GILDED AGE POLITICS

American Pageant (Kennedy) Chapter 23

- 1.) Election of 1876, Compromise of 1877, How did it end Reconstruction
- 2.) Civil Rights Act of 1875, Civil Rights Cases
- 3.) Jim Crow Laws, Plessy v. Ferguson, de facto discrimination
- 4.) Sharecropping, tenant farming, why did it develop?
- 5.) Disenfranchisement of black voters, grandfather clauses
- 6.) Presidency of Grant, Corruption, role during Reconstruction
- 7.) Chinese Immigrants, Chinese Exclusion Act 8.) the Half-Breeds, Stalwarts, Pendleton Act (Civil Service Reform)
- 9.) Panic of 1893, Currency debate
- 10.) Gilded Age Politics- Sum it up in a minimum of 4-5 sentences
- 11.) Grange Movement, the farmers' Alliance movement, Populist party
- 12.) Great Railroad strike, Homestead Strike

President Grant (1868-1876)

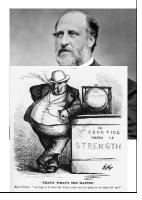
- Civil War hero Ulysses S. Grant wins the Presidency for the Republican party in 1868
- Temporary social and political revolution- black voters vote for Republican candidates
- **Corruption during the Grant** administration
- Credit Mobilier affair: VP & members of Congress involved in RR stock scandal
- Whiskey Ring: 1875-Private Secretary of Grant helped steal 3 million from the fed govt in a tax corruption scheme.
- "Grantism"- term used to describe corruption in politics



The Ultimate Symbol of Gilded Age **Political Corruption: Boss Tweed**

Local Political corruption: **Tammany Hall** (Democratic party political machine):

- "Boss" Tweed used bribery, graft, and fraudulent elections to steal over \$200 million from NY taxpayers
- Thomas Nast would expose this corruption to the masses



PANIC OF 1873

- Severe economic collapse further distracts the nation from enforcing Reconstruction
- Causes: 1) Overproduction in industries such as factories, railroad, and mining. 2) Over speculation by bankers: too much money loaned out
- Hard times inflicted the worst effects on debtors
- Debtors advocate for relaxation of tight money policies
 - Debate between "hard currency" vs. "greenbacks"
 - Agrarian and debtor groups want"cheap money"
 - want greenbacks issued



Election of 1876

- Republican Rutherford Hayes vs. Democrat Samuel Tilden
- Political controversy as results in 3 southern states were contested

Compromise of 1877

- South/Democrats would recognize Hayes as President
- Hayes would pull federal troops out of the South and end Reconstruction
- Hayes to provide <u>south political</u> <u>positions (patronage)</u> and federal <u>aid for a transcontinental RR</u> for the south





The Court Undermines Reconstruction

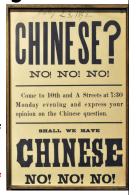
- Civil Rights Act of 1875: Protected Rights
 - made it a crime for any individual to deny full & equal use of public places
 - Prohibited racial discrimination in jury selection
- Civil Rights Cases of 1883: Court striking down!
 - Supreme Court said 14th amendment <u>only</u> <u>protected against government violations</u> of civil rights
 - · Individuals can discriminate all they want
 - Overturns the Civil Rights Act of 1875
- Jim Crow laws spread throughout the south
- Plessy v. Ferguson (1896)
 - Racial segregation was constitutional if equal facilities were made available to each race ("separate but equal")

- Idea of "New South" promoted: south would rebuild, industrialize, and develop their economy.
- However, Agrarian sharecropping and tenant farming continued to dominant the region
- Life for African Americans in the Post Reconstruction South continued to be filled with many challenges.
- Path to <u>disenfranchisement</u>:
- 1.) Literacy Test
- · 2.) <u>Poli Taxes</u>
- 3.) Property Requirements
- 4.) <u>Grandfather Clauses</u>: Exempted from electoral requirements anyone who had voted in 1860
- White Democrats ("Redeemers") reassumed political power in the South



Chinese Immigration

- Large increase in Asian immigration (especially from China)
- Important during the various mining booms and building of railroad
- Spike in nativism toward Asian immigrants in the west
- Chinese Exclusion
 Act 1882: prohibited further immigration of Chinese laborers
 - 1st time immigration restrictions on basis of race and nationality



"Gilded Age politics were intimately tied to big business and focused nationally on economic issues such as tariffs and currency policy."

