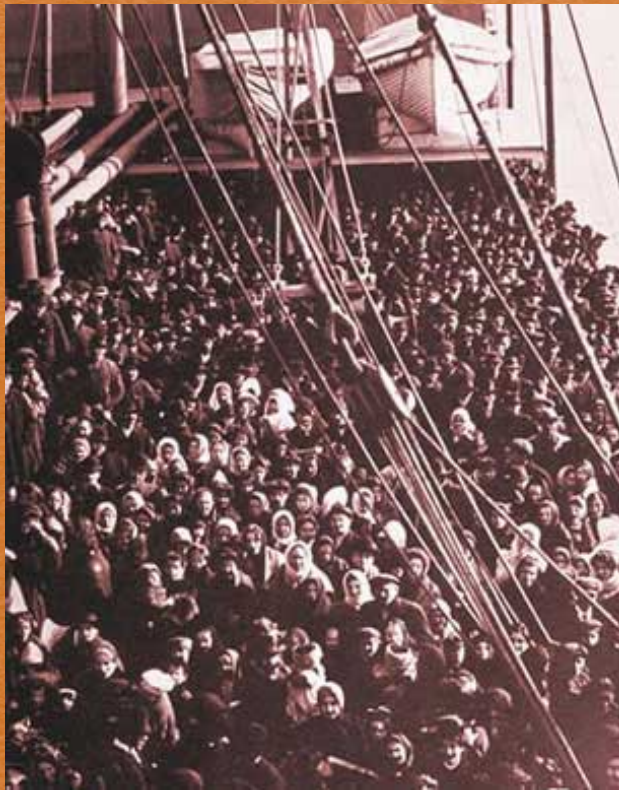


Immigration Americanization



1. Immigrants after 1890

- ✧ Most from Southern and Eastern Europe
(Italians, Poles, Russians)
- ✧ Catholic, Jewish, or Eastern Orthodox

