



TITANIC

19

12

Learning Objective:

To reflect on how the sinking of the Titanic changed following events.



NEXT

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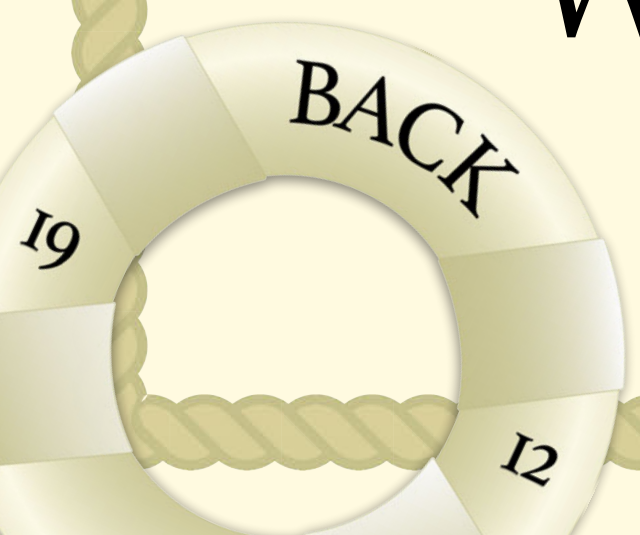
Think, pair, share...

In what ways do you think the
Titanic changed history?

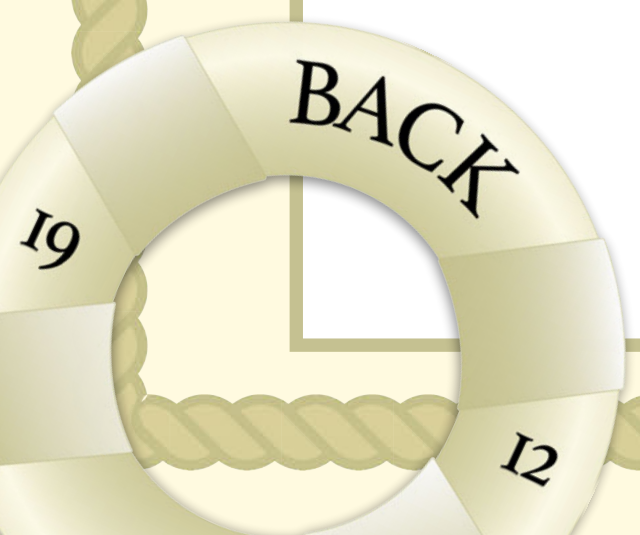
What do we mean by 'changed history'?

What lessons do you think people learnt from the
disaster?

What changes might have been made after so
many people lost their lives?

