing in the United States. I further told Count Tisza that the United States or its people have never issued an invitation to anyone to come here, and that no resident of the United States was ever compelled to become a citizen thereof, if he did not choose to do so. I said to him that on the contrary our laws made it quite difficult to admit an alien to citizenship.

I also pointed out to the Premier that the constant agitation which has been carried on during the last few years by Hungarians coming over to the United States with flags, patriotic Magyar literature, or by Hungarian church organizations who send their priests and representatives to our country, all with a view of fostering the spirit of Magyar patriotism, of *retaining for Hungary* their countrymen who have emigrated to the United States, and of exerting themselves to prevent their assimilation with our customs and our people, and also preventing them from becoming American citizens, was not viewed with friendly eyes in the United States, and that in addition thereto such agitation was instrumental in bringing about friction among the various nationalities coming here from the Kingdom of Hungary, a situation heretofore unknown in the United States. Count Tisza replied to me that the Hungarian Government, as such, had nothing to do officially with this agitation, yet, in the same instant, he said, verbatim, "*Why, we have to do something to protect ourselves against the Pan-Slavistic disturbances constantly going on and tolerated in the United States.*"

I told Premier Tisza that, in my opinion, no such agitation existed in the United States, and that if he could furnish our Government with evidence that any such propaganda was actually carried on by any government or organized body it would be stopped immediately.

I called Count Tisza's attention to the almost unprecedented activity indulged in by the steamship ticket agents, licensed and protected by the Hungarian Government, inciting to emigration, to which he replied that such a thing was incredible for the reason that the Hungarian emigration law distinctly prohibited the payment of any commission to an agent, hence, he said, "*If there is no commission paid why should there be any agitation?*"

In the course of the interview Premier Tisza frequently remarked that he regarded the introduction of the two bills in the United States Congress, restrictive of immigration, in the light of an unfriendly act towards the Government of Hungary. It not being within my province to discuss this feature, I simply replied that, in my opinion, the United States Government did not intend to be unfriendly to the Government of Hungary. I ventured, however, the following question: "*Will your excellency show me the consistency of the position you take in this respect: For years you have been asserting and proclaiming that you are opposed to emigration of every kind and nature, and now that a bill has been introduced in the Congress of the United States which, if made a law, would considerably help you in restricting the very emigration to which you are opposed, you are indignant and claim that the introduction of said bills was an act of unfriendliness to the Hungarian Government?*"

After a few minutes' reflection, the Premier replied: "*All that you tell me is well and good, but it still remains an unfriendly act toward Hungary, and, to return for a moment to our contract with the Cunard Line, if the United States should continue to find the clause guaranteeing 30,000 emigrants objectionable, we will simply eliminate it from the agreement.*"

This ended my interview, and, deeming it of sufficient importance, I cabled you Count Tisza's statement.

The importance of this statement, emanating as it did from so high a personage as the premier of a country maintaining friendly relations with the United States, prompted me to telegraph its substance to the Hon. Bellamy Storer, our ambassador at Vienna.

Profiting by my experience with Emigration Commissioner Levai, who within one month made certain statements and admissions to me in personal interviews and then promptly denied ever having made them, as hereinbefore stated, and apprehending that after the publication of this report similar denials might be forthcoming, I took the precaution of procuring a copy of the "Parliamentary Record" of the session of the Hungarian Parliament of April 13, 1904, which copy, together with a translation thereof, is hereto attached, marked "Exhibit XX."

This record of a parliamentary session which took place but a few days prior to my reported interview with Premier Tisza does not require a very careful reading to prove to the unbiased mind that, while the Government of Hungary is really and actually opposed to permanent emigration, it is only too anxious to promote, and through its licensed agents is actively engaged in so promoting, the temporary

exodus to the United States of all the people that care to go for purposes of exploitation; and in order that some of these temporary sojourners or "birds of passage" may not, through some "evil" American influence become so "degenerated" as to entertain any idea of permanent stay in the United States, or, what would be more "terrible," renounce their allegiance to the Crown of Hungary and become American citizens, the precaution is taken to advocate the immediate establishment in the United States of Hungarian homes, schools, churches, and institutions, the attention of which should be mainly directed towards averting the terrible danger herein described.

The Parliamentary Record thus attached appears in the form of an interpellation by Lorant Hegedus, a Government deputy, addressed to Premier Tisza, in which this deputy, quite a young man, delivers himself of the inquiries therein contained.

Deputy Hegedus once made a visit to the United States, and during his six weeks' stay in this country, which he spent mostly in a study of American conditions and circumstances in the coffee shops and liquor stores frequented by Hungarians, claims to be so intimately acquainted with all that is American that he, as well as a great many of his colleagues, considers himself an authority on American affairs.

Based on this "extensive study and experience of affairs in the United States," Deputy Hegedus is one of the leaders of those Europeans who are advocating a European commercial alliance against the "American danger," but owing to the fact that this pet idea is somewhat slow of realization he evidently intends, with wonderful consistency and an eye to business, to weaken the United States by planting colonies therein, and thus make our country a surer prey of the above-mentioned alliance whenever the same should materialize.

Convinced as I was of the illegal practices of the above-mentioned licensed and salaried steamship agencies, I still continued my investigation in that direction, and had I had but a lingering doubt on the subject it would have been completely and instantly dispelled by a certain letter which came into my possession and which I attach hereto, together with a translation, marked "Exhibit A." This letter emanates from the office of the Idegen Forgalmi Es Utazasi Vallalat (bureau of tourists and travel), which is the general agency for the sale of steamship tickets for the Cunard Line from Fiume to New York, and is addressed to a would-be emigrant at Agram, Croatia, in reply to an inquiry by the latter. The said bureau states in this letter that, while it is not in a position to make any reduction on the price of passage, amounting to 180 crowns, it would be glad to issue to the writer a free ticket, provided he was able to procure about 15 other passengers.

Mindful of the positive assertion of Count Tisza that the Hungarian emigration law hereinbefore referred to was being enforced with strictness and severity, I concluded that this letter would in all probability interest him; I therefore called on the premier, and, exhibiting the letter to him, consented that he make a copy thereof.

