

CONFLICTING THEORIES OF IMMIGRATION TO BE TESTED

IN connection with the investigation of Migration and the Business Cycle now being carried on by the National Bureau of Economic Research for the National Research Council, Dr. Harry Jerome is preparing to test two conflicting theories. They are

- (a) The "safety valve" theory—
That the coming and going of the immigrant is so timed as to tend to smooth the inequalities in employment due to seasonal and cyclical variations in industrial activity.
- (b) The "maladjustment" theory—
That migration fails to synchronize fully with the seasonal and cyclical fluctuations in industry, and to that extent increases unemployment in dull seasons and in periods of depression.

To test the relative validity of these conflicting interpretations, Dr. Jerome is making an analysis of the degree of synchronous movement in migration on the one hand, and in employment on the other, supplementing this by comparisons with other indicia of business conditions.

The report which is now in preparation will include a more complete presentation and analysis of the monthly statistics of migratory movements, particularly the movement to and from the United States, than has hitherto been available.

Directors to Speak

Two directors of the National Bureau of Economic Research, Professor John R. Commons and Dr. N. I. Stone, are scheduled to speak at the Brookwood Labor Institute on June 26 on the subject of "New Sources for Wages." Dr. Stone expects to make use of the figures of the National Bureau of Economic Research on "Distribution of Income" in connection with his talk.

"From India's Coral Strand"

The Bombay Chronicle holds up the National Bureau's report on "Income in the United States" as a model for the Government of India to follow, and urges the formation in India of research organizations with directors giving a balanced representation to various viewpoints for the study of different political and economic problems.

The Hindustan Review of Calcutta concludes a review of "Income in the United States" with this greeting:

"We accord a hearty welcome to this valuable study which should prove of great use and value in the proper understanding of social problems."

Immigration Analyzed

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Statistics by Occupation

"The statistics of migration by occupation reveal some interesting contrasts. If we count as unskilled laborers those who state their occupation either as 'laborer' or 'farm laborer,' we find that owing to the large emigration of unskilled laborers in 1920 and during the depression of 1921, the net excess of immigrant over emigrant unskilled laborers is only 138,255 in the four years. On the other hand, although 265,448 incoming immigrants were listed as servants, only 17,919 emigrants were so classified.

"Similar differences in the proportion between immigrants and emigrants are shown in the statistics by race. For each 1,000 South Italians arriving, 376 departed; for each 1,000 Germans arriving, 88 departed; while for each 1,000 Hebrews arriving, only 7 persons of that race departed. Obviously, in order to determine the real effect of immigration, it is necessary to consider the net results of immigration and emigration rather than the volume of immigration alone."

BUREAU'S PUBLICATIONS HAVE WIDE DISTRIBUTION

MORE than 4,000 persons and organizations all over the world are recorded as purchasers of the Bureau's publications a recent check indicates.

More than 2,000 copies of "Employment, Hours, and Earnings in Prosperity and Depression," the Bureau's fifth publication, have already been distributed. This report gives original data of a type never before assembled on so extensive a scale.

The editions of "Income in the United States" have been virtually exhausted and less than fifty copies of each volume remain for distribution.

A complete list of the Bureau's publications with specifications and prices is given below. The prices have been fixed at the lowest practicable figures and are intended to cover publishing and distributing costs only.

Income in the United States. Its Amount and Distribution, 1909-1919. By the Staff of the National Bureau of Economic Research, Inc. Wesley C. Mitchell, Willford I. King, Frederick R. Macaulay, Oswald W. Knauth.

Volume I. (Summary) 7½ x 5¼ inches. xvi 152 pp., 29 tables, 31 charts. Indexed. Blue Cloth. Gold Lettering. \$1.58 postpaid.

Volume II. (Detailed Report) 9½ x 6½ inches, xiv 440 pp., 248 tables, 43 charts. Indexed. Blue Cloth. Gold Lettering \$5.15 postpaid.

