

Document B: *The Arizona Republican*

GOOD CITIZENS MADE OF ALIENS IN MANY TOWNS

Recent Progress of Americanization Work in Arizona Is Shown in Reports

Peoria, Arizona, has a flourishing evening class in English which meets twice a week, and a class in home economics for Mexican women which meets once a week. . . .

A weekly social evening for the Mexican people is observed and an occasional program of general interest is carried out. . . .

A class in home nursing is also conducted for Mexican women. . . .

Bisbee, Arizona, reports constant growth in the English classes and maintains, in addition to the usual class in English for foreigners, two naturalization classes, one formed in the fall and one in January. The class recently graduated numbered 32. These graduates were presented with government diplomas which entitle them to their final citizenship papers after giving proof of their loyalty to and sympathy with the institutions of this country. . . .

Bisbee is to have a new Mexican school house ready for occupation within a short time. This building will contain 16 class rooms, five of which will be devoted to industrial education.

Source: *The Arizona Republican*, February 12, 1920

Document C: Ernesto Galarza

Ernesto Galarza was a Mexican American labor activist, professor, and writer. He was born in Mexico and immigrated to Sacramento with his family at the age of 8. He delivered this address at the National Conference of Social Work in 1929. He said that his purpose for presenting the paper was to offer the perspective of a Mexican immigrant.

The Mexican immigrant still feels the burden of old prejudices. . . . The sentiments which seem to be deeply rooted in the American mind are that he is unclean, **improvident**, **indolent**, and **innately** dull. Add to this the suspicion that he constitutes a **peril** to the American worker's wage scale and you have a situation with which no average Mexican can cope. . . .

I would ask for recognition of the Mexican's contribution to the agricultural and industrial expansion of western United States. . . . It is amusing to read the praises of those opposed to the restriction of immigration. From Denver to Los Angeles and from the Imperial Valley to Portland, it is said, an empire has been created largely by the **brawn** of the humble Mexican, who laid the rails and topped the beets and poured the cubic miles of cement. . . . For some obscure reason these builders of **colossal** fortunes have done their jobs and gone their ways still clothed in rags.

Source: Ernesto Galarza, "Life in the United States for Mexican People: Out of the Experience of a Mexican," *National Conference of Social Work Proceedings*, 1929

Vocabulary

improvident: irresponsible

indolent: lazy

innately: naturally

peril: threat

colossal: extremely large

brawn: physical strength

Document A: Colonel L. M. Maus

Colonel L. M. Maus served in the U.S. Army for over forty years.

During the past four months retired Colonel L. M. Maus has been making an educational and economical study of the American-Mexican population of the four southwest border states, New Mexico, Arizona, Texas and California.

“There are over 1,000,000 of these people, native born and foreign,” said Col. Maus today. “They are generally misunderstood by the American people, but in spite of misrepresentations they are absolutely essential to the prosperity of the great southwest.

“These Mexicans do practically all of the agricultural work in the border states, especially cotton raising and **truck gardening**, which form a large part of the industry of Texas, Arizona, and southern California. Contrary to the popular idea, the Mexican people are anxious to secure labor and are immigrating to the United States by the tens of thousands every year.

“They are performing all of the track work of the southern lines and besides are being shipped by hundreds to Michigan, Wyoming, and the middle west and northwestern states as far as Idaho, Oregon, and Washington for labor. . . .”

Col. Maus has been requested to address the congregation of the Presbyterian church Sunday night on this important subject, which he says is so poorly understood by the American people. The services will start at 8 p. m.

Source: The Bismarck Tribune, *North Dakota*, May 21, 1920

Vocabulary

truck gardening: raising vegetables and fruit for sale