

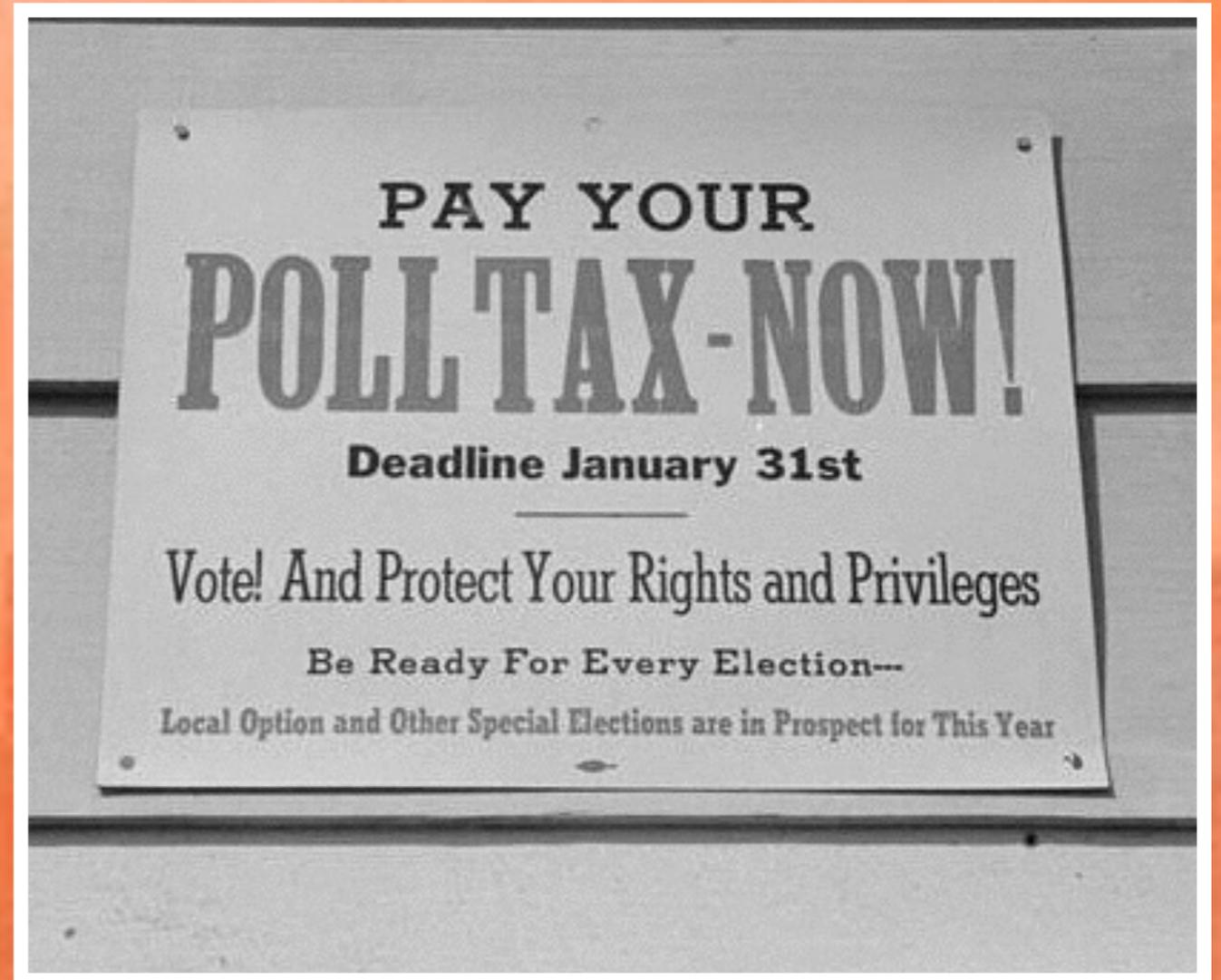


Life at the Turn of the 20th Century

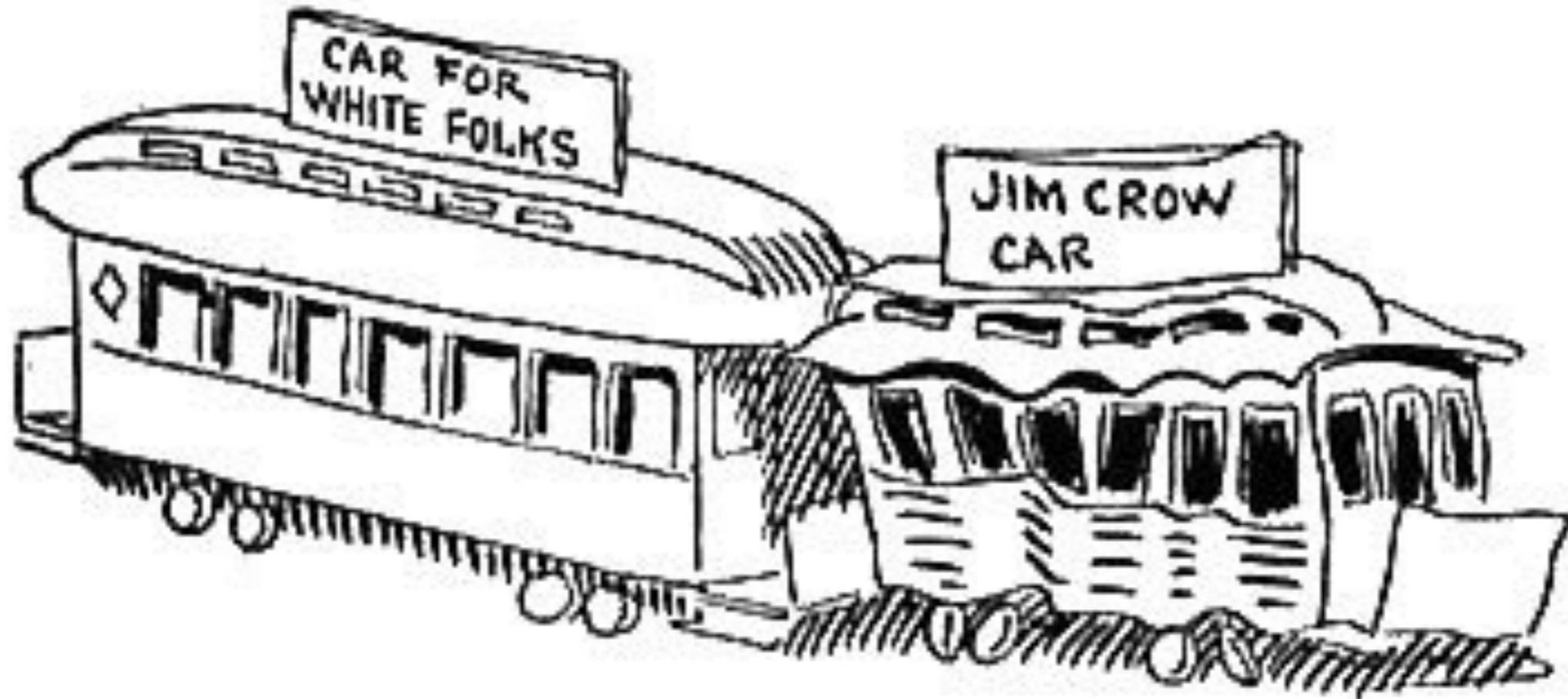
Segregation and Discrimination

Voting Restrictions

- For at least 10 years after Reconstruction, Southern blacks can vote
- By 1900, all Southern states restrict voting, deny equality
- Some limit vote to those who can read; officials give literacy tests
- Some have poll tax that must be paid annually to vote
- Some add grandfather clause to constitution to let poor whites vote –you can vote if you, your father, or grandfather voted before 1867