Distribution of Income by States in 1919. By Oswald W. Knauth of the Staff of the National Bureau of Economic Research, Inc. (Second Printing) 9½ x 6¼ inches. v 30 pp., 9 tables. Blue Cloth. Gold Lettering. \$1.30 postpaid.

Business Cycles and Unemployment. An Investigation under the auspices of the National Bureau of Economic Research made for a Committee of the President's Conference on Unemployment. By the staff of the Bureau with 15 collaborators. This report summarizes the known facts of unemployment and describes the various methods suggested to control the business cycle and alleviate cyclical unemployment. It was planned to furnish a basis for the recommendations of the Business Cycle Committee, and as a guide to executives who have an active interest in stabilizing employment within their own organizations. Many practical suggestions are also made for the avoidance of the business losses that result during periods of excessive business expansion and depression. 9¼ x 6 inches, ix 405 pp., 56 tables, 56 charts. Indexed. Blue Cloth. Gold Lettering. \$4.10 postpaid.

Employment Hours and Earnings in Prosperity and Depression. United States, 1920-1922. By Willford Isbell King of the Staff of the National Bureau of Economic Research, Inc. Results of an Inquiry conducted by the National Bureau of Economic Research with the help of The Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates and The Bureau of the Census for The President's Conference on Unemployment. (Second Edition.)

Designed to meet the special needs of all persons interested in the study of labor conditions. Gives full details of investigation summarized in Business Cycles and Unemployment to which it is companion volume. 9¼ x 6¼ inches, 147 pp., 75 tables, 11 charts. Indexed. Blue Cloth. Gold Lettering. \$3.10 postpaid.

Persons who wish to receive early copies of all the publications of the Bureau as issued may enroll as contributing subscribers, paying a minimum of \$25 a year. In addition to receiving the publications, the contributing subscribers will be kept in touch with the work of the Bureau as it progresses, and with the work planned for the future.

An Organization
for Impartial
Investigation

NEWS-BULLETIN

National Bureau of Economic Research, Inc.

To Find Facts...
Divested of
Propaganda

Population of United States Gains 1,943,000 in Year

Remarkable Increase Due to Heavy Immigration and to Unusually Low Death Rate

THE population of the United States totaled 112,826,000 on January 1, 1924, according to estimates announced today by the National Bureau of Economic Research, Inc. This compares with 110,883,000 on January 1, 1923, and the census count of 105,711,000 on January 1, 1920.

The most remarkable gain was recorded in the last half of 1923, the net increase being 1,162,000, a growth greater than in any other half year during the last two decades, and probably greater than in any six months period in the nation's history. The gain for the entire year was 1,943,000.

Figures for Each Half Year

The National Bureau of Economic Research estimates the population of the Continental United States for each half year since January 1st, 1920 to have been approximately as follows:

January 1st, 1920.....	105,711,000
July 1st, 1920.....	106,422,000
January 1st, 1921.....	107,575,000
July 1st, 1921.....	108,533,000
January 1st, 1922.....	109,298,000
July 1st, 1922.....	109,898,000
January 1st, 1923.....	110,883,000
July 1st, 1923.....	111,664,000
January 1st, 1924.....	112,826,000

All the figures after January 1st, 1922 are necessarily tentative, for the Bureau of the Census has not as yet published complete monthly data for births and deaths covering the periods since 1921.

Connected With Income Investigation

Improved methods of estimating the Nation's population for the years following the Census count in 1920, were developed by the National Bureau of Economic Research in continuance of its studies of Income in the United States, and the relation of Income to Population. The procedure used by the National Bureau of Economic Research is explained in the following statement by Dr. Willford I. King under whose supervision the various figures were gathered:

"It is not so simple a matter as it seems to estimate the population of the United States by other methods than counting the people, as does the Census. For one thing, we do not have records of the births and deaths in all parts of the United States, since some states have not adopted advanced enough methods to justify the Bureau of the Census in including them within the 'registration area.' It is necessary, therefore, to make estimates for the entire nation on the basis of the figures for the 'registration area.'

