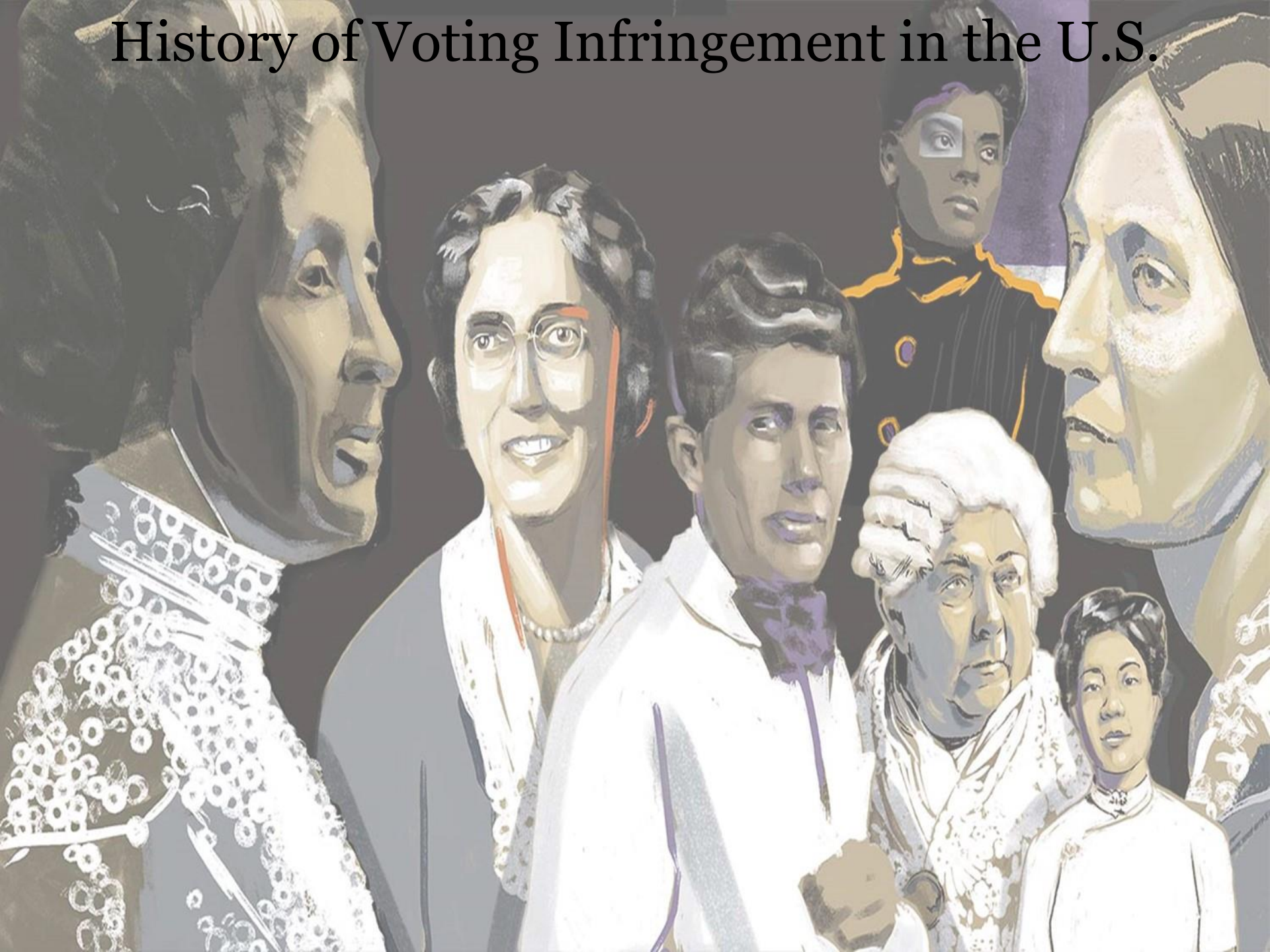
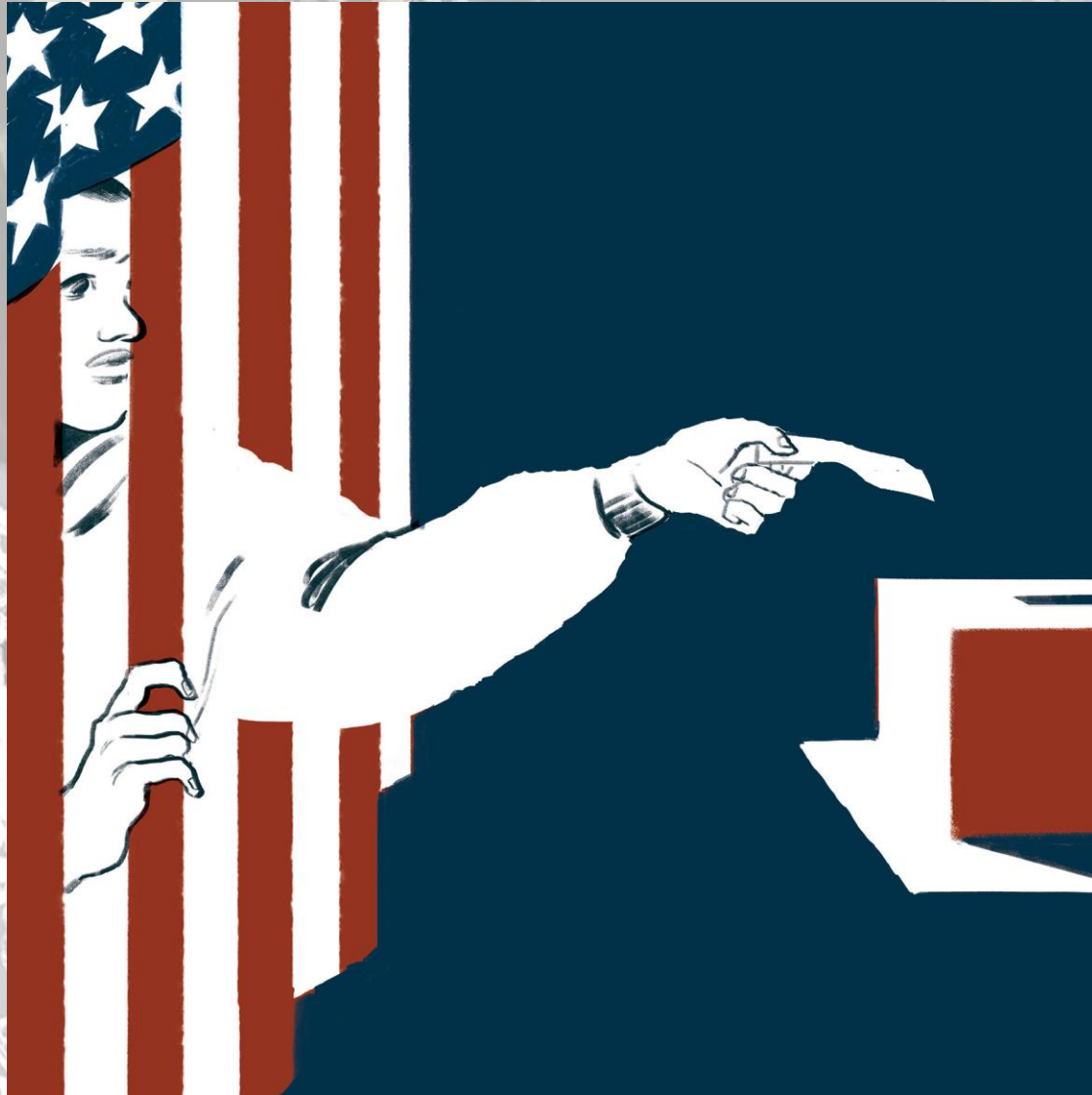