Both political parties during the Gilded Age ignored the political and social consequences of industrialization

LAISSEZ FAIRE

Key Issues: Currency, Civil Service Reform & Tariffs

- Patronage was used by both political parties
 - Civil Service jobs given to supporters ("to the victor belong the spoils")
 - Calls for Civil Service Reform
- Half-Breeds: advocated civil service reform (James Blaine)
- **Stalwarts:** supporters of patronage (Roscoe Conkling)
- By the 1880's the U.S. Treasury had a huge surplus from tariffs





Gilded Age Presidential Politics

- > 1876-1880: <u>Rutherford B. Hayes (</u>R)
 - · Becomes President following Compromise of 1877
 - Sends federal troops to break up Great Railroad strike
- 1880-1884: <u>James Garfield</u>
 - Garfield is assassinated
 - Chester A. Arthur throws support behind the Pendleton Act (1883) civil service reform
- > 1884-1888: <u>Grover Cleveland</u> (D)
 - **Strong advocate of <u>laissez faire</u>** "Though the people support the government," "the government should not support the people"
 - Signed Into law Interstate Commerce Act (1887)
- 1888-1892: Benjamin Harrison (R)
 - \cdot advocated for keeping the tariff high.
 - Billion-dollar Congress- McKinley Tariff, Civil War pensi
- > 1892-1896: <u>Grover Cleveland (</u>D)

Industrial Revolution American Pageant (Kennedy) Chapter 24

1) Growth of Railroad Industry, Munn vs. Illinois, Wabash Case

- 2) Andrew Carnegie, Steel Industry
- vertical and horizontal integration
 Standard Oil Trust, John D Rockefeller
- 5) Federal Regulation: Interstate Commerce Act, Sherman Anti-Trust Act 6) Labor Unions: National Labor Union, Knights of Labor, American Federation of Labor & Samuel Gompers
- 7) "New South"
- 8) Tactics against unions: "yellow dog contracts", Pinkertons, court injunctions 9) Major Strikes: Great Railroad strike, Haymarket Bombing, Homestead Strike,
- Pullman Strike
- 10) Ideas of Gilded Age: laissez faire, Social Darwinism, Gospel of Wealth
- 11) Urbanization, Why does it happen, Impact 12) Political Machines, Party bosses, Tammany Hall
- 13) New Immigrants, Origin of immigration, Reaction of Americans, etc., Ellis
- 14) Immigration Restrictions: Chinese Exclusion Act, Literacy Test
- 15) Reform Movements: Social Gospel Movement, Jane Addams, Hull House,

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INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

- By 1900 America would become the leading industrial power in the world.
- Rapid economic transformation of American society
 - Impacts the country economically, socially, politically
- Manufacturing replaces agriculture as the primary source of economic growth
- Rise of big business encouraged massive migrations and urbanization

INVENTIONS & INNOVATIONS

- Large number of new <u>inventions</u> developed during this period
 - High rate of patents issued
 - Examples:
 - Alexander Graham Bell: Telephone
 - Thomas Edison: Electric light
- These inventions and innovations will change daily lives, create new jobs, and have social consequences







- Land and loan subsidies given by the <u>federal government</u> to the railroad companies
- New <u>business practices</u> introduced by RR companies such as establishing the modern stockholder corporation, business management strategies, financing, and regulation of competition
- Consolidation leads to standardization of the industry: steel rail, standard gauges

First Transcontinental Railroad

- Age of Railroads happens at same time as settlement of the Great Plains
- Pacific Railroad Act (1862)
- Union Pacific: Built from Omaha, Nebraska to the West
 - Irish workers
- Central Pacific:
 Sacramento to Sierra
 Nevada
 - Chinese laborers
- Two come together at Promontory Point May 10 1869



IMPACT OF THE RAILROAD

- Unified the domestic market- created a national market for goods
- Allowed for mass distribution of raw materials and manufactured goods
- Encouraged mass production, mass consumption, and economic specialization
- Helped promote the growth of other industries (coal, steel, etc) and lead to growth of new cities
- Facilitated immigration both internally and externally
- Changes daily life: American Railroad Association divided the country into 4 time zones in 1883

America, We've got a Problem!

