



Immigration History Research Center

826 Berry Street, St. Paul, MN 55114 612-627-4208 Fax: 612-627-4190 E-mail: IHRC@gold.tc.umn.edu
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FROM THE ACTING DIRECTOR

Archival project addresses immigration questions old and new

America has been called the "permanently unfinished country." Immigration has been making and remaking the nation's social and cultural foundation throughout its history. We need to remind ourselves of this. Over the past decade, immigration levels have reached significant proportions by any calculation. Unfortunately, the tendency of many who notice this is to view it as an unprecedented phenomenon. Lacking a healthy dosage of history, the debate that rages in the media and the halls of government often carries distorted perspectives, occasionally drifting into extremist rhetoric.

Questions such as "Whom shall we welcome?" "How many?" "How can we best accommodate and assist our newcomers?" are as old as the Republic itself. And the collective attempts to answer these, in the form of public policy, legislation, and social services, have done as much to shape the nation's identity as has immigration itself.

To help provide a more solid base for understanding these issues, the IHRC is launching a new project, with major support from the National Endowment for the Humanities. "America's Response to Immigration, 1918-1993: An Archival Arrangement and Description Project" will enable access to some of the most important holdings in the IHRC's collections and is intended to serve as a catalyst for acquiring and preserving additional sources in this area.

The period of American history covered by this project witnessed dramatic changes in immigration patterns, prompting—and being affected by—society's varied reactions. In the decade just prior to World War I, the United States had received more newcomers (averaging over a million per year from 1905 to 1914) than at any other time before or since. The war, however, crystallized growing concerns about the social and economic effects of mass immigration. In an atmosphere of increasing agitation and uncertainty over immigration's impact, the nation's lawmakers attempted to impose stability by restricting the admission of newcomers through the establishment of a "national origins quota" system in the 1920s.

The profound effects of this legislation were magnified by the

national and worldwide crises of the Depression and World War II years, which saw a marked decline in the volume of immigration. However, this did little to diminish nativist attitudes; nor did it deter efforts to affirm the cultural heritages and contributions of the foreign born, through various educational and promotional programs.

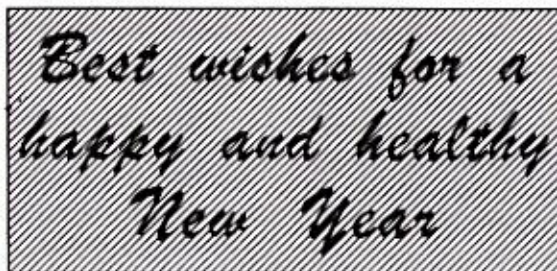
The aftermath of World War II brought new immigration-related circumstances and challenges, beginning with the migration of central and eastern European exiles in the late 1940s to early 1950s. America's acceptance of these "displaced persons" established an important precedent of response to refugee conditions as an enduring element of immigration policy. The framework of this policy was even more fundamentally affected by passage of the 1965 Immigration Act, which nullified long-standing discriminatory admissions criteria and ultimately enabled levels of immigration not seen since the 1920s.

Over the past decade and a half (and most recently this past fall) Congress has enacted several pieces of legislation aimed once again at regulating immigration. While none has constituted a sea change in admissions policy, some, including the new 1996 law, have embodied distinct values and attitudes regarding the immigrant's place in American society.

The archival material to be arranged and described during this special project contains historical information of extraordinary breadth and depth. Primary attention will be given to the archives of **Immigration and Refugee Services of America**, for many years known as the **American Council for Nationalities Service**. IRSA and its predecessor agencies stand among the 20th century's leading national immigrant service organizations. Comprising some 255 linear feet, the collection contains rich documentation on a multitude of social, cultural, and political issues associated with immigration, race, and ethnicity.

Also included in the project are records of the IRSA subsidiary **U.S. Committee for Refugees**. The USCR has played a leading worldwide role in public information service and has worked as an advocate for refugee concerns in the development of U.S. policy. The USCR's archives reflect the international dimensions of human migration and enable the study of America's response to refugees in a broad, global context.

IRSA Records (cont'd on page 3)



COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

THE FOLLOWING are recently acquired manuscript collections or additions to existing collections. Donors are gratefully acknowledged in the Center's Annual Report.