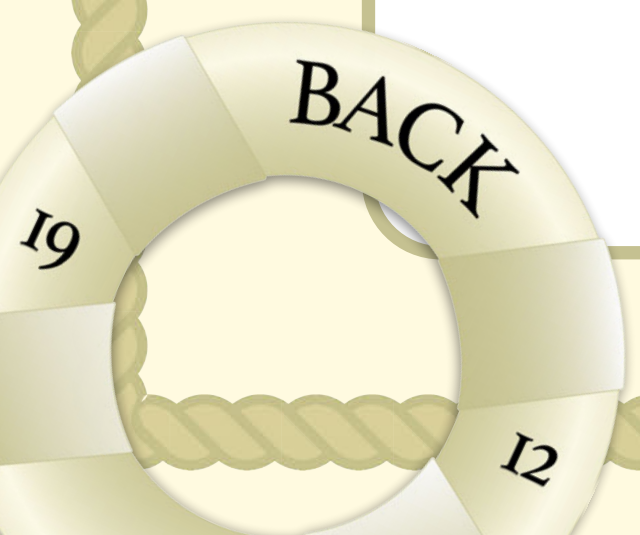


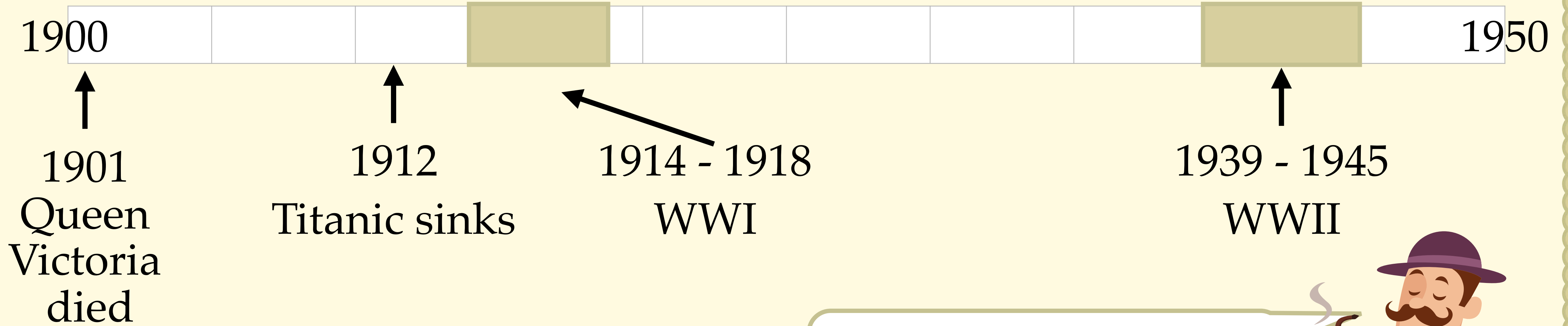
What changed after the Titanic sank?



The early 20th century was a time of great change in the world. Many historical events changed the way countries were run and how people lived their lives.

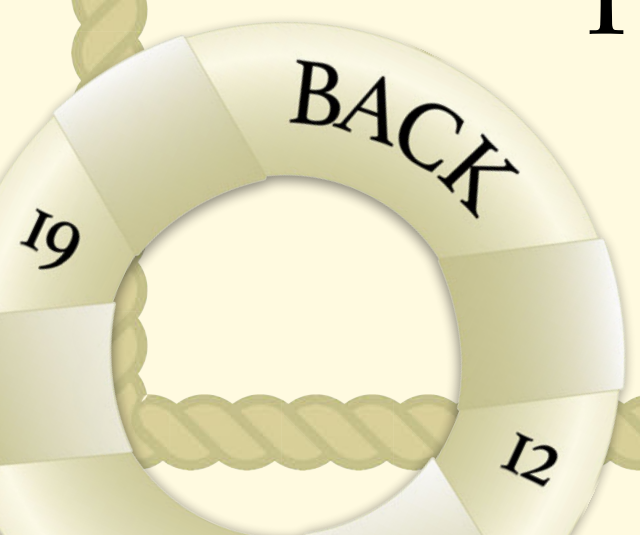
Can you think of any significant events during this time which might have changed history?



