THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND AFFAIRS OF INTEREST TO THE JEWS

1909


7. Rep. Everis A. Hayes (Cal.) introduces bill (H. R. 13,404), providing for a head tax of $10, an educational test, the exclusion of aliens not having $25, the registration of aliens, the abolition of the Division of Information of the Immigration Bureau, and other restrictive measures.


15. Rep. Augustus P. Gardner (Mass.) introduces bill, providing for an educational test for immigrants over 16 years of age except dependent parents or grandparents and sons or daughters under 21 years of age who accompany admissible aliens.

15. Rep. Adolph J. Sabath (Ill.) introduces bill (H. R. 15,431), providing for the punishment by imprisonment and for the subsequent deportation of aliens who attempt to enter the United States after they have been debarred for being prostitutes or procurers.


20. Sen. Lee S. Overman (N. C.) introduces bill (S. 4514), providing for a $10 head tax, an educational test, the production of certificate of good character, the possession of $25, and other restrictive features.

1910

Jan. 5. Sen. William P. Dillingham (Vt.) introduces bill (S. 4667), to provide for United States surgeons, immigrant inspectors, and matrons on vessels carrying immigrant or emigrant passengers between ports of the United States and foreign ports.

6. Rep. William S. Bennet (N. Y.) introduces bill (H. R. 17,159), providing for the deportation of aliens sentenced to a State prison or penitentiary for one year or more, at the expiration of sentence.

7. Rep. Henry M. Goldfogle (N. Y.) introduces resolution (H. Res. 198), providing for an investigation by the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization of the conditions existing in the offices of the clerks of the courts having jurisdiction in naturalization proceedings.


7. Rep. William Sulzer (N. Y.) introduces concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 29), for the prevention of the separation of families because of the inadmissibility of one or more members.


14. Rep. William S. Bennet (N. Y.) introduces resolution (H. Res. 234), requesting the President to consider the expediency of appointing special commissioners to foreign countries for the purpose of entering upon agreements for the prevention of the emigration, to the United States, of aliens belonging to the excluded classes.

14. Rep. William S. Bennet (N. Y.) introduces bill (H. R. 18,172), providing for the punishment by imprisonment and subsequent deportation of aliens attempting to enter the United States after having been debarred or deported for any cause involving moral turpitude.


17. Sen. Morgan G. Bulkeley (Conn.) presents joint resolution passed by the Legislature of Connecticut on April 14, 1909, relative to the protection of American citizens abroad, regardless of race or creed.

17. Sen. Joseph F. Johnston (Ala.) submits a report (No. 81), on the bill (S. 404) introduced by him on March 22, 1909, for the proper observance of Sunday as a day of rest in the District of Columbia.

17. Rep. Herbert Parsons (N. Y.) introduces bill (H. R. 18,377), permitting the immigration of persons otherwise admissible who have been convicted of an offense purely political, not excepting an offense "involving moral turpitude."

21. Rep. Everis A. Hayes (Cal.) introduces bill (H. R. 18,898), defining the term "alien" as "any person who is not a citizen of the United States."

24. Rep. John L. Burnett (Ala.) introduces bill, providing for $5 head tax, an educational test for all immigrants, the deportation of aliens without $30 (females $20), and the examination of emigrants at place of embarkation.


25. James H. Patten, Secretary of the Immigration Restriction League, appears before the House Committee on Immigration, and argues in favor of the Hayes bill (H. R. 13,404).


27. After debate, in the course of which Senators Bailey (Tex.) and Money (Miss.) pay tribute to Jewish people, Senate passes bill (S. 404), introduced by Senator J. F. Johnston (Ala.), on March 22, 1909, for the proper observance of Sunday as a day of rest in
the District of Columbia, amended so as to exempt from its penalties persons who observe as a day of rest any other day of the week than Sunday.


7. Rep. William S. Bennett (N. Y.), from the Committee on Immigration, reports bill (H. R. 20,166), in lieu of bills introduced by Representatives Bennett, Goldfogle, and Burnett, for the deportation of convicted aliens.


8. James H. Patten, Secretary Immigration Restriction League, appears before House Committee on Immigration in favor of an educational test.


18. Rep. Adolph J. Sabath (Ill.) introduces bill (H. R. 21,325), for the prevention of the separation of families because of the inadmissibility of one or more members.

18. Rep. Everis A. Hayes (Cal.) introduces bill (H. R. 21,342), providing that the naturalization laws shall apply only to "white persons of the Caucasian race."


22. Arthur E. Holder, representing the American Federation of Labor, appears before House Committee on Immigration in favor of further restriction of immigration.

22. Rep. Politte Elvins (Mo.) introduces bills (H. R. 21,584 and 21,588), providing for an educational test for all aliens, and the exclusion of all persons between the ages of sixteen and fifty years who cannot pass the physical examination prescribed for recruits by the military regulations of the United States Army, those not possessing $100, persons economically undesirable; and containing other restrictive features.


28. Delegation representing the American Association of Foreign Newspapers, appears before the House Committee on Immigration and presents resolutions opposing further restriction of immigration.