NIEMI, IVARSAMUEL (1888-1972)—

Papers, ca. 1915-1995. Ca. 1 linear ft. A doctor of chiropractic and naturopathy, Dr. Niemi was one of the first licensed Finnish-speaking chiropractors in the United States. At various times during his life, Dr. Niemi operated clinics in Ohio and Florida. A lifelong member of the American Naturopathic Association and the International Chiropractic Association, he also belonged to numerous professional organizations as well as the Freemasons and Modern Woodmen of America. The collection contains correspondence; photographs; certificates of graduation, certification, marriage, and death; and licenses. Also correspondence, photographs, a family history, and high school graduation memorabilia of Ingrid Keto, Dr. Niemi's wife.



ROMANO, VINCENT—Papers, ca. 1977-1994. 1.25 linear ft. Born and raised in Brooklyn, Romano retired in 1986 as deputy superintendent of schools in New York City, having previously also served as a teacher, assistant principal, and principal. He was a charter member of the Order Sons of Italy in America Giovanni Caboto Lodge of Bellmore, which he later led as president. Other OSIA positions have included chair of the NY State Commission for Social Justice (CSJ), executive director of the New York Lodge, and president of the National CSJ. He was awarded the Ellis Island Medal of Honor for "exceptional humanitarian efforts and outstanding contributions to our Nation's heritage."

Collection includes correspondence; OSIA materials, including event programs, lodge papers, newsletters, convention and CSJ materials; and a biography of Romano.

SKOTZKO, EUGENE (1907-1996)—Papers, ca. 1931-1996, 4 linear ft. Skotzko emigrated from Ukraine in 1929, and after receiving degrees in foreign service and international relations, became an economist and editor who worked in the federal Dept. of Labor and the Bureau of Labor Statistics. He was a political, social, and cultural activist, helping to found several national organizations relating to Ukrainian American press and support of Ukrainian independence.

Papers consist of general correspondence; correspondence pertaining to Organization for the Rebirth of Ukraine (ODWU), Ukrainian Bureau of Washington, DC, publication of his book *Na Storozi Ukrainy*, the New York Republican State Committee (Naturalized Citizens Division-Ukrainian Section), and the Dies Committee; ODWU circulars; drafts of articles; a scrapbook; photographs; and newspaper clippings. Books and serials were also donated.

TOMASHEVSKY, ELIZABETH (1887-1979)—Papers, 1926-1972, 2 linear in. Born in Kyiv, Ukraine, Elizabeth married Peter Tomashevsky, a Russian army officer. After the family fled the Soviet Union, Elizabeth became nationalities secretary at the Yonkers, NY, YWCA. After World War II, she joined the Tolstoy Foundation to work with displaced persons, serving there 15 years. In 1954 she received the DAR Award for Services to the Foreign Born. Having relocated to Philadelphia, she worked with Slavic people through the Friends Neighborhood Guild until 1969. Papers consist of correspondence, clippings, and programs from events.

Latvian archives deeded to IHRC



Maira Bundza and Joel Wurl get ready to move boxes from the Latvian Studies Center to waiting vans.

Last summer, the IHRC and the Latvian Studies Center in Kalamazoo, MI, arranged for the transfer of the LSC's archival holdings to the IHRC. Consisting of approximately 50 individual collections totaling some 200 linear feet, these materials have been regarded as the premiere body of primary source documentation on the Latvian American community.

The move of the collections resulted from the sale of the Latvian Studies Center facility in Kalamazoo. A portion of the library will remain in the city, where it will continue to be of service to the large Latvian American population there. Two truckloads of material were transported by Joel Wurl and Jean McIndoo of the IHRC, assisted in Kalamazoo by LSC librarian Maira Bundza and LSC board of directors member Valdis Muiznieks.

Among the sources transferred are records of the American Latvian Association, the Committee for a Free Latvia, and the American Latvian Youth Association (Amerikas latviesu jaunatnes apvieniba). Also included are personal papers of numerous individuals, including large collections from journalist and historian Oswalds Akmentins and publisher Hugo Skrastins. Much work will be required to make these materials fully accessible to researchers, and the IHRC has begun developing plans and exploring possibilities for assistance.

