TREASURY DEPARTMENT

UNITED STATES

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

OFFICE OF
MEDICAL OFFICER IN CHARGE

American Consulate,
Bremen, Germany
July 16, 1930

Dear Doctor Kolb,

I have been curious if, by any chance, your work will in the next few months, bring you to Bremen to give us general instructions and advice on our mental examinations? Anyway, I should like to ask your advice on the question of the application of the mental examinations to non-quota cases. My impression is that the intent of the law is not toseparate families, if possible, and perhaps to be more lenient on these cases than the quota cases; but of course the law does not state this.

I have one case which probably best illustrates this, which I will outline briefly. The case is that of a housewife, with a four year old daughter, who is apparently OK. The woman, aged about 34, was rejected twice last year, once by Dr. Archer, again by us, as a quota case. She returns now, her husband in the meantime has become an American citizen, so she is entitled to non-quota status.

She is "a little bit feebleminded". Considering that all of the aliens here have had 8 years in school, we hold them all to about the ten year level. She gives the impression of mental age of about nine years to most of the Terman tests. For example, her writing is very awkward, with many mistakes, her reading about as bad. (Judging from this letter, however, that may not be a very satisfactory criterion) Unable to say the months backward on frequent repitition. The only test which she does satisfactorily, are the Ferguson Form Boards, and these she does all in record time.

Her employer states that she can do the work of a maid very well. According to my personal judgment, I would consider that she could run her household reasonably well for her station in life, and I doubt very much that she would ever be a material social problem. Am I justified in considering that case on this basis? Perhaps you can tell me, whether other stations are more lenient, or perhaps less critical on a case of this kind than on the regular quota cases; so that our action might be comparable.

I suppose in general your experiences there are not much different from ours; about the same weather, same routine, and other similar problems of adjustments to make. We are nicely settled and very comfortable. The youngster is going to to the German public school, and doing fairly well in the third grade. I find total necessary living expenses considerably higher than in the States. If I were grading the job I think I could say; Socially,-fair, Ecnomically-fair,

Educationally-fair, Professionally-poor, financially--zero; or something like that. Our present quota is only about 200 per month, so we are not so very busy. The P.HS. Reports have become to me quite a weekly circular of information. I see several bills of interest to the Service have been passed recently. Am I to conclude that we are contributing something by our presence here? One bill I see carries the provision that officers may be detailed to certain institutions for special study. Do you suppose the idea back of this is that officers after their time here, may be reeducated after their return in public health matters? (As my own typist and stenographer, please excuse mistakes)

The family are all well. Mrs Huber joins me in extending best wishes to you and to Mrs Kolb, and hoping that you are enjoying your stay.

Yours sincerely.

E. E. Huber

Bremen.