

Labor Union Flyer



ABOUT THE SOURCE Racism was widespread in the United States in the late 1800s. In the western states, Asian Americans faced segregation and employment barriers. In 1882 Congress passed a law banning Chinese immigration. Native-born Americans often blamed Asian immigrants for taking needed jobs away from whites. Labor unions in Butte, Montana, printed the flyer below in 1896.



*As you look think about the intended purpose of this flyer. The following word may be new to you: **retrogression**. You may want to use a dictionary to look it up.*


J Exhibit J. Comp

BOYCOTT

A General Boycott has been declared upon all CHINESE and JAPANESE Restaurants, Tailor Shops and Wash Houses. Also all persons employing them in any capacity.

All Friends and Sympathizers of Organized Labor will assist us in this fight against the lowering Asiatic standards of living and of morals.

AMERICA vs. ASIA
Progress vs. Retrogression
 Are the considerations involved.

BY ORDER OF
 *Silver Bow Trades and Labor Assembly*
 and Butte Miners' Union

An Industrial Nation

Primary Source

WHAT DID YOU LEARN?

1. How does the flyer characterize people from Asia?

2. What did the union members who printed this flyer want the people of Butte to do?

3. How did the labor unions think this flyer would improve the economic situation of their members?