This archival transfer represents an extraordinary partnership between the IHRC and the Latvian community. The IHRC is privileged to be entrusted with the opportunity to serve as the repository for this important resource of the community's heritage.

Asst. Curator Myroniuk attends Ukrainian studies conference, opening of Granovsky Museum



Professor Chernykhivs'kyi (rt.) shows items in the Granovsky Memorial Museum to Alexander Granovsky's son, Ted, at the opening ceremony

Asst. Curator Halyna Myroniuk presented two papers and cochaired a session at the Third International Congress of Ukrainian Studies, held Aug. 26-29, 1996, in Kharkiv, Ukraine's second largest city. The congress attracted 600 delegates from 25 countries and all Ukrainian regions. She also attended a ceremony opening the Alexander Granovsky Memorial Museum in Granovsky's home town.

Her first presentation at the Congress, in a session on the history and practice of book publishing, was "Archival Sources on Ukrainian History and Culture in Selected Ukrainian and American Archival Institutions in the United States." It will be published in the journal of the Institute of Ukrainian Archeography at the Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Kyiv. The second paper was "History of Science and Education of Ukrainian Immigrants in the USA: Archival Sources in the IHRC." She cochaired a session, "History of Ukrainian Learning," with Ukrainian scholar Oleksander Konovets (who visited the IHRC last summer).

On September 3, Myroniuk attended the opening of the Alexander A. Granovsky Memorial Museum in Granovsky's birthplace, Velyki Berezhtsi. The IHRC's Granovsky collection is the backbone of its Ukrainian American materials, and Granovsky himself helped secure other Ukrainian American collections.

Much of the research for this exhibit and a biography of Granovsky was done by Prof. Havrylo Chernykhivs'kyi at the IHRC in 1993. The IHRC was given a copy of the book, *Oleksandr Nepryts'kyi-Hranovs'kyi: Zhyttia i Tvorchist'* (Alexander Neprytsky-Granovsky: His Life and Works, Ternopil: Zbruch, 1996, 387 pages, illustrated) for its collection. Anyone interested in purchasing a copy should contact Halyna Myroniuk at the IHRC.

Edward C. Rózański, 1915-1996

A leader of the Polish American community and a devoted friend of the IHRC, Rózański, a journalist, and his wife, Loda, actively participated in political, religious, and cultural activities over many years and faithfully sent materials to the Center. A long list of honors and leadership positions testify to his passionate involvement and commitment to Polonia. A month before his death on July 22, 1996, the IHRC published an inventory to its extensive collection documenting his remarkable life of service. He was pleased to see this record of his life's work, as is the Center to make it available to researchers.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

The IHRC's Research in Progress (RIP) series of colloquia for 1996-97 began October 8 with a presentation by University of Paris VII professor **Bénédict Deschamps**, "Voices of Ethnic Communities?: Italian American Newspaper and Radio Media in Historical Perspective." On November 11, **Lisa Kellmeyer**, a UM history graduate student, spoke on "Negotiating Ethnic Identities through Folklore: The Evolution of Pittsburgh's 'Hunky' Steelworker, Joe Magarac."

The most recent RIP presentation was Tue., Feb. 4, 5:30 p.m., **Matthew Basso**, PhD candidate, American Studies, UM: "Race War, Gender War, Class War?: White Ethnic Men and the Defense of the White Masculine Status Quo During World War II"

RIP meetings are held on midweek days, usually at 5:00 p.m., followed by an optional casual dinner at a nearby ethnic restaurant to continue dialogue. Students, faculty, and community members are invited to attend. Please RSVP by two days before the meeting. For information on upcoming dates and topics, contact the IHRC.

Additional speakers for this year were still being arranged as the *News* went to press. Anyone interested in leading a session or with a speaker to suggest is encouraged to contact Joel Wurl, IHRC curator and coordinator of the series.

IRSA Records cont'd from page 1

The research potential in these holdings is tremendous. Given the wide time span and broad spectrum of immigrant groups covered, the records furnish a remarkable opportunity for comparative study. Researchers can relate the impact of immigration in the early 1900s with that in the later part of the century and can explore the process of immigrant adjustment and community building among various groups.