History of Voting Infringement in the U.S.



Disenfranchisement: to deprive of a franchise, of a legal right, or of some privilege or immunity; especially to deprive of the right to vote



There are Five Major Stages of Voting Rights Expansion

Expansion of suffrage to the electorate happened in five stages:

1. Early 1800s: state legislatures began to change law to eliminate religious tests, property, and tax requirements
2. 15th Amendment allowing black men the right to vote
3. 19th Amendment allowing women to vote
4. Voting Rights Act of 1965 prohibiting states from discriminatory practices in the registration process (poll taxes, literacy tests)
5. 26th Amendment lowering the voting age

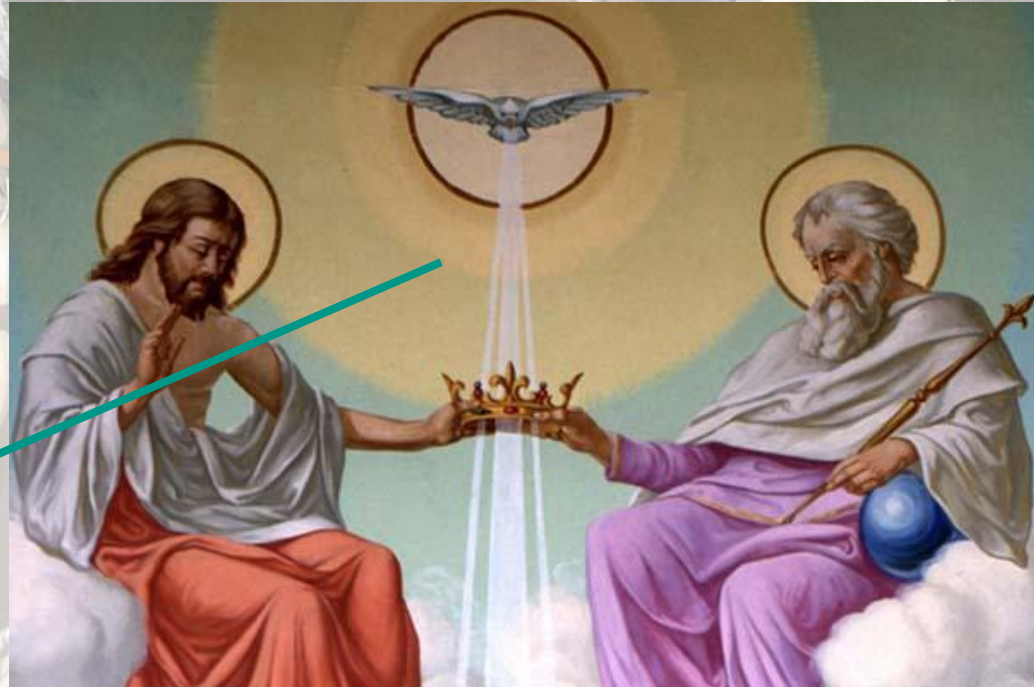
1. Early 1800s: state legislatures began to change law to eliminate religious requirements for white males

Delaware Constitution of 1776

“Every person who shall be chosen a member of either house, or appointed to any office or place of trust, before taking his seat, or entering upon the execution of his office, shall take the following oath, or affirmation, if conscientiously scrupulous of taking an oath, to with:

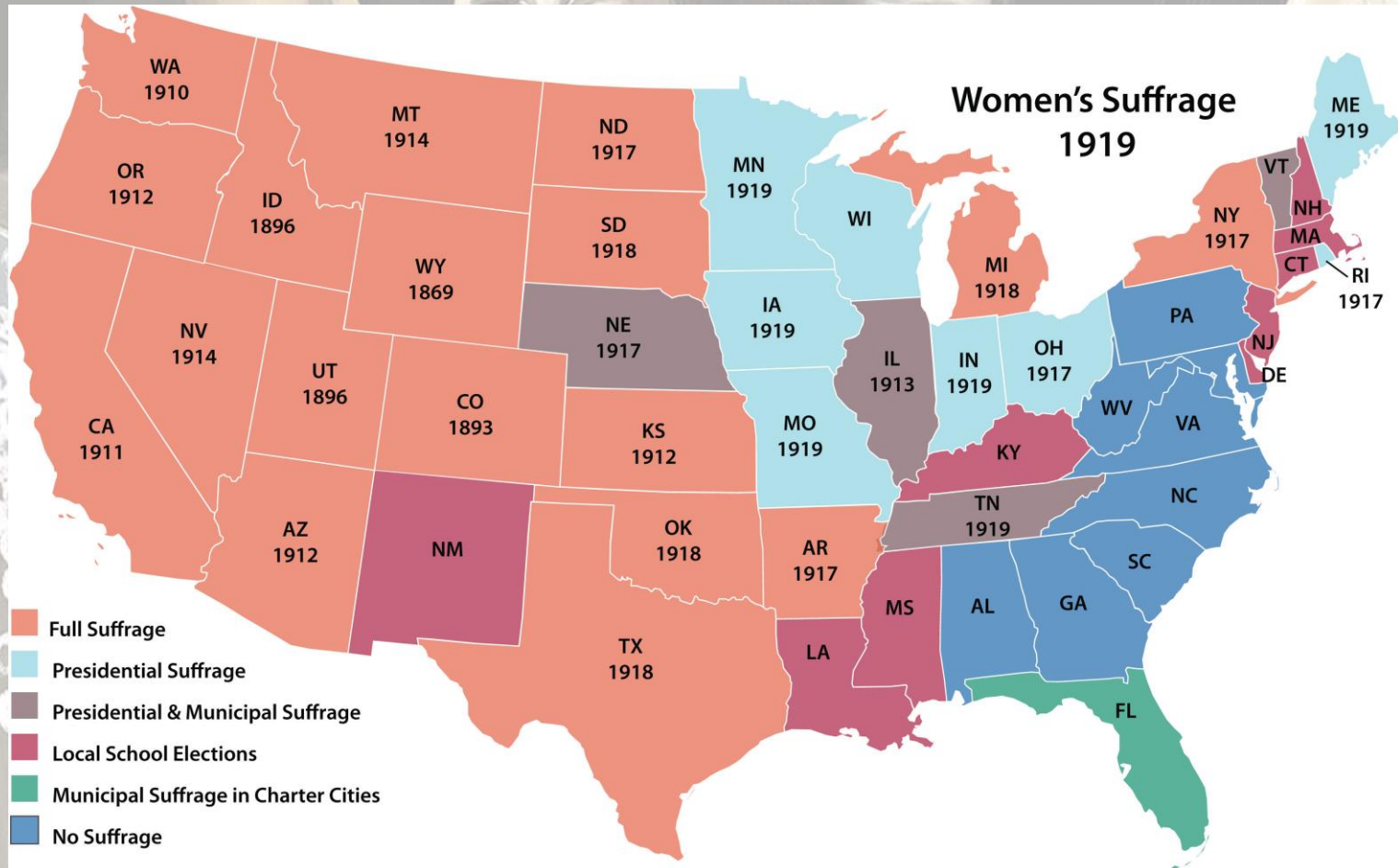
“I, _____, do profess faith in God the Father, and in Jesus Christ His only Son, and in the Holy Ghost, one God, blessed for evermore: and I do acknowledge the holy scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be given by divine inspiration.”

-Constitutions and Charters, 566

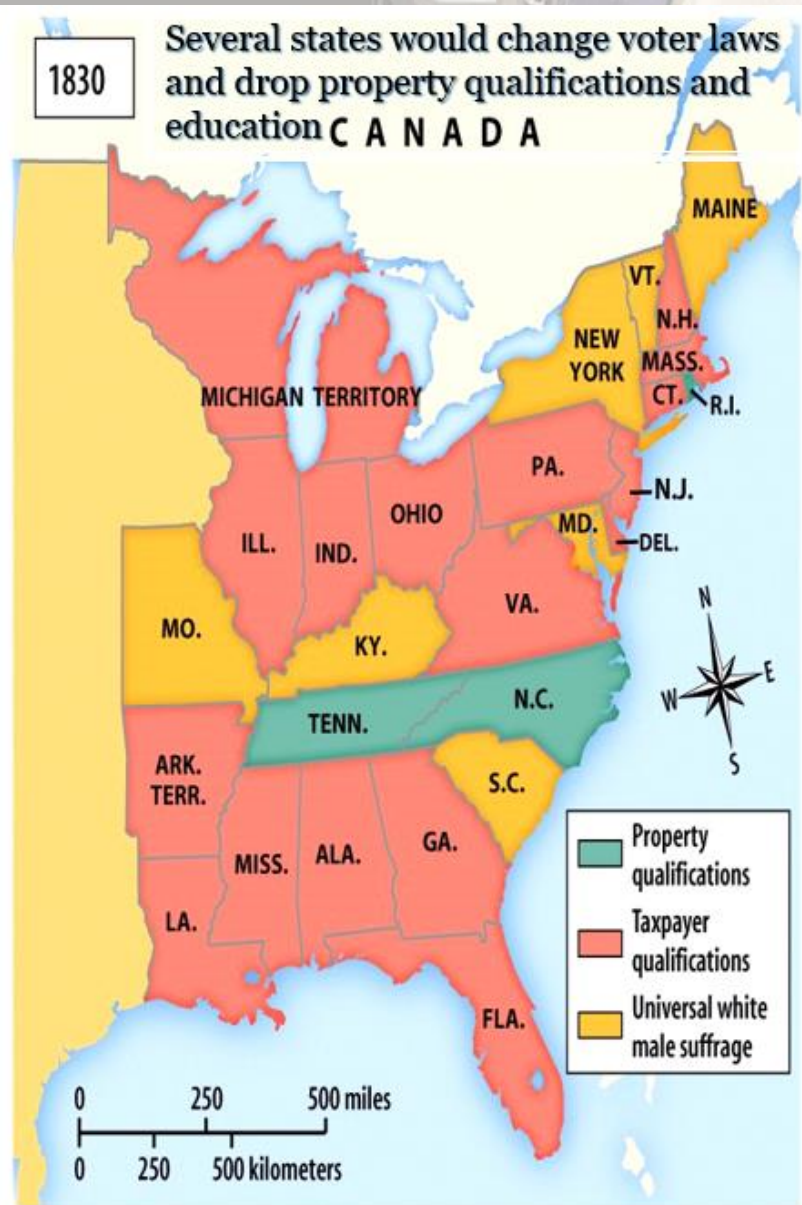
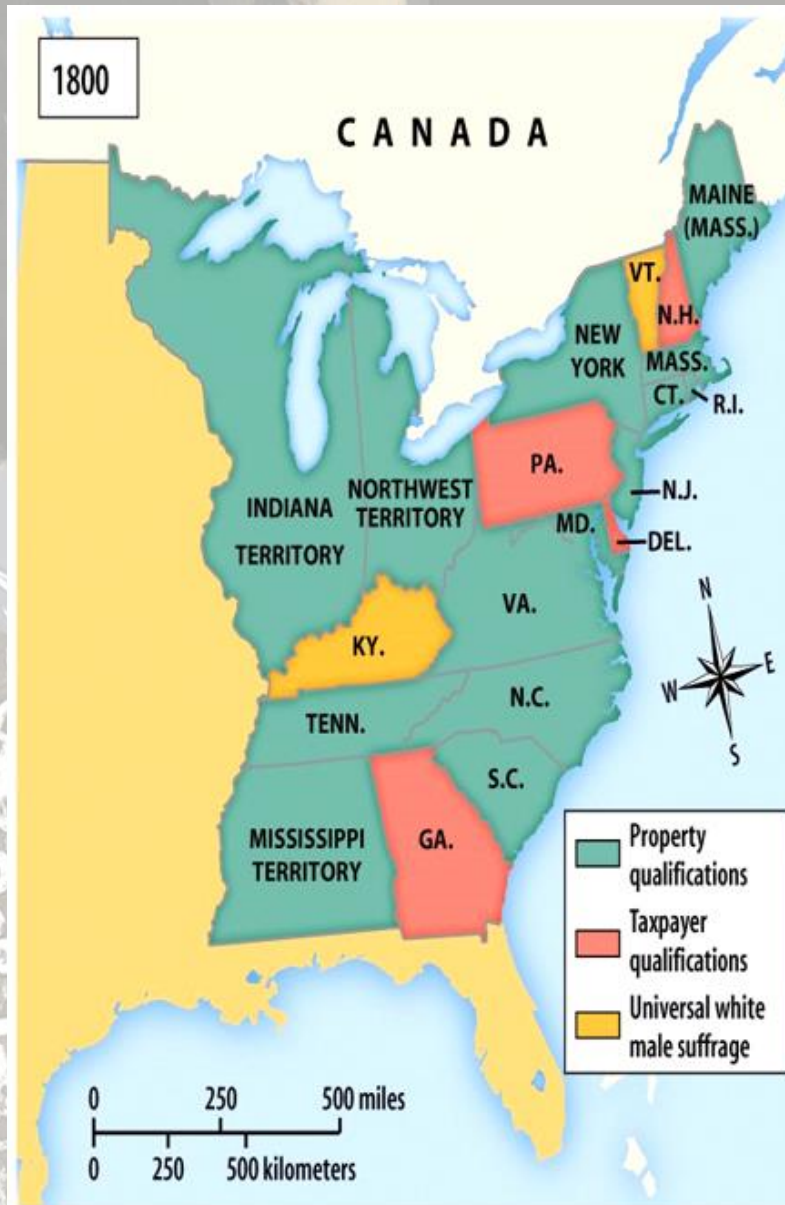