I desire at this stage of my report to give you a brief synopsis of the creation and present functions of the bureau of tourists and travel. The Cunard Steamship Company is represented in Hungary by the "Adria," a steamship company sailing under the Hungarian flag and subsidized by the Hungarian Government to the extent of 1,600,000

crowns annually. This company acted in the capacity of broker in the negotiations which led to the conclusion of the agreement between the Hungarian Government and the Cunard Steamship Company.

When these negotiations were completed and resulted in the aforesaid agreement, the management of the "Adria" saw fit, for obvious reasons, to withdraw from all further activity; this, however, was merely a subterfuge, for immediately a new corporation was organized, entitled "bureau of tourists and travel," which also draws a subsidy from the Hungarian Government for attracting tourists to Hungary, and which, as I have already mentioned, has the general agency for Hungary for the Cunard Steamship Company, receiving 18 crowns for every passenger carried on the Cunard Line's ships from Fiume to New York.

This bureau is granted the power and privilege to name and appoint as many subagents as it pleases, to each of whom the Government issues a separate license upon being apprised of his name. The majority of the shares of this corporation is in the hands of the Adria Steamship Company, but quite a number thereof are held by the nobility of Hungary and by official and semiofficial persons connected with the Government.

In addition to the commission of 18 crowns per head charged by the bureau of tourists and travel, as above stated, an additional tax of 10 crowns per head is deducted from the price of passage above quoted and paid to the Government. This sum is added to the emigrant fund, and the new emigration law, as well as occasional debates in the Hungarian House of Parliament, openly disclose what purposes the money thus collected shall be used for. First of all the salary of the commissioner of emigration and his inspectors is paid therefrom. This, however, is but a small item. The balance of the money is to be used to keep alive the Magyar spirit among Hungarians who have come to the United States, to build and establish schools and churches, to maintain a "home" in New York or elsewhere in the United States, and to repatriate such Hungarians as have failed to make a success in the United States and who can not pay their return fare, it being one of the provisions of that famous agreement between the Hungarian Government and the Cunard Line that the latter must repatriate all such Hungarians as cited in the preceding paragraph, and transport them from New York to Fiume for the sum of 50 crowns, if requested to do so by the Austro-Hungarian consul. I am under the impression, however, that the Cunard Line has restricted the number of such passengers. It is in line with this cunning system that the Hungarian Government has already quoted an annual subsidy of 30,000 crowns for a "Hungarian home" in New York, which I believe was opened in this city a few days ago; an additional sum of 10,000 crowns was allowed for the furnishing of said "home."

As an illustration of the methods indulged in by this "bureau of tourists and travel," and as a substantiation of my claim that the steamship agents licensed by the Hungarian Government are exerting influences detrimental to this country by attempting again and again to retain their loyalty to their fatherland, I beg to attach hereto a circular of one of these agents of the "bureau of tourists and travel," together with a translation thereof, marked "Exhibit B," and from the contents of which it appears that special inducements are offered emigrants to go to this country on board one of the Cunard's ships via

Fiume; the emigrant is promised that on his whole trip, and even during his railroad trip in the United States, he will be accompanied by a "Royal Hungarian Government official," and will therefore remain under the protection of the Hungarian Government.

Quite a novel method of advertising and a cunning system of inducing people to emigrate by way of Fiume is a glowing description of the trip from Fiume to New York on board Cunard Line steamships, made from time to time by newspaper reporters who are engaged and sent along for that purpose. They paint a delightful picture of the beauties of the trip; they enumerate and describe the menus of the meals served in so rapturous a manner as to tickle the palate of a "gourmand," refraining judiciously, however, from stating that these lucullian dishes are served only to first-class passengers, intimating thereby, or at least leaving it to the impressionable imagination of the Hungarian peasant to believe, that such was the enjoyed trip and such the treatment accorded the steerage or, as they termed it, third-class passengers.

At about the same time, and while I was still at Budapest, a number of these patent patriots residing in the United States appeared in said city for purposes of propaganda, and essayed forth with a number of schemes, giving public lectures, and offering to establish banks where Hungarians residing in the United States could deposit their moneys and negotiate the purchase of land in Hungary with their American earnings, all of which was contemplated to be done, not only with the acquiescence, but, indeed, under the protection of the Hungarian Government. I attach hereto a copy of one of these lectures, together with a translation thereof, marked "Exhibit C."

I have recently become aware that in furtherance of these schemes one of these lecturers established but the other day, and to wit, on the 1st day of August, 1904, a new publication called "Tarogato," a copy of which I attach hereto, marked "Exhibit C1," the sole object of which is to induce the Hungarian countrymen of the publisher to aid him in carrying out his purpose above described, by sending and depositing with him all their earnings with the avowed intention of acquiring tracts of land in Hungary, thus becoming owners of real property and landlords in their native land with their American-earned dollars, preserving in this manner their allegiance to their native soil and preventing them from assimilation with our institutions and customs.

With what adroitness and thoroughness this man is attempting to carry out these objects is best proven by his publishing in the said new periodical a chart of available land in Hungary which is being offered to prospective purchasers at most reasonable rates.

In his eagerness and anxiety to do the Cunard Line as much harm and injury both in this country and abroad as he possibly could, Missler handed me considerable evidence against said line which he had collected, and I attach the same hereto, marked exhibits "E 1" to "E 21," respectively.

This evidence, while not altogether relevant to this report, is yet interesting. By the proof thus collected it is shown conclusively that prospective emigrants who receive prepaid tickets from the United States on steamship lines other than the Cunard are being effectively prevented, with the aid of the local police authorities, from traveling by any other line than the Cunard. Their tickets are taken from

them, and they are finally compelled to change their route of travel and to embark on one of the Cunard steamships by way of Fiume, although in a great many cases their baggage had already been shipped to Bremen, Hamburg, or some other port.

This, of course, would involve purely commercial questions and presents the aspect of competition between the various steamship companies, for which reasons it does not belong within the purview of the United States Bureau of Immigration.