This new initiative reasserts the IHRC's long-standing commitment to documenting immigration not only from within the immigrant communities but also from the perspective of individuals and organizations responding to immigration at various levels. Much more such material, of both historical and more contemporary origin, remains in private custody. As a result of this project, the IHRC hopes to develop relationships with other agencies similar in purpose to IRSA and the USCR, to ensure that key historical sources are properly preserved and made accessible.

Whether or not history is to play a more visible role in current thinking about immigration depends upon the availability of raw material worthwhile for research. Projects such as *America's Response to Immigration* are essential building blocks in this process. As this issue of the *IHRC News* goes to press, the search for a professional archivist to guide the project is nearing completion. Watch future issues of the *News* for progress reports and announcements of newly accessible sources.

Joel Wurl

RESEARCHERS AND VISITORS

STEFANIA GALEASSI, a Ph.D. student in history at Università di Firenze, Italy, spent three months (mid-September to mid-December), researching in the diaries and papers of



of Father Nicola C. Odone for her dissertation about his life and work. Odone came to St. Paul in 1899 at the invitation of Archbishop Ireland to establish a church for the Italians. He served as pastor at several churches and in other capacities, ministering to and assisting Italian immigrants. The 17-linear-foot Odone collection contains a 90-volume illustrated personal diary as well as materials about Holy Redeemer Church and the House of the Good Shepherd (both in St. Paul) and Margaret Barry House (a mission in Minneapolis).

PETER ALTER, a doctoral student in history at the U of Arizona, Tucson, spent several days in June researching Serbian immigrants in Chicago and suburbs, ca. 1880-1930. He is studying the construction of Serbian ethnicity and negotiation with and adaptation to American culture. He looked at papers of the Serbian National Federation, publications of Palandech's Press, and church and fraternal organization anniversary books.

STEFANIA BARZINI of RAI (Italian Public Television) visited the IHRC for two days in July while traveling throughout the country doing research for a CD-ROM on Italian immigrants in the United States.

AUVO KOSTIAINEN of the Dept. of History at the U of Turku, Finland, and a several-time researcher at the Center, spent three weeks in July-August completing research on the biographies of 20 Finnish American leaders. This will be a section of a book to be published in Finland, probably next year. It is part of a multi-volume series of Finnish biographies published by the Finnish Historical Society.

ANNE RASMUSSEN, assistant professor of ethnomusicology and music at The College of William and Mary, spent a week in August investigating the cultural life of Arab Americans, particularly with regard to music and related performance activities, for a book to be published in 1997 by Shimmer Books, Inc.: *New Perspectives on American Music: Music, Identity & Community in Multicultural America*.

She is also producing a compact disk with Rounder Records, Cambridge, MA, that includes 15 performances originally recorded on 78s by immigrant musicians. It will have 30-40 pages of notes and accompanying photographs. A third project is a book on music and community among Arab Americans, *The History and Contemporary Life of a*

Musical Subculture, based on her 1991 dissertation "Individuality and Social Change in the Music of Arab Americans."

FOUR BOARD MEMBERS of the American Council for Polish Culture visited the IHRC while they were in the Twin Cities in mid-August for their national convention, "Poland, A Tapestry of Sight, Sound and Color." Among topics of discussion was the transfer of ACPC materials to the IHRC, a secondary depository for the organization's archival items.

MICHAEL LEMAY, professor and chair of political science at California State U-San Bernardino, spent two days in August researching the reactions of immigrant and ethnic organizations/associations to immigration law and policy from the early 1900s to the 1960s. He used the Chicago Foreign Language Press Survey and American Immigrant Autobiographies (microfilm) for this topic, to be included in a book he is co-editing with Elliott Barkan for Greenwood Press, *Immigrants and Immigration: A Documentary History*. The approximately 400-page reference volume, targeted for spring 1998, will include information on immigration policy changes from colonial times to the present, including summaries of laws, Supreme Court decisions, presidential addresses and veto messages, Congressional debate, and letters and statements of immigrants on how they were personally affected by laws or policies.

TIMOTHY LAITALA VINCENT, a genealogist accredited through the Family History Library of the Church of Latter Day Saints in Salt Lake City, UT, visited in August to use the IHRC's Finnish American collection. He is co-author of *Finnish Genealogical Research* (New Brighton, MN: Finnish Americana, 1994).