"Furthermore, it is quite certain that even in the 'registration area' many births and some deaths are not recorded. An additional source of error lies in the fact that not all immigrants who cross our borders announce the fact, and hence the records of the Commissioner Gen-

eral of Immigration are certain to be more or less inaccurate.

How Population Is Estimated

"The method of computation pursued by the National Bureau of Economic Research in arriving at the figures just given is as follows:

"In each half year, the number of passengers leaving the United States either by rail or ship is subtracted from the number entering the United States during the same period, the remainder representing the assumed increase due to migration. To this figure, is added the estimated number of births appearing in the United States calculated by the following method: The number of married women between fifteen and forty-four years of age has been compared for the 'registration area' and for the entire United States in the Census years. A curve has been produced giving the estimated percentage of all such women in the 'registration area' in each year. The number of births in the 'registration area' in each half year has been divided by this percentage in order to arrive at the estimated number of births in the entire United States. This number of births has then been added to the increase in population due to migration. From this total, the estimated number of deaths during the half year is subtracted.

Determination of Actual Increase

"The number of deaths is arrived at by dividing the total number of deaths in the 'registration area' by the estimated fraction of the population of the United States residing in that area. The resulting quotient gives the estimated number of deaths for the country as a whole. By subtracting the number of deaths from the sum of net migration and births, a remainder is obtained which ought to give the actual increase in population during the half year.

"However, when this process was applied period by period during the last decade, it was found that the total arrived at for January 1, 1920 was materially less than the Census figures for that date. The presumption is that the deficiency arose mainly from two sources,—namely, first, incomplete records; second, unrecorded immigration. The assumption is made that both of these errors are continuing in the present decade although to a somewhat lesser degree than prevailed during the years 1910 to 1920. An empirical addition of forty thousand has therefore been added each half year in the hope of lessening this error. The totals given above were arrived at by the process here described.

Early Expectations Shattered

"The fact that the rate of increase in population during the decade 1910 to 1920 was considerably less than the corresponding rate during the previous ten years led many persons to anticipate that in the future we might look forward to a rate of population expansion considerably lower than that experienced during the last century.

"Such expectations have been rudely shattered by the events of the last four years, and especially by what occurred during the last half of 1923, in which period the rate of population growth was unusually high. The actual increase appears to have been greater than in any other half year during the last two decades, and probably greater than in any six months within the history of the nation.

"This unusual increase was due to two facts:—first, a very heavy recorded excess of immigration over emigra-

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NATIONAL BUREAU
OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH, INC.

THE National Bureau of Economic Research, Incorporated, was organized in 1920 in response to a growing demand for exact and impartial determinations of the facts bearing upon economic, social, and industrial problems.

The Bureau seeks not merely to determine facts, but to determine them under such auspices as shall make its findings carry conviction to Liberals and Conservatives alike. It deals only with topics of national importance which are susceptible of quantitative treatment.

By issuing its findings in the form of fact reports, entirely divorced from propaganda, the Bureau hopes to aid all thoughtful men, however divergent their views of public policy, to base their discussions upon objective knowledge as distinguished from subjective opinion.

No report of the Research staff may be published without the approval of the Board of Directors. Rigid provisions guard the Bureau from becoming a source of profit to its members, directors or officers, and from becoming an agency for propaganda.

The Bureau assumes no obligation to present or future contributors, except to determine and publish facts.

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RESEARCH STAFF OF
BUREAU STRENGTHENED

Dr. Edwin F. Gay who recently resigned as a member of the Board of Overseers of Harvard University to accept an appointment as Professor of Economic History at Harvard University, has been elected a member of the Research Staff of the National Bureau of Economic Research, with the title of director.

Dr. Gay was the first president of the National Bureau, serving two terms.

