

## Transcribes Excerpts from "Immigration Report: A Banner Year" Newspaper Article, December 16, 1907

... Commissioner Sargent says it is of particular significance that many immigrants landed at ports in the South during the last year, and he refers especially to a party of 473 Belgians — excellent types of immigrants — received at Charleston, S. C, having been induced to go there by the state authorities. The Increase of Immigration to the South, the commissioner says, "is directly connected with the growing desire of the Southern states to draw within their boundaries a number Of the better class of immigrants, it being considered by practically all of the leading men of that section that the future development and welfare of the South depend on its ability to receive and absorb a reliable laboring and farming element. Striking increases are also shown at New Orleans, Galveston and Honolulu."

Of peculiar significance is the table which shows the number of immigrants from each foreign country, together with the increases or decreases as compared with the previous year. Twenty-seven countries showed increases and eleven decreases. The tide, of immigration from some of the countries it, indicated by the following figures: Austria-Hungary, 355,452: increase, 73,314; Bulgaria. Serbia •and Montenegro. 11,253; increase, 6,693; France. 9,731 increase. 345; German Empire, 37,807; increase 243. Greece, 36,590; Increase, 17.091; Italy, including Sicily and Sardinia. 253.751: Increase, 12,611; Russian Empire and Finland 258,943 increase, 43,278; Turkey.20,767; Increase. 11,257; England, 56.637; increase. 7,146; Ireland. 34,530, decrease, 465; Scotland, 19,740; increase. 3,874; China, 961; decrease. 583; Japan, 30.226; increase, 16,391: British North America, 19.918; increase, 14,865; West Indies, 16,689, increase, 3.033.

... The Commissioner points out further that, either through such an international conference or through amendments to this country's law\*, adequate provisions should be made for the issuance of proper passports to persons who are coming to America. By this means such organization as the Black Hand Society could not gain a foothold here, because the passport would have to bear the record of the alien. It would do much, too the Commissioner, believes, to put an end to the "white slave traffic" although that even now is under reasonably good control by the immigration officials.

... Among the recommendations made by Commissioner Sargent, many of which are administrative in character, are the following:

That legislation should be enacted to check violations of the law by professed seamen. That marine hospital surgeons be stations at the principal ports of embarkation aboard to examine aliens before they start for America. That surgeons and inspectors, male and female, be placed on vessels of the principal steamship lines to examine incoming aliens. That arrangements be perfected for the detection of members of the criminal classes who seek to come to the United States. That a treaty be negotiated with Mexico respecting immigration through that country: or, if that cannot be done, that the Mexican border be closed to all except American citizens and bona fide residents of Mexico. That harmonious arrangements be made with Canadian government respecting the enforcement of the immigration laws of that country and the United States. That immigration stations be erected at

Boston, Philadelphia and Baltimore. That appropriations be made for improvements at Ellis Island, New York; Angel Island, San Francisco, and Honolulu.