

Foreigners and Their Influence on Indiana.*

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A very large part of American history has been the story of the adaptation of immigrants and their descendants to the soil and environment of a newly discovered continent whose possibilities have not yet been fully realized. The mold, a product of nature, which was to fashion and influence that which flowed into it, had long existed in the form of a wide expanse of land. Yet it did not and could not create its contents. As long as the contact of the migrating people with the land was intimate and wellnigh universal, the people took on its qualities—qualities which modified those persons who had recently come, and made out of their children who were at least one step removed from the old home and society something different. As newer generations sprang from their loins, the difference increased with their passing farther and farther away from the older colonies and European influence. As available land has become less plentiful the Americanizing force has diminished partly because the natives are not rejuvenated by—and largely because newcomers can not come in contact with—a frontier environment that has passed in some sections and is in the process of passing in the country.

There is a vital and close economic relation between land and people. From land with the application of labor come the necessities of life: food, clothing, and shelter. The subsistence of the people is derived from the land. As the number of people increases in proportion to the supply of land the competition for the products of the land becomes more severe. In 1920, fourteen per cent. more crop land was cultivated but by fourteen per cent. fewer farmers than in 1910.¹

The increase in the use of fertilizer and machinery cannot go on forever. The point of diminishing returns will be reached. Moreover our population is increasing at an annual rate of about 1,500,000. The frontier line practically disappeared by 1890, and free and unoccupied land in the United States has likewise disappeared with the exception of mountain masses and semi-desert. The press of population in relation

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¹ Isaiah Bowman, *Supplement to the New World*, p. 8.

to land grows upon us. Moreover, the departure of people from foreign lands does not relieve population conditions in the countries from which they come in any permanent way. With the moving out of immigrants to the United States, children become less a liability, economic pressure lessens and people do not crack so soon under the strain. Vacancies within the ranks are soon filled. Professor Fairchild has well developed this idea.²

There is also the social aspect of this problem of immigration. Whenever a more advanced people comes in contact with a less advanced population increment, there is always interaction. The superior tends to be pulled down to the level of the inferior. The degree of the lowering will depend somewhat on the proportion of numbers. The resultant culture is neither as low as the inferior nor as high as the superior. It falls between the two levels. The relation of this truth to the condition where the immigrant increment from southern and southeastern Europe to a section has been large is significant. New England is such a section. Especially is this true of the southern group of New England States, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island. The foreign element has grown to preponderance. In 1850, the native white element in the combined population of Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont constituted 928 out of every 1000 people. In 1920, this element in these three States constituted 612 out of every 1000. In the three lower States of New England, the native white element numbered 816 out of every 1000 inhabitants of these states in 1850. Seventy years later, there were but 367 persons of the native element in every 1000 people. This native white element is on the way to submergence by sheer failure to maintain its numbers. Will this do more than accentuate a social class division where the native distinctly feels himself superior to the foreigner who in his turn tacitly admits his inferiority? Why use the population numbers of 1890 as the basis for an immigration restrictive measure? Is there justification for the attempt to decrease the immigrant stream from southern and southeastern Europe to the United States? In a State of the Middle West, where the foreign element is relatively small, typical settlements of people from both the southern and southeastern and the northern and northwestern European immigrant streams can be studied by a method of

² Henry P. Fairchild, "End of Race Migrations", in *Yale Review*, XI, pp. 826-838.

comparison. Indiana offers us fairly isolated and uncontaminated settlements as objects for study.

