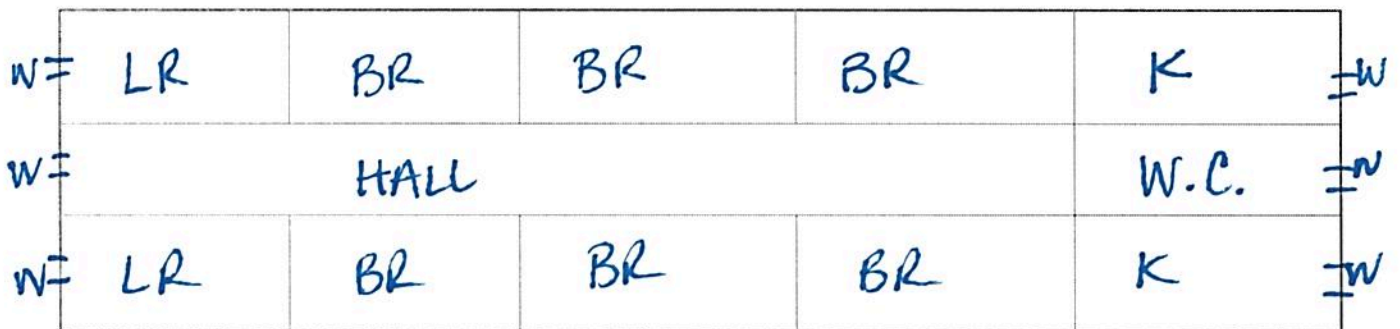


PROBLEMS IMMIGRANTS FACED

POOR HOUSING

- Tenement = apartment building where several families rent rooms
- Railroad flat = apartments in a tenement. Rooms were located one behind the other like the cars of a train
- Problems:
 - overcrowded
 - no privacy
 - cold water (pay for hot)
 - rats and roaches
 - dark (few windows)
 - no doors between rooms
 - bathroom (W.C. - water closet) in the hall to share with the other family.



UNSKILLED AND UNEDUCATED

- Took the lowest paying jobs in factories
- Some worked in sweatshops, laundries, seamstresses, maids, etc
- Source of cheap labor
- Paid less than other Americans
- Worked 6-7 days per week. 12-16 hours per day. \$1-2 per day
- No job security - could be fired at any time for any reason
- Unhealthy and unsafe conditions (windows and doors locked)

CHILD LABOR

- Kids paid less for the same job
- Used to unjam machines (small hands)
- Worked in unhealthy factories
- Worked to help support their families
- No time for play or education

POVERTY AND LANGUAGE BARRIER

POVERTY

- Immigrants arrived in the U.S. poor
- Streets were not "paved with gold"
- Most worked very hard for low pay

LANGUAGE BARRIER

- Most had to learn to speak English after they arrived in the U.S. (school, neighborhood)

PREJUDICE

- Hating or disliking someone because of race, religion, ethnic background, etc... based on false or incorrect information
- Many Americans disliked immigrants because :
 - Americans thought immigrants would steal their jobs
 - They were "different" - looks, language, customs, etc
 - Immigrants lived in ethnic communities called ghettos
 - Americans thought immigrants weren't "true Americans"
- IGNORANCE → FEAR → HATRED
- Because of prejudice, Americans asked Congress to pass quotas limiting the number of immigrants allowed into the U.S. from each country