1807: New Jersey, where some women and blacks had been permitted to vote since 1776, changed its laws to allow only tax-paying, white male citizens the right to vote

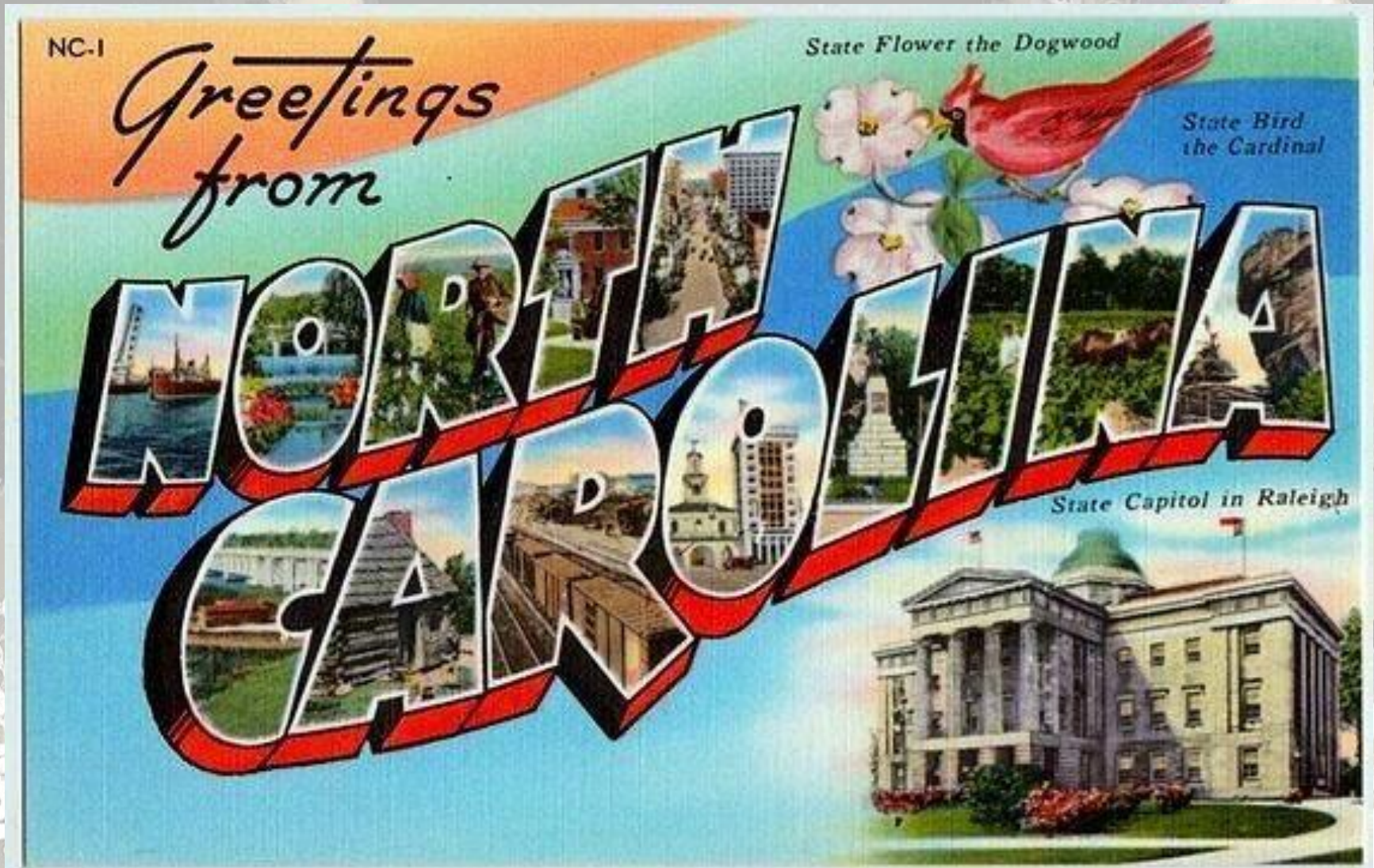
1828: Maryland becomes the last state to remove religious restrictions when it passes legislation enfranchising Jews; white men can no longer be denied the right to vote on the basis of religion



1. Early 1800s: state legislatures began to change law to eliminate property ownership and taxpayer requirements for white males