Let us briefly examine the migration of foreigners to the State of Indiana. It seems a far cry from these present days of restriction to the time when practically every State had its bureau of emigration whose duty it was to encourage foreigners to come as settlers. In January, 1865, Governor Oliver P. Morton of Indiana urged legislation to check the people from passing by or through the State to settle elsewhere.³ In November of this same year, we find this State executive advising the sending of a representative to the French Universal Exposition to advertise to Europeans "the great resources, progress, and wealth of the State, the energy, intelligence and refinement of her people, and the superior inducements and advantages presented to immigration." Especially did Indiana appeal to the Germans. They were warned against the South, "a region impoverished, thinned of its population and disorganized by rebellion, where they will find but few vestiges of German society, where schools have not been encouraged, where labor is without respect and without adequate reward and where the natives of more northern latitudes will contend with the ills of an enervating climate." The advantages of a growing community over either an older or an infant one were pointed out. In Indiana, it was argued, no hardships of a frontier life would have to be experienced. Apparent cheapness of lands in the West might prove illusive. In Indiana there was ready opportunity for work on or near farms already opened. Here was society organized. Attention was called to the possibility of finding a neighborhood of the same nativity or religion, i. e., there would be Prussians near Prussians, Bavarians near Bavarians, and Hanoverians near Hanoverians. Said John A. Wilstach, the Indiana Commissioner of Emigration in 1866: "We need the working man of Europe here to plow to the surface the golden cereal wealth of our primitive prairies. We need him to give work to those latent incorporeal but Titanic forces, those Samsons, which play in our streamlets, bathe in our rivers, and slumber in our beds of coal."⁴

These efforts had their influence, but the foreign element in Indiana has always been comparatively small. Out of a

³ *Circular of the Indiana Commission of Emigration*, 1866, p. 1.

⁴ *Ibid.*, 1866, p. 7.

foreign-born population of 4,158,474 in the North Central States in 1900, Indiana had but 142,121 or a little more than three per cent. of the total. With the exception of the period from 1850 to 1870, Indiana's foreign-born population has increased very slowly. From 1870 to 1890, there was an absolute increase of only 4,731 in the foreign-born population of the State. A decrease of 4,084 in the decade between 1890 and 1900, made the increase in the number of foreign-born in Indiana in 1900 over the number within the state in 1870, only 647. In 1900, 1910 and 1920, the foreign-born element made up less than six per cent. of the total population of Indiana. It is the least foreign of all the States of the old Northwest.⁵ In 1910, the foreign-born population was distributed by birth among the principal countries as follows: Germany, 39 per cent.; Hungary, 9; Austria, 7; Ireland, 7; England, 6; Russia, 6; Italy, 4; Canada, 4; Sweden, 2; Scotland, 2. Omitting Hungary, Germany contributed more than all the others combined. It is very clear that the northern and northwestern Europeans preponderated. They have always done so in the State of Indiana. With this background, we will now consider the political, social, and economic influences of the Germans as representative of the northern and northwestern Europeans, and then follow this with a study of the Poles as representative of the eastern Europeans. Richmond in Wayne County and Westphalia and Freelandville in Knox County will be taken as the German settlements. Rolling Prairie and Otis in LaPorte County will serve as the basis for the study of Poles.

The Germans are not nearly so isolated in any case and especially is this true of those in Richmond, as are the Poles. Yet we are able to study them as to their political, social, and economic influence. Many of the Germans who migrated to Indiana in the years following 1850 were *Bauerknechte* who had been receiving a very small wage in Germany. They came to the United States to better their economic condition. Some came to escape military service and some to breathe freely of an atmosphere of greater freedom. Their industry and economy enabled them to engage in business enterprises. In Richmond the three largest retail stores are owned by Germans.⁶ In Westphalia and Freelandville, practically all such stores are operated by Germans. According to the Dunn Com-

⁵ These figures are all taken from the U. S. Census reports for the respective years.

⁶ Fred J. Bartel, *Institutional Influence of the German element in the population of Richmond, Indiana*, p. 16.

mercial Agency's reference book of 1899, out of 468 business establishments of Richmond, there were 179 owners of German extraction. They also operated the saloons. In the Richmond directory of 1899, there were 3354 German names, or about thirty and a half per cent. of the population were German. They also owned a large percentage of the real estate.⁷ In all these cases, the Germans were and are home owners. It is clear that as a people, they are an economic asset. The effect of homeownership on citizenship has been well demonstrated.

In religion, the Germans are active as church members. They are loyal to the church which not only ministers to their religious needs, but serves as a medium for social intercourse. Their ministers are very highly respected.

They have their parochial schools but only the German Catholics are insistent upon State support for them. As in their home country, illiteracy is practically non-existent among them. The children often become grade and high school teachers and parents serve on the school board. There is little objection to the payment of the school taxes. There is no social ban against the Germans. The younger generation takes up the amusements of the natives of the same age-period. They enrich the musical life of the communities in which they live.