By way of retaliation the Cunard Line has collected damaging evidence against Missler which more than triples his evidence against them. The proof thus collected by the Cunarders was then transmitted to the prime minister of Hungary, together with a recommendation for Missler's punishment, as I was informed by United States Consul Chester, at Budapest, but thus far nothing has been done in the matter.

To sum up the situation, as illustrated, appertaining to the question of Hungarian emigration to the United States, I desire to direct attention to the fact that there is a small proportion of the Hungarian people called the "Agrarians," who make sincere efforts to restrict emigration, who, however, are in a very deplorable minority. The majority do advocate emigration and exert themselves in every particular and any way and manner possible to promote, induce, and assist emigration. The objects and reasons for this constant agitation are obvious and manifold, but they are all concentrated in one particular proposition, and that is the obtaining and earning all the money they possibly can in the United States, and then either send or bring it back to Hungary, buy land therewith, or apply it in some other way for the benefit of the country of their nativity.

The trend of the prevailing opinion in this respect is very comprehensively illustrated in a most enthusiastic exposé of Mr. Sigmund Kornfeld, the director of the "Hungarian credit bank," which appeared in the public press recently, and also in speeches and lectures which he made and gave, and in the course of which he proved logically the wonderful advantages of Hungarian emigration to the United States, citing, among other things, that through his bank alone 139,000,000 crowns had come into the country from the United States during last year, and that in certain counties the value of land had increased to unheard-of proportions. He advocates absolutely emigration en masse to the United States, advising those who heed him to do what those of their countrymen have been and are doing, who had been in America and are still there, saying literally, "Let all go who can, earn all the money they can, learn the practical ways of the American laborer, and come home with both the money and experience thus gained."

It is an idea fostered and energetically advocated by Government officials, as I have ascertained in numerous interviews with at least 25 members of the House of Parliament, who concede that great strides are being made in this direction by maintaining connections with people residing in the United States, such as publishers of newspapers in foreign languages, alleged bankers, priests, ministers, and private individuals with whom the Hungarian Government is constantly negotiating with that one object in view.

The above conclusions are confirmed to an extent by the circumstance that while the Hungarian press has been very kind in its treatment of me prior to my disclosures with reference to the contract of the Hungarian Government and the Cunard Line, they immediately

thereafter became very hostile and denounced me in every possible manner; among other things, the matter of the Austro-Hungarian home in New York was immediately revived, and I was made responsible for the exclusion of its representative from Ellis Island. Prior to said disclosures on my part both Mr. Levai and Mr. Selley attempted to interest me in the establishment of the Hungarian home in New York, which was then contemplated, incidentally criticising the action of Commissioner Williams in excluding the Austro-Hungarian home from Ellis Island as a most barbarous and unfriendly act. They assured me that while they had received official information from the United States that I had been instrumental in securing the exclusion of the home from Ellis Island, they were disinclined to believe it, and as proof of their sincerity Mr. Levai offered to intrust me with the establishment of the new home. I suggested to Mr. Levai that in my opinion it would be improper for me, as an American citizen and an official of the United States Government, to interest myself in any institution established in the United States by a foreign government, in reply to which Mr. Levai told me confidentially, "that the establishment of the 'home' could be made to appear as the outcome of a charitable movement of American citizens of Hungarian birth, and that thus no one need be aware that the Hungarian Government had anything to do with it." All of this, of course, took place before I reported the Hungarian-Cunard contract.

One word with reference to the activity displayed by the subagents of steamship lines other than the Cunard Line. These lines cleared last year an income of over \$2,000,000 from Hungarian emigration, and it is but natural to assume that they are not readily willing to abandon to the Cunard Line all this money. In their anxiety, therefore, to retain the business for their respective steamship companies these agents resorted to every possible subterfuge and scheme to frustrate the efforts of the Hungarian Government, and especially those of the bureau of tourists and travel and its agents. They soon found a way out of the dilemma, and how successful they are can best be seen from a comparison of your official figures showing the number of immigrants arriving from Hungary and how many of them came by way of Fiume on board the Cunard Line's ships.

These subagents are considerably aided in their work by the fact that Croatia, though a crown land of the Kingdom of Hungary, did not adopt the new Hungarian emigration law, and there are now in the city of Agram, Croatia, a number of well-established steamship agencies. It is a very simple thing for these agents to get the Hungarian emigrant to Agram, whence he can be sent unhindered and without difficulty to any destination the agent may see fit to send him.

The two most active agencies in Agram are those of F. Missler and L. Masek & Co.

I succeeded in getting into my possession a letter addressed at Primislje, Croatia, by a friend of a Croatian emigrant now residing at Steubenville, Ohio, to the said Masek, which is very interesting and throws a good deal of light on the manner in which the business is carried on in Croatia. I attach this letter, together with the translation thereof, marked "Exhibit F."

Upon the ground that he may become a public charge this emigrant was excluded upon his arrival in New York and deported on the same steamer on board of which he made the trip to New York. It appears

from the letter referred to that upon the emigrant's return, in pursuance to said exclusion and deportation, an agent of Missler corralled him, and ascertaining that the fellow still had sufficient money left induced him to buy another ticket, this time, however, for Baltimore instead of New York, and it seems that he was duly admitted.

The letter so addressed to Masek tells him, in unmistakable language, that he was no good and of no use to anyone, that he had absolutely no influence in the United States, and that Mr. Missler really controlled the situation; that he could do anything here he pleased, and that the best evidence of this assertion is that the writer's friend was duly admitted after buying his ticket from Missler. The correspondent concludes this letter by threatening Masek that unless he would return to him all the money which the trip cost and pay for the loss of emigrant's time he (the emigrant's friend) would expose Masek and denounce him so thoroughly that no one would ever think of purchasing any tickets from him.

Masek evidently paid no attention to this letter or the threat contained therein, and as a result, in all of Croatia the story is now circulated, in the name of this emigrant, to the effect that any prospective emigrant should purchase his tickets to the United States from Missler, "*whose brother is chief surgeon of the American Bureau of Immigration and is therefore in the best position to take good care of Missler's passengers and to see that they are all safely landed.*"

I do not wish to be understood as claiming that this story is circulated at the instance or with the consent of F. Missler. The fact, however, remains that said fable is being repeated broadcast.

