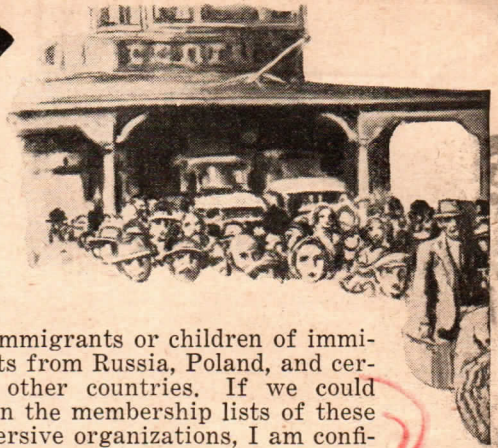


NO MORE Immigrants!



READING TIME • 17 MINUTES 50 SECONDS

SINCE my articles began, I have received thousands of letters from readers of Liberty residing in every state of the Union. In fact, more people have communicated with me as a result of these articles than did so during the hearings of the Committee. It is physically impossible to answer these letters, but I do want to acknowledge them and express my appreciation of their encouraging contents and of the patriotic interest manifested by so many people.

The question which is most commonly asked by Liberty readers in their letters to me is: "What can patriotic Americans do to combat subversive movements and propaganda?" Since this is my concluding article, I have decided to attempt an answer to this important question.

The people must demand that the laws of this country dealing with immigration, deportation, espionage, income-tax evasions, etc., be fearlessly, vigorously, and honestly enforced. The appropriate departments of the government have completely failed to enforce these laws with respect to un-American organizations, groups, and individuals. No one who is familiar with the facts will deny there has been an inexcusable laxity in the enforcement of our deportation laws. The official reports of the Labor Department will show a steady decline in the number of aliens deported since 1932. This is the result of the so-called "humane" policies put into effect by Secretary Perkins after she became Secretary of Labor. While it is true that justice should be tempered with mercy, and while there are cases of hardship that a humane government should sympathetically consider, the fact remains that this so-called "humane" policy has been used to protect undesirable aliens for political purposes.

Our government has never had any adequate system for ascertaining the number and identity of aliens illegally in our midst. The only figures that we have are those based upon the census, and, naturally, aliens illegally in the country and some who are legally here refuse to make known their residence and names to the census enumerators. Other countries have a complete record of every alien in their midst, and of his movements from one city to another. Under the La Follette Act, alien seamen have the legal right to land on our shores and remain in this country for ninety days. It is a known fact, which the

Labor Department will not dispute, that thousands of alien seamen are taking advantage of this act to remain in the United States illegally. Some aliens who come illegally disguise themselves as seamen for the purpose of entering.

So far as I have been able to ascertain, there is no other country which has a similar law. The United States has thousands of miles of border and relatively few immigration agents to patrol these borders. For years, aliens have crossed them illegally. There is, of course, no record of how many have entered the United States as seamen, or how many have been smuggled in.

There is still another way by which aliens come to America. Under our quota law approximately 153,000 aliens can enter the United States annually for permanent residence. This quota law does not apply to aliens living in countries of the Western Hemisphere, who can come without any numerical restriction. In addition to this, there is none as to the number of aliens who can enter our country under temporary visas. While it is true that these temporary visas are supposed to be issued for a limited period, the record will show that numerous extensions are granted and that many aliens whose time has long since expired have remained in this country because the Department of Labor claims that the countries from which they came will not receive them or that it will work a manifest hardship upon them to return them.

Our Committee has conclusively shown that most of the subversive movements and organizations in this country are directed by foreign governments, and that many of the leaders of these movements are aliens, or people of foreign stock. There are, of course, many citizens of this country who are implicated in these treasonable activities; and it should be made clear also that the majority of people of foreign stock of this country are loyal, patriotic Americans. Nevertheless, the fact remains that these movements are directed from abroad and that alien representatives of foreign governments play an important part in their activities.

A large percentage of the members of the German-American Bund emigrated to this country from Germany in the period following the World War. It is also true that a majority of those engaged in Fascist activities and propaganda came to the United States from Italy within the past twenty-five years. The majority of the members of the Communist Party

are immigrants or children of immigrants from Russia, Poland, and certain other countries. If we could obtain the membership lists of these subversive organizations, I am confident that an investigation would prove the close connection between the laxity of our immigration and deportation laws and their enforcement and the growth and activities of subversive groups.

It would be unfortunate if any one should infer from this statement that I am attacking all the people of foreign descent in the United States. All of us, except the Indians, are descendants from immigrants. But it cannot be denied that in recent years we have admitted too many undesirable aliens who are wholly incapable of self-government and American citizenship. Yet it would be cruel and unfair not to record the fact that some of the finest citizens we have are people of foreign stock.

