

# ONE SOURCE OF AMERICAN EXPANSION

THERE IS LITTLE PROBABILITY THAT THE ALMOST CONSTANT STREAM FROM OVERPEOPLED EUROPE WILL BE DIVERTED FROM OUR SHORES FOR SEVERAL YEARS TO COME



THE GATE, ELLIS ISLAND, NEW YORK

THE United States is expanding on the inside. To increase our population it is not necessary to acquire islands of the sea. We are gaining more than a million a year by immigration from Europe. Whether all this increase is a gain or not must be left to the slow results of time. It is indisputable that a considerable portion of it is a gain and should be placed on the profit side of Uncle Sam's ledger, while it is likewise indisputable that a large part of this immigration is objectionable for the present, though after a generation or two it may work out passably well.

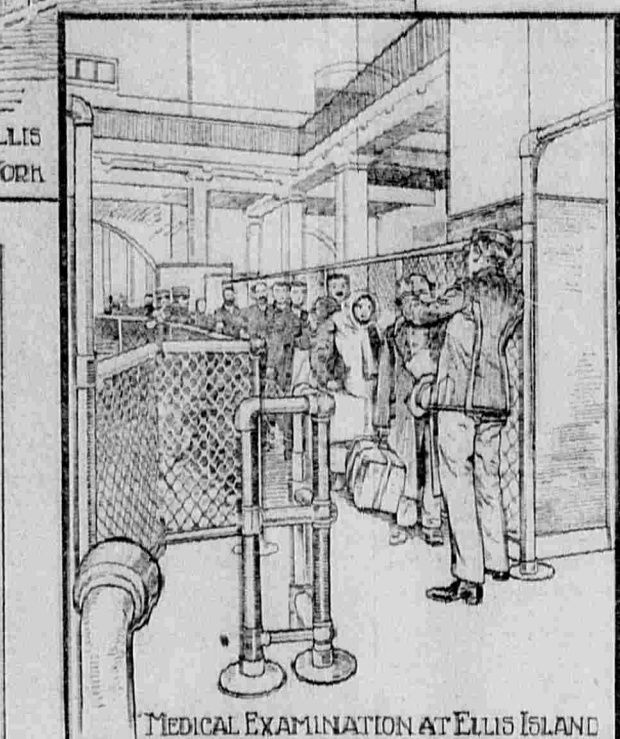
The statistics for 1905 prove that the prophecy of Hon. Frank P. Sargent, commissioner general of immigration, made in 1905 was not correct, but the unprecedented persecution of the Jews in Russia was responsible in part, no doubt, for the commissioner's inaccurate prediction.

Mr. Sargent was of the opinion that the number of immigrants arriving for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1905, namely, 1,027,421—was the high water mark and that for years to come the aggregate would fall back to the neighborhood of the 800,000 that came over in 1904. But unforeseen events—the terrible persecutions of the Hebrew population by the Russian government—caused the total for the year ending June 30, 1906, to reach 1,100,833.

Turning into consideration the conditions of Russia and the remarkable increase of the Jewish population, it is conservative to assume that the million mark is not a mere peak. Uncle Sam may reasonably expect an interior expansion of about 1,000,000 immigrants a year.

The immigration question is one of the hottest presented to the American people. Thousands of us utterly misunderstand the issues involved. There has grown up an apparently ineradicable prejudice against immigrants. Some persons are so radical as to believe that immigration should be stopped altogether. Others hold that it should be limited. Still others—a small class—believe that immigration is a hindrance to the progress of the nation and that we should open wide the gates to everybody who cares to come.

The middle ground seems to be the most substantial. Those who have



MEDICAL EXAMINATION AT ELLIS ISLAND

made a study of the proposition advocate immigration with certain restrictions. The present immigration laws provide restrictions which limit the influx to a certain degree. If it were possible to enforce these laws to the letter, there is little doubt that the question would be solved in the best interests of civilization. But the immigration officials are constantly confronted by deceit and perjury which permit the entrance of many undesirable people.

The part of wisdom under these circumstances, would seem to be the proper distribution and assimilation of these aliens. That is, in fact, the great problem to which the attention and efforts of thoughtful Americans are now directed. These people are being admitted to our shores. What are we going to do with them? Why not try to place them where they will do the most good for themselves and for the republic? A general movement toward this end is now being made.

Until very recent years the majority of the immigrants stopped in New York, Chicago, Philadelphia and a few other great cities, but chiefly in New York. Most of them entering by way of Ellis Island. To them New York was America. They knew of no other habitable place. They were utterly ignorant of the great middle west and the bound-



HUNGARIAN MOTHER AND CHILD

less plains beyond the Rocky mountains. It has been said by one well informed that the prevailing notion among Europeans of the immigrant class has been that the city of New York is the chief part of the United States and that Chicago, Philadelphia and the few other points of which they may have heard are merely suburbs of New York, lying a few miles out. Thousands of immigrants have come and are still coming who know absolutely nothing about the vast reaches of virgin land lying between the Hudson river and the Pacific ocean, much of it open to settlement and purchase on easy terms and most of it a great deal more productive than the poor little patches of wornout land on which the European farmer tries to make a living.