Mar. 8. T. J. Brooks, representing the Farmers' Educational and Co-operative Union, appears before the House Committee on Immigration and argues for a more stringent administration of the immigration laws, and for further restriction of immigration.

9. A. A. Roe, representing The Brotherhood of Railroad Firemen and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, appears before the House Committee on Immigration in favor of further restriction of immigration.


11. Dr. Cyrus Adler, Mr. Cyrus L. Sulzberger, Mr. Louis Marshall, and Mr. Harry Cutler, representing the American Jewish Committee; Hon. Simon Wolf, Mr. Abram I. Elkus, Mr. Max J. Kohler, and Rabbi Abram Simon, representing the Independent Order of B'nai B'rith and the Board of Delegates of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations; and Judge Leon Sanders, President of the Independent Order B'rith Abraham, appear before the House Committee on Immigration and make a protest against further restriction of immigration. (For account of this hearing, see pp. 19-98.)


15. House Committee on Immigration decides to postpone action on bills restricting immigration until the next session of Congress (Dec., 1910).

April 1. Sen. Dillingham, on behalf of Immigration Commission, presents report on immigration in Canada.

15. Rep. Joseph F. O'Connell (Mass.) introduces bill (H. R. 24,550), for the prevention of the separation of families through the inadmissibility of one or more members.

15. Rep. Adolph J. Sabath (Ill.) introduces bill (H. R. 24,555), to increase the scope of the Division of Information, United States Immigration Service.

19. Rep. William S. Bennet (N. Y.), from the Committee on Immigration, reports bill (H. R. 24,695), in lieu of bills introduced by Representatives Sabath and O'Connell and resolution introduced by Rep. Sulzer, for the prevention of the separation of families because of the inadmissibility of one or more members.

26. Rep. Everis A. Hayes (Cal.) introduces bill (H. R. 24,993), providing that Section 2169 of the Revised Statutes, which accords the right of naturalization to "free white persons" and Africans, shall not be construed so as to prevent "Asiatics who are Armenians, Syrians, or Jews from becoming naturalized citizens."

30. Rep. Francis B. Harrison (N. Y.) introduces resolution (H. Res. 615), deploiring the persecution of the Jews of Russia and the restrictions upon their natural rights, and requesting the President to use the good and friendly offices of the United States with the Russian Government to secure action for the prevention of outrages in the future.

May 2. House passes Mr. Hayes' bill, introduced April 26, expressly permitting Asiatics who are Armenians, Syrians, and Jews to become naturalized citizens.
June 9. Committee of Foreign Affairs, House of Representa-
tives, requested by members of House and by Rabbis
and others to pass resolution (H. Res. 615, see above)
introduced by Rep. Harrison of New York, on April
30.

9. Department of State issues report from chargé d'affai-
res at St. Petersburg respecting expulsions from
Kieff.

(H. Res. 733), providing for an investigation of con-
ditions in the New York City courts having juris-
diction in naturalization proceedings, with a view to
relieving alleged congestion and consequent delay.
(Reported to House June 17, Rep. No. 1620.)

14. Sen. Weldon B. Heyburn (Idaho) reports bill (S. 8695),
for the naturalization of such persons as have, be-
cause of misinformation in regard to the law, acted
in good faith as citizens for the past five years.

15. Sen. Henry C. Lodge (Mass.), on behalf of Immigra-
tion Commission, presents report on immigrants in
industries.

17. Department of State makes public additional report of
the chargé d'affaires at St. Petersburg respecting the
expulsions at Kieff, Russia.

20. Resolution (H. Res. 733, see June 10) passed by House
of Representatives.

22. Sen. Thomas P. Gore (Okla.) introduces bill (S. 8813),
requiring alien immigrants to come to the United
States in vessels of American registry.

24. Senate passes bill (S. 8695), providing for the natu-
nalization of persons who have acted as citizens in
good faith, through misinformation, reported by Mr.
Heyburn, June 14.

24. Chairman Benjamin F. Howell (N. J.), of the House
Committee on Immigration, appoints following com-
mittee to carry on investigation provided for by reso-
lution (H. Res. 733), passed June 20: William S.
Bennet (N. Y.), chairman, Augustus P. Gardner
(Mass.), J. Hampton Moore (Pa.), Henry M. Gold-
fogle (N. Y.), and Adolph J. Sabath (Ill.).
LIST OF JEWISH MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

PAST

Benjamin, Judah Philip, 1812-1884. Sen. from La., 1853-1861.
Jonas, Benjamin Franklin, 1834- . Sen. from La., 1879-1885.
Levy, David. See Yulee, David Levy.
Yulee, David Levy, 1811-1886. Del. from Fla., 1841-1845; Sen. from Fla., 1845-1851; 1855-1861.

PRESENT

(Members of the Sixty-First Congress)*

Goldfogle, Henry M., Democrat, Representative, New York City.
Guggenheim, Simon, Republican, Senator, Colorado.
Kahn, Julius, Republican, Representative, San Francisco.
Rayner, Isidor, Democrat, Senator, Maryland.
Sarath, Adolph J., Democrat, Representative, Chicago.

* For biographies see American Jewish Year Book 5669, p. 70 et seq.