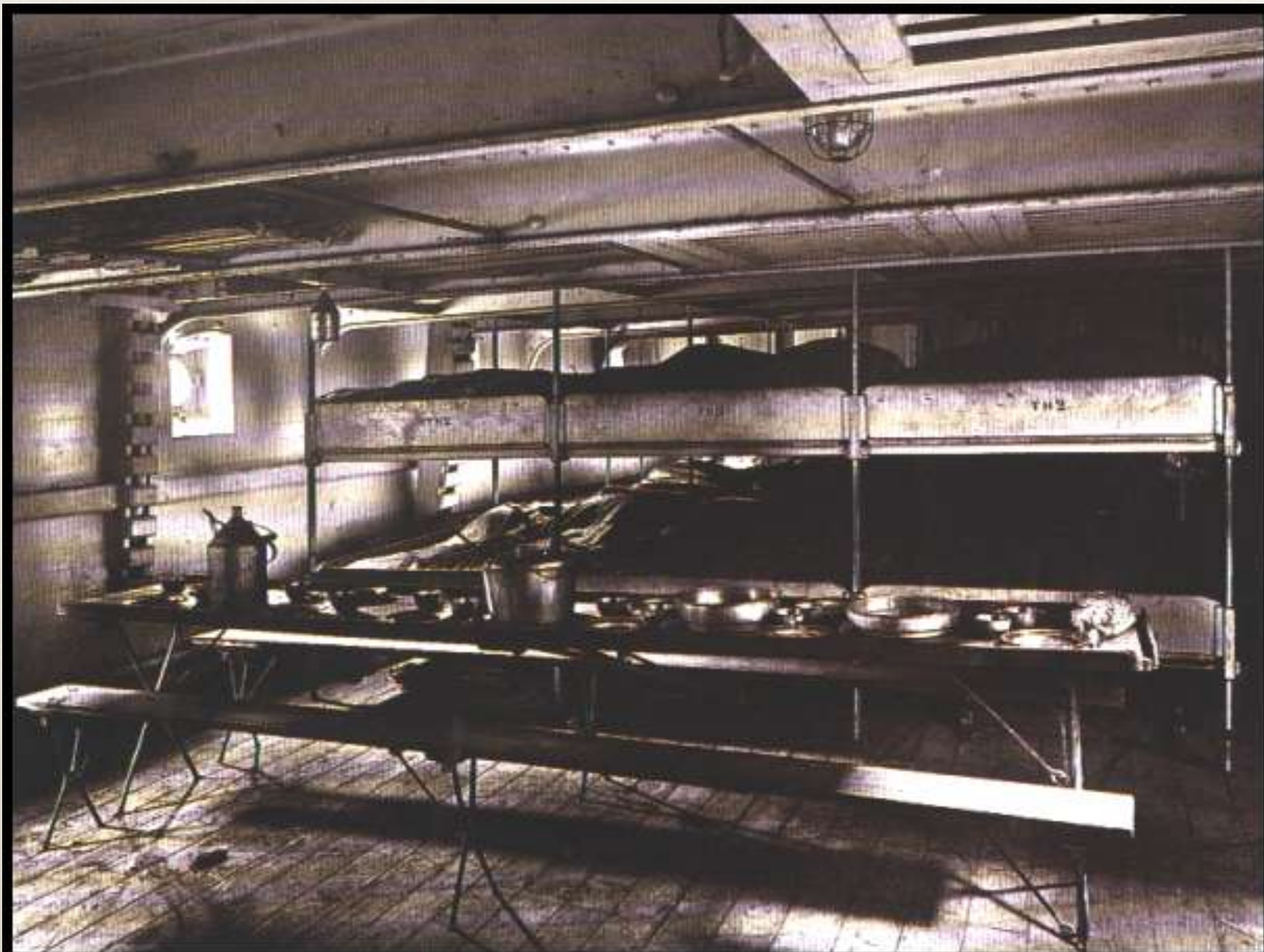


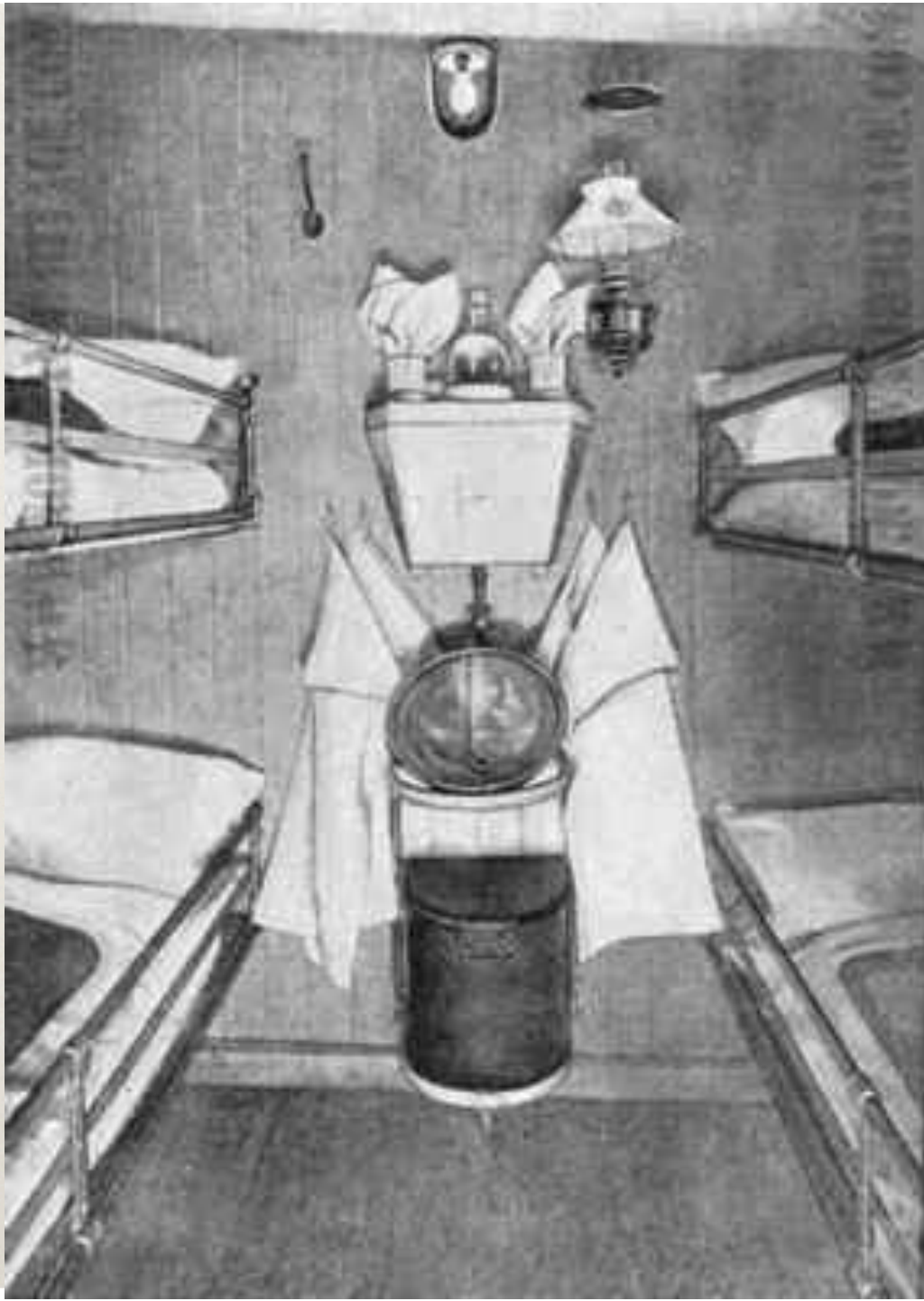


Immigrants
traveled
steerage – the
cheapest
class of travel.
Very crowded!