A few years ago thoughtful people began to give this problem some serious consideration. In the great west and the south are millions of acres of undeveloped land. The tendency of young



RED FREE AT THE GATE

Americans is to flock to the city, leaving the land uncultivated. The cities have become overcrowded, and each inflow of Europeans has aggravated this situation. The smaller towns and the farmable lands need people. They need men who need work, men who can open small business enterprises and grow up with the country, and, above all, men who can farm intelligently and occupy the vacant land.

The south in particular needs settlers. The emancipation proclamation of 1863 disturbed the labor conditions which had existed since early colonial days. The negroes thus emancipated in many instances remained upon the plantations, but their sons are inclined to prefer jobs as waiters, barbers, house servants and the like. There is a dearth of laboring men in the south, and it has become highly necessary to attract labor to certain sections in order that the local industries may be maintained and further developed.

Not only agricultural laborers, but factory hands are said to be badly needed in some parts of the south. The chief need, though, is for farm help. Let us see the situation and then judge for ourselves whether Uncle Sam, with his large mouth and capacious stomach, knows how to assimilate these numerous aliens. Referring to the year 1905, Commissioner Sargent says:

"Of the 1,027,421 agricultural and farm laborers who came to this country last year only seven went to North Carolina, twenty-two to South Carolina, thirty-nine to Georgia and forty-eight to Alabama. In these four states alone every one of these agriculturists could have been placed to advantage where they would make money for themselves and good citizens for the country."

But within a year or so several of the states mentioned and also other southern states have awakened to the opportunities offered them for getting a desirable class of citizens from abroad. Some of the governors have appointed immigration commissioners, who have made trips to Europe to talk up the advantages of their respective states for settlers. Other states have immigration agents stationed at New York where nearly all the immigrants first

land, to use their efforts toward inducing desirable newcomers to give New York city, which does not need them, a short shrift and go right along to the states where opportunities for building up homes are offered them.

A few years ago a colony of Polish and Bohemian farmers was started in middle Tennessee on the Cumberland river, which has grown to flourishing proportions. Many of the settlers, when they first came to America, tried to make a living in New York city by peddling, working on the docks, doing sweatshop labor or other work that was altogether unbecoming to men born and reared in the open country. Some of them eked out the barest existence. Now, it is reported, they have sent for their families in the old country, they occupy comfortable farm houses and all fertile acres which they are paying for gradually, and they are happy, contented and useful American citizens.

Other states have been contemplating, but the chief effort of the states which want immigrants seems to be directed toward getting men to settle independently on the land and become Americanized more rapidly by constant contact with their American neighbors. Among the states making more or less effort toward inducing immigrants



to settle in their towns or upon their farming lands are Missouri, North and South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Louisiana and old Virginia, the very first state on the soil of which a permanent colony of English speaking people settled. It is significant of the immensity of the United States that, 200 years after Jamestown, Virginia, should still be needing settlers. That state, with a score of others in the south and west, still has immense areas of cultivable land altogether undeveloped. Somebody eventually will occupy those lands. If native born Americans will not, then the aliens will go in and inherit the earth to that extent.

Commissioner Sargent declares that he believes the majority of immigrants are excellent material for American citizenship. He insists upon the importance of getting them to settle in places where opportunities exist for them and where they are really needed. Those who remain in New York contribute, generally speaking, to drag out a miserable existence. They remain essentially as foreigners as they were in their native countries, they speak their foreign languages and adhere to the customs of their countries, their ignorance and suspicion being a hindrance to the progress of the immigrants and their children go toward filling up our prisons, imbecile asylums and almshouses.

As to those who do discover that the United States is not bounded on the west by the Hudson river and on the south by Battery park, the case is quite different. They get into the real America. They come in touch with American ideas and ideals. They learn the American language. They avail themselves of the American schools. Their children are full fledged Americans, standing by the flag to the last drop of their blood if need be and holding up for American institutions against all comers.

It is the opinion of the commissioner general of immigration and of many other persons who understand the situation that no excessive restriction, but proper distribution, will solve the immigration problem.

ROBERT DONNELL

## OUR LOSS ITALY'S GAIN.

A single bank in Naples receives \$500,000 a year sent out of the United States by temporary Italian residents. The same bank has received from Italians in Argentina and Brazil \$283,000 and \$425,000, respectively, in one year.

## ENGLISH ARE BEEF EATERS.

The beef eaten by Englishmen annually amounts to fifty pounds per capita.

