

American Immigrants

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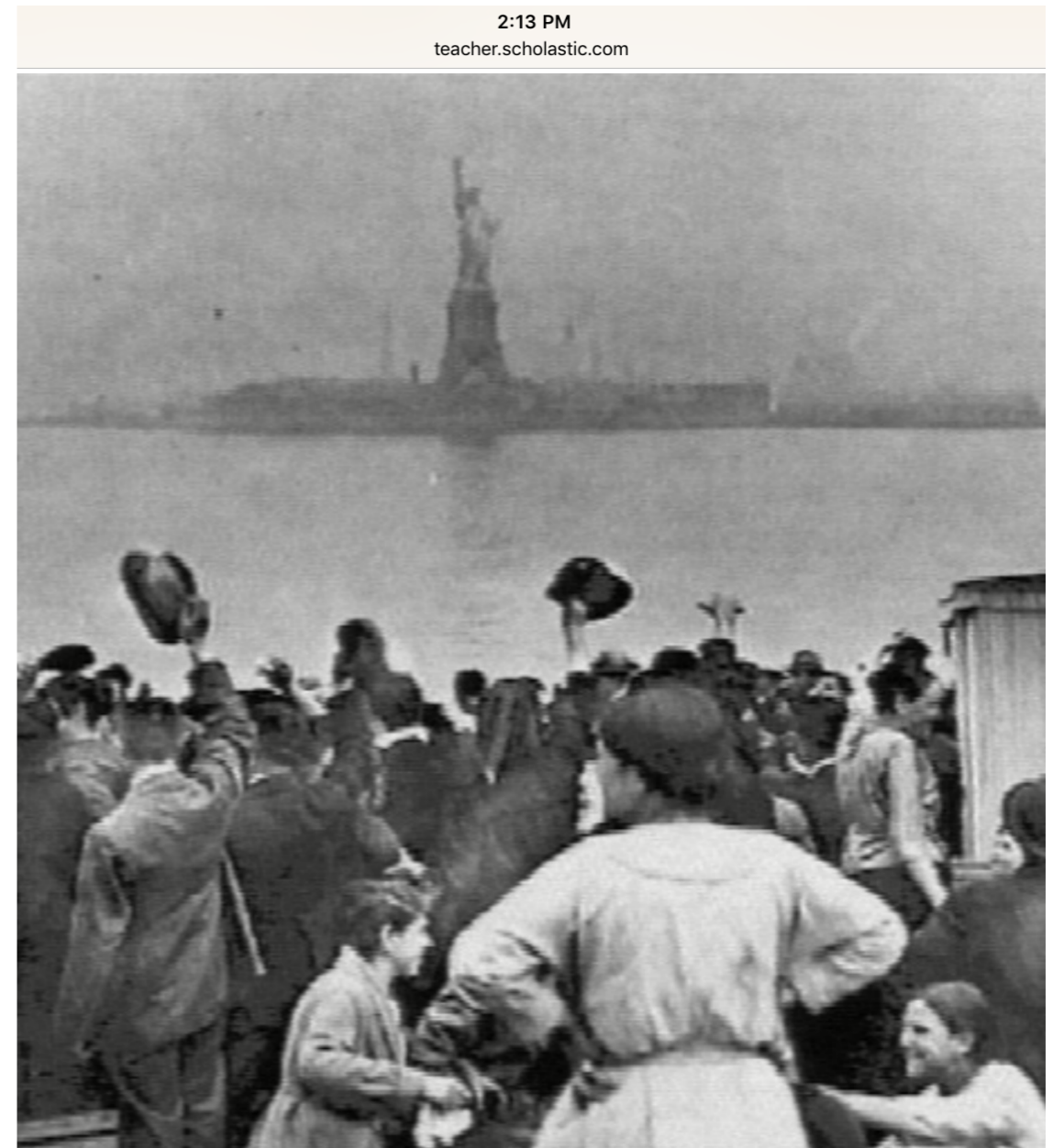
First Stop The Passage

- Most immigrants have had come to America where Eastern European.
- They came to escape poverty and religious intolerance
- They began their journey on foot, horse, or train.
- The trip across ocean took 1 to 2 weeks
- The ship was divided in three 1st class 2nd class and 3rd class.
- First and second class passengers stayed in a room while third class passengers stayed in the steerage
- As many as 3000 people stayed on the ship.



Second Stop the Arrival

- The ship was crowded and dirty so most immigrants were tired when they reached New York harbor.
- They first saw the Statue of Liberty and were happy when they saw it.
- Health inspectors inspected the ship for disease.
- They would check first and second class passengers first. However third class had to wait hours or days before they got on the ferry boat and were sent to Ellis's island.



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Third Stop the Ellis Island Baggage Room

- Officers wearing uniforms greater the boat and told the passengers were to go.
- The officers passed out numbered identified tags.
- People who could not speak English did not understand the officers and started a commotion.
- Immigrants when into the bagging room on the ground floor. Then they went up stairs.

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THE ELLIS ISLAND BAGGAGE ROOM

PHOTOS AUDIO VI



Newly-arrived immigrants on Ellis Island.

BERTY-ELLIS ISLAND FOUNDATION, INC./NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Forth Stop the Stairs to the Registry Room

- The immigration process took three to five hours
- The immigration process began on the stairs. Doctors watched the immigrants on the second floor and looked for health problems.