- Railroad Tycoons became extremely powerful
- Federal land grants and friendly loans led the rampant corruption within the government
- Frequent speculative bubbles would burst
 - Speculators attempt to sell overvalued stock to the public
 - Overbuilding was common
 - Mismanagement and fraud plagued the industry
- Rebates (discounts) were oftentimes given to favored shippers
 - Small farmers were often charged much higher rates
- "Pools"- secret agreements between companies to fix rates and share profits

Covernment Regulation

- **Demands for the government to** intervene
- Dominate philosophy of the time period: Laissez Faire
- Leave alone, no regulation
- Farmers most vocal group calling for reform- Grange Movement
- Munn v. Illinois (1877) State could regulate business
- Wabash case: states could NOT regulate interstate commerce
- **Interstate Commerce Act**
- Set up Interstate Commerce Commission
- Federal government would oversee
- Banned pooling, rebates, and rate fixing
- Companies had to publish rates







First large scale attempt by Federal **Government to** regulate business in the interest of society at large

The ICC was initially not very effective

Horizontal & Vertical Integration

- **Horizontal:** Controlling all competition in a particular industry.
- **Merging competing oil** companies into one glant corporation.
- **Consolidating all** competitors to monopolize a market.
- Vertical: Control all aspects of manufacturing- from extracting raw materials to selling the finished product

| Purchase of Co Companies in San | mpeting ne Industry | tal Integratio | |
|---|------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| 3 Sale to consumer | | 1111 | |
| Transportation (Snished products go to retail stores) | and a | i din di | 1-4-1 |

| Independent Oil Refineries | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| Sale to consumer | **** **** ***** | | |
| Transportation (Snished products go to retail stores) | 100 cm 4 m 4 m 4 m 4 m 4 m 4 m 4 m 4 m 4 m | | |
| Processing (refineries transform crude oil into kerosene, lubricating oil and paraffix) | | | |
| Transportation of new materials (crude oil moves to refineries) | 📑 🖚 राज्येल के राज्येल | | |
| Production of raw materials (oil is pumped out of the ground) | AAAAAAA | | |

IDEAS OF THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

- Laissez Faire ("leave alone") believed that government should not attempt to control or regulate business
- "Survival of the fittest": Charles Darwin's ideas about the natural world were applied to the business world.
 - Advocates of "laissez faire"
- Gospel of Wealth: Belief that the wealthy had a moral obligation to help out those less fortunate
 - Andrew Carnegie's article 'Wealth'





LABOR UNIONS

Challenges for Unions

- Division between skilled vs. unskilled workers
- Ethnic and racial divisions
- Hostility from corporations, no protection by government
 - Scabs- replacement
 - Court Injunctions
 - Yellow-dog contracts: could not join a union
 - Blacklist- banned from
 - Public opinion- unions viewed as radical

- National Labor Union (1866):
 - First attempt to organize workers in all states
 - Demand for higher wages & 8 hour work day
- Knights of Labor (1869):
 - Terence Powderly opened the union to all workers (skilled & unskilled workers; women & African Americas)
 - Decline following Haymarket Riot in 1886
- American Federation of Labor (1886)
- Under the leadership of <u>Samuel</u>
- Gompers focused on skilled workers - Focus on "bread & butter" issues-
- wages, working conditions
- By 1900 it was the largest union

| LABOR UNREST | Great Railroad Strike of 1877 (Chicago, Pittsburgh, Marlinsburg, Baltimore) |
|--|---|
| Great Railroad Strike of 1877: Rutherford B Hayes | H TA MINN. NEW TAKES |
| uses federal troops to end labor unrest | TH THE VISCONSIN VORK PENN. RHODE ISLAN CONNECTICUT |
| Haymarket Bombing 1886: Bomb explodes | ASKA Haymarket Riot 1885 (Chiologo) Pullman Strike 1894 ILL ND. OHIO WW. |
| during a public meeting in Haymarket Square | (Chicago and nationixide) KANSAS MISSOURI KENTUCKY N.C. N.C. Homestead Strike 1892 (Homestead) |
| Public views labor union movement as radical and violent | OK. TENRESSEE S.C. |
| Homestead Strike 1892: Henry Clay Frick uses a | TERR MISS. ALA GEORGIA ATLANTIC OCEAN |
| lockout, private guards, and scabs to defeat | EXAS |
| steelworkers at Carnegie's factory. | Gull of Mexico |
| • Pullman Strike 1894 | 1 |