In politics there is no marked German solidarity in these communities. Respect for the law and authority is bred in the bone. In summary, the Germans in these communities are intelligent, industrious, and economical. They become naturalized and are relatively easily assimilated.

Otis in Laporte county, Indiana, was founded in 1861 by three Polish families. They began as laborers, clearing the land, ditching and doing general farm work. In two or three years land was purchased. Other families came and the community began to look upon these Poles as a source of labor for clearing, wood splitting, and ditching. The wood was easily sold as the railroads used wood for fuel. In 1872, there was founded a Polish Roman Catholic church and the church records show sixty families at that time. This really determined that the settlement would be permanent as the church gave a center of community and race interest. They would now stay as an agreeable social life was assured—and among their own people. The lands which they purchased were usually the less fertile or the depleted. That they are cautious is shown

⁷ *Ibid.*

by the fact that the colony has never had a single case of mortgage foreclosure in its history.⁸

The first houses of the Poles⁹ were hardly sufficient for shelter. The wife and children helped with the crops. It was not unusual to see a woman chopping wood or helping to cut tree trunks into logs. These huts have given away to houses of five to eight or even ten rooms. Although the families are ordinarily large,¹⁰ this improvement is not wholly due to this. In many instances there is a parlor in addition to the living room. Most Polish women give little attention to cooking. Meats and potatoes are consumed in large quantities. Among the more prosperous families, the field work of the women and girls has been lessened somewhat, but the poorer have not changed much in this respect.

The majority of the Poles own their own farms and have very good bank accounts. Out of thirty farms investigated there were only four which showed indebtedness. The total amount of indebtedness reported was \$4,775. This is probably below the true figure but it is indicative of the situation.¹¹

Social life centers chiefly about the church. Picnics and suppers are held there. Since practically every family attends church, social intercourse is obtained in that way. Much is made of weddings and christenings. They are largely attended and a spirit of jollity pervades such affairs. Receptions and dancing follow these events. There is some association with the natives at public gatherings but very little at purely social functions. Indeed, it is so infrequent as to be negligible. The Poles are all Catholics, while almost all the natives are Protestants so the church meetings of the two are separate. The church does not bring them together. The relations between the natives and the Poles are business relations. The Poles are honest and have gained the respect of business men. There are parochial schools for children through the first eight grades, where "all subjects are taught in English except Polish history and the Polish language."¹² The interest in public school education is on the increase.

⁸ *U. S. Senate Document*, 633, 61 Cong., 2 Sess., p. 162.

⁹ The Poles are now treated as a group, as the history of one settlement is typical of all those in northwestern Indiana.

¹⁰ *U. S. Senate Doc.*, 282, 61 Cong., 2 Sess., p. 208.

¹¹ *U. S. Senate Doc.*, 633, 61 Cong., 2 Sess., p. 276.

¹² *U. S. Senate Doc.*, 633, 61 Cong., 2 Sess., p. 279. Thus are Polish traditions preserved and passed on.

Nearly all the Poles are voters under the laws of Indiana. They have held such minor offices as tax assessor, road supervisor, and school commissioner, but the one candidate who has ever run for county office was defeated by a few votes. The majority take some newspaper printed in English and more than one printed in Polish. Most of the latter are printed in this country.

In summary, it may be said that the Poles have increased the wealth of the communities in which they are located. They have cleared, drained, and improved poor land which would not have become productive so soon had it not been for their work. Their example has stimulated better farming and care of the soil. This all has to do with economic conditions. Socially they are a misfit. Their fellow immigrants from Ireland consider them inferior. They constitute a little Poland in north-western Indiana.

It is quite clear that the Germans are much more easily assimilated than the Poles. The Poles do not even mix well and certainly are not fused with the native element through marriages nor by mingling in the life of the larger community. Says W. S. Rossiter of the British and Germans: "They may be classed merely as belated arrivals of the original settler stock who were speedily and completely assimilated."¹³ The Poles differing from these in instincts, tendencies, history, and traditions, as they do from the natives, have many characteristics to prevent assimilation.

