

and most modern of civic thought, if the natural right of families to be united is quite undesirable in the present day and age, and further if it is necessary for an alien to PROVE that he is in the United States when he is already legally here, the sooner these extraordinary hypotheses be established by the highest court of the land or other equally competent authority as the tenets of genuine Americanism the better for all concerned.

Any panacea looking toward the alleviation of conditions as they now exist must come from any or all of the following three sources: Congress, the Department of Labor or the Courts.

With respect to redress from decisions handed down by the latter, it might be remembered that Naturalization is not a right. It has always been considered, rather, as a mere privilege; a bounty to be conferred by the Government. The procedure may be explained briefly in the following language: The applicant petitions; the Federal examiner cross examines; and the acquiescing judge generally accepting the examiner's recommendations without question. The examiner cannot be blamed for the air of authority which his presence casts over the Judge, particularly in a State Court where it might be suggested that his Honor by way of diversion read the Naturalization laws and lean less upon the ipse dixit of the Government's representative, in order to relieve himself of the responsibility and necessity of deciding a question for himself. He would do well to peruse 3 F (2D) Pg. 691 in re Linklater, where he will discover perhaps for the first time that the examiner has no judicial powers whatsoever, is an administrative officer ONLY and is wholly without power to prevent any person from filing a petition for Naturalization.

The reforms recommended in the Commissioner's Annual Report can well cause us to throw up our hands in despair for here again we find projected a new set of plans resembling the Russian passport system which existed during the regime of the late Czar, an annual registration scheme to be handsomely paid for by the alien, a proposal to treble Naturalization fees and charge each of the children of Naturalized parents \$10.00 for a certificate and an unusual recommendation to clothe the examiner with judicial authority and legislate into him scientific qualifications for the administration of an educational test.

The responsibility for the perplexing conditions of the hour may be traced directly to the effects of recent rulings emanating from the Department of Labor at Washington. An immediate revocation of every one of them would work a marvelous reformation without awaiting the action of Congress or the Courts, institutions somewhat aptly described by a former Denver Naturalization Examiner for purposes of immediate relief, "as remote as God." But in the midst of it all, the Commissioner with a far-off look toward Congress cries out for a new law, and in the meantime, the bewildered petitioner—with his eyes fixed on the Commissioner—humbly and respectfully and in the name of justice asks for a new deal.

It will be most discouraging to the jingoes to learn that the Japanese naval maneuvers this season will be held in Tokyo bay and not San Francisco bay.

Washington Post.

IT CAN BE DONE—IN ROXBURY

(Boston Port)

THE MOMENT when Judge Gray and his associates of the proposed National Crime commission are organizing over in New York for the very laudable purpose of trying to accomplish something to lessen our great American scandal we wish there might be called to their attention something that has just happened in our Suffolk County court. It may be enlightening to the eminent investigators.

On Tuesday night a couple of holdup men attempted to rob a Roxbury storekeeper at the point of a pistol. The merchant, not being of the meekly complaisant kind, shouted for help, although badly beaten with the butt end of the gun, and the bandits fled. The police captured them not long after the commission of the crime.

Now—and here is the pungent point for the consideration of Judge Gary's new organization—the pair of bandits were indicted by the grand jury on Wednesday forenoon; in the afternoon they were arraigned. One man planded guilty. The other demanded a jury trial, and he was tried then and there, not six months from then. In 14 minutes the jury returned a verdict of guilty Judge McLeod, uninfluenced by any plea for leniency, sentenced them to the state prison for terms of ten to twelve and five to seven years, respectively. In less than twenty-four hours, therefore, after the commission of their crime, they were beginning a long residence in the Charlestown bastille.

We haven't seen anything more heartening in the conduct of justice around here for a long while. It furnishes an example that talks, and in a voice that is sure to be heard by other inhabitants of the underworld who have similar raids on society in mind. It shows that swift and stern punishment, the best preventive of crime, is not an impossibility, even in these days of over-sentimental treatment of criminals.

The United States is using up its timber four times as fast as it is growing, according to the latest figures, and a large part of the timber supply seems to be used up in making paper plans for reforestation.

—Milwaukee Sentinel.

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