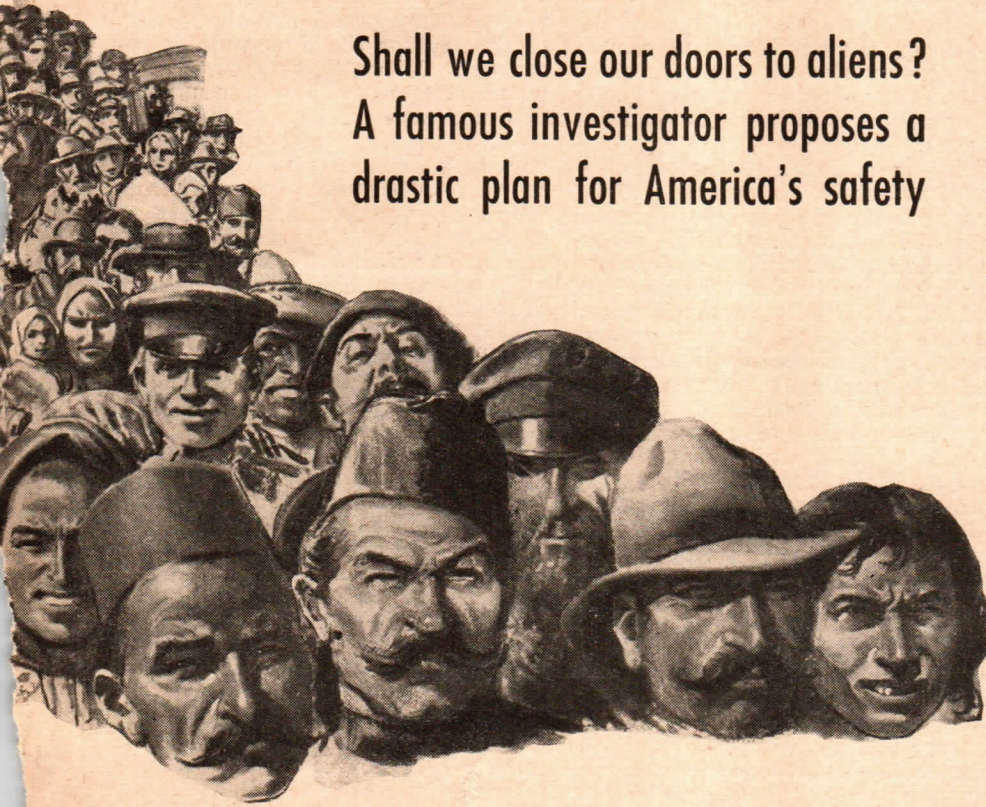
I am, therefore, convinced that the first step which the patriotic people of this country must take in solving this serious problem is to compel our government to enforce sincerely and strictly our existing laws dealing with the admittance and deportation of aliens. The hardship cases can be handled humanely, provided that those in charge of granting the exemptions in cases of hardship can be trusted to do the right thing. The immigration service can be increased to provide an adequate personnel to patrol our borders. The La Follette Act should be repealed or amended to prevent aliens from entering the country in the guise of seamen. The Labor Department can get rid of thousands of alien agitators if it determines to do so. Foreign countries that refuse to accept these aliens can be confronted with the choice of respecting their treaties with us or ceasing to have diplomatic relations with the United States. In other words, much of this problem can be solved when there is a sincere and bona fide intention to enforce the law.

I have maintained for years that there is no excuse for the admittance of immigrants who do not have near relatives in the United States. America has already received more immigrants than any other country on earth. In recent years the total number of aliens admitted to the United States exceeds the number of our unemployed. One third of our population is of foreign stock, and these people are largely concentrated in eight Eastern cities. All of us deeply sympathize with the plight of for-

BY REPRESENTATIVE MARTIN DIES

Chairman of the House Committee on Un-American Activities

Shall we close our doors to aliens? A famous investigator proposes a drastic plan for America's safety



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eign refugees. We can understand the natural desire of aliens to enter the United States. But the time has come when we must think of our own children. America has more aliens in its midst than any other country on earth. We have wholly failed to assimilate a sizable proportion of these aliens. Perhaps some of this failure can be placed at our own doorstep. Instead of extending to them the hand of fellowship and helping them to adjust themselves to life in America so that they may understand the responsibility of American citizenship, we have abandoned them to the racketeers and the subversive organizations. It must also be remembered that selfish interests played an important part in inducing some of them to come to the United States.

Notwithstanding these facts, it must be acknowledged that we have our hands full with the task of finding jobs for the people who are now in the United States without aggravating the situation by the admittance of aliens. Practically no other country will permit Americans to work within its factories, although some of the foreign countries do not have the serious problem of unemployment that we have.