*







Most immigrants in the late 1800s arrived to Ellis Island immigration station in New York City



They would be given a registration number and wait for their turn for processing.

*













They were examined by doctors and could be quarantined or sent home if they were ill and could not be cured.







- ★ During processing, immigrants had to be careful what they said about jobs, or they could be in trouble. Sometimes the agent would change their names.



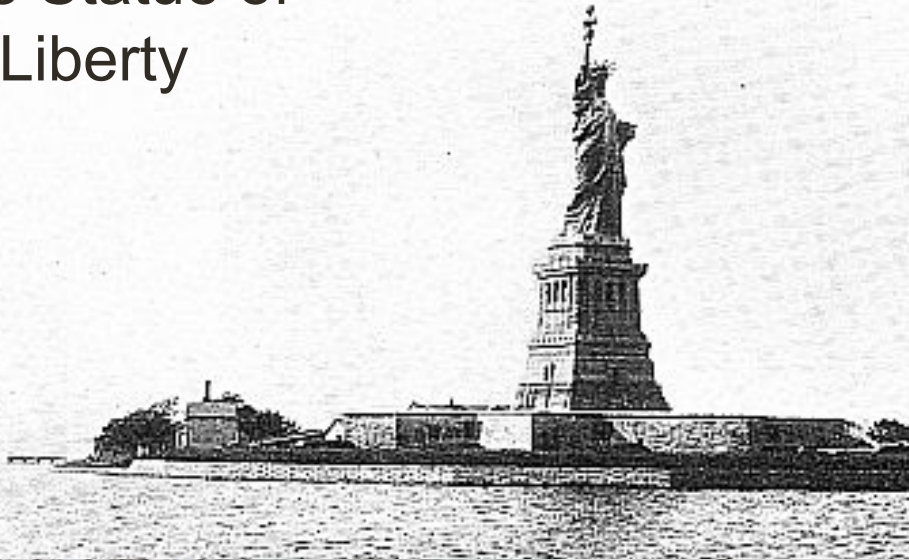








The Statue of Liberty





The New Colossus

Emma Lazarus, 1883

...Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand

A mighty woman with a torch...her name

Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand

Glowed world-wide welcome...

“Give me your tired, your poor,

Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,

The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.

Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me,

I lift my lamp beside the golden door!”



The Colossus of Rhodes (artist's rendition)

Because of this poem, the Statue of Liberty has come to symbolize a welcome to immigrants (as well as being a symbol of freedom)



