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IMMIGRATION REGULATIONS

FOR

THE ISLAND OF PORTO RICO.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

DIVISION OF CUSTOMS AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,

June 7, 1899.

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PROMULGATING ORDER.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, June 6, 1899.

In accordance with the provisions of Circular No. 13, Division of Customs and Insular Affairs, dated April 14, 1899, the following Immigration Regulations as applied to the Island of Porto Rico are hereby published for the information and guidance of all concerned.

G. D. MEIKLEJOHN,
Acting Secretary of War.



IMMIGRATION REGULATIONS FOR THE ISLAND OF PORTO RICO.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, June 6, 1899.

ARTICLE I.

Collectors of Customs will collect a duty of one dollar for each and every passenger who shall come by steam or sail vessel from any foreign port to any port of Porto Rico, except citizens of the United States and residents or natives of said Island of Porto Rico.

ARTICLE II.

All such moneys collected must be deposited and accounted for as prescribed for customs collections in the Customs Regulations for Ports in Porto Rico.

ARTICLE III.

Collectors of Customs are charged, within their respective districts, with the execution of the laws pertaining to immigration, and all importation of laborers under contract or agreement to perform labor in Porto Rico. They will employ all customs, immigration, and other officers assigned to them for duty in the enforcement of the immigration acts; and all such officers are hereby designated and authorized to act as immigration officers.

ARTICLE IV.

Whenever it shall be necessary, in making the examination of immigrants, to temporarily remove them from the vessel upon which they arrived to a desirable place provided for the examination, such immigrants shall not be regarded as landed so long as they are undergoing the examination and are in charge of the officers whose duty it is to make such examination; and such removal shall not be considered a landing during the pendency of any question relating to such examination, or while awaiting their return as provided by law.

ARTICLE V.

The Collectors of Customs shall enter of record the name of every immigrant found upon examination to be within either of the prohibited classes, with a statement of the decision in each case, and at the same time give notice in writing to the master, agent, consignee or owner of the vessel upon which said immigrant arrived, together with the grounds of refusal to land such immigrant, that said vessel is required to return such immigrant to the port whence he came.

ARTICLE VI.

The regular examination of immigrants under the special inquiry required by these regulations will be separate from the public, but any immigrant who is refused permission to land, or pending an appeal in his case, will be permitted to confer with friends or counsel in such manner as the Collector of Customs may deem proper.

ARTICLE VII.

Any immigrant claiming to be aggrieved by the decision of the inspection officers may appeal therefrom, and such appeal shall stay his deportation until decision be had thereon. Such appeal shall be in writing and shall specify the grounds of appeal, and shall be presented to the Collector of Customs, who shall at once forward such appeal to the Collector of Customs for the Island, with all the evidence in the case and his views thereon.

Any Inspector dissenting from a decision to admit an immigrant may appeal therefrom, which appeal shall be in writing and specify the grounds thereof, and shall be forwarded by the Collector of Customs to the Collector of Customs for the Island in like manner as in cases of an appeal by an immigrant.

ARTICLE VIII.

Upon a decision of the appeal the immigrant shall be at once landed or deported in accordance with such decision, and, in case landing is refused, the master, agent, consignee, or owner of the vessel by which the immigrant arrived shall be notified of such decision by the Collector of Customs, and that the immigrant will be placed on board said vessel, to be returned, as aforesaid.

ARTICLE IX.

The expenses for keeping and maintenance of such immigrants as are ordered to be returned pending the decision of their right to land, and the subsequent expenses for the keeping and maintenance of those ordered to be returned, and the expense of their return, shall be borne by the owner or owners of the vessel on which they came.

ARTICLE X.

At least twenty-four hours before the sailing of the vessel upon which the immigrants are ordered to be returned, the master, agent, consignee, or owner of such vessel shall notify the Collector of Customs of the proposed hour of sailing, who shall, immediately preceding the sailing, place on board all immigrants to be returned by said vessel as aforesaid, and in case any master, agent, consignee, or owner of such vessel shall refuse to receive such immigrants on board, or shall neglect to retain them thereon, or shall refuse or neglect to return them to the port from which they came, or to pay the cost of their maintenance while on land, such master, agent, consignee, or owner shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$300 for each and every offense, and any such vessel shall not have clearance from any port of Porto Rico while any such fine is unpaid.