From an interview which I had with Masek, and other similar sources, I have ascertained that these Croatian steamship agencies carry on a lively agitation in Servia, Bulgaria, Macedonia, and Montenegro through the following agencies: Bogumir Jakic, Belgrade (Soura), representing F. Missler; John Mostic, Belgrade, representing the Red Star Line, Hamburg, and American lines; Raja Popovic, Belgrade, representing L. Masek & Co., and Paul Vinai, Monastir, Macedonia, representing the French line. The business in Montenegro, however, according to Masek, has been taken out of the hands of the steamship agents, for the reason, as he claims, that Prince Nikita, of the latter country, has made a contract with the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique (French line), in pursuance to the terms of which all emigration is directed into the channels of the French Company, but that emigration from Montenegro, even via the French line, is stopped for a time because that country is just now engaged in building extensive roads and can not therefore afford to lose many of its laborers. All this I state with reserve and upon information of the said Masek.

Fiume, or rather the Cunard line, being anxious, of course, to get emigrants not only from Hungary, but also from other sources, has recently joined in this search for other fields to conquer, an additional inducement for which lies in the fact that the steamship company is not obliged to pay such heavy Government taxes on business outside the Kingdom of Hungary. As proof of this assertion, I mention the fact that I saw in the office of one P. Christofidis, an agent of the Red Star Line at Trieste, a communication from Schroeder & Co., the general agents for Austria of the Cunard Company, offering him an extra allowance of 5 per cent on the Greek emigrant business in addition to the regular commission. All lines have now well-established

agencies in Servia, Montenegro, Bulgaria, and Macedonia, countries whence we have not had any immigrants until very recently. Most of these people come to this country under contract, and with only the object in view of earning money and then returning to their native land.

The countries thus enumerated have no emigration laws whatever, and the energetic subagent has here a most wonderful field of operation. Greece, too, has no emigration law worth speaking of, and, of course, is considered a very fruitful field for the agent. In the latter country the agitation for emigration is largely carried on through connections in the United States. I make this assertion after due investigation of the matter, and if I had any doubt on the subject it was dispelled by an incident as amusing as it is serious in its true conception, and which occurred in the course of my interview with Mr. Christofidis. This gentleman took my mission in ill part, and among other things said to me literally: "*Why, man alive, your country should certainly not object to Greek immigrants at least; there is not a chance in the world for them to become public charges, for I can assure you and prove to you that every Greek that goes to the United States has his place secured in advance, and starts to work the minute he lands there.*"

My next field of investigation was Turkey, Asia Minor, and Syria. Here the business of inducing emigration is pursued, first, through greed of money, and, second, through political agitation. The Armenians are constantly conspiring against the Turkish Government, and, strange though it may seem, we aid unconsciously and unintentionally in this political unrest. The Armenians, as a rule, are not accorded advantageous political rights in the Turkish Empire and have therefore invented a scheme whereby they can stay in Turkey and at the same time defy the Turkish laws. This scheme consists of large numbers of Armenians emigrating to the United States, and as soon as they have earned sufficient money for their needs or comfort they return, supplied with American citizen papers, which they obtain legitimately or illegitimately, as the case may be.

This also applies to the Greek-Turkish subjects of Asia Minor. Once in possession of these naturalization papers their owners embark upon different kinds of trades and engage in various lines of business prohibited by the Turkish laws, but which they carry on and conduct with impunity and defiance, relying on the protection their American citizenship affords them. As such American citizens, they defy the Turkish authorities, they are not subject to taxation, and I am obliged to report that many of the gambling houses and houses of ill repute are being conducted by these "made-to-order" American citizens.

United States Minister Leishman, at Constantinople, as well as Consul-General Dickinson, at said place, related to me a large number of instances by which they were put to great inconvenience, and frequently in embarrassing situations, by Armenians who returned to Turkey as American citizens, and also by families still remaining there of naturalized Armenians residing in the United States.

The following supposed case may serve as an illustration of the contents of the preceding paragraph, and actual cases of that character are by no means infrequent in the Turkish Dominion: "*A naturalized American citizen enters into copartnership with a Turkish subject; some process is about to be served on the American citizen; he evades service*

by saying, 'This is Turkish property, you must not touch it,' or 'This shop is Turkish, you must not enter.' If process is to be served on a Turkish subject the ensuing conversation is something as follows: 'This is American property, and you must not take it,' or 'This is an American store, you have no right to enter.'

In Syria the steamship-ticket business seems to be monopolized by the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique; lately, however, the ever-alert Cunard Line has also attempted to extend its field of operations to said country.

After leaving Beirut I visited Mount Lebanon. On the way my guide called my attention to the different scenes we saw and passed, especially pointing out to me houses, either new or newly repaired, asserting at the same time that wherever I saw a new roof on a house it proved that the owner thereof has either returned recently from the United States or that he is still there, sending his money home.

In the latter place I also found a large contingent of naturalized American citizens, and in this connection I desire to repeat a characteristic remark made by the governor of Mount Lebanon, who, by the way, is not a Moslem, but a Christian, to Mr. G. V. Ravndal, our consul at Beirut, and by the latter related to me. Mr. Ravndal said that the governor told him recently that if this constant travel from Syria to and from the United States would not cease soon the United States had better annex the province of Lebanon, as there are at present more American citizens there than Turkish subjects.

In Syria the work of the emigrant agent partakes of the romantic and the ways of the brigand. The agent there is closely allied with every boatman, and is likewise considerably aided in his work by the various consular guards (kawasses), without the assistance of whom the Syrian emigrant could, in many instances, never get away.

This practice is so universal there that in order to avoid it the idea readily suggests itself that the United States create in Turkey similar positions to those maintained in China, to wit, positions for so-called "interpreter students," who would thus become qualified to take the places of the kawasses and dragomén.

Both Minister Leishman and Consul-General Dickinson informed me that in most instances these employees of the various foreign consulates help the emigrants to get away, in violation of the Turkish laws and, for the matter of that, also in violation of the immigration laws of the United States. I found this assertion verified in every particular at the various seaports which I visited and passed and where, in order to board a vessel, it was absolutely necessary for the emigrant to have the assistance of some consular guard or to pay a good price to the boatman, who must be hired to get to the ship, such boatman being obliged to give up to the police officials a share of the money thus earned.