The difficulty of amalgamation has been greatly increased with the increase in the number of Roman Catholics among the immigrants. Religion is an inward business deeply rooted through inheritance of long standing. Age-old religious adherence is not easily undermined. The United States is essentially Protestant, even a Calvinistic country. Immigration before 1870 was made up almost entirely of increments of English, Scotch, Irish, and German peoples. The majority of

¹³ William S. Rossiter, "Why We Need the Immigrant" in *Review of Reviews*, March 1907, p. 319.

¹⁴ The question is neither one of superiority of breed nor faith primarily, but rather as to whether we should seek to approximate our population conditions which existed before the new immigration set in. We can never revert to them. Or are we obtaining, as some claim, a desirable unity of variety, a symphony whose nationalistic strains are blending in a beautiful harmony of a composite nationality in place of the dead uniformity of a monotone? Or do we have merely a collective nationality?

these were Protestants.¹⁴ As late as 1850, there were less than one hundred Roman Catholic churches in the six States of New England.¹⁵ The great increase in the number of Roman Catholics has corresponded with the increase in immigrants from southern and southeastern Europe.¹⁶ The increase was gradually growing larger from 1870 to 1890, and also in the last decade of the nineteenth century Roman Catholic immigrants were distinctly in the majority. "From 1900 to 1906 new arrivals were practically all either Roman Catholics or non-christian."¹⁷ The fact that these people do not meet the natives in church services makes it more difficult to assimilate them and aggravates their clannishness. The Roman Catholic Church makes it a point to provide different churches and priests of their own kin for the foreigners of various nationalities and languages,¹⁸ consequently they develop along divergent lines. There is accommodation and toleration but little assimilation.¹⁹

There are many States in which there has been a greater increase in Roman Catholics than in Protestants per thousand of the total population in the period since 1890.²⁰ Indiana is not one of these, yet is surrounded by States that do come under this classification. Why does Indiana have comparatively so few Roman Catholics? Just what relation does the foreign population bear to this condition? Why does Indiana receive comparatively few of the foreign immigrants? To what extent is it due to economic opportunities and attitudes?

Listing the States of the Old Northwest in accordance with rank as to percentages of foreign-born and as to percentages of Roman Catholics we have the following for 1900:²¹

	Foreign-Born	Roman Catholics
Wisconsin	24.9 (per cent.)	50.5 (per cent.)
Michigan	22.4	50.1
Illinois	20.1	44.0
Ohio	11.0	32.0
Indiana	5.6	18.0

¹⁴ *U. S. Census*, 1850, p. lvii. The exact number was 82—distributed among the six states as follows: Maine, 12; New Hampshire, 2; Vermont, 8; Massachusetts, 41; Connecticut, 12; and Rhode Island, 7.

¹⁵ Of 12,079,142 communicants of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States in 1906 (the first report after that of 1890 being issued in that year although there is much reason to give the statistics as of 1900) 5,838,658 were in the North Atlantic States. Note: These figures do not include any Roman Catholic communicants under the age of 9. On the same basis there were 3,946,752 Roman Catholics in the North Central States, of whom Indiana had 174,849. *Religious Bodies*, Vol. II, p. 609, Special Report of the United States Census Bureau, 1906.

¹⁶ Special Report of U. S. Census Bureau, *Religious Bodies*, (1906) II, p. 602.

¹⁷ *U. S. Senate Doc.*, No. 633, 61 Cong., 2 Sess., Vols., I and II, *Passim*.

¹⁸ *U. S. Census*, 1900, *Population*, I, p. civ.

¹⁹ Special Report of U. S. Census Bureau, *Religious Bodies*, (1906) I, p. 47.