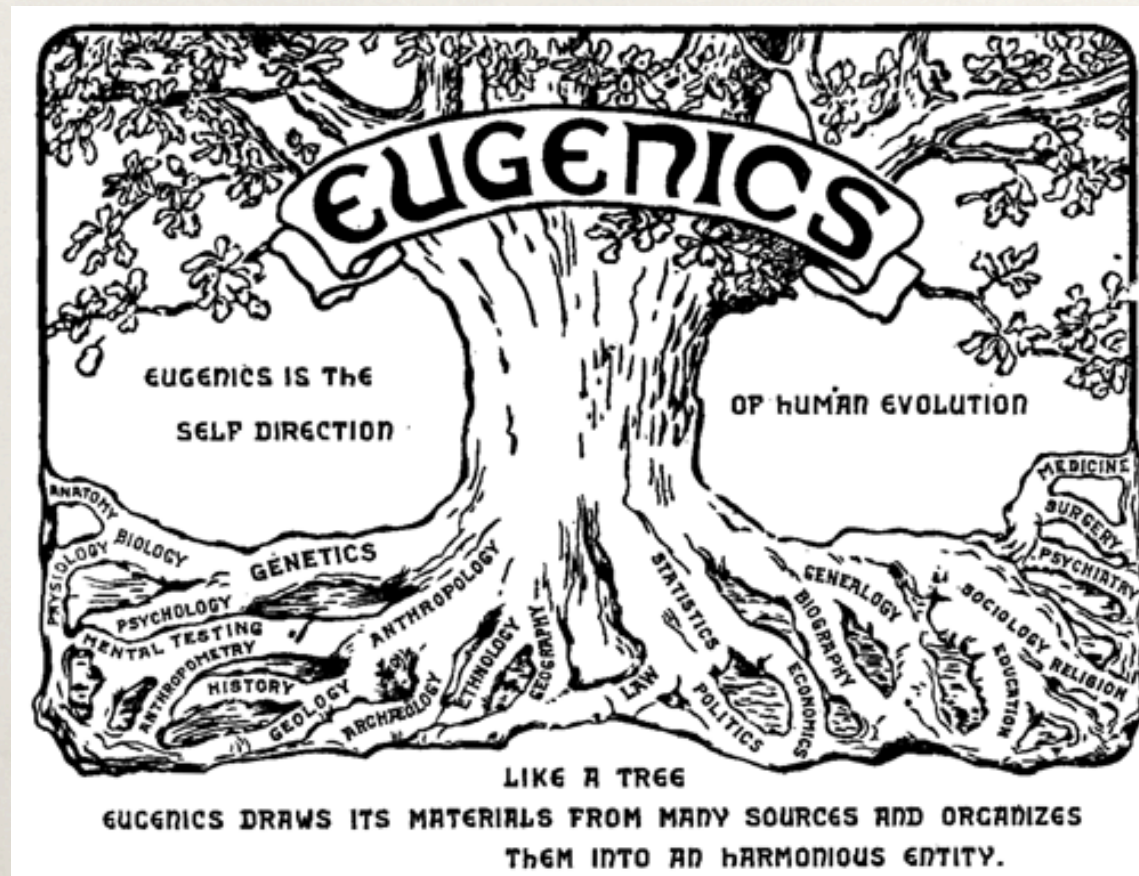
2. Concerns about Immigrants/Immigration:

- A. Anglo-Saxonism = belief that the White Anglo-Saxon Protestant (“WASP” or “Anglo”) “race” was superior to the other groups and was in danger from immigrants. Led to “Eugenics.”



Eugenics Movement (Eugenics means “good breeding”)

- * Program which focused on developing “fitter” Americans based on the “science” of the period