Since he will not assume his new duties at Harvard until next fall, he will be able to assist the National Bureau in speeding the completion of a number of investigations now under way, by relieving his co-director, Dr. Wesley C. Mitchell, of many administrative duties as well as the editing of manuscript. Dr. Mitchell will thus be able to concentrate on Business Cycles, an extensive investigation which the Bureau is conducting under his direction.

Dr. Mead Heads Reclamation Bureau

Dr. Elwood Mead, Professor of Rural Institutions of the University of California, who is a director-at-large of the National Bureau of Economic Research, was appointed Commissioner of Reclamation by Secretary of the Interior Work on April 3. His selection was made after he had been granted a leave of absence from his duties at the University.

Dr. Mead returned in December from a six months' service as Consulting Engineer in Australia in the planning of irrigation and development and study of land settlement in connection with a commission appointed by the British Government.

Professor Young Honored

Professor Allyn Young, Director-at-large of the National Bureau of Economic Research, has been elected a member of the International Statistical Institute. He is also the author of a chapter on Index numbers in the "Handbook of Mathematical Statistics," prepared by a committee of the National Research Council and published by the Houghton Mifflin Co. (1924). At the sessions of the Institute of Politics (Williamstown) August, 1924, Professor Young will conduct a series of conferences on Europe's Economic Rehabilitation.

Population Estimates

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tion, which increased our population by 505,000; and second, by the fact that the death rate was as low as has ever been recorded.

Application of Bureau's Method

"According to the estimates of the National Bureau of Economic Research, there were in the last half year about 1,238,000 births against some 621,000 deaths,—giving a net natural increase of about 617,000. This number added to the 505,000 gain from migration, totals 1,122,000, the estimated increase in population indicated by the Government reports for the last half of 1923 as compared with a similar estimate of total growth for the entire year amounting to 1,863,000. This yearly total may, in turn, be compared with a similarly calculated figure for 1920 of 1,784,000, for 1921 of 1,643,000, and for 1922 of 1,505,000.

"Since the Government reports apparently underestimate either births, immigration, or both by an average of 80,000 a year, it is necessary to add 320,000 to the sum of these four items in order to arrive at the final estimate of the gain for the four years,—namely, 7,115,000.

"It appears, then, that the average gain during the last four years was 1,778,750 a year as compared with an average increase of 1,418,100 during the decade 1910 to 1920."

One-third of Net Immigration from Border Countries

Women Now Have Slight Preponderance Over Men in Recent Additions of Aliens

THAT the contiguous countries of Canada and Mexico, whose residents do not come within the quota limit law, have added to the population of the United States a number almost equal to one-half that supplied by the remaining countries of the world, and that there is a preponderance of women in the net immigration of the last four years, is revealed in an analysis of the government immigration figures which were used by the National Bureau of Economic Research in estimating the size of the population for the years following the Census of 1920.

Increase in Population Analyzed

In a statement supplementing the estimates of Dr. Willford I. King, which show a population for the United States on January 1, 1924 of 112,826,000, Dr. Harry Jerome, who is in charge of an investigation of "Migration and the Business Cycle," analyzes that portion of the increase in population which is due to migration. After explaining that the recorded arrivals are classified by the Bureau of Immigration as citizens, alien immigrants, and alien non-immigrants, the latter consisting of those who declare an intention to make only a temporary sojourn in this country, Dr. Jerome said:

"In the four years since January 1, 1920, there has been a net loss, through an excess of departures over arrivals, of approximately 56,500 citizens; a net gain of 48,901 through an excess of alien non-immigrants over alien non-emigrants; and a net excess of 1,710,402 alien immigrants over alien emigrants.

Alien Immigration Studied

"All three of these classes were included in estimating the increase in population, but, because the available information is more detailed concerning them and because they constitute the great bulk of the net immigration, the analysis in the following paragraphs is restricted to the 1,710,402 excess of alien immigrants over alien emigrants.