In the above table, we have these States taking the same rank as to percentages of Roman Catholics as in percentages of the foreign-born in their population in every case. In general, the original stock is the source of Protestants.²²

Out of a foreign-born population of 4,158,474 in the North Central States in 1900, Indiana had but 142,121 or a little more than three per cent. Indiana's foreign-born population has increased very slowly, save in the period from 1850 to 1870, as the following table shows:²³

	Foreign-Born	Increase
1850	55,572	
1860	118,284	62,712
1870	141,474	23,190
1880	144,178	2,704
1890	146,205	2,027
1900	142,121	(decrease) 4,084

It is common knowledge that the flow of immigrants to this country bears a distinct relation to imports and exports, which is another way of saying that they come in times of business prosperity in greater numbers. The economic motive was the primary influence in the latter half of the nineteenth century.²⁴ Immigrants were not forced to come to have life, but rather did they come to live more abundantly. We are not to suppose that the economic influence ceased to motivate after they touched the shores of the United States. We find them going where economic opportunity was greatest. They made their way into the newer rural States and into the old States strongly urban.²⁵ Indiana did not fall within either of these classifications. She was comparatively small and her land was early taken up. Furthermore, Indiana has no metropolis, largely because she has no hinterland with rich natural resources. Then too, her territory serves as hinterland for

²² According to a letter written by John Carroll, superior or perfect apostolic of the Roman Catholic Church in the thirteen colonies, in 1785 there were 15,800 communicants in Maryland, 700 in Pennsylvania, 200 in Virginia, and 1,500 in New York. In 1807 there were reported 80 churches and 150,000 communicants. *Religious Bodies*, II, pp. 601-602. Special Report of the United States Census Bureau, 1906.

²³ *U. S. Census*, 1870, 1890, and 1900. The foreign element numbered 341,000 in 1870.

²⁴ *Emigration Conditions in Europe*, U. S. Senate Doc., No. 748, 61 Cong., 3 Sess., Ch. IV.

²⁵ *E. g.* The Poles concentrate in the North Central and prairie states. In 1910, these states had 90.7% of the Polish farmers and 55.7% of the Polish Farm laborers of the United States. Wisconsin alone had 80.3% of the Polish farmers of the country. In this state they are located on the cutover lands for the most part. *U. S. Senate Document* No. 633, 61 Cong., 2 Sess., p. 153. New York, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Illinois of the urban states would lose about half their population if the foreign element were removed.

the cities of her sister States.²⁶ With the exception of the steel plants in Lake County, Indiana's industries do not lend themselves to the employment of the cheap laborers coming from southern and eastern Europe.²⁷ Says John R. Commons: "The desire to get cheap labor, to take in passenger fares, and to sell cheap land have probably brought more immigrants than the hard conditions of Europe, Asia, and Africa have sent."²⁸

Although the economic motive is primary, letters from friends constitute the most important contributory cause of immigration.²⁹ Germany has always furnished the bulk of immigrants to Indiana. Most of these came before 1870. They were farmers as were their friends. As late as 1871, 75 per cent. of the population of Germany was classed as rural, while 66 $\frac{2}{3}$ per cent. lived in rural villages of less than 2,000 people.³⁰ Moreover, emigration from Germany decreased in proportion to industrialization. Indeed, it was necessary to import laborers into Germany³¹ so that with the improvement of conditions in their native country, the United States no longer attracted many Germans. Nor had the calm water of Bismarckian peace been ruffled during these years.

Let us analyze the foreign-born population of Indiana more minutely. Distributed according to place of birth the principal countries were represented by the following numbers in a total of 141,474 in 1870 and 142,121 in 1900:³²

	1870	1900
Germany	78,060	73,546
Great Britain and Ireland	42,266	32,068
France	6,363	2,984

²⁶ The word *metropolis* is used here in the sense of metropolitan economy.

²⁷ In this county are located Gary, Hammond, East Chicago, and Indiana Harbor. The city of Gary is largely a creation of the U. S. Steel Corporation. In April, 1906, the site was sand dunes, marshes, and ponds. In 1909 there was a large steel plant there employing 10,000 men and, in 1920, the city had a population of 55,000.

²⁸ John R. Commons, *Races and Immigrants in America* (1920 Edition), p. 108.

²⁹ There is a differentiation made here between those who come to join friends and those who are assisted by friends. Out of the total number of Germans, 131,572, coming to the United States in the years 1908 and 1909, 123,335 or 93.7% said they came to join friends. Of the old immigration 89.4% and of the new immigration 97.0% made similar reply. *U. S. Senate Doc.*, No. 748, 61 Cong., 3 Sess., pp. 59-60. That there is much chance for discrepancy here is evident. It is estimated that at least one-third of the total number of immigrants are assisted by friends. Annual Report of the Commissioner-General of Immigration, (1909), p. 10.