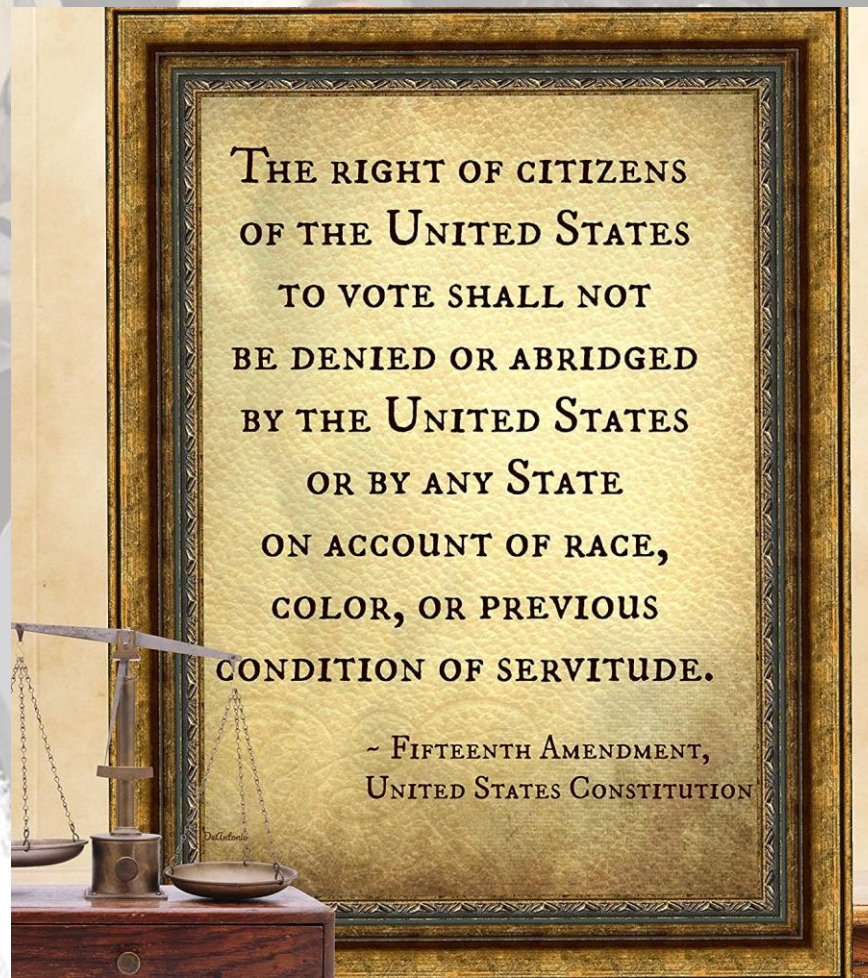
1856: North Carolina is the last state to remove property ownership as a requirement to vote



2. 1868: 11 of 21 Northern states did not allow blacks to vote in elections

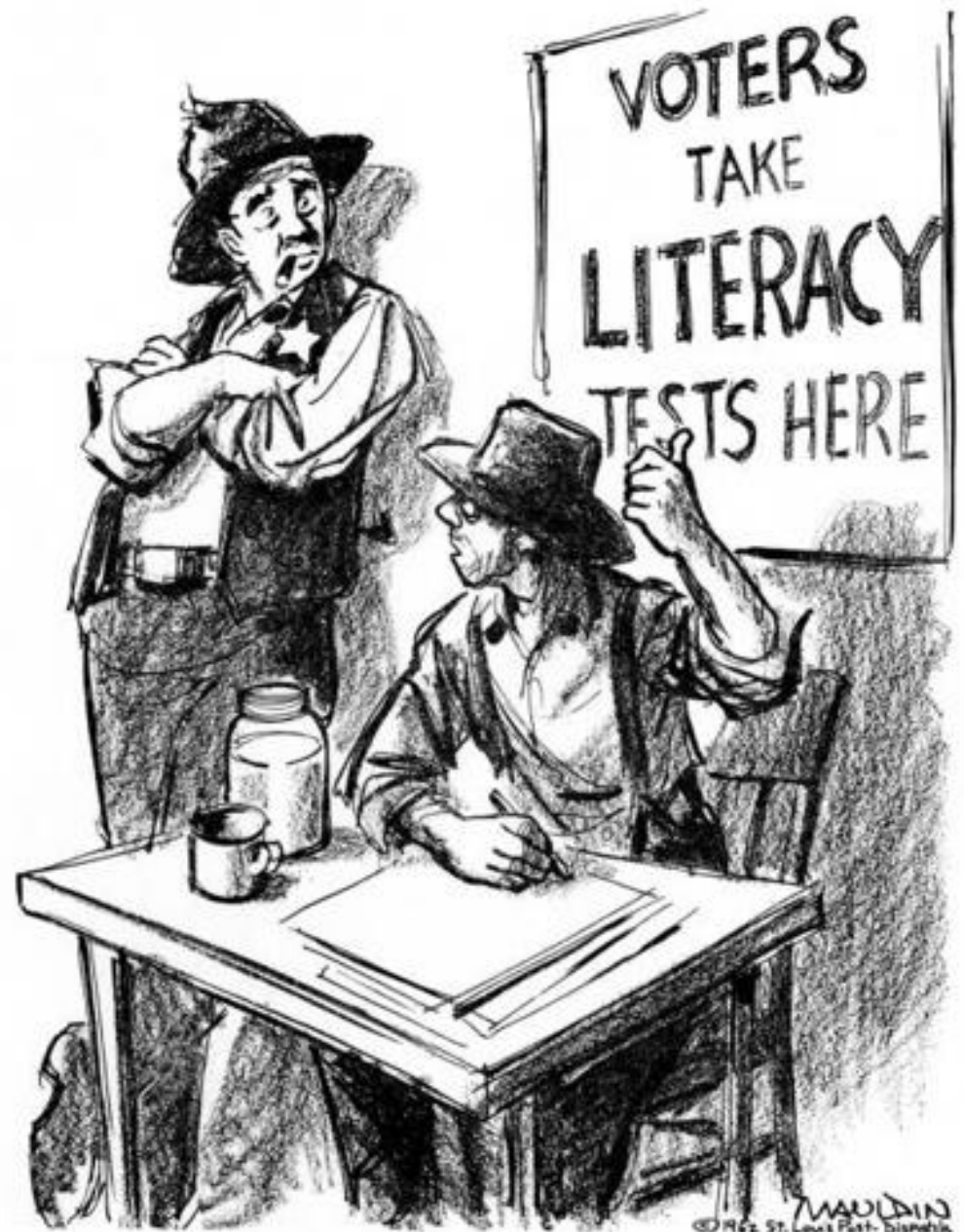
-Most of the “border states” (where 1/6th of the nation's black population resided) also denied suffrage

-1870: 15th Amendment is ratified (leaving out all women)



Literacy Tests

- Subjective tests given to show literacy
- Administered at the discretion of polling place officials in charge of voter registration
- Most tests were created with failure as the goal and whites could be exempted via Grandfather Clauses



"BY TH' WAY, WHAT'S THAT BIG WORD?"