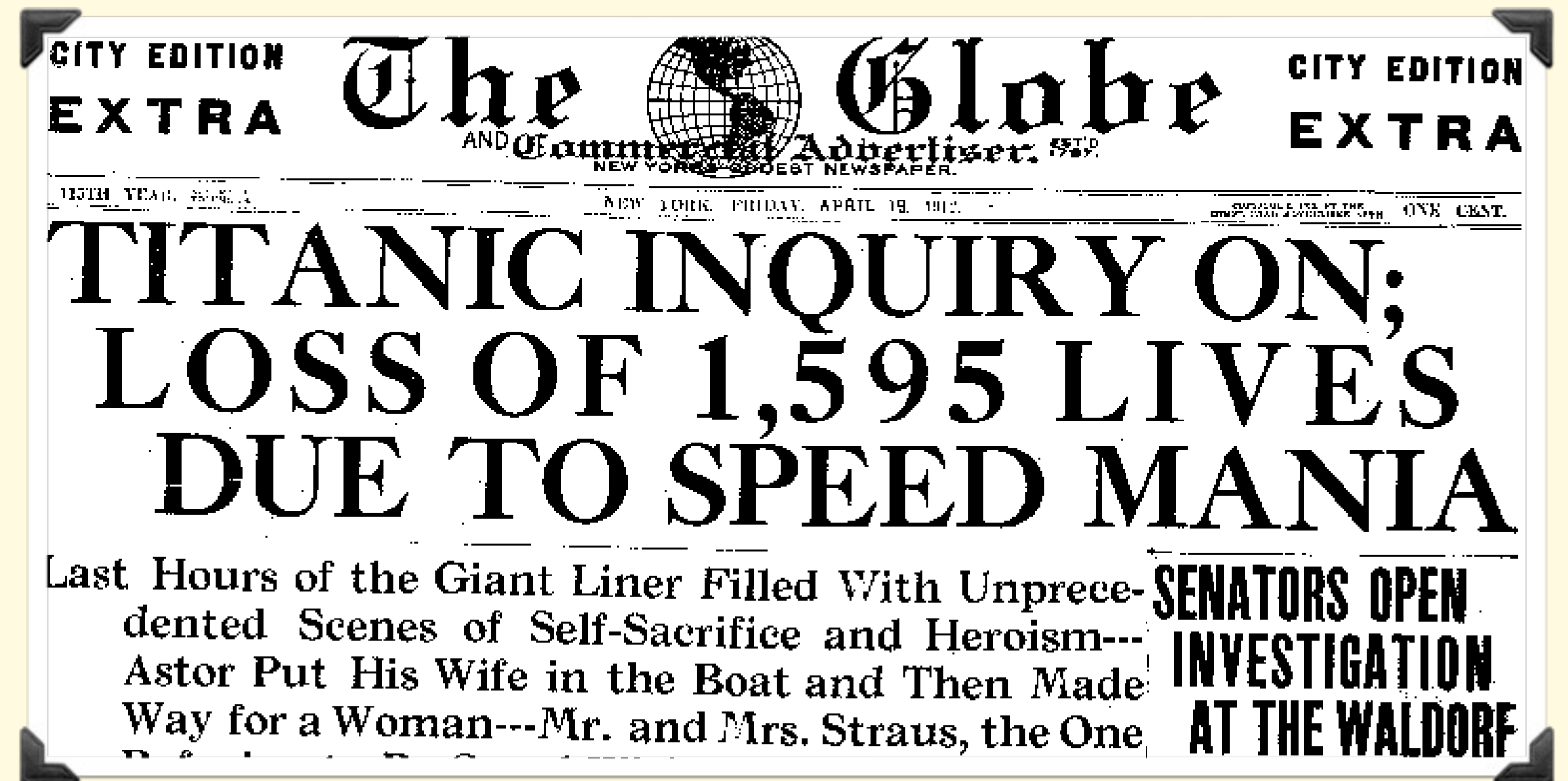


The great world wars caused massive changes all around the globe. Governments and leaderships changed and the effects of the war continued to be a big part of people's lives for years afterwards.

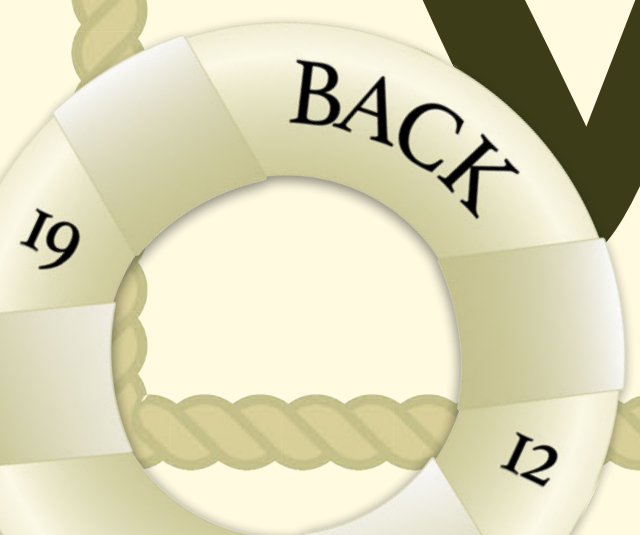
Do you think things would be the same now if these events hadn't happened or happened differently? What changes might there be?



The disaster of the Titanic created an outcry from people for more to be done to protect people's lives at sea.



Both British and American inquiries called for laws and regulations around safety at sea to be changed and over the next few years, governments enforced these changes.





In response to the Titanic sinking and the inquiries that followed, the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) was created. They decided on the minimum safety standards that a ship must pass to be safe.