³⁰ William H. Dawson, *The German Empire*, II, p. 458. "Numerically, the German is the most important race in agriculture, constituting in 1900 nearly $\frac{3}{5}$ of the total number of males of foreign origin on farms". *U. S. Senate Doc.*, No. 633, 61 Cong. 2 Sess., Vol. I, p. 8.

³¹ William H. Dawson, *Evolution of Modern Germany*, pp. 237-8; J. Ellis Barker, *Modern Germany*, Ch. XXIV. This came chiefly after 1890.

³² *U. S. Census Reports*, 1870 and 1900.

Switzerland	4,287	3,472
British America	4,765	5,934
		(Can.-Fr. 948)
Sweden	2,180	4,673
Norway	123	384
Holland	873	1,678
Denmark	---	783
Belgium	462	---
Bohemia	141	526
Russia	61	1,215
Poland	523	6,067
Italy	54	1,327
Austria	443	2,089

From this table we see that Germans numbered more than half of the foreign-born in Indiana both in 1870 and in 1900.³³ Although the increases in 1900 over 1870 are mostly among the southern and eastern Europeans, the immigrants from northern and northwestern Europe and the British Isles still distinctly preponderated in 1900. This was yet true in 1920.

That we may see the relation of these statistics to the number of Roman Catholics in Indiana let us take the 78,060 Germans in the state in 1870 and distribute them according to the German state or place of birth in Germany.³⁴ The results are as follows: ³⁵

German States	Number
Prussia	29,076
Württemberg	8,872
Hesse (n)	6,768
Hanover	3,713
Mecklenburg	2,454
Saxony	1,472
Nassau	707
Oldenburg	664
Hamburg	465
Brunswick	208
Bavaria	11,500
Baden	8,154

³³ In 1880, there were 80,756 Germans out of a total foreign-born population in Indiana of 144,178 and 84,900 out of 146,205 in 1890.

³⁴ It is believed that 1870 is typical of the succeeding census years although the statistics for the separate German states are not given for 1890 and 1900. The bulk of the foreign-born population or at least the foreign element was in Indiana by that time. This would be especially true for the Germans, of course.

³⁵ *Compendium of U. S. Census*, 1870, pp. 394-5. The law of averages is used as a determining principle.

The Protestant Reformation had a rather uneven effect on Europe, but its most permanent and greatest influence was in the northern and northwestern portions of the continent and in Great Britain.⁸⁶ Of the German states listed above, the first ten are predominantly Protestant. In the last two, Roman Catholics preponderate.⁸⁷ Great Britain, Canada (British Canadians), Sweden, Norway, Holland, and Denmark are mostly Protestant.⁸⁸ Thus it is clear that foreigners coming to Indiana have been adherents of Protestantism for the most part. This is the explanation of the small number of Roman Catholics in the State.

A study of Roman Catholics in Indiana with the aid of maps reveals that, where we find Roman Catholics, we find counties in which foreigners predominate. The converse does not hold true in many instances. We do not find the counties with large foreign elements and manufacturing counties corresponding in many cases. This gives further evidence to indicate that Indiana's foreigners are largely farmers. The counties shown as manufacturing are by no means exclusively, and in some cases not predominantly so, but a glance at the grain production and farm land value maps will suffice to show that this is true.⁸⁹

Finally, another interesting thing about the Roman Catholic population in Indiana is the apparent influence of the metropolitan centers of sister states. A metropolis is not only a distributing center of economic goods but often of a peculiar culture as well. Moreover, it overflows on the surrounding territory, fills up suburban areas, and overflows again. A study of foreign and Roman Catholic population density maps conveys this truth. In the case of Indiana, her northwestern corner is a part of Greater Chicago. Cincinnati and Louisville spill over on the portions of the state in proximity to them. In 1900, 68.2 per cent. of the population of Chicago, 66.5 per cent.

⁸⁶ William R. Sheperd, *Historical Atlas*, pp. 116, 120; Thomas M. Lindsay, *The Reformation*; Preserved Smith, *The Protestant Reformation*. Lindsay gives an excellent map.