STANISLAW HAJKOWSKI, a PhD candidate at the University of North Wales, GB, spent several days in September researching the attitude of the Roman Catholic Church to Polish immigration to Northwest England, 1871-1939. He investigated letters to/from America relating to emigrants who came to America by way of England. Hajkowski, a British citizen, is a priest at Our Lady Queen of Poland Church in Silver Spring, MD, and member of a religious society for Polish emigrants.

MATJAŽ KLEMENČIČ, professor of history at U of Maribor, Slovenia, visited for several days in August and again in September, continuing his research on Slovenian American communities.

NIVES SULIČ, a researcher and coordinator of the Slovenska izseljenska matica (Slovenian Emigration Society), Ljubljana, Slovenia, spent three days in September researching in oral histories of Slovenes in the United States.

MIKKO TOIVONEN, a doctoral student at the U of Tampere, Finland, completed a year of study and research at UM

Researchers and Visitors cont'd from previous page in September. He used IHRC resources, mainly newspapers on microfilm, to investigate his topic, interethnic relations among Nordic immigrants to Duluth, MN, 1900-1930.

MELINDA CAMPBELL, a doctoral student at the University of Chicago, spent a week at the Center in September investigating the culture of lumberjacks in the cutover region of Wisconsin, Michigan, and Minnesota, to 1930.

TWO INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE executive directors visited to discuss preservation of records. On September 10, **Hinke Boot**, of the Buffalo, NY, Institute, met with Curator Joel Wurl. The IHRC has received its files covering 1934-1984. On October 10, Rudy Vecoli met with **Myra Oliver**, Connecticut Institute, which is considering donating its records.

BÉNÉDICTE DESCHAMPS, U of Paris VII, who previously did research on the Italian American press at the IHRC, returned for three weeks in September-October to begin research on the place of radio in the acculturation of Italian American immigrants. She mainly used resources in the collection of the American Council for Nationalities Service (now Immigration and Refugee Services of America). She presented the first Research in Progress colloquium of the 1996-97 academic year at the IHRC on October 8 (see RIP box on page 3).

Prof. **RONALD TAKAKI** of the Dept. of Ethnic Studies, University of California, visited the IHRC on November 1 to conduct research for a forthcoming collection of first-person accounts of the immigrant experience. The book is envisioned as a follow-up to his acclaimed 1993 volume *A Different Mirror: A History of Multicultural America*. At the end of the day, Takaki met with several UM History Department graduate students and IHRC staff for an informal discussion of research interests.

Dr. **PASQUALE D'AVINO**, Consul General of Italy in Chicago, visited the IHRC November 5. Following a tour of the Italian American Collection, he met with visiting Italian researcher Stefania Galeassi (see p. 4). Dr. D'Avino expressed enthusiasm for the work of the IHRC and offered the support of his office in furthering the study of Italian immigration to the United States.

PUBLICATIONS AND EVENTS

STORIES AND ARTIFACTS from the lives of Jewish women immigrants to the cities and farms of Minnesota and the Dakotas are shown in the new, free exhibit at the Minnesota History Center, "Unpacking on the Prairie: Jewish Women in the Upper Midwest." Cosponsored by the Jewish Historical Society of the Upper Midwest (a member of the Friends of the IHRC) and the Minnesota Historical Society, the exhibit was curated by **Linda Mack Schloff**, director of the JHSUM, who has done research in immigration history at the Center. "Unpacking" shows

through multimedia presentations, interactive exhibits, and storytellers how possessions and traditions brought to the new homes changed over time. It documents home life, relations with neighbors of other ethnicities, keeping of religious traditions, work, and organizational activities of women from the 1880s to the present. The exhibit opened October 13 and will be at the History Center for a year, then tour the Upper Midwest.

Schloff's research for the exhibit has resulted in a companion book published by MHS Press, *"And Prairie Dogs Weren't Kosher": Jewish Women in the Upper Midwest since 1855*. Each chapter has an introductory historical essay by Schloff, many photos, and excerpts from oral and written personal histories, showing how four generations transported and transformed their cultural and religious life. Purchase from MHS museum stores or by mail (\$29.95 cloth cover, \$14.95 paper). Call 612-297-3243 or toll-free 1-800-647-7827 to order.