Tues., May 15, 1962

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

Poll Taxes

No. 9612 State of Louisiana-Parish of Orleans.
Office of Treasurer of School Board, City Hall.
New Orleans, July 22 1897.
Received from Harry B. Bennett
resident of 17 Ward, 7 District, the sum of
ONE DOLLAR, Poll Tax for the year 1897, for the support of the
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FOR THE SCHOOL BOARD, GEO. B. PENROSE, Treasurer.
WAIN JAMISON Secretary.
Per Jas. Bennett
Thos. Gillin, Printer, 330 Camp St., N. O.

Thursday, January 2, 1918.

BOGALUSA ENTERPRISE AND AMERICAN

LAST DAY

Don't Be Disfranchised!

PAY YOUR POLL TAX

TODAY

AT

First State Bank

OR

WASHINGTON BANK & TRUST CO.

YOU CANNOT VOTE IN ANY ELECTION UNLESS YOU

HAVE YOUR 1918 POLL TAX RECEIPT

Grandfather Clauses

Those who had the right to vote prior to 1866 or 1867, or their lineal descendants, would be exempt from “educational, property, or tax requirements for voting”

Not coincidentally, only whites voted in the South before 1867



Voter Suppression

- Local sheriffs supported and enforced Black Codes
- White citizens felt motivated to “keep order” in the South

The **Ku Klux Klan** was founded by CSA veterans in TN in 1865-66

- Evolved to enforce black codes and suppress black men from voting Republican in the South
- Violence against blacks rarely prosecuted



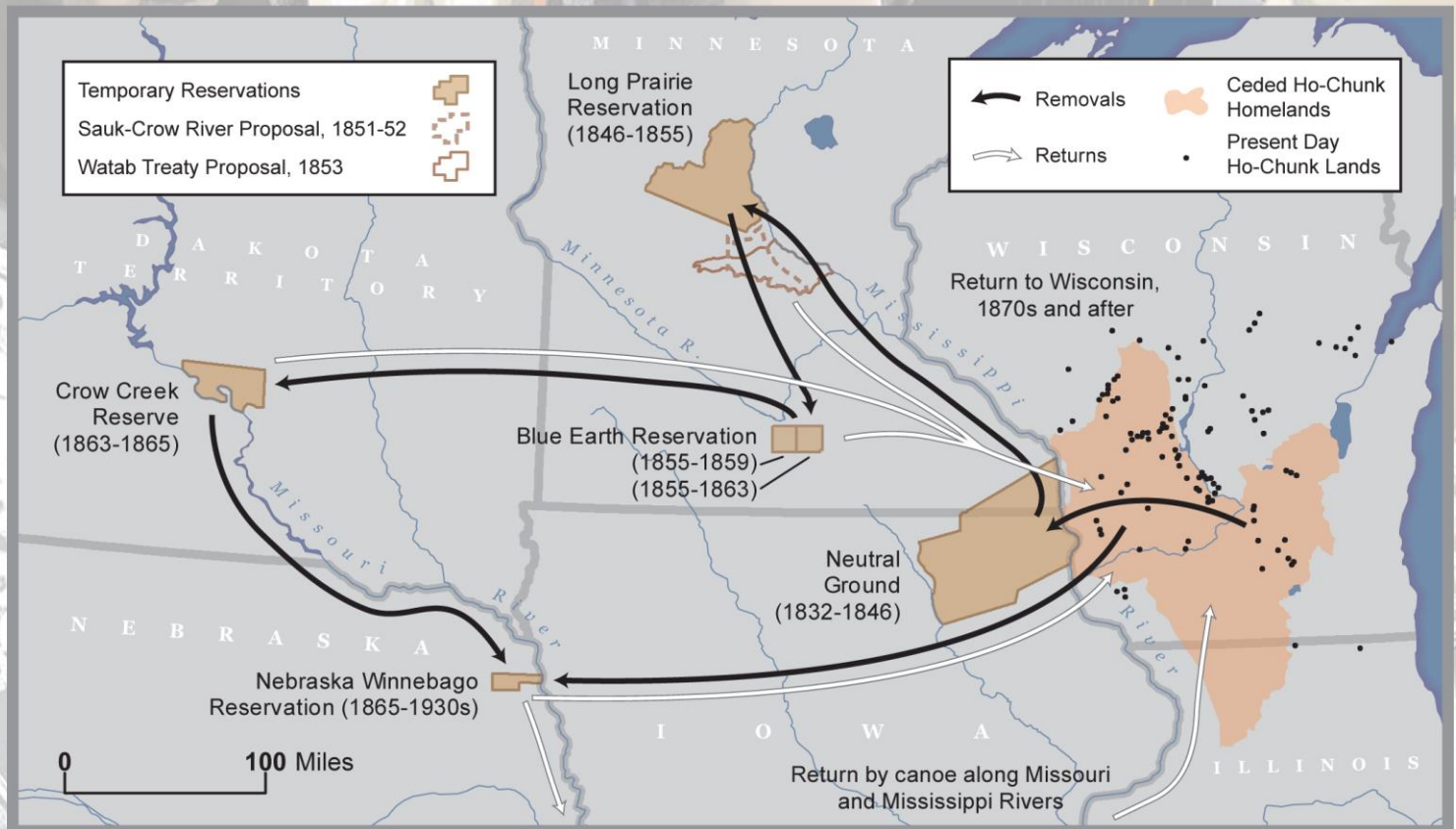
The White League – paramilitary arm of the Democratic party (LA); used violence to deter freedmen from voting

Derived name from the Greek word "kyklos" (meaning circle) and the English word clan

Elk v. Wilkins (1884)

- John Elk was a Winnebago Native American who gave up his tribal affiliation, moved to Omaha, spoke English, paid taxes, and attempted to register to vote
- The SC ruled he had no claim to citizenship because he had never been naturalized as an American citizen through a treaty or statute
- Ruled the 14th Amendment didn't apply to Elk because he was born as a subject of an Indian nation

Relocations of the Ho-Chunk Tribe



1882: the Chinese Exclusion Act bars people of Chinese ancestry from naturalizing to become U.S. citizens →

HIP! HURRAH!

