

Name: _____

Franco Immigration Scavenger Hunt

Observe, Discuss, Research

1. Many immigrants gave up everything from their original homes to come to this country. In the 19th century, passengers brought very little with them because the shipping lines charged them for every parcel brought on board. What types of items did immigrants bring with them when they left their homes for another country?

2. After World War I, feelings of patriotism were widespread. The cultures and languages of immigrants was looked on as un-American at this time. There was increasing pressure on immigrants to assimilate. In Maine, the reborn Ku Klux Klan had its largest chapter outside the southern states in the 1920s, and their primary target was the French-speaking Catholic Franco-American population. What law was enacted in 1919 that targeted French immigrants? When was it repealed?

3. What was the nearby neighborhood called that was once home almost exclusively to French immigrants in Lewiston?

4. As Catholics, most Franco-Americans had large families – 12 children per couple was not uncommon. A crib was donated to the Franco Center by a Franco-American family. How many children from that family slept in that crib?

5. Music, dancing, theater, and family activities are important in the Franco immigrant history. What common kitchen utensil was used by Franco immigrants as a musical instrument? It was often played to accompany the fiddle or accordion. Along with clogging, it was used for percussion.

6. What railroad station was completed in Lewiston in 1874? It was significant in placing the Lewiston-Auburn area on the map, connecting the Twin Cities to a rail line that ran between Portland and Montreal. Thousands of French-Canadian immigrants began to flood into the region by way of train, excited for the many new work opportunities available in industrial Lewiston/Auburn.