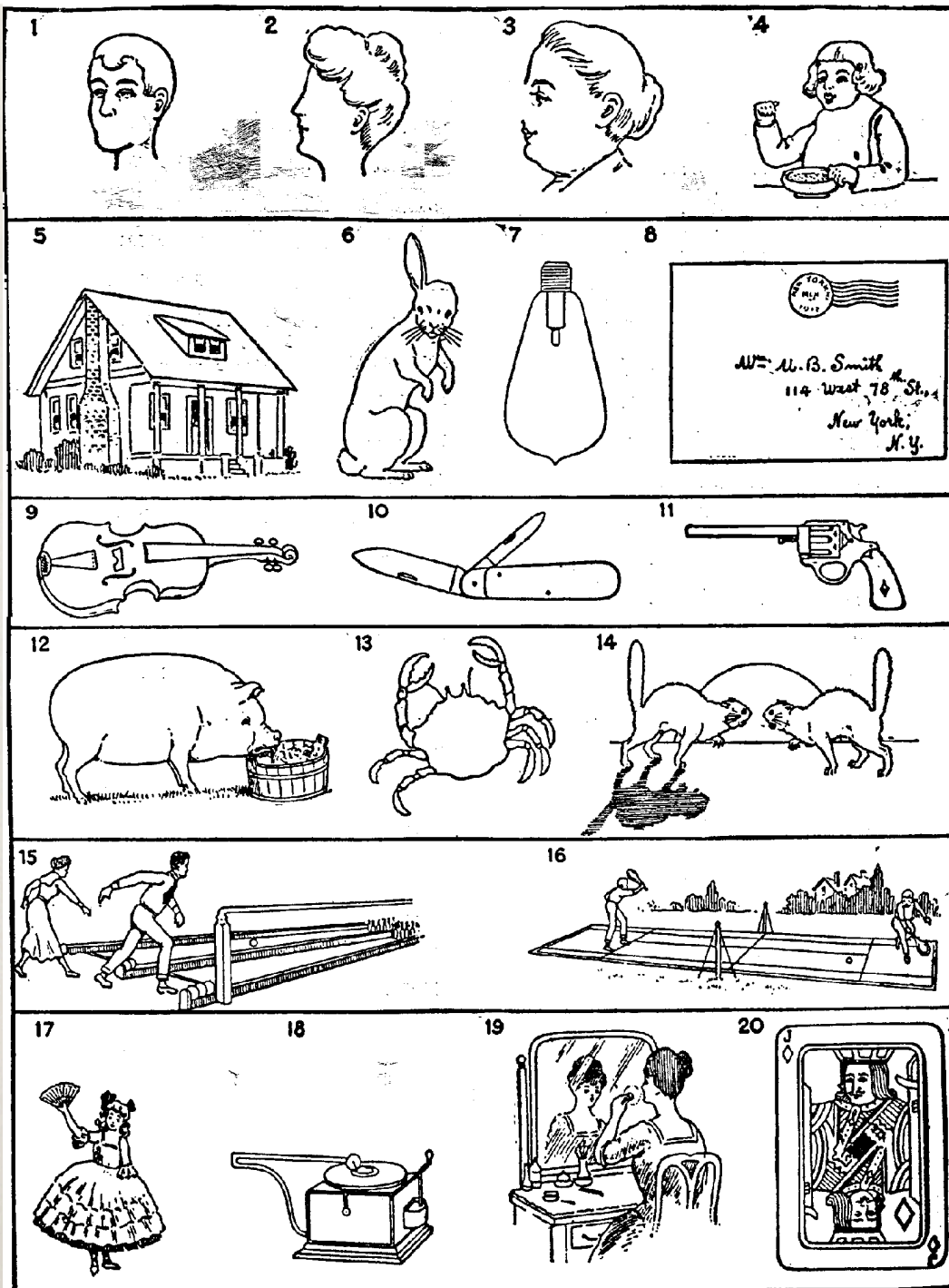


Methods of implementing Eugenics:

1. Testing – immigrants were tested upon arrival to determine if they were “fit” or “feeble-minded” -- this starts IQ and the standardized testing movement



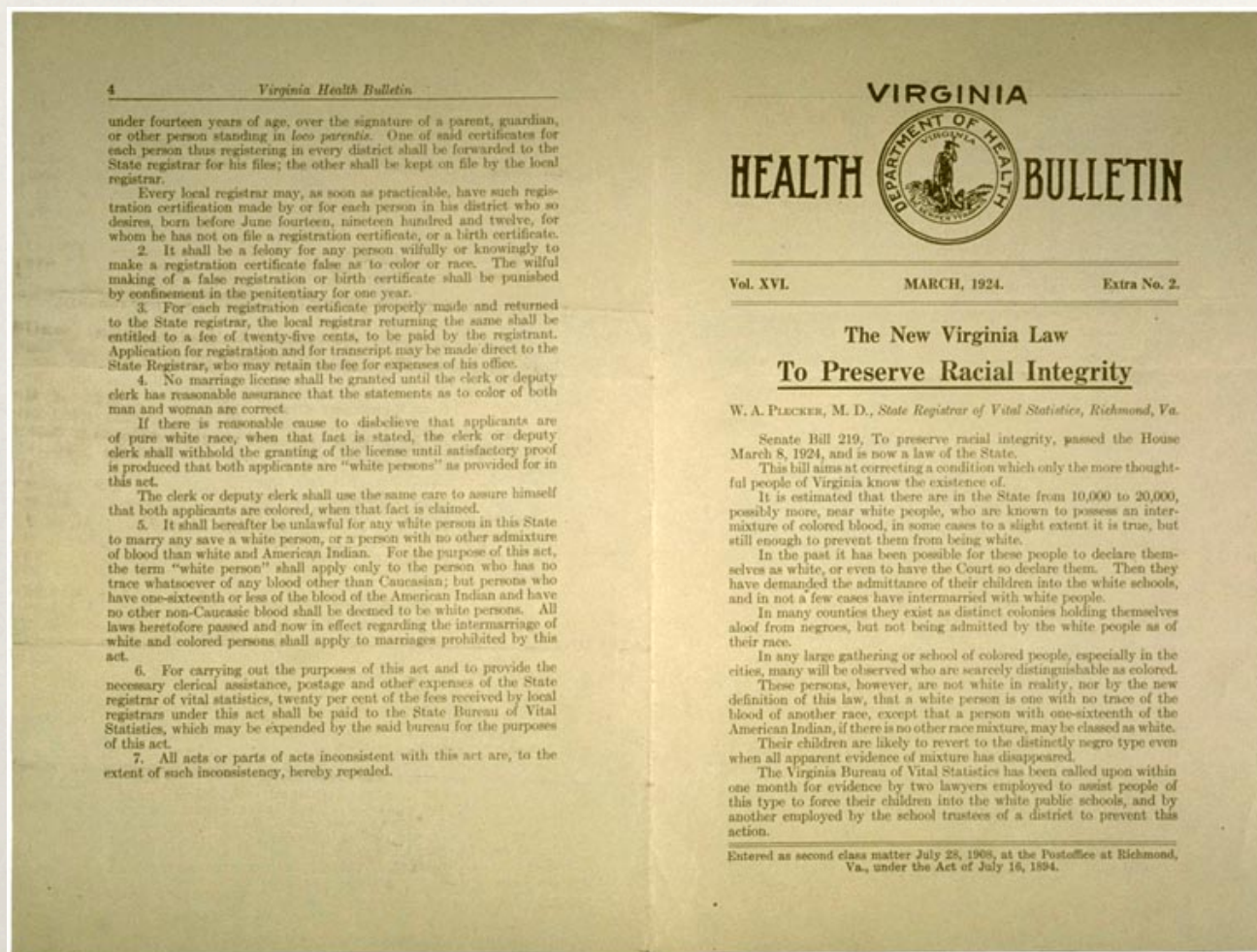
Administration of IQ Test to Immigrant
(Ellis Island, circa, 1913)



