Where the women went

NATIVISM, ANTI-ASIAN MOVEMENT & EXCLUSION

Overview

- I. Nativism & Citizenship
- II. Historical Anti- Asian Sentiment by U.S.
- III. "Yellow Peril"
- IV. Exclusion

Nativism & Citizenship

- A. Isolationism- U.S. stays out of foreign affairs
 - 1. Don't interfere; isolate from world
- 2. Don't want world interfering with U.S (race relations)
- B. No foreigners (especially those who won't Americanize)
 - 1. "Take jobs" (cheap labor)
 - 2. "They are different" (culture/language)
 - 3. "Go home, they don't belong here"

- C. Citizenship Who is a citizen in 1910s/1920s?
- 1. 1790 Naturalization Law only whites can become citizens
- 2. 14th Amendment Blacks become citizens*
 - 3. Who's left out? Who's white?
- a. Asians cannot gain citizenship (unless born here)

Historical Anti-Asian Sentiment

- A. Page Law, 1875 Bars entry of "Chinese," Japanese & Mongolian" prostitutes, felons & contract laborers
 - 1. Asian Women = prostitutes
 - 2. Used fear tactics
 - a. American Medical Association Syphilis Study (1875) – "Chinese women spread a unique 'Chinese' strain of syphilis infusing a poison in the Anglo-Saxon blood."

B. Anti- Chinese Movement

- 1. Fear of the "Yellow Peril"
 - a) Chinese cannot Americanize
 - b) U.S can't have another race war
- c) Attempts to limit & stop all Asian immigration
- d) Anti-Chinese movement quickly becomes Anti-Asian movement

2. Society

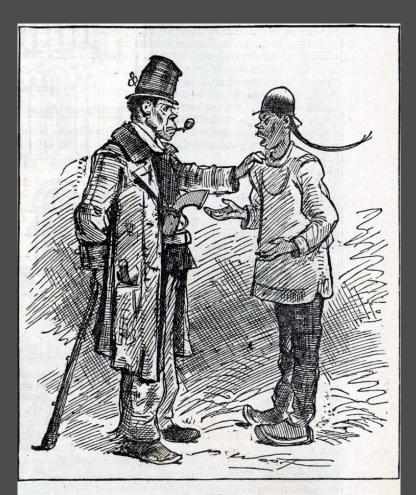
- a) 1878 Naturalization Law upheld. Chinese NOT eligible for Naturalized (obtained) Citizenship; now considered "aliens"
- b) 1880 U.S. & China agree to limit immigration
- c) in CA anti- miscegenation (mixing) law: prohibited issuing of licenses for marriages between whites and "Mongolians, Negroes, mulattoes and persons of mixed blood."
 - d) 1880-1890 200 Asians lynched

3. Media

- a. attempts to "other" Chinese
- b. media makes them appear "animal/rat like"
- c. The Santa Cruz Sentinel, 1879 The Chinese are "half-human, half-devil, rateating, rag-wearing, law-ignoring, Christian-civilization-hating, opium-smoking, labordegrading, entrail-sucking Celestials."
 - d. Keep California White Campaign
- U.S Senator James Phelan advocated Japanese exclusion (Asian "invasion")