The price of passage from Beirut to New York, via Marseille and Havre, is ordinarily about 300 francs, yet not one of these poor, wretched Syrians can make the journey for less than 400 francs. In addition to these extortionate charges the boatman frequently, and after having rowed his human freight about half the distance extending from shore to steamer, stops the boat and demands another 50 francs from his passengers, threatening that if the money were not forthcoming at once he would row back and hand his passengers over to the police authorities. This threat usually has the desired effect,

and is instrumental in stripping the would-be passenger of every penny he may still have in his possession.

The United States immigration laws are treated with contempt in Syria; anybody and everybody is being shipped from there, and the only word known to these emigrants as to their destination is the word "America;" they know nothing else.

The Syrian emigrants do not receive a great deal of consideration at the hands of the agents; they are shipped like so many pieces of freight consigned to some man or other at Marseille, each emigrant being provided by the Beirut agencies with a letter addressed to one or the other of these men, a copy of which I obtained and attach hereto, marked "Exhibit G," thence they go in like manner to the port of embarkation, and from there to the port of landing; they know nothing of their destination beyond the one word, "America," and only learn their final stopping place upon arrival at the port of debarkation. The attached literature, marked "Exhibit H," which I obtained at the office of G. A. Khouri Farra, agent at Beirut, may throw some light on this situation.

The wholesale traffic is conducted and directed by a number of Syrians residing in this country, two of whom I have named in my previous reports. If, as I have once before reported, any of these emigrants are found upon medical examination at Marseille to be afflicted with some ailment which makes them inadmissible under the laws of the United States, they are simply deflected to other ports, as will more readily appear in the latter portion of this report.

Every steamer arriving in Syria brings heavy mail from the United States; large sums of money are also received from this country, and a constant desire and eagerness for more is universally manifest.

A careful perusal of the records of recent landings will at once disclose that a large number of unaccompanied women arrive here constantly from Syria. This is due to the fact that the persons interested in this wholesale emigration to the United States from Syria have learned that a woman can do much better and earn more money as a peddler in this country than a man, for the reason, as they claim, that a woman can gain admittance everywhere, while a man is frequently denied permission to enter a house. It is, therefore, a daily occurrence that a woman will leave her entire family in Syria, come to the United States, and, being supplied with a quantity of cheap goods upon her arrival at her final destination, she engages in peddling through the length and breadth of this country, until such time as she has saved a sufficient amount of money to return to Syria, build a house or pay the debts of her family, if any, and thereafter live comfortably on the money thus earned in the United States.

I had a number of interviews with missionaries, such as Rev. F. D. Hoskins, D. D., stated clerk of the American Presbyterian Mission in Syria, and professors of various schools and colleges, bearing on the question of this Syrian emigration. They consider the promotion of this traffic a curse; for, as Professor Crawford of the American College at Beirut, told me in one of those interviews: "Those returning from the United States bring back, in addition to their former bad habits, which consist chiefly of a lying disposition, also the nasty habit of forwardness. A characteristic of such returning Syrians is the almost universal custom to come back supplied with American naturalization

papers. They do not, however, disclose such citizenship; in fact, they conceal this circumstance as much as they possibly can. They still pose as Turkish subjects and, probably because most of these naturalization papers are obtained fraudulently, they refrain from asserting their American citizenship until, for some reason or other, they get in trouble and difficulties with the Turkish authorities, when, and in which event, their certificate of citizenship is immediately produced and the American consul called upon for protection, giving no end of inconvenience to our said consul."

The sum total of my investigation and experience regarding Syrian emigration is, therefore, that, taking the most favorable aspect and eliminating all those who succeed in entering this country in violation of sections 2, 3, and 4 of the United States immigration laws of March, 1903, those who are admitted under our laws come here for the double object of earning money and procuring naturalization papers, and, armed with both, return to their native country to live contentedly under the protection of the United States Government, in case it should become necessary for them to avail themselves of such protection. I am informed that T. G. Azar, of 622 South Second street, St. Louis, Mo.; Abdulah Shehin, of 88 Washington street, New York City, and Fera & Teen, at Fort Wayne, Ind., seem to be the chief factors in promoting Syrian emigration.

From Syria I went to Palestine, and, while emigration from the latter place is not very considerable as yet, the time I spent in visiting that country was not wasted. The conditions I found to exist there are even worse, if such be possible, than in Syria. In the city of Jerusalem alone I found over 1,000 "American citizens," the vast majority of whom, being Hebrews, live there ostensibly for religious reasons. A number of them are engaged in some business pursuits. These, however, are in the minority; the prevailing majority live on charity, mostly on the so-called "Chaluka" (the biblical one-tenth), which they obtain from all over the world, either through organized charitable organizations or from private individuals. These people send out thousands upon thousands of letters annually, begging charitable contributions, and they cause Doctor Merrill, the United States consul, and his dragoman, no end of trouble.

These alleged "American citizens," although they enjoy and avail themselves of the high privilege and protection of American citizenship, are in truth and in fact not Americans at all, and quite a number of them have become naturalized by fraud.

I am in position to make this statement on positive authority, and from information I obtained in personal interviews with some of these "fellow-citizens." In some instances the fraud by which these people became naturalized was so flagrantly apparent that I was induced thereby to procure through our consul some of the certificates of naturalization and United States passports, as well as other papers and documents, of those I suspected, and which are hereto attached, marked "Exhibits I I, I II, I III, J, and K," respectively.

I do not wish to confine myself, however, to cases in which naturalization was procured through fraudulent channels, for even the majority of those whose naturalization came about in a regular way can not be considered bona fide citizens. A careful perusal of their naturalization papers will disclose that the sojourn of most of these people in the United States lasted just long enough to be legally enti-

pled to naturalization, 99 per cent of which, if unaccompanied by other circumstances, would be quite commendable. If we consider, however, that the passports of these people are dated but one or two days later than their naturalization papers, it shows conclusively that their sole object in coming here was to become citizens for revenue only. They never intend to return to the United States. Many of them own property in Jerusalem, paying no taxes to the Turkish Government, and they forever and always envelop themselves in the American flag for protection whenever they desire to defy the Turkish Government or have some other selfish and mercenary reason for doing so.

