

STILL THEY COME

NEARLY 40,000 IMMIGRANTS have entered the United States since July 1, the majority coming from Italy, Russia, the United Kingdom, Germany, Greece and Czecho-Slovakia. Under the 3 per cent restrictive immigration act about 320,000 more can enter during the remainder of the fiscal year. The great inass of foreign workers dumped in the American labor market yearly makes the fight for a living wage, and, in fact, to secure employment at all, very difficult.

NATURALLY employers welcome these newcomers, as supply and demand in labor the same as in commodities regulates the price. They see wage scales lowered and an increase in their stock dividends. This large influx of foreigners affects our group more than any other, for the reason that in ninety-nine out of a hundred cases employers give white workers the preference. We get in only when there is a shortage or a strike. It is the American way, and until common sense and justice get an inning the chances are that we will continue to be "pinch hitters."

THERE IS A WAY OUT of this difficulty, however. We must combine our forces and our resources and establish large business houses, manufacturing plants and shops. We must go into the farming game, not for the other fellow or on shares, but for ourselves, in all sections of the country. We must develop race pride, giving the preference always in making purchases—all else being equal—to those of our group in business. One of the reasons why we are as far down the business and economic scale as we are is because all too many are what the thinking element term "white folks" ———. In other words they are the kind that would kick the props out from under their own to curry the favor of some degenerate white.

WE MUST FIGHT our own battles. Foreigners cannot be blamed for attempting to gobble up every piece of work in sight. Self-preservation is the first law of nature. The foreigner has what we lack, racial solidarity. Every business that we open and conduct successfully means a long step forward toward our most important second emancipation. It means employment for our young men and women. It means a firmer foothold in the community. There is much being said about the "new Negro" being alive and on the job. We have no new Negro—just the old one awakened. Let us keep awake.