

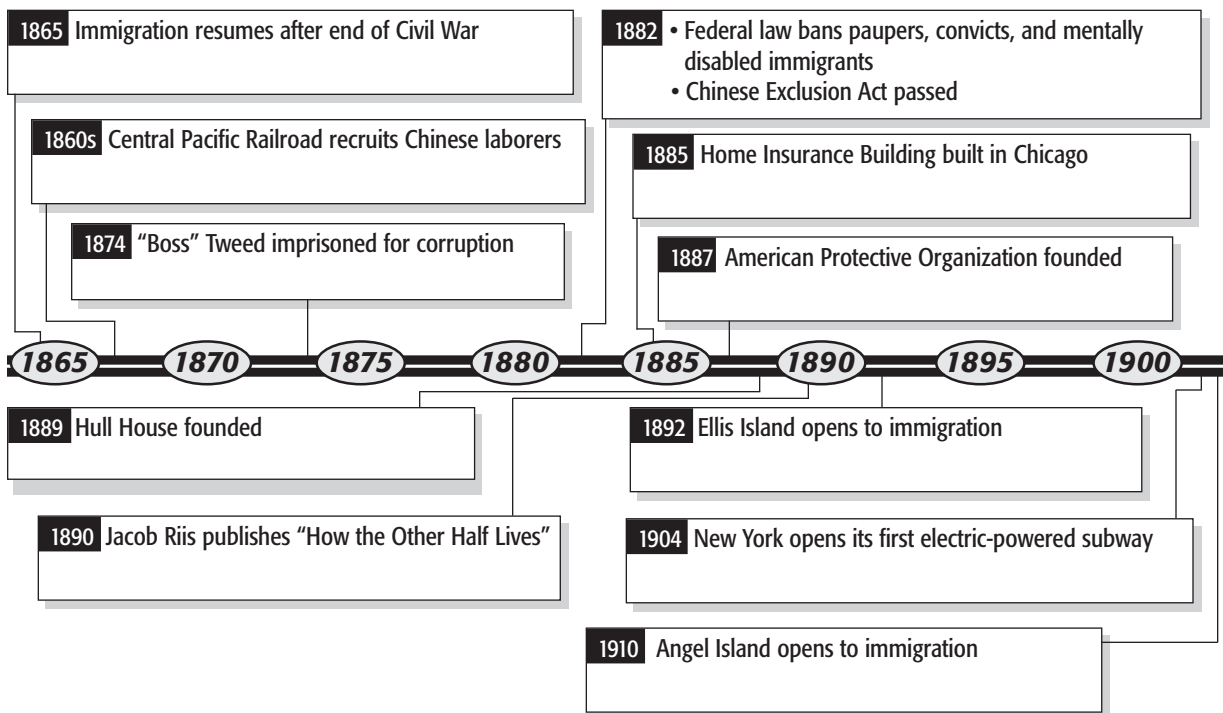
★ **Time Line Activity 13**

## Urban Problems

### BACKGROUND

During the late nineteenth century, a major wave of immigrants flooded into the United States in search of a new life. The vast majority of these people came from southern and eastern Europe. Lesser numbers arrived from Asia. This triggered fears in some native-born Americans that these people might not be able to adapt to American society, which resulted in the passage of immigration restrictions. In record numbers, these immigrants were attracted to urban areas where jobs in factories and new city services were available. Overcrowding in these cities led to major urban problems.

**DIRECTIONS:** Use the information in the time line to answer the questions that follow on a separate sheet of paper.



1. Which time line event explains why the immigration centers were built on Ellis Island and Angel Island?
2. What makes the Home Insurance building important in understanding the changes taking place in urban areas during this period in history?
3. Which urban problems did Jacob Riis identify in his book?
4. What was the purpose of community centers like Hull House?
5. Which urban problem was the building of the New York subway designed to correct?