Immigration and Urbanization
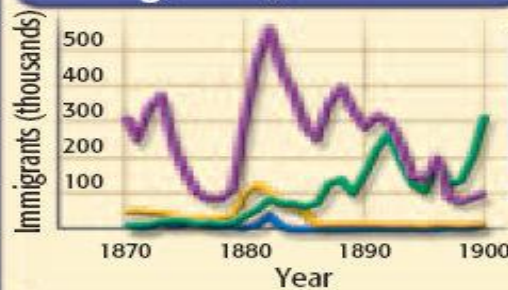
"Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore"

"Old" and "New" Immigrants, 1870–1900

ARCTIC CIRCLE

ASIA

ALASKA
U.S.

CANADA

"Old" Immigrants
Northern & Western Europe

7,876,122

Canadian
Immigrants
820,669

10,961,744
Total

EUROPE

N
W · E
S

28,409

JAPAN

243,860 Asian Immigrants
Total

Angel Island
UNITED STATES

Ellis Island

3,085,622

30°N

CHINA

TROPIC OF CANCER

215,451

"New" Immigrants
Southern & Eastern Europe

MEXICO

ATLANTIC
OCEAN

AFRICA

Latin American
Immigrants
91,792

PACIFIC
OCEAN

EQUATOR

0   1500 miles

0   1500 kilometers
Mercator projection

TROPIC OF CAPRICORN

SOUTH
AMERICA

Push Factors
- Farm poverty & worker uncertainty
- Wars & compulsory military service
- Political tyranny
- Religious oppression

AUSTRALIA

Immigration, 1870–1900

Immigrants (thousands)

500
400
300
200
100

From northern and western Europe	
From southern and eastern Europe	
From the Americas	
From Asia	

1870   1880   1890   1900
Year

Pull Factors
- Plenty of land & plenty of work
- Higher standard of living
- Democratic political system
- Opportunity for social advancement

Geography Skills

1. **Analyzing Maps** From which region did the majority of U.S. immigrants come?

Immigrants from Europe

1870-1890—20 million Europeans arrived to the U.S.

Old Immigrants—Before 1890

- came from Great Britain, Ireland, and Germany.

New Immigrants—After 1890

- came from Italy, Austria-Hungary, and Russia.
  - They came to:
    - **F**ind work
    - **I**ndependence
    - **R**ising population
    - **E**scape religious persecution

Old Immigration v. New Immigration

OLD vs New Immigrant----→Generalizations people made	
The old immigrants. . .	**The new immigrants. . .**
came from northern or western Europe	came from southern or eastern Europe
were Protestant	majority not Protestant--were Catholic, Orthodox, Jewish
literate and skilled	illiterate and unskilled
were quick to assimilate	were clannish and reluctant to assimilate
Came from countries with democracy	Came from undemocratic countries
Not completely poor	arrived poor

ELLIS ISLAND, NEW YORK

- Ellis Island was the arrival point for European **immigrants**
- They had to **pass inspection** at the immigration stations
- Processing took hours, and the sick were sent home
- Immigrants also had to show that they were not criminals, had *some* money ($25), and were able to work
- From 1892-1924, **17 million** immigrants passed through Ellis Island's facilities

NEW YORK

Manhattan

Ellis Island

NEW JERSEY

Staten Island
Long Island

© 1992 MAGELLAN Geographix, Santa Barbara, CA

ANGEL ISLAND, SAN FRANCISCO

4-6486 Angel Island, CA
AERIALS ONLY 508-295-5551 (c)

- Asians, primarily Chinese, arriving on the West Coast gained admission at Angel Island in the San Francisco Bay

- Processing was much harsher than Ellis Island as immigrants withstood tough questioning and long detentions in filthy conditions

Immigrants from China

1. Arrived on the West coast
2. Came in search of wealth (gold rush)
3. Many helped build RRs
4. Immigration was sharply limited by Congress in 1882

Cooperation for Survival

How do you think they were able to survive?

