

“The Immigrant: Is He An Acquisition Or A Detriment?”

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Published in *Judge* magazine on September 19, 1903, “The Immigrant: Is He An Acquisition Or A Detriment?” cartoon reveals the opposing viewpoints of seven major interest groups towards immigration. Individuals surround the immigrants located in the center, expressing their judgments through signs and identification labels. In general, the cartoon depicts the benefits and drawbacks of immigration in the early twentieth century.

From left to right there is a: citizen, Uncle Sam, a contractor, a workman, a statesman, a health officer, and a politician. Citizens and health officers saw immigrants as insane due to the excitement of their arrival to the country. Immigrants were seen as a form of aid in the field of labor due to the growth in agriculture and the railroad industry. The immigrant holds a box stating that one million immigrants arrived to the U.S. in twelve months. This represents one of many numbers of the migration throughout the Ellis Island Era (1892-1954), and the two ships in the background can foretell that more immigrants will be arriving in the upcoming years. As immigrants settled similar citizen treatment was given, such as counting part of the population in the manner politics and the country itself.