# The Vice President as a Presidential Possibility; He Has Faith In the Outcome of His Candidacy

EARLY as it undoubtedly is, there is one spot in the Union in which the presidential campaign has already begun. That point is Washington, and the chief subject of conversation at the capital at this time is the next presidency and those who have a chance to win it.

Of course several names are being mentioned in this connection, but there is one that is heard more frequently than the others. Strange as it may appear to those who have not yet begun to take stock of the presidential timber in the market, there is no name that recurs so frequently in this connection as that of the vice president. It is also true that the most persistent frequency in the cloakrooms and other public meeting places at the capital is, "Fairbanks has the lead."

Wherever a group is gathered, whether friendly or hostile to the vice president, the sentiment appears to be the same. Sometimes the short sentence is spoken hopefully, sometimes regretfully and quite as often indifferently, but it is spoken and not infrequently it seems to be the almost universal conclusion to every discussion of presidential possibilities.

So it is that the Fairbanks candidacy is the nomination is not without force. There are those in high places in Washington who declare that if the vice president continues without check to make the progress he is making at present he will be the next nominee of his party for president. If he meets with no check—ah, there's the rub. There are multitudes that believe this check will be forthcoming, and speedily.

Yet why need it seem incredible to any one that Mr. Fairbanks' chances of winning the prize are at least worthy of consideration? It is not sufficient to flatter the matter with an inconspicuous shake of the head and the expressed opinion that "it may be like Fairbanks can never secure the nomination." Those who are inclined thus to be skeptical are those who do not know Mr. Fairbanks. Those who do know him have a good deal of respect for his political capacity.

As a matter of fact Mr. Fairbanks has been a presidential candidate, an actual, not to be mistaken candidate, for six years. How long ago it was that

he made up his mind to become president of the United States no man knows save himself, but he has taken no special pains to conceal his ambition in recent years. His intimates declare that nothing serves to discourage him. It is one of his leading characteristics that he never gives up.

Because it is difficult to feel a more than languid interest in Mr. Fairbanks' candidacy it has become the fashion to regard him as cold and lacking in personal magnetism. There are those who would be glad of an opportunity to shout themselves speechless over Taft, there are not a few who would look upon it as a special privilege to go to the physical limit of enthusiasm for Bryan or Bailey or Williams or Foraker, but thus far no man has shown a disposition to get out in the open and yell "Fairbanks!" until something happened. He is not a candidate that men warm up to, and the impression is pretty general throughout the country that he is devoid of the qualities which make men popular.

Again, his friends claim, the public has made a mistake. This reputation of being a human iceberg is entirely undeserved. Those who have kept aloof from the vice president on account of that widely disseminated impression have been the losers, and those who have been brought into contact with him by force of circumstances have made the agreeable discovery that he is not at all as he has been painted. Instead of the iceberg the vice president has proved to be a genial and courteous man with a most friendly and ingratiating manner. The discovery and the accompanying revision of feeling have not failed to make converts and influential ones.

The manner of the man is singularly easy and graceful. True, he does not assure you when you come into his presence that he is "delighted" to see you, but he does not fail to give you the impression that you are welcome and that you need be in no great haste to get away. His courtesy seems to be a characteristic of his nature, is everywhere. He has that rare and coveted faculty of putting one at his ease and keeping him so. There is absolutely nothing to be criticized in his way of meeting people.

It must also be said to the credit of Mr. Fairbanks that he has taken the duties of his position more seriously



VICE PRESIDENT CHARLES W. FAIRBANKS.

than any other vice president on record. It has been the usual custom of his predecessors to look on the job as a sinecure, and they have kept themselves aloof from the rather ponderous routine of the senate chamber. Mr. Fairbanks is always at his post. He is usually the first to appear and the last to go. President Pro Tempore Frye has found his occupation gone since Fairbanks came in. He is very fond of presiding over the senate, and it is a great cross to him that the vice president is so regular in his attendance.

Fairbanks makes a very good impression as a stump speaker. While he was in the senate he never originated any measure of importance and seldom took a pronounced stand on any question until the debate was near an end. Then, his critics declare, he was in the habit of rising with great dignity and making a speech abounding in high sounding commonplaces, a sort of polished resume of the best points that had been made by the winning side. On the stump, however, he has proved himself to be an orator of no mean capacity. His speeches in the last presidential campaign were distinct with life and most interesting. They were in idiomatic English, too, and were entirely devoid of offensive personalities. It is characteristic of Mr. Fairbanks that he always treats his opponents with the most polished courtesy. He never descends to mud slinging. Democrats may disagree with him, but they may listen to him with unfeigned sensibilities.