One of their first rules was that any ship must carry enough lifeboats for everyone on board. Many ships even carry enough to have a 1:1.5 ratio of passengers to lifeboats.

The confusion during the evacuation of the Titanic was one of the reasons so many lives were lost. Officers and crew members in charge were giving varying instructions and did not know how to properly launch the boats. Many were launched only half full because of this confusion.



Because of this, SOLAS ruled that lifeboat drills and inspections become mandatory so that crew and passengers knew what to do in an emergency.

SOLAS ruled that all radio communications on passenger ships must be supervised 24 hours a day. They must also have a secondary power source to be able to receive distress signals at any time.

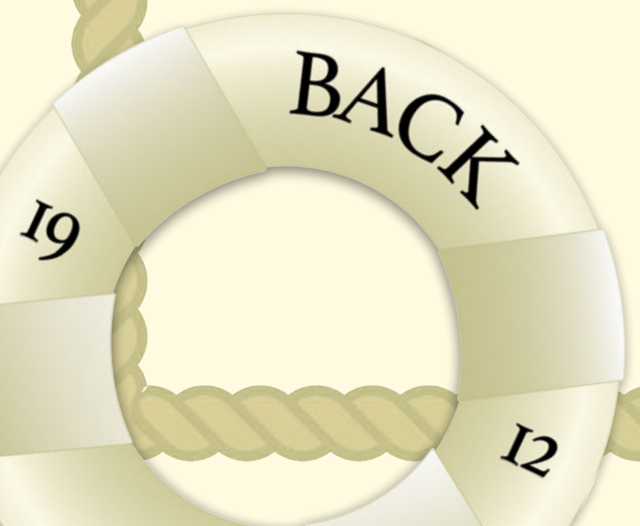
The Russian East Asiatic S.S. Co. Radio-Telegram.

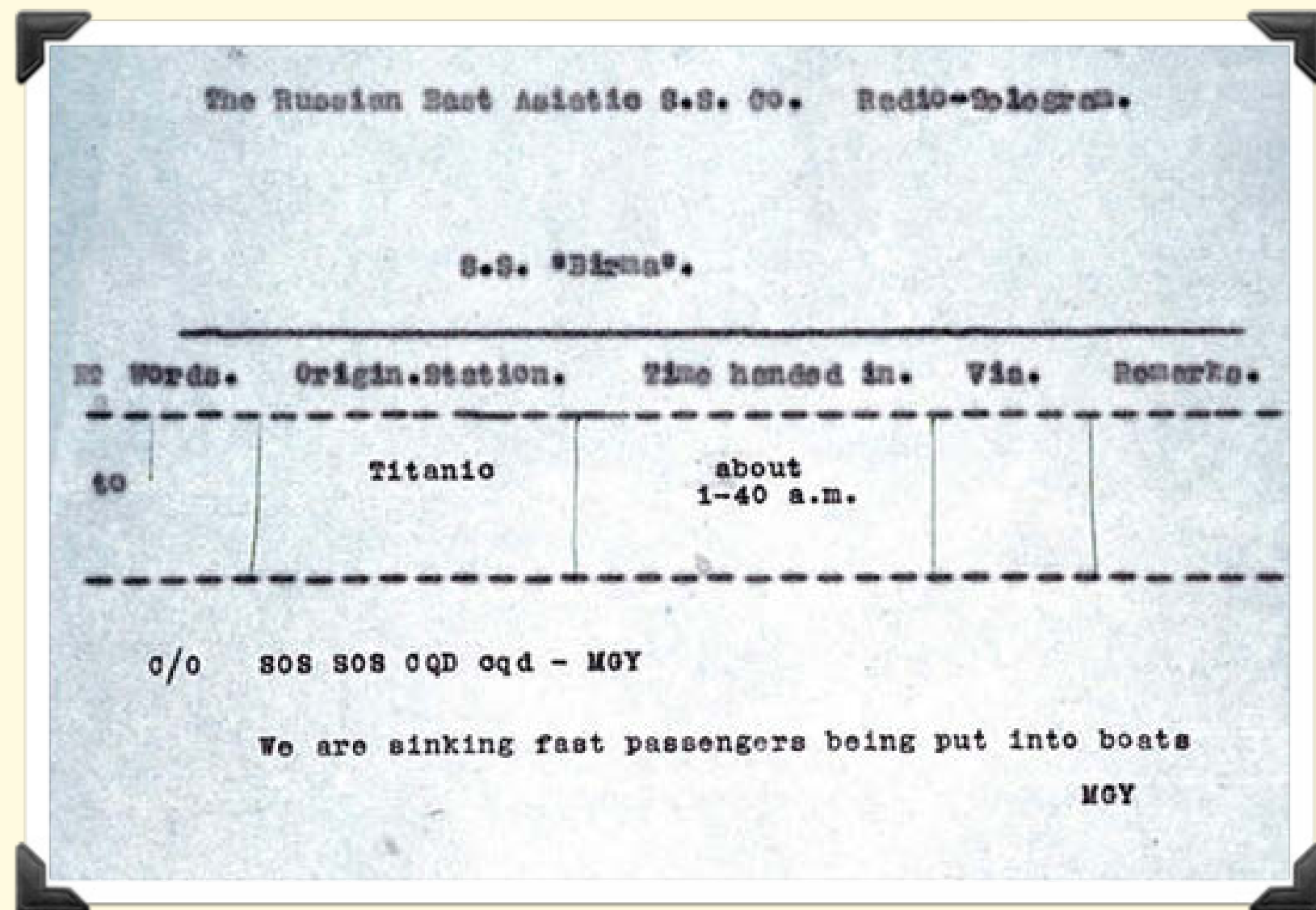
S.S. "Sigma".