Immigration & Urbanization

American Pageant (Kennedy) Chapter 25

- 1) Growth of Railroad Industry, Munn vs. Illinois, Wabash Case
- 2) Andrew Carnegie, Steel Industry 3) vertical and horizontal integration

- 4) Standard Oil Trust, John D Rockefeller 5) Federal Regulation: Interstate Commerce Act, Sherman Anti-Trust Act
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Huge increase in

- urbanization
- Economic opportunities in industrial jobs bring people to the cities
 - Both international and internal migrations
- New technology supports this growth
 - In 1885 the 1st sky scrapper built in Chicago
 - Electric streetcars allow people to travel greater distances
- **Changing roles for women**
 - Took on new jobs
 - **Economic opportunity and** sense of independence



PROBLEMS IN THE CITIES

Challenges:

- Growth of <u>urban poverty</u>

 Rising gap between the rich and
- **Huge population increase** leads to:
 - Lack of clean water
 - Limited trash disposal & poor sanitation
 - Rise Tenement / slums
 - Dumbbell tenement
- **Neighborhoods segregated**

by race, ethnicity, and class

- Little Italy in New York
- Lower Eastside Jewish community
- Polish neighborhood of Pilsen in Chicago
- Southside of Chicago



Political Bosses & Machine Politics

- Political machines controlled politics in major cities
 - William "Boss" Tweed of Tammany Hall in NY
- **Political bosses** controlled the rank and file and rewarded supporters with jobs
- Provided basic welfare type services to the poor and immigrant community
- Greed, graft, and fraud was common



| OLD vs. NEW IMMIGRANTS Generalizations | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| The old immigrants | The <u>new immigrants</u> | | |
| came from northern or western Europe (England, Ireland, Germany) | came from southern or eastern Europe (Italy, Russia, Poland, Greece) | | |
| were Protestant (Some Catholics) | were not majority Protestantwere Catholic, Orthodox, Jewish | | |
| literate and skilled | illiterate and unskilled | | |
| were quick to assimilate | were reluctant to assimilate | | |
| Came from countries with democracy | Came from countries with a history of communism, anarchism, socialism (RADICAL IDEAS) | | |
| Not completely poor | arrived poor | | |
| | 1 | | |

Why did they come to America?

PULL FACTORS

- America's Ideals
 - Political freedom
 - Religious freedom
- Stories from previous generations
- Factory jobs from industrialization
 - economic opportunity

PUSH FACTORS

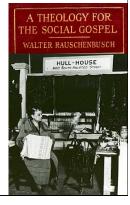
- Farm jobs lost to mechanization
 - lack land of Europe
 - Poverty and difficult lives
- Political instability
 - Lack of political freedom
- · Religious persecution
 - Pogroms (Violence against Jews in Russia)

RESPONSE TO CHANGING IMMIGRATION

- Ellis Island opened in 1892 as a immigrant processing station
- As a result of these new immigrants there was a rise in Nativism
 - RACIAL: New immigrants seen as racially inferior (not Anglo-Saxon)
 - ECONOMIC: took jobs and lowered wages- labor unions oftentimes oppose immigrants
 - POLITICAL: radical ideas
 - RELIGIOUS: not Protestant
- Attempts to exclude:
 - Chinese Exclusion Act (1882)
 - American Protective Association = anti-Catholic group made up of American Protestants
 - Literacy Test enacted in 1917
 - Quota Acts of 1920s will severely restrict immigrants

Response to Urbanization & Immigration Issues

- Various attempts undertaken to deal with the problems posed by urbanization & immigration
- Social Gospel Movement
 - Christians had a responsibility to deal with urban poverty
- Salvation Army came over from England in 1879 & provided poverty relief while spreading Christian values
- YMCA & YWCA- Christian values
- <u>Settlement House</u> Movement
 - Jane Addams establishes the Hull House in 1889
 - Provided various social services in the community
 - Helped immigrants adapt to new society