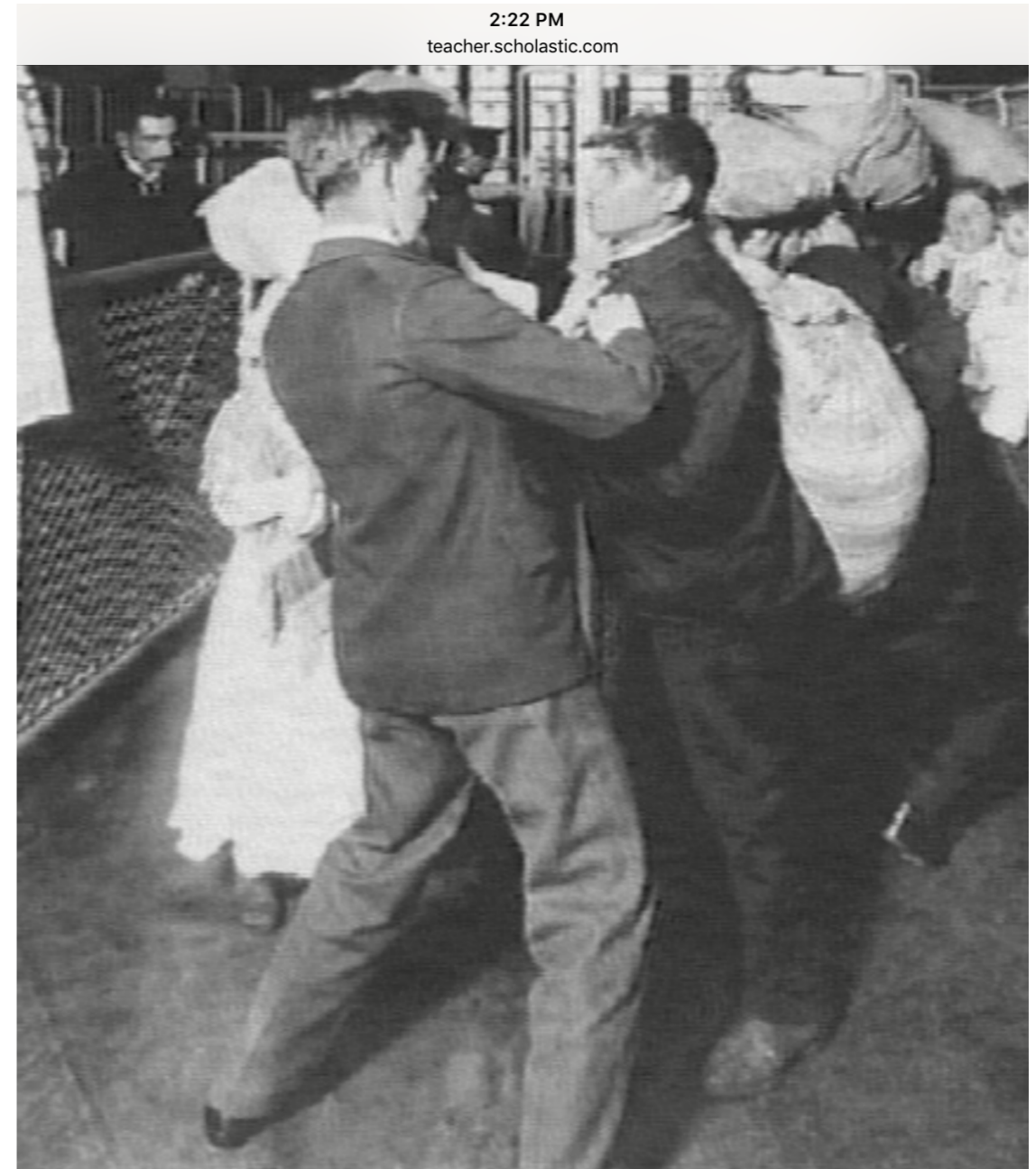
Fifth Stop the Registry Room

- The registry room was nicknamed the great hall.
- Officials decided whether people would get to leave or stay.
- From 1903 to 1914 were checked for trachoma a contagious eye disease.



Sixth Stop the Medical Exam

- The doctors at Ellis island developed a system to identify immigrants who needed medical attention.
- First they did a six second exam. A uniformed doctor looked for any sign of illness or contagious disease.
- The doctor noted certain disabilities. Some immigrants were marked for disabilities and were sent for further examination.
- Immigrants who passed the six second exam went on to the legal inspection



Seventh Stop the Legal Inspection

- Each arriving steamship's crew gave officials at Ellis Island a list of every passenger on board. Each passenger was called to be interviewed by an official.
- Each immigrant was asked 29 questions. They included : are you married, where were you born, what is your occupation, have you ever been convicted of a crime, how much money do you have, what is your destination. If his or her answers were not on the manifest he or she could be detained.



Eighth Stop Detained

- For most people Ellis island was the isle of hope but for people who failed the tests it was the isle of tears.
- People who were detained were cared for weeks or months.
- People would come and decide whether they would stay or go.



Ninth Stop the Stairs of Separation

- Finally immigrants reached another staircase at the end of the great hall. The stair case had three isles.
- The middle aisles was for detained people, the right side were for people going south or west. The left isle is for people going north or to New York City.
- At the bottom there was a box office many ways of transportation there were also ATMs.



Tenth Stop the Kissing Post

- An area on the first floor was nicknamed the kissing post. It got the nickname because it was where families and friends met there loved ones. After months and years apart, they kissed and hugged and shouted with joy and relief. For immigrants this was the end of a very long journey. They were in America.



Summary

As you can see immigrants when they through a lot to go to America some didn't even make it to American because they got sick. They went through long journeys to make it to this place. After living here for a few years I understand that there came here for a good reason.