

Respectfully referred, in duplicate, to Hon. Harry D. Hull, Commissioner-General of Immigration, Washington, D. C., for his information and possible interest.

[Signature]
District Director.

No. 2645

RECEIVED

OFFICE OF DISTRICT DIRECTOR

130 W. LARNED STREET
DETROIT, MICHIGAN

JAN 8 1925

January 4, 1925.

**OFFICE OF
COMMISSIONER GENERAL**

From: Inspector in Charge, Border Patrol, Detroit.
To: District Director of Immigration, Detroit.
Subject: Report of Activities for Month of December, 1925.

1. The reported decrease in employment in Canada, and the prevailing cold weather no doubt accounts for the renewed activity toward surreptitious entry to the United States among European and Asiatic aliens now in Canada. As a result quite a number of arrests have been made by officers of this Service and those co-operating. During the later part of the month the St. Clair and Detroit rivers were frozen over at some points, allowing travel over the ice.

2. Beginning with the winter months the work of our force is greatly increased by the ability of the aliens to cross over the ice without the aid of the professional smuggler and his heavy tax. Visibility is high during this season of the year, especially over frozen surface, but the free use of all of our transportation is essential in order that we may investigate all persons observed walking the ice. The handicap of limited fuel for our cars will be felt by our officers in covering the territory.

3. The St. Clair River, under the jurisdiction of the Marine City detachment, is frozen across and, unlike last winter, the ice is smooth, permitting the free use of skates, sleds and a number of ice-boats. While no instance of smuggling by these means has been observed as yet, the fact remains that the opportunity is there and only constant swift motor patrolling will prevent same.

4. As you are aware, the Marine City sub-district has a border line of approximately eighty-five miles, about forty miles of which is along the St. Clair River, a greater portion of which can be crossed by one or all of the methods mentioned above or by using boats with skids, which can be rowed in open water or skidded over the ice.

5. Following is a resume of accomplishments for the month:

F. L. [Signature]

- Dec. 1. Alexa Sumanz arrested in Springwells. E.W.I. To Inspector in Charge of Port for disposition.
- Dec. 1. Patrol Inspectors Zaremba and Glavin apprehended two aliens and one smuggler as they landed from rowboat near foot of Tenth Street at 8:10 P.M. Turned over to Law Division. Boat to Harbormaster.
- Dec. 2. Patrol Inspectors Zaremba and Stevens apprehended two aliens as they landed from rowboat on Belle Isle at 11:30 P.M. To Law Division. Boat was a stolen one. Was left with Harbormaster.
- Dec. 9. Patrol Inspector Blakemore arrested two aliens as they landed from rowboat near foot of Eighth Street at 9:05 P.M. To Law Division. Boat sunk.
- Dec. 10. Patrol Inspectors Keene and Britt arrested two aliens on Belle Isle at 8:30 P.M. To Law Division. Boat not secured.
- Dec. 12. Officers of Ecorse City Police arrested one alien and one suspected smuggler, as they stepped from rowboat. This office notified and took charge of prisoners. Boat was left at Ecorse. Law Division advised.
- Dec. 14. Customs Inspectors arrested Albert Minnick for liquor violations. Turned over to this office. Referred to Ferry Office.
- Dec. 15. Patrol Inspectors Keane and Palmer, assisted by Customs Patrol Inspectors, apprehended three aliens and one smuggler as they landed from a small boat near foot of Campus Street at 5:15 P.M. The aliens were concealed by several cases of liquor and other articles. Aliens and smuggler handled by this Department. Liquor and boat to Customs for disposition.
- Dec. 16. Patrol Inspectors Fenner and Schmitt apprehended Adolph Littmore at request of Inspector in Charge of Port of Detroit. Turned over to that office.
- Dec. 17. Michigan State Police apprehended six aliens, among them two Chinese, as they were crossing the Grosse Ile bridge to the mainland. Our Wyandotte station took them in charge and were instructed by this office to bring them to Headquarters. To Law Division for disposition.
- This shows a fine spirit of co-operation by the State Police, for which we are of course duly thankful.

- Dec. 20. Patrol Inspectors Payne and Middleton apprehended two aliens as they were wandering on Belle Isle. Investigation developed they had crossed in rowboat. To Law Division.
- Dec. 27. Patrol Inspectors Scribner and Wiley of the Wyandotte Detail, at the request of Mr. Hutchison, Canadian citizen, arrested his wife, Belle Hutchison, and Raymond J. Sawyer with whom she was living in Detroit, after entering illegally. These persons turned over to B.S.I. for disposition.
- Dec. 29. Patrol Inspectors Scribner and Wiley of the Wyandotte sub-district in attempting to capture a group of suspected aliens who were crossing the ice at River Rouge fell through and had great difficulty in dragging themselves clear. It is dangerous work using too much haste on the ice in this vicinity as it is full of air holes.
- Dec. 30. Mike Nelson, Norwegian, previously rejected at the Detroit and Windsor Ferry, was arrested by River Rouge Police as he crossed on the ice from Canada. Turned over to Inspector in Charge of Port of Detroit.