CHINESE EXCLUDED

The

Democratic Chinese Exclusion Bill

Has Been Signed by

OUR DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENT

Hip! Hurrah! The White Man is on Top. Let every DEMOCRAT and all other GOOD Citizens turn out and Ratify this

DEMOCRATIC MEASURE

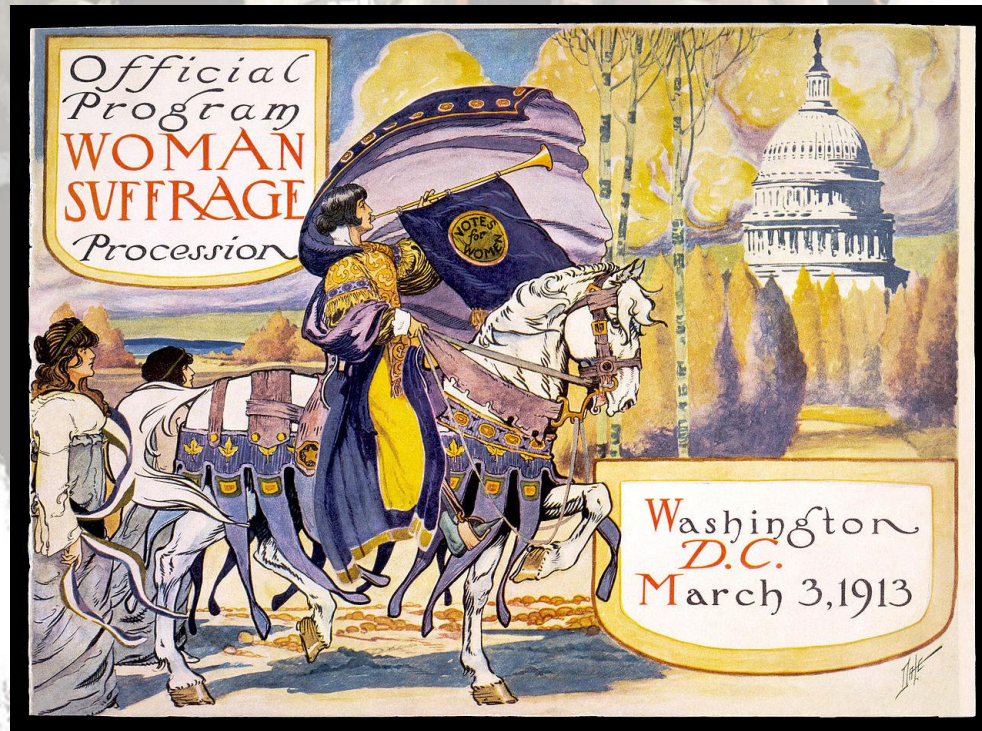


Five Major Stages of Voting Rights Expansion

3. 1890: Wyoming officially becomes and state and grants women the right to vote

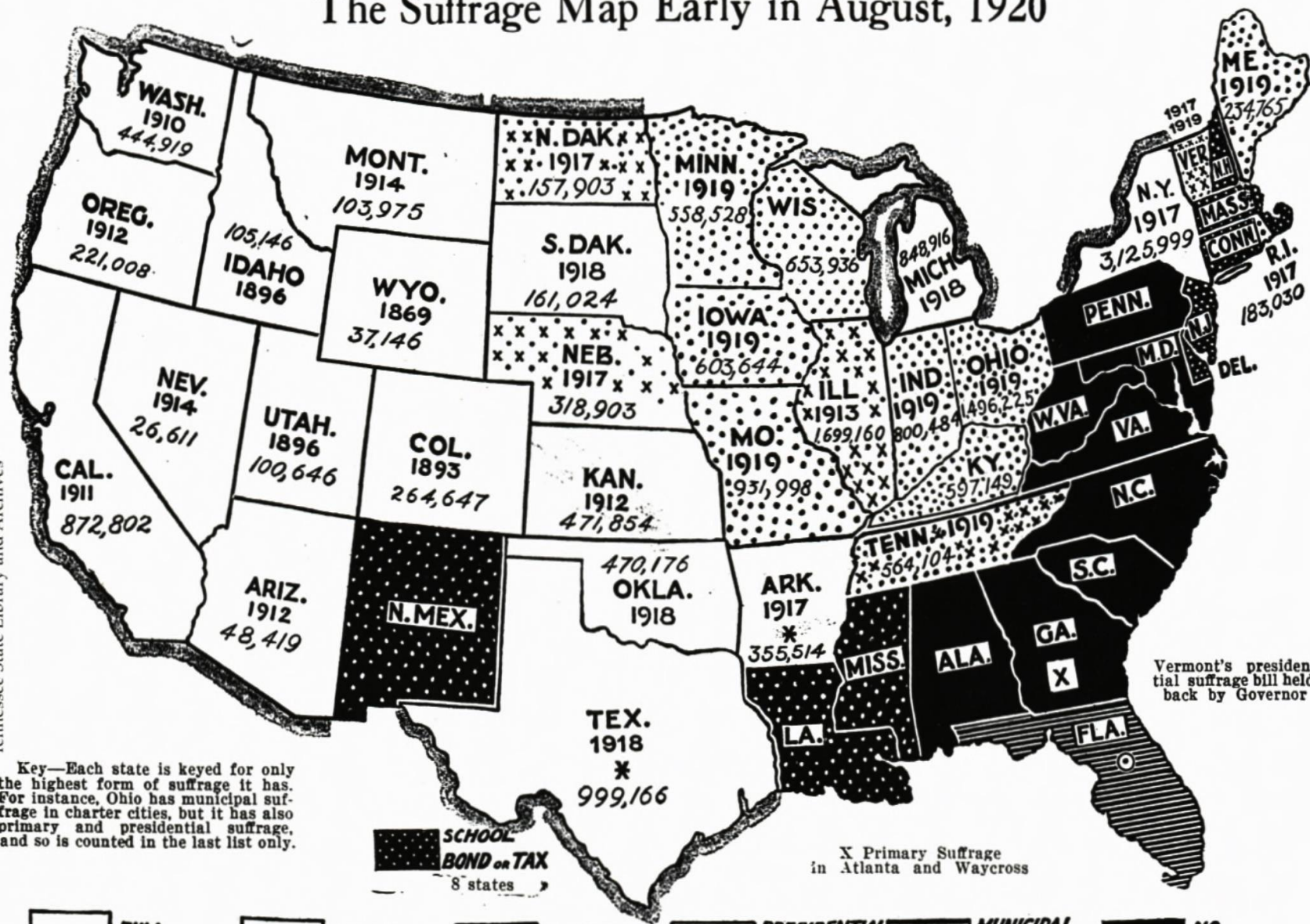
1912-1917: the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA) and the National Woman's Party (NWP) parade and picket in Washington to press the government for an amendment