How do you think native-born people reacted to the immigrants?

Ethnic Cities – Little Italy

Little Italy, New York City, circa 1901

By the late 1800s, immigrants made up a great portion of the country's largest cities, including New York City, Chicago and Boston

Hester Street –

Jewish Section

Chinatown, NYC

MELTING POT CONCEPT

Melting Pot—mixture of people of different cultures and races who blended together by abandoning their native language & customs; assimilation

THE WASP

WHAT WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE.

Immigration Restrictions

Nativism—extreme favoritism toward native-born Americans

- Anti-immigrant sentiment grew
- Led to immigration restrictions

HELP WANTED
NO IRISH NEED APPLY

Chinese Exclusion Act—1882
Banned entry of all Chinese immigrants
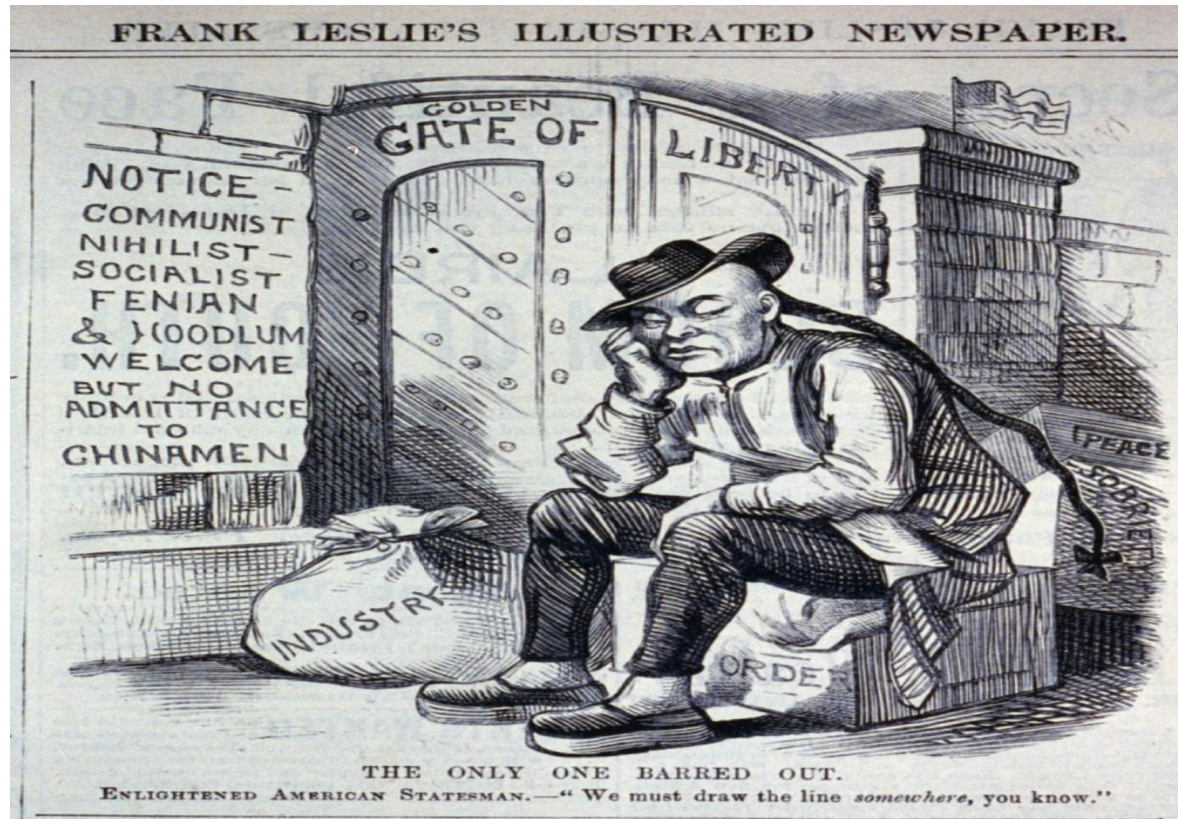
Gentlemen's Agreement

