

May 25, 1928.

District Director,  
U. S. Immigration Service,  
El Paso, Texas.

In compliance with your verbal instructions, the following report is submitted as to the qualifications for promotion to the position of Chief Patrol Inspector of Patrol Inspector Harry V. Ellis:

This officer entered the Border Patrol October 11, 1926, at El Paso, Texas, and with the exception of three months during 1927, worked under the writer's supervision. The writer was very favorably impressed with Mr. Ellis from the first and expected him to rapidly ripen into Chief Patrol Inspector material. It is believed that this expectation was shared by Mr. George J. Harris, who was then Supervisor of the Patrol. However, as time went on and the work of this officer was compared with that of others of apparent lesser qualifications, it became noticeable that as a patrol inspector Mr. Ellis was but mediocre--a fine-appearing, gentlemanly officer of sterling character, yes; but an energetic, "go-getting" patrol inspector, no. As the writer views the qualifications of this officer, he cannot escape the impression that he is somewhat lacking in that one very essential qualification--initiative. This was not so noticeable at El Paso where duty on the river was performed almost exclusively, but at Belen, New Mexico, the results accomplished by Patrol Inspector Ellis, in charge, as compared with the accomplishments of Senior Patrol Inspector Limenkohl would seem to indicate that the same degree of initiative (and perhaps training) was not brought to bear by Mr. Ellis. However, this is not always a fair comparison, for even the business of our Service takes slumps.

Mr. Ellis is at present in charge of the Deming station, which is known to be a steady producer for an intelligent worker in the Patrol Service, and the writer confidently believes that he will make good at that point and will merit promotion at such time as he sees fit to apply himself to the task of learning Spanish--a very essential qualification for a Senior Patrol Inspector to possess in this district.

Even though Patrol Inspector Ellis had demonstrated all of the essential qualifications fitting him for the position of Chief Patrol Inspector, he could not at this time be considered for that position in view of the fact that he has not passed the immigrant-inspector examination.

(SGD) Nick D. Collaer  
Assistant Superintendent.

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