In view of these facts, is it not time for the American people permanently to close the doors to immigrants from other countries? When this is done, we can make provisions to exempt hardship cases from deportation and to unite families by the admittance

of aliens who have near relatives in the United States. We can also expedite the citizenship of aliens, so that in a few years our alien problem will cease to exist.

We should require full publicity in connection with the activities of Communist, Nazi, and Fascist organizations. I doubt the wisdom of outlawing them, as was done in France. We must be careful not to violate the Bill of Rights. However, these organizations should be required to make public the names of their officers, directors, and members, as well as their financial receipts and disbursements. This would seriously cripple if not destroy them, because they thrive on secrecy. The effectiveness of our Committee's investigation has been due to the fact that we focused the spotlight on organizations, movements, and individuals that have been thriving on darkness.

The people, through their government, have a perfect right to require that all employees of the government be loyal and patriotic Americans. There are other measures that the people, through their government, can enact. But more can be accomplished by individual and organization work than by laws. There is no excuse for an intelligent American who joins any organization, or aids it financially or otherwise, until he really knows what kind of organization it is. Thousands of people joined the American League for Peace and Democracy because they were naturally attracted by its

name. Many would not have joined if they had taken the pains to inquire who established the organization and who controlled it. Inquiry would have revealed that two well known Communists held important offices in it. One was Earl Browder, secretary of the Communist Party of the United States, who was vice-president of the League. Investigation would have also disclosed that it was controlled by agents of a foreign Power.

Subversive organizations have had many clever schemes to raise money from unthinking and uninformed Americans. In the large cities, mushroom organizations spring up for the ostensible purpose of raising money to aid relief victims in various parts of the world. Many of these are set up by Communists or racketeers. The people, individually and through their bona fide organizations, can put a stop to this disgraceful situation. There are many responsible organizations in this country through which we can aid unfortunates in our own and in other countries.

The people can also do much by extending a sympathetic hand to the foreign born who are legally in our midst, through patriotic, fraternal, religious, and civic organizations. We can teach these people the meaning of Americanism and speed up the process of assimilation. Much is being done in this direction, but much more remains to be done.

All of us must cultivate a tolerant attitude toward racial and religious minorities. On the other hand, racial and religious minorities, and especially their leaders, have a corresponding duty to exercise tolerance toward the majority. Some minorities in this country have contributed to the rising tide of religious and racial hatred. Too many foreign-language newspapers, by their policies, keep alive race consciousness and the ties which bind certain racial groups to their native lands. People of foreign stock should not forget that their first duty is to the United States. They should not transfer the feuds and quarrels of the Old World to our shores. And yet we see examples of this very thing almost every day in our larger cities; witness the numerous parades, mass meetings, and demonstrations that bear no relation to any domestic issue.

I am convinced that many politicians want to keep intact racial minorities for political purposes. It is as bad to coddle racial groups as it is to persecute them.

The extent to which racketeering organizations thrive on racial and religious minorities is another great obstacle in the task of building up a strong and united country. In recent years the Jews have contributed millions of dollars to organizations and individuals who pretend to combat anti-Semitism and Fascism in this country. Some of these organizations and individuals are cheap racketeers who do more harm than good. It is natural and commendable that the Jews in the United States should be

vigilant in opposing Nazism, but they should be careful not to contribute to racketeers. This word of advice applies to all other racial or religious minorities in America.

There are many bona fide patriotic organizations which all of us, regardless of race or religion, can join to combat foreign ideologies. Organizations that will be listed at the conclusion of this article, and many others that I shall not have the space to mention, are sincerely patriotic and are searching for ways and means to promote Americanism. Many of them are desperately in need of funds. In view of this fact, it is ironic to find thousands of people aiding organizations and movements that are either directed by racketeers or by foreign agents.

OUR people must cease to be duped by popular phrases and slogans. For instance, it has been popular in recent years to style oneself a liberal. I have been closely associated with congressmen who take great pride in calling themselves liberals and branding every one else as reactionaries. I never could get any of them to define what they meant by "liberalism," but from their votes, speeches, and the bills they introduced I have come to understand what they think liberalism means. Without wanting to acknowledge it, many of these so-called liberals are simply Socialists. They will support any measure which expands the functions of the federal government at the expense of local sovereignty or private business. They will vote for every bill which involves the expenditure of borrowed money.

I once took occasion to read some of the speeches and bills of some of the noisiest so-called liberals in the House. These bills involved the principle of giving everybody everything for nothing. One, for instance, proposed to install a radio, free of cost, in every home in America. If these so-called liberals would take the pains to read the writings of Marx, Engels, Lenin, and Stalin, they would find, much to their surprise, that they have borrowed their philosophy of government from these leading exponents of Marxism.