I have singled out the following as the more flagrant cases for your especial consideration, for the reason that they invite more than ordinary attention:

The certificate of Solomon Davidson (Exhibit I I) was issued by the court of common pleas for the city and county of New York on the 16th day of October, 1876. From information obtained at the American consulate in Jerusalem and from other sources it appears that the holder of this certificate arrived in Jerusalem a great many years ago, and, following the customary rule, deposited his citizen paper with the United States consul. This man is believed to have died since. And yet there is at present another Solomon Davidson residing in Jerusalem, who came there many years later, and who holds the attached duplicate of the original certificate of naturalization (Exhibit J I) issued by the same court a number of years later, showing upon its face that such duplicate was issued for the man who obtained the original. Exhibit J II is a United States passport issued to this alleged Solomon Davidson No. 2 by the United States legation at Constantinople.

The case of Jacob D. Politz, which is but one of numerous similar instances, is also worthy of due consideration and attention. I have not been able to obtain his certificate of citizenship, but my information, coming from Mr. Antoine Thomas Gelat, the dragoman of the United States consulate at Jerusalem, one of the very few people thus employed who are considered very trustworthy, it is absolutely reliable. In this case the fraud and the fraudulent object is so apparent that it is removed entirely from the field of speculation, and I believe could be readily verified by a reference to the court records in New York City. This man stated at the United States consulate that he had resided in the United States from 1887 to 1894. During that time he had not become an American citizen, nor did he declare his intention of doing so. In 1894 he went to Jerusalem, and returned to the United States in 1900 alone and without any member of his family, residing here for two years and three months, at the end of which, and to wit, on the 15th day of February, 1902, he obtained his certificate of citizenship at the United States district court for the southern district of New York, being vouched for by one Samuel Weinstein, who acted as his witness.

Now, this man was a resident of the United States for fully seven years without ever thinking of becoming a citizen thereof. Having earned sufficient money and experience he concluded to go to Jerusalem and live there. It is more than probable that the Turkish Government demanded the payment of taxes and other assessments from him, and in order to avoid such payment and to disregard the laws of the land in which he intended to live and die he decided, after an

absence of six years, to return to the United States, and upon his arrival here he immediately declared his intention of becoming a citizen (procuring his first papers). Whether or not he actually resided in the United States the two following years is not proven—he claims that he did—and at the end of said two years he obtained his final certificate of citizenship, and had a witness who swore that he knew Jacob D. Politz as a resident of the city of New York for five consecutive years preceding the date of his said citizenship paper. Upon that very day Politz applied to the State Department for a passport, and next day sailed for Jerusalem, where he is now living with his family.

Exhibit J also presents a suspicious aspect, and consists of a United States passport bearing No. 48904, and dated at Washington, November 13, 1901, issued to one Henry Fried, age 17 years; a letter in French, dated Jerusalem, November 3, 1902, and evidently addressed to the United States consul at Jerusalem, emanating from the said Fried, to whom said passport is issued; and an affidavit, subscribed and sworn to at New York City on January 11, 1901, signed by Marcus Fried and Mary Fried, the alleged parents of the person to whom said passport is supposed to have been issued. There is every reason to believe that the said Henry Fried has never been in the United States, and, as a matter of fact, petitions the consulate in said French letter to be admitted as an American subject and be accorded the protection of the American flag. The only proof of this individual ever having been in the United States is the affidavit hereto attached, according to which the said Henry Fried was sent by his above-mentioned parents to Jerusalem from the United States. This allegation of the affidavit is doubtful in the extreme, and is certainly deserving of minute investigation.

The case of Abraham Fried, a Hungarian by birth, also presents suspicious circumstances. His certificate of citizenship was issued in the United States district court for the southern district of New York on July 12, 1900; his passport, bearing No. 30122, is issued by the State Department on July 13, 1900 (both being on file at the United States consulate at Jerusalem).

Isadore Feingold, a Russian by birth, was naturalized in the United States district court for the southern district of New York on July 27, 1903; his passport, bearing No. 76944, is dated July 30, 1903. (Both are deposited with the United States consulate at Jerusalem.)

Moses H. Lewensohn, of Russian birth, was naturalized in the New York court of common pleas on July 24, 1878. His passport, bearing No. 9069, was issued July 25, 1878 (both now kept at the United States consulate). This man has been a resident of Jerusalem ever since.

Alexander Rabinovitch was naturalized in the Kings County courthouse, Brooklyn, N. Y., on September 19, 1894. His passport, bearing No. 16585, is dated September 20, 1894. Rabinovitch told me that he and his wife lived in America for ten years, but that neither of them spoke one word of English. (His papers, too, are deposited in the United States consulate.)

Another peculiar case is that of Baruch-Jacob Sachs—whose certificate of citizenship (Exhibit K) is a part of the exhibits enumerated above—and that of his brothers, Hirsch-Leib and Nisen. They are very strongly suspected of never having been in the United States, and yet

they all hold certificates of citizenship; the naturalization paper of Baruch-Jacob Sachs was issued out of the United States circuit court, Cook County, Ill., on January 19, 1894; his passport, bearing number 15250, was issued by the Department of State on July 30, 1894 (the latter paper being on file at the United States consulate at Jerusalem). He is 48 years old, married, and has a family of 7 children.

His brother, Hirsch-Leib, obtained his naturalization paper in the United States circuit court of Cook County, Ill.; it is dated February 2, 1894; his passport, which bears number 15249, is dated July 30, 1894 (both deposited with the United States consulate); he is 44 years old, married, and has a family of 4 children.

Nisen Sachs, the third brother, has a naturalization paper issued in the circuit court of Cook County, Ill., October 14, 1894; his passport, which is numbered 2400, is dated May 3, 1897 (certificate and passport at United States consulate); he is 42 years old, and has a wife and 6 children.