"VISUAL DIVERSITY: Revitalization of Ethnic Arts and Material Culture since 1960" was a conference held Nov. 8-9 at the Landmark Center in downtown St. Paul, jointly sponsored by UM and the Minnesota Museum of American Art. The IHRC cosponsored. Its overall purpose was to determine the role of material culture in multicultural contemporary America. It put in broader context the extensive complementary presentation of revitalized painting, woodcarving, and textile arts in the major exhibition "Norwegian Folk Art: The Migration of a Tradition," also at the Landmark Center (until Feb. 2, 1997).

Among the sessions November 9, representatives presented their views on recent revitalization of arts and material culture among six ethnic groups: Native, Afro-, Hispanic, Hmong, Ukrainian, and Latvian Americans. IHRC Assistant Curator **Halyna Myroniuk** chaired the session on Ukrainian and Latvian American arts and material culture.

MILDRED BEIK, a historian currently an independent scholar, has thanked Professor Vecoli and the IHRC for help with the research for her new book: *The Miners of Windber: The Struggles of New Immigrants for Unionization, 1890s-1930s* (University Park, PA: The Penn State U Press, 1996), based on her dissertation. Beik donated a copy of the book to the IHRC.

THE IHRC WAS A COOPERATING ORGANIZATION for a conference presented by UM's H. H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs Sept. 29-30, 1996, "The New Immigrants; An Analysis of Modern Immigration Trends and Policies." The Institute for Future Studies, Stockholm, cosponsored this event, part of the celebration of 150 years of Swedish emigration. IHRC Director Vecoli spoke on "The New Immigration in Historical Perspective." Other participants, including NYC Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and US Immigration and Naturalization Service Commissioner Doris Meissner, looked at immigration issues being debated in both Sweden and the United States.

(Publications and Events cont'd on next page)

Publications and Events (cont'd from previous page)

"FROM PENNSYLVANIA DUTCH to California Ethnic: The Odyssey of David Hollinger" is a review by Director **Vecoli** of Hollinger's 1995 book *Postethnic America: Beyond Multiculturalism*. The review appears in *Reviews in American History* 24:3 (September 1996), pp.519-523.

VECOLI'S "The Significance of Immigration in the Formation of an American Identity" has been published in *The History Teacher* (November 1996). It was originally presented at the 1993 conference "Making America: The Comparative Experience of Immigration in Brazil, the United States and Latin America," in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

"MACHINE POLITICS and the Consolidation of the Roosevelt Majority: The Case of Italian Americans in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia" by **Stefano Luconi** (*Journal of American Ethnic History*, Vol. 15, No. 2 [Winter 1996]: 32-59) was researched in part in the Center's Sons of Italy Archives.



THE SONS OF ITALY ARCHIVES is also cited in a sidebar in the article "Sacco and Vanzetti, An Unfinished American Injustice" by Neil Thomas Proto, published in *Italian America*, official publication of Order Sons of Italy in America, September 1996. The

full text of attorney Michael Musmanno's letter of May 19, 1927, to the governor of Massachusetts appealing the death penalty, is available in the OSIA papers at the IHRC. Also in the archives is the Aug. 23, 1977 (50th anniversary of the execution), proclamation of a memorial day by Gov. Michael Dukakis.

JOHN RADZILOWSKI spoke about "The Polish Collections at the IHRC" during a session of the Oct. 25-27 conference of the Polish Genealogical Society of America. The theme of the conference was Three Faces of Poland: The Austrian, Prussian, & Russian Partitions. Radzilowski, a doctoral candidate in history and a freelance writer, editor, and researcher, has done considerable research in the IHRC's Polish collection. He is also the recently elected president of the Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota.

TO CALL IT HOME: The New Immigrants of Southwest Minnesota by history professor **Joseph Amato** with **John Meyer**, **John Radzilowski**, **Donata DeBruyckere**, and **Anthony Amato** was recently published by Crossings Press (paper, 110 pp.) and is being distributed by the Society for the Study

of Local and Regional History and the Regional Studies Program of Southwest State University, Marshall, MN. It looks at the newest wave of immigrants to several food-processing cities of southwestern Minnesota, comparing migration patterns and experiences. It is available for \$11.95 including shipping/handling from SSLRH, PO Box 291, Marshall, MN 56258.

