

May 4, 1928.

Rev. O.J. Kvale,
Congressman of Minnesota,
Room 474, Office Bldg.,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Rev. Kvale:-

I thank you for your letter of recent date and am glad to note that you are taking hold of the problem of securing a Religious Census of the U.S. population in 1930 by adding a question "What is your church membership or affiliation?" to the regular decennial census schedule.

Today I received a copy of the Fourth Census of the State of South Dakota taken in the year 1925. You will find the religious census items on pages 167 to 174. What can be done in one state surely is possible in all of the states or by all of the states.

Thanking you for your interest and cooperation in this matter and with personal greetings, I am

Very sincerely,

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The National Origins Provision of the New
Immigration Law.

By the author
The National Origins Provision of the new Immigration Law provides that the total annual quota for all countries shall be reduced from 166,667 to 150,000 beginning July 1, 1928. We are not so much disturbed by the reduction of the quota as by its distribution between the various nations. This Law is a hard blow at Germany and Scandinavia in favor of Great Britain, Italy and Russia.

This Law was inspired by the fear that the American institutions were being endangered and that the so-called Nordic race was in danger of being outnumbered. A. Caminetti, Commissioner General of Immigration, said in his annual report in 1920:

"The existence of a large element in some and a considerable percentage in others of the nations of Europe, as well as in some countries beyond its boundaries, who do not believe in government, in the commonly accepted sense, representatives of which have avowed hostility to and advocated the destruction of ours, presents a situation that, though difficult, must be met from the standpoint of complete safety to our institutions. Unless there can be found a way to eliminate the danger of the entry of this element, it would appear that strong restrictive measures are necessary to assure protection to our institutions and safeguard our people."

In order, then, to safeguard our people and the American institutions the House of Representatives in December, 1920, with little opposition, passed a bill to suspend practically all immigration for the time being. It should be remembered that in 1917 Congress had passed a general Immigration Bill which included the literacy provision over the President's veto. This literacy test was felt to be only a frail barrier against the promised rush from the war-stricken countries of Europe. Hence, the 1920 bill. This 1920 bill, however, failed to become a law because of the veto of President Wilson. A new bill was therefore enacted, which, with President Harding's approval, became a law on May 19, 1921. This law expired by limitation June 30, 1922; but by act of May 11, 1922, its life was extended to June 30, 1924. This act is known as the Quota Law and is the first strictly immigration law in the United States which provides for actually limiting the number of aliens, other than Asiatics, who may be admitted to the United States.

In 1924 a new Immigration Act was passed, also known as the Quota Act, which in its section A provides that the annual quota of any nationality shall be 2% of the number of foreign born individuals of such nationality resident in continental United States, as determined by the United States Census in 1890. In section B of the 1924 act, there is a provision that the annual quota of any nationality for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1927, and for each fiscal year thereafter, shall be a number which bears the same ratio to 150,000 as the number of inhabitants in continental United States in 1920 having that national origin bears the number of inhabitants in continental United States in 1920. This is known as the National Origins Plan. It did not go into effect on July 1, 1927. Congress by special and independent action during the last session, postponed the operative date of this plan for one year. This National Origins Plan should be repealed, as it works injustice and hardships both to the Scandinavian and Germans immigrants and to the American people, whom this Immigration Act aims to protect.

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It reduces the number of immigrants from Scandinavia and Germany far out of proportion to the character of these peoples. In 1922 when the first quota law went into effect, Germany was allowed 68,059 immigrants per year and Scandinavia 37,938, of whom 5,694 were assigned to Denmark, 12,202 to Norway, 20,042 to Sweden. In 1925 when the present immigration law was in effect, the German quota was reduced to 51,227 and the Scandinavian to 18,803, of whom 2,789 were Danes, 6,453 were Norwegians and 9,561 were Swedes. By the National Origins Law the German quota is still further reduced to 23,428, the Scandinavian to 6,570, of whom 1,044 are allotted to Denmark, 2,267 to Norway, and 3,259 to Sweden.