No.	Words.	Origin.	Station.	Time handed in.	Via.	Remarks.
1	to	Titanic		about 1-40 a.m.		
c/o SOS SOS CQD CQD - MGY						
We are sinking fast passengers being put into boats						
MGY						



The nearest ship to the Titanic when she struck the iceberg was the SS Californian. Its wireless officer was in bed, and didn't receive the Titanic's distress signals until morning.

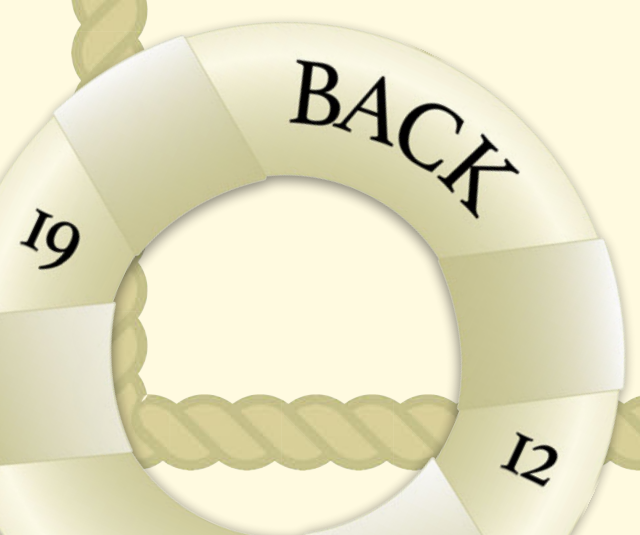




After the Titanic sank, SOS signals were quickly adopted as the universal distress signal in morse code (••• — — — •••).
[Click here to hear it being used.](#)

The distress signal SOS was already being used by ships at the time, but many wireless officers (like the one aboard the Titanic) preferred to use CQD (—•—• — —•— —••).

SOS became associated with the phrase 'Save our souls' but it wasn't chosen to have this meaning. It was chosen because it is easy to remember and recognise in morse code.



As the Titanic sank she sent off several white flares (bright, glowing lights) into the sky to signal nearby ships to their distress. These flares were seen by the SS Californian, but were not interpreted as distress signals by the captain and crew.