Ninety-nine per cent of these alleged "American citizens" in Jerusalem do not speak one word of English, and most of those whom I interviewed did not even know the street of the city in which they claimed to have resided while in the United States.

During this portion of my investigation I came across a number of peculiar documents, issued under the seal of the United States consulate, and purporting to take the place of United States passports. Hundreds of these papers are afloat at Jerusalem and vicinity, and have been sold at 20 napoleons (about \$80) and upwards. I obtained one of these papers and attach it hereto, marked "Exhibit J 1."

From Jerusalem I went to Egypt. This is the route taken by most of the Syrian emigrants, who, if apprehended on their departure, claim that they only go to Egypt, giving either Port Said or Alexandria as their destination.

There is no emigration from Egypt. Nevertheless there are a number of well-established steamship agencies in the cities of Alexandria, Cairo, and Port Said (the most active one being that of Rodocanaki & Co., representing the Cunard Line, at Alexandria), whence literature and traveling agents are sent out at frequent intervals all through the Levant.

I entered one of these agencies at Port Said, pretending to be an emigrant going to the United States, and asked for the price of a ticket. I was offered one for 240 francs, via Marseilles and Havre. In the course of my negotiations for such passage, I inquired whether I required any papers. The agent said, "No, you need no papers at all; you have nothing to do but to be in good health and give an address in the United States." I told the agent that I did not know anybody in the United States and could therefore give no address, whereupon he offered to furnish me with one. I left, saying that I would return to see him later.

As already mentioned in this report, the lion's share of the business there is done by the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique. A number of other companies are trying to wrest a portion of the business to themselves, but owing to the fact that the "Compagnie Messagere Maritime," a sister company of the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique (both subsidized by the French Government), controls almost the entire passenger business in the eastern part of the Mediterranean, the emigrant business in these countries is monopolized by the Compagnie

Générale Transatlantique. The Beaver Line (Canadian Pacific Railway Line) gets an insignificant part of the business, and, as already mentioned, the Cunard Steamship Company has lately been making efforts in that direction.

After leaving Egypt I went to Italy, and found the conditions so very like those prevailing in Hungary that the description of the latter might, with some exceptions and additions, suffice for both countries.

The Italian Government, however, goes even further in directing and regulating its emigration in a manner detrimental to the United States than does Hungary. Every steamer which leaves an Italian port for the United States has a so-called "royal commissioner" aboard, who instructs and coaches his protégés during all of the two weeks' trip across, devoting an appreciable portion of that time to warning his Italian fellow-passengers against becoming American citizens.

This apprehension and fear that the United States might restrict immigration is universal all over Italy, it being claimed that such restrictions would cause an inevitable famine, some going even so far as to claim that a rebellion in their own country might be the natural consequence.

Italy, being overpopulated and, what is more, having a large pauper population, considers the United States its best safety valve for the discharge of its superfluous people, and at the same time a convenient source of income which the Government derives from such unrestricted emigration. The Italian Government is too clever to charge any emigrant tax, as does Hungary, but it derives its income therefrom just the same. It is characteristic that an Italian subject can depart to any place on the globe, excepting the United States, without requiring a passport; just as soon, however, as an Italian subject is to leave for the United States, he must, in every case, secure a Government passport, for which 8 lire is charged. The more than successful and flourishing condition of the steamship agencies in Switzerland, close to the Italian border, is largely due to this Italian Government tax for passports. The prospective Italian emigrant can readily and without the requirement of a passport cross over to Switzerland, whence he is then shipped to his port of embarkation without any further requirements.

That the Italians are justified in every respect in fearing a restriction of immigration on the part of the United States is evident from the information I received in interviews with Italian bankers, steamship agents, etc., to the effect that the amount annually received in Italy from the United States averages \$1 a day for every Italian who comes to this country for temporary labor.

Italian emigration, too, is continually instigated and induced by certain classes of people residing in the United States, such as publishers of Italian newspapers, bankers, padrones, etc.

After traversing the southern and eastern parts of Italy I entered Austria by way of the port of Trieste. I found a good deal of excitement among the classes of people interested in emigration and steamship business, because of the apparent success of the city of Fiume incident upon the advent of the Cunard Line. Partly not to be outdone by Fiume, as well as to enhance their own business interests, the

establishment of a steamship line of their own was taken into contemplation by an American concern, backed by the Government and subsequently actually carried out, resulting in the new Austro-American Line, named "Austriaco-Americano." This company is represented in the United States by C. B. Richard & Co., of 33 Broadway, New York City. I beg to attach hereto a copy of a circular which is being sent to Austria and Hungary by this latter firm, and a perusal of which will show that in the attempt to get the "business" this firm, too, is not altogether "slow." The most striking portion of this circular is the assertion that it is easier to obtain Austrian passports than elsewhere. I mark the said circular "L."

Among the steamship agents doing the largest business at Trieste is P. Christofidis, to whom I already had occasion to refer in this report. Christofidis is the representative of the Red Star Line, and does its transit business of Greek passengers. It is he who expressed his disapproval to me of the restrictive measures adopted by the United States, claiming that so far as the Greek passengers were concerned there ought to be no objection to any, since all of them have their places prepared in advance before starting for the United States.

As to the caliber and quality of immigrants we get from Austria, I beg to refer you to a copy of the Oesterreiche-Ungarische Export Revue, a semi-official organ of the Government, hereto attached, with a translation of part of marked article marked exhibit "L I," and two other publications and one letter, together with translations thereof, marked, respectively, "L II" and "L III" and "L IV."

It is there stated openly that while the agent operating in Austria and Hungary is not guilty of inducing emigration, yet *three-fifths of such emigrants leave that country and come to the United States under contract.* It is amusing to note in that connection that the writer of the Export Revue editorial supplements the above statement by saying literally, "*God forbid that the American Government should read this;*" and this, too, in a semi-official Government organ.

