

0.24.9 immigration in the 1930s.

A 1924 law passed by Congress restricted the number of Jews, Asians and Africans who could legally immigrate to the U.S.. After that Polish Jews who wanted to come to America had to apply at the Embassy in Warsaw and they needed someone in the U.S. to agree to put down a deposit of \$5000.

“In the late 1930s anti-Semitism intensified in Poland. The Catholic Church and the right wing government promoted boycotts of Jewish businesses. Politicians pressured Jews to leave the country. Gangs attacked their Jewish neighbors. Overhanging everything was the growing possibility of a German invasion. “(The U.S. and the holocaust—Ken Burns.)

In 1920 the U.S. started prohibiting the sale of intoxicating beverages. Before the law was enacted Peoria Illinois was the home of more than 24 breweries and 73 distilleries, and it was called the “Whiskey Capital of the World”

In December 1933 prohibition ended. Anticipating an influx of workers, Harry and Dave opened what became a thriving Furniture store in Peoria Illinois. They also made it their business to get to know their congressman Everett Dirksen. Five years before Hitler invaded Russia, forced the Jews of Torczyn, into a ghetto, and murdered many of our relatives, Shlomo Moshe died. He had not wanted to leave his homeland. The brothers could now extract their mother and their sister’s family from a land that was becoming increasingly racist and anti-Semitic.