Beta IQ Test 5 (1917)

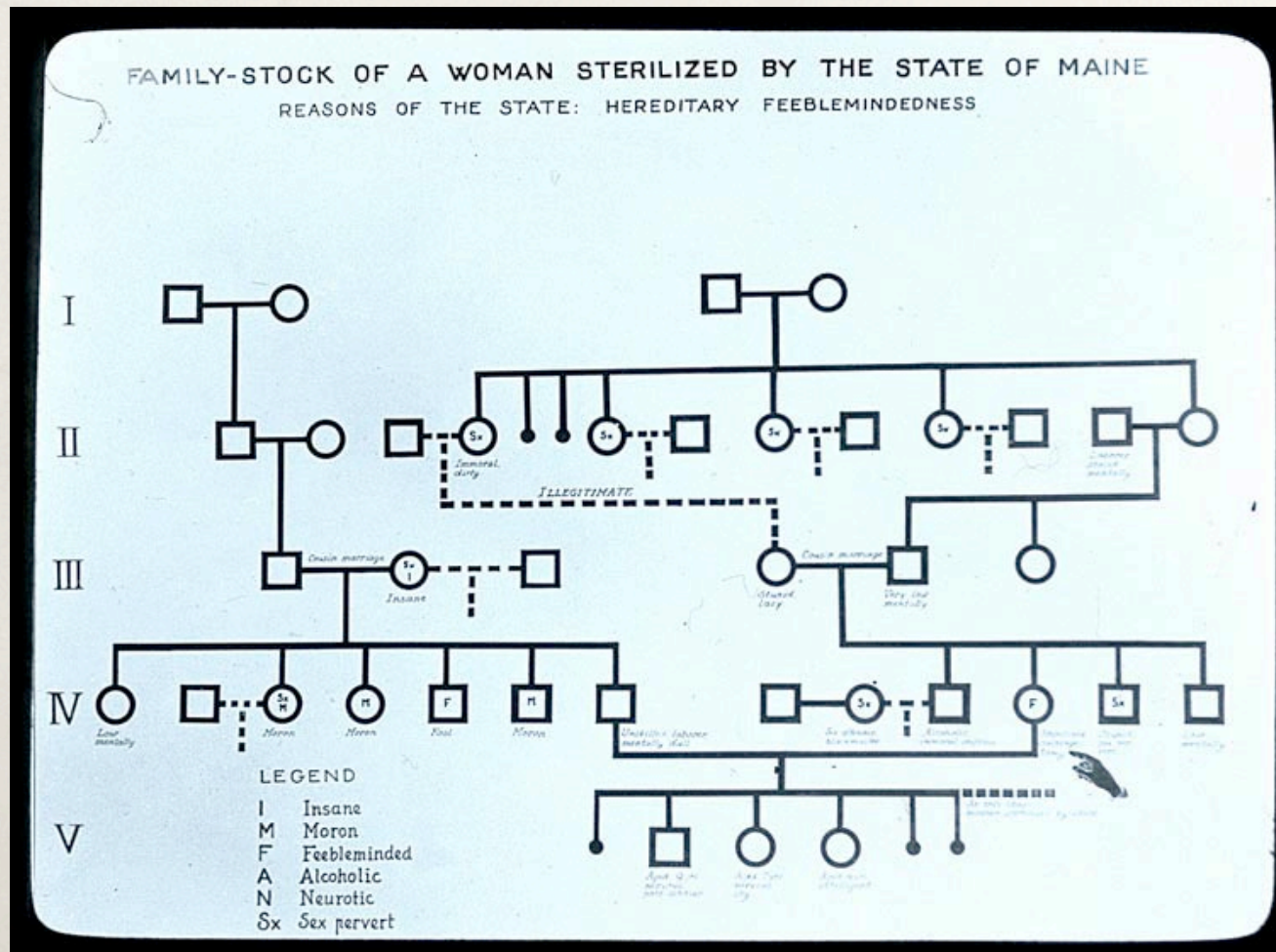
Tests were
often culturally
biased.

