



STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY

HERBERT H. LEHMAN
GOVERNOR

November 1, 1935.

See
Prescopy
P
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE
1935-1936
MR. CARR

The President,
Hyde Park,
New York.

My dear Mr. President:

I am sending you herewith letter received by Mr. Felix M. Warburg from Professor James G. McDonald, High Commissioner for Refugees coming from Germany. I know that you are well acquainted with Professor McDonald and know how reliable he is.

The situation which Mr. Warburg has asked me to take up with you is as follows: The present immigration quota from Germany is, I believe, 25,000. This quota has never been availed of and immigration has in the recent past been limited to about 2,500. Because of conditions in Germany with which you are familiar and which appear to be getting worse continually, it is imperative that the opportunity for immigration be given to as many of the persecuted Jewish citizens of that country as is possible.

The type of immigration from Germany is of the highest. I have met many of those who have come over here in recent months and they have impressed me as very much the type of men like my father, Carl Schurz, and other Germans who came over here in the days of 1848 and who later were among our best citizens. Mr. Warburg and those associated with him in caring for the unfortunate refugees are very desirous of having the very stringent regulations with regard to the immigration quota from Germany liberalized to some extent by the State Department. They would greatly appreciate it if you would ask the Secretary of State to make certain that our diplomatic and consular representatives show sympathetic interest in permitting immigration of German Jews into this country, providing, of course, they fulfill the immigration requirements in every particular. They ask that the immigration quota of German Jews to this country be increased from 2,500 to 5,000. This, of course, is almost a negligible number.

As I have said, because of conditions the type of immigration is different from that I have known for many years. They are men and women of the highest character and many of them have attained positions of great distinction in their own country. I therefore can very strongly endorse the request of Commissioner McDonald and Mr. Warburg. The matter is of such importance that I feel justified in taking it up directly with you. I hope that it will receive your personal consideration and favorable action.

With kind personal regards, I remain,

Yours very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Herbert H. Lehman". The signature is written in dark ink and extends across the width of the page.