A conference with the same name was held Oct. 18, 1996, in conjunction with the book publication, to offer regional leaders comprehensive knowledge of the new immigrants through lectures and panel discussions by nationally recognized scholars and local community leaders.

"THE SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES OF BOUNDARY REMOVAL," a conference originally scheduled for fall 1996, is now anticipated to be held in spring 1997. The IHRC is cosponsoring this look at issues of identity, international boundaries, and migration being planned by UM's Sociology Department. For information: Robert Leik, 612-624-4300; fax: 612-624-7020; E-mail: socdept@atlas.socsci.umn.edu.

TODD MICHNEY, IHRC graduate research assistant, presented a paper at the 1996 Social Science History Association conference in New Orleans in October. He used the IHRC's Assembly of Captive European Nations collection in completing research on the topic, "Cold War Anti-Communist Activism among Eastern European Exiles: The Case of the International Peasant Union."



"ONE HUNDRED YEARS of Finnish Studies in the USA: A Conference on the Legacy of Finnish Studies and Its Prospects for the New Millennium" was held Nov. 9-10, 1996, in Minneapolis. It brought together US and Finnish scholars to explore how Finnish studies can facilitate common interests in scholarly pursuits.

Professor **Vecoli** and Curator **Wurl** participated in panels of American respondents, respectively, to addresses by the present and a former holder of UM's Government of Finland/ David and Nancy Speer Visiting Professorship of Finnish Studies. The conference also featured a discussion of how institutions and individual scholars can improve collaboration and cooperation on behalf of Finnish studies. Cosponsors of the event were UM's College of Liberal Arts, Ministry of Education of Finland, and the Finlandia Foundation.

A delegation of Finnish American journalists in town for the conference toured the IHRC November 8 and met with Joel Wurl and Curatorial Assistant **Timo Riippa** about the Center's Finnish American collection.

IHRC AND STAFF NEWS

RUDOLPH VECOLI, IHRC director, gave a plenary address October 19, "Immigrants and the Twin Cities: Melting Pot or Mosaic?" during the conference *Swedish Life in the Twin Cities*. Vecoli also moderated an afternoon plenary and panel discussion on "Swedish America in the Twin Cities Today." Other conference presenters who have been associated with the IHRC as researchers or staff included **William Beyer**, **Joy Lintelman**, and **Dag Blanck**. Part of the celebration of the 150th anniversary of Swedish emigration, the conference was held October 17-20 at the Minnesota History Center, St. Paul.

Also in connection with the celebration, a new permanent exhibit of artifacts and archival materials documenting the history of the Twin Cities Swedish American community is on display in the renovated ballroom of the mansion that houses the American Swedish Institute, Minneapolis. For information, call 612-871-4907.

Professor Vecoli presented a lecture, "The Italian Americans: Stereotypes and Realities," at the Center for Rural Studies, Southwest State U, Marshall, MN, on Sept. 18, 1996. See other Vecoli activities in the Publications and Events section of this *News*.

CURATOR AND ACTING DIRECTOR JOEL WURL attended the annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists in San Diego in August. He has completed his service on SAA's Publications Board.

On September 14, Wurl attended a follow-up meeting in Washington, DC, to the Emigration Networking Conference attended by Director Vecoli in Ulster, Northern Ireland, this June (see last issue of the *News*, p. 5). Participants agreed to establish an Association of North American Migration Institutions. Further deliberations on the mission and structure of the group took place in Philadelphia in December.

Wurl participated in the fall meeting of the Midwest Archives Conference in Madison, WI, October 10-12, chairing the session "Going Global: Guidance for International Collecting." He is cochairing the fall 1997 MAC meeting, an anniversary program with the theme "25 Years of Documenting the American Midwest."

Wurl represented the IHRC at an international working meeting held Nov. 22-24, 1996, at St. Mary's College, Orchard Lake, MI, cosponsored by the college, the Polonia Institute of the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland, and the Embassy of Poland. Scholars and archivists met to develop a plan for a coordinated American-Polish effort to identify, collect, and preserve materials on the history of Poland and Polish Americans, as well as to shape a research agenda to set priorities for collection. Concurrently, the Polish American Historical Association is developing a plan for volunteer and community involvement in collecting new archival materials. A follow up meeting is planned for Krakow in September 1997.