⁸⁷ For statistics relative to specific German states, see Schaff-Herzog, *Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge*. There is variance among the several states as to the degree of Protestantization; e.g., Prussia, including Hesse, Nassau, Saxony, and Hanover, had 62.59% of her population Protestant, while Baden had 60.6% of her population Catholic in 1900 and 1905, respectively. *Ibid.*, IX, p. 315; *Ibid.*, I, p. 418.

⁸⁸ 16,306 of the 32,068 listed as coming from Great Britain and Ireland in 1900 were from Ireland. The figures are not given separately for 1870.

⁸⁹ The Lutheran and German Evangelical churches are strong in these rural counties and in some cases exceed the Roman Catholic strength.

of that of Cincinnati, and 57.8 per cent. of that of Louisville showed affiliation with the Roman Catholic Church.⁴⁰

Thus we have seen that there is a very close relation between the number of foreigners and the number of Roman Catholics in the United States and especially in the State of Indiana. Indiana has few foreigners largely because she has less to offer in the way of economic opportunity and partly because the influx began late.⁴¹

Immigration is not such a justifiable cause for concern on account of the increasing proportion of foreign-born to native stock as is the changed character of immigration.⁴² It is complained that the new immigrants are more illiterate, unskilled, less likely to become naturalized, have a lower standard of living and therefore do not become an integral part of our economic and political life.⁴³ Says a noted authority on immigration: "These people have no history behind them which is of a nature to give encouragement. They have none of the inherited instincts and tendencies which make it comparatively easy to deal with the immigration of the earlier time. They are beaten men from beaten races, representing the worst failures in the struggle for existence. Centuries are against them as centuries were on the side of those who formerly came to us."⁴⁴ At best, the cake of custom is only softened or cracked and the influence that seeps in is small. There is danger in this, that the fecundity of the low standard immigrant women results in the delivering of a "full quiver" of their kind to cramp the natives of higher standards.⁴⁵

In comparison with other States of the Middle West, Indiana has been fairly free from this deleterious influence of the "new immigrants." The State has almost missed—with the

⁴⁰ Of course, the nearness to a city market would influence the price of farm land.

⁴¹ The cheaper lands in the states farther west naturally attracted them, their friends had less in Indiana to recommend to them in this respect, and the industries had no need of or could not use them.

⁴² The proportion of the total population of United States which was foreign-born in 1920 was 13% as it was in 1860. Of course, the foreign element including the children of foreign parentage is much larger.

⁴³ In the years, 1899-1909, the "old immigration" numbered 1,983,618, out of which, 52,833, or 27%, were illiterate. The "new immigration" (from southern and southeastern Europe) numbered 5,215,443, out of which 1,859,298, or 35.6%, were illiterate. *U. S. Senate Doc.*, No. 748, 61 Cong., 3 Sess., "Emigrant Conditions in Europe", p. 30. It would be interesting by process of comparison to learn the effect of this upon the political intelligence of the sections into which they have flowed and concentrated.

⁴⁴ Francis Walker, "Restriction of Immigration", in *Discussions in Economics and Statistics*, Vol. II, p. 447.

⁴⁵ Tables are given in "Occupations of First and Second Generations of Immigrants in United States and Fecundity of Immigrant Women", *U. S. Senate Doc.*, No. 282, 61 Cong., 2 Sess., pp. 808-811. Probably the point to be stressed is not so much inferiority as superfluity.

exception of counties like Lake and Vermillion—the pollution of the stream of political and social intelligence by their thirty per cent. of illiteracy and their inexperience in democratic government, their different culture and beliefs, their garlicked meat and potato and bandanna handkerchief standard of living. This is fortunate since the “stream” has been sufficiently contaminated by natives who are not illiterate. Indiana, on the other hand, has missed the invigoration that comes from the injection of new blood, the flow and cross-fertilization of ideas; the relief from the drabness of inbreeding by the bright colors and tone qualities of Latin and Slavic cultures. The leaders of thought in the State have likewise missed the impelling incentive to study those great social and economic problems furnished by the complex urban life of the metropolitan centers in other States, especially those metropolitan centers for which Indiana serves as a hinterland and which materially help to determine present day Hoosier civilization.