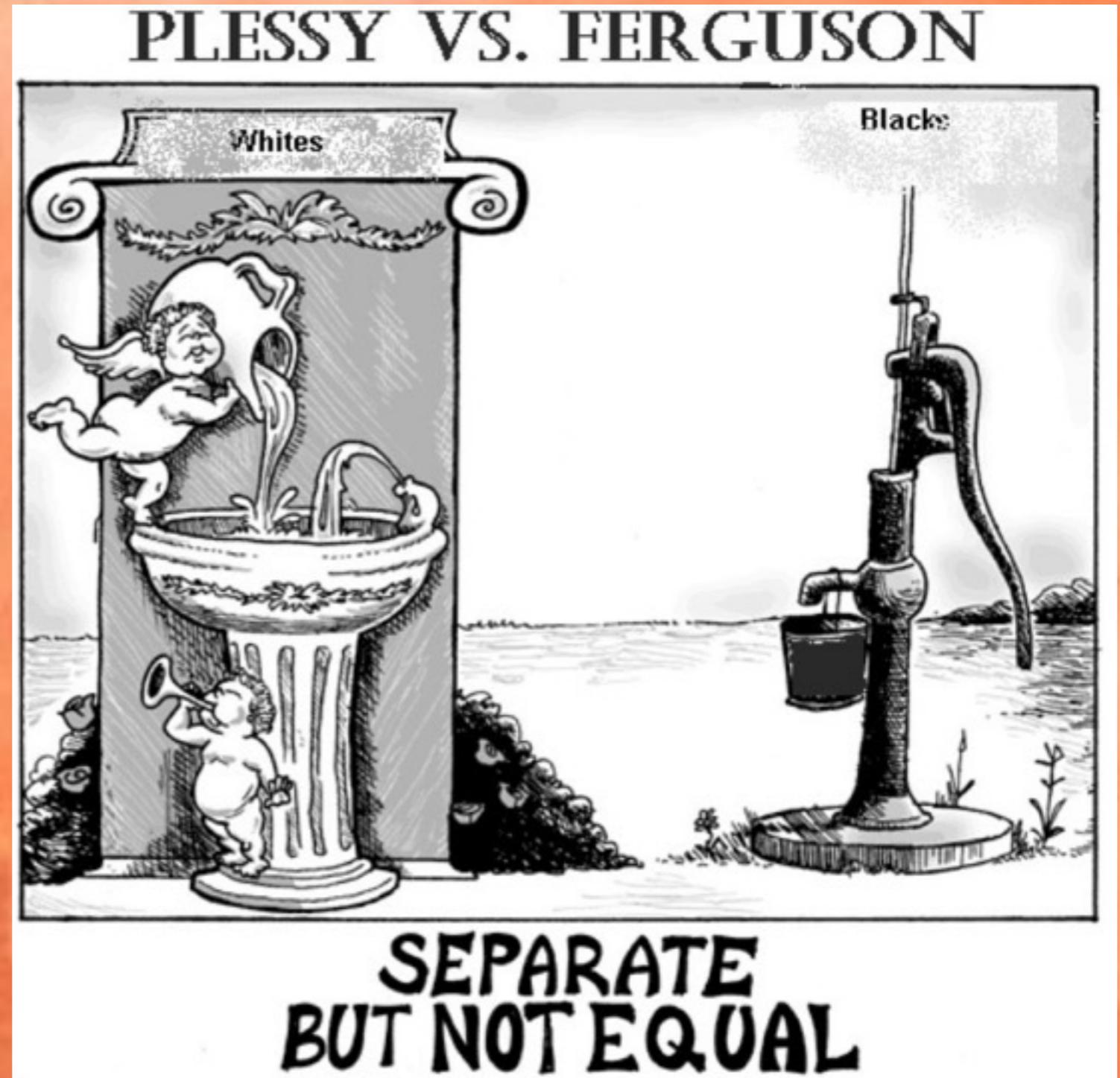
Jim Crow Laws



- 1870s–1880s, Supreme Court allows poll tax, grandfather clause
- Racial segregation laws separate races in private, public places
- Segregation laws called Jim Crow laws after old minstrel song