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The present law which is section A of the 1924 Immigration Act, as already stated, is based on the immigrant population in the United States in 1890, and is probably as fair an act as can be devised. Harry E. Hull, Commissioner General of Immigration, says in his annual report for 1927 concerning this section that the "foreign and general quality of immigration resulting therefrom is more satisfactory than the quantity and quality of any immigration reported in the three decades prior to 1921. This basis," he said, "certainly should not be tampered with." But according to the National Origins Plan, which is to become a law on July 1, 1928, the immigration from Scandinavia and Germany will

be greatly reduced; that of Germany to 45% of its present quota; that of Scandinavia to 35%. On the other hand the quota of England, Italy, Russia, Austria and Hungary have doubled by the National Origins provision. 2a

It can be shown, it has been shown, that the National Origins tables used by Congress are unscientific, incorrect and misleading. The Scandinavians and Germans have been immigrating in great numbers to this country during the century that is passed and form a much more considerable element of the American population than the National Origins tables admit. This has been shown in an article on National Origins in the "Lutheran World Almanac" for 1928, which was quoted in full in the "Congressional Record" for January 17, 1928. On the basis of National Origin then, the quotas assigned to Scandinavia and Germany by the National Origins Provision is too small.

Again, the aim of the new immigration law being to conserve the Nordic stock and the American institutions defeats itself when it turns against the Scandinavians and Germans, for these two groups in race, language, history, ideals, customs and institutions are closer to the original settlers of the United States in America than any other immigrant peoples, outside of Great Britain itself. If anything, they are more Nordic than the English speaking race. They have the same love for home and liberty, the same respect for religion and law. They are God-fearing and law-abiding, hard-working and thrifty. They easily learn the language of the land and make the ideals of America their own. In fact, they held these ideals before they came here, and they have enriched this land in innumerable ways by their Christian idealism, patriotic devotion, sacrificing toil as frontiers men, unswerving loyalty in peace and war. They represent the most literate countries in the world, the most enlightened religion and the richest contributions to civilization and culture in every field. They came here with strong bodies, willing minds, loyal hearts to make America their home. It is hardly right to classify them with the various classes of undesirables, such as the criminal, pauper, defective and diseased. ¶ In proof of the high character of the Scandinavian and German peoples in America, we beg to quote from a few authorities on this question; Norli's "History of the Norwegian People in America," page 81 to 88, on the Germans, Swedes and Danes:

The Germans: According to Douglas Campbell, A.B. Faust, E. A. Ross, and J. R. Commons and the census reports, every fourth white person in the United States is a German. The Germans came here early-- there was a "German--Tyrker--along with Leif Erickson in the year 1000. There were Germans along with the Dutch, and the first governor of New Netherlands was Peter Minuit, a German. William Penn shrewdly mixed business with religion. In his trip to the Rhineland in 1677, he made converts and induced them to buy land in Pennsylvania, the first band reaching Germantown in 1683. Francis II of France used harsh measures against the Lutherans in his realm. He employed every refinement of cruelty, such as, burnings and hangings as after dinner entertainment for the ladies. This led to an exodus of Lutherans. Most of them came to America. Angry at the Germans and Dutch for sheltering his hunted subjects, Louis XIV of France invaded the Palatinate which became the scene of French fire, pillage, rapine and slaughter. The people were expected to change their religion to suit their rulers. At the same time they were forbidden to emigrate on pain of death. Tired of these long-endured miseries, the French and German Lutherans, under the pro-

tection and aid of England, came to America. They settled in New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, the Carolinas and Georgia. Pennsylvania especially attracted them, on account of which it has been called the German-American's Holy Land. In 1790, 176,707, or 5.6% of the people in the United States had German surnames. During the past 100 years they have come to America for religious, political and economic reasons. Between 1839 and 1845 many Lutherans left their Fatherland because they resented the attempts of their leaders to unite the Lutherans and Reformed faiths. Here in America their conservatism in doctrine and practice has created the Missouri and Wisconsin Synods and the Synodical Conference.

The chief reason why Germans have come to America has been the economic one--America needed men to open up the West and America paid better wages than did Germany. When Germany began to develop her own industries, the migration from Germany began to fall off. Over 90% of the German immigrants have come from the poorer classes, who settled on the frontiers and worked in the humbler stations in the cities, factories and mines. Political exiles, who came here after the revolutions of 1830 and 1848, were mainly from the upper classes. Among them were university professors, professional men, journalists, and aristocrats, who have been influential in creating a sentiment for German culture, political idealism, social radicalism and religious skepticism. The great body of Germans have been God-fearing, law-abiding, hard-working and thrifty, loyal to this country in war and peace. They have been rather slow to give up the German language and ways entirely, but this is no evil trait, and America has richly gained thereby. The Germans have given America, not only willing workers on farms and in factories, but large contributions in education, science, music, art and religion.