"Yellow Peril" Images

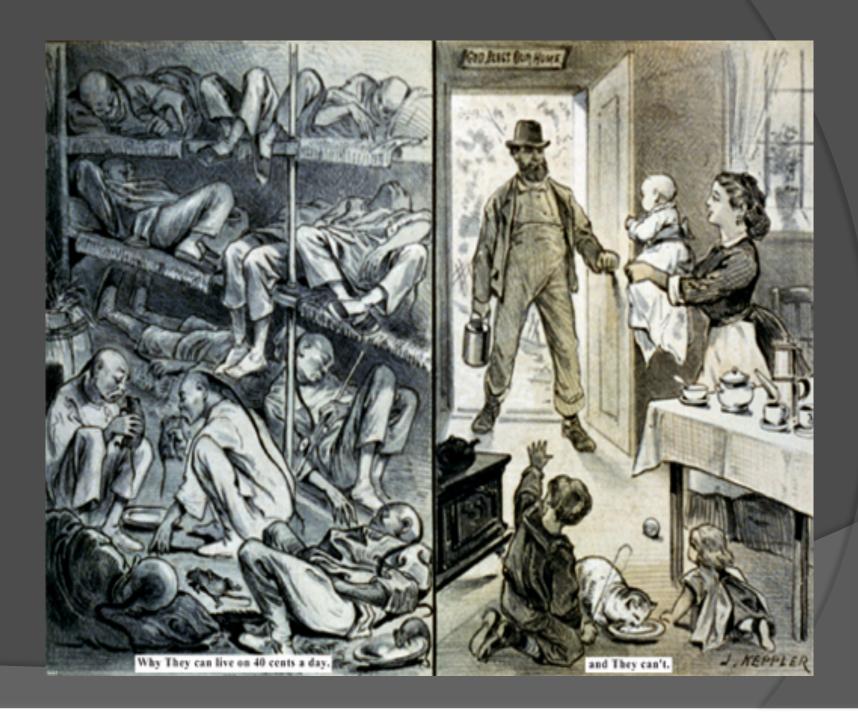


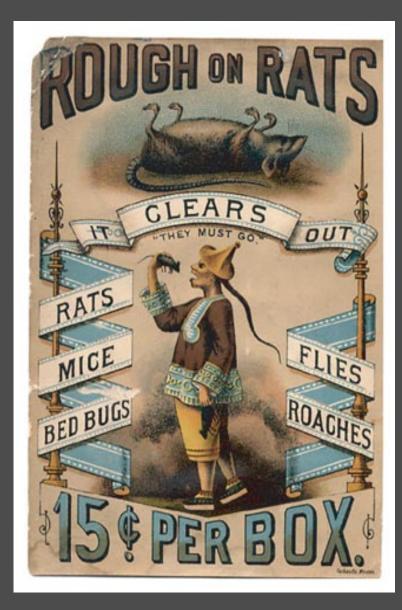


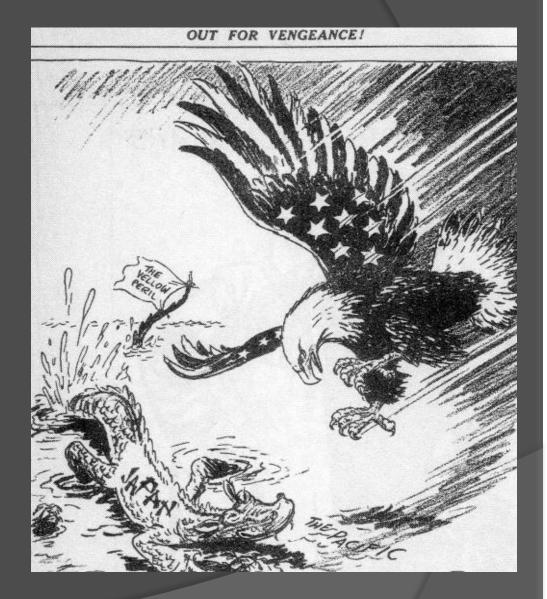
AT FRISCO.

"See here, me Chinee Haythun, I'm wan of the Committee of National Safety; and bringing to me moind the words of George O'Washington and Dan'l O'Webster in regard to Furrin Inflooince, ye must go. D'ye understand? Ye must go!"









Exclusion

- A. Chinese Exclusion Act, 1882
 - 1. 1st Law passed barring entry to county for a group based on race
 - "We are to keep our hand on the door-knob & admit only those whose presence is desired." Chicago Times
 - 2. No skilled or unskilled workers (10 yrs.)
 - 3. Needed documents to prove one belonged in U.S. (re-entry permit)

- 4. merchants (businessmen), students & tourists could could be exempt
 - ** Women less likely to be any of the three
- 5. 1889 Act ruled Constitutional
- 6. Act was renewed 1892, 1902, 1904
- B. Alien Land Laws, 1913 (CA)-
 - 1. Asians could not own land ("aliens")
- C. By 1917, U.S. bars virtually <u>all</u> Asians
 - 1. Literacy tests (in English)
 - 2. Indians, Japanese, Koreans: immigration stops
 - 3. Renewed in 1921, 1924

- D. Johnson/Reed Immigration Act of 1924/ National Origins Act
- 1. U.S. sets limit on immigration (200,000/annually)
 - 2. Quota System who gets to enter
 - a) based on 1890 U.S. population
 - 3. Raised "head" tax
- 4. Barred all "aliens ineligible for citizenship" ("illegal aliens")
 - 5. Filipinas/os- still allowed
 - 6. Door closes for Asian immigration

U.S. & Japan's Gentlemen's Agreement

- A. 1907 Gentlemen's Agreement
 - 1) Japan & the U.S. agree to limit immigration from Japan to U.S.
 - 2) Japan allows only the educated & business class to immigrate (no cheap laborers)
- B. Between Exclusion and Gentlemen's Agreement, U.S. sends direct message over immigration