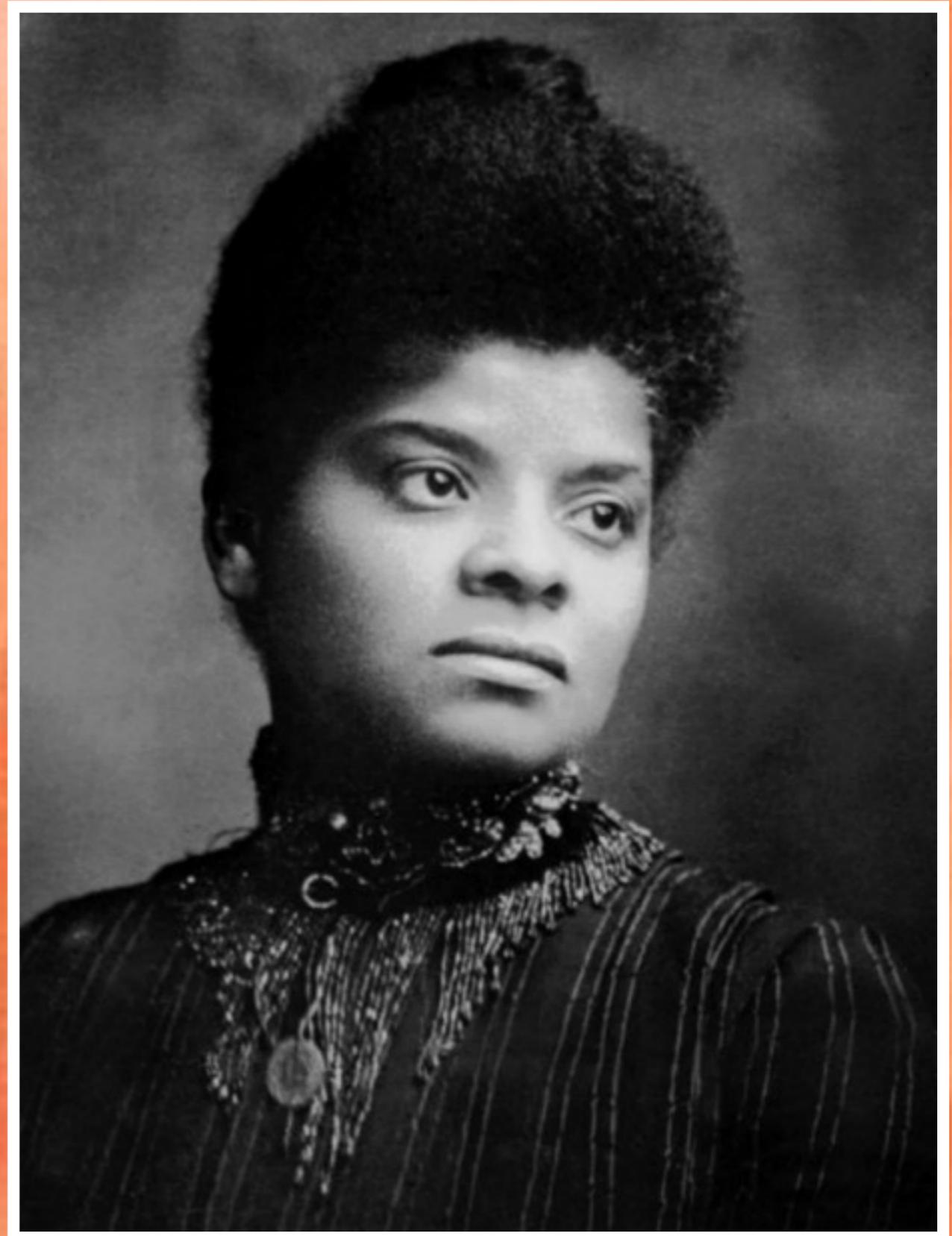
Plessy v. Ferguson

- 1896 Plessy v. Ferguson – segregation legal in public places
- “Separate but equal”