2. Anti-miscegenation laws – it was illegal in most States for people of different ethnicities to marry (Miscegenation means “mixing of genes”)



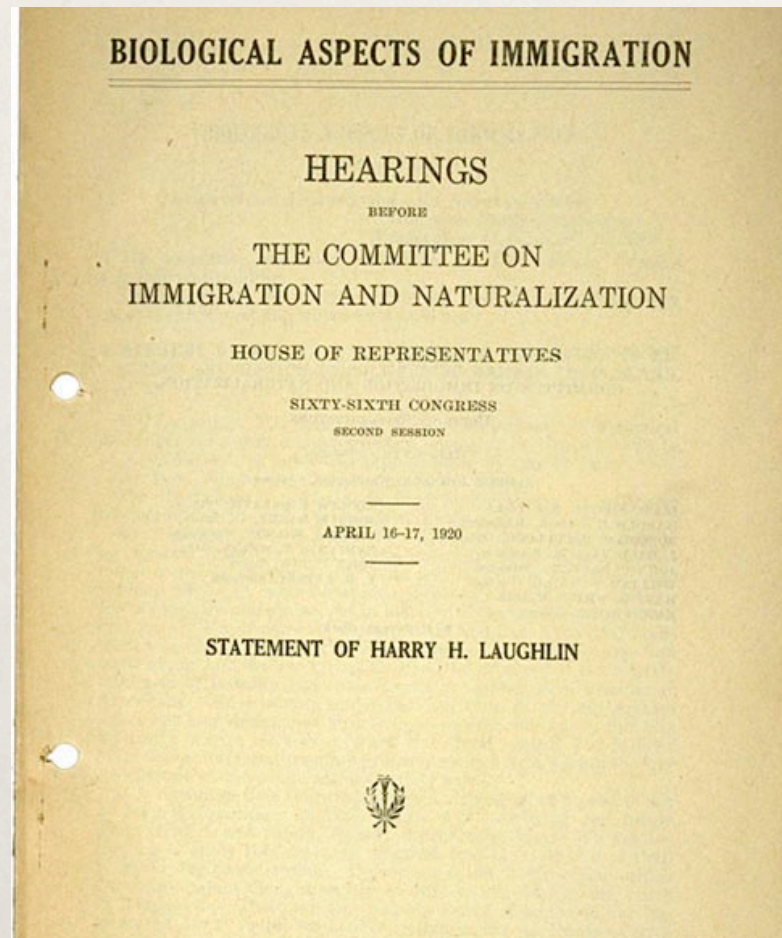
Virginia's Act to Preserve Racial Integrity (1924)

3. Forced sterilization – the state could order a “feeble-minded” person to have an operation so he or she could not have children



Pedigree Chart Used as Evidence for a State Sterilization (circa, 1935)

4. Immigration restrictions – Eugenics experts advised Congress to pass laws reducing the numbers of immigrants



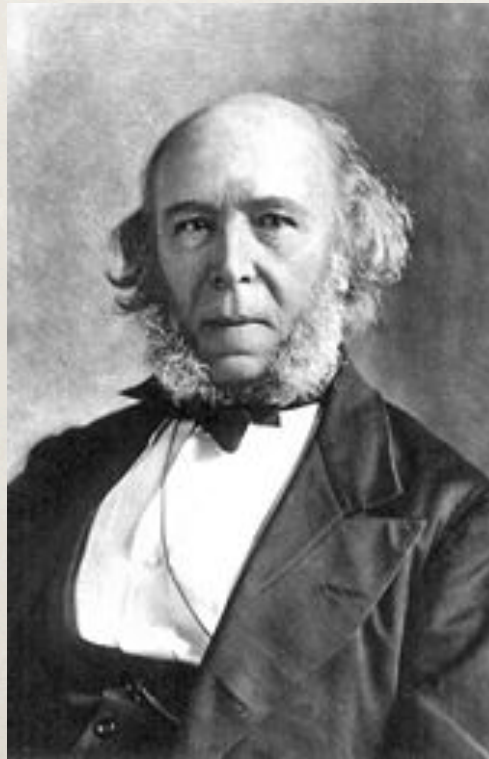
Transcript of “Expert Eugenics Adviser” testimony to Committee On Immigration (1920)