"This net immigration of aliens in 1920-23 exceeds in number the total foreign born population in 1920 of Chicago, Philadelphia and Boston combined. It is larger, in fact, than the total 1920 population of any one city in the United States except New York, Chicago, or Philadelphia. It is within 300,000 of equaling the total foreign-born population of greater New York.

"The numbers by calendar years are shown in the following table, compiled from the publications of the Bureau of Immigration:

Year	Alien Immigrants	Alien Emigrants	Net Alien Immigration
1920	708,562	261,721	446,841
1921	563,905	245,978	317,927
1922	381,167	115,973	265,194
1923	751,050	70,610	680,440
Total in the four years.....	2,404,684	694,282	1,710,402

Fluctuations Are Explained

"The low figure for 1922 is accounted for in part by the effects of the quota law, and in part by the influence of the industrial depression of 1921. The large net immigration of 1923 is partly accounted for by a marked increase in immigration from Canada and Mexico, which countries are not within the scope of the quota limit law. The National Bureau of Economic Research is now engaged in a study of the relation between such changes

in migration and the industrial conditions in the United States and in the countries from which immigrants come.

"When immigrants are classified by country of last permanent residence, and emigrants by the country of intended future residence, we find that of the net alien immigration of approximately 1,700,000 in the last four years, somewhat less than one-third, or 524,389, came from Northern and Western Europe, as compared with 578,947 from Southern and Eastern Europe and Turkey in Asia, the region which is customarily designated as the source of the so-called 'new' immigration. Most of the remaining one-third came from Canada and Mexico.

Where They Come From

"The following table gives for the years 1920 to 1923 inclusive the alien immigration from and emigration to the countries which have contributed the largest net immigration:

Country of Last Permanent Residence	Alien Immigration	Alien Emigration	Net Alien Immigration
British North America..	383,936	17,325	366,611
Italy	418,038	159,712	258,326
United Kingdom	281,109	36,329	244,780
Mexico	185,350	17,853	167,497
Germany	140,764	13,790	126,974
Poland	182,506	98,986	83,520

"In considering the large net immigration from British North America, it should be noted that the figure given, 366,611, covers only the excess of alien immigrants from that region over alien emigrants to that region, and hence does not make allowance for the movement of United States citizens to and from Canada or for those aliens who are considered non-immigrants or non-emigrants because of the relatively temporary nature of their sojourn.

Contribution From the North

"As indicated by the following table, the immigration from Canada was particularly large in 1923.

Net Alien Immigration from British North America: 1920-1923

Calendar Year	Immigrants	Emigrants	Net Immigration
1920	85,549	6,290	79,259
1921	52,929	4,840	48,089
1922	63,089	3,608	59,481
1923	182,369	2,587	179,782
Total in the four years	383,936	17,325	366,611

"When the total net immigration is analyzed by race rather than by country of last permanent residence, we find that of every 1,000 aliens added to our population by the net immigration in 1920-23, 160 were Hebrews, 133 South Italians, 115 English, 111 Germans, and 95 Mexicans. The Japanese contributed 11,709, or about 7 of every 1,000. Some races show a net loss; for example, the immigrant Poles number 60,253, the emigrant Poles 95,986.

Explanation of Apparent Discrepancy

"It will be noted that while the number of immigrants from Poland exceeds the number of emigrants to that country, more Poles departed from the United States in the four years than entered. The explanation of this apparent discrepancy is found in the fact that a large proportion of the immigrants from Poland are not of the Polish race. After the Great War the Poles returned in large numbers to the newly organized Poland, while many thousands of the non-Polish races left Poland for the United States.

"The migration of recent years has not been so preponderantly male as in the pre-war period. In the net immigration of the four years from January 1st, 1910 to January 1st, 1914, 612 of every thousand were males; but in the four years just passed, only 496. In other words, the recent gain in population through immigration has been almost evenly divided between the sexes.

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