

Publication Number: M1365

Publication Title: Certificates of Head Tax Paid by Aliens Arriving at Seattle from Foreign Contiguous Territory, 1917-1924

Date Published: n.d.

CERTIFICATES OF HEAD TAX PAID BY ALIENS ARRIVING AT SEATTLE FROM FOREIGN CONTIGUOUS TERRITORY, 1917-1924

Introduction

This microfilm publication reproduces Alien Certificates issued to immigrants upon payment of the required "head tax," or immigration fee, at Vancouver and Victoria, British Columbia, surrendered at Seattle, WA between 1917 and 1924. These Alien Certificates served as permits to enter the United States from foreign contiguous territory. All persons entering the United States across contiguous borders were required to submit to an examination prior to entry and those intending to remain permanently were required to pay the head tax.

The certificates are handwritten on printed Immigration Bureau forms. Each record provides the immigrant's name and nationality; the date, vessel and port of arrival in Canada (if non-Canadian); a physical description; the place where the immigrant entered the United States; and the date the certificate was surrendered to an immigration official.

The records are arranged in four segments by certificate numbers: 1-79500; 113901-113950; 227659-227800; and 231201-249950. These numbers are not assigned in chronological order; however, blocks of numbers cover roughly the same time period. Certificates numbered 1-79500 cover the period from Dec. 1917 to Dec. 1919. Certificates 113901-113950, on roll 10, cover March and April 1929 and include certificates surrendered at Blaine, WA. These are the only certificates included for years after 1924. For certificates issued from July to Dec. 1917, see numbers 227659 to 227800 and 231201 to 249950, also on roll 10.

These records were transferred to the National Archives on microfilm. Errors in arrangement and omissions cannot be corrected. Defective images, which were identified when the records were filmed, were microfilmed again, and the corrections were spliced on the beginning of each roll as "retakes."

CONTENTS

Roll	<u>Date; Certificate Numbers</u>
1	1917-18; 1-5628

2	1918-19; 5629-12965
3	1919-20; 12966-20519
4	1920-21; 20520-26296
5	1921-22; 26297-38729
6	1921-22; 38730-45686
7	1921-23; 45687-51050
8	1921-23; 51051-57728
9	1923-24; 57729-76416
10	1923-24; 76417-79500
	Mar.-Apr. 1929; 113901-113950
	1917; 227659-227800
	1917; 231201-249950