Belief Systems of the Industrial Revolution

- **Belief in Protestant work ethic**
- **Horatio Alger:** story of "rags to riches"
- Honesty, hard work leads to success
- Re-enforced by experience of people such as Andrew Carnegie (immigrant from Scotland)
- Critics of the Industrial pro business climate of the Gilded Age
 - Henry George "Progress & Poverty" critically examined the inequalities in wealth caused by industrialization and laissez faire capitalism.
 - Edward Bellamy "Looking Backward" about a utopian socialist society that has fixed the social and economic injustices of the time.
- Effort to reform these problems will eventually lead to a movement known as the Progressive Movement in the 1890s
 - Rise of press and education
 - compulsory attendance, tax supported schools were more accessible, & Illiteracy rates were



AMERICAN RESPO

Booker T. Washington

- From the south, ex-slave
- Wrote autobiography "Up From Slavery
- **African Americans should** acquire vocational skills to gain self-respect and economic security
- Established Tuskegee **Institute**
- Did not advocate for directly challenging white supremacy
 - Accused of being a "accommodationist" by critics

- · From the north 1st African American to earn a Ph.D from Harvard
- Helped found the **National Association for** the Advancement o **Colored People (NAACP)** in 1909
- Demanded immediate political and social equality for black people
- Rejected Booker's gradualism

WEST & AGRICULTURE

American Pageant (Kennedy) Chapter 26

1) Plains Indians culture, importance of buffalo

Colonel John M Chivington & Sand Creek Massacre
2) Battle of Little Bighorn, Sitting Bull, "Custer's Last Stand"

Chief Joseph and his Nez Perce

- 3) Indian Schools (Carlisle Indian School), assimilation policies 4) Helen Hunt Jackson & Century of Dishonor
- 5) The Dawes Severalty Act
- 6) Wovoka & Ghost Dance, Battle of Wounded Knee
- 7) The Pacific Railroad Act of 1862 & Central Pacific & Union Pacific
- 8) Homestead Act, New Farming Technology: Steel Plow, Barbed Wire, etc. Boom & Bust Economy of the West
- 9) Californios, loss of land in California, Violations of Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo 10) Frederick Jackson Turner, "frontier thesis"
- 11) John Muir & Sierra Club
- 12.) Grange Movement, the farmers' Alliance movement, Populist party
- 13.) Panic of 1893 and Depression of 1893-1897, Coxey's army 14) Pullman Strike
- 15) Election of 1896, free silver, William Jennings Bryan & Cross of Gold Speech



WESTERN SETTL

- Homestead Act (1862) offered public land (160 acres) to any person who lived on it & improved it for 5 years.
- Intended to encourage settlement of western land
- **Difficulties & Limitations**
- Difficulties a Limitations
 1) quality of land 2) high cost of supplies 3) mother nature 4) fraud 5) fluctuating crop prices
 Pacific Railroad Act (1862)-
- authorized the building of transcontinental railroad along a northern route.
- Federal government provides money and land (subsidies) to the RR companies to construct.
- **Transcontinental Railroad** completed in 1869



ECONOMY OF THE WEST

Boom and bust cycle of the economy

Mining Industry

- Examples: 1) 1858 gold in Pike's Peak, Colorado 2) 1859 Comstock Lode in Nevada (Nevada enters Union)
- Conditions: Extremely dangerous, nearly half population foreign born
- Impact: 1) Environmental destruction (hydraulic mining) 2) Loss of Native land

Cattle Industry

- Mexican cowboys (vaqueros) had been running the cattle business in Texas
- Vast open grasslands
- Railroads open up new markets
- Bust- bad winter, prices drop, overgrazing, farmers put up barbed wire



Myth vs. Reality of the West

west in literature, paintings, and dime novels.

- Land of cowboys roaming the unexplored frontier
- Oftentimes ignored the complexities of Native American life, reality of western life.
- Melting Pot nature of the American West
 - e immigration
 - CA Gold Rush
 Work for the railroads **African American & Mexican**
 - cowboys
 - Utah enters union in 1896 (after they drop polygamy)
- Women's suffrage was more common in the west

 - Wyoming is first to grant women the right to vote



Life in the Trans-Mississippi West

- Life for the plains Indians had dramatically changed
 - Heavily reliant on hunting bison
 - European introduction of horse, firearms, alcohol, & disease
- Increasing pressure on Native life
- Severe decline in the population of bison.
 - Undermine Native American resistance
 - Demand for buffalo hides
 - Impact of railroad expansion
- The biggest impact of western expansion will take place upon the lives of Native Americans in the trans Mississippi west.