B. Social Darwinism

Belief that the rich had risen to the top because they were the “fittest” – compared this to natural selection in science

Poor were poor because they were weak

Rich used this to justify position and business methods



C. Religious intolerance

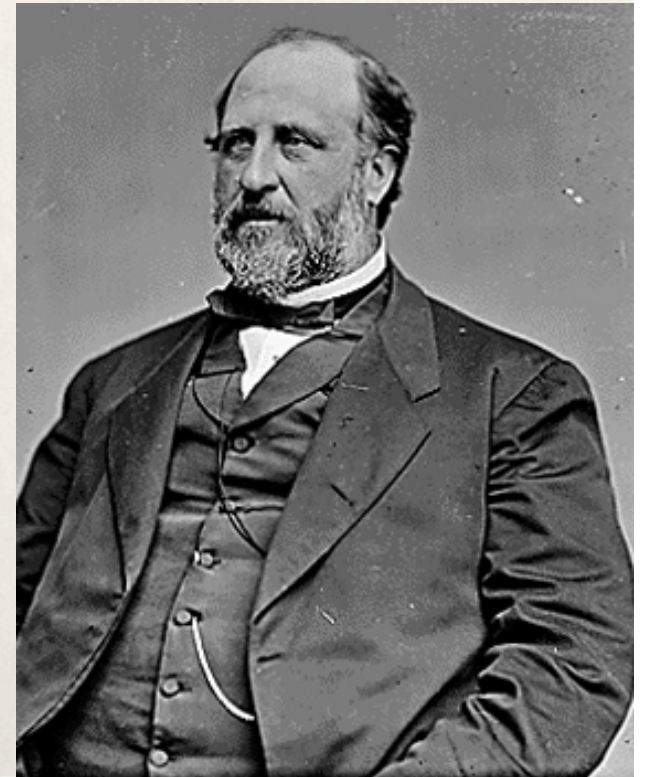
Lack of understanding of other faiths caused fear (ignorance → prejudice)

Anglos feared Catholics and Jews would come to dominate;
discriminated against them



D. Political Machines (also “City Machines”)

- ★ Organizations led by city “bosses” (power from bribes; fraud; kickbacks; graft)
- ★ won votes of immigrants (jobs, apartments)
- ★ Hated by reformers (corruption; greed)





IN
COUNTING
THERE IS
STRENGTH

"THAT'S WHAT'S THE MATTER."

BOSS TWEED. "As long as I count the Votes, what are you going to do about it? say?"

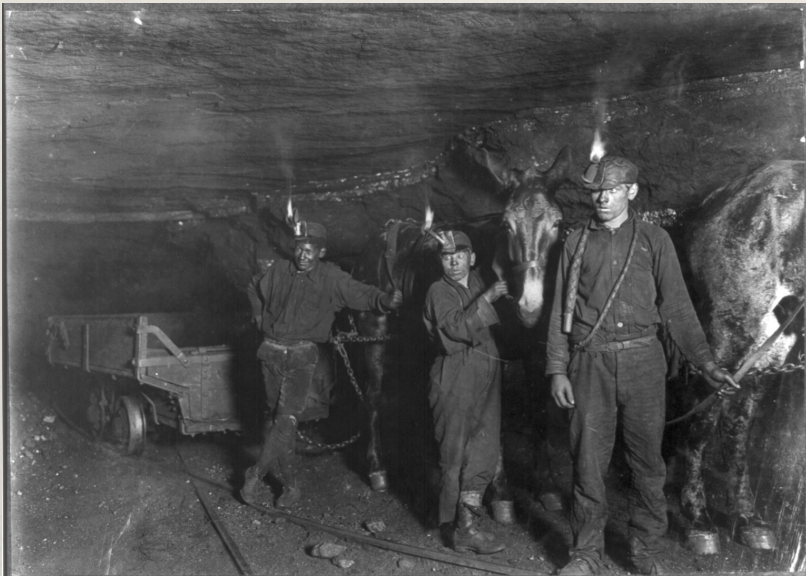
E. Immigrant customs

- * Saloons -- social centers for immigrants, especially single men
- * alcohol -- part of immigrant culture; social drinking was common; part of meals
- * Temperance workers – saw as a social evil



F. Child Labor

- * immigrants – saw it as a necessity; wages were low, families were large and costs were high
- * reformers opposed it:
 - * kept wages low
 - * unhealthy for children
 - * prevented education of children



3. Americanization Movement:

- ✧ 1890s plan to “Americanize” immigrants
- ✧ huge educational movement; schools taught American values and traditions
- ✧ Effect: generations of immigrants assimilated into American culture