1907-1908, Japan's government agreed to limit immigration of unskilled workers to the U.S.
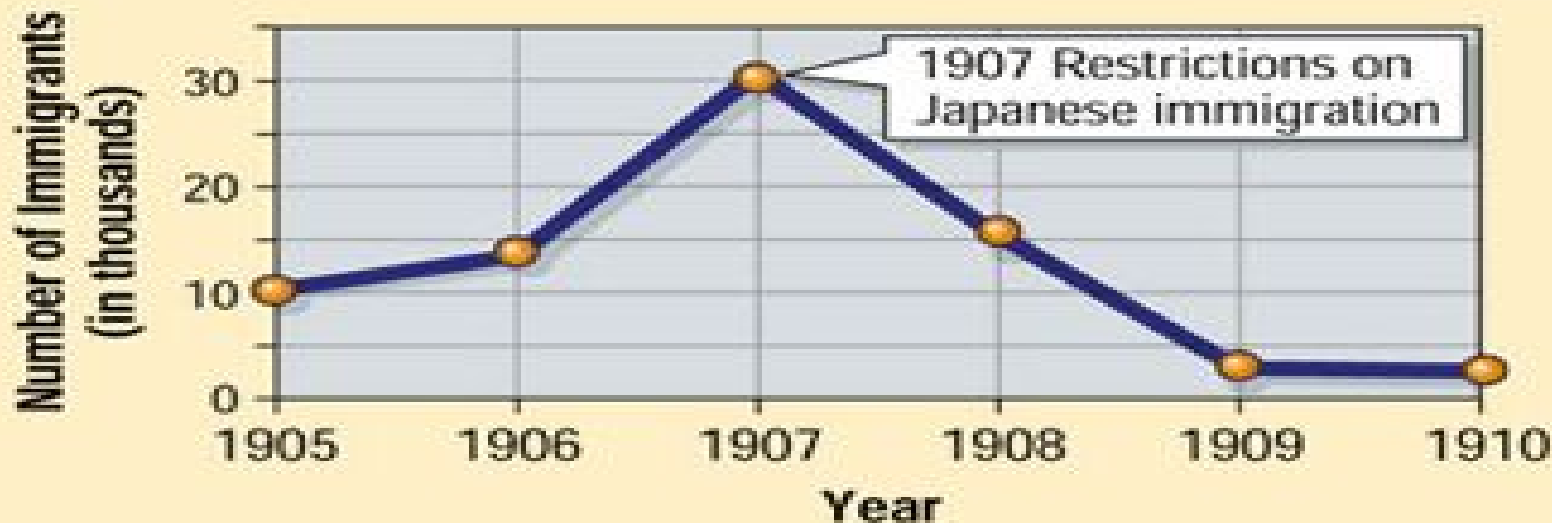
Source: *Historical Statistics of the United States, Colonial Times to 1970*

The Problems with Urbanization

Urbanization—growth of cities in the Northeast & Midwest

1. **Immigrants settle in cities**
   - It was the cheapest and most convenient to live
   - Americanization mov't designed to help immigrants assimilate to American culture
2. **Migration from country to city**
   - Farmers moved because technology meant less labor needed
   - African Americans moved to escape:
     - Racial violence
     - Economic hardship
     - Political oppression