1920: 19th Amendment passed, giving women the right to vote in both state and federal elections



The Suffrage Map Early in August, 1920

Tennessee State Library and Archives



Key—Each state is keyed for only the highest form of suffrage it has. For instance, Ohio has municipal suffrage in charter cities, but it has also primary and presidential suffrage, and so is counted in the last list only.

Vermont's presidential suffrage bill held back by Governor

- FULL SUFFRAGE**
15 states
- *

PRIMARY SUFFRAGE
2 states
- x x x x

PRESIDENTIAL SUFFRAGE
9 states
- x x x x x x x x x x

PRESIDENTIAL & MUNICIPAL SUFFRAGE
5 states
- o

MUNICIPAL SUFFRAGE IN CHARTER CITIES
1 state
- NO SUFFRAGE**
7 states

Asian Americans

1922: Supreme Court rules in *Ozawa v. U.S.* that people of Japanese heritage are ineligible to become naturalized citizens; the next year, the court finds that "Asian Indians" are also not eligible to naturalize



Takao Ozawa



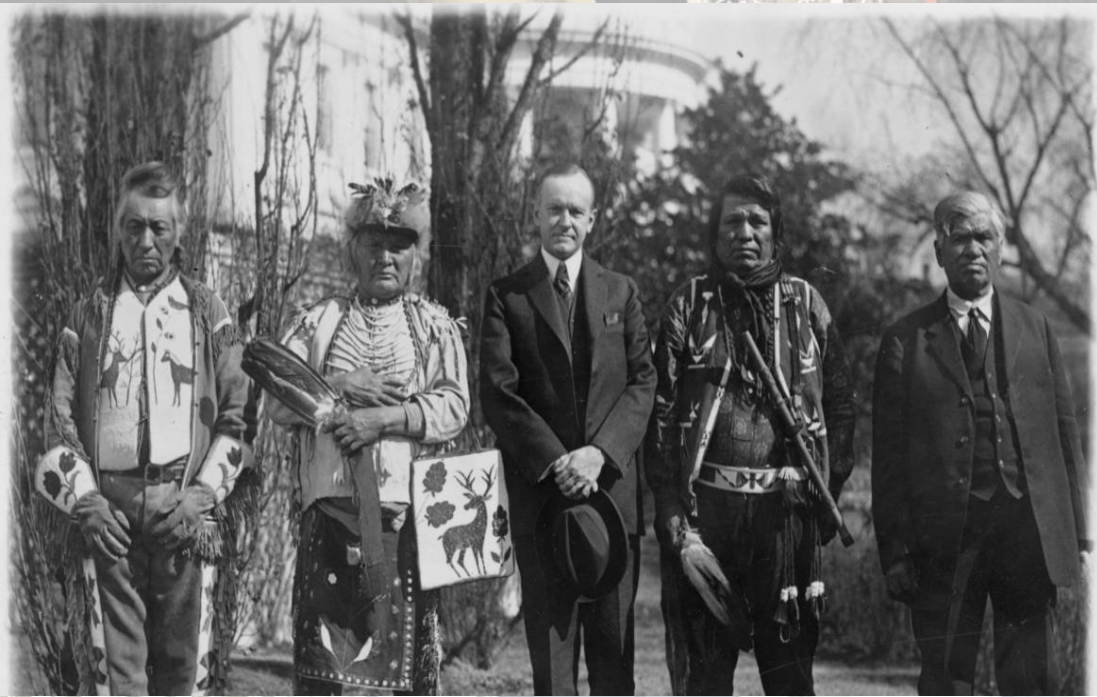
Wong Kim Ark



Sergeant Bhagat
Singh Thind

1924: the Indian Citizenship Act grants citizenship to Native Americans, but many states nonetheless make laws and policies that prohibit Native Americans from voting

1947: Miguel Trujillo, a Native American and former Marine, sues New Mexico for not allowing him to vote; he wins, and New Mexico and Arizona are required to give the vote to all Native Americans



1952: McCarran-Walter Act grants all people of Asian ancestry the right to become citizens





1961: 23rd
Amendment passed
– citizens of
Washington, DC
can vote for
president



1964: 24th
Amendment
passed,
guaranteeing that
the right to vote in
federal elections
will not be denied
because of failure to
pay any tax



4. President Johnson supported passage of a strong Civil Rights Act and signs **Civil Rights Act of 1964** into law on 2 July 1964; banned discrimination in employment and in public accommodations

Source:
Congressional Quarterly,
1964 CQ
Almanac (roll call vote and summary of House passage of the Civil Rights Act), Feb. 10, 1964 (provided by U.S. Senate Historical Office)



Votes for CRA	Democrats	Republicans
House of Representatives	152 voted yes (63%) 96 voted no	138 voted yes (80%) 34 voted no
Senate	46 voted yes (69%) 21 voted no	27 voted yes (82%) 6 voted no

Voting Rights Act of 1965

- A result of the 1964 Freedom Summer and the March to Montgomery
- Forbids states from imposing discriminatory restrictions on who can vote, and provides mechanisms for the federal government to enforce its provisions



Source: *Congressional Quarterly*, 1965 CQ Almanac (roll call vote and summary of House passage of the Voting Rights Act, 9 July 1965 (provided by U.S. Senate Historical Office))

Votes for VRA	Democrats	Republicans
House of Representatives	221 voted yes (78%) 61 voted no	112 voted yes (82%) 24 voted no
Senate	47 voted yes (73%) 16 voted no	30 voted yes (94%) 2 voted no

Five Major Stages of Voting Rights Expansion

5. 1971: 26th Amendment passed, lowering the voting age from 21 to 18; largely a result of Vietnam War protests demanding a lowering of the voting age on the premise that people who are old enough to fight are old enough to vote

