

JOINT COMMISSION ON IMMIGRATION

Report of One Appointed by Congress Deals With Every Phase of Question.

EVASION OF EXCLUSION LAW.

In Theory Law is Exceptionally Strong. In Some Respects Very Weak.

Chinese Laborers Most Successful in Leading It—Dealing With Alien Criminals a Serious Problem.

Washington, March 1.—Some facts showing the far-reaching character of the work of the joint commission on immigration which was appointed by Congress on Feb. 20, 1907, were presented to Congress today through the publication of a preliminary report by the commission. The report deals with practically every phase of the immigration question, including oriental aliens and other excluded classes, passport, charter immigrants, white slave traffic, congestion in large cities, alien criminality, competition of immigrants, school inquiries, administration of the immigration laws, distribution of immigrants and other questions.

No conclusions have been reported by the commission as to the results of the work shown in a manner which presages extensive legislation in the future.

COMMISSIONERS' PLANS.

It is stated that if the plans of the commission are realized the various lines of work outside Washington will be realized in the early fall, probably by Sept. 15. The entire investigation probably will be finished by the next fiscal year.

The report was printed and circulated today to meet the necessity for an appropriation of \$250,000 to carry on and complete the work. This far the expense of the commission from April 1, 1907, to Feb. 1, 1909, have been \$344,000. There are at present 100 persons employed under the commission. Of this number 82 are in Washington, two in New York, two in San Francisco, 22 are engaged in field work and 30 in special lines of inquiry. The commission says it is generally admitted by those acquainted with the subject that, notwithstanding the present law proposals to provide for the exclusion of every undesirable immigrant thousands of undeniably undesirable persons are admitted each year. It has been found that the law in theory is far as its exclusion provisions are concerned, is exceptionally strong, but in effect it is in some respects weak. The commission says it has discovered several sources of this weakness and it is its purpose to recommend some effective remedies.

One of the most important features of the work is connected with evasion of the law resulting in the importation of excluded classes. Notwithstanding the expenditure of about \$600,000 annually to enforce this law, the commission contends that it does not prevent the coming of Chinese laborers in considerable numbers.

WHITE SLAVES.

An extensive investigation is being made into the question of the importation and harboring of women for immoral purposes. The results show that many women are being constantly imported under conditions which amount to absolute slavery. The results of the investigation and the evidence it has gathered there have been a noteworthy attack upon this business which has resulted in a very marked decrease. It has been found that the results of the investigation persons afflicted with contagious diseases, and even criminals of a dangerous type, have been able to evade the immigration laws and come to this country under the pretense of being seamen.

ALIEN CRIMINALS.

The utmost importance is attached to the inquiry being made into the subject of alien criminality. The joint criminal courts of New York City and the request of the commission, keeping records in great detail of each person convicted of crime, and it is intended that a study of foreign-born criminals and criminals of the second generation shall be made in that city. The investigation, however, is not confined to the larger cities, but is being carried into smaller centers and into industrial communities in various parts of the country.

The most extensive and important work undertaken by the commission is the general field investigation into the economic and social status of immigrants to various sections of the country. The most important topics covered in the face of employment in each occupation, the number of hours of work, and discrimination or other against immigrants in employment, wages and housing. As the report is taking up the congestion of immigrants in large cities, the commission is observing communities inhabited principally by members of one race, as to whether the clinging together of members of the same race handicaps them in the struggle for advancement and prevents their rapid assimilation and Americanization.

COMPETITION OF IMMIGRANTS.

A careful inquiry among wage earners who are forced to compete with immigrant labor is being made among workers in the trades and occupations in which immigrants are largely engaged.

A special field investigation is being conducted in selected localities in the south, and it will cover the sentiment of legislative bodies as indicated by legislation enacted affecting immigration, such as citizenship, restriction of sale, free or cheap lands, amount, variety and regularity of work throughout the year, the wages paid and hours of employment will be shown. Information is also being gathered concerning the employment of women and children, the prejudice against races, the presence or absence of fellow countrymen, church and school facilities, and a vast amount of other information.

ORIENTALS.

The investigation of oriental immigration has been confined thus far to the Rocky Mountain and Pacific coast

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Thirteen Are Scheduled for Third Reading This Afternoon.

PURE FOOD MEASURE IS UP.

Senator Williams' Proposed Law Would Protect Against Fish and Poultry of Age or Imperfection.

Today, which marks the beginning of the last week but one of the eighth session of the Utah legislature, witnessed unusual animation and activity in the senate chamber. Nearly every member was present, many engaged in committee work, and others holding earnest conversation with lobbyists, friends of this measure or that scheduled for hearing in open session during the next few days.

COOK'S SPEECH.

Does Not Contain Language Violating Privileges of Debate.

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TO PROHIBIT SUNDAY BALL.

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Rome, March 1.—The condition of the pope, who has been suffering from a cold lately, is much better today. He is still somewhat hoarse, and while he is not obliged to remain in bed, Dr. Petacci and Marchia Fava insist that he should not yet resume his audiences.

CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES CAMPAIGN

Washington, March 1.—The campaign to unite and co-ordinate all efforts for the conservation of natural resources in the United States is scheduled to begin on March 5, when the joint committee on conservation will be authorized by the governors' conference to "prepare a plan for united action by all organizations concerned with the conservation of natural resources," will hold its first session.

The committee is composed of 31 members, six of them chairmen of state conservation commissions. It is headed by the chief of the conservation commission, and all these various conservation bodies which have been actively at work for several months are sending on suggestions based on their own experience. The joint committee will receive all these suggestions and from them it expects to perform a plan of organization.

COMMODITIES CLAUSE.

Expected Decision as to Constitutionality Not Handed Down.

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The illness which finally resulted in the death of Baldwin began on Feb. 2. At that time he experienced a serious sinking spell nearly resulting in his death but from which he finally rallied and made a gallant fight for life. Previous to the attack, however, he had suffered for several weeks with influenza and had refused to be attended by a physician and when Dr. J. N. Brundage, of this city, was called on the night of Feb. 2, he found Baldwin much enfeebled and in a highly nervous condition. The wonderful vitality of the aged millionaire and his ardent determination to get on his feet again carried him through several recurrences of the heart trouble, but he grew weaker and weaker until he was unable to get out of bed. At the time Mr. Baldwin was first seriously stricken, Mrs. Baldwin, whom he married 23 years ago, when she was 16 years of age, was in Sacramento and did not learn of her husband's serious condition until two days later. She then hastened to his bedside and has been his almost constant attendant from that time until the end. For the greater part of the 23 years of her married life, Mrs. Baldwin has remained in San Francisco, and Mr. Baldwin has divided his time between his ranch in Santa Anita and the north. Some times he has been at Lake Tahoe, other times in Alaska and again in San Francisco. He preferred Santa Anita, however, and one of the greatest ambitions of his life was to see the race track there become the greatest in the country.

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