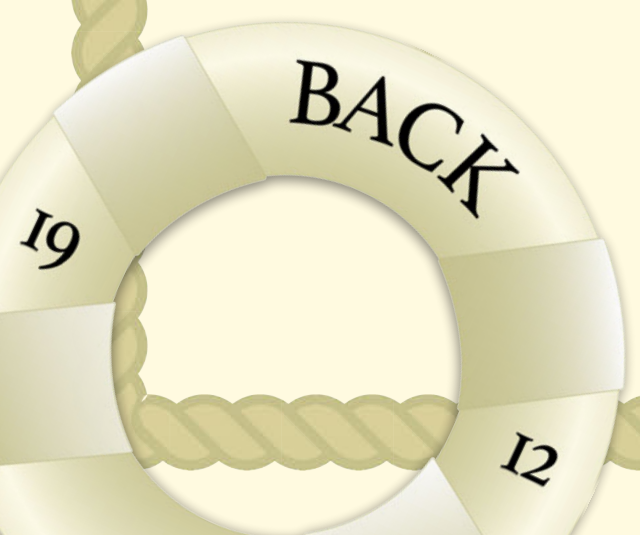
Now distress flares must be red in colour and anyone who observes them must interpret them as a sign for help and respond accordingly.



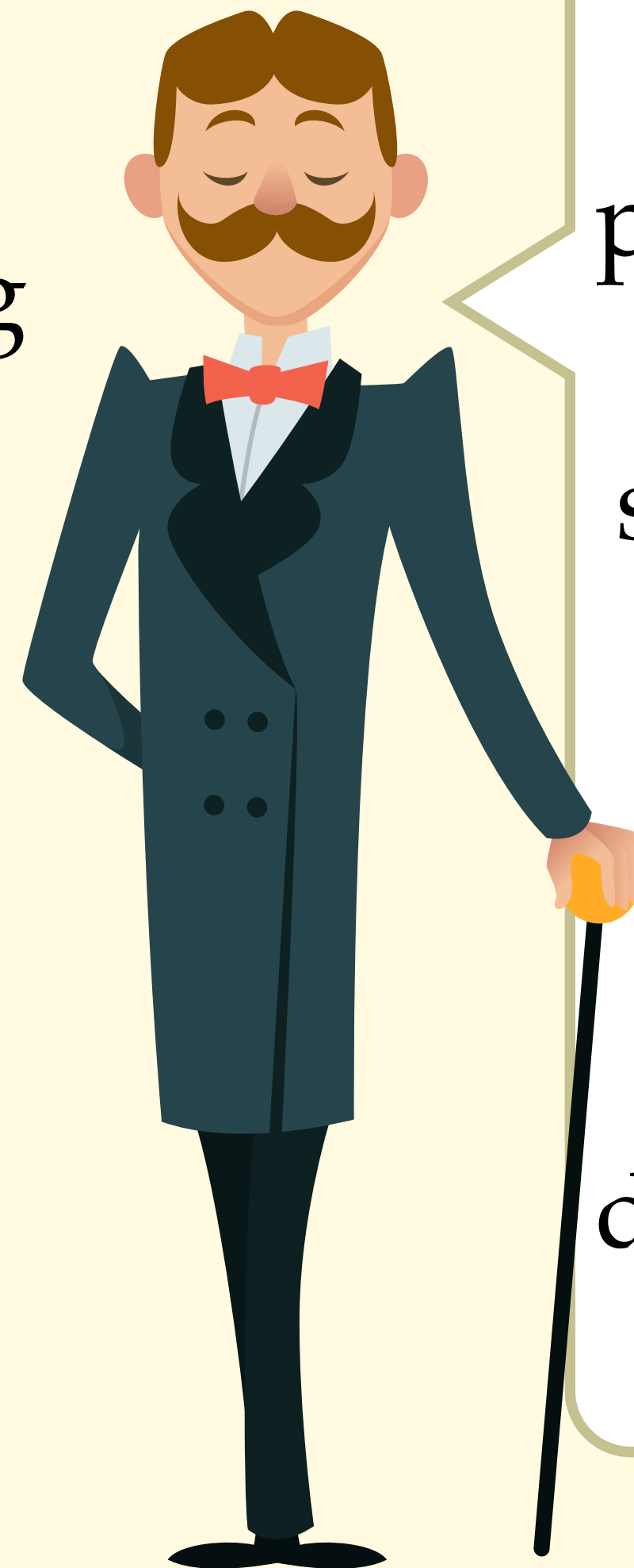
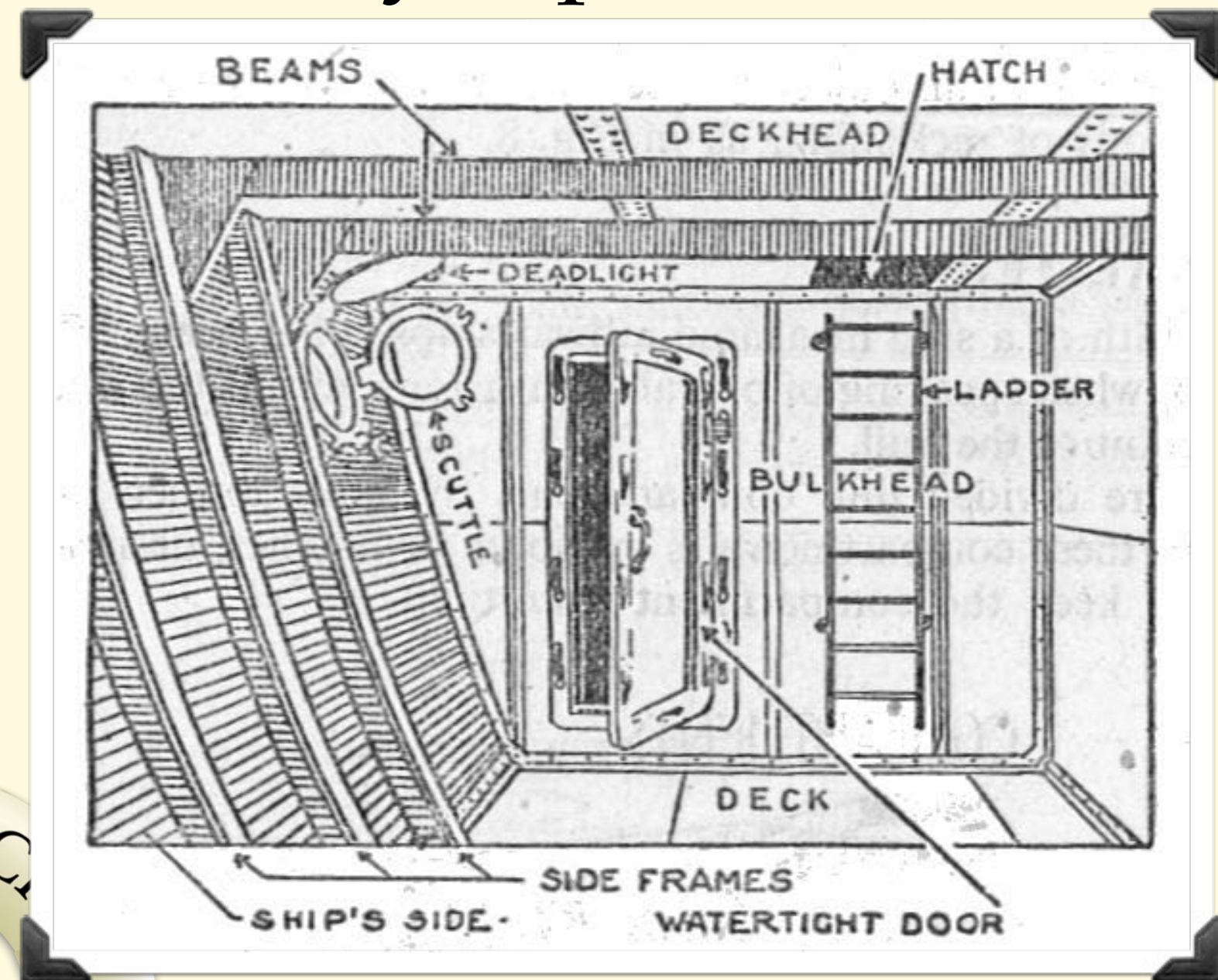
The disaster of the Titanic sinking led to the formation of the International Ice Patrol in 1914. The US Coast Guard monitors and reports the location of ice and icebergs which could pose a threat to ships in the North Atlantic Ocean.



