

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
IMMIGRATION SERVICE

DISTRICT No. 11

IN ANSWERING REFER TO  
No. 2500-M/1

OFFICE OF DISTRICT DIRECTOR  
130 W. LAMAR STREET  
DETROIT, MICHIGAN

RECEIVED  
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JAN 5 1925

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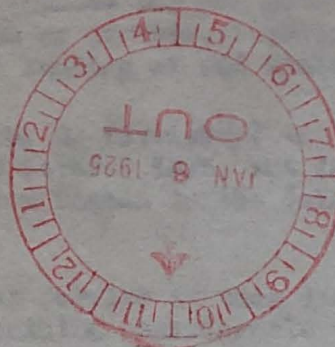
January 3, 1925.

Hon. W. W. Husband,  
Commissioner-General of Immigration,  
Washington, D.C.

I beg to transmit herewith as of possible interest  
report covering activities of the Patrol Officers under Inspector  
In Charge, Ruel E. Davenport, in the Marine City District, for  
the month of December, 1924.

*[Signature]*  
District Director.

PLP-D  
Inc.-14800.



*[Handwritten signature]*



IN ANSWERING REFER TO

No. 2500-M/1

(C O P Y )

OFFICE OF DISTRICT DIRECTOR

130 W. LARNED STREET

Marine City, ~~DETROIT~~ MICHIGAN

FROM: Patrol Inspector in Charge,  
Marine City, District.

December 31, 1924.

TO: District Director, U.S. Immigration Service,  
Detroit, Michigan.

(Through Inspector in Charge, Port Huron.)

SUBJECT: Report of activities and conditions for month of December.

1. The past month has brought a number of changes in local conditions which necessitates a revised working schedule, which will permit the regular ferry landings in this district to be covered by Patrol Inspectors in the absence of the regular line Inspectors. This is made necessary by the fact that it is possible to walk across the ice at a number of places.
2. On Friday, Dec. 19, the ice began to run in the St. Clair river and two days later the river was blocked from Roberts Landing to Anchor Bay Beach. The ferry at Roberts Landing ceased operating at this time. By Sunday noon the Marine City Ferry ceased operation because of ice packs. By Tuesday, Dec. 23, the river was blocked 5 miles north of Marine City and a short time later Whitely Ferry people made two trips with row-boat on skids. This was dangerous work in daylight and practically impossible at night.
3. The extremely cold weather of the last few days has made the matter of crossing the river on foot perfectly safe in a number of places, and at Marine City, Roberts Landing, Algonac and St. Clair regular paths have been staked out.
4. Up to this time very few persons have crossed at points other than those above mentioned. Persons found crossing at unmarked places have been directed to use regular paths by our men, with the alternative of being returned to Canada or being detained for investigation.
5. We are keeping sharp lookout for new paths being marked out in daylight for possible use at night and by periodical motor patrols along the district we are able to guard against landing at odd spots along the river.
6. From Harsens Island (U. S. Territory) to the mainland, below Algonac autos have been crossing for several days, but inquiry shows that at this time it is not possible to get from Canada to the Island, although this will be a problem later.
7. The feeling toward our Service in this district is very good at present and we have succeeded in obtaining considerable valuable information from various sources, with offers of assistance in a number of ways.
8. The morale of the men under very disagreeable weather conditions has been



fine, they are biting into it with no other complaint than to <sup>cuss</sup> the weather, which is the natural thing, it seems, for a red-blooded man to do.

9. Personell:

	( By Resignation - 1.
Losses in December (	( By Transfer - 1.
	Total - 2.
Gains in December (	( By Transfer - 1.
	( By Appointment - 2.
	Total - 3.

Number of men on duty:

Patrol Inspectors	-10
Patrol Inspector in Charge	- 1
Grand Total	11

10. Transportation:

1 Ford Touring Car.  
2 Harley Davidson Motorcycles.  
All in fair condition.

11. Aliens apprehended and turned over to Inspector in Charge, Earl F. Coe, for disposition after examination by Patrol Inspector in Charge:

Frederick de Vries -	Hollander.
J. J. De Mal -	do
Johannes Wesferwold-	do
John Fingerbold -	Belgian
Mary Fingerbold -	do
Josef Bieske -	do
Peter Kooistra -	do
Helena Gowwloos -	do .

In addition to above, a number of American and Canadian citizens, who made landings at private docks, were detained and examined, but were released with warnings against a repetition of the act.

12. Writer has kept in touch with the different line inspectors in the district and assisted in every way possible.

13. On Tuesday night, Dec. 30, Patrol Inspectors Ray and Hayward, stationed at office at Roberts Landing at 9:00 P.M., halted two men who were landing from Canada, pulling a sled heavily loaded.

14. Examination showed them to be C. F. Roberts, Algonac and Robert Sampson, Detroit, both American citizens. Mr. Roberts, customs officer was notified regarding the sled load, which upon examination by Customs proved to be 12 cases of Regal Beer, 1 case of Corby's whiskey and one quart bottle of Corby's whiskey.

Mr. Roberts seemed ignorant of how to handle the matter, although after requesting the assistance of one of our Patrol Inspectors they were taken to Algonac and locked up by him.



15. It is the policy of undersigned to take no direct action in the matter of liquor smuggling, but to call the case to the attention of the proper authorities, and let them assume responsibility for the arrest, lending every assistance in our power.

16. A number of Marine City business men have conceived the bright idea of clubbing together and paying men to stake out a path across the river several hundred yards north of the regular trail leading to the Custom office.

17. They are frank in saying that it is done to divert travel to the other section of the town, regardless of the fact they would be evading Customs and Immigration inspection at the regular point.

18. Writer has stationed men at the U. S. end of the new trail with instructions to allow no one to land, sending them to the regular Customs office. This has caused some adverse criticism, but is absolutely necessary for the good of the Service.

19. Conditions at Harsens Island, South of Algonac call for special attention, as an auto road leads from the island to Algonac and a point south of that city. It is possible to come from Canada to Harsen's Island and from there to U.S. This necessitates regular inspection and this is difficult with the small force available, however we are doing the best possible.

Wed. P.M., Dec. 31, received authentic information of the probable landing of a large amount of liquor near Algonac. Notified Lieut. Walker, of the State Police, who will send men to co-operate with me in handling the situation.

Respectfully Submitted

Ruel E. Davenport,  
Patrol Inspector in Charge,  
Marine City District.

P. S. During the month offices were established in the Hale P. Saph Building, 2nd floor. The rooms overlook the river which it is possible to view for a number of miles from the balcony.

The office has proven its value in furnishing a place where our business can be transacted in private and furnishes an excellent place for the examination and temporary detention of aliens.

While the equipment is very meagre as yet we are getting along very well and hope for the balance soon. A typewriter is a real necessity, as there is considerable correspondence going from here, as, witness this report, for one item. I am in hopes it will be possible to receive one in the near future.

R. E. Davenport.

SGD