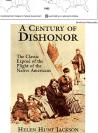
- Violence occurs as homesteaders, miners, and ranchers move west onto Native land.
- Sand Creek Massacre (1864): Colorado Militia attack and kill over 100 Native people
- **Battle of Little Big Horn** (1876): The Sioux tribe (Inspired by Sitting Bull) kill Custer and his men in the 7th Cavalry (Custer's Last Stand)
- Chief Joseph attempted to lead members of the Nez Percé tribe into Canada
 - Surrendered in 1877



Ghost Dance movement begins amongst the Sioux in **Dakota territory** - Cultural / Religious Revival - Thought would get rid of the white settlers & return prosperity to the tribe - Federal government wants this to stop **Battle of Wounded Knee** (1890) U.S. army go into the Dakotas and killed over 200. The "battle" was really a massacre * Marks the end of the major Native American frontier wars

Helen Hunt Jackson A Century of Dishonor" (1881) documented mistreatment by the federal government of Native people Boarding schools such as Carlisle

- Indian School were intended to assimilate Native people
- <u>Dawes Severalty Act</u> (1887) End tribal ownership of land
 - Reservations split into 160 acre private farms
 - Natives had the potential to receive citizenship if they lived on land for 25 years and "adopted the habits of civilized life."
 - Remaining reservation land sold to white settlers (oftentimes the best land)

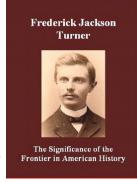


DESTRUCTION OF NATIVE LIFE

- Tremendous population and territorial decline
 - Disease
 - Numerous wars in the late 19th century
 - decline of bison population
 - Failed treaty agreements and forced removal to reservations

"Closing" of the Frontier

- Oklahoma Territory was opened up to settlement in 1889
 - Great land rush takes place
- Frederick Jackson Turner writes "The Significance of the Frontier In American History" (1893)
 - argues frontier ended in 1890
 - Emphasizes the importance of the frontier on American identity
 - Safety valve theory: could head west when the times were tough
 - Ignores contributions of people already there, women, fact people by 1890s moving to urban areas
- Connection: Overseas expansion in 1890s



FARMERS ORGANIZE

- Farming was becoming more commercialized and specialized.
- Problems for farmers: 1) Falling prices 2) unfair railroad business practices 3) high cost of machinery 4) tight money supply 5) high tariffs
- The <u>Grange Movement</u>: organized social and educational activities.
 Later demanded collective reforms.
- · Want: government regulation and ownership of business
 - Lobbied state legislatures for reforms
- Munn v. Illinols (1877) upheld law: states could regulate railroads
- <u>Wabash Case</u> (1886) states cannot regulate interstate commerce
 - Leads to passage of **Interstate Commerce Act** (1887)
- Farmers Alliance: Founded in Texas (1870s)- excluded blacks, ignored tenant farmers
- Significant 3rd Party: Populist Party
 - Platform: Government ownership of railroads
 - Free & unlimited coinage of silver (increase \$\$\$ supply)
 - Graduated Income tax (rich pay more)
 - Direct election of Senator, use of initiatives and referendums

Cosing out the 19th Century

Growing frustration over the laissez faire capitalist system

- Farmers are organizing: Grange, Alliance, Populist
- Industrial Problems:
 - Homestead Strike (1892): Workers at Carnegie's steel plant are defeated
 - Panic of 1893: as a result of overspeculation the stock market crashes.
 - Grover Cleveland continues <u>laissez faire</u> approach
 - Coxey's Army (1894): unemployed march to D.C. demanding the fed government hire jobless for public works jobs
 - Pullman Strike (1894): President Cleveland uses the army and court injunction to defeat the strike.
 - Election of 1896: William McKinley (R) vs. William Jennings Bryan (D)- Cross of Gold Speech, Populist fade, Republican McKinley wins