This patrol is still in service today and has been reporting the location of icebergs since it began (apart from during the world wars). Since then there hasn't been a single reported loss of life due to an iceberg collision.



Ships travelling across the Atlantic now take a more southern route to avoid the ice fields of the Northern Atlantic Ocean. Routes are carefully planned and adjusted according to any reports of ice.



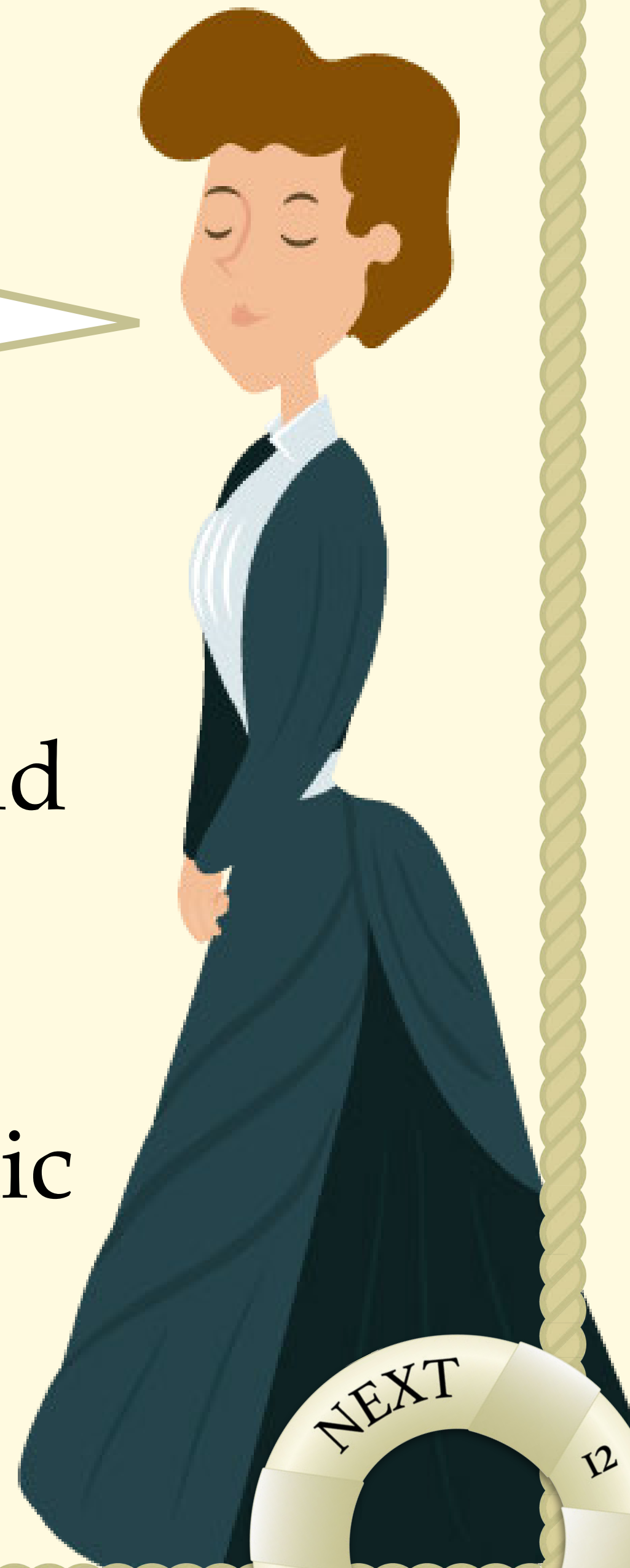
SOLAS wanted the bulkheads (vertical panels to create compartments) in ships to be made completely watertight to prevent a ship from sinking fully. The hulls of ships were made stronger and in some cases were made to have double hulls. The Titanic had a double hull at the bottom, but not on the sides. Had the entire hull been a double hull, the damage may not have been as great.

Plenary

In what ways do you think the Titanic changed history?

Think about all the changes that the disaster of the Titanic brought on. Do you think these changes would still have been made if the Titanic had successfully made it to New York?

Do you think they would have been made if the Titanic had hit the iceberg but fewer people lost their lives?



Plenary

END OF UNIT QUIZ



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