6. Personnel:

A. Some changes in our personnel occurred during the month and a number of transfers within the district were recommended for the good of the Service.

B. As a result of the investigation of report of confidential agent from Bureau, concerning misconduct of certain Patrol Inspectors at Marine City sub-district, Officers Britt and Schmitt were transferred to Detroit sub-district and severely reprimanded by District Director and the writer. Also, Patrol Inspector Astorino of Marine City was likewise reprimanded. All were warned that a repetition would mean recommendation for dismissal.

C. In this connection I desire to say that in my opinion the solution to our sub-district problem lies in the official status of the officers in charge. The mere designation of Patrol Inspectors as "Acting Patrol Inspector in Charge", without additional compensation, seems to lack that "something" which solicits the respect and exacts the obedience to orders that a title conferred officially by the Bureau, with accompanying salary increase, would carry.

*Attention
summed*

D. On duty December 1st	56
Loss during December:	
By resignation	1
Promotion to	
Immigrant Inspector	1
Transfer	<u>1</u>
	<u>3</u>
	53
Gain by new appointment	<u>1</u>
	54
Vacancies	<u>5</u>
Quota	59

Temporary vacancy caused by suspension of Patrol Inspector Morrison on December 4th.

E. Authority has been received for appointment of eligibles to replace Patrol Inspector Coughlin, Detroit, resigned and Patrol Inspector Chrisman, Marine City, resigned, leaving vacancies as follows:

- 1 - Marine City, vice Haynes, transferred;
- 1 - Detroit, vice Fenner, promoted to Immigrant Inspector;
- 1 - Wyandotte, vice Aurner, resigned.

7. Transportation:

Ford touring cars	8
Harley-Davidson motorcycle and sidecar	1
Detroit sub-district:	
Ford cars	4
Motorcycles	1
Wyandotte sub-district:	
Ford cars	2
Marine City and Port Huron sub-district:	
Ford cars	2

All vehicles in first class shape, with exception of one Ford car in Detroit, which is being repaired by our mechanic at a minimum expense.

CONCERNING VIOLATIONS OF CUSTOMS REGULATIONS

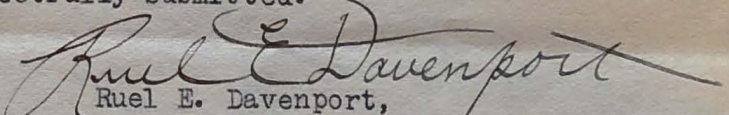
- Dec. 9. Patrol Inspectors Keane and Fulcher seized two hundred sixteen pints of Canadian beer near foot of Alter Road, 10:30 P.M. Turned over to Grosse Pointe Park Police. No arrests.
- Dec. 15. Patrol Inspectors Palmer and Keane, assisted by Customs Patrol Inspectors, seized two hundred forty pints of beer,

one outboard motor and one eighteen foot boat near foot of Eighth Street. To Customs. No arrests.

- Dec. 19. Patrol Inspectors Payne and Clark seized one cabin cruiser containing about one hundred fifty bags of assorted liquors, about 9:00 A.M. Customs Officers advised about 9:30 A.M. One Customs Officer appeared on scene at 12:15 P.M., but refused to accept seizure without additional instructions. He left, saying he would return soon. About three hours later Patrol Inspector Zilmer of this Service, who had been guarding the seizure for about six hours, left the scene temporarily to call Headquarters for instructions. Upon his return City Police officers were on the scene and pointed to a tug-boat headed for the Canadian shore, remarking "There goes the whiskey". Investigation showed but nine sacks remained of the cargo. Customs Officials arrived at 5:15 P.M. to take charge of the liquor. They burned the boat on the spot. Approximately seven hours had elapsed from the time Customs Officials were notified until they took over the seizure. While in writer's opinion Patrol Inspector Zilmer erred in leaving the seizure, even temporarily, there is considerable grounds for excuse because of conditions surrounding the affair. No arrests.

- Dec. 29. Patrol Inspectors Scribner and Wiley seized three sacks containing about seventy-two pints of beer, which had been abandoned by persons who were frightened into returning to Canada on the ice. No arrests.

Respectfully submitted.


Ruel E. Davenport,
Inspector in Charge,
Border Patrol.

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