Physically, also, Mr. Fairbanks is a great success. If he were a native of the state from which he hails he could hardly do better in that direction. He is of unusual stature, six feet four inches, and he is not half so attenuated as the cartoonists make him. There is no suggestion of the traditional beanpole about him. His cheeks are even plump and rosy, and in spite of his height he is a good figure of a man. Most persons who meet him have to look up at him, and they are looking down on them a pair of twinkling gray eyes with a kindly beam in them. They reach up and are grasped by a large, warm hand, which is not at all ungainly in its suggestion of welcome.

The Fairbankses are reputed to be among the best entertainers in Washington society. Representative Morrell of Pennsylvania, the former owner of their beautiful house in what is known

as Shepard's row, was a famous entertainer, and she has made an army of friends since she went to Washington. She is also an exceedingly clever woman and is capable of performing wonders in her position of adjutant in her husband's presidential campaign. Mr. Fairbanks appears at his best on these social occasions, and those who are privileged to meet him under his own vine and fig tree are captivated by his easy and gracious hospitality. It seems to be the Fairbanks way of making friends, and it is a great success. No house in Washington is more prodigal in its proffer of the proverbial latch string, and visitors from all parts of the country find an easy entrance.

Of course the vice president's salary does not do all this. Fairbanks is a remarkable example of that species of the self made man who is also fortune's favorite. He has made his way upward without struggle and has found numerous good things lying in wait for him at all of life's turning points. When he left college William Henry Smith, his uncle, then manager of the Associated Press, gave him a job in that organization. He studied law, and another uncle, who was a prominent railroad man, made him solicitor for a railroad. This led to an acquaintance with Andrew Carnahan and brought a good deal of money and many clients. Then the lucky man became counsel for the tobacco trust. That sounds simple, but it means much.

In 1888 Fairbanks came out as chief manager for Senator Gresham in his race for the presidency. Another Indianapolis, Benjamin Harrison, captured the nomination, and Mr. Fairbanks jumped aboard the band wagon and stumped the state for him. Then the state fell into Democratic hands, and Fairbanks was obliged to content himself with an empty nomination. That kept him in line, however, for the real thing when it did come.

SILAS O. WOODSON.

## HERE AND THERE.

Buzzards and vultures can scent their food at a distance of forty miles. Duty on footstuffs is still collected at the gates of Italian cities. During the recent exposition at Milan, which lasted 195 days, the total receipts were \$300,000,000 during the same period in 1905.

In the last ten years the total trade of the Japanese city of Kobe has increased 240 per cent, and that of Yokohama 240 per cent. In both ports most vessels have to unload by lighters.

but the sum of \$4,050,000 is to be spent at Yokohama for harbor improvements which will do away with this necessity. The greatest honesty is honesty in little things.

The veterinary profession is much interested in a surgical operation which has been accomplished by Professor Uddick, one of the staff of the veterinary school at Bucharest. Having operated a horse's leg at the fetlock joint, after several failures he succeeded in fitting a leather boot or artificial

leg, that enabled the animal to walk about and take exercise.

A European river forty feet wide handles as much freight as an ordinary American railroad, while the Rhine carries more business to a block than half the Hudson river. Splendid tugboats, fire hucses and handsome swift steamers do the work with anchored chain boats to pull the big loads up the rapids.

Among songbirds the greenfinch has a very moderate voice, and in the winter it may be found eating the berries of the rose.

of roses and other fruits which attract it to gardens.

It has been calculated by government engineers that in the state of Vera Cruz, Mexico, some 1,500,000 horsepower was suffered to waste itself into the sea.

Japanese financiers and capitalists of industry are making efforts toward saving expenses by amalgamating several of the many industrial enterprises started since the close of the war.

The wanderings of various types of food fishes in the North sea are traced by means of age, whose weights are

per cent are recovered by trawlers and brought to the laboratory where their record is kept.

Austria's great salt mine at Wieliczka has 600 miles of galleries and employs 2,000 miners. It has been worked for the last six centuries.

In front of the apartment houses in Spanish cities it is no unusual thing to see three men standing side by side in the street looking up and pouring out impassioned protestations each to a girl on a different floor.

In France a man less than twenty-six years of age, whose weight was

dead and whose grandfather or grandmother is alive, cannot marry without the written authority of both or either of them.

Money has been subscribed and work will shortly begin to run a railway from Zermatt to the top of the Matterhorn, 14,780 feet high.

In the Vatican at Rome is the largest tomato in the world. It weighs seven pounds and has carvings upon it that occupied three Neapolitan lapidaries sixty-one years.

Virgil was the sixth book of Aeneid when he had passed after. I read it

was well over fifty when he made practical application of his antiseptic treatment of wounds. Edward Everett Hale has written more books and better ones since fifty than before that age.

An old horse may fall down, but he won't run away.

The rate of pulsation is 120 per minute in infancy, 80 in manhood and 60 in old age.

The flounder is an industrious fish and lays 7,000,000 eggs in a year.

Whistling has a most beneficial effect on the lungs and helps to ward off colds.