

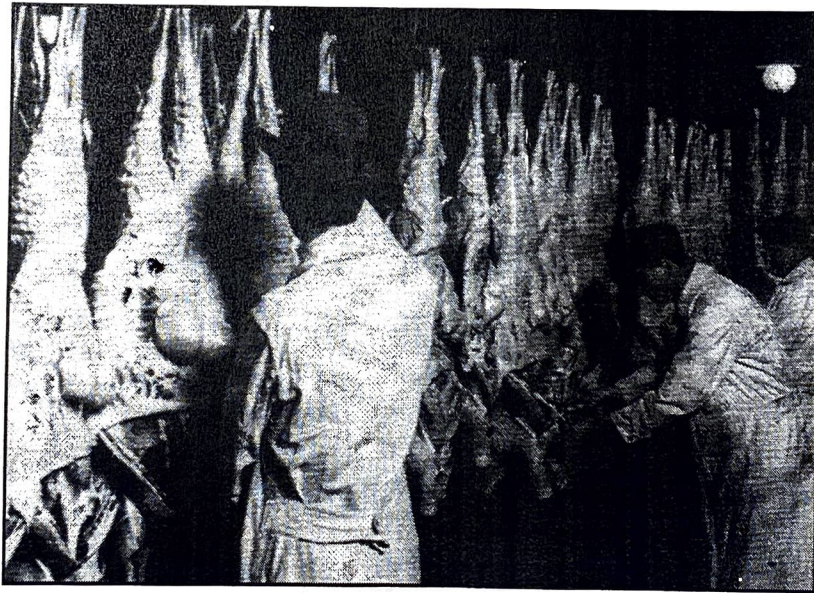
Progressivism

Document D

Source: Upton Sinclair, *The Jungle*, Viking Press, 1905.

Note: *The Jungle* was a novel that described the conditions in the Chicago meat-packing industry.

There was never the least attention paid to what was cut up for sausage.... There would be meat that had tumbled out on the floor, in the dirt and sawdust, where the workers had tramped and spit.... There would be meat stored in great piles in rooms; and the water from leaky roofs would drip over it, and thousands of rats would race about on it. It was too dark in these storage places to see well, but a man could run his hand over these piles of meat and sweep off handfuls of the dried dung of rats. These rats were nuisances, and the packers would put poisoned bread out for them; they would die, and then rats, bread and meat would go into the hoppers together. This was no fairy story and no joke; the meat would be shoveled into carts, and the man who did the shoveling would not trouble to lift out a rat even if he saw one....



Source: LOC Image

Document Analysis

1. What detail from Upton Sinclair's book is the most disgusting to you?
2. If you were alive in 1906, and had just read this book, what might you decide to do to change the situation?
3. Does the photo support Sinclair's claims about the meat-packing industry? Explain.
4. What argument could be made that meat inspection should receive \$600,000 of Aunt Bessie's money?