At the time of my trip through Austria, the Government contemplated the enactment of a new emigration law, with reference to which I had a lengthy conference with Herr Franz Kaltenbrunn, imperial counselor of the Austrian ministry of the interior, he having full charge of all matters pertaining to emigration. I was assured by Herr Kaltenbrunn that all objectionable features would be eliminated in said law, the primary object thereof being that unscrupulous agents be prevented from exploiting their people. He was also very solicitous in his remarks to me for the establishment of another Austrian home, saying that he did not comprehend why the former Austro-Hungarian home was found objectionable. Herr Kaltenbrunn, too, labored under the misapprehension that the exclusion of the Austro-Hungarian home from Ellis Island was due to prejudice against Austrians. Of course, he had official information about it. The contemplated new Austrian emigration law has thus far not been enacted. In the meantime, however, a new steamship line was opened between Trieste and New York, as stated above.

Since my return to the United States I received information that the new Austrian emigration law has already been promulgated, and from what I can learn of its contents it is by far better and less misleading than the Hungarian and Italian emigration laws; the primary

and chief object running through all these emigration laws, however, is likewise to be found in this one, to wit, that while permanent emigration is opposed and restricted, temporary absence in America for enrichment and material gain and subsequent return to their native land seems to be the keynote thereof.

There is a strong tendency on the part of the Austrian Government similar to that of the Government of Hungary, to keep, in some way or another, a strong watch and surveillance over their people in America, lest they may imbibe an idea of our free institutions and our liberty-loving tendencies, and may spread them among their countrymen when they return home. This constitutes a constant fear and apprehension in Government circles, and every effort and energy is being bent toward these two objective points, namely: To send us all the emigrants they possibly can for a temporary sojourn here, to earn money with which to enrich the land of their nativity upon their return; and, secondly, to prevent such emigrants from becoming American citizens and transmitting to their fellow-countrymen abroad a taste of the freedom and liberties we enjoy here.

To guard against this latter eventuality every expedient is being resorted to, and the continual efforts to establish emigrant homes in the United States (a subject which is again being considered by Herr Kaltenbrunn), entirely at the expense of the Austrian Government, are also based on similar fears.

I visited several emigration centers in Austria, such as Galicia, Bukowina, etc., and found that the old-time subagent is still at work; in certain sections near the Hungarian border even more energetically than ever before. A considerable proportion of the Hungarian emigrant business is being instigated and worked up from these places. There is also a lively activity displayed in said centers to capture the emigrant business from Roumania.

From Austria I went back to Italy by way of Switzerland, with a view of resuming my investigation with reference to the Syrian emigration to the United States, in strict compliance with your verbal instructions. Basel continues to be the center of distribution for transit emigrants from various countries south and east of Switzerland, and Chiasso, Giubiasco, and Bodio, on the Italian frontier, are active as ever, if not more so; in fact, I was greatly surprised to find that some of the steamship agents who had heretofore been disqualified (such as Frederick Ludwig, at Chiasso), are working industriously to get trade.

Complying with your instructions, which reached me abroad, I made a special investigation with reference to the agency of Berta & Co., at Giubiasco, and I have the honor to report that this firm is of about equal caliber as are the other agencies. It is undeniably true that Berta & Co. instructed emigrants that entry to the United States via Philadelphia is accompanied by less difficulty than any other port. This information, however, is being generally distributed among emigrants not only by Berta & Co., but by all other agencies. There is a general belief among the steamship agents that entry to the United States through any port other than New York is less difficult, and that it is by far easier to pass the inspection. As a matter of fact, there seem to have been many instances where emigrants have succeeded in entering the United States by some port or other after having been deported from New York.

The Mexican back door is also becoming known better and better among steamship agents as time advances. The credit for the discovery of this back door is due to the runners of subagents at Marseilles.

For the purpose of acquainting myself fully with every detail of Syrian emigration, I awaited in the latter city the arrival of the *Messagere* Maritime steamer from Beirut. There were 700 Syrian emigrants aboard that ship, all destined for the United States, all of whom were taken charge of by Antonio Fares and Melhem Elias Eskaf and conducted to their respective headquarters. I engaged an interpreter and boarded the ship prior to the landing of the emigrants. Each and every one of the said 700 emigrants was questioned whither he was going, the answer invariably being "America." There was not a single one in that horde who was able to give a more definite destination. They could name no street, no city, not even the State in the United States where he or she was going.

These particular 700 emigrants were examined by physicians in one of the headquarters (Rue des Treize Escalliers), but only a small proportion of them was permitted to proceed to Havre to board the *Compagnie Générale Transatlantique* steamers; the others were divided into three or four groups and sent in different directions.

I followed one of these groups, consisting of 108 of the most wretched and miserable looking emigrants, to Bordeaux, thence to St. Nazaire, where they were put abode the *Compagnie Générale Transatlantique* steamship *La Navare*, bound for Veracruz, Mexico; these emigrants still maintaining that their destination was "America."

A similar deflection of Greeks and Armenians is also being carried on at Marseille, by worthy colleagues of Fares and Eskaf.

I followed and accompanied another group of these particular Syrian emigrants, and when they embarked on the German steamship *Prinz August Wilhelm*, also bound for Veracruz, Mexico, I secured passage on the same steamship and made the trip with them. I soon also ascertained that almost 50 per cent of my fellow Syrian passengers were afflicted with trachoma, and as an illustration how dangerous and contagious this disease is, I beg to state that I, too, contracted it by merely moving in and breathing the same atmosphere. (It seems that people in the United States, and more especially Europeans, have not yet a true and proper conception of the seriousness and danger of trachoma.)

Upon my arrival at Veracruz I found that the same conditions prevailed with reference to taking charge and disposing of the Syrian emigrants as existed before, and as described in my previous report, to wit, that they are taken in charge by some resident countryman of theirs, are kept there for a short time, and then proceed to the City of Mexico. At this latter place they are taken to the business house of Kuri Primos, where they learn their final destination, are provided with tickets, and after receiving minute instructions how and at what particular point to enter the United States they are sent on their way. *A Syrian by the name of Said Ali acts as instructor.*

As previously reported, these people used to pass the frontier through the trench, either at Laredo, Eagle Pass, or El Paso, but since the vigilance displayed by the immigrant officials at the various stations on the Mexican border, this practice has been abandoned, and they now seek admission at points where there is no regular railroad or other track, the method pursued being similar to that employed by the