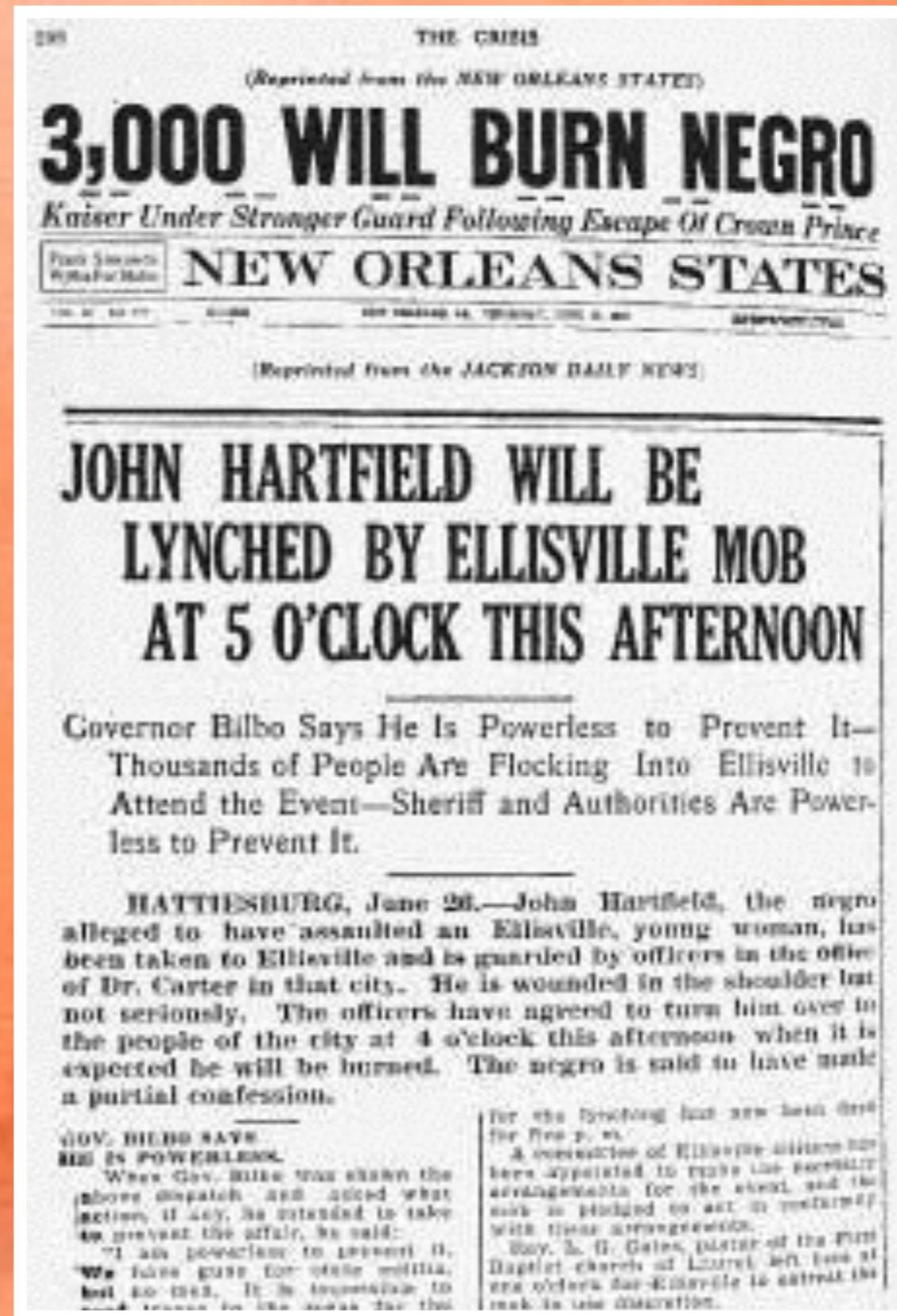
Opposing Segregation

- Racial etiquette: informal rules for black-white relations
 - enforce second-class status for blacks
- Moderate reformers, like Booker T. Washington, get white support
- W.E.B. Du Bois, Ida B. Wells think problems too urgent to postpone
- Born a slave, Ida B. Wells becomes teacher, newspaper editor
 - campaigns for racial justice



Violence

- African Americans who do not follow etiquette are punished, lynched
 - more than 1,400 killed (1882-1892)



Discrimination in the North

- Many blacks migrate North for better paying jobs, social equality
- Are forced into segregated neighborhoods
- Rejected by labor unions; hired last, fired first by employers
- Competition between blacks, working-class whites sometimes violent



Mexican Workers

- More Mexicans build railroads in Southwest than other ethnic groups
 - forced to work for less than other groups
- Mexicans major force in Southwest agricultural industries
- Some Southwest Mexicans, African-Americans forced into debt peonage:
 - system of slavery to work off debt to employer
 - 1911, Supreme Court declares unconstitutional



Excluding the Chinese

- Whites fear job competition, push Chinese to separate areas, schools
- Opposition to Chinese immigration leads to Chinese Exclusion Act