Humanity Compressed

- Rich vs Poor: widening class divisions
- Poor moved to treeless Ghettos; rich moved to Green Suburbs
- "Dumbbell" Tenements – very little ventilation, unhealthy conditions.
- Slums: "Lung Block"
- City neighborhoods became segregated by race, ethnicity, and social class.
- Issues: impure water, uncollected garbage
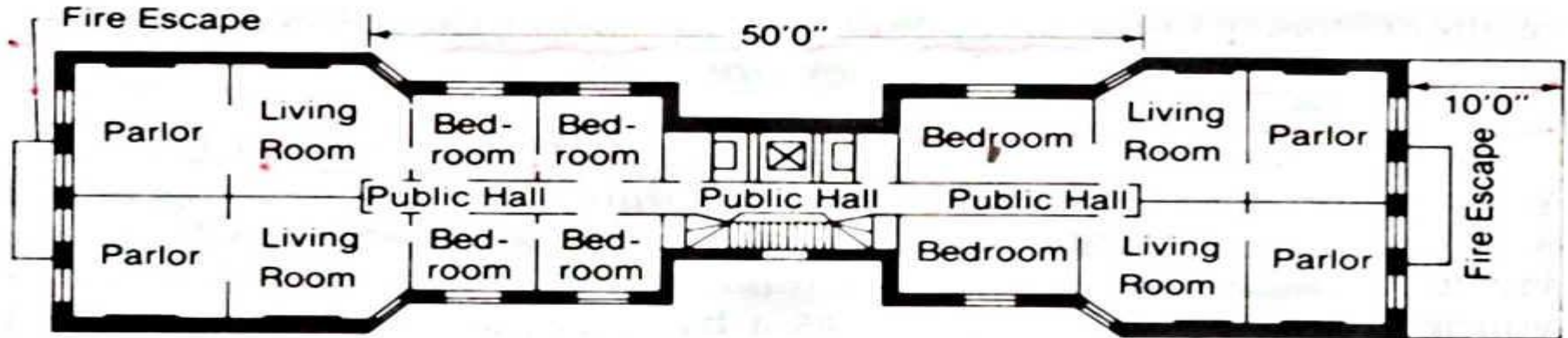
DUMBBELL TENEMENT

URBAN PROBLEMS

- Problems in American cities in the late 19th and early 20th century included:

- *Housing:* overcrowded tenements were unsanitary

- *Sanitation*: garbage was often not collected, polluted air

Famous photographer Jacob Riis captured the struggle of living in crowded tenements

URBAN PROBLEMS CONTINUED

Harper's Weekly image of Chicagoans fleeing the fire over the Randolph Street bridge in 1871

- _Transportation:_ Cities struggled to provide adequate transit systems
- _Water:_ Without safe drinking water cholera and typhoid fever was common
- _Crime:_ As populations increased thieves flourished
- _Fire:_ Limited water supply and wooden structures combined with the use of candles led to many major urban fires – Chicago 1871 and San Francisco 1906 were two major fires

REFORMERS MOBILIZE

- Jacob Riis was a reformer who through his pictures hoped for change— he influenced many
- The Social Gospel Movement preached salvation through service to the poor
- Some reformers established Settlement Homes
- These homes provided a place to stay, classes, health care and other social services
- Jane Addams was the most famous member of the Settlement Movement (founded Hull House in Chicago)

Jane Addams and Hull House

Reactions to Immigration

Social Gospel: Protestant Christian movement bringing to light issues of new immigrants and industrial society

- social justice
- poverty
- liquor,
- crime
- race tension
- slums
- bad hygiene
- child labor
- inadequate labor unions
- poor schools

Role of church = salvation of humankind and promotion of social righteousness.
.●Promoted society over the individual.
●Promoted socialism as an answer to modern societal ills.
●Prepared the path leading to Progressivism.

SECTION 3: POLITICS IN THE GILDED AGE

IN COUNTING THERE IS STRENGTH

- As cities grew in the late 19th century, so did **political machines**
- Political machines controlled the activities of a political party in a city
- Ward bosses, precinct captains, and the city boss worked to ensure their candidate was elected

ROLE OF THE POLITICAL BOSS

- **The "Boss"** (typically the mayor) controlled jobs, business licenses, and influenced the court system

- Precinct captains and ward bosses were often 1st or 2nd generation immigrants so they **helped immigrants** with naturalization, jobs, and housing in exchange for votes