ARTICLE XI.

No vessel bringing immigrants in the steerage, or in apartments other than the first and second cabins, from ports where contagious or infectious diseases are prevailing, shall be admitted to entry unless it appear by the certificate of the consular officer at such port that the said immigrants have been detained at the port of embarkation at least five days under special medical observation in specially designated barracks or houses set apart for their exclusive use, and that their clothing, baggage, and personal effects have been disinfected before being placed on board by one of the following methods:

- (1) Boiling in water not less than thirty minutes.
- (2) Exposure to steam not less than thirty minutes, the steam to be of a temperature not less than 100° C. (212° F.), nor greater than 115° C. (239° F.), and unmixed with air.
- (3) Solution of carbolic acid of a 2 per cent strength. This method (No. 3) may be applied only to leather goods, such as trunks, satchels, boots, shoes; to rubber goods, etc., the articles to be saturated with the solution.

(4) Articles that would be destroyed or injured when subjected to any of the above methods may be disinfected by immersion in a solution of bichloride of mercury, 1 part in 2,000, until all parts are thoroughly saturated, due precaution being taken against mercurial poisoning.

The above restrictions will also be applied to vessels bringing immigrants from noninfected ports but who come from infected localities.

ARTICLE XII.

There shall be delivered to the Collector of Customs at the port of arrival, by the master or commanding officer of the vessel, lists or

manifests, made at the time and place of embarkation of such immigrants, which shall, in answer to questions at the top of said lists or manifests, state as to each of said passengers:

- (1) Full name.
- (2) Age.
- (3) Sex.
- (4) Whether married or single.
- (5) Calling or occupation.
- (6) Whether able to read or write.
- (7) Nationality.
- (8) Last residence.
- (9) Seaport for landing in Porto Rico.
- (10) Final destination in Porto Rico.
- (11) Whether having a ticket through to such final destination.
- (12) Whether the immigrant has paid his own passage or whether it has been paid by other persons, or by any corporation, society, municipality, or government.
- (13) Whether in possession of money, and if so, whether upward of \$30, and how much, if \$30 or less.
- (14) Whether going to join a relative, and if so, what relative, and
- (15) Whether ever before in Porto Rico, and if so, when and where. his name and address.
- (16) Whether ever in prison, or almshouse, or supported by charity.
- (17) Whether a polygamist.
- (18) Whether under a contract, expressed or implied, to perform labor in Porto Rico.
- (19) The immigrant's condition of health, mentally and physically, and whether deformed or crippled, and if so, from what cause.

ARTICLE XIII.

Said immigrants shall be listed in convenient groups and no one list or manifest shall contain more than thirty names. There shall be delivered to each immigrant or head of a family, prior to or at the time of embarkation or at some convenient time on the voyage before arrival, as may be found most convenient, a ticket on which shall be written his name and a number or letter, designating the list and his number on the list, for convenience of identification on arrival. Each list or manifest shall be verified by the signature and the oath or affirmation of the master or commanding officer, or of the officer, first or second, below him in command, and of the surgeon of said vessel or other medical officer, as provided in sections 2 and 3 of the Act of March 3, 1893, United States Statutes; therefore the above affidavits must be attached to each list or manifest, which lists or manifests must be kept separate and not fastened together.

In case there is a surgeon sailing with the vessel, that officer must sign and verify each list or manifest, and the verification by another surgeon will not be in compliance with the law.

All forms of lists or manifests and affidavits sent out by authority of this Department are suggestive merely, and will not relieve any person from the necessity of complying strictly with all the provisions of said Act of March 3, 1893.

ARTICLE XIV.

In case of the failure of said master or commanding officer of said vessel to deliver to the said Collector of Customs lists or manifests, verified as aforesaid, containing the information above required as to all immigrants on board, there shall be paid to the Collector of Customs at the port of arrival the sum of \$10 for each immigrant qualified to enter Porto Rico, concerning whom the above information is not contained in any list, as aforesaid, or said immigrant shall not be permitted so to enter Porto Rico, but shall be returned like other excluded persons.

G. D. MEIKLEJOHN,
Acting Secretary of War.

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