The word liberal was derived from the word liberty. The liberal movement began a long time ago in England, where the liberals in England were the recognized opponents of a strong centralized government, while the Tories and reactionaries were the proponents of it. In the United States the liberal movement was headed by such men as Thomas Jefferson, who said, "That government governs best which governs least." For many years, therefore, in the United States the liberals championed state rights and opposed the centralization of authority in Washington. The Hamiltonians or Federalists, on the other hand, favored a strong central government in Washington. Many of the so-called liberals in this country are today advocating the very same thing

that Hamilton preached in his day.

It is, therefore, of the greatest importance that patriotic people in America insist that the so-called liberals define in plain language what they mean by liberalism.

Another great need is to teach the youth of the land in the schools and universities what Americanism means. The original purpose of public schools was to train the youth of America in the duties and responsibilities of citizenship. Unfortunately, many graduates come out of the public schools and colleges today with little or no idea of American citizenship. As for earlier days, I have often heard my father tell of the school debates attended by the students and parents where questions of government were discussed intelligently and enthusiastically. Many students memorized the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. They learned a great deal about Americanism. When they came to vote, they were capable of exercising their franchise with wisdom, intelligence, self-restraint, and patriotism. Today many schools emphasize everything but citizenship; hence much of the success of Socialistic and crackpot schemes and programs.

If I were asked what is the crying need of the hour, I would say, courage and honesty in public service. By honesty I do not mean the refusal to take bribes. Our congressmen are singularly free from this species of dishonesty. But there is another which is equally bad. I refer to the practice of lying to the people and making false promises and offering cheap flattery in order to get votes.

BUT for public servants to be courageous they must have constituents who place a premium upon courage. It is perhaps too much to expect many men in public office to risk their political hides in the interest of truth. After all, many abandon their private business and lose all connections when they enter public life. After a few years they develop a fear of returning to private life. Many of our congressmen are lawyers by profession. When they come to Congress, they sacrifice their law practice, which promptly goes to some other lawyer. It is not an easy thing to return to the legal profession when one has lost his clients and been out of contact with the practice for many years. It is, therefore, natural that representatives and senators should cling to their offices. This tends to develop a cowardice. But if the people put a premium upon courage they will find that there will be more courage in their representatives and senators.

Altogether, in the final analysis, the real solution is in the hands of the electorate. People who permit their greed and shortsightedness to influence them when they go to the polling booth ought not to complain when they get inefficient and extravagant government and dishonest officeholders. And the people should prize as a rare possession any public servant

who will tell them the truth whether they want to hear it or not.

In conclusion, I want to express my deep gratitude to Liberty for this opportunity to tell you the inside story of our investigation, and again to express my gratitude to the readers of Liberty for the thousands of encouraging letters that you have written me. By now you have some picture of the great handicaps under which we labor to expose the enemies within our gates. You have seen the extent to which these subversive groups and organizations are willing to go in an effort to discredit me and to destroy this investigation. This should convince you as to the absolute necessity of cleaning house.

OTHER republics made the fatal mistake of ignoring subversive movements until it was too late. The Nazi Party in Germany was a minority whose movement could have been destroyed by fearless exposure and democratic methods in its early stages. The Communist movement in Russia never claimed more than one half of one per cent of the total population at the time when the Communists seized power. The subversive organizations which were permitted to flourish in Poland and Czechoslovakia facilitated the conquest of those countries by Hitler and Stalin. The Popular Front in France became so powerful that as an act of self-preservation France dissolved, by decree, the Communist-controlled organizations that composed it. Every republic has been confronted with this problem. Every one knows how Catiline and his desperate followers sought to overthrow the Roman Republic by force and violence.

In America we have had the wisdom to deal with such subversive groups in the early stages of their existence. The success of our investigation must be attributed to the millions of loyal and patriotic Americans who have supported us and refused to credit the lies and propaganda that have been directed at the Committee by the termites. To the patriotic, civic, and religious organizations that have supported our Committee in its difficult work, I want to express my profound and heartfelt gratitude. And I want to record the fact that the splendid aid we have received from such organizations as the American Legion, the American Federation of Labor, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Veterans of the Spanish-American War, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Sons of the American Revolution, the American Coalition of Patriotic Societies, the Knights of Columbus, the Benevolent Order of Elks, the International Order of Odd Fellows, the Eagles, the Knights of Pythias, the Red Men, the Moose, the Rotary, the Kiwanis, the Exchange Clubs, the Masons, and the Lions has made it possible for us to carry on under the constant fire of subversive forces in America.

THE END