Boss Tweed ran NYC

THE TWEED RING SCANDAL

- William M. Tweed, known as Boss Tweed, became head of Tammany Hall, NYC's powerful Democratic political machines
- Between 1869-1871, Tweed led the Tweed Ring, a group of corrupt politicians, in defrauding the city
- Tweed was indicted on 120 counts of fraud and extortion
- Tweed was sentenced to 12 years in jail – released after one, arrested again, and escaped to Spain
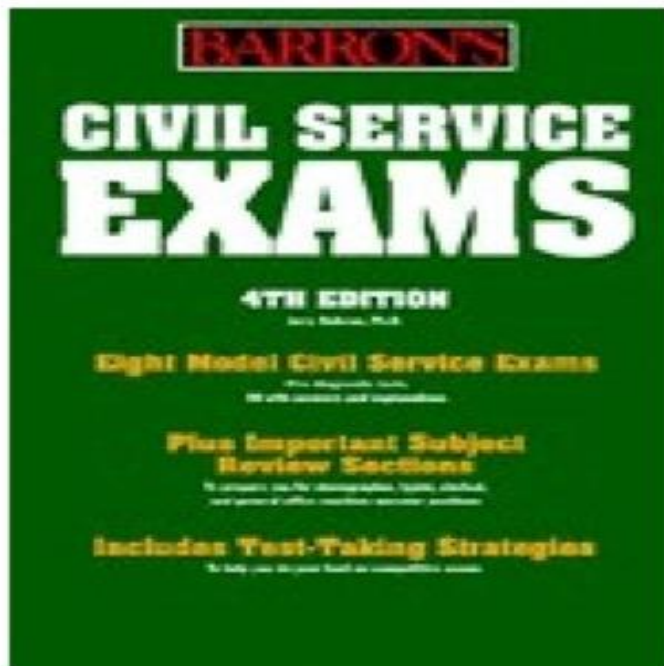

Boss Tweed
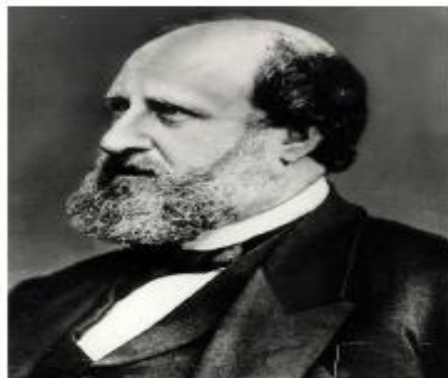
MUNICIPAL GRAFT AND SCANDAL

ELECTION FRAUD

- Some political bosses were **corrupt**
- Some political machines used fake names and voted multiple times to ensure victory ("Vote early and often") – called **Election fraud**
- **Graft (bribes)** was common among political bosses
- Construction contracts often resulted in **"kick-backs"**
- The fact that police forces were hired by the boss prevented close scrutiny

CIVIL SERVICE REPLACES PATRONAGE

BARRON'S

CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS

4TH EDITION

Eight Model Civil Service Exams

Plus Important Subject Review Sections

Includes Test-Taking Strategies

Applicants for federal jobs are required to take a Civil Service Exam

- Nationally, some politicians pushed for reform in the hiring system
- The system had been based on *Patronage;* giving jobs and favors to those who helped a candidate get elected
- Reformers pushed for an adoption of a merit system of hiring the most qualified for jobs
- The Pendleton Civil Service Act of 1883 authorized a bipartisan commission to make appointments for federal jobs based on performance

Booker T. Washington

Booker T. Washington: ex-slave and educator – avoided the issue of inequality and accepted segregation; focused on the education of the Black community and improvements economically.

- 44% of nonwhite were illiterate in 1900
- Established Tuskegee Institute-private college for Blacks.
- Believed in Self-Help Approach—taught black students trades to give them economic security.
  - Acknowledged Racism, but didn't challenge it. (He avoided the issue of racial equality)

W.E.B. Du Bois

Mixed race: African, French, Dutch, Indian

- 1st African-American to earn PhD at Harvard
- Demanded complete equality for Blacks (social and economic)
- 1910 founded NAACP: National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. African civil rights organization to eliminate discrimination