The German is of close kin to the Englishman and the Scandinavian; originally these peoples were of the same race and language. He had the same spirit and ideals as they.

From the time of Charlemagne Germany has been rather too much under the influence of Rome, on account of which the real Teutonic spirit as shown by the Norwegian Vikings, has at times been suppressed. It broke out in Luther and the Reformation, but not as completely as in Scandinavia and Great Britain. Hence 40% of Germany is still Roman Catholic.

The Germans make good neighbors and excellent citizens, but they have never taken a leading part in politics to the extent of furnishing the country with its chief executives.

"In the colonial period," says John W. Burgess, "almost the entire western border of our country was occupied by Germans. It fell to them, therefore, to defend the colonists from the attack of the French and Indians." Had it not been for Germans like Conrad Weiser this country might still have been French instead of English. The Germans were the first to protest against English misrule. Washington had a German body-guard. Baron Steuben and Peter Muhlenberg were two of Washington's most trusted generals. The first speaker of the House of Representatives was F. A. Muhlenberg. The first protest against human slavery on American territory was made by Germans at Germantown, April 18, 1688. Lincoln seems to have had a German ancestry, his family name being Linkhorn. Thirty per cent of the soldiers in the Union Army were German, although

at that time the Germans comprised less than 20% of the people. The first ten Amendments to the Federal Constitution providing for religious free - dom and other natural rights, have their roots in the German Reformation. In the recent World War when nearly all the powers of the world fought against their Fatherland, German-Americans were loyal to the United States despite a propaganda of suspicion and uncalled for persecution.

The Swedes: The Swedes and Danes are in race, language, history, customs, religion, etc., more like the Norwegians than any of the other peoples in America. They have as a rule occupied the same section of the country, worked at the same tasks, been equally successful. They have been on good terms, often working hand in hand. In church matters, for

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example, there has been much cooperation. Of the Norwegian men who do not take Norwegian girls to wife, 55.1% marry Swedish girls, 10.8% marry Danish, 4.5% marry Finnish, 8.5% marry German, and 14.8% marry British and Canadian, whereas only 6.3% marry non-Teutons. Of the Norwegian women who do not take Norwegian men as husbands, 52.4% marry Swedes, 18.0% marry Danes, 2.6% marry Finns, 8.8% marry Germans, 12.9% marry Britishers and Canadians, whereas only 5.5% marry non-Teutons. The Norwegians, then, seem to be closer to the Swedes and Danes than to any of their other neighbors. This is, at least, the case with the first generation, concerning which these statistics apply.

The Swedes in America, as also in Europe, are as numerous as both the Norwegians and the Danes put together. Sweden was one of the great European powers in the 17th century, and her king, Gustavus Adolphus, called the "Lion of the North" and the "Snow King", intended to compete with England and Holland in the colonization of the New World. But there was being waged at that time a most bitter and bloody struggle, the Thirty Years' War, between the Catholic and Protestant forces in Germany. The Swedish king took his army into Germany and saved Protestantism, although at the price of his own life, for he was killed at the Battle of Lützen in 1632. It was not until 1637 that the plan to establish a colony in America could be taken up in earnest, and, unfortunately, it had soon to be abandoned. The first expedition of Swedes to reach America arrived at Fort Christina (now Wilmington), Delaware, in March, 1638. The west bank of the Delaware as far north as Philadelphia was at once brought of the Indians; forts, churches, and other buildings were erected and arrangements were made for farming,

trading with the Indians and doing missionary work among them. New Sweden, as the colony was called, was to include Delaware, New Jersey, and parts of Maryland and Pennsylvania. In 1655 the Dutch made war on these peaceable neighbors and laid claim to the territory. In 1664 the English took possession of the land. Meanwhile the Swedes developed their colony as best they could under Dutch and English supremacy, and were in many respects the finest of the early colonists. They issued an edict of toleration the very first year of their stay, and were, in fact, with the exception of Pennsylvania, the only colony that practised toleration. They were the first to treat the Indians fair and square and to try to Christianize them. When William Penn in 1682 sailed up the Delaware looking for a site for a city, he chose a spot where stood a Lutheran church and a Swedish village. The Swedes had been there almost fifty years when he arrived and took possession. He called the village Philadelphia. Two of the early Swedish churches are still standing, the Wilmington, dating from 1699, and the Gloria Dei Church, in Philadelphia, dating from 1700. On July 4, 1776, the Liberty Bell was rung by a member of the Lutheran Church. The first American flag was made by Betsy Ross and the women of the Swedish Gloria Dei Church. Between 1642 and 1779 Sweden sent to this colony 41 pastors. After the Revolutionary War the missionaries were recalled and the Episcopal Church gradually took over all the Lutheran congregations of the early Swedes as their brothers, and on various occasions the Indians state that they were unlike the white people of Virginia, "who always shoot the Red man dead when they find him in the woods." William Penn said of them: "They have fine children and almost every house full; rare to find one of them without three or four boys and as many girls; some six, seven and eight sons. And I must do them right--I see few young men more sober and industrious." In the colonial period John Hanson, a Maryland Swede, was the first president of the "United States in Congress assembled," and John Morton, a Pennsylvania Swede, was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. J. Fenimore Cooper, the novelist, was of combined English and Swedish descent. The Swedes of more recent immigration have all the good qualities of the settlers on the Delaware and have made good in many conspicuous ways. The country still talks of Jenny Lind and Christina Nilsson, Swedish singers who sojourned in America for a season. The country will not soon forget the services of John Ericsson and John A. Dahlgren during the Civil War. Ericsson was the inventor of the Monitor, which defeated the Merrimac, and Dahlgren was the inventor of the Dahlgren gun. These two inventions revolutionized naval warfare.

Citizens of Swedish lineage have contributed in great share to the material progress of America and have made valuable additions to its

St. Paul

cultural life. They have cleared and cultivated over 12,000,000 acres of land, a little over 4% of the total cultivated area. They gave 12.5% of their total population to the United States in the World War. On the same basis, if all nationalities, including the native-born, had contributed an equal share, our armies during the war would have totaled 12,500,000 men. They have built over 2,000 churches and contributed more to church schools per capita than any other nationality. They have a good record as authors, editors, musicians, artists, inventors and manufacturers. They have held many political offices, including six governorships. In an article under the caption "Minnesota," by George Fitch, copyrighted in 1912 by the "Globe," the author writes in part as follows about Gov. John A. Johnson: "But Minnesota's greatest feat in citizen-producing was John A. Johnson, who would have mixed up the Democratic convention in Baltimore more than ever had he lived. Minnesota mourns his death sincerely, but has 100,000 more Johnsons in training and will yet produce a president of that name." Thomas F. Bayard, who had lived in a Swedish community, said in 1888, at the 250th anniversary of the Swedish immigration: "I make bold to say that no better stock has been contributed (in proportion to its numbers) towards giving a solid basis to society under republican forms, than these hardy, honest, law-abiding, God-fearing Swedish settlers."

The Danes The Danes comprise a relatively small group, their total number being only about 1% of the white population in the United States. They rank in point of numbers eleventh among the white races in America, the Germans being No. 1, the English No. 2, the Irish No. 3, the Canadians No. 4, the Austria-Hungarians No. 5, the Russians No. 6, the Italians No. 7, the Swedes No. 8, the Scotch No. 9, the Norwegians No. 10, the Danes No. 11, the Dutch No. 12, the Welsh No. 13, the Mexicans No. 14, the French No. 15, etc. While the Scandinavians are found in all part of the United States they are not distributed everywhere in the same proportion. In the eight New England and Middle Atlantic States, for example, the foreign-born Scandinavians in 1920 were distributed as follows: Danes 16.7%, Norwegians 12.1%, Swedes 24.2%. In the 16 Southern States for that year 2.8% of the Danes were located, 1.8% of the Norwegians, 1.9% of the Swedes. In the eleven Mountain and Pacific states were to be found 25.2% of the Danes, 18.2% of the Norwegians, and 17.5% of the Swedes; and in the twelve North Central, also called Northwestern, states we find 65.3% of the Danes, 68.3% of the Norwegians, and 56.4% of the Swedes. As to the ranking states, California had 9.9% of the Danes, Iowa 9.5% and Illinois 9.0%; Minnesota had 24.8% Norwegians, Wisconsin 12.5%, North Dakota 10.5%; Minnesota had 17.9% Swedes, Illinois 16.9% and New York 8.5%.

The Danes were early interested in America. It will be remembered that King Christian I of Denmark sent the John Scolvus expedition to America in 1476 to discover the "Cod Fish Country." In 1568 King Frederick II sent an expedition to find Greenland, and after that various parties were sent in 1605, 1607, 1612, 1652, 1653, 1654, etc. In 1721 Hans Egede, a Norwegian pastor, was sent to Greenland to take up missionary work, and in 1619 the Norwegian captain Jens Munk was sent by King Christian IV to find the Northwest Passage. Munk re-discovered the Hudson Bay, only eight years after Hudson himself, and took possession of Canada naming it New Denmark. He had along a Lutheran pastor, Rev. Rasmus Jensen (Aarhus), who was the first Lutheran pastor in America. In 1724 King Frederick IV sent Vitus Bering on an exploring

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expedition, which resulted in the discovery of the Bering Strait between Asia and North America. In 1733 Denmark bought the Virgin Islands in the West Indies from France, and in 1916 these islands were sold to the United States.

It has been claimed that Henrik Hudson was a Dane. However that may be, it is certain that there were Danes with him when he discovered the Hudson River, which he at that time called Mauritius Floden. There were many Danes in those days that made the trip between the Danish West Indies and Denmark and many who were in the service of Holland. Captain Henrik Christiansen, for instance, made ten trips between New York and Holland in the years 1611-1614. In 1614 he was killed by his friend, the

Indian chief Orson at Ft. Nassau. There were many prominent Danes in the Dutch colony at New York; perhaps the most noted of these was Jonas Bronck, whose name is perpetuated in Bronx Borough of New York, Bronx Park and Bronxville. Bronck came to New York in 1639 and died in 1643. Another Dane who has given his name to a section of our country was Peter Lassen, who in 1841 founded the first permanent American settlement in California. Mt. Lassen, the only volcano in the United States, is named after him; also Lassen County, California, Lassen Pass and Lassen's Big Meadows of Feather

river. The Danes were distinctive in Washington's army and in all the more recent wars. The Danish farmers, dairymen and buttermakers are famous in this land. The first creameries, the first cow-testing association, the first co-operative dairy-farming on a large scale, were established by Danish farmers. Qualities of good citizenship are highly developed in the Danes. Recognition of this was given by Theodore Roosevelt in referring to his friend Jacob Riis as "the best American citizen." Riis was a social worker in the slums of New York, and is the author of "How the Other Half Lives" and "The Making of an American."

The whole book of 602 pages is about the Norwegians; hence, no general quotation is made. It was written in honor of the Centennial of the coming of the sloop "Restaurationen", which left Norway on July 4, 1825 and reached New York on October 9, 1825, with fifty-three passengers on board. This has been called the Mayflower ship of the Norwegian people, although the Norwegians have been coming to America since the year 876 if we include Greenland as a part of America and since 1000 if we include Vinland as a part of America. These sloopers, it should be noted, have now increased to a band of about 1200 people, but in all their history of 100 years, not one slooper has been a pauper and not one has been put in jail, This is a remarkable record and it is typical of the Scandinavians and Germans in America.

C. W. Sherman in the "Vanguard", St. Louis, Nov. 11, 1911, maintains that the criminals in the United States are the sons of the immigrants and our crime is due to the foreign population which we must dissimilate. "Alas," he says, "350 of these American born youth of foreign parentage land in jails to one American born of American parents." He is especially concerned about the Scandinavian as being a criminal population, but on basis of the United States Census bulletin, "Prisoners and Juvenile Delinquents in Institutions, 1904" we find that while 25.8% of the foreign born population is German, only 12.3% of the foreign born prisoners are German, and while 10.3% of foreign born population is Scandinavian, only 4.9% of foreign born prisoners are Scandinavians. If Mr. Sherman's "statistics" are authentic, then we might expect to find one out of eighteen of the foreign born in prison, but on the contrary, we find only one out of 13,139 of the immigrants from Northern Europe, in prison, whereas one out of 6,404 native born American was in prison. The religious heritage and loyal standards of the people from northern Europe brought with them from the old countries serves them well in their adopted land. Even here they are a God-fearing and law-abiding people.

In "The Book of America's Making Exposition, 1921" under the auspices of New York City and New York State departments of education, we read the following about the Germans and Scandinavians:

The Germans.
The great gifts of German immigrants to America are science and music. Nevertheless they have had an important share in building up this nation. From Colonial days these Americans have entered into our institutions and held a place in our history.

They registered the first protest against slavery and won for the press a freedom unknown before their efforts in the middle of the 18th. century. German immigrants helped to settle the Middle West and in the far West they were pioneers who bore the brunt of many an Indian raid. In the Revolutionary War German settlers gave distinguished generals to the service of Washington. The famous Mollie Pitcher was of German origin and her bravery was typical.

In the Civil War the Germanic element in United States was important in bringing up the Anti-Slavery balance and in steadying sentiment in border states.

Many pioneer industries were opened up by German immigrants, such as, paper manufacturing, iron foundries, glass blowing and the plants which were forerunners of our great steel mills. Many inventions which resulted in improved processes were made by Americans of German descent.

German influence on education in this country is unquestioned, the kindergarten and athletics are two definite additions to the original system of public education. A great many artists, distinguished in painting, and sculpture, are of German origin. Other Americans, engineers, journalists and statesmen whose ancestors came from Germany, have made great gifts to America. But the greatest of their cultural contributions were music, which have influenced America profoundly.

~~The Danes.~~

Danish participation in America's Making may be said to have been inaugurated by the world-famed Danish seamen and such famous explorers, as Jens Munk and Vitus Behring, the first of whom was the discoverer of Hudson Bay and Hudson Strait in 1619, while Behring's thrilling explorations led him to the coast of Alaska during the beginning of the 18th century.

Danish officers and men served with distinction in Washington's Army. Jonas Bronck, who gave his name to the section of New York called the Bronx, and Peter Lassen, who founded the first permanent settlement in California, serve as good examples of the early Danish settlers in America.

The real influx of Danes began during the middle of the 19th Century. With Wisconsin as a center, the Danish farmers, dairymen and carpenters gradually spread throughout the West and Middle West, where by hard work and modern methods they developed huge tracts of uninhabited land into prosperous communities. The first creameries, the cow-testing association, the first cooperative dairy farming on a large scale were established by Danish farmers.

Qualities of good citizenship are highly developed in the Danish race. Recognition of this was given by Theodore Roosevelt in referring to his friend, Jacob Riis, as "The best American citizen." Intellectually and artistically, Danish culture is exemplified in America by many professional men, sculptors and artists of Danish descent.

~~The Norwegians.~~

From the dim days of Norse adventure and discovery to the present, the seafaring activity of the Norwegians has kept them in touch with America. Over a hundred years ago the first large group of Norwegians came to this country. Now there are settled here about half a million Americans born in Norway, while something like four millions of people of all generations trace their lineage to Norway.

Over half of the gainfully employed Norwegians are engaged in agriculture and allied food-producing industries. They were pioneers in the Middle West and Northwestern States. They cleared and cultivated this section. The percentage of farm owners and operators among this group is the highest of any ethnic group in America.

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As seafarers they have also entered into America's economic life and are represented in large numbers in shipping and marine occupations on the great lakes. Fisheries, as a related industry in which Norwegian descendants excel, claim large numbers of them on the Pacific Coast and in Alaskan waters. In the fish-packing industry Norwegians who are largely represented therein have contributed special methods of packing now generally adopted. Lumbering, the skilled trades and machine shops count many of these Americans among their workers. Those foremost in the professions of engineering, architecture and other technical professions, include these vigorous people.

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Sports and music have been contributed to America by immigrants from Norway. Skiing, introduced by them, has become a popular American sport. Singing societies and musical organizations flourish in all centers where people of Norwegian lineage predominate.

The exhibit of Americans of Norwegian lineage depicts their important part in the shipping of this country. A painting shows the arrival of Leif Erikson on these shores. The modern aspect of their seamanship is interpreted by a beautiful mural showing Norwegian sailors

along our coasts. A third mural represents farming in the Northwest. Grouped around these central ideas are many relics and historical objects.

~~The Swedish.~~
Citizens of Swedish lineage have contributed in great share to the material growth and progress of American and have made valuable additions to its spiritual and cultural life. 8

For two hundred and eighty-three years they have formed an integral and important part of what finally became the American nation. They have been prominent in its political life during the Colonial period and always have fostered respect for law and order and exerted a wholesome influence for good government.

Their records as soldiers, sailors and officers is surpassed by none. Some of our leading educators and scholars, and many of our foremost scientists and inventors are of Swedish origin.

The music of our land has been greatly enriched by these people, who helped greatly to improve general musical taste. They have advanced sculpture and painting, made many contributions to the industrial arts, and influenced our architecture.

Swedish descendants have cleared and cultivated over 12,000,000 acres of land, and they have established 2,000 churches and a large number of schools, charitable institutions and beneficial and social welfare societies. They have published hundreds of newspapers and thousands of books, and, like their ancestors in Sweden, spend more on education per capita than descendants of any other nationality.

They have introduced new ideas into certain branches of our school curricula, especially an emphasis on manual training. Gymnastics in the American Army and in many of our schools are founded on Swedish theories and have been ably taught by a large number of instructors of Swedish extraction. Mechanotherapy, which has grown to such importance, was introduced into this country under Swedish inspiration and has been largely fostered by men and women of Swedish extraction.

In the exhibit of Americans of Swedish lineage three lines of activities are emphasized: Swedish settlements in Delaware, the defense of this country and modern farming methods in the Northwest. These three ideas are illustrated by large murals, on each wall surrounded by painted portraits of important and famous Americans of Swedish lineage. The festival of this group includes gymnastics, singing by united societies and folk dancing."

Of the many books dealing with the splendid character of the Germans and Scandinavians as citizens of the United States the following are typical:

Ross:	The Old World in the New, 1914.
Commons:	Races and Immigrants in America, 1920.
Burr:	America's Race Heritage, 1922.
Park:	Old World Traits Transplanted, 1921.
Park:	The Immigrant Press and Its Control, 1922.
Jenks & Lauck:	The Immigration Problem, 1922.
Fairchild:	Immigration, 1923.
Davis:	Selective Immigration, 1925.
Stephanson:	History of American Immigration, 1926.
Garis:	Immigration Restriction, 1927.

Everyone of these books is enthusiastic in its praise about the Germans and Scandinavians and heaps up evidence upon evidence as to

the sterling character, the excellent work, the invaluable cultural contributions and ready assimilation of these peoples with the original American stock.

Ross says of the Germans in America that "their contribution to freedom of thought has been invaluable." "At the outbreak of the Civil War the Germans with their deep detestation of slavery played no small role. About 200,000 Germans enlisted in the Union Army, more than there were of Irish volunteers, although the Irish were more numerous in the population in the loyal states. They are industrious and thrifty, honest and stable." Of the Scandinavians Ross says: "In point of literacy they lead the world." "It may be true that every Sunday Norwegian is preached in more churches in America than in Norway, still no immigrants of foreign speech assimilate so quickly as the ~~Norwegians~~ Scandinavians. Among them the spirit of self-improvement is very strong. No other foreign born people respond so quickly to night school opportunities. Our ideas and institutions have not been changed by their coming. What they have done is to quicken our interest in the literature of the North and to win for it academic recognition. In the words of a Minnesota school man "they are the best people in the state to appreciate education, to want it improved." In similar words, replete with illustrations, do the other authors in the above mentioned list speak.

The Immigration Commission in 1910, in its voluminous report on the immigration from 1820 to 1910, announce that during the ninety years from 1820 to 1910, the Germans furnished 5,351,746 immigrants to the United States, which is the largest number coming from any single country, although the United Kingdom as a whole furnished 7,756,330. This report speaks very highly of the Germans as it does of the Scandinavians. They are close kinsman. It should be borne in mind that the German and Scandinavian immigrants to the United States have, as a rule, settled in the pioneer sections of the country and they have today a greater percentage of their number on the farms than any other people. Also, they are the most progressive of the American farmers.

In addition to these books which incidentally deal with the Germans and the Scandinavians there are many other pretentious books which give a great deal about the contributions of these people to the making of America, as for example:

Faust: The German Element in the United States.
Schraeder: The Germans in the Making of America.
Vig: The Danes in America.
Rasmussen: The Danes in America.
Anderson: First Chapter of Norwegian Immigration.
Norlie: History of the Norwegian People in America.
Johnson: The Swedes in America.
Norlious: History of Swedes in America.

See also Chairman Cordell's Address before the House American Centralist, Independent as House Document, No. 143, 1926.

We, therefore, American citizens, hereby attach our names as protesting the enactment of the National Origins Provision as unfair and urge our Senators and Congressmen to vote for the repeal of this Law before it goes into effect July 1, 1928. We support the recommendation of the Commissioner of Immigration that the present quota distribu-

tion, based on the census of 1890, be retained, and that no further measures of reduction of the German and Scandinavian quotas be passed by Congress.

Perhaps the best statement of the character and contributions of the Germans and Scandinavians is that in "The Lutheran World Almanac for 1924-1926", pp. 52-59.