THE IHRC'S EXHIBIT "All the World's a Stage," developed for the 30th Anniversary last spring to showcase immigrant performing arts materials in the collections, was on display and open to the public at the International Institute in St. Paul until the end of November. It was borrowed for November 10, to be part of the Minnesota Historical Society's family day "They Chose Minnesota," focusing on immigrants. Visitors to the History Center in St. Paul were able to view the exhibit and watch the videotape of the Center's anniversary variety show, among many activities.

For information on how your group can sponsor a showing of the exhibit and/or videotape, contact Judy Rosenblatt at the IHRC.

PERSONNEL—**Todd Michney**, graduate research assistant, has returned to the IHRC for this academic year. He will help catalog manuscript collections, complete the processing of the Joseph Roucek collection, and assist with other archival duties.

Susan Staiger and **Jean Wong** are continuing as part-time student curatorial assistants during fall quarter.

Scott Miller, a music librarian who reads Finnish, has been contracted to process and catalog some of the IHRC's Finnish American music collections (see item on page 5, last *News*). He will work for several months, beginning in February. A grant from Finlandia Foundation is providing partial funding for the project.

The IHRC welcomes curatorial volunteers **Elaine** and **Michael Anuta**, who are assisting with processing Finnish American collections.

••••• The IHRC Needs Your Monetary Support •••••

• The IHRC's annual appeal for contributions has been mailed. The University provides only basic funding for the Center. Your support enables the IHRC to find, transport, and process collections; assist researchers; sponsor speakers; hold conferences; mount exhibits; and do many other educational projects. Please respond generously.

• If you didn't receive the appeal or have misplaced it, use the enclosed envelope for your contribution. To make your donation in honor of or in memory of someone or for a specific ethnic collection, write in the information. Contributions are acknowledged in the Center's Annual Report. Thank you for your support.

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Inside...

Acting Director's Column	1, 3
Collection Development	2
Researchers and Visitors	3, 4-5
Publications and Events	3, 5-6
Friends of the IHRC	7-8
IHRC and Staff	9-10

Inserts: *Historical Atlas* order form
Annual giving envelope

See box on page 8 for special message.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED—The IHRC continues to need administrative and curatorial volunteers. Contact Executive Secretary **Jean McIndoo** for job descriptions.

The current issue of *SPECTRUM*, the IHRC's journal, is now available (dated 1994 but published in spring 1996). It contains the keynote presentations and summaries of discussion at the June 1993 conference, "Cold War Aftermath: Minnesota's Ethnic Communities and the Collapse of Soviet Hegemony." It also has essays on related research on displaced persons and an annotated list of relevant collections at the IHRC by ethnic group.

To order a copy, send a check or money order for \$8.50 (US currency), payable to University of Minnesota, to: *Spectrum*, IHRC, 826 Berry St., St. Paul, MN 55114.



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Immigration History Research Center

The IHRC promotes the study and appreciation of ethnic pluralism by sponsoring seminars, publications, conferences, and exhibits. One of this country's foremost repositories of immigration-related printed, manuscript, and audiovisual materials of national and local origin, the Center is open for research by scholars and the general public. The papers and records it collects and preserves are largely the products of the immigrants, their descendants, and their organizations. A substantial body of materials also documents the activities of groups that provided services to immigrants, worked for policy reform, or educated Americans about immigrant needs and problems. The IHRC appreciates your support.

Rudolph J. Vecoli..... Director (on sabbatical)
Joel Wurl..... Curator, Acting Director

About this newsletter. The News is sent to members and prospective members in the Friends of the IHRC, donors of money and materials to the IHRC, UM colleagues, organizations that exchange publications with the IHRC, and others who request it. **Please notify the IHRC if you no longer wish to receive its mailings.**

YOU are the best ambassador of information about the IHRC. Pass this newsletter on, ask for handouts you can distribute to prospective donors or Friends, or send names and addresses and the Center will send information directly to prospects. Thank you.

DEADLINE for the spring issue is **February 21, 1997**. Send news to Judy Rosenblatt. **NOTE:** Issues are now labeled by season of publication (spring, fall, winter) rather than a specific month. There was no Spring